# The National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP): Enabling a Weather Ready Nation



### Jim Yoe, Transitions Manager

National Centers for Environmental Prediction NOAA National Weather Service December 5, 2019



- Background and Motivation
- NWS Strategic Outcome
- NCEP Centers -
  - Specialized Services Common Mission
  - (Some) Use of Satellites Observations
    IDSS
- Discussion (Collaboration)
  Summary



# **Background and Motivation**

## > My NCEP perspective as... Research Transition Manager Coordination with NWS STI & Obs JCSDA Administration ➤... and formerly NESDIS **STAR (1993-2007) and OSD (2007-2010)** Slides drawn from > NCEP 101 (Dr. Bill Lapenta) Leveraging Sat Obs @ NCEP (NSC2013)





# NWS Strategic Outcome: A Weather- and Water-Ready Nation



https://www.facebook.com/NWS/videos



Becoming a Weather-Ready Nation is about building community resiliency in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather, water and climate events

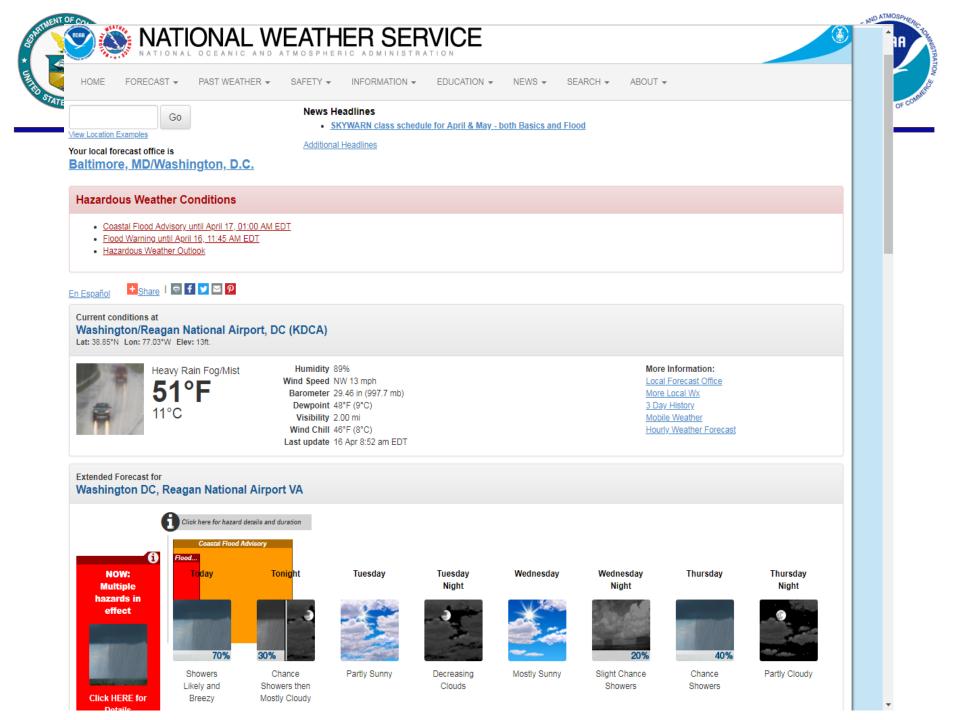
Better forecasts and warnings

Consistent products and services

Actionable environmental intelligence Connecting forecasts to decisions

Involves the entire US Weather, Water and Climate Enterprise WORKING TOGETHER

We have 7000+ WRN Ambassadors





## Realizing the Full Value of Forecasts: Connecting Forecasts to Critical Decisions



Generating forecasts and warnings

Connecting those forecasts & warnings with impacts (IDSS)

#### "Impact-based Decision Support Services"

Realizing Intrinsic Value and Mission Success



Provide the best hydrological and meteorological forecasting in the world

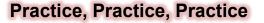
Develop relationships and know partner needs



