# SEEFFG Operations Workshop Overview of SEEFFG System Forecaster Interface



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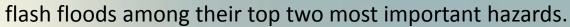
09 May 2016

# **A Little Motivation**

# (Why do we care about flash floods?)

Flash Floods are very significant disasters globally ...

- More than 5000 deaths per year worldwide
- Millions of dollars of property and infrastructure damage
- Highest number of deaths per people affected (mortality rate)
- WMO survey (2008) finds 105 out of 139 countries identified





## **A Little Motivation**



Large river warning strategies are ineffective for flash floods

Usually, flow crest is reached within 6 hours of causative event (Only consider < 2000km<sup>2</sup>)

Flash floods are local hydrometeorological phenomena that require:1. Both hydrological and meteorological expertise for real-time forecasting2. Knowledge of local up-to-the-hour information for effective warning

### **Importance of Soil Moisture**

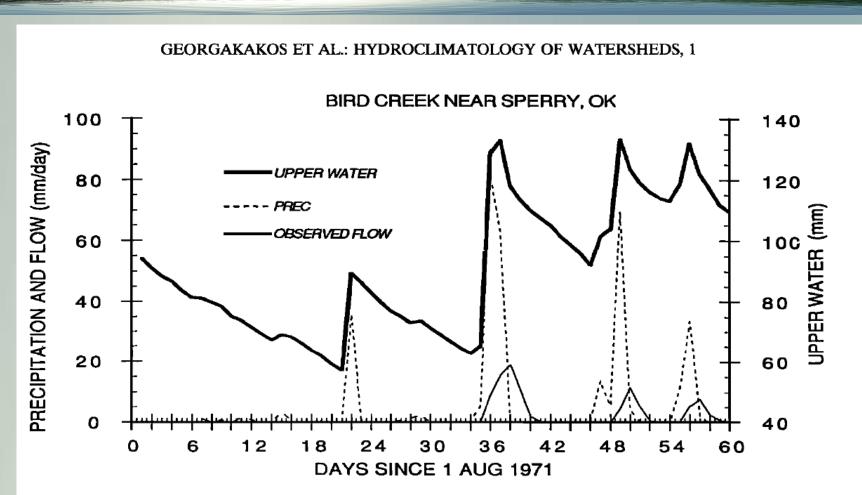


Figure 2. Daily values of rainfall rate (dashed line), flow rate (solid line), and upper soil water (heavy solid line) for Bird Creek near Sperry, Oklahoma, for August and September 1971. Rainfall and flow rates are in millimeters per day and are read on the left ordinate axis. Upper water is in millimeters and is read on the right ordinate axis. Upper water capacity is 135 mm.

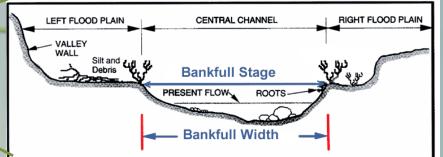
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# **Fundamental Concepts for Flash Flood Guidance**

Soil Water Deficit Channel bankfull storage Rainfall threshold (familiar concept )

