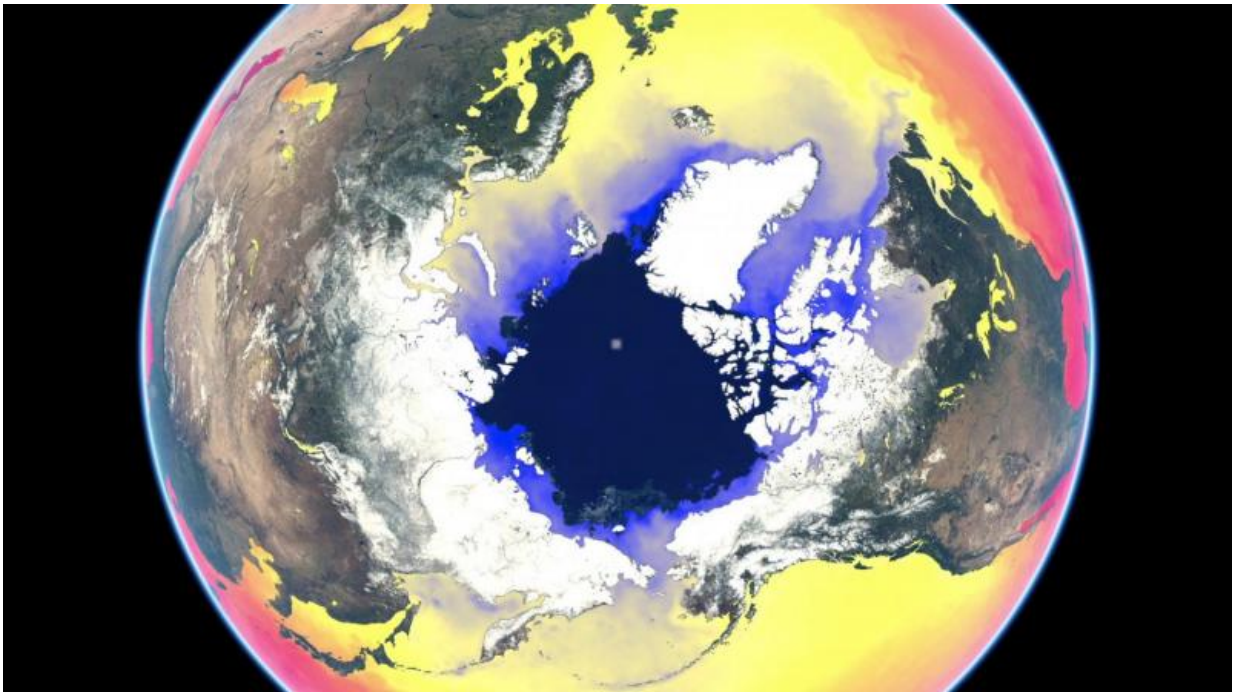


Mesmerising animation of 2016 sea surface temperature

April 20 2017



A still image from the Year of Sea Surface Temperature animation, showing record low sea ice extent in late 2016. Credit: European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)

In a recent animation produced by EUMETSAT, Remote Sensing Scientist Anne O'Carroll describes a year of sea surface temperature (SST) in 2016.

The animation combines [satellite data](#) with ocean surface measurements. The satellite data used come from both the geostationary ring of satellites and polar-orbiting satellites including from Europe, America and Japan.

The global [sea surface temperature](#) animation is compiled from the Operational Sea Surface Temperature and Sea Ice Analysis (OSTIA) as produced by the UK Met Office. The products are available from the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS).

"The animation is important to see the changes on a global scale of the [surface temperatures](#) of our ocean and to consider how these influence weather patterns and thus our daily lives," Mrs O'Carroll said.

Mrs O'Carroll goes through each month of the year highlighting specific weather events, currents and changes in temperatures in different zones of the Earth, focussing especially on El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and La Niña.

As seasons change, colder temperatures are coloured in blue while warmer [surface](#) temperatures evolve from yellow to magenta, and while currents move we can see the changes in temperatures twirling around.

According to the scientist, "The animation shows the beauty of the movement of our ocean and the changes in [temperature](#) and how energy is distributed and spreads around our globe, affecting the weather, climate, ecosystem and all our daily lives."

Provided by European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)

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