



**NOAA**

National  
Environmental  
Satellite, Data, and  
Information  
Service

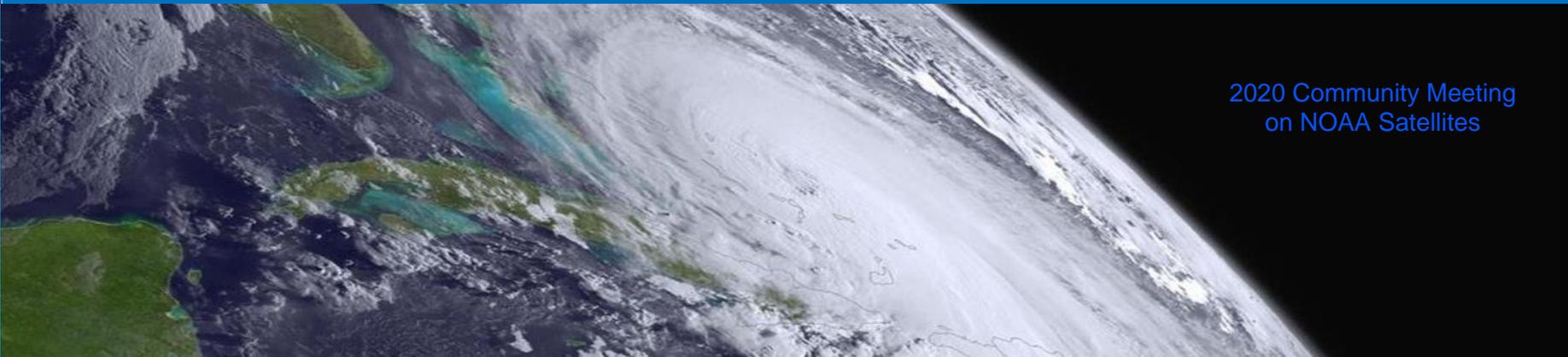
# NESDIS Cloud Migration: An Enterprise Approach to Cloud Adoption

Kenneth S. Casey, PhD  
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Satellite Ground Services  
(With Thanks to the Entire NESDIS Cloud Team!)

October 2020



2020 Community Meeting  
on NOAA Satellites



# NESDIS Cloud Migration At-a-Glance



- NESDIS is taking an enterprise approach to cloud adoption, avoiding “lift and shift” approaches that would replicate existing “cylinders of excellence” in the cloud
- Over the last two years, NESDIS created a cloud strategy, completed major piloting activities, operationalized our first instantiation of the NESDIS Common Cloud Framework (NCCF 1.0), kicked off a second phase of pilots, and began operationalizing NCCF 1.1
- Goals for today: Update the NOAA satellite community on the NESDIS enterprise cloud effort, provide a few details, and solicit your inputs!





# NESDIS Transformation Strategic Objectives



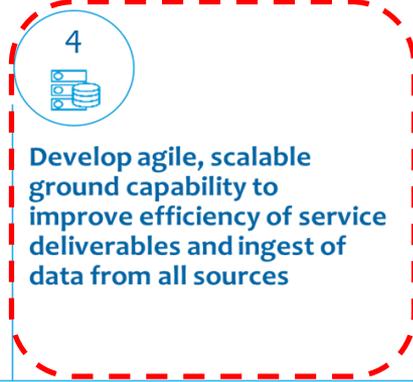
**1**  
Advance terrestrial observational leadership in geostationary and extended orbits



**2**  
Advance Space Weather observational leadership in LEO, GEO, and extended orbits.



**3**  
Evolve LEO architecture to enterprise system of systems that exploits and deploys new observational capabilities



**4**  
Develop agile, scalable ground capability to improve efficiency of service deliverables and ingest of data from all sources

Cloud activities align to this objective



**5** Provide consistent ongoing enterprise-wide user engagement to ensure timely response to user needs



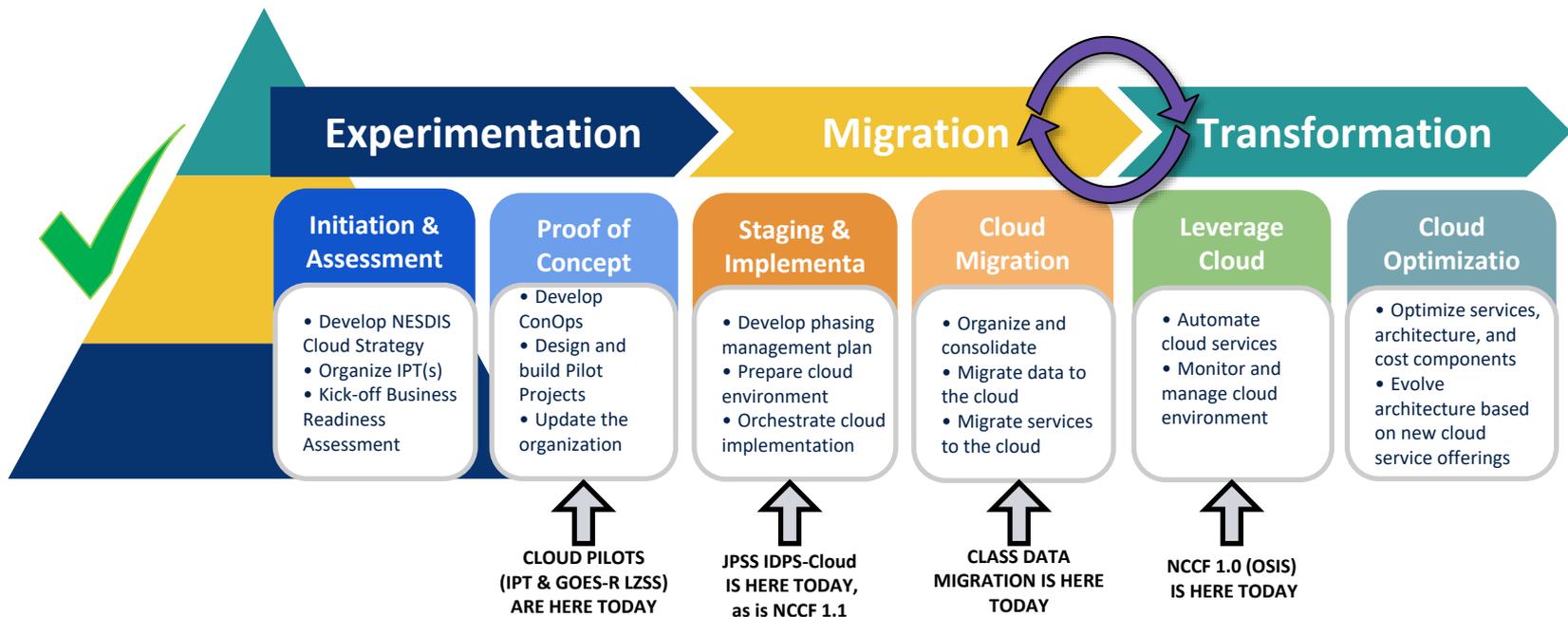
**6** Deliver integrated program development to provide a suite of products and services

The NESDIS Common Cloud Framework (NCCF) is a key component of NESDIS transformation