Meteorology and hydrology decoupled to allow for adjustments

Concerned only with bankfull flow

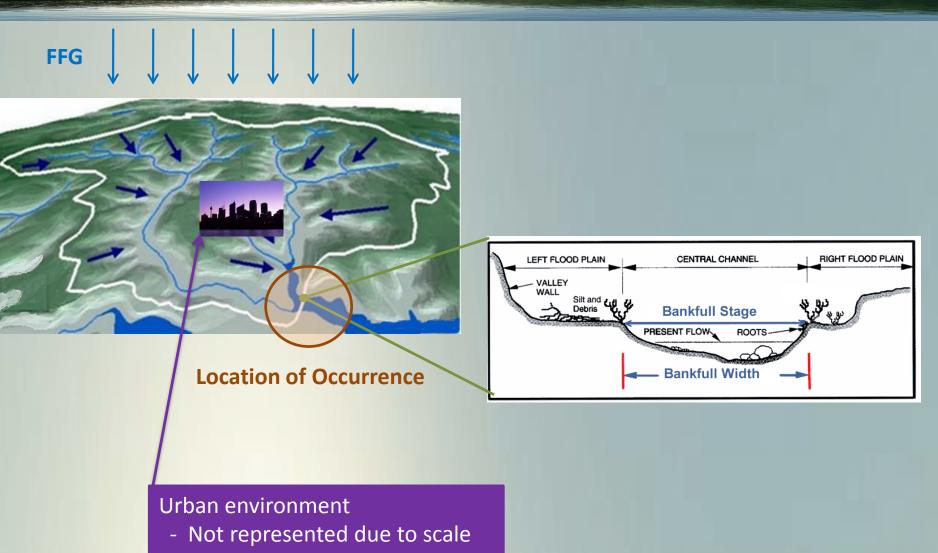


#### **Bankfull Flow**

Flash Flood Guidance (FFG): The amount of **rainfall** of a given duration and <u>over a given catchment</u> that is just enough to cause flooding conditions at the <u>outlet of the draining stream</u>

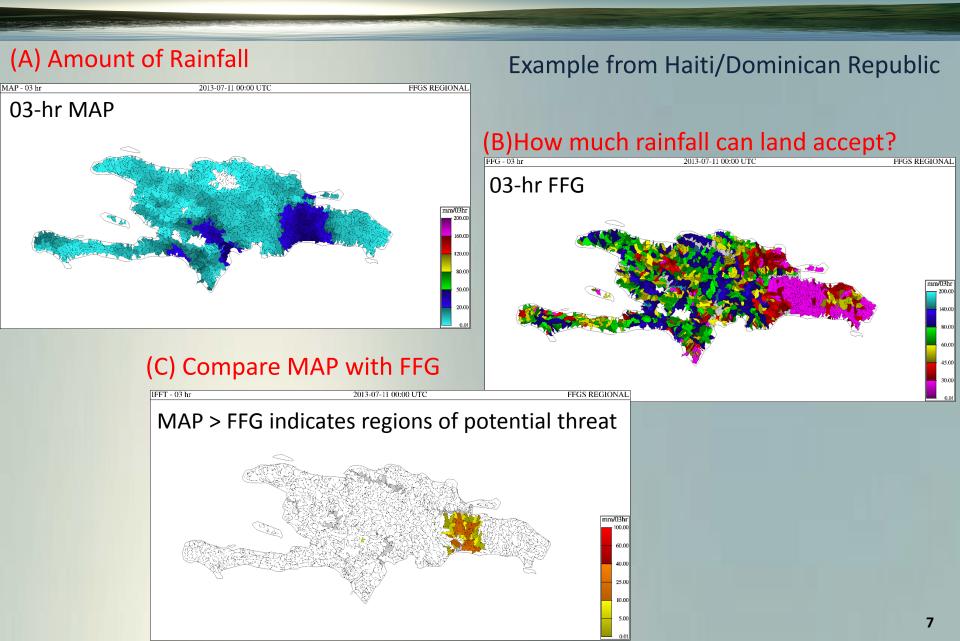
#### Threshold exceedance concept to estimate occurrence only!

