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Administration Goddard Earth Science Data
Information and Services Center (GES DISC)*

README Document for Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Land Data Assimilation System (FLDAS) Products

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09/28/2015	Add information for VIC model	Hualan Rui
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10/02/2019	Add CHIRPS spatial extent information	Carlee Loeser
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11/18/2020	Add “What’s New?” section for post-processing details	Carlee Loeser
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1.0 Introduction

This document provides the basic information for using the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Land Data Assimilation System (FLDAS) products.

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Land Data Assimilation System (FLDAS) is a custom instance of the NASA Land Information System (LIS; <http://lis.gsfc.nasa.gov>) that has been adapted to work with domains, data streams, and monitoring and forecast requirements associated with food security assessment in data-sparse, developing country settings. Adopting LIS allows FEWS NET to leverage existing land surface models and generate ensembles of soil moisture, ET, and other variables based on multiple meteorological inputs or land surface models. The goal of the FLDAS project is to achieve more effective use of limited available hydroclimatic observations and is designed to be adopted for routine use for FEWS NET decision support.

The FLDAS includes a crop water balance model used operationally by FEWS NET (GeoWRSI: Verdin and Klaver, 2002; Senay and Verdin, 2003), Africa-specific daily rainfall from NOAA Climate Prediction Center (RFE2; Xie and Arkin, 1997), and CHIRPS, a quasi-global rainfall dataset designed for seasonal drought monitoring and trend analysis (Funk et al., 2014). Additional features include a temporal desegregation scheme so that daily rainfall inputs can be used in both energy and water balance calculations, an irrigation module, and global irrigation and crop maps. State-of-the-practice land data assimilation methods are available in LIS, and will be explored in an associated forecasting project.

1.1 Dataset Description

FLDAS data are produced from the Noah Land Surface Model (LSM), with a simulation run “C” globally. Simulation run “C” refers to the simulation run forced by the combination of the new version of Modern-Era Retrospective analysis for Research and Applications version 2 (MERRA-2) data and Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data (CHIRPS). The spatial extent of CHIRPS rainfall inputs is 50°S-50°N ([Funk et al., 2015](#)). For regions north and south of the CHIRPS domain, FLDAS uses MERRA-2 precipitation inputs. Simulation run “C” was initialized on January 1, 1982 using soil moisture and other state fields from the respective FLDAS model climatology for that day of the year.

Specifically, this FLDAS data use Noah version 3.6.1 and CHIRPS-6hourly rainfall from UCSB (ftp://ftp.chg.ucsb.edu/pub/org/chg/products/CHIRPS-2.0/africa_6-hourly/) that has been downscaled using the NASA Land Data Toolkit (LDT; 10.5194/gmd-11-3605-2018). There was an update to the soil parameter table which is particularly notable for sandy soils.

Table 1. Basic Characteristics of the FLDAS data.

Contents	Forcing data, Noah Land Surface Model output
Format	netCDF
Latitude Extent	-60° to 90°
Longitude Extent	-180° to 180°
Spatial Resolution	0.1° x 0.1°
Temporal Resolution	Monthly
Temporal Coverage	January 1982 to present
Dimension (lat x lon)	1500 x 3600
Grid box center points	Lower left: -59.95°, -179.95° Upper right: 89.95°, 179.95°

1.2 Data Disclaimer

Please periodically check the [GES DISC web site](#) and [GES DISC Hydrology Page](#) for the latest FLDAS data. The FLDAS data is updated no later than the 5th of the month. For example, on November 5th, the FLDAS data will be updated through September 30.