# NESDIS Conceptual Cloud Roadmap

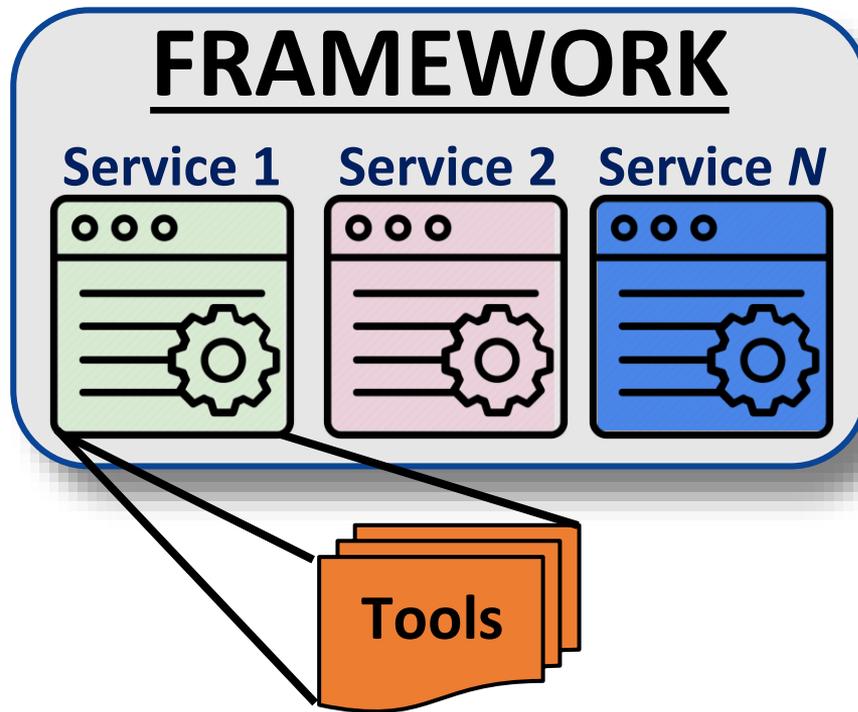
NESDIS leadership has determined that **cloud computing is our future**, and the organization is moving intelligently to the cloud



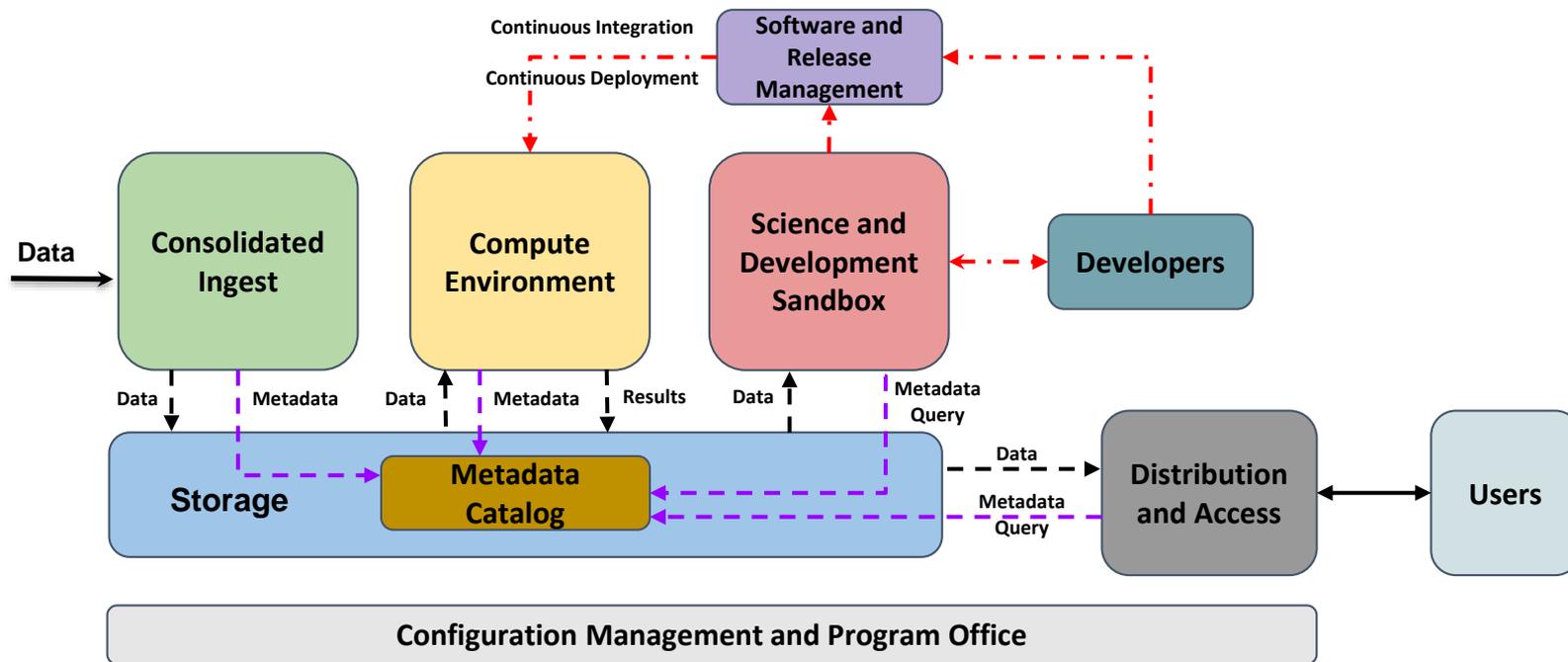


# NESDIS Cloud Lexicon

- **Framework:** enables a set of services to work together to deliver the mission value
- **Service:** how to meet the core NESDIS IT functions
- **Tool:** cloud software application(s) used to implement the service



# NESDIS Common Cloud Framework



- Cloud provider and data source agnostic enterprise architecture
- Collection of functional tools and services that form a framework
- Enables the end-to-end non-Mission Operations NESDIS Ground Enterprise business functions