## **Fundamental Concepts for Flash Flood Guidance**

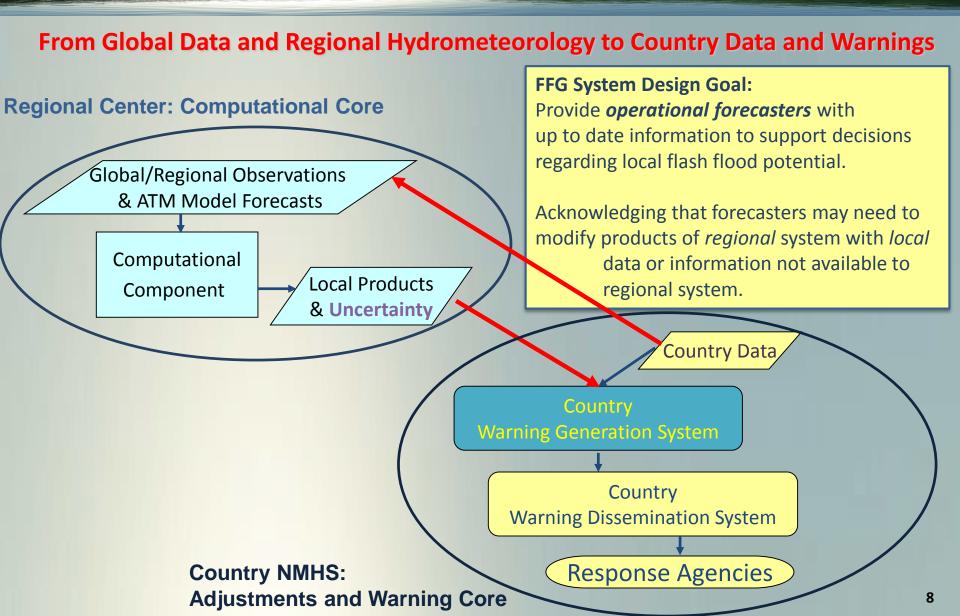


- Not represented due to sewers

# **Application of Flash Flood Guidance**



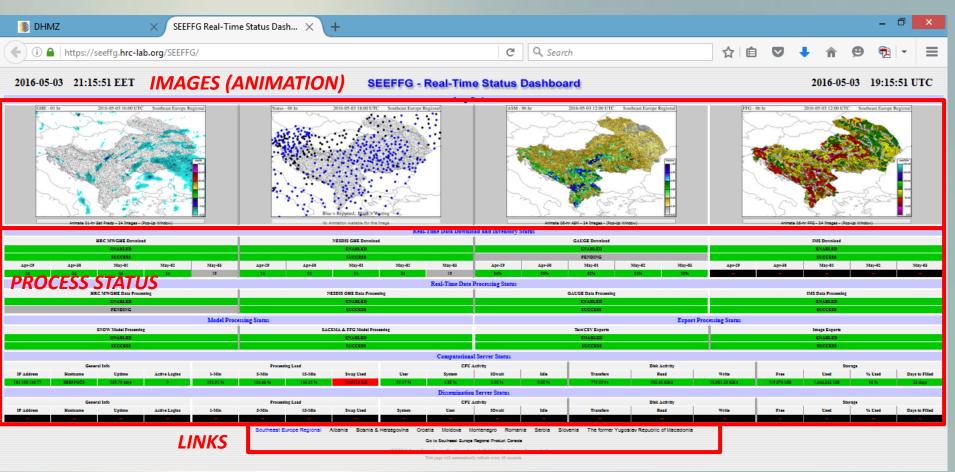
## **Design Fundamental for Flash Flood Guidance Systems**



#### 1. Dashboard

#### SECURE WEBSITE @ https://seeffg.hrc-lab.org/DASHBOARD/

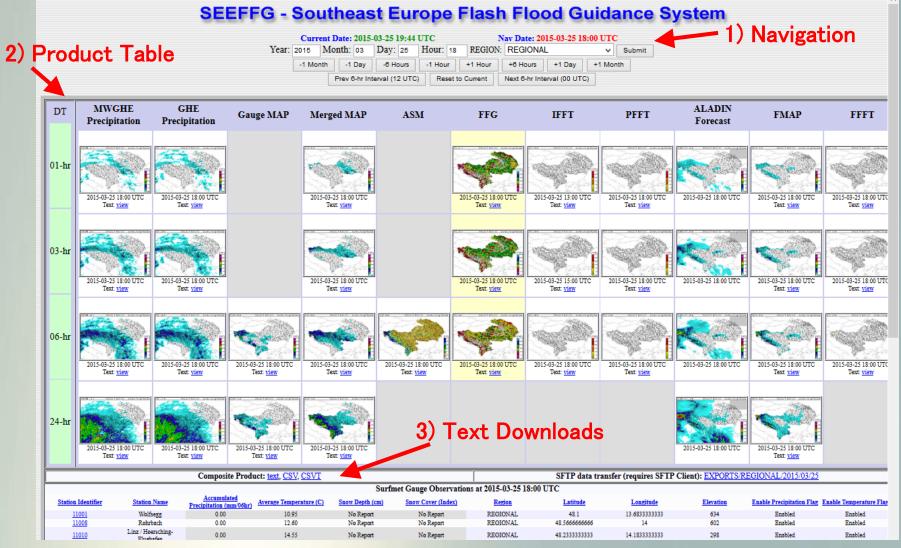
• INTENDED TO provide a "quick look" at current system status for system administrators



• In process status: Green is good; Red is concern.

