

Toward the Implementation of Forecast Flood Inundation Services



Director, Service Innovation and Partnership Division NOAA/NWS Office of Water Prediction/National Water Center



Outline

- History behind our efforts toward delivering Forecast Flood Inundation Services
- Examples of our new Experimental Flood Inundation Services
- How to access our Experimental National Water Model & Flood Inundation Services
- Our national rollout plan
 - Southern Vermont is being served today as part of the initial rollout



How could you use forecasts of inundation to plan & prepare?

Prototype Forecast Inundation, March 31, 2010 Pawtuxet River, Warwick/West Warwick RI





How would you use a 5 day forecast of flood inundation?

Flooding in Montpelier, VT, July 2023 Source: CNN Flooding in Weston, VT July 2023 Source: Northshire Vermont Community Forum

Flooding in Londondeny, VT, July 2023 Source: Bennington Banner

Prototype Experimental Forecast Flood Incindation Services

National Water Model, NOAA/NWS National Water Center | Source: Esri, Maxar, Earth

The Method behind FIM Services: Height Above Nearest Drainage

Deliver Forecast Flood Inundation Services

National Water Model Guidance

Completely automated process with no forecaster engagement - but provides complimentary guidance on ~3.4 million stream miles nationwide, including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, and by the fall - portions of Alaska

River Center Forecasts

Forecasters heavily engaged in the forecast production







Gage coverage vs. NWM Coverage



NWS River Forecast Points in VT

Depiction of the National Water Model stream reaches in Washington County, VT



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Value of FIM Services - Visualizations to depict impacts!



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NORA

Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands

National Water Model & Flood Inundation Services



Initial FIM Rollout - National Viewer

By September 30th - FIM for 10% of the U.S. population

- Services available on our NWS National Viewer alongside the existing NWM visualizations
 - (<u>https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/water</u>)
 - High Water Arrival Time, Max High Flow Forecast, & High Water Probability Forecasts
 - Rapid Onset Flooding Forecasts & Probability Forecasts
- Actual services available for ingest into your local GIS systems

Dynamic FIM Services Comparison Table

TORR	NWM ANA FIM	RFC 5-Day Max FIM	NWM 5-Day Max FIM
Data Type	Observation- based simulations [precipitation estimate and assimilated with USOS gage observations]	Forecast [5-day RFC forecasts]	Forecast [5-day GFS]
Total Latency	55 minutes	45 minutes	6 hours 30 minutes
Update Frequency	Hourly	Hourly [if new forecasts are available]	Every 6 hours
FIM Domain	NWM domain for FIM 10% [parts of eastern TX and mid-Atlantic]	Downstream of AHPS forecast points for FIM 10% [parts of eastern TX and mid-Atlantic]	NWM domain for FIM 10% [parts of eastern TX and mid-Atlantic]
When to Use	Use as a snapshot of the most recent modeled inundation	Use when RFC forecast is available	Use for rivers and streams not covered by RFC forecast





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