Explain uncertainty



Support partner decision making before, during, and after events

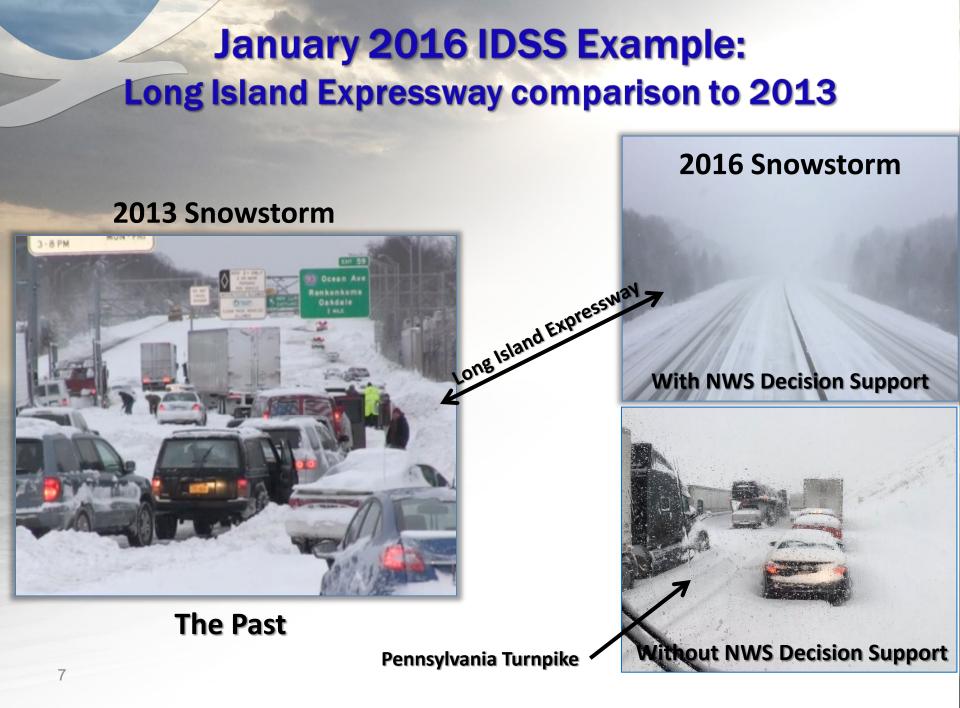








**Build trust** 

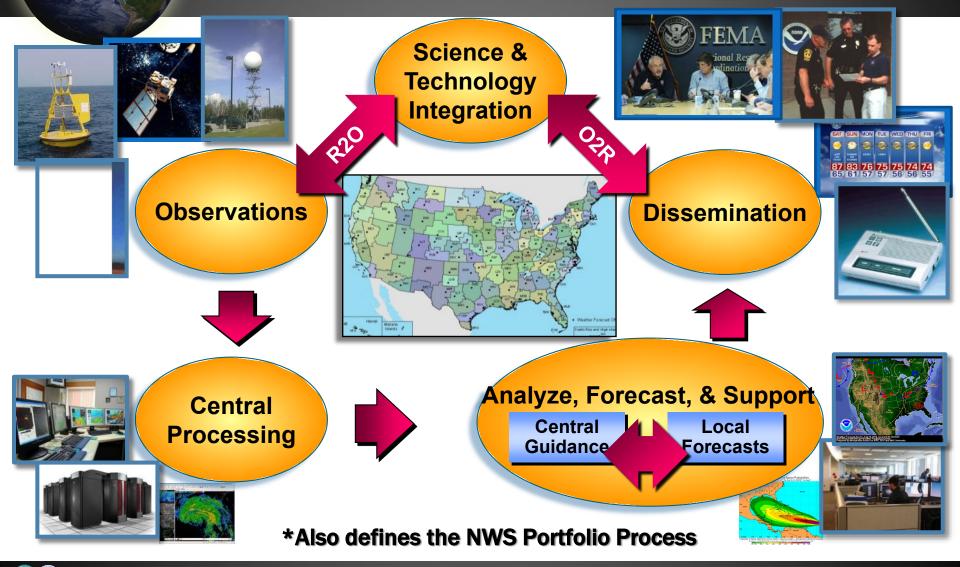


### Connecting the NWS Organization to Deliver Accurate and Consistent Products and Services



**National Weather Service** 

### Basis for Rebuilding the NWS Infrastructure Based on: <u>The Forecast Process</u>



### **NWS** National Centers for Environmental Prediction

### Specialized Services – Common Mission





Aviation Weather Center Kansas City, MO



Space Weather Prediction Center Boulder, CO



Storm Prediction Center Norman, OK



National Hurricane Center Miami, FL



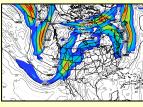
NCEP Central Operations College Park, MD (Supercomputers in Reston & Orlando)



Ocean Prediction Center College Park, MD



Climate Prediction Center College Park, MD



Environmental Modeling Center College Park, MD



Weather Prediction Center College Park, MD

#### **Mission**

NCEP delivers national and global operational weather, water and climate products and services essential to protecting life, property and economic well-being.