1.2.1 Acknowledgment

Please refer to McNally et al. (2017) for more information about the FLDAS project. McNally, A. *et al.* A land data assimilation system for sub-Saharan Africa food and water security applications. *Sci. Data* 4:170012 doi: 10.1038/sdata.2017.12 (2017)

NASA requests including the following acknowledgment in papers published using these data: "*The data used in this study were acquired as part of the mission of NASA's Earth Science Division and archived and distributed by the Goddard Earth Sciences (GES) Data and Information Services Center (DISC).*"

We would appreciate receiving a copy of your publication, which can be forwarded to the following address:

GES DISC Help Desk
Code 610.2
NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771
Phone: 301-614-5224
Fax: 301-614-5268
Email: gsfc-dl-help-disc@mail.nasa.gov

1.2.2 Contact Information

For information about or assistance in using any GES DISC data, please contact the GES DISC Help Desk at:

GES DISC
Code 610.2
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
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Email: gsfc-dl-help-disc@mail.nasa.gov
301-614-5224 (voice)
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For general science questions and comments, please contact:

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1.2.3 Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and Citation

A Digital Object Identifier or DOI is a unique alphanumeric string used to identify a digital object and provide a permanent link online. DOIs are often used in online publications in citations. Table 2 lists DOIs for FLDAS data products.

Table 2. DOIs for FLDAS Version 001 Data Products

Product Name	DOI
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M_001	10.5067/5NHC22T9375G
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MA_001	10.5067/GNKZZBAYDF4W
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MC_001	10.5067/9JBLK69HNL3V

Each of the DOIs in Table 2 is linked to the corresponding data product page, and the Data Citation for the data product is located on the page. If you use these data in your research or applications, please include a reference in your publication(s) similar to the following example: Amy McNally, NASA/GSFC/HSL (2018), *FLDAS Noah Land Surface Model L4 Global Monthly 0.1 x 0.1 degree (MERRA-2 and CHIRPS)*, Greenbelt, MD, USA, Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center (GES DISC), Accessed [**Data Access Date**], 10.5067/5NHC22T9375G

1.3 What are the differences between FLDAS Global data and GLDAS data?

The FEWS NET LDAS is optimized for FEWS NET agricultural drought monitoring applications in Africa, Central America, and Central Asia. By using CHIRPS rainfall and MERRA-2 meteorological inputs, the FLDAS produces hydrologic estimates from 1982-present, at 10 km resolution, and ~1 month latency, that are consistent with other FEWS NET products that are forced with CHIRPS and MERRA-2. The FLDAS also shares many features with GLDAS: both use NASA LIS 7 as the underlying software framework, as well as FAO soils parameters, and provide similar input and output variables. The main differences are the meteorological inputs (CHIRPS+MERRA2), the spatial resolution (10 km), and the LSM model version (Noah361).

1.3 What's New?

The regional FLDAS Noah Land Surface Model and VIC Land Surface Model monthly data for the “C” runs were decommissioned on September 16, 2019. The regional FLDAS Noah LSM and VIC LSM daily and monthly data for the “A” runs were decommissioned on November 1, 2019. FLDAS users are encouraged to use the global datasets, which span the same temporal range as the regional datasets and encompass all three of the African regions.

In November 2020, all FLDAS data were post-processed with the MOD44W MODIS land mask. Previously, some grid boxes over inland water had non-missing values where the model considered these as land data, as opposed to open water. The post-processing corrected this issue and masked out all model output data over inland water. This issue only affected model output data variables, and all of the meteorological forcing variables (denoted by a `_f_` in their short names) were unchanged. If you have downloaded the FLDAS data prior to November 2020, please download the data again to receive this update. The MOD44W MODIS land mask is available to download from the FLDAS Project site: <https://ldas.gsfc.nasa.gov/fldas/vegetation-class>.

2.0 Data Organization

The currently released FLDAS data are version 001 monthly, monthly climatology, and monthly anomaly data. Temporal coverage is January 1982 to present, and the spatial resolution is 0.1 x 0.1 degree.

