



SSPEED Center



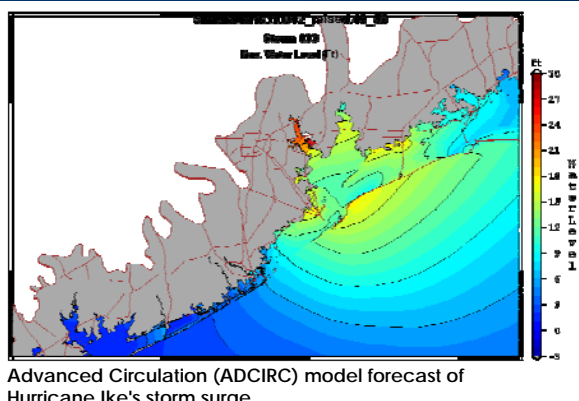
- The Rice Severe Storm Prediction, Education, and Evacuation from Disaster center collaborates with other leading universities, and private and public entities to evaluate severe storm impacts in the Gulf Coast area. The goals are to improve lead-time and accuracy of prediction and to deliver the information in real time to emergency managers for improved evacuations or sheltering in place. SSPEED was approved by 2007 Texas legislature (HB 1493) and signed by the Governor.
- The Center mission:
 1. Severe storm research and advanced surge prediction at the coast,
 2. Radar-based rainfall and flood warning systems that link to inland floods and coastal surge areas,
 3. Educational programs that link science and data to public evacuation plans, improve workforce for disaster planning
 4. Infrastructure risks and recovery operations
 5. Evacuation plans linked to the best warning systems, transportation networks, and societal needs



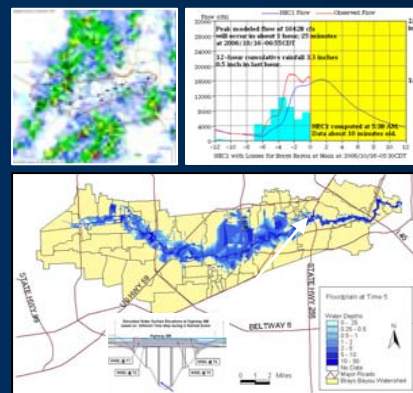
Current SSPEED Projects



- TxDOT Flood Alert System (Rice) - funded thru HGAC
- Water Information Sensing and Evaluation (Rice and UH) - Houston Endowment
- Storm Surge Simulation on Petascale Computers (Rice and UT) - NSF
- Hurricane-Induced Evacuation Modeling (Rice) - City of Houston funding
- SSPEED Center Gulf Coast Training Series (Rice) - TX DHS
- Annual SSPEED Conference (Oct 29-31, 2008)
- Total funding to date is just under \$1.0 million
- Requested funding from the State will be \$3.2 million per year in May 2009



Advanced Circulation (ADCIRC) model forecast of Hurricane Ike's storm surge.



Schematic layout of the radar based Flood Alert System.

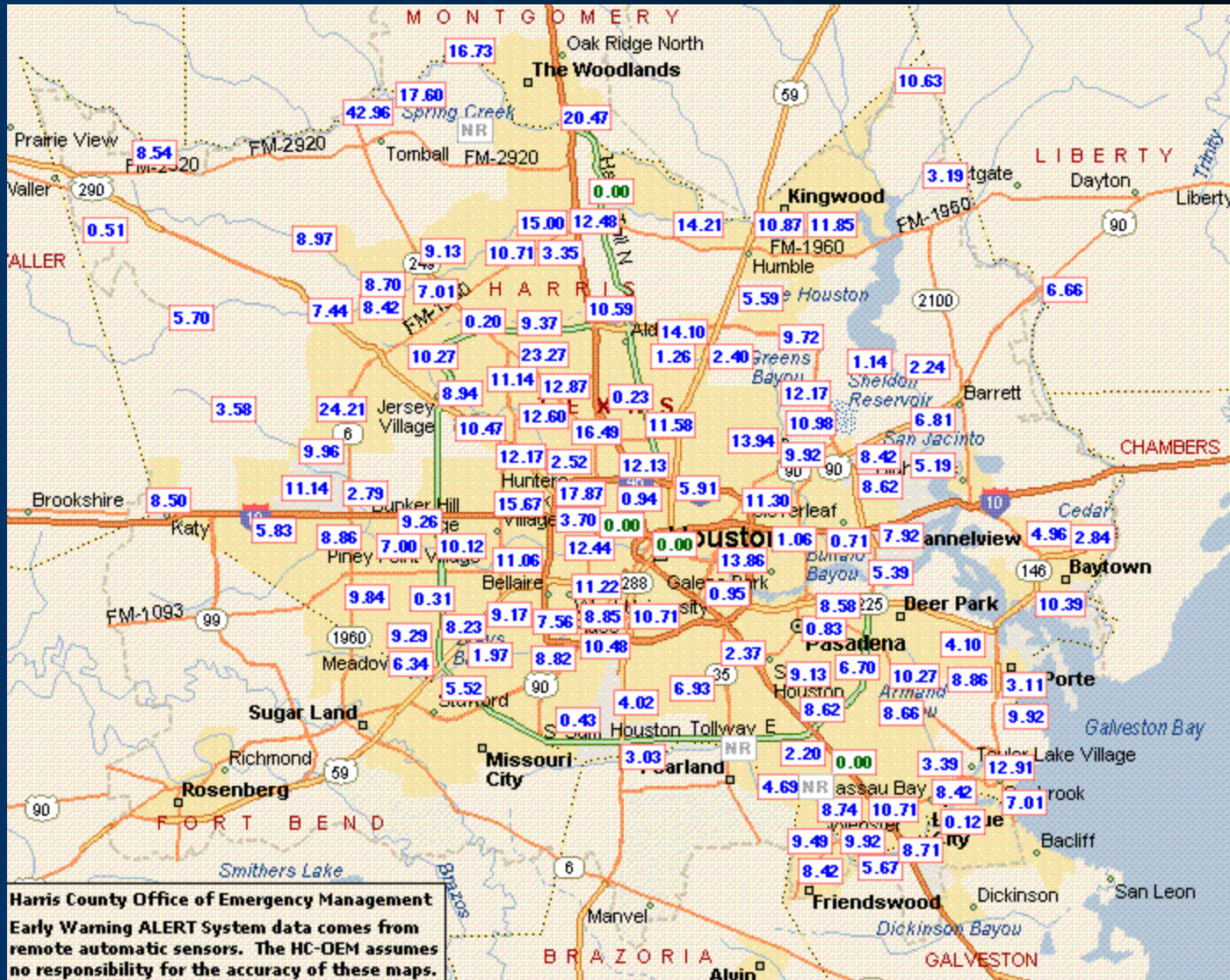


Inundation of Rice and TMC in 3-D



National Hurricane Center Director Bill Read kicks off the 2008 SSPEED Conference.

Summed Rainfall over Harris County during Ike and on September 13-14



These values represent rainfall totals for a duration of 3 days through 9/15/2008 12:00 AM





Bill Murphy, right, stands with his wife, Barbara, as two others who were stranded with them wait to be rescued from flood waters by a Coast Guard helicopter in High Island.



A single home is left standing among debris from Hurricane Ike September 14, 2008 in Gilchrist, Texas. Floodwaters from Hurricane Ike were reportedly as high as eight feet in some areas causing widespread damage across the coast of Texas. (David J. Phillip-Pool/Getty Images) #



A house sits among debris, piled up by storm surges after Hurricane Ike made landfall September 14, 2008 in Crystal Beach, Texas. (DAVID J. PHILLIP/AFP/Getty Images) <#>