

IBF IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Lessons Learned

63rd Caribbean Meteorological Council

Watches and Warnings:
Structure and Dissemination

IBF Language

Successes and Identified Issues

Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

Improvements

IBF Structure and Processes



November 23rd 2022

Mr. Sabu Best
Director

Barbados Meteorological Services
Barbados Permanent Representative to WMO

George Town, Cayman Islands
2022



63rd Caribbean Meteorological Council
George Town, Cayman Islands

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IBF Structure and Processes

History

Multi-Hazard
Products and
Services

Basic IBF
Workflow



Where we were

Forecast For: St. Vincent & The Grenadines

Today 2022-04-11 1000Z to 2022-04-11 2200Z

Synopsis: A surface to mid level ridge is the dominant feature across the island.

Forecast: Partly cloudy with a few brief isolated light showers.
Wind: Generally from the E at 20 to 30 km/h.
Seas: Slight to moderate in open water with swells from 1.0m to 2.0m.

Tonight 2022-04-11 2200Z to 2022-04-12 1000Z

Synopsis: A surface to mid level ridge will remain the dominant feature.

Forecast: Fair to partly cloudy with a few brief isolated light showers.
Wind: ENE to E at 20 to 30 km/h.
Seas: Slight to moderate in open water with swells from 1.0m to 2.0m.

Meteorologist : Eia Browne
For more specific information please visit Saint Vincent Meteorological Service's webpage.

Where we are now

Weather Satellites Radars Aviation Articles Climate Cyclone Smart Model Products

Latest Developments
BMS Swan Model *newbie!!!!*
Zamasu Interface
BMS Digital Analyses

Weather Stations
Grafana Portal *newbie!!!!*
BMS Cam Tower
Wx Cameras

Follow Us On Social Media
f i t y

We'd Love Your Feedback!
How can we improve?

Excess Rainfall
Be Aware

Wind
No Action

Marine
No Action

Haze
No Action

Severe TS
No Action

Tsunami
No Action

Eastern Caribbean Mosaic DBZ Max

Eastern Caribbean Mosaic 3 hr Accum.

Eastern Caribbean Mosaic 6 hr Accum.

Barbados 5 day Excess Rainfall Forecast

Afternoon October 17, 2022	Tonight October 17, 2022	Tue October 18, 2022 Day	Tue October 18, 2022 Night	Wed October 19, 2022 Day	Wed October 19, 2022 Night	Thu October 20, 2022 Day	Thu October 20, 2022 Night	Fri October 21, 2022 Day	Fri October 21, 2022 Night

Be Aware

Weather Forecast Info

Synopsis: Weak unstable conditions are affecting the island.
General Forecast: North Western and Western Districts: Sunny with cloudy periods with a few brief scattered light to moderate showers.
Elsewhere: Partly sunny and warm.

What to expect?
What should you do?
What do these colors mean?

Meteorologist: Chelsea Brathwaite
Published: 2022-10-17 15:50Z



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Multi-Hazard Products and Services