#### **Vision**

The trusted source for environmental predictions from the sun to the sea, when it matters most.





## NCEP is a Critical Component of the NWS **Collaborative Forecast Process**

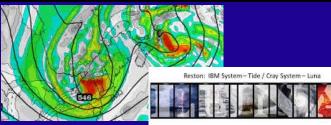


### "Provision of Services from the Sun to the Sea"

- Solar Monitoring, Warnings and **Forecasts (SWPC)**
- **Aviation Forecasts and Warnings (AWC)**
- Extreme Events (Hurricanes, snowstorms, excessive rain; severe & fire weather) (NHC, WPC, SPC)
- High Seas Forecasts and Warnings to day-5 (OPC)
- Week 3 & 4; Seasonal Outlooks; El Nino - La Nina Forecasts (CPC)

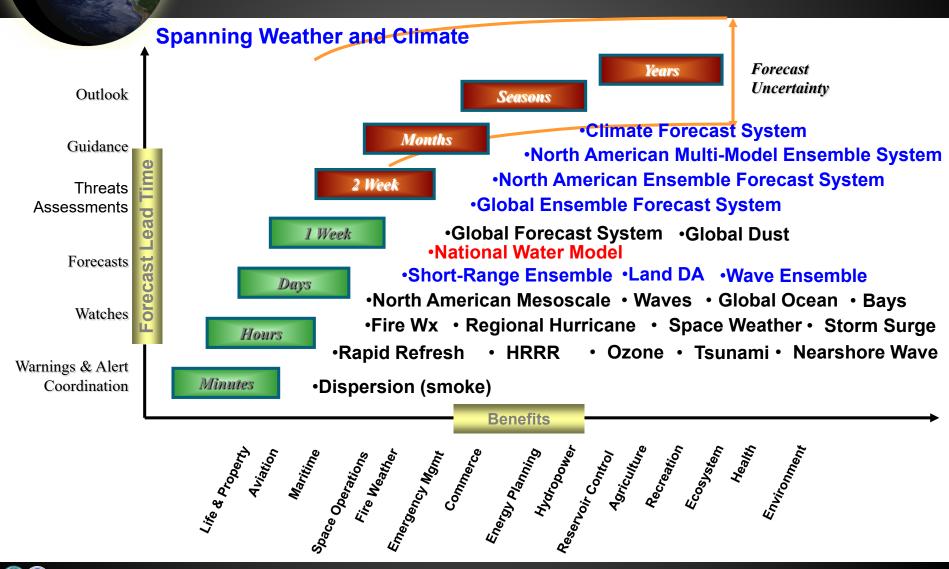


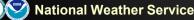
- Model Development, Implementation and Applications for Global and Regional Weather, Climate, Oceans and Space Weather (EMC)
- Super Computer, Workstation and Network Operations (NCO)





## Seamless Suite of Operational Numerical Guidance Systems







## NCEP Central Operations (NCO) Foundational Products and Services

Numerical Guidance On Supercomputer

06 June 2015

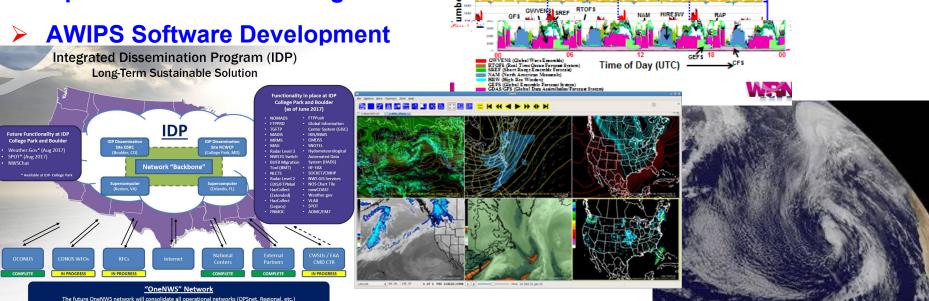
Phase 1 (Capacity ~ 0.21 Pf) + Phase 2 (Capacity ~ 0.55Pf