2. Product Console

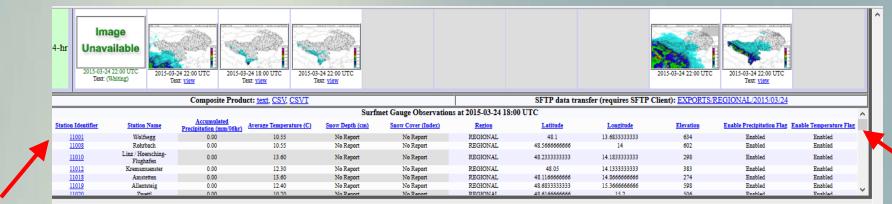
#### SECURE WEBSITE @ https://seeffg.hrc-lab.org/CONSOLE/



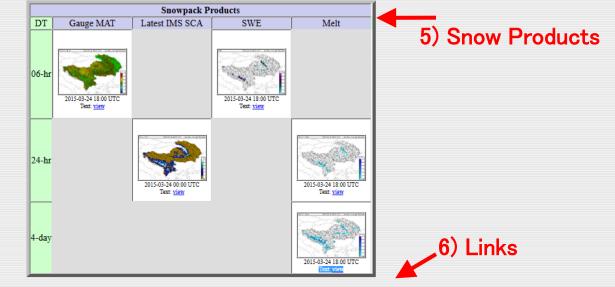
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#### 2. Product Console

#### SECURE WEBSITE @ https://seeffg.hrc-lab.org/CONSOLE/

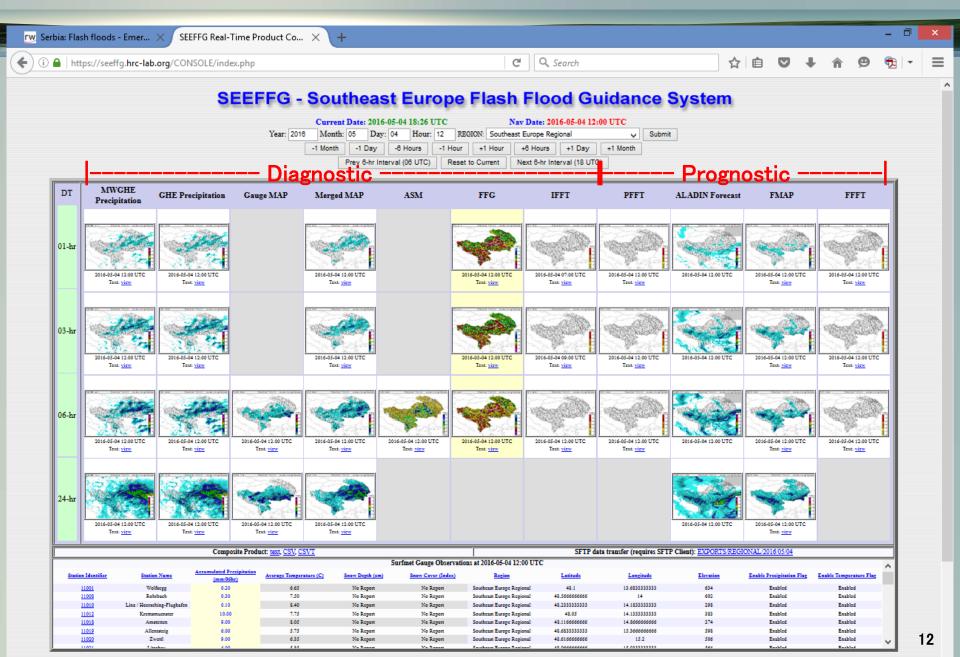


#### Station Information



| HOME | About SEEFFG Real-Time Product Console | Product Descriptions | Processing Logs | Server Monitor | Static Resources | Dashboard

