

CoastWatch Data Portal: True Color Imagery Tutorial

Step 1: Go to the CoastWatch Data Portal at https://coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_html/cwViewer.html.

Step 2: Click the trashcan icon on the upper right-hand side of the screen. This will clear all current layers.

Step 3: Using the left-hand Data/Calendar Panel, select a date. In this example we will select the date July 16, 2021. Click on the drop-down menu next to 'Date' to change the year, month, and day to July 16, 2021. (This is just an example date, you can select any date you wish to see data for).

Step 4: Next we will target a location. To do this, click and drag the main window (viewing the map) to center on the desired location. For this example, we will focus on the Northeast coast of Brazil, where the Amazon river flows into the Atlantic Ocean.

Step 5: Use the plus button on the upper left-hand side of the screen, or the scroll wheel on the mouse, to zoom in. This will help us get a closer look at our region.

Step 6: Now we need to select our layers. There are several panels under Date/Calendar, including CoastWatch Data Layers. The first tab within this panel is titled 'Layers'. Within this tab, select the first option 'Imagery (True Color, etc.)'. This will open a list of options. Click the first Toggle-on button to turn on the desired True/Geo Color layer. For this example, we will select 'NOAA-20 VIIRS' within the list of satellite sensors below the Toggle button. The default option is S-NPP VIIRS.