

# NASA GCMD Keywords Version 8.6 Released (2018-03-15)

The NASA Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) staff is pleased to announce the release of the GCMD keywords version 8.6. Version 8.6 consists of changes to the Science keywords for Water Quality/Water Chemistry and Related URL keywords. Overall, 67 new keywords were added, 53 keywords were modified, and 18 keywords were deleted. The keyword changes are summarized in the [keyword summary table](#).

The keywords help facilitate the classification and discovery of Earth Science data by providing a rich vocabulary for characterizing the data. The GCMD keywords are used by hundreds of data providers worldwide for categorizing the ~33,000 records stored in the [Common Metadata Repository](#).

Additions and modifications to the keywords are based on recommendations from the Earth Science community, requests from data providers, and GCMD science coordinators. These changes are grouped into releases, generally by keyword type and science discipline. The keywords were reviewed by subject matter experts and approved by the [ESDIS Standards Office](#). The keyword recommendations and responses are available to view on the [keyword review page](#).

For more information about the keywords and how to access them, please visit the [Keyword Landing Page](#). The GCMD User Support staff can be reached at [gsfc-gcmduso@mail.nasa.gov](mailto:gsfc-gcmduso@mail.nasa.gov). Questions can also be directed to Valerie Dixon at [valerie.dixon@nasa.gov](mailto:valerie.dixon@nasa.gov).