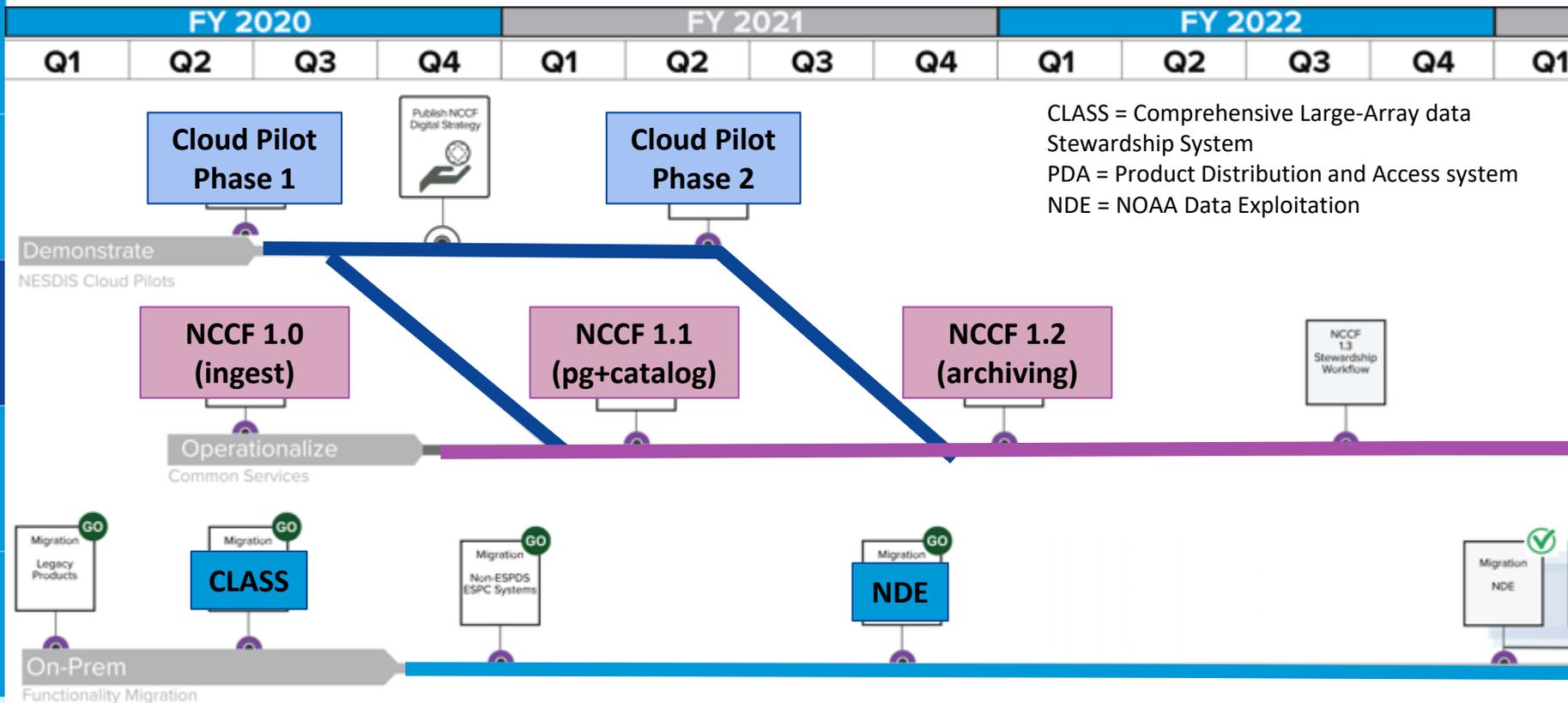


# NESDIS Cloud Roadmap



## On-Prem Functionality Migration View

(under development)

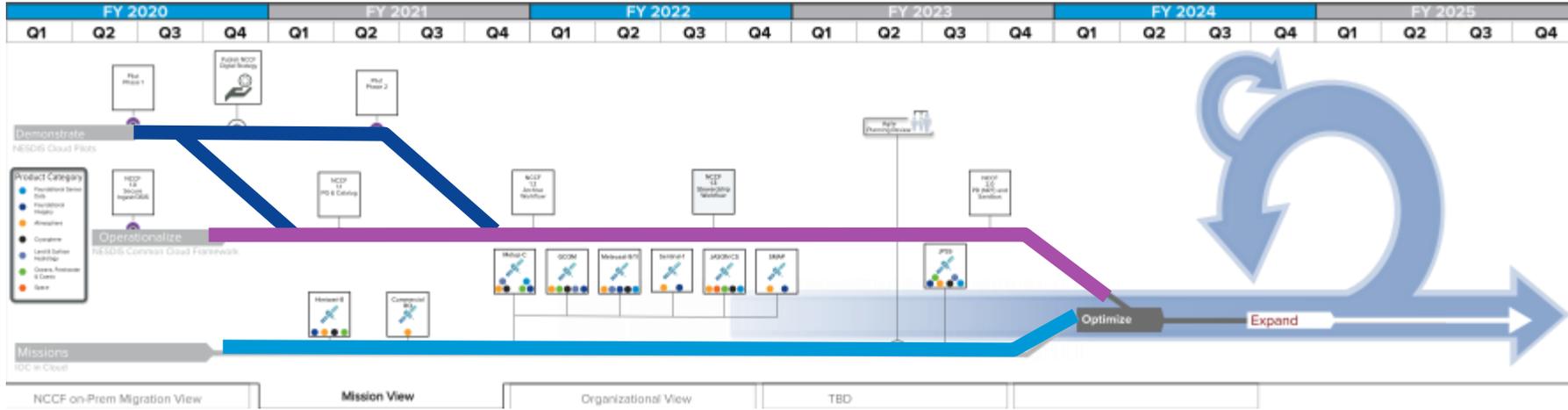


# NESDIS Cloud Roadmap

## Mission View



(under development)



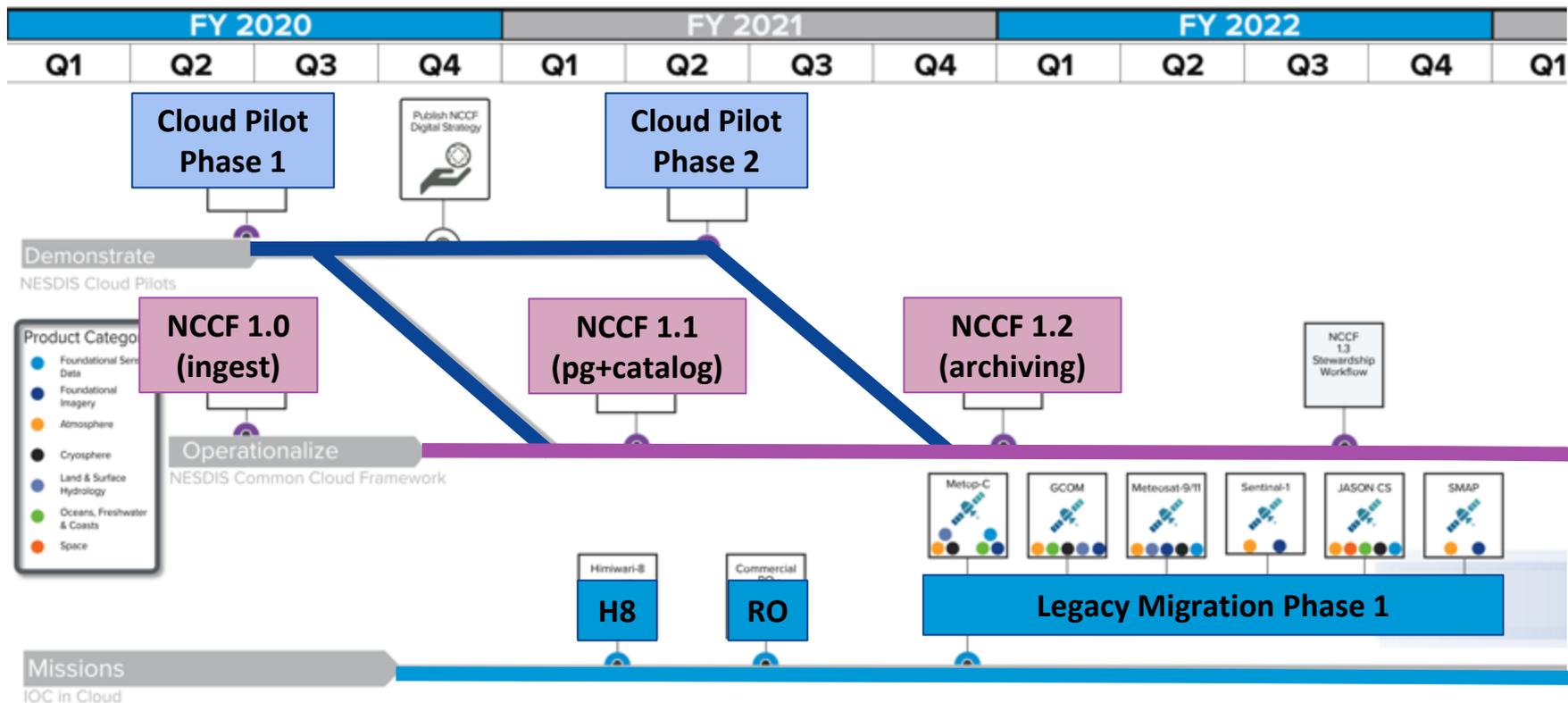
- Demonstration**
- Operationalization**
- Mission Implementation**

# NESDIS Cloud Roadmap

## Mission View



(under development)