24-h Cycle



- High Performance Computing
- 24x7 Systems and Monitoring Support
- Telecoms Support: AOMC, NEXRAD, One-NWSnet
- NOAA's IDP: MRMS, MADIS, VLab, NOMADS, MAG, NIDS
- Operational Data Exchange

as a single managed network under NCEP Central Operations (NCO)



## Satellite Data Used in Global NWP Models

#### Sensors/ Satellites Data Assimilated (from Uccellini September 2019)

 HIRS sounder radiances •AMSU-A & B sounder radiances •ATMS sounder radiances •MHS sounder radiances •AIRS\* sounder radiances •IASI sounder radiances •CrIS sounder radiances •GOES sounder radiances •GOES, Meteosat, GMS winds •GOES precipitation rate •SSM/I precipitation rates TRMM\* precipitation rates •SSM/I ocean surface wind speeds Quikscat\* ocean surface wind vectors •MT SAPHIR\* •JASON ocean surface altimetry AVHRR SST •AVHRR vegetation fraction

•AVHRR surface type •Multi-satellite snow cover •Multi-satellite sea ice •SBUV/2 ozone profile & total ozone MODIS\* polar winds •GPS Radio Occultation -COSMIC, METOP/GRAS, CNOFS, GRACE,\* SAC-C\*, TerraSÁR-X\*, KOMPSAT5, COSMIC2 (soon) •SSMIS sounder radiances •Aura/OMI\* •AMSR/E\* •MSG SEVIRI •GOES—R/S. Himawari winds •VIIRS Polar Winds

- •In Development
  - VIIRS SST radiances
  - GOES-R ABI radiances
  - GPM/GMI\*
  - SMAP\*
  - ADM/Aeolus\*
  - SSMIS imaging channels
  - ASCAT OSWV

**Denotes Research Satellites \*** 

Enhanced through the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation. Accelerated the use of research and operational satellite data in operational numerical weather predict modeling systems.



# **Aviation Weather Center (AWC)**

### Kansas City, MO



The AWC delivers consistent, timely and accurate weather information for the world airspace system

In Flight Forecasts, Advisories and Warnings:





# Satellite Data at AWC



- AWC is a **global** forecast center
- Imagery vital to operations
- GOES-R and NPP data improve operations:
  - Mosaic and global imagery
    - VIIRs and GOES-R integration
  - Overlays with other aviation tools
    - ASDI (flight tracking) and EDR (turbulence reports)
- Research to support new applications
  - Collaborative projects involving both developers and forecasters, for example, turbulence detection

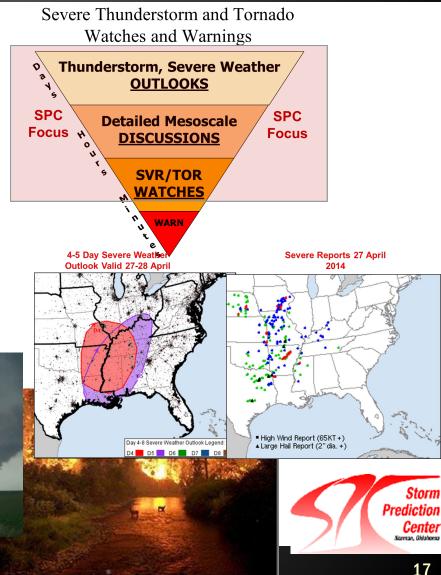
ter AWC Testbed Tools

- 1. Fog and Low Stratus
- 2. ABI
- 3. Flight Icing Threat
- 4. PGLM
- 5. CI toolbox
- 6. NearCasting Model
- 7. ACHA algorithms
- 8. VIIRS Imagery CONUS

## Storm Prediction Center (SPC) Norman, OK

- Convective (Severe Thunderstorm) Outlooks for Day 1, 2, 3, and Days 4-8
- Severe Thunderstorm and Tornado Watches
- Thunderstorm Outlooks
- Mesoscale Convective discussions (MD)
- Watch Status Messages
- Fire Weather Outlooks (Day 1, 2, 3-8)