2.1 File Naming Convention

FLDAS data are grouped and named based on LSM, spatial resolution, forcing data, spatial coverage, and temporal resolution as listed below. Each group is referred to as a data product and named in accordance with the following convention:

FLDAS_<Model><Grid spacing>_<Forcing type>_<Region>_<Temporal spacing>

Attribute	Description
<Model>	“NOAH” for the Noah LSM
<Grid spacing>	“01” for 0.1 degree
<Forcing type>	“C” for forced with MERRA-2 and CHIRPS data
<Region>	“GL” for Global
<Temporal Spacing>	“M” for monthly data
	“MA” for monthly anomaly data
	“MC” for monthly climatology data

For example, FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M is the product name for the FLDAS global monthly data from the Noah LSM forced by MERRA-2 and CHIRPS data, at 0.1 x 0.1 degree resolution.

FLDAS data files are named in accordance with the following convention:

Monthly: <Product ID>.A<Date>.<Product version>.nc

Monthly anomaly: <Product ID>.ANOM<Date>.<Product version>.nc

Monthly climatology: <Product ID>.CLIM<Date>.<Product version>.nc

Attribute	Description
<Product ID>	Data Product Short Name (see Table 3)
<Date>	<YYYYMM> for monthly, monthly anomaly, and monthly climatology data products
<Product version>	“001” for Version 1

For example, “FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MA.ANOM201204.001.nc” is the filename for version 1 of the FLDAS monthly anomaly global data from the Noah LSM forced by MERRA-2 and CHIRPS data, at 0.1 x 0.1 degree resolution for April 2012.

2.2 File Format and Structure

The FLDAS data are archived in NetCDF format. NetCDF is a set of software libraries and self-describing, machine-independent data formats that support the creation, access, and sharing of array-oriented scientific data [[see more](#)].

3.0 Data Contents

3.1 Data Products

Based on the data product naming convention listed in Section 2.1, the three FLDAS data products that are currently available at the GES DISC are named in Table 3.

Table 3. FLDAS Data Products

	Model	Forcing Data	Region	Data Product Short Name
Monthly	Noah	MERRA-2 and CHIRPS Referred to as "C"	Global (GL)	FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M
Monthly Anomaly	Noah	MERRA-2 and CHIRPS Referred to as "C"	Global (GL)	FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MA
Monthly Climatology	Noah	MERRA-2 and CHIRPS Referred to as "C"	Global (GL)	FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MC

3.2 Data Parameters

3.2.1 FLDAS Global Model Data: Monthly

The FLDAS monthly data from the Noah LSM (FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M) contains 28 fields, as listed in Table 4a.

Table 4a. Parameters from FLDAS Noah model data for the monthly dataset.

Short Name	Description	Unit
Evap_tavg	Evapotranspiration	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
LWdown_f_tavg	Downward longwave radiation flux	W m ⁻²
Lwnet_tavg	Net longwave radiation flux	W m ⁻²
Psurf_f_tavg	Surface pressure	Pa
Qair_f_tavg	Specific humidity	kg kg ⁻¹
Qg_tavg	Soil heat flux	W m ⁻²
Qh_tavg	Sensible heat net flux	W m ⁻²
Qle_tavg	Latent heat net flux	W m ⁻²
Qs_tavg	Storm surface runoff	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Qsb_tavg	Baseflow-groundwater runoff	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
RadT_tavg	Surface radiative temperature	K
Rainf_f_tavg	Rainfall flux	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
SnowCover_inst	Snow cover	fraction
SnowDepth_inst	Snow depth	m
Snowf_tavg	Snowfall rate	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
SoilMoi00_10cm_tavg	Soil moisture (0 - 10 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilMoi10_40cm_tavg	Soil moisture (10 - 40 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilMoi100_200cm_tavg	Soil moisture (100 - 200 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³

SoilMoi40_100cm_tavg	Soil moisture (40 - 100 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilTemp00_10cm_tavg	Soil temperature (0 - 10 cm underground)	K
SoilTemp10_40cm_tavg	Soil temperature (10 - 40 cm underground)	K
SoilTemp100_200cm_tavg	Soil temperature (100 - 200 cm underground)	K
SoilTemp40_100cm_tavg	Soil temperature (40 - 100 cm underground)	K
SWdown_f_tavg	Surface downward shortwave radiation	W m ⁻²
SWE_inst	Snow water equivalent	kg m ⁻²
Swnet_tavg	Net shortwave radiation flux	W m ⁻²
Tair_f_tavg	Near surface air temperature	K
Wind_f_tavg	Near surface wind speed	m s ⁻¹

The short names with “_f” are forcing variables.