Excess Rainfall



Wind



Marine



Haze



Severe Thunderstorm



*Tsunami



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IBF Structure and Processes

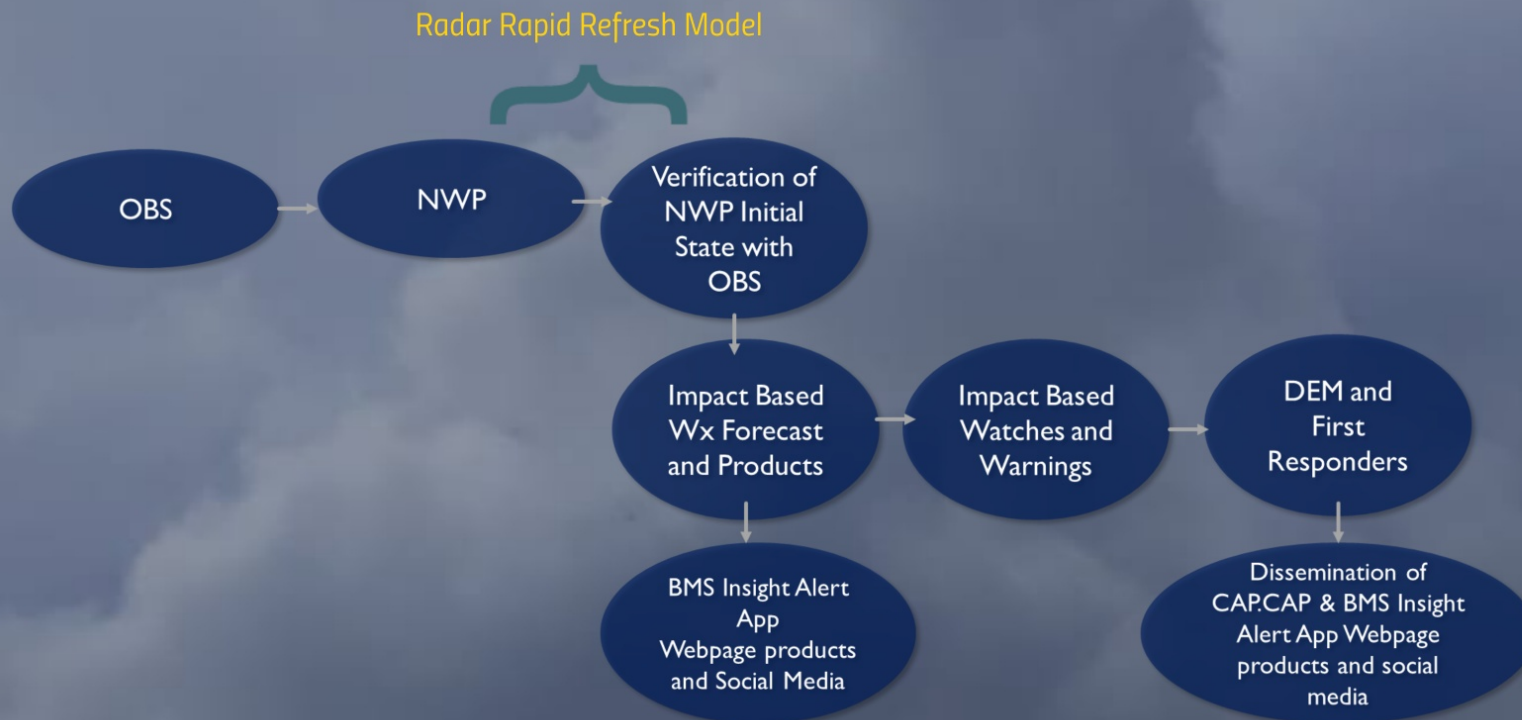
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Basic IBF Workflow





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Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

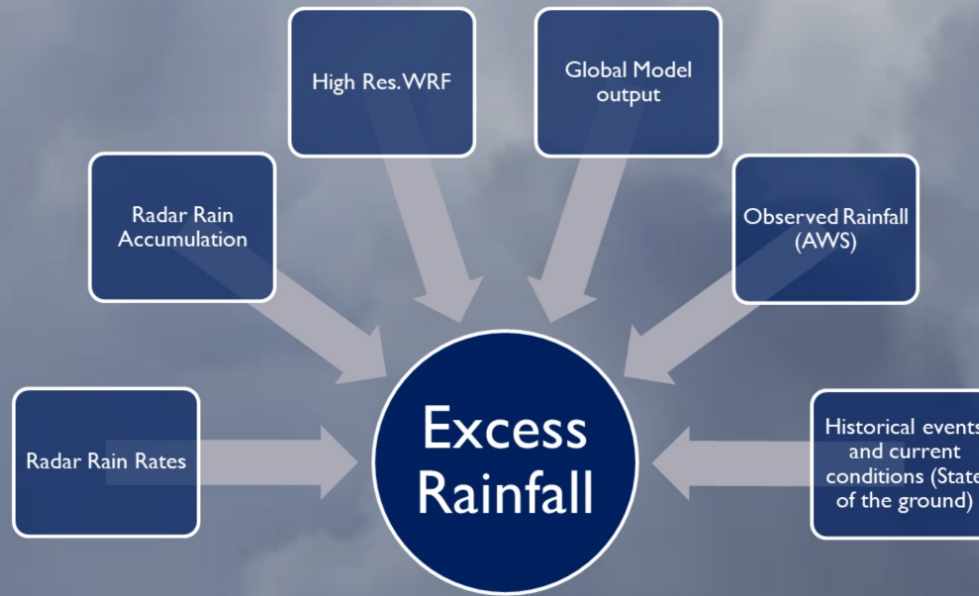
Marine

Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**



Excess Rainfall Forecasting Process





Current Thresholds

(2020 - 2022)

