

NLDAS DATA INTEGRATION AND AVAILABILITY

NLDAS data is available through two platforms and several Internet applications:

- Platform
 - BASINS: Seamless integration into Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources (BASINS) as a meteorological data source for development of HSPF models.
 - HydroDesktop: NLDAS is one of the datasets included in the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI) HydroDesktop application.
- Internet
 - The "tsgettoolbox" tool available for installation within any modern, scientific Python distribution supplies command line and Python library access to NLDAS and other time-series data.
 - The main web site to download NLDAS data is:
https://disc.gsfc.nasa.gov/datasets/NLDAS_FORA0125_H_V002/summary?keywords=NLDAS
 - Mirador is an earth science data search tool. It has a drastically simplified, clean interface and employs the Google mini appliance for metadata keyword searches. Other features include quick response, spatial and parameter sub-setting, data file hit estimator, Gazetteer (geographic search by feature name capability), and an interactive shopping cart. <http://mirador.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Table 9-5. NLDAS parameters in forcing file "A"

NLDAS Parameter	Units	Notes
U wind component	m/s	at 10 meters height
V wind component	m/s	at 10 meters height
air temperature	K	at 2 meters height
specific humidity	kg/kg	at 2 meters height
surface pressure	Pa	
surface downward longwave radiation	W/m ²	
surface downward shortwave radiation	W/m ²	bias corrected using GOES observations
precipitation hourly total	kg/m ² equates to mm	
precipitation fraction that is convective	unitless	NARR weather model
CAPE: Convective Available Potential Energy	J/kg	NARR weather model
potential evaporation	kg/m ² equates to mm	NARR weather model