## Haiti Dominican Republic Flash Flood Guidance System HDRFFG

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HDRFFG Steering Committee #2 12 - 14 February 2018 Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic



#### **Hydrologic Research Center**

- HRC is a prototype Non-profit, public-benefit research and training corporation in the USA, 501(c)(3), established in 1993 in San Diego, California.
- Staff of professional scientists and engineers, university professors, post-doctoral

associates, graduates, and visiting scholars.

- Currently 10 employees
  - Hydrologists
  - Meteorologists
  - Climate Scientists
  - Wave modeler
  - Computer specialists
  - Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist



Objective: to Advance the science and engineering in Hydrology, Hydrometeorology, and Hydroclimatology through Research, Science Cooperation, Technology Transfer and Training.

# FFGS Terminology

- **Flood** occurrence of a flow event that overtops the natural or artificial banks in a reach of river channel.
- Flash Flood a flood that follows shortly after rainfall event.
- Bankfull Flow a flow in which the water level is at the top of its banks and further rise
  would result in inundation of the flood plain.
- Flash Flood Guidance (FFG) the volume of spatially uniform precipitation of a given duration (1-6 hours) over a certain small catchment that is required to cause minor flooding in the draining outlet of the catchment.
- Threshold Runoff rainfall depth in a given duration that is needed for the flow at the basin outlet to exceed bankfull flow when the basin is in near saturation conditions.
- Flash Flood Threat rainfall of a given duration in excess of the corresponding Flash Flood Guidance value

### Haiti Flash Flood Guidance System

#### DATA

-Precipitation: NESDIS Geostationary Satellite Hydroestimator

(Hourly totals; 4x4 km<sup>2</sup>)

Haiti and DR hourly raingauge data

NCEP High Res Mesoscale Model Forecast (0-48hrs)

- -Reference ET: Climatological estimates using historical temperature
- -Digital elevation data (90m)
- -Digital soils and land-use/land-cover data (FAO and DR)

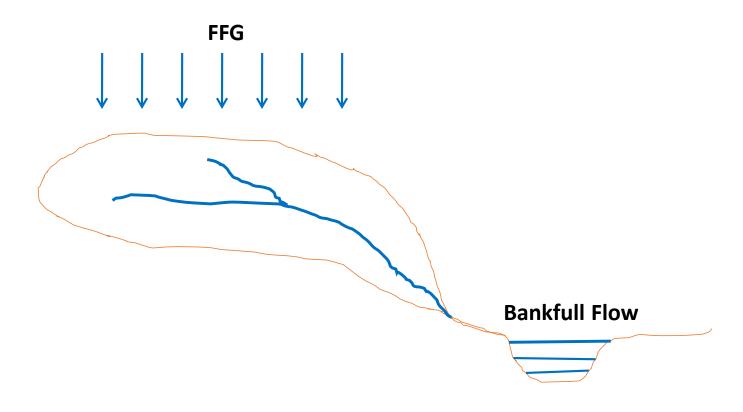
#### **MODELS**

- -Satellite Rainfall Bias Adjustment
- -Adaptation of NWS Soil Water Accounting Model
- -Geomorphologic Unit Hydrograph Model
- -Modern Flash Flood Guidance Estimation Theory

#### PRODUCTS (catchment based – median area=72 km² [25-2000]; hourly updates)

- -Mean Areal Precipitation Totals (1, 3, 6 hr duration)
- -Soil Water Estimates over Two Soil Zones
- -Flash Flood Guidance/Flash Flood Threat Volumes (1, 3, 6 hr duration)

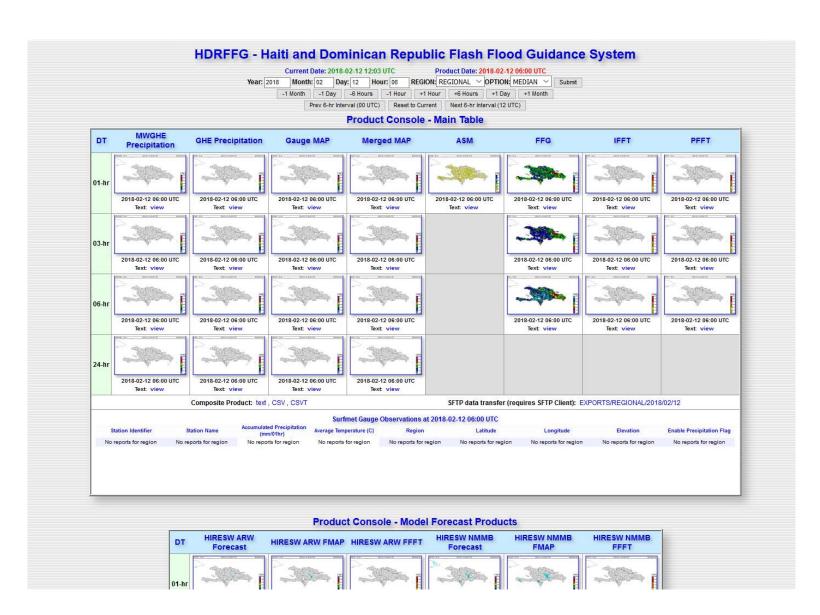
### Flash Flood Guidance Concept



Volume of rainfall of a given duration over a small catchment that is just enough to cause bankfull flow at the outlet of the draining stream

## System is Operational-Running at HRC

Forecasters should be able to access the system



## HDRFFG Project Implementation Status

- BASINS DELINEATION
- FEEDBACK ON DELINEATION BY COUNTRIES
- HISTORICAL DATA BY COUNTRIES
- PARAMETRIC DEVELOPMENT AND PRECIPITATION BIAS ADJUSTMENT USING HISTORICAL DATA
- INGEST REAL TIME LOCAL DATA BY COUNTRIES
- SYSTEM IMPLEMENTED AT HRC
- HANDS-ON TRAINING

