

The National Weather Service Forecast Offices

When a hurricane begins to affect land...your Local NWS Forecast Office takes the handoff from the NWS NHC and provides its local WFO expertise to mesoscale warnings, impacts and products for their county warning areas.

**60th Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference
Mobile, AL – March 21, 2006**

**Bill Proenza
Regional Director
National Weather Service
Southern Region**

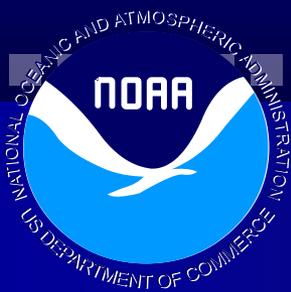
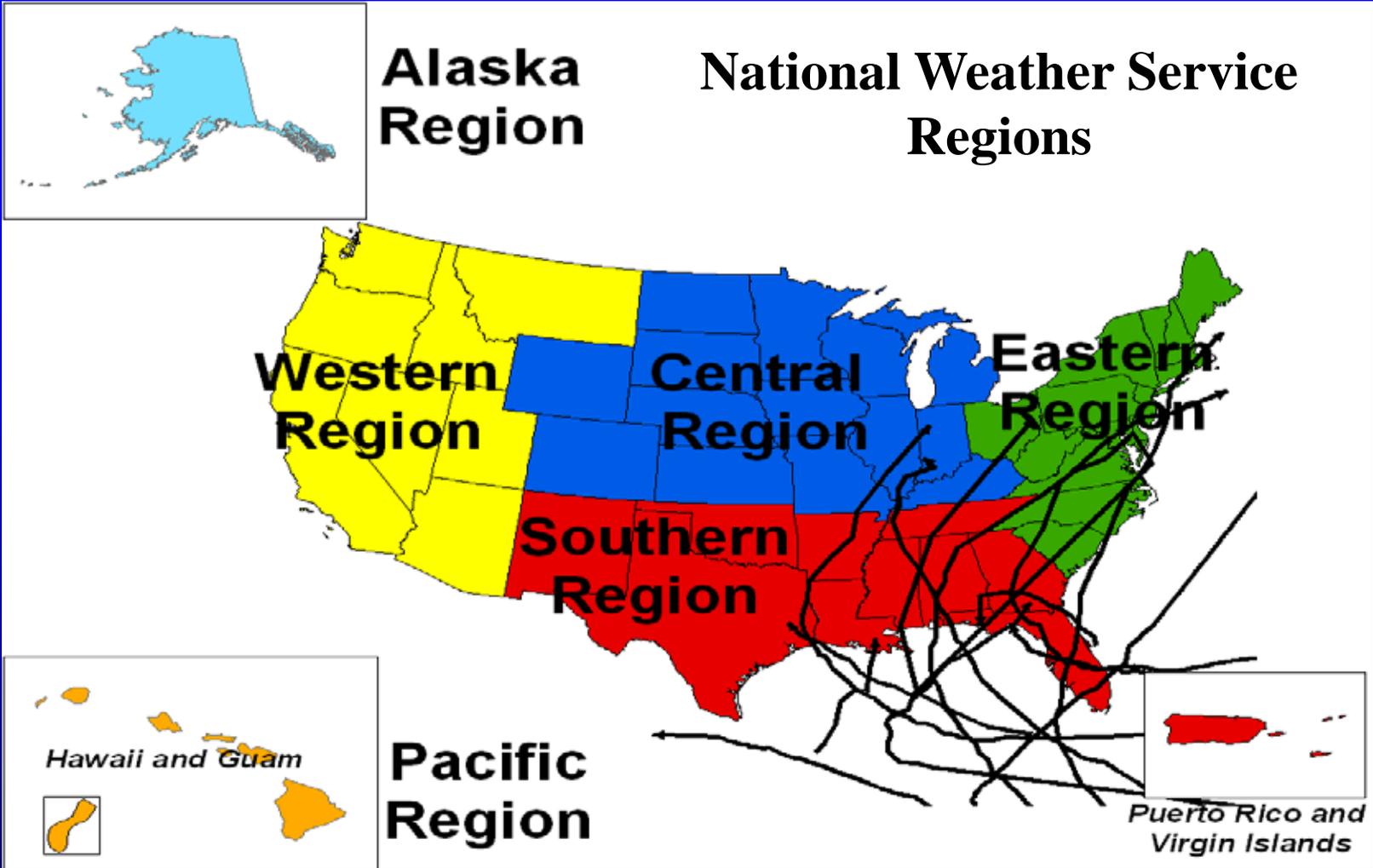
The National Weather Service

- | **With the “Local” Weather Forecast Offices** – most successfully provided mesoscale expertise with warnings and forecast products time and time again when the 2004-2005 Hurricanes repeatedly targeted our Southern States.
- | **Your Source for our WFO Coastal “88D” Radar Network** – In addition, this past season, the Southern Regional Headquarters developed and implemented a greatly expanded internet radar depiction and data using GIS, velocity data and many more vital features.
- | **Your Preparedness and Information Partner** for Emergency Management, state and local government and you, our Interdepartmental partners.