Hazard Level

Green (Minimal)

Yellow (Minor)

Orange (Significant)

Red (Severe)

Rain Rate

Less than 10 mm/hr

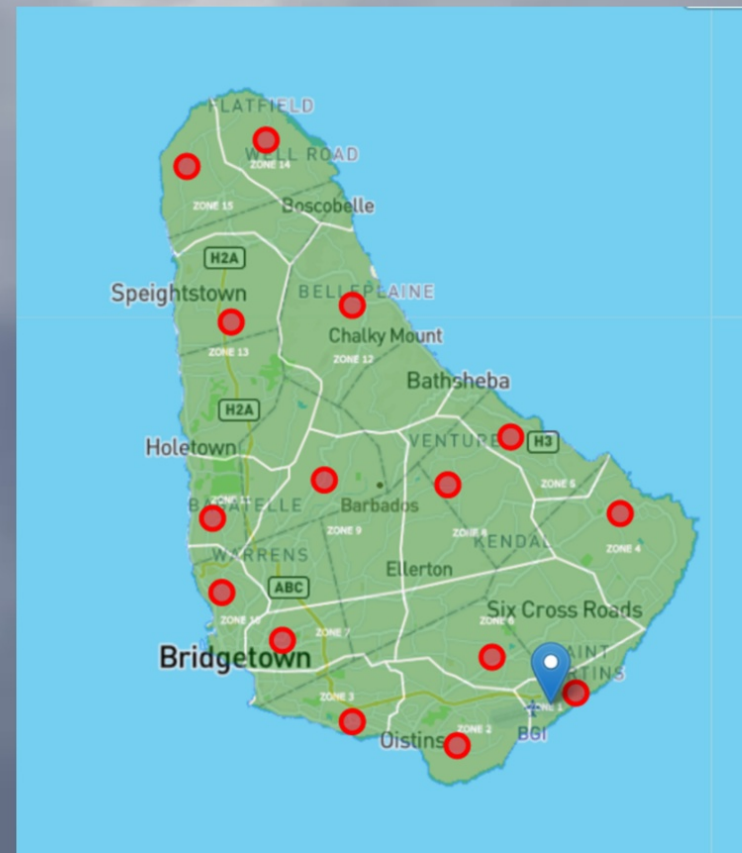
20 to 29 mm/hr

30 to 49 mm/hr

50 mm/hr and above

Forecaster Considers:

- Synoptic feature
- Forecast rainfall
- Observed rainfall generated from the feature
- Situation on the ground
- Topography





Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

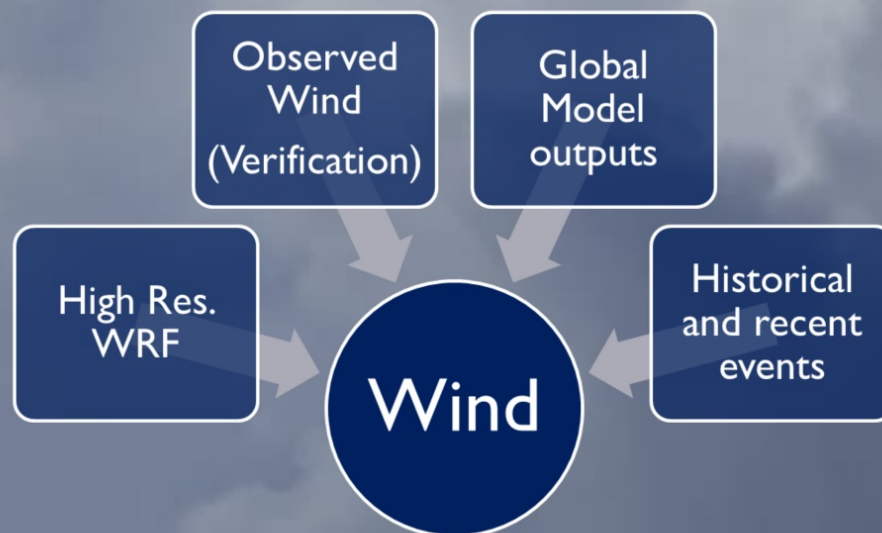
Marine

Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**



Wind Forecasting Process



Observed wind data also includes Radar VVP and Radial velocity



Current Thresholds

(2020 - 2022)

Hazard Level

Green (Minimal)

Yellow (Minor)

Orange (Significant)

Red (Severe)

Wind speed

Less than 25 knots

25 to 29 knots

30 to 34 knots

35kts and above

Forecaster Considers:

- Impacts from hazard
- WMO Wind thresholds
- Topography
- Coordination with DEM





Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

Marine

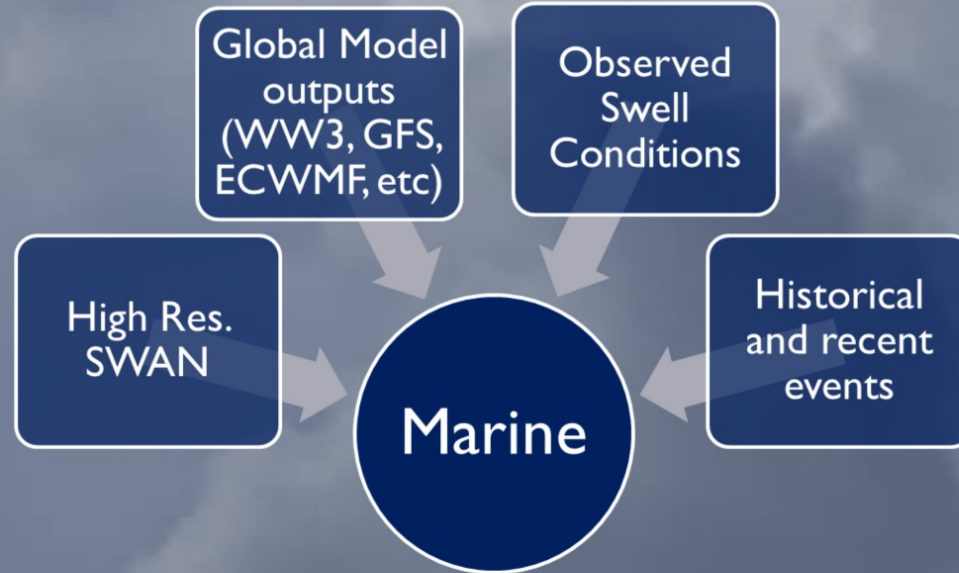
Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**



Marine Forecasting Process

63rd Caribbean Meteorological Council
George Town, Cayman Islands





Current Thresholds (2020 - 2022)

Hazard Level

Green (Minimal)

Yellow (Minor)

Orange (Significant)

Red (Severe)

Swell Heights

2.0m and under

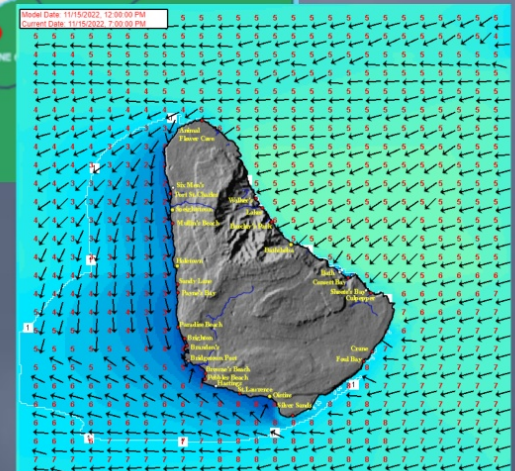