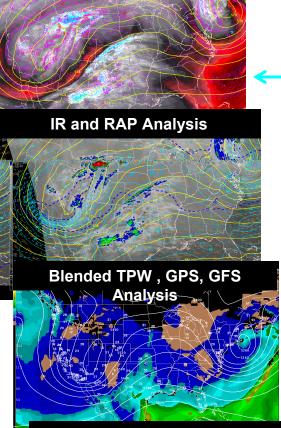


# ATMOSPIES, C

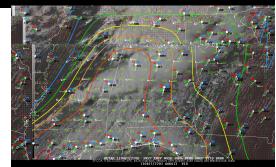
## **SPC Use of Satellite Data – Current and Future**





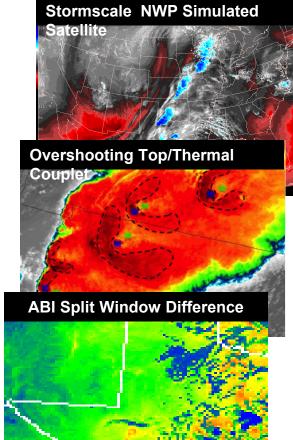


Visible and Mesoanalysis Fields

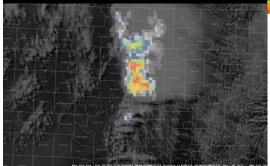


2013 - Blending satellite imagery with NWP and environment data helps diagnose current environment

> Current and Future - New satellite products will improve ability to predict convective storms in advance, and to diagnose intensity and evolution of existing storms



GLM Total Lightning



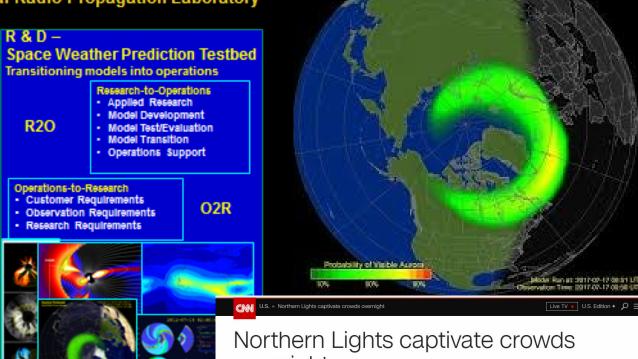
#### Space Weather Prediction Center Established 1946 as part of Central Radio Propagation Laboratory

#### Operations -**Space Weather Forecast Office**



#### Daily forecast since 1965.

Specifications; Current conditions Forecast: Conditions tomorrow Watches: Conditions are favorable for storm Warnings; Storm is imminent with high probability Alerts: observed conditions meeting or at seas the selde



Aurora Forecast

**OVATION Prime Mode** 

overnight

By Gisela Crespo, CNN () Updated 2:09 PM ET, Mon July 17, 2017

#### G 🕜 🗖

Forecast For: 2017-07-17 01:20 UT

terrispheric Power: 44,48 GM

(Typical Range 5 to 150 GW)



(CNN) - From Michigan to Canada, plenty of folks stayed up Sunday to watch and record the spectacle of the Northern Lights -- and it didn't disappoint.

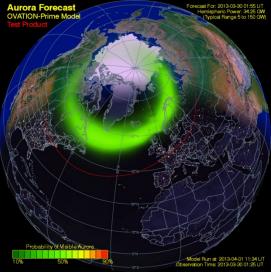
NOAA's Space Weather Prediction announced last week that there was a possibility the Aurora Borealis would be visible "as low as New York to Wisconsin to Washington State," on Sunday



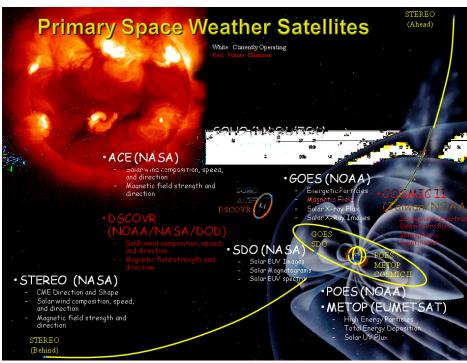


# **SWPC** Reliance on Satellites

- For Accurate Space Weather Forecasts, Observations must be made from Space
  - There are no ground-based alternatives for most observations
- Most Products Require Satellite Data
  - 90% of products use satellite data
  - 75% of products require satellite data
- Two of the Three Space Weather Scales are Derived solely from Satellite Observations
- New and Future Satellite Missions are Critical
  - DSCOVR: Continuity of observations from L1;
    SWFO (Space Weather Follow On) Mission
  - GOES-R: Continuity of observations from GEO
  - COSMIC II: Expanding real-time observations on a global scale
  - SunJammer: Taking solar wind measurements closer to the sun for longer forecast leadtimes.



