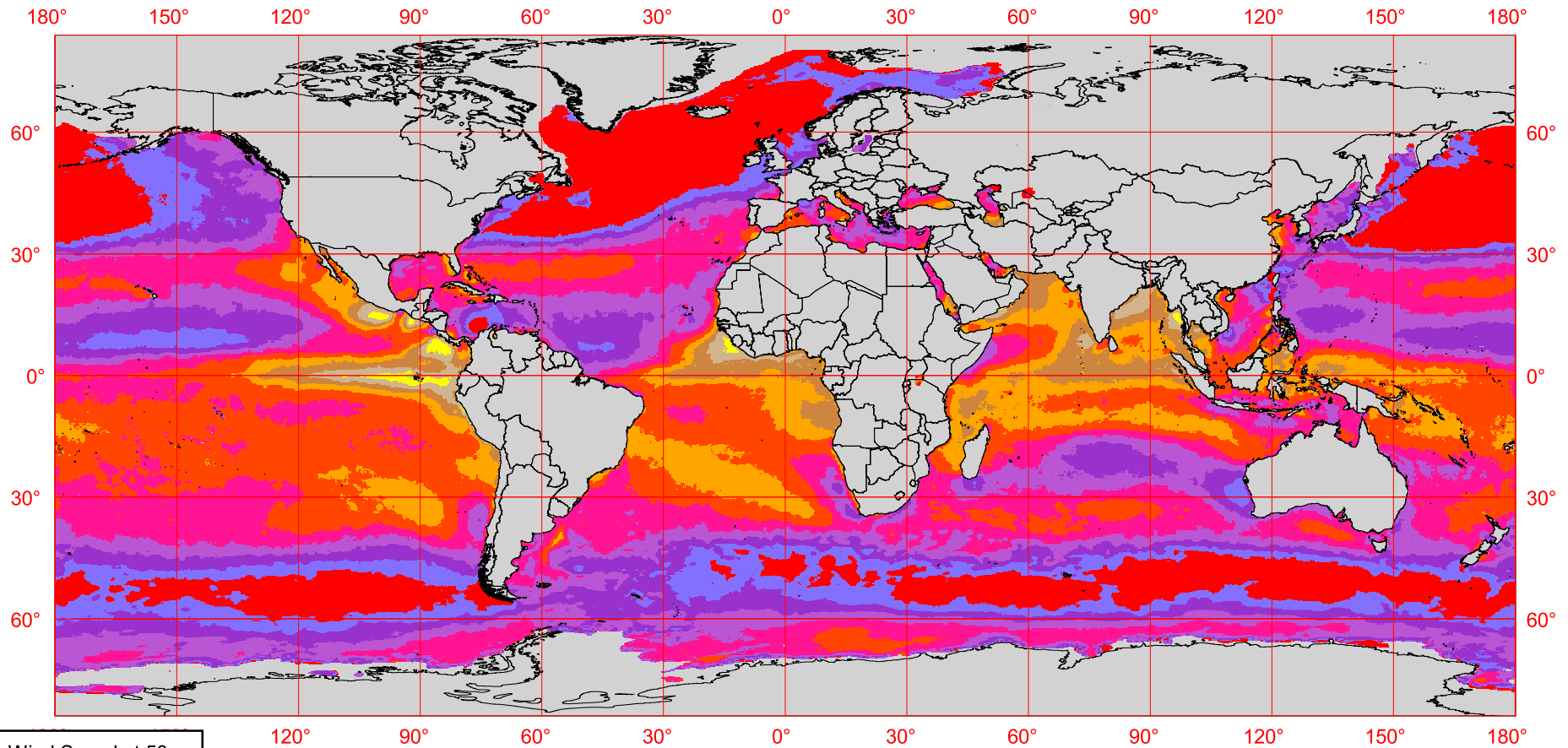
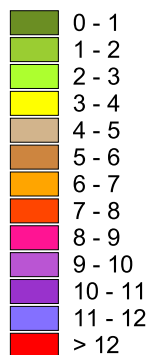


QuikSCAT - February Wind Speed at 50 m



Wind Speed at 50 m
(m/s)



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.



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