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov

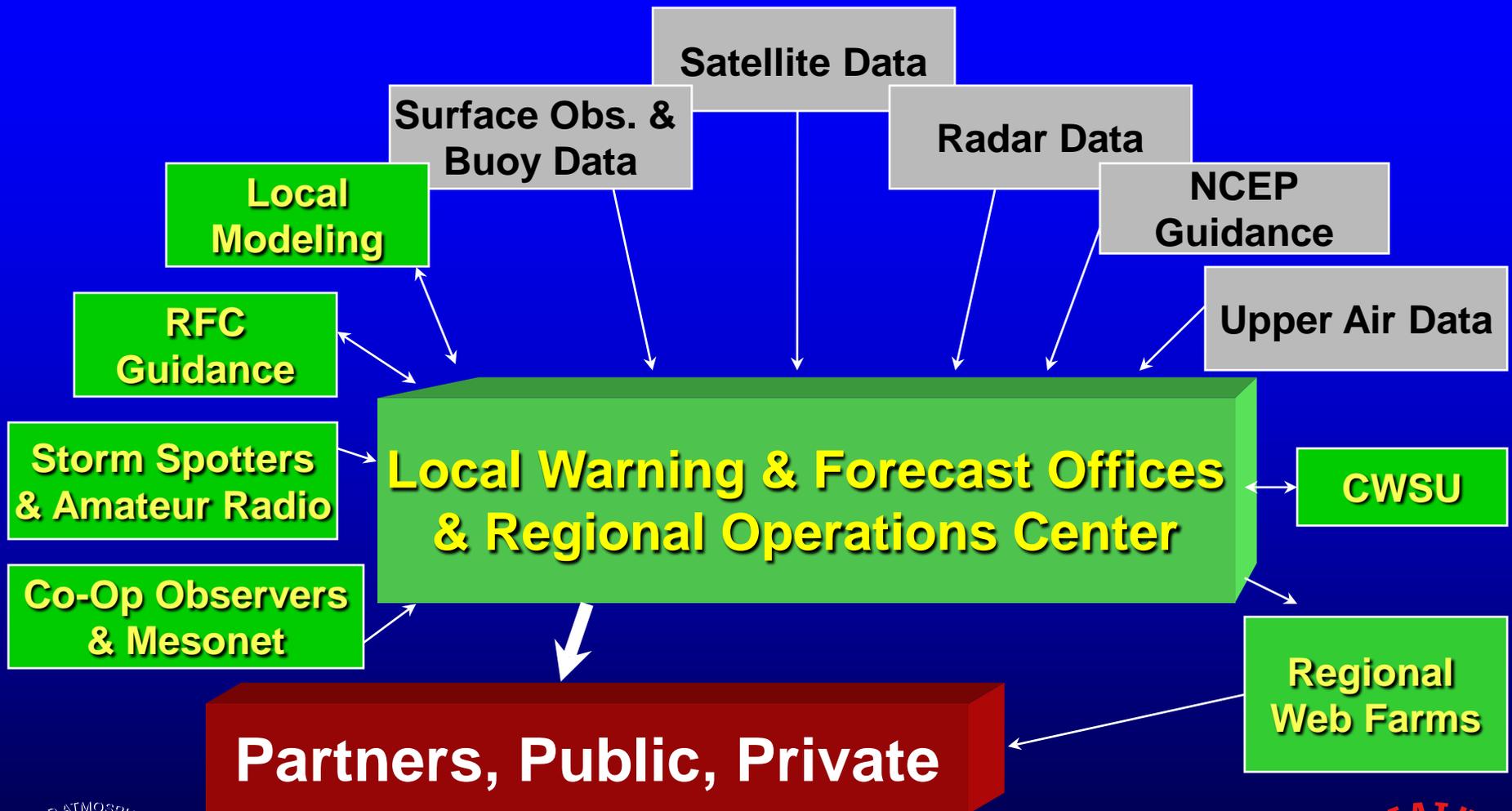




NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



The WFO's Information Flow



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Your RO and Local WFO is Vital

- | The 24x7 source for mesoscale warnings (Hurricane Local Statements, surge, wind, flood, tornado etc.) and forecast services (e.g. hazardous weather outlooks, statements etc.)
- | Your active Partner in Community Preparedness and with all weather information.
- | And, for those interdepartmental partners with the mission need, we'll provide 24x7 weather support for natural and man made (*accidental or intentional*) events. And as we also did for each Governor's office we'll provide your command center a "tactical met".



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Regional Operations Center “ROC” at Southern Region Hqs. provides:

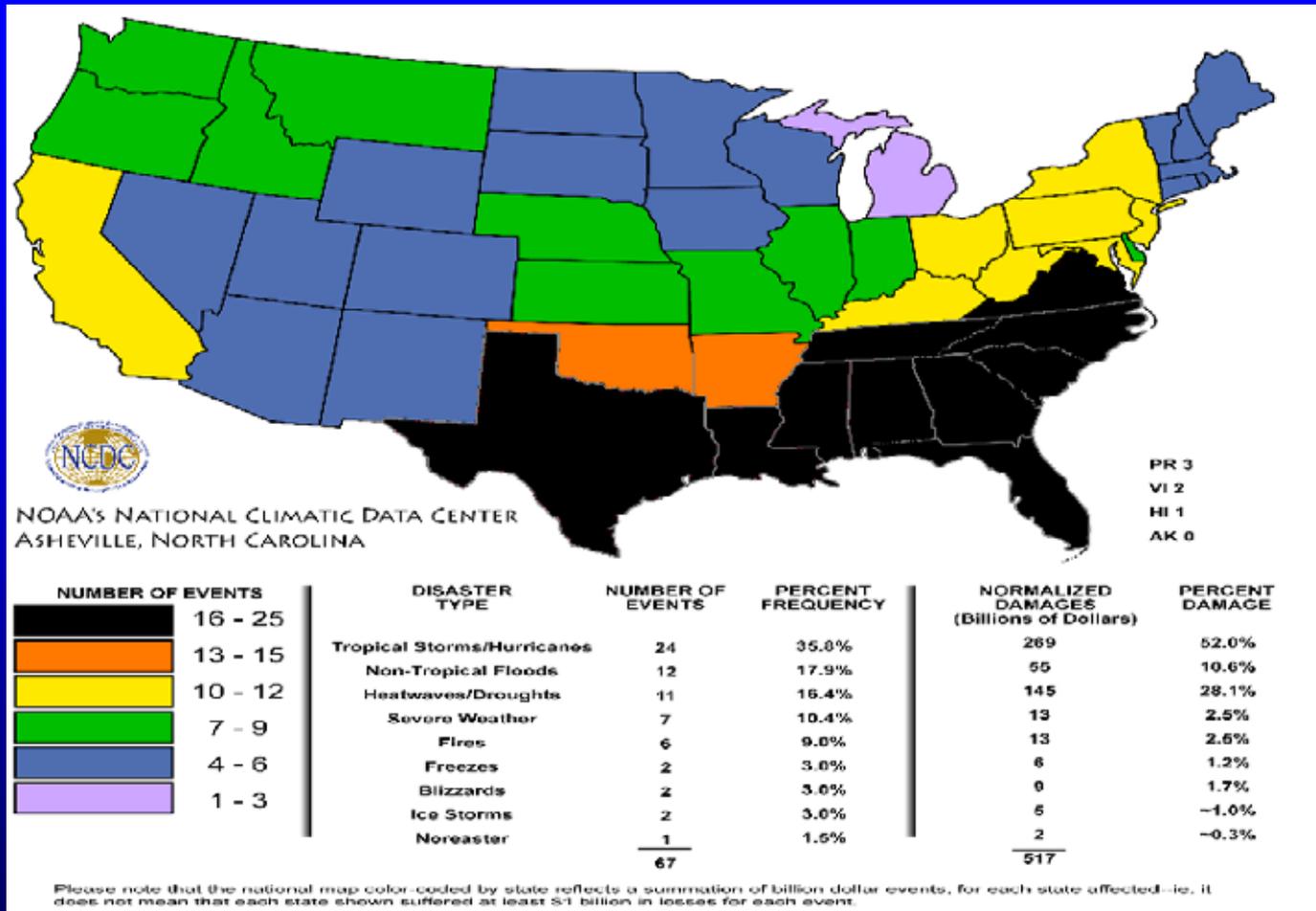
- | Federal/State/Local EM and Media briefings
- | Multi-NWS office contingency preparation for all hurricane landfalls
- | Deploys staff to WFOs and/or “tactical mets” to your field command centers.
- | handles post event recovery for WFO’s
- | **817-978-1100 x147**