3.2.2 FLDAS Global Model Data: Monthly Anomaly and Monthly Climatology

The FLDAS data for monthly anomaly and monthly climatology products are derived from the monthly data. The monthly climatology data are generated from the monthly data, as a 35-year (1982-2016) monthly average. The monthly anomaly data are generated by taking the difference between the monthly data and monthly climatology data for each grid point. This difference represents how the given month compares to the 35-year climatology. The FLDAS monthly anomaly and monthly climatology data contain eight fields, as listed in Table 4b.

Table 4b. Parameters from FLDAS Noah model data for monthly anomaly and monthly climatology datasets.

Short Name	Description	Unit
Evap_tavg	Evapotranspiration	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Qtotal_tavg	Total runoff (surface + subsurface)	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Rainf_f_tavg	Rainfall flux	kg m ⁻² s ⁻¹
SoilMoi00_10cm_tavg	Soil moisture (0 – 10 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilMoi10_40cm_tavg	Soil moisture (10 – 40 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilMoi100_200cm_tavg	Soil moisture (100 – 200 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
SoilMoi40_100cm_tavg	Soil moisture (40 – 100 cm underground)	m ³ m ⁻³
Tair_f_tavg	Near surface air temperature	K

The short names with “_f” are forcing variables.

Soil moisture percentiles are an indicator of growing season conditions in the context of historical observations. More information about the soil moisture percentiles can be found at <http://lis.gsfc.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/LIS/docs/SoilMoisturePercentile.pdf>.

4.0 Options for Reading the Data

4.1 Utilities

The FLDAS data are archived in self-describing and machine-independent netCDF format. The Unidata page, <http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/netcdf/software.html>, provides a list of software for manipulating or displaying netCDF Data.

4.2 Panoply

Panoply, <https://www.giss.nasa.gov/tools/panoply/>, is a cross-platform application that plots geo-referenced and other arrays from netCDF, HDF, GRIB, and other datasets.

The [How-To](#) section of NASA GES DISC provides a recipe for [Quick View Data with Panoply](#).

4.3 GrADS

The Grid Analysis and Display System (GrADS) is an interactive desktop tool for easy access, manipulation, and visualization of earth science data. GrADS supports several data formats, such as binary, NetCDF, HDF, and GRIB. The documentation and software for GrADS can be found at: <http://cola.gmu.edu/grads/>.