Ovation – Forecasting the Location and Intensity of the Aurora: Driven by ACE ,DISCOVR solar wind data measured at the L1 point (1% of the distance between Earth and sun





- Two types of satellite data applications
  - Direct use of satellite data
  - Integrated (e.g. combine data from individual platforms / sensors into climate analyses)

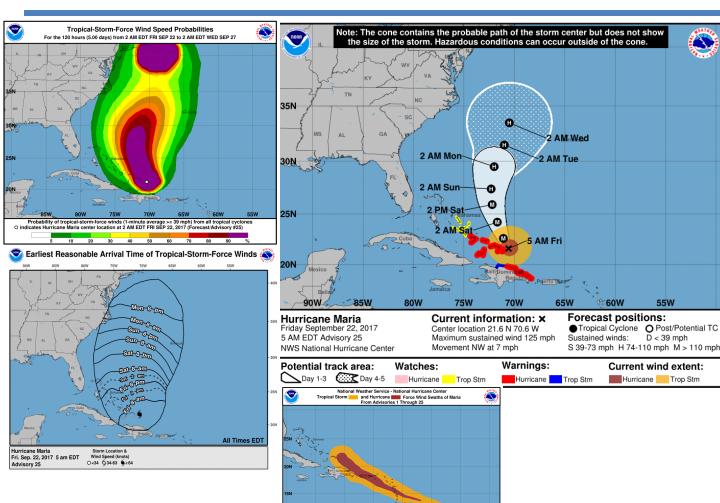
# Key contributions

- 1983: GOES Precipitation Index
- 1985: Outgoing Longwave Radiation
- 1988: Sea Surface Temperature Analysis
- 1994: Ultraviolet Index
- 1996: Gauge-Satellite Merged Precipitation Analysis
- 1999: Full-Res Global GEO IR Images
- 2002: Hi-Res Global Satellite Precipitation Estimates



## National Hurricane Center Miami, FL





Hurricane Maria Discussion Number 25 NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL152017 500 AM EDT Fri Sep 22 2017

Reports from an Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunter aircraft near 0900 UT indicated that the central pressure of Maria had risen to 990 mb, accompanied by Tight-Level winds and SPMB surface wind estimates that supported an intensity near 104 kt. Since that time, the cloud tops in the openall have cooled, but the typ has become intensity is held at 104 to provide the archive the translation rear 1200 UTC, but it is possible this is a little generous. Maria is starting to be affected by 15-04 kt of southestrely vertice wind there, with the first sign of this being a decrease in convective banding in the wastern semicircle.

The large-scale models forecast some shear to persist through the forecast period, and as a result the intensity guidance predicts a gradual usekening. In addition, after 44 h the forecast track takes the center of furai over waters that were coulded significantly by the passage of former hurricane Jose. Based on these factors, the new intensity forecast calls for a slow wakening during the first 44 h shilar to the previous forecast, then calls for more wakening than previously forecast as alls for cyclene reaches the coller waters.

The initial motion is 1376. Maria will be moving between the southresized right oth east and a broad trough over the southestern United States and the adjacent Atlantic waters during the next several days. This pattern should cause the hurricane to turn north-northwestward and then northward during the next 72 h. The track gladence is tightly Liberted during this part of the souther the souther souther the souther the souther track. After 72 h, the guidance becomes a little more divergent. The Canadian and Chiff models are on the left side of the envelope should a generally northward motion. This part of the forecast track is nudged just a little to the left of the cold forecast.

#### KEY MESSAGES:

 Flash flood warnings continue in portions of Puerto Rico due to persistent heavy rainfall from Maria's trailing rainbands. Everyone in Puerto Rico should continue to follow advice from local officials to avoid these life-threatening flooding conditions.