SEEFFG Real-Time Product Console v.1.0, Release Date: June 2013 Copyright © 2013 <u>Hydrologic Research Center</u> (HRC)

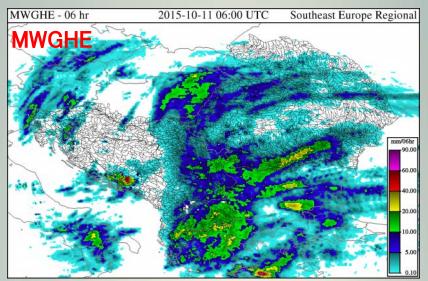


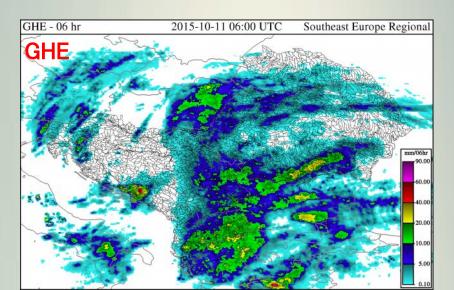
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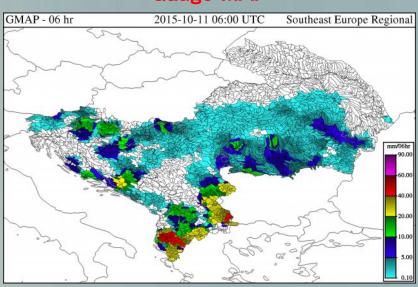
### **Observed Precipitation Products**