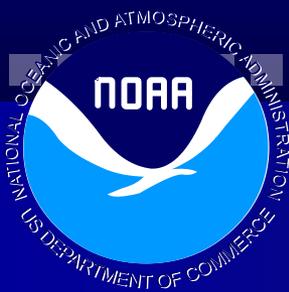
NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



World's Most Active Weather!



Billion Dollar Weather Events, 1980-2005



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Your WFOs are Saving Lives !

April '74 “Palm Sunday” Tornado Outbreak

- | Single largest 24 hour tornado outbreak
- | 148 Tornadoes
- | 330 Fatalities
- | Up to 5 Minute Warning Lead Time

May 2003 Tornado Outbreak

- | Unprecedented in size & time (9 days)
- | 393 Tornadoes
- | 39 Fatalities
- | Averaged over 16 Minutes Warning Lead Time

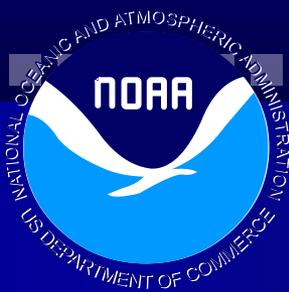
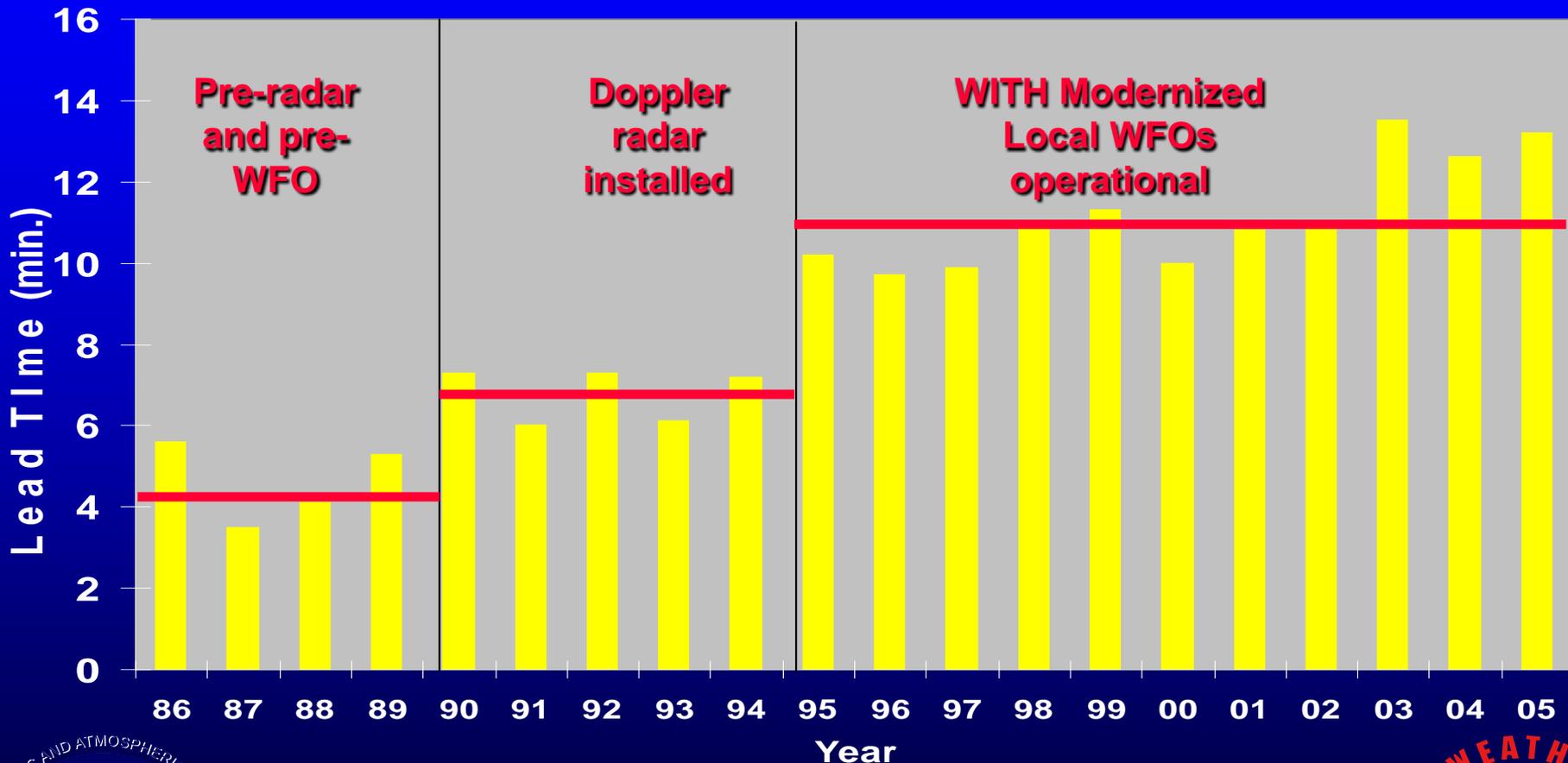


