# **Research Products**

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## **Terrestrial Cryosphere**





# Boreal Freeze/Thaw Research Products

**Three Research Products:** 

- Date of Thaw onset
- Thaw transition duration
  - (this will have to be done in synergy
  - with other data sources with higher temporal resolution)
- Date of Autumn freeze-up
  - Less critical for quantifying carbon exchange
  - L-band is better than existing techniques (Ku-band)
  - Allows derivation of growing season bound.
- Targeted Users:



### **Boreal Research Products** Thaw onset date

Initial Thaw Date



NSCAT data were applied to map the spatial and temporal domains of the spring thaw transition within the BOREAS study region of Canada. At left, date of initial thaw is shown over the 1,000,000 km<sup>2</sup> region. At right, a landcover map shows locations of the 31 intensive study sites used for freeze-thaw product derivation and validation. The locations of the BOREAS North and Southern study areas are outlined. Landcover

**BOREAS Region Landcover** 





Open water,



Validation with *in situ* Biophysical Measurements

Also have extensive plan developed for HYDROS utilizing integrated *in situ* networks



#### JERS SAR Thaw Classifier, Interior Alaska





16 February 1998





April 1998



- Requirements for realization:
  - NASA funding(?; TBD)
  - High temporal monitoring from April-July maximum possible repeat observation, until transition is complete
  - September-November for freeze-up
  - Product derivation is data intense
- Level of Ambition: Pan-boreal
  - Focus on regional sites (Alaska, Siberia II, BOREAS)
  - One year's transition cycle as demo
  - Each spring for inter-annual variability measure, and for operational development
- HH-pol ScanSAR; variable incidence angle algorithm needed
- Synergy with scatterometer will improve temporal fidelity