Each individual FLDAS NetCDF file can be opened by GrADS `sdfopen` directly without a data descriptor file (aka `ctl` file). After calling `sdfopen`, GrADS commands, such as “`q file`”, “`d [variable_name]`”, etc. can be used to query file information, read and display the data. Below is an example showing how to `sdfopen` a FLDAS NetCDF file and query for the dimensions and variables of the file.

```
hrui@hydrol:~/FLDAS_1.0$ grads

      Welcome to the OpenGrADS Bundle Distribution
      -----

For additional information enter "grads -h".

Starting "/opt/grads-
2.1.a2.oga.1/Linux/Versions/2.1.a2.oga.1/x86_64/grads  " ...

Grid Analysis and Display System (GrADS) Version 2.1.a2.oga.1
Copyright (c) 1988-2013 by the Institute for Global Environment and
Society (IGES)
GrADS comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY
See file COPYRIGHT for more information

Config: v2.1.a2.oga.1 little-endian readline grib2 netcdf hdf4-sds
hdf5 opendap-grids, stn athena geotiff shapefile cairo
```

```

Issue 'q config' command for more detailed configuration information
Loading User Defined Extensions table </opt/grads-
2.1.a2.oga.1/Linux/Versions/2.1.a2.oga.1/x86_64/gex/udxt> ... ok.
Landscape mode? ('n' for portrait):
GX Package Initialization: Size = 11 8.5
ga-> sdfopen FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A200101.001.nc
Scanning self-describing file: FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A200101.001.nc
SDF file FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A200101.001.nc is open as file 1
LON set to -179.95 179.95
LAT set to -59.95 59.95
LEV set to 0 0
Time values set: 2001:1:1:0 2001:1:1:0
E set to 1 1
ga-> q file
File 1 : LVT land surface analysis output
Descriptor: FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A200101.001.nc
Binary: FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A200101.001.nc
Type = Gridded
Xsize = 3600 Ysize = 1500 Zsize = 1 Tsize = 1 Esize = 1
Number of Variables = 28
  evap_tavg 0 t,y,x total evapotranspiration
  lwdown_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface downward longwave radiation
  lwnet_tavg 0 t,y,x net downward longwave radiation
  psurf_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface pressure
  qair_f_tavg 0 t,y,x specific humidity
  qg_tavg 0 t,y,x soil heat flux
  qh_tavg 0 t,y,x sensible heat flux
  qle_tavg 0 t,y,x latent heat flux
  qs_tavg 0 t,y,x surface runoff
  qsb_tavg 0 t,y,x subsurface runoff amount
  radt_tavg 0 t,y,x surface radiative temperature
  rainf_f_tavg 0 t,y,x rainfall flux
  snowcover_inst 0 t,y,x snow cover
  snowdepth_inst 0 t,y,x snow depth
  snowf_tavg 0 t,y,x snowfall rate
  soilmoi00_10cm 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi10_40cm 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi40_100cm 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi100_200c 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soiltemp00_10cm 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp10_40cm 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp40_100c 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp100_200 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  sdown_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface downward shortwave radiation
  swe_inst 0 t,y,x snow water equivalent
  swnet_tavg 0 t,y,x net downward shortwave radiation
  tair_f_avg 0 t,y,x air temperature
  wind_f_avg 0 t,y,x wind speed
ga->

```

With a GrADS descriptor file, by using GrADS command `xdfopen`, multiple FLDAS NetCDF files can be opened, therefore, time aggregation related visualization and data analysis can be done by GrADS. Below is a GrADS sample descriptor file for monthly 0.1 x 0.1 degree Noah model data product FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.

FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.xdf, a sample data descriptor file

```
DSET FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A%y4%m2.001.nc
OPTIONS template
TDEF time 411 LINEAR Jan2001 1mo
*** variable name may not appear completely (max 15 characters)
```