 Swells from Haria are expected to begin reaching the coast of the southeastern United States today. These swells are likely to cause dangerous surf and life-threatening rip currents along the coast for the next several days, even with Haria forecast to remain well offshore over the western Atlantic Ocean.

FORECAST POSITIONS AND MAX WINDS

INIT	22/0900Z	21.6N	70.6N	110	KT	125	MPH	
12H	22/1800Z	22.6N	71.1W	105	KT	120	MPH	
24H	23/0600Z	24.2N	71.7W	105	KT	120	MPH	
36H	23/1800Z	25.9N	72.2W	100	KT	115	MPH	
48H	24/0600Z	27.4N	72.3W	95	KT	110	MPH	
72H	25/0600Z	29.5N	72.0W	85	KT	100	MPH	
96H	26/0600Z	31.5N	71.0N	75	KT	85	MPH	
120H	27/0600Z	33.5N	70.5W	65	KT	75	MPH	
\$\$								
Forecaster Beven								

## Forecasting Improvements Over the Past 25 Years

Katrina 2005

#### Andrew 1992



- Policy: Global models not used for official forecast
- GFS did capture an "L" with one or two closed isobars considered a success
- Policy changed after Andrew



- Accelerated use of models for 5-day forecasts
- Model runs captured intensification/track - broad "cone of uncertainty"
- Intensity changes advertised
  1-2 days in advance still a challenge

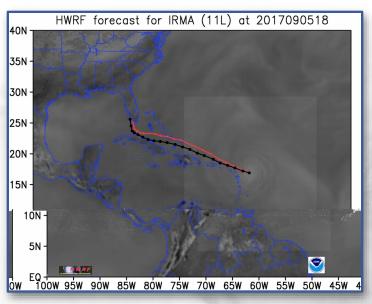
Irma 2017

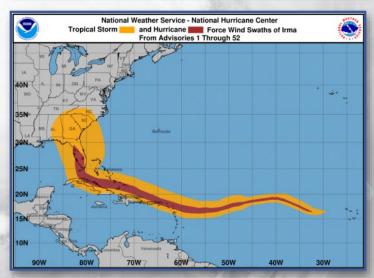


- 10-day model runs used to track Irma:
  - development of storm as a wave off Africa
  - right turn in the track
- Still have issues nailing down the details
  - Track changes
  - Rapid intensity changes still a challenge

# Forecast Improvements Irma

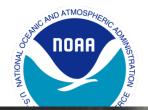
- Models picked up on Irma becoming a hurricane before the tropical depression formed in the eastern Atlantic.
- NWS indicated threat for southeastern U.S.
  8-10 days in advance
- Sharp right turn to the north was expected based on strong ensemble agreement
  - Exactly turn with regard to the FL peninsula was uncertain; but confidence was high enough to alert Southeast U.S. and focus on Florida
  - Florida Governor declared a State of Emergency on Monday, six days before landfall
- Forecast for the right turn verified!





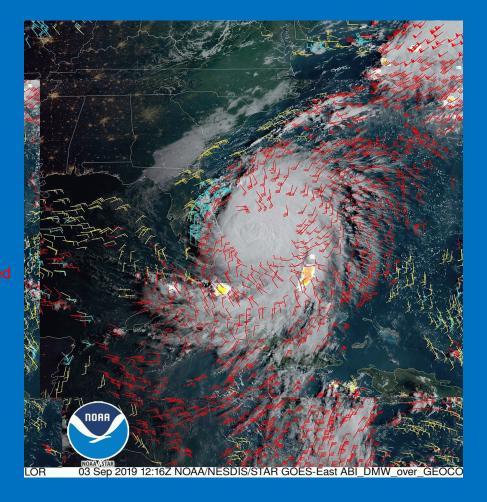


### Hurricane Irma Category 5 for more than 3 days



02-Sep-2017 08:00 UTC







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# NCEP IDSS Responsibilities: **National Media**



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# NCEP IDSS Responsibilities: FEMA / DHS Briefings





Monthly or Regular Basis and Special Partner Briefings in Advance of Major Events









AND ATMOSA

NOAA

ARTMENT OF

# Discussion

- Toward more effective collaboration with STAR Developing, testing, implementing new science
  - Exploiting new satellite data
  - Organizational Efforts
    - STAR User Engagement Scientist
    - STAR and NCEP drafting agreement (Bayler & Yoe)
  - Individual Efforts
    - Think service first