LOCAL INSTALLATION AND OPERATIONAL TRAINING

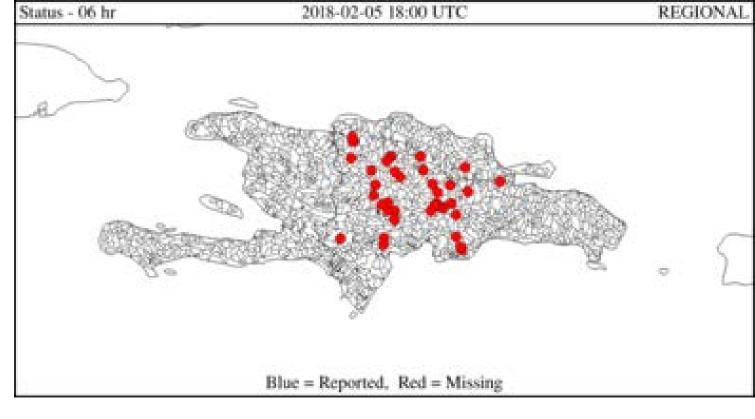
### Data Requirements

#### **Real Time Data:**

- Real time rainfall data
- Gauge data from Haiti
- Potential ET maps

GIS Layers to be added to the map server

Numerical Weather Prediction



**DASHBORD** 

	GAUGE Download				
	ENABLED SUCCESS				
	Feb-02	Feb-03	Feb-04	Feb-05	Feb-06
	19%	18%	0%	0%	0%

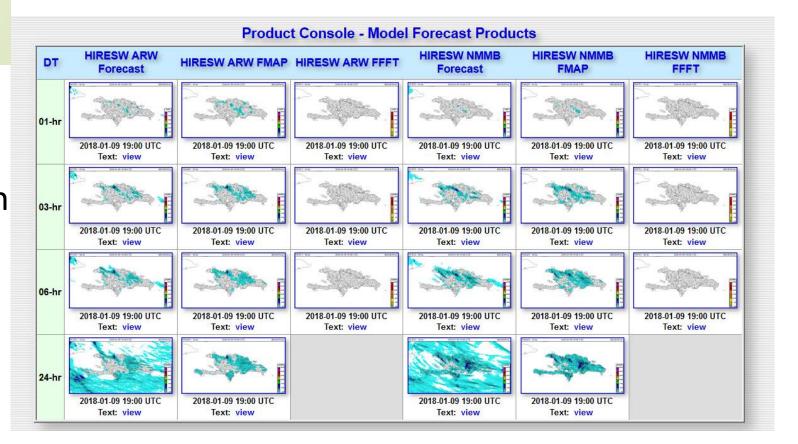
#### Characteristics of the WRF models for Hispaniola

		WRF-NMM	WRF-ARW
	Horizontal grid spacing (km)	4.0	5.15
/	Vertical levels	35 sigma- pressure hybrid	35 sigma
/	PBL/turbulence	MYJ	YSU
	Microphysics	Ferrier	WSM3
/	Land-Surface	NOAH	NOAH
/	Radiation (SW/LW)	GFDL/GFDL	Dudhia/RRTM
	Convection	None parameterized	None parameterized

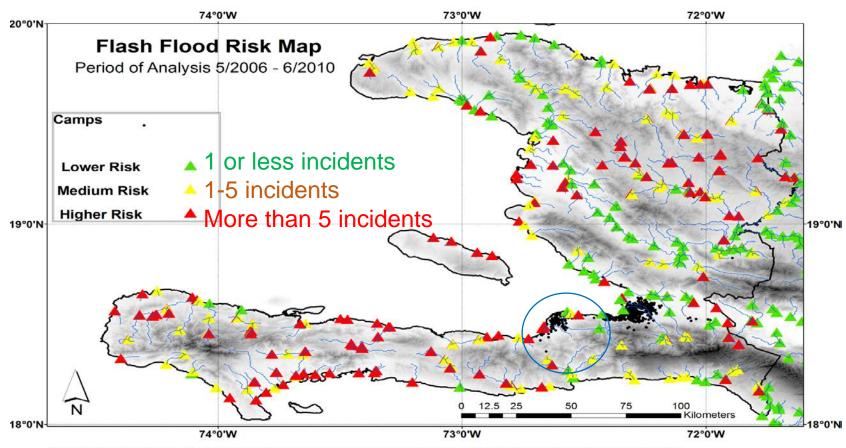
- WRF models from NCEP
- Model output interpolated to a common 0.045 degrees grid
- Warm season precip. is difficult to forecast

#### Numerical Weather Prediction

http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/mpyle/haiti\_prod/ secured site: Other forecasted variables may provide additional valuable information



### Flash Flood Risk Assessment Entire Haiti (Average Basin Area: 72 km²)



Evaluation of real-time flash flood forecasts for Haiti during the passage of Hurricane Tomas, November 4–6, 2010

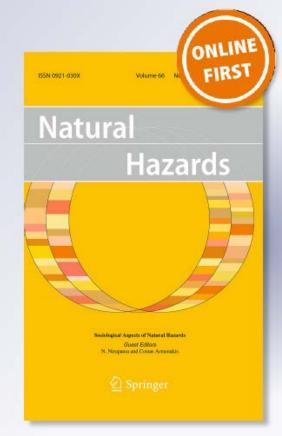
E. Shamir, K. P. Georgakakos, C. Spencer, T. M. Modrick, M. J. Murphy & R. Jubach

#### **Natural Hazards**

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### Hurricane Tomas Affected Haiti November 5-6, 2010