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Local WFOs Save Lives

By increasing Tornado Warning Lead Time

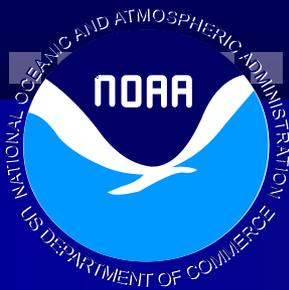
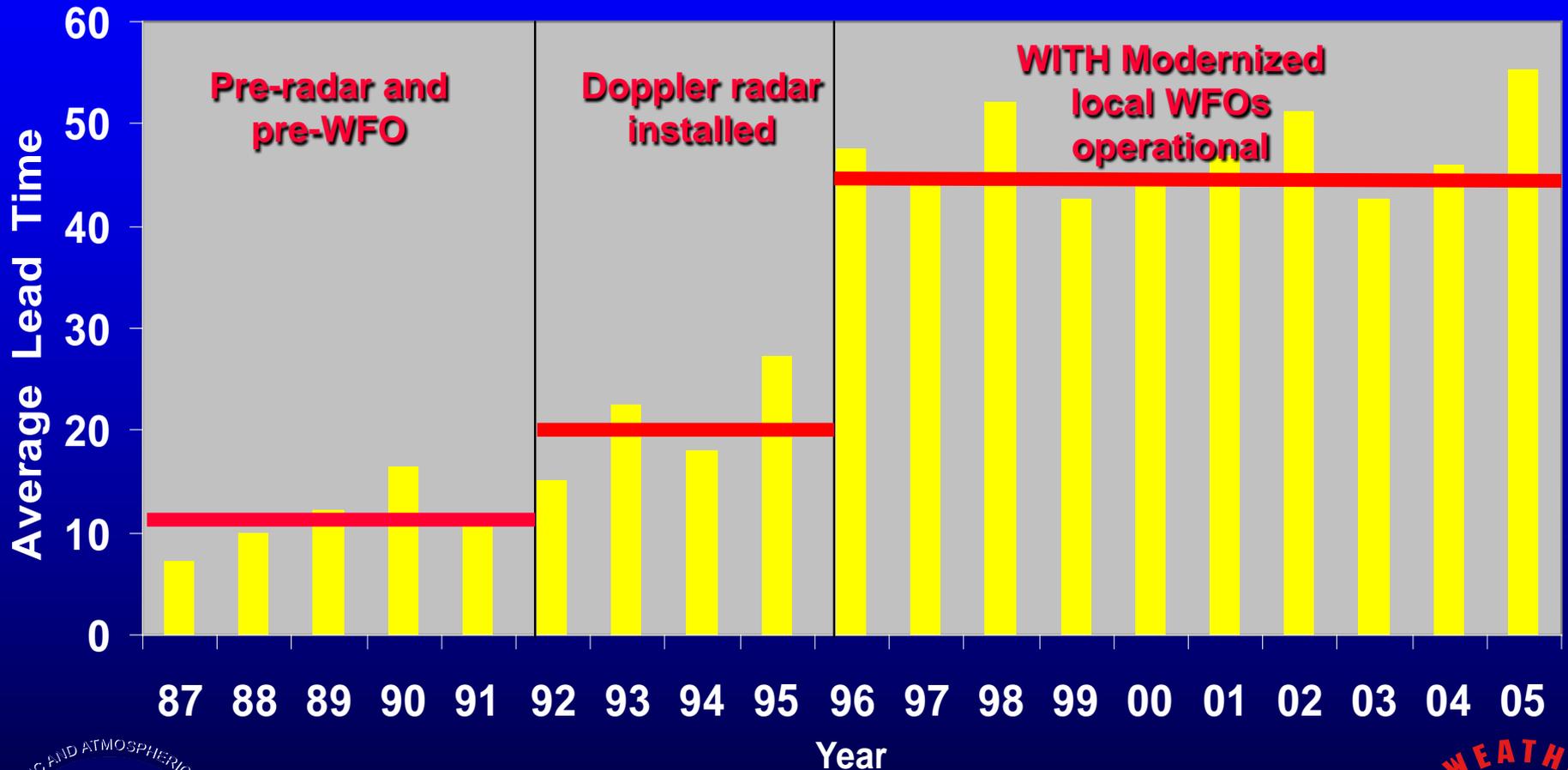


