

JPSS/NPP Operations Concept in the High Latitude Proving Ground - Support of NPP Science and Transition to Operations

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Tom Heinrichs, Jiang Zhu, Scott Macfarlane, Jay Cable, Dayne Broderson

University of Alaska Fairbanks - Geographic Information Network of Alaska (GINA)

The National Weather Service (NWS), Alaska Region, is the largest operational forecasting user of polar orbiting satellite data in NOAA because of its unique high latitude location and forecasting and warning domains. In addition to polar orbiting data, geostationary satellite data is used effectively in southeast Alaska and the Aleutians and as a synoptic tool for the rest of the state. Effective use of polar orbiting data is essential for accurate forecasting and warning at high latitudes. To enable rapid access to NPP data for testing of algorithms and applications outside of NOAA routine operations, the High Latitude Proving Ground has installed a direct readout reception station at GINA at the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus. This station has implemented the JPSS-funded, CIMSS-developed Community Satellite Processing Package (CSPP). Near-real-time access to Level 0 data from NPP is available to the community in support of NWS operations and research. Additionally, CSPP and JPSS risk reduction products will be routed through the High Latitude Proving Ground to Alaska WFOs, leveraging existing programs and resources, speeding the use of NPP and JPSS data into NWS operations, and providing a valuable feedback loop between algorithm developers and operational forecasters.