# NESDIS Cloud Development

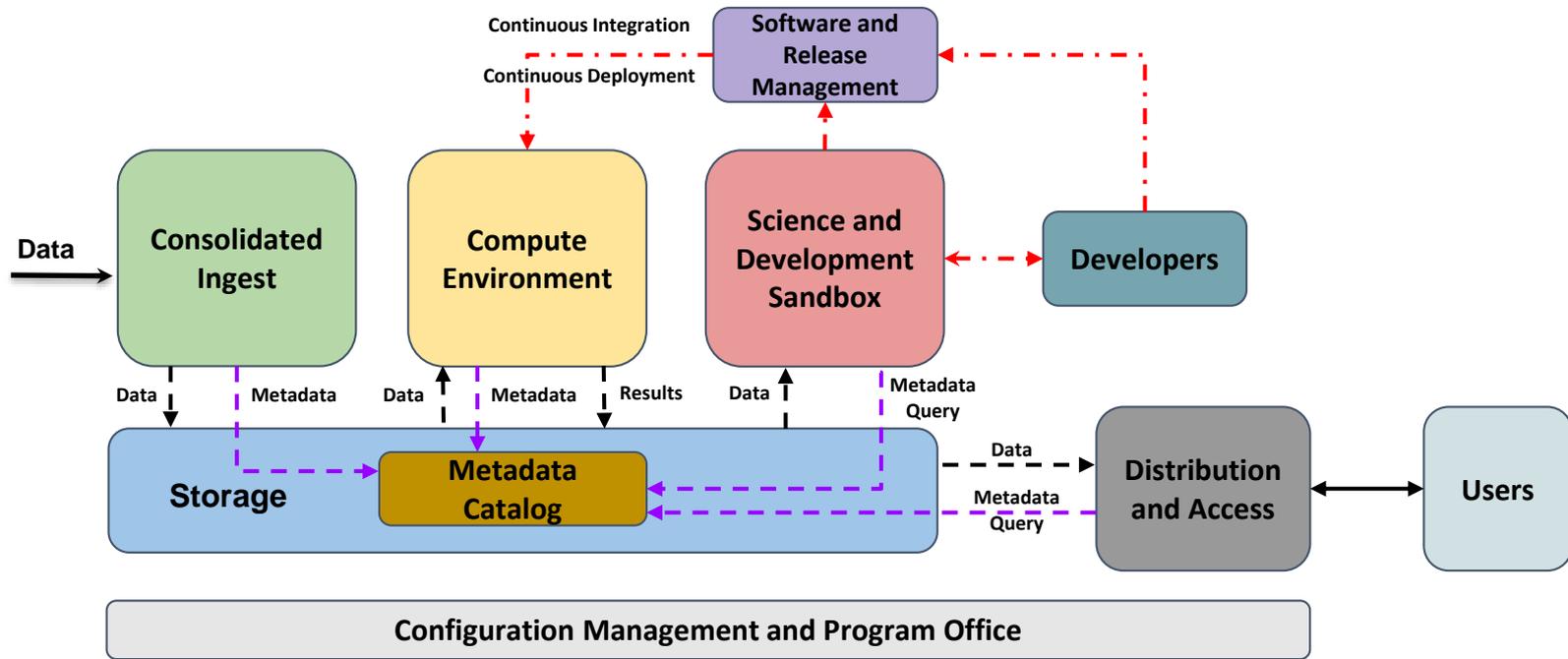


- NCCF is supported by the Cloud Pilot Integrated Pilot Team (IPT) and the Cloud Program Management Office (PMO)
- Cloud Pilot IPT
  - Phase I: March, 2019 - March, 2020
    - Demonstrated a cloud-enabled, end-to-end, data-source agnostic ground service capability
  - Phase II: April, 2020 - December, 2020
    - Adding functionality to the NCCF and exploring cloud optimization
- Cloud PMO
  - Helping to define governance for cloud operations, transitioning capabilities to operations, ensuring compliance with security requirements, and coordinating on-ramping of capabilities to the cloud

**... all leading to the Data-source Agnostic Common Services (DACS) capability**



# Results and Status of the Cloud Pilots

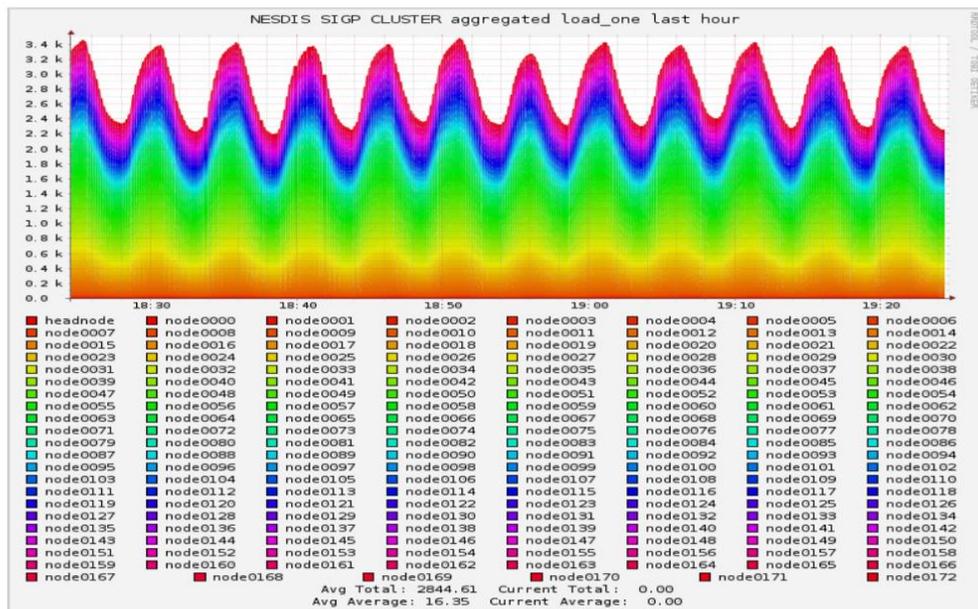


- Remember, the NCCF consists of a set of loosely coupled functional components or services
- Cloud Pilot Phase 1 demonstrates capabilities in each of these service areas

# Consolidated Ingest Service



- Single point of entry for all NESDIS data types and protocols
- Customized security screening based on source and business agreements
- Highly available, fault tolerant, and scalable gateway to the NCCF



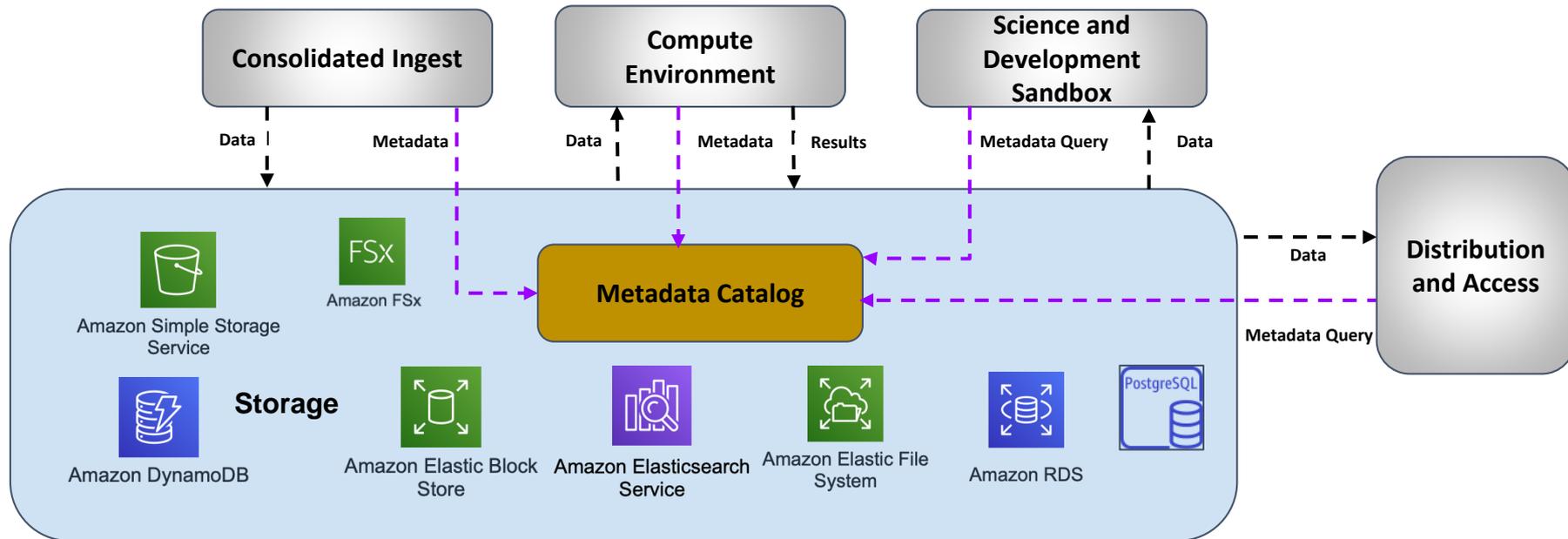
- Demonstrated that automatic scaling architecture **scales without impact to performance**
- Provisioned 4000 vCPUs to **simultaneously ingest 2.3 million files (36.57 TB)** - no data loss or performance degradation