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Local WFOs Save Lives

By increasing Flash Flood Warning Lead Time



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



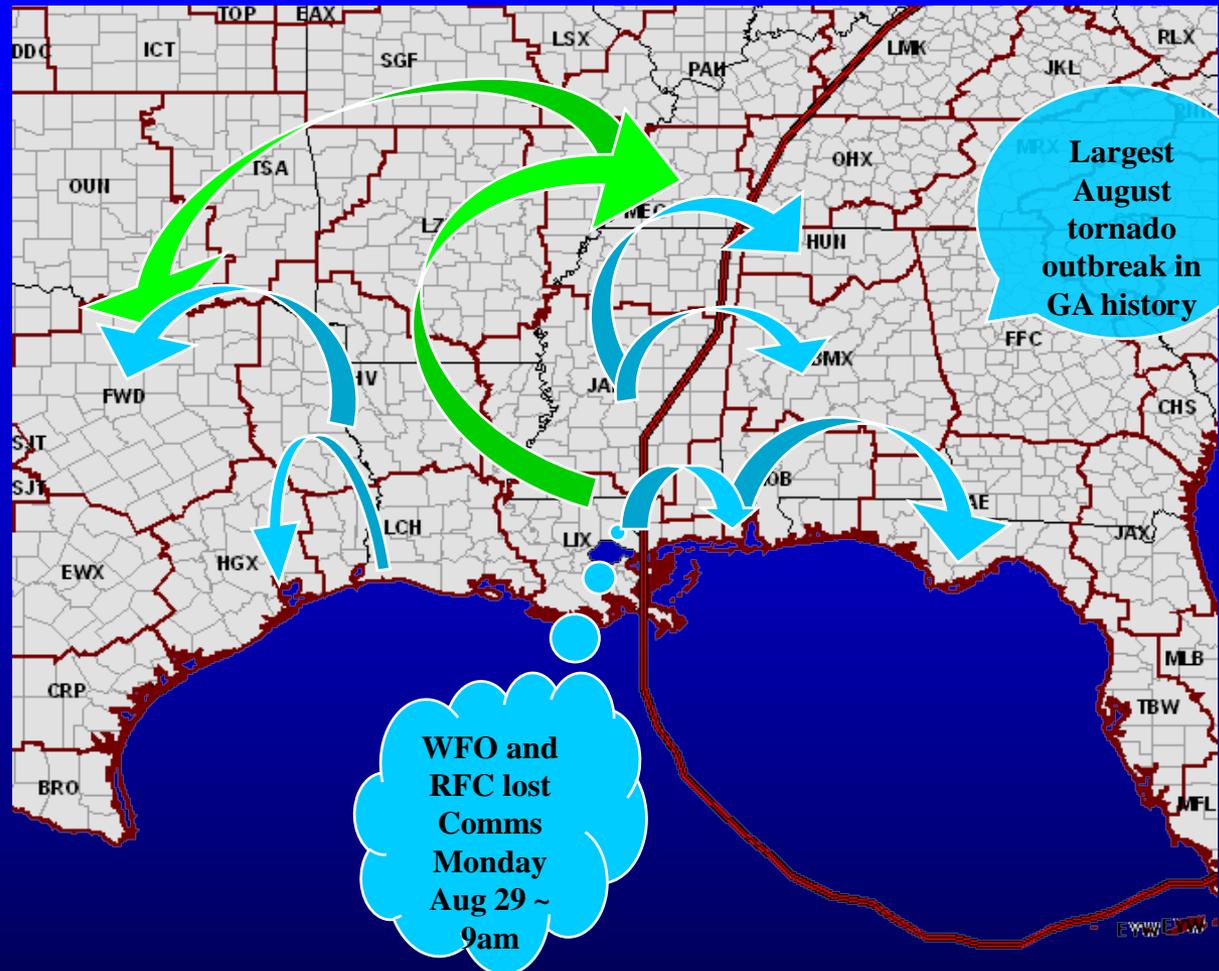
Katrina Impacts Widely Felt

LIX, LCH, SHV, and JAN lost commercial communications

LMRFC moved to **Memphis WFO**, later to **WGRFC**

MOB, BMX, HUN, HGX, TAE, and FWD assumed backup roles as planned to assist offices in need*all seamless to customers!*

WFO Atlanta provided advance warnings for largest August tornado outbreak in GA history

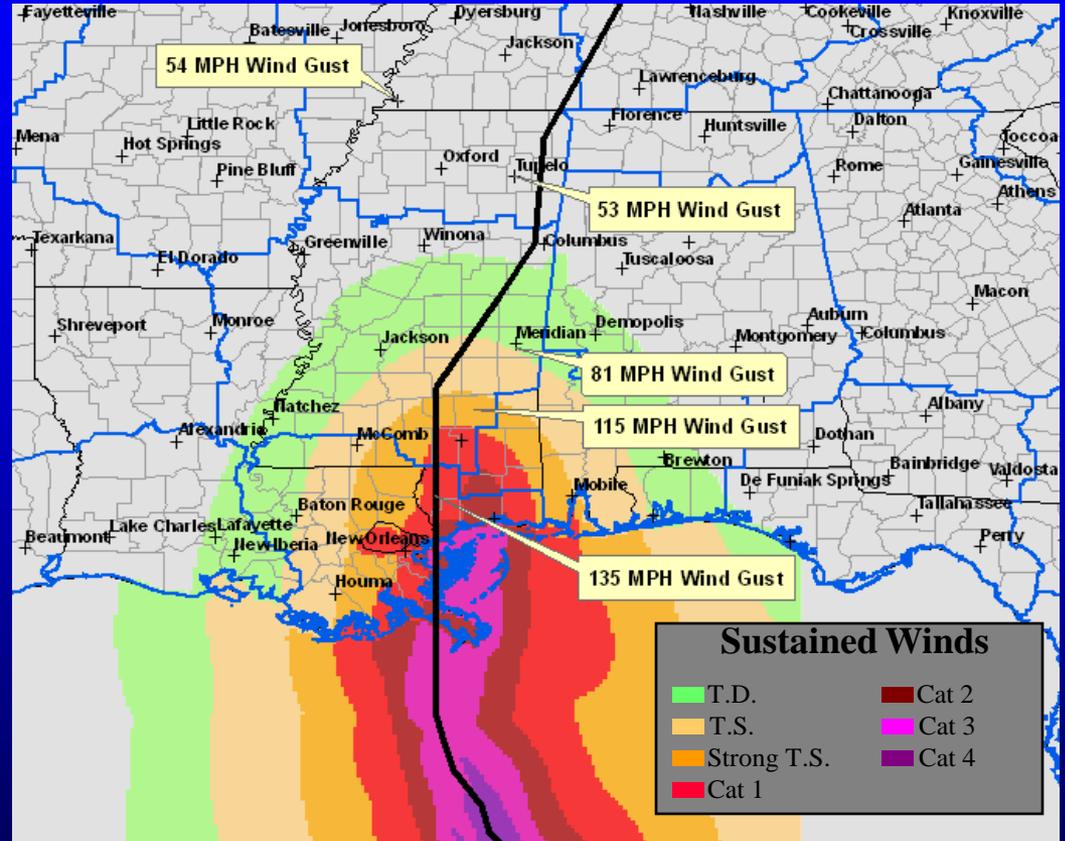


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov

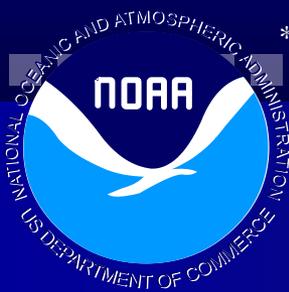


Katrina's Inland Reach

- | **Hurricane Winds** observed as far north as central MS
- | **T.S. winds** observed as far north as the TN valley
- | **14 SR WFO's*** and **2 RFC's** directly impacted by Katrina
- | **20 SR WFO's, 3 RFC's,** and **SRH** operationally involved in the backup and recovery for Katrina