#### **Satellite Precipitation**

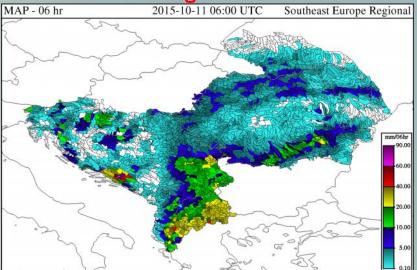








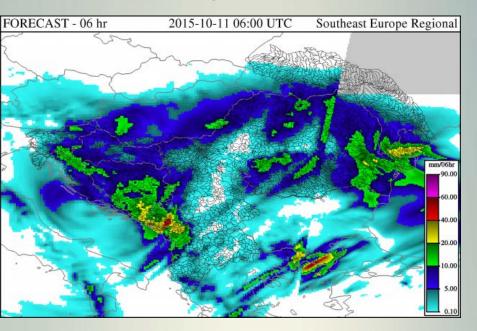
Merged MAP



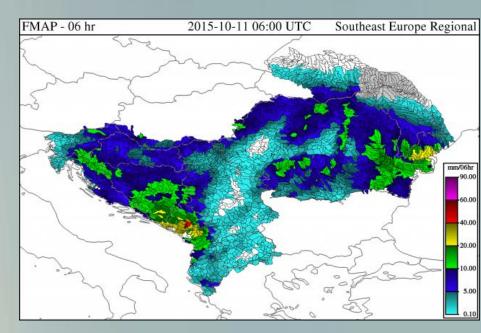
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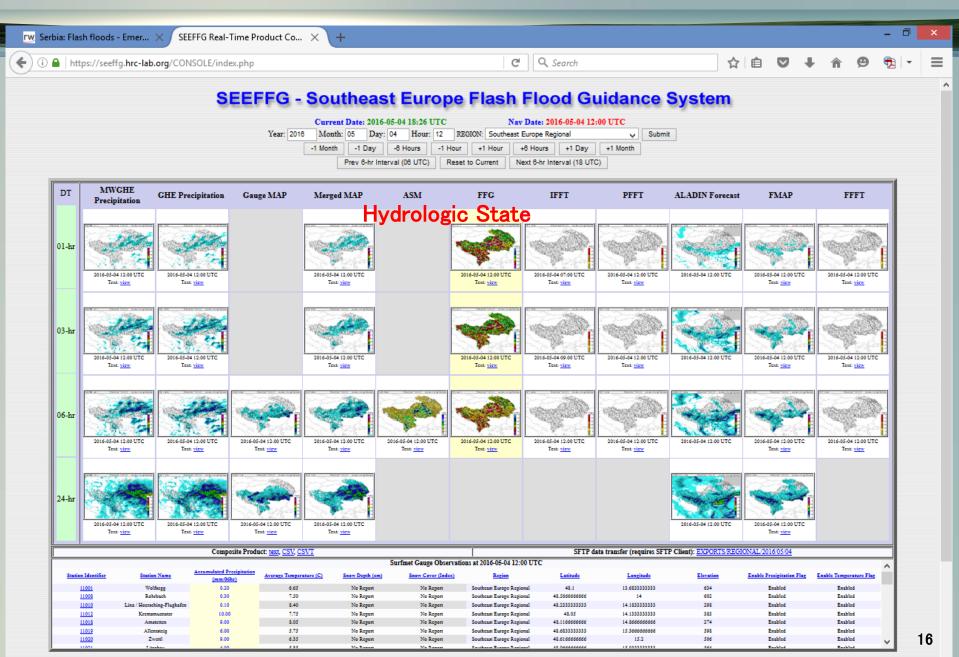
#### **Forecast Precipitation**

#### Forecast Precipitation (2 models)



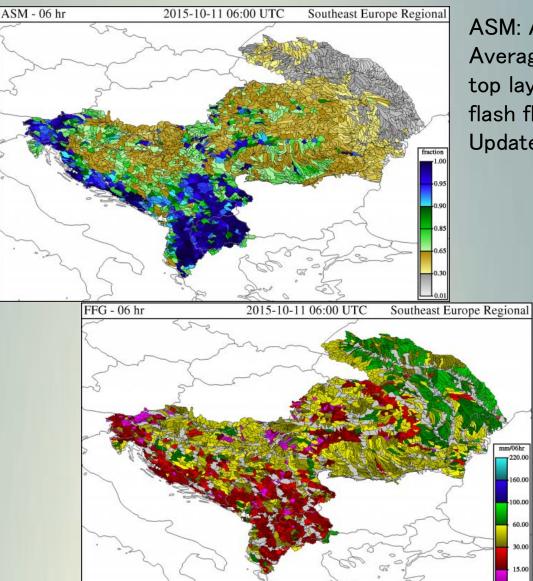
#### **Forecast MAP**





#### **Hydrologic Products**

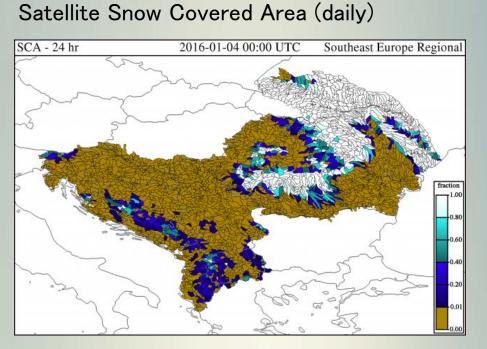
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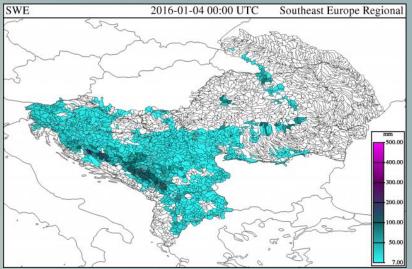
**ASM:** Average Soil Moisture Average soil saturation fraction [0-1] in the top layer of soil depth (most relevant for flash flood occurrence). Updated every 6 hours

> FFG: Flash Flood Guidance Amount of precipitation of a given duration over each watershed which is just enough to bring the channel at watershed outlet to bankfull. Updated every 6 hours for rainfall durations of 01-, 03-, and 06-hours