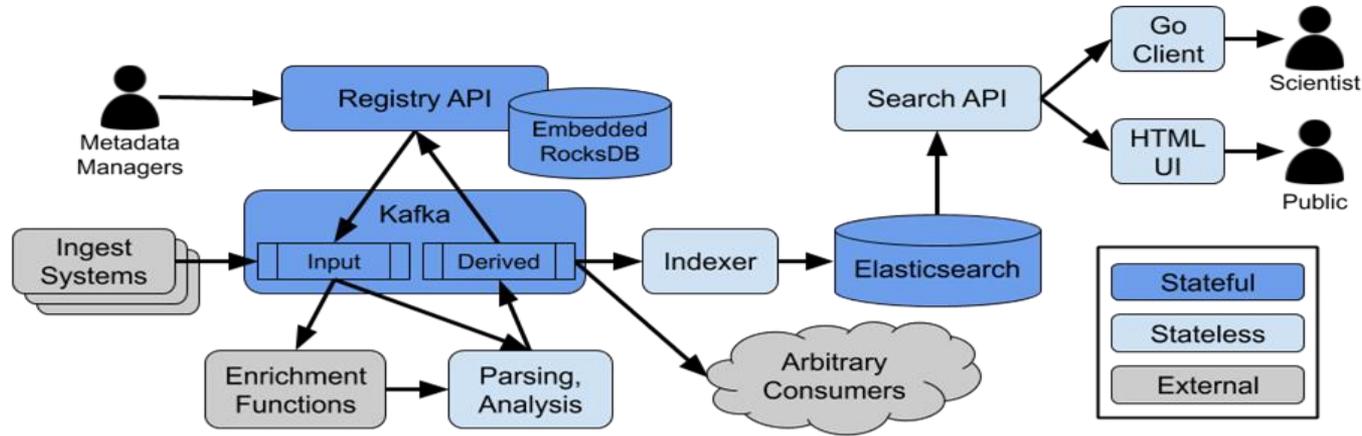
# Enterprise Storage Service



- Scalable and centralized data repository capable of storing all types of NESDIS data
- Supports the full data lifecycle - from ingest through archive
- Leverages all types of cloud vendor provided storage and underpins the entire NCCF



# Metadata Catalog Service

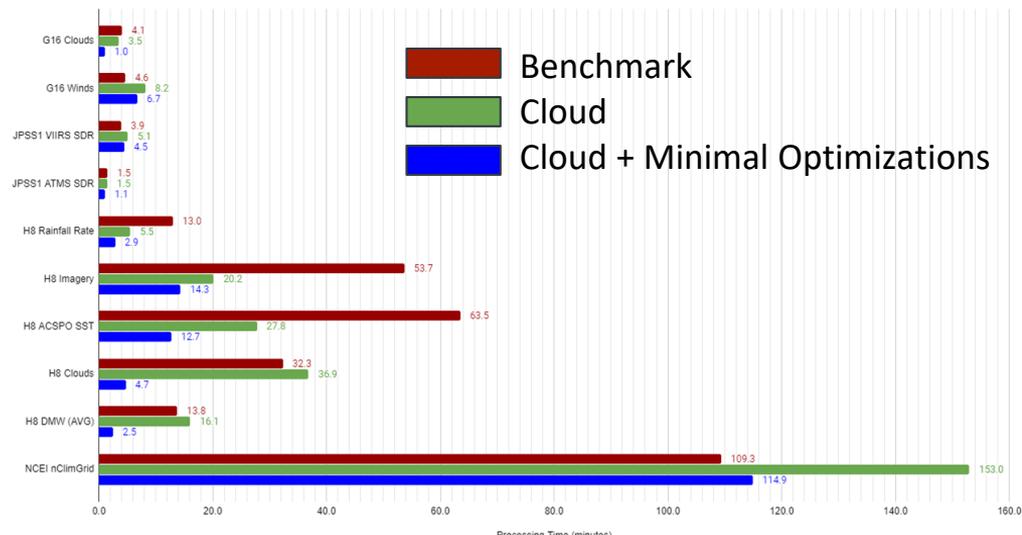


- Selected NOAA OneStop as core of catalog service based on an AoA
- Scales easily and cheaply to manage billions of records, demonstrated over 111 million records per day
- Agnostic to data type - satellite/in situ
- Supports both real-time and retrospective cataloging requirements
- Search queries are fast and scalable

# Compute Environment Service



- Scalable, fault tolerant, and data agnostic high performance compute service
- Supports all NESDIS compute needs
- Supports scientific data processing and development
  - 17 science algorithms integrated into NCCF from STAR and NCEI
  - Scalable infrastructure to support current and future product generation needs
- Even limited optimizations can significantly reduce time/cost in cloud



Comparison of Processing Times for Ten Algorithms

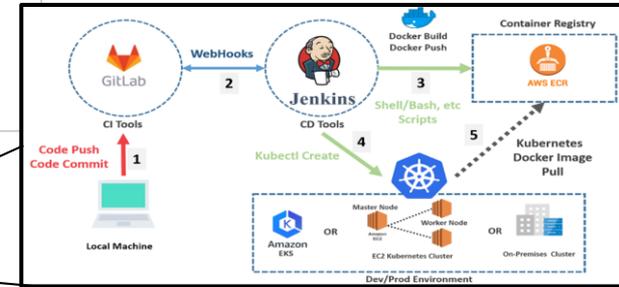
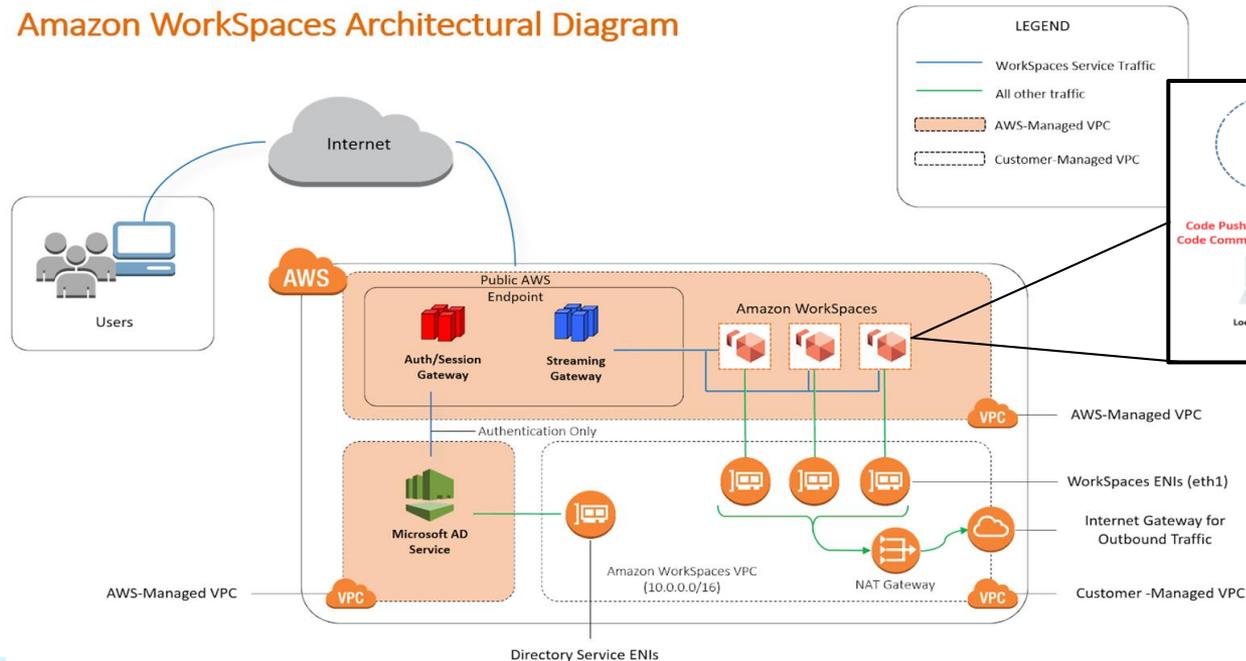