**Includes South Florida offices during 1st landfall*

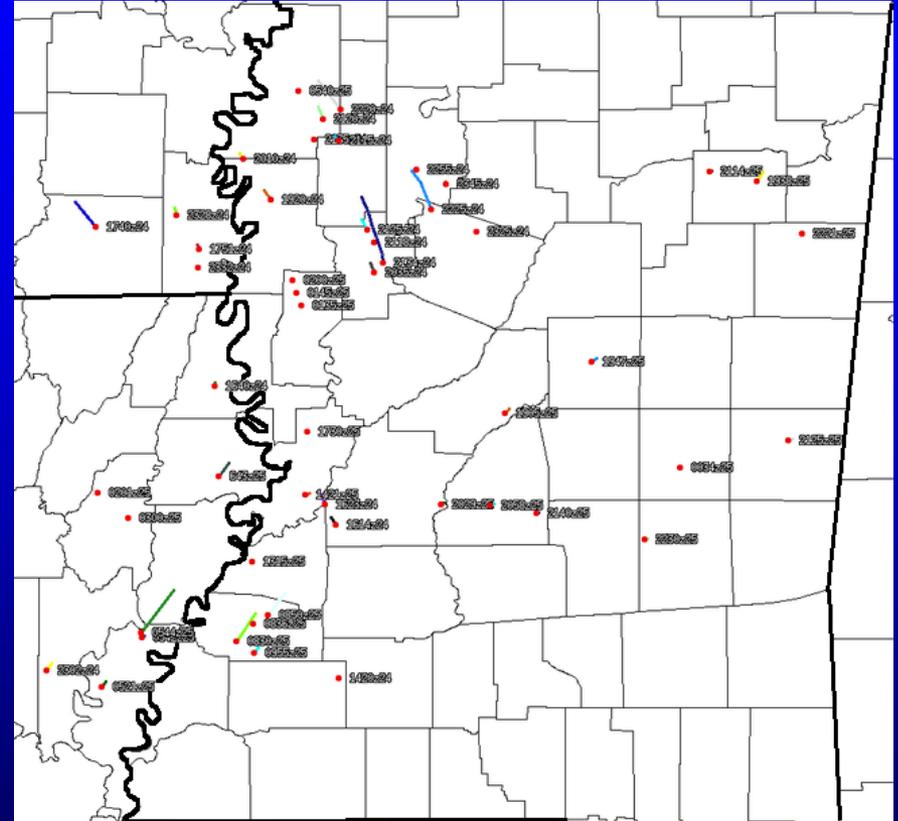


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Rita Tornadoes in Mississippi

- | **66** Tornadoes
 - Sept 23-25, 2005
 - ***Largest outbreak*** in Jackson WFO County Warning Area since records have been kept (1950)
 - ***Only 1 fatality!***
 - ***12.9 min avg lead time***



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



NWS SR Internet Site

www.srh.weather.gov

- | Serves as your one-stop reliable source for the latest 24x7 weather info.
- | Developed for both our partners and public.
 - **Easy navigation**
 - **Data given in the manner you need it.**
 - Increases public awareness and proper response
 - Vital loadsharing of NHC internet demands during high volume periods

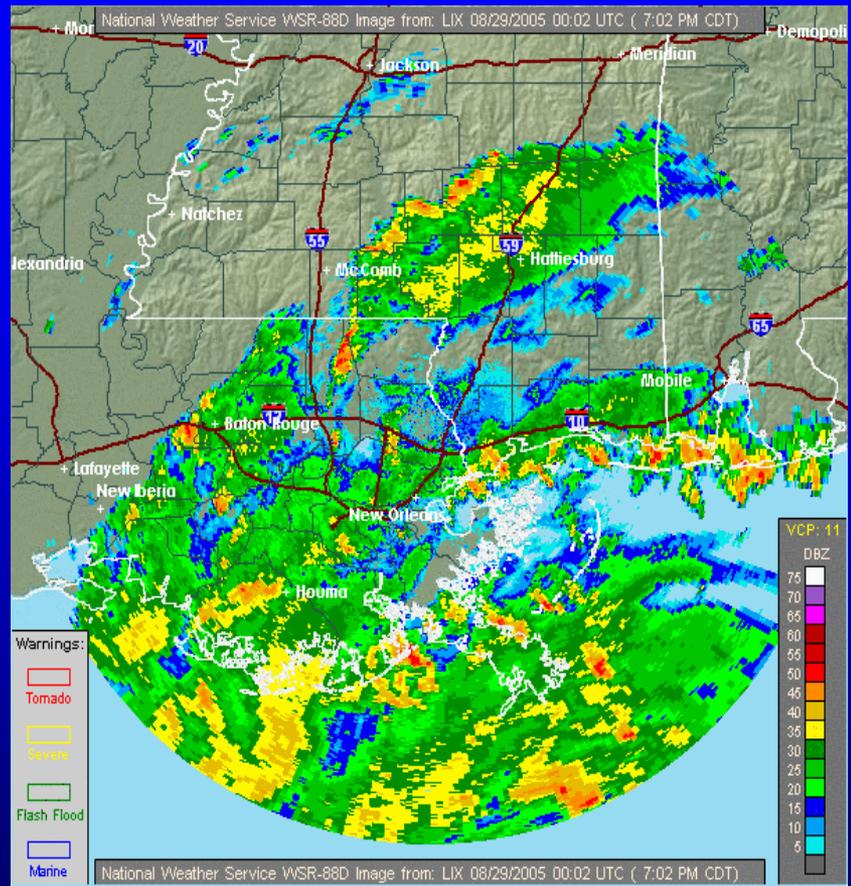


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



New NWS GIS Radar Webpages

- | Available as time loops for ALL National Weather Service 88D Radars
- | Radar images and warnings are GIS ready
- | *Adds NWS warnings to the display
- | Calculates distance from a storm feature and determines Latitude/Longitude
- | Provides real time radar reflectivity, precipitation and now, *velocity* data!
- | *A Southern Region initiative, now National ... as of Feb 21, 2006*



www.srh.weather.gov/ridge



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Our new GIS Radar Webpages...