An example for using xdfopen to open FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.XDF

```
ga-> xdfopen FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.XDF
Scanning Descriptor File: FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.XDF
SDF file /var/tmp/hrui/FLDAS/FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A%y4%m2.001.nc is
open as file 1
LON set to -179.95 179.95
LAT set to -59.95 59.95
LEV set to 0 0
Time values set: 2001:1:1:0 2001:1:1:0
E set to 1 1
ga-> q file
File 1 : LIS land surface model output
Descriptor: FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.001.XDF
Binary: /var/tmp/hrui/FLDAS/FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M.A%y4%m2.001.nc
Type = Gridded
Xsize = 3600 Ysize = 1500 Zsize = 1 Tsize = 411 Esize = 1
Number of Variables = 28
  evap_tavg 0 t,y,x total evapotranspiration
  lwdown_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface downward longwave radiation
  lwnet_tavg 0 t,y,x net downward longwave radiation
  psurf_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface pressure
  qair_f_tavg 0 t,y,x specific humidity
  qg_tavg 0 t,y,x soil heat flux
  qh_tavg 0 t,y,x sensible heat flux
  qle_tavg 0 t,y,x latent heat flux
  qs_tavg 0 t,y,x surface runoff
  qsb_tavg 0 t,y,x subsurface runoff amount
  radt_tavg 0 t,y,x surface radiative temperature
  rainf_f_tavg 0 t,y,x rainfall flux
  snowcover_inst 0 t,y,x snow cover
  snowdepth_inst 0 t,y,x snow depth
  snowf_tavg 0 t,y,x snowfall rate
  soilmoi00_10cm_ 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi10_40cm_ 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi40_100cm 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soilmoi100_200c 0 t,y,x soil moisture content
  soiltemp00_10cm 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp10_40cm 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp40_100c 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  soiltemp100_200 0 t,y,x soil temperature
  sdown_f_tavg 0 t,y,x surface downward shortwave radiation
  swe_inst 0 t,y,x snow water equivalent
  swnet_tavg 0 t,y,x net downward shortwave radiation
  tair_f_avg 0 t,y,x air temperature
  wind_f_avg 0 t,y,x wind speed
ga->
```

5.0 Data Services

The NASA GES DISC maintains archives of all FLDAS data products and many other Hydrology data sets. The archived data can be accessed via HTTPS network transfer. FLDAS data can be accessed via the GES DISC Unified User Interface (UI) at <https://disc.gsfc.nasa.gov/datasets?keywords=FLDAS>.

5.1 HTTPS Access

The FLDAS data can be downloaded directly via the GES DISC HTTPS server: <https://hydro1.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/data/FLDAS/>.

5.2 EOSDIS Earthdata Search System

The EarthData Search can be used to find and retrieve datasets across multiple data centers: <https://search.earthdata.nasa.gov/search?q=FLDAS&ok=FLDAS>.

5.3 OPeNDAP Access

The FLDAS data can be accessed via OPeNDAP for variable and spatial subsetting: <https://hydro1.gesdisc.eosdis.nasa.gov/opendap/hyrax/FLDAS/>.

5.4 Giovanni

The GES-DISC Interactive Online Visualization ANd aNalysis Interface (Giovanni) is a web-based tool that allows users to interactively visualize and analyze data: <https://giovanni.gsfc.nasa.gov/giovanni/#dataKeyword=FLDAS>.

If you need assistance or wish to report a problem:

Email: gsfc-dl-help-disc@mail.nasa.gov

Voice: 301-614-5224

Fax: 301-614-5268

Address:

Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Code 610.2 Greenbelt, MD 20771 USA

6.0 More Information

6.1 Data Volume

	Average File Size	Average Volume per year
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_M	117 MB	1.4 GB
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MA	38 MB	456 MB
FLDAS_NOAH01_C_GL_MC	36 MB	432 MB

The table will be updated as data volume information for other products become available.

7.0 Acknowledgements

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Appendix

The following acronyms and abbreviations are used in this document.

CHIRPS	Climate Hazards Group InfraRed Precipitation with Station data
FLDAS	Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Land Data Assimilation System
GDAS	Global Data Assimilation System
GDS	GrADS Data Server
GES DISC	Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center
Giovanni	GES-DISC Interactive Online Visualization and Analysis Infrastructure
GrADS	Grid Analysis and Display System
GRIB	GRIdded Binary
HDF	Hierarchical Data Format
HDISC	Hydrology Data and Information Services Center
LDAS	Land Data Assimilation System
LIS	Land Information System
LSM	Land Surface Model
MERRA	Modern Era Retrospective-analysis for Research and Applications
MERRA-2	MERRA Version 2
MODIS	Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NetCDF	network Common Data Form
NIDIS	National Integrated Drought Information System
Noah	National Centers for Environmental Prediction/Oregon State University/ Air Force/Hydrologic Research Lab (Noah)
VIC	Variable Infiltration Capacity macroscale model