# Science & Development Sandbox Service

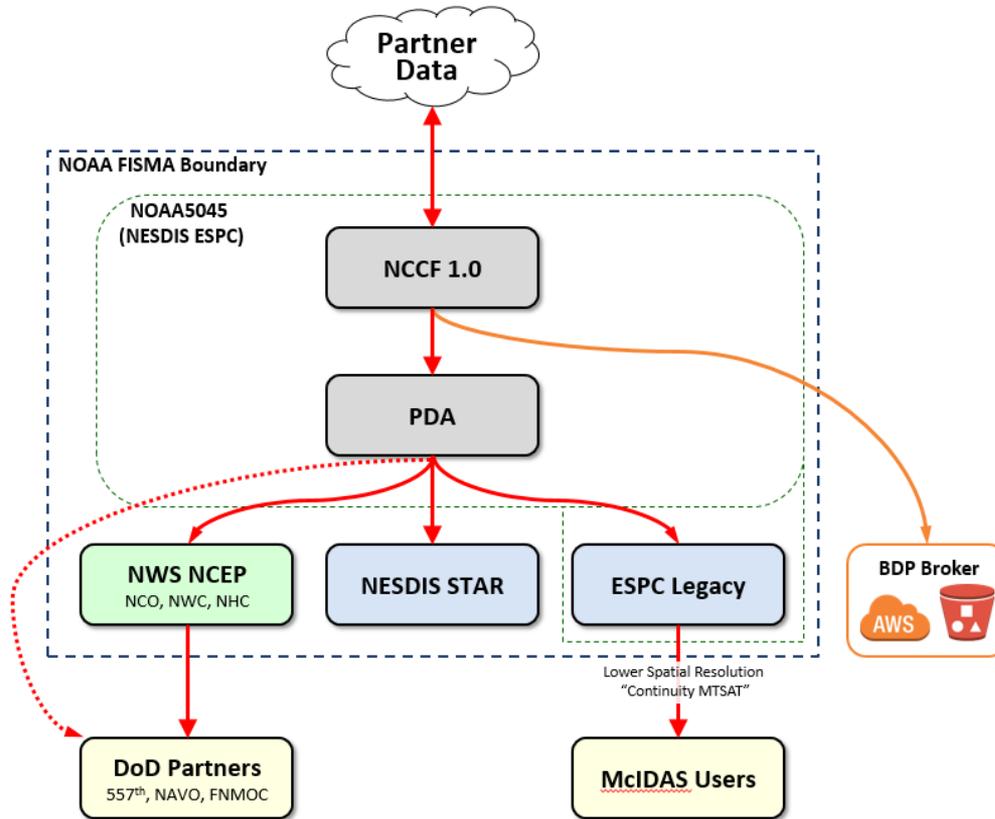
- Secure and scalable scientific development environment
- Provides streamlined integration between developers and scientists
- Supports data visualization tools

## Amazon WorkSpaces Architectural Diagram



- 60 scientists in AWS
- 4 out of 5 comfortable with Workspaces

# Distribution & Access Service



- Provides all required NESDIS data delivery pathways:
  - Low-latency push/pulls
  - Cloud-to-cloud transfers using Big Data Program (BDP) in ~2 seconds
  - Public access capabilities
- Demonstrated ability to leverage the PDA system until the NCCF distribution service is complete and users are ready for the cloud too



# Cloud IPT Phase I Outcomes



## Security

Documented and approved cloud security policies and processes

## Common Services

Enterprise solutions for Data Ops, Data Stewardship, and Science Ops

## Working Solution for the NESDIS Ground Enterprise

- Framework of functional services that meet the needs of the NGE
- Working code that processes near real-time data flows
- Services that can adapt to changing user-requirements
- End-to-end holistic approach that ensure the NESDIS mission success into the future

+

## Robust Solutions

Highly available, fault tolerant, and scalable end-to-end services

## Flexibility

Cloud provider and data source agnostic enterprise architecture





# NCCF Independent Technical Evaluation

- Objective of independent review was to validate that the NCCF has met the following success criteria in both design and demonstrated functionality
- The review panel of IT leaders and experts from USAF, NASA, USGS, OAR, and OCIO recommended the following:
  - Pursue development and adoption of the NCCF
  - Improve the Cloud Cost modeling to include total cost of ownership
  - Promoted inter-agency collaboration with an emphasis on complimentary datasets
  - Move toward Continuous Authority to Operation (ATO) process
  - Formulate a data backup strategy
  - Establish robust governance processes, especially for the Science & Development Sandbox service



# Pilot Phase 2 Vision & Direction



- Expand upon the NCCF functionality
  - Demonstrate Product Distribution and Access (**PDA**) interface to operational user functionality
  - Demonstrate feasibility of OSPO Satellite Analysis Branch (**SAB**) visualization workflows
  - Expand the science development environment to additional science teams
  - Demonstrate the archive and metadata stewardship process
- Determine the **value of cloud-native optimization** for NESDIS
  - Select a sample set of algorithms to optimize in order to quantify the return on investment for increased cloud efficiency
  - Investigate cloud-optimized file formats such as Zarr
- **Explore partnership collaboration opportunities**, including: access to mission data by anomaly analysts, science instrument teams, and other potential weather science communities
- Evaluate end-to-end ground architecture cloud migration benefits based on trade studies, cost-benefit analysis, **transformation efforts**, and enterprise risk assessment(s)