- **Proved critical to NWS, partners and public**
 - | Used by EM's, govt officials, media and other professionals and of course, the public
 - | WFO 88D Radar was **40-50%** of our web traffic during land-falling hurricanes
 - | This is equated to about **1.4 BILLION** hits during just Katrina and Rita
- **Creative Feedback**
 - | Over 27,000 surveys and comments overwhelmingly supported our new GIS radar depiction.

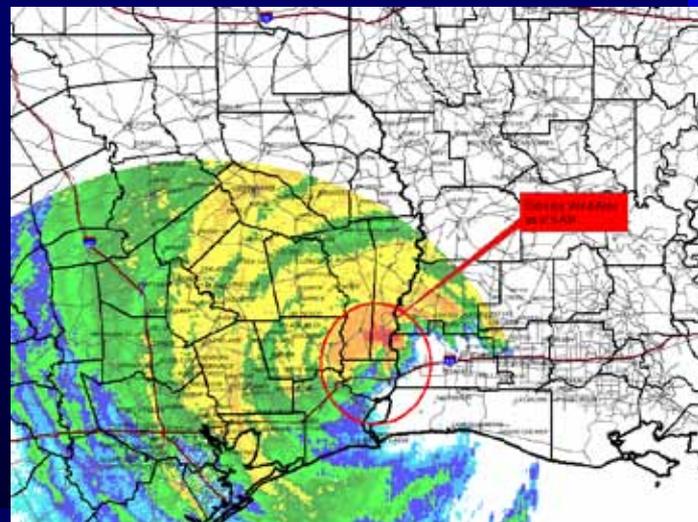
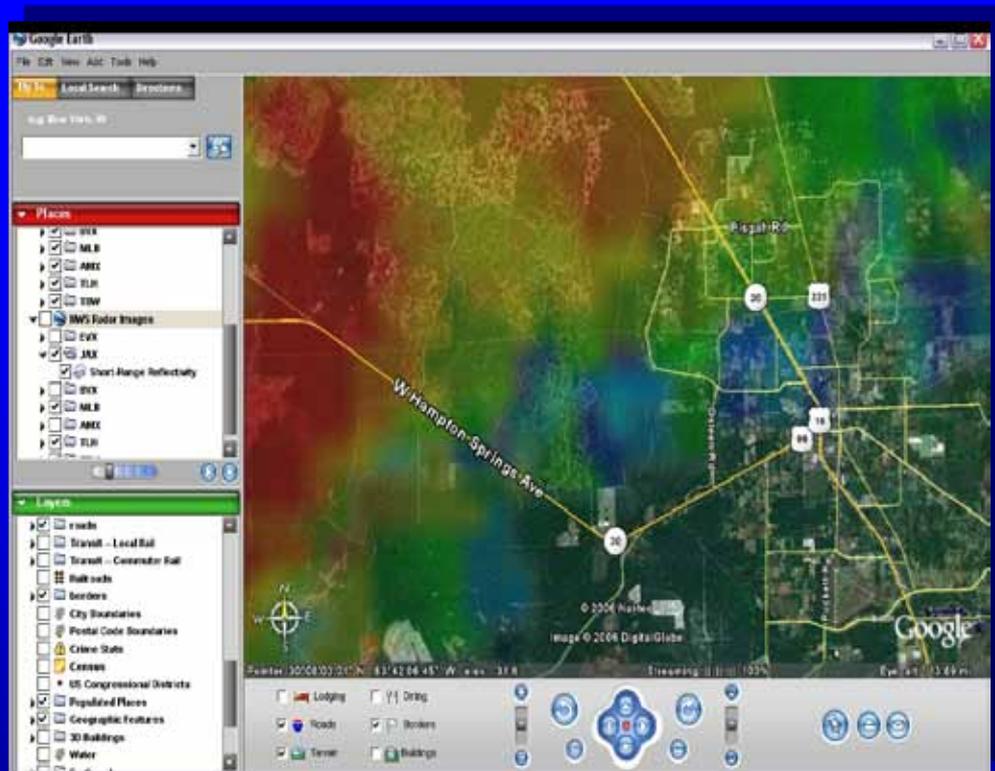


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov

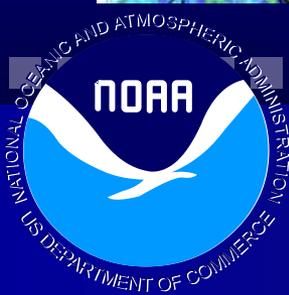


GIS Ready

- | RIDGE radar images and warning polygons can be loaded into your GIS software (Google Earth-right, ArcGIS-below)



- | GIS software allows you to integrate NWS radar in real time on your own custom GIS graphics & data