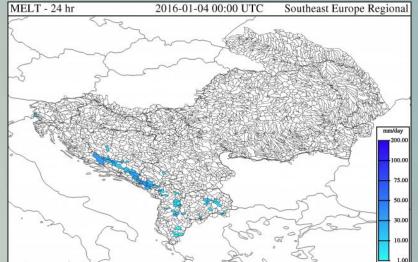
#### **Snow Products**



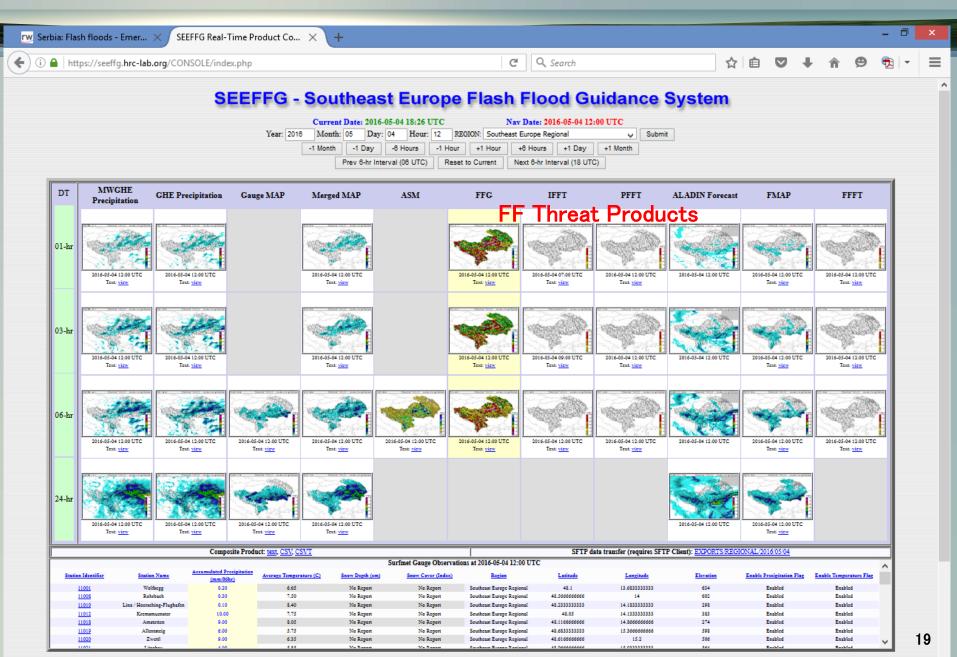
#### Snow Water Equivalent (model calculation)



#### Snow Melt (model calculation)

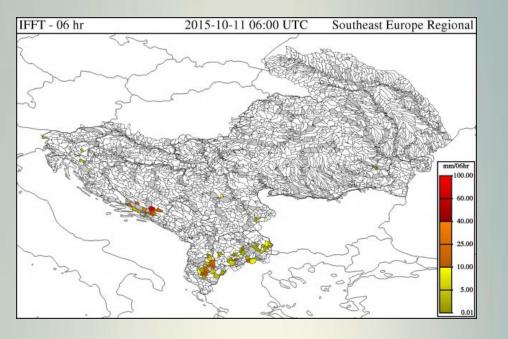


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## **Flash Flood Threat Products**

#### Potential for flash flooding is increased when **PRECIPITATION > FFG**.



### Flash Flood Threat, FFT, defined: **FFT = MAP - FFG**

- imminent
- persistence
- forecast
- Updated every 6 hours for
- 1-, 3-, and 6-hour durations

FFT products are \*not\* intended to be the forecast;

Rather, these are indicators of regions of potential concern that the forecaster should review.

# Summary

- SEEFFG System is design to provide operational forecasters of NMHSs with up-to-date information on precipitation and hydrologic conditions favorable to flash flood occurrence in support of decision making pertaining to warning generation.
- SEEFFG System Forecaster Interface (Product Console) provides realtime information on:
  - precipitation (satellite and raingauges)
  - soil moisture condition (upper soil layer)
  - flash flood guidance
  - forecast precipitation
- SEEFFG System Dashboard provides information on current system status, and animation of recent precipitation, soil moisture, and FFG.