# Cloud PMO and Operational NCCF

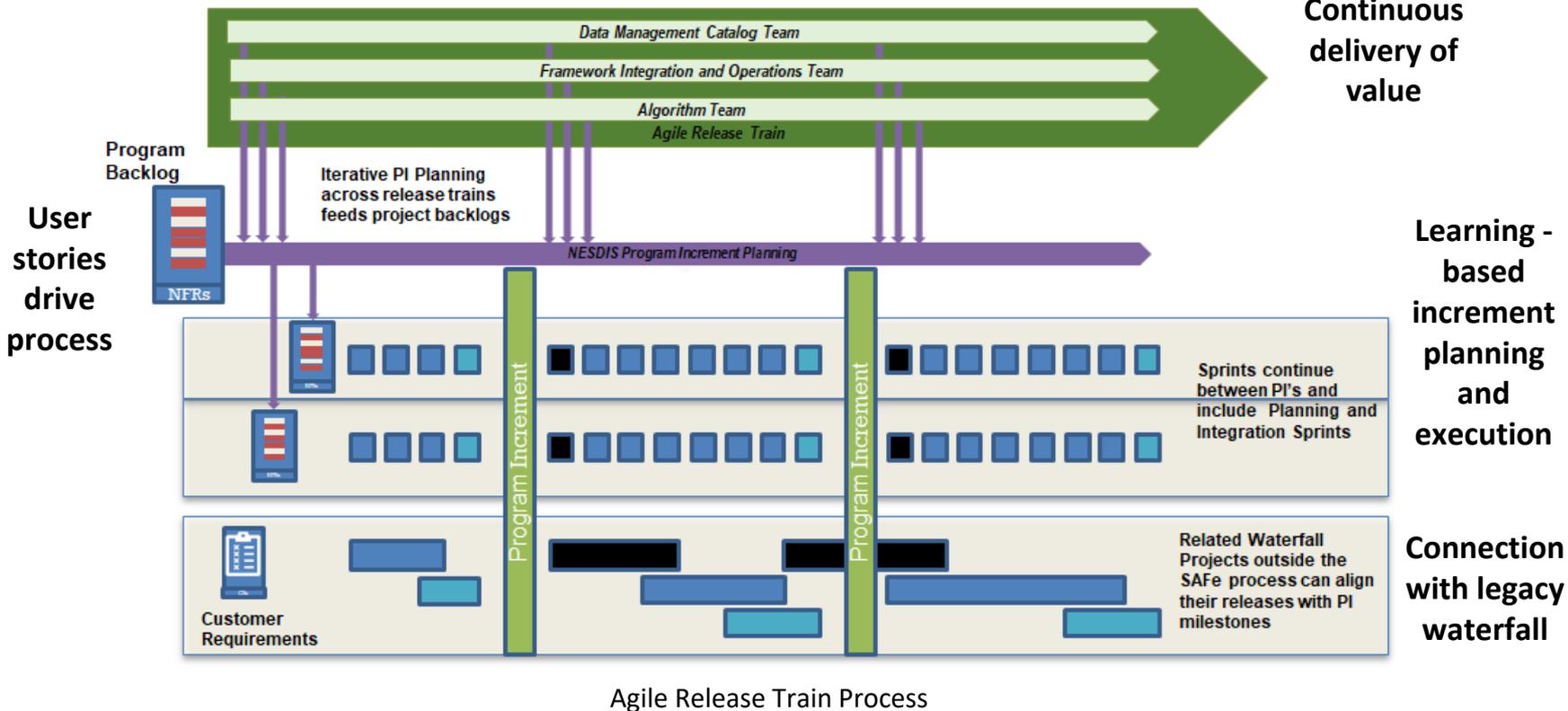


- Established “Cloud PMO 1.0”, now implementing Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) to manage transition of pilots, capabilities, and legacy functions to the NCCF
- Operationalized NCCF 1.0, enabling secure ingest of non-NOAA data - March 2020
- NCCF 1.1 team established within the CPMO and working to operationalize product generation and data cataloging capabilities - December 2020 is target for “MVP”
- Advanced planning with the Cloud IPT to prepare for the outcomes of Cloud Pilot Phase 2 and quickly operationalize NCCF 1.2 (archiving workflows) later in FY21
- Initial Governance and ConOps drafts now being updated and made “fit for purpose” for FY21 and FY22 - part of the overall culture and business practice evolution...



# Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe)

## Adoption at NESDIS



Agile Release Train Process





# Scaled Agile Definition of DevOps



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“DevOps is a mindset, a culture, and a set of technical practices. It provides communication, integration, automation, and close cooperation among all the people needed to plan, develop, test, deploy, release, and maintain a Solution.”

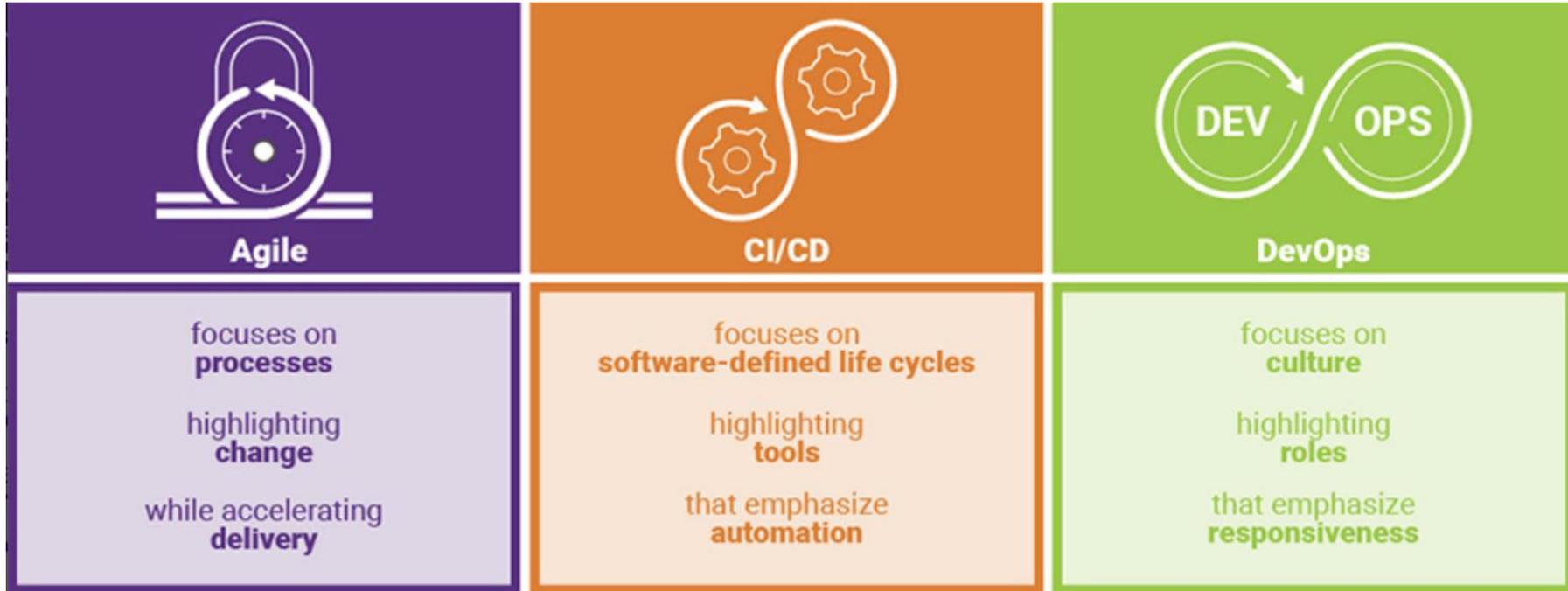
- Culture of Shared Responsibility
- Automate Everything
- Lean Flow
- Measure Everything
- Recover -- Enable Low-risk Releases

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[www.scaledagileframework.com/devops/](http://www.scaledagileframework.com/devops/)



