

An assessment of the NARCCAP data archive: Lessons learned

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The North American Regional Climate Change Assessment Program, NARCCAP, is a high-resolution regional modeling program for the study of climate change in North America. It involves driving different regional models with boundary conditions from different global models, all using the same resolution, spatial domain, and temporal coverage. In addition to enabling the exploration and quantification of model uncertainty, output from the models is intended to be used by the community in service of three distinct purposes: further downscaling to even higher resolution; inter-model comparison and analysis of model performance; and impacts analysis, including use in decision-making. This presentation will provide an overview of the NARCCAP data archive, and will discuss notable features of the archive and their impacts, both positive and negative, on the goals of the program. Such features include: format specification, standards compliance, data organization, variable selection, prioritization of results, primary vs derived data products, publication strategy, and content from multiple sources.