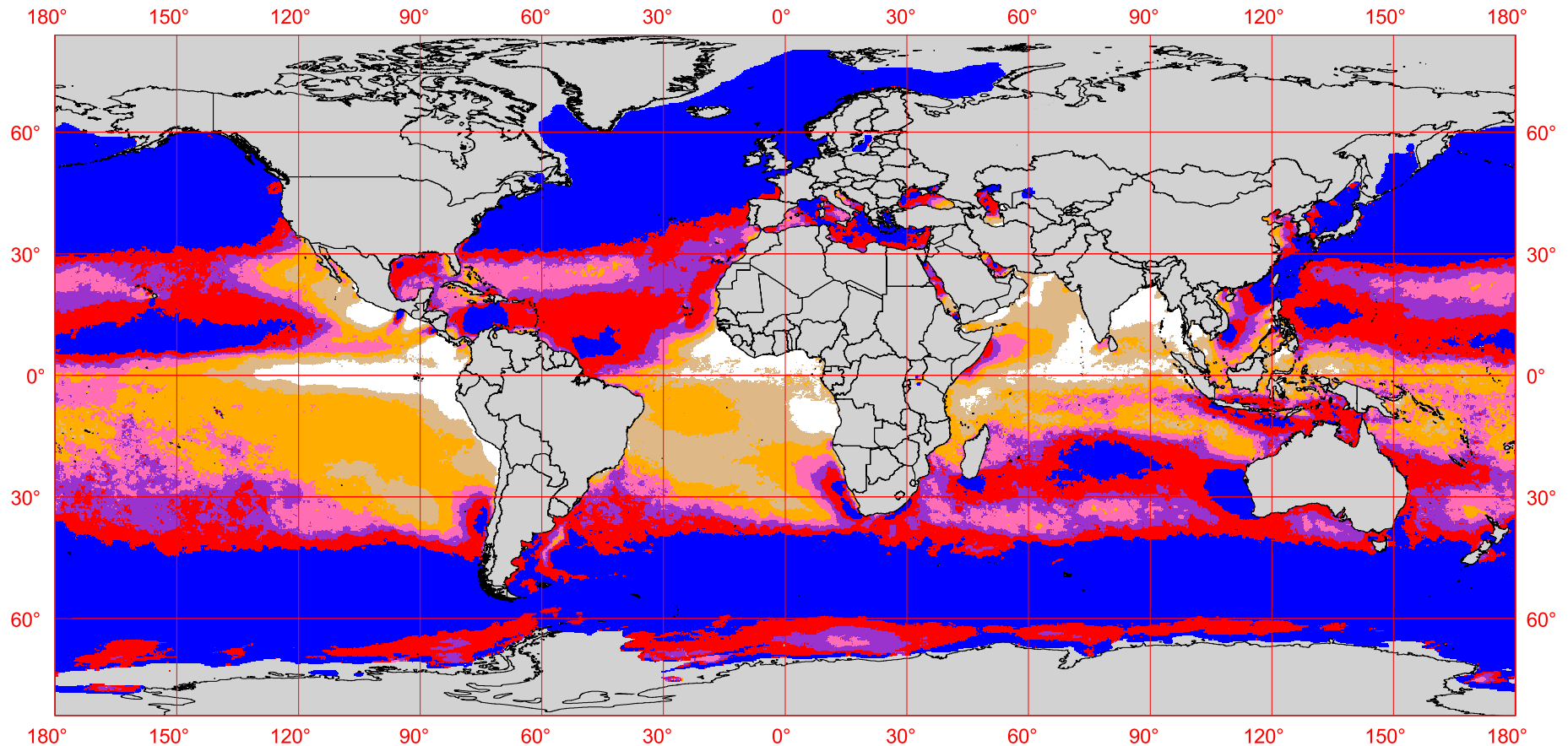


QuikSCAT - February Wind Power Density at 50 m



Wind Power Classification

Wind Power Class	Resource Potential	Wind Power Density at 50m W/m ²
1	Poor	0 - 200
2	Marginal	200 - 300
3	Fair	300 - 400
4	Good	400 - 500
5	Excellent	500 - 600
6	Outstanding	600 - 800
7	Superb	> 800

Scatterometer measurements of the state of the ocean surface are used to estimate 10-m ocean winds in the QuikSCAT satellite data set. The QuikSCAT data are produced by Remote Sensing Systems and sponsored by the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration Ocean Vector Winds Science Team. Data are available at www.remss.com. NREL used a 5-yr average from 2000-2004 to produce the map. NREL applied a simple extrapolation to generate the 50-m estimates from the original 10-m QuikSCAT data.

NREL has not validated the QuikSCAT satellite ocean wind estimates. NREL has observed that satellite-derived estimates of wind resource in near-shore, coastal, and island areas do not always agree with high-quality anemometer wind measurements. Therefore, satellite estimates in these areas should be compared with available wind measurements wherever possible.



Solar and Wind
Energy Resource
Assessment



United Nations
Environment
Programme



Global Environment
Facility

U.S. Department of Energy
National Renewable Energy Laboratory



19-OCT-2005 1.4.02