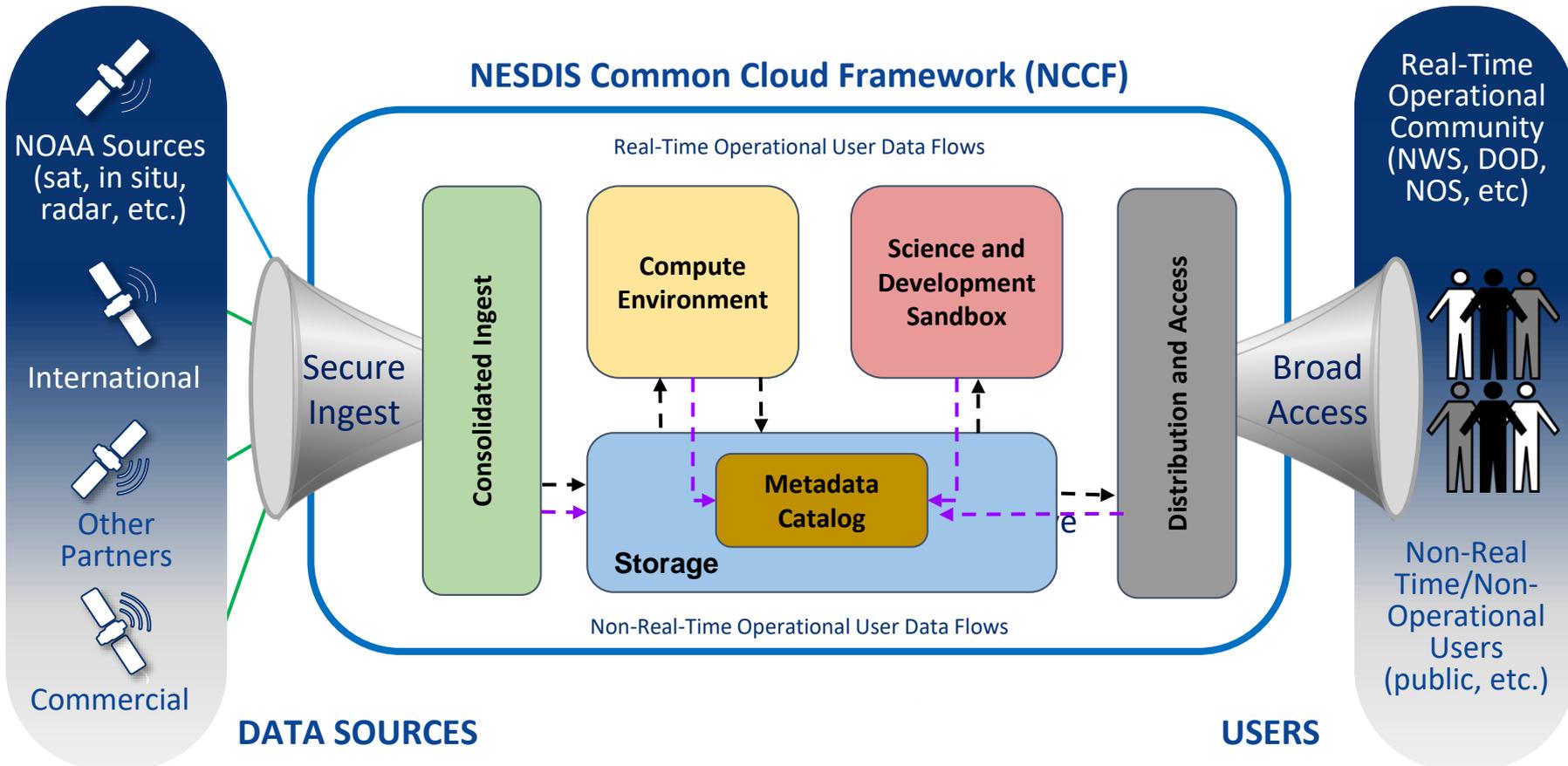
# DevOps, Agile, and CI/CD



[synopsys.com/blogs/software-security/agile-cicd-devops-difference/](https://synopsys.com/blogs/software-security/agile-cicd-devops-difference/)



# Data-source Agnostic Common Services





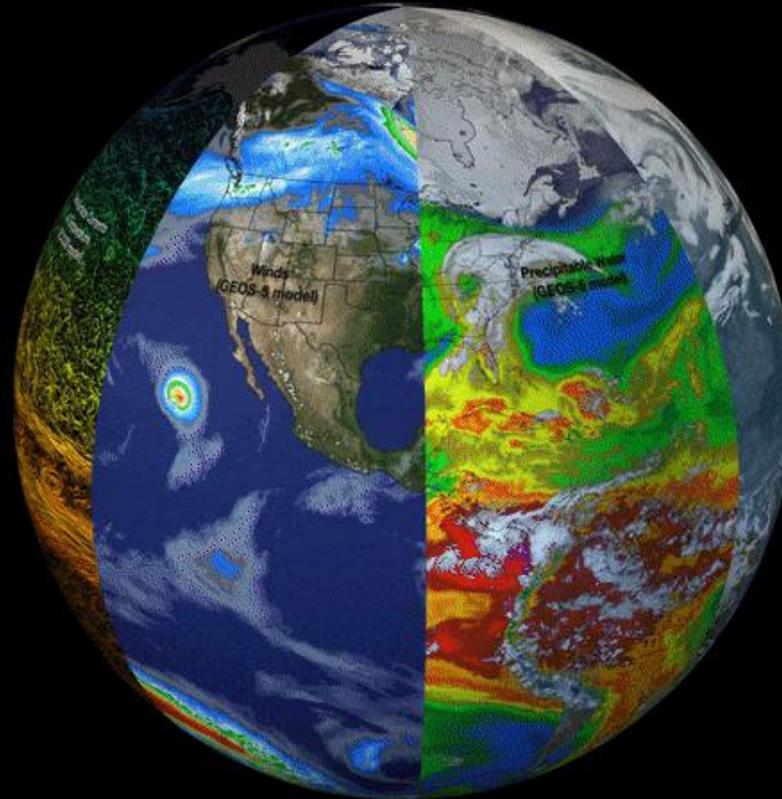
# DACS Budget Initiative

- FY 2021 President's Budget requests \$5M in funding to further operationalize the NCCF and enable NOAA to utilize data and observations from a diverse array of partner and commercial systems
- DACS initiative will transition new and legacy products and services to the NCCF to increase end-to-end efficiency and advance processing capabilities by:
  - Transitioning on premise hardware and software functions the cloud
  - Exploiting IT innovation, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning
  - Increasing cloud infrastructure capacity to ingest, process, distribute, and archive





# An Integrated, Digital Understanding of Complex Earth Systems

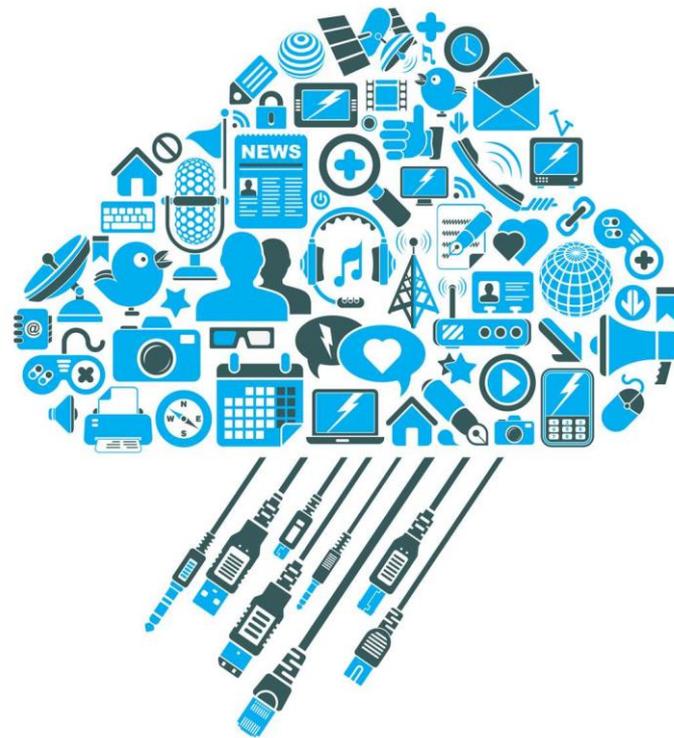


# Federal Cloud Transformations



Studies illustrate that **80%**  
**of transformation efforts fail** because of  
complexity and approach to challenges

NESDIS aims to stay in the **20%** success  
category because it is **planning** for the  
transformation complexities **today**



Source: 2018 CGI Group, Inc.



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Questions?

[NESDIS.Cloud@noaa.gov](mailto:NESDIS.Cloud@noaa.gov)