# Research to Operations -TestBeds

Service – Science Linkage

- EMC WRF Developmental Test Center, NASA/ NOAA/DoD Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation
- CPC Climate Test Bed
- NHC Joint Hurricane Test Bed
- WPC Hydrometeorological Test Bed
- SPC Hazardous Weather Test Bed with NSSL
- SWPC Space Weather Prediction Test Bed with AFWA
- AWC Aviation Weather Test Bed
- OPC Linked with EMC's Marine Modeling and Analysis Branch



# To Make Impact

- Focus on the mission service to (end) users
- Satellite data/products integrated in forecast process and environment(s)
- Central Guidance (environmental modeling) biggest target
  - Data calibration, validation
  - Data characterization
  - Data quality control
  - Data assimilation

> JCSDA



# Summary

- The "C" in NCEP is plural
  - EMC and NCO supplying Central Guidance
  - Seven Specific Service Areas
- NCEP relies on satellite data to support all of its operational environmental predictions
- NCEP needs to exploit advanced capabilities of current and future satellite sensors and data
  - Using integrated, service-focused approach
  - Emphasizing high-impact services
  - Leveraging Testbeds and Proving Grounds
  - Collaborating with partners throughout NOAA



# Thank You





# Back up slides





# NCEP International Responsibilities



# NCEP executes over half of NWS International travel

- Scientific and Service Engagement
- Satellite Coordination
- Global Model Coordination

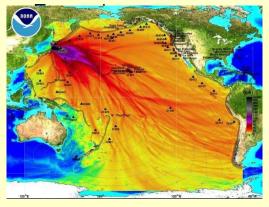


#### Africa / Monsoon



### **Specialized Support**

Japanese

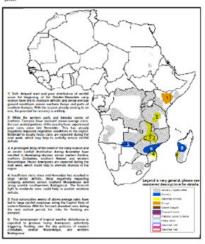






Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook January 2 – January 8, 2014

- Tenny raise are expected in earters Southern Alvica, increasing risks for localized flocking during the next settled



### —]ueAnsiuon≵Huunineens?eentebs?kew?suresustsey **Busting Forecasts Are Excellent**

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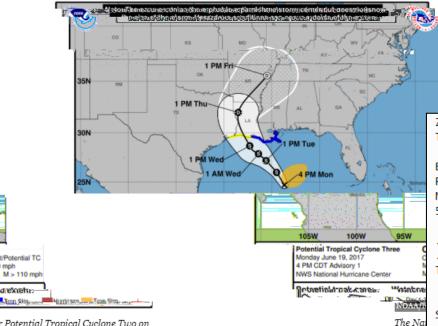
FULL BIO  $\checkmark$ 



Dennis Mersereau, CONTRIBUTOR

I write about the weather and all of the unique issues it creates.

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own



r Potential Tropical Cyclone Two on Storm Cindy one day later.

mph

) began issuing several l to help people figure out cyclone reaches shore. ude storm surge alerts ival time of dangerous tial tropical cyclones" are

## **NEW NHC Product in 2017:**

**Issuance of** Watches, Warnings, and Advisories for **Potential Tropical Cyclones** 

7C7C MTATCPAT1 ALL TTAA00 KNHC DDHHMM

#### BULLETIN

Potential Tropical Cyclone Two Advisory Number 1 NWS National Hurricane Center Miami FL AL022017 500 PM EDT Wed Jun 05 2017

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... TROPICAL STORM WARNING ISSUED FOR PORTIONS OF THE WEST COAST OF FLORIDA... ...DISTURBANCE OVER THE EAST-CENTRAL GULF OF MEXICO EXPECTED TO BECOME A TROPICAL STORM TOMORROW...

SUMMARY OF 500 PM EDT...2100 UTC...INFORMATION June 19 LOCATION...25.5N 86.5W ABOUT 310 MI... 500 KM SW OF TAMPA FLORIDA The ] ABOUT 320 MI...510 KM SSW OF APALACHICOLA FLORIDA new products this year, each designed what they need to do before a tropical

Out of all of the products-which incluand maps that show the estimated arr winds-their new forecasts for "poten