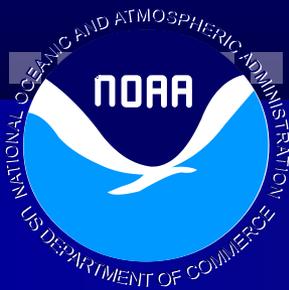
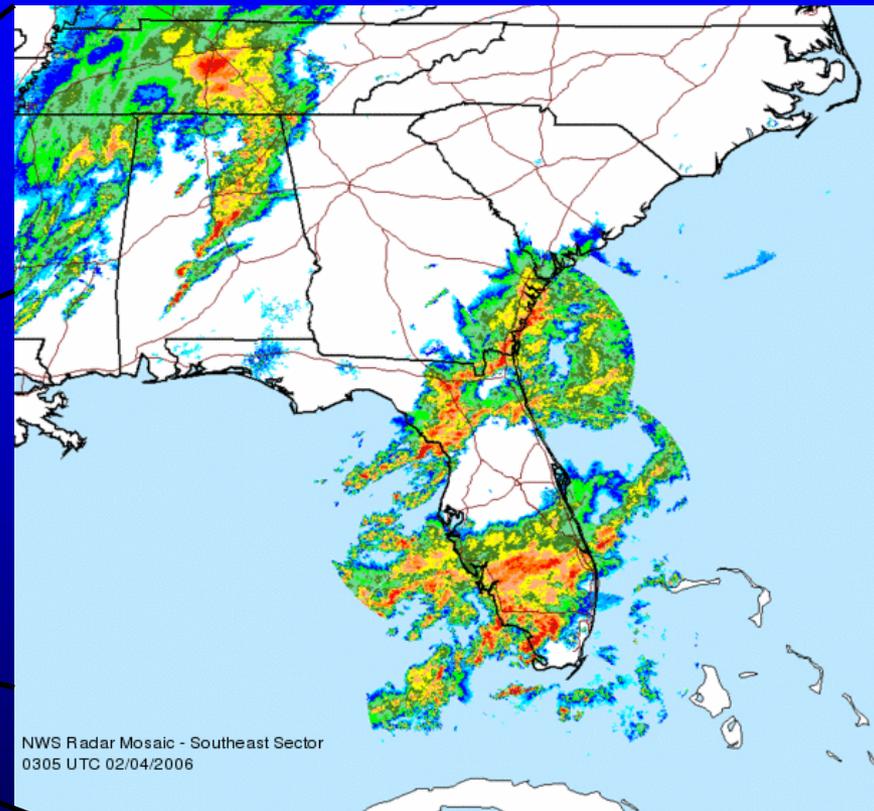
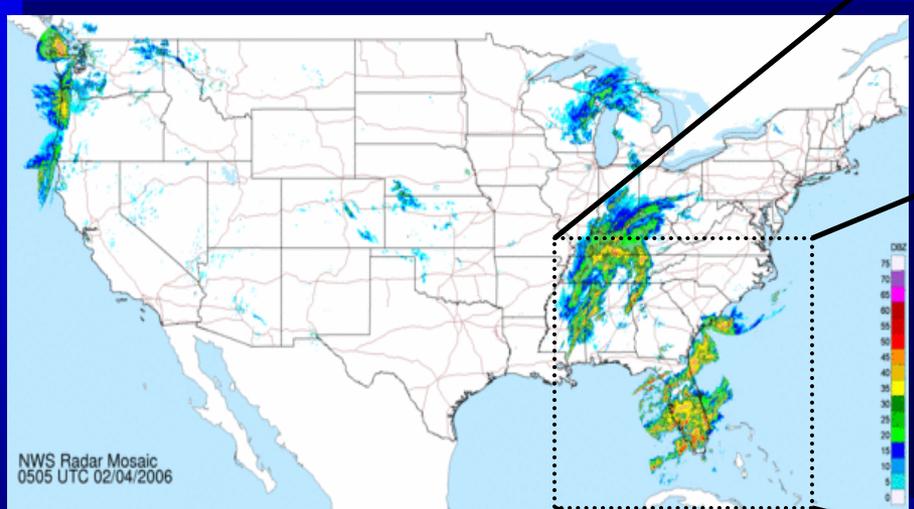


NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



New and Improved National and Regional Mosaics

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ridge>



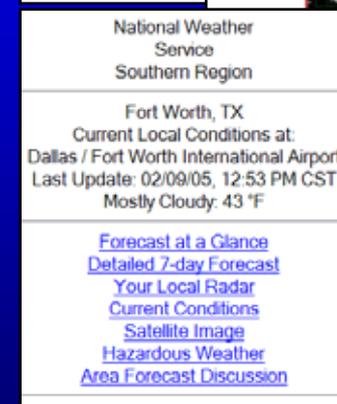
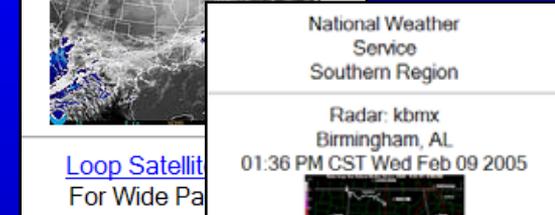
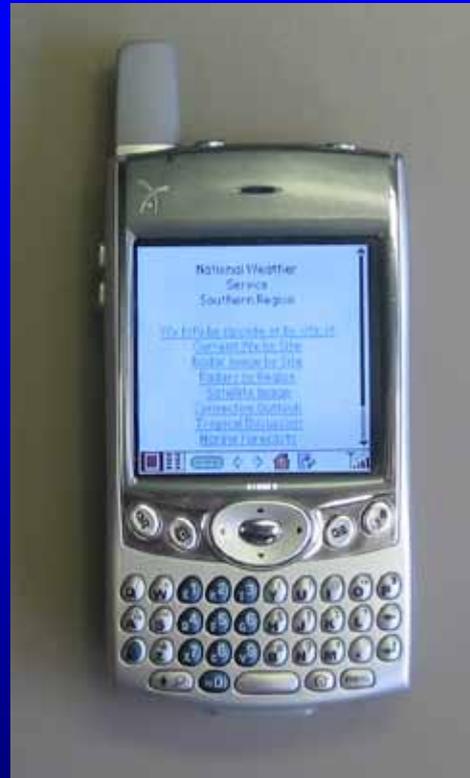
NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



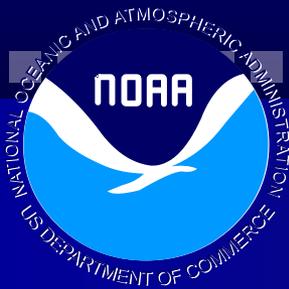
Mobile Weather

A lot of weather info
when you need it...
on mobile devices!

*Another Southern
Region Initiative*



www.srh.weather.gov/wml



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



The Future of *YOUR* NWS

Improvement must build on the mesoscale success of the modernization –

...Mesoscale (local scale) weather & climate information, local “mesonets” of observations, better radar resolution with faster volume scans, finer scale local modeling, tactical met support to EM, digital forecasts... all resulting in better warnings.



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Your National Weather Service
epitomizes the concept:
**...government closest to the people,
serves best!**



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov



Questions?

Bill.Proenza@noaa.gov
(817) 978-1000

Would you like copies of the slides?

Go To: **www.srh.weather.gov**

At Left Margin Click on: “Welcome from the Director”

At Left Margin Click on: **“06 Interdepartmental Hrcn Conf**



NWS SOUTHERN REGION
www.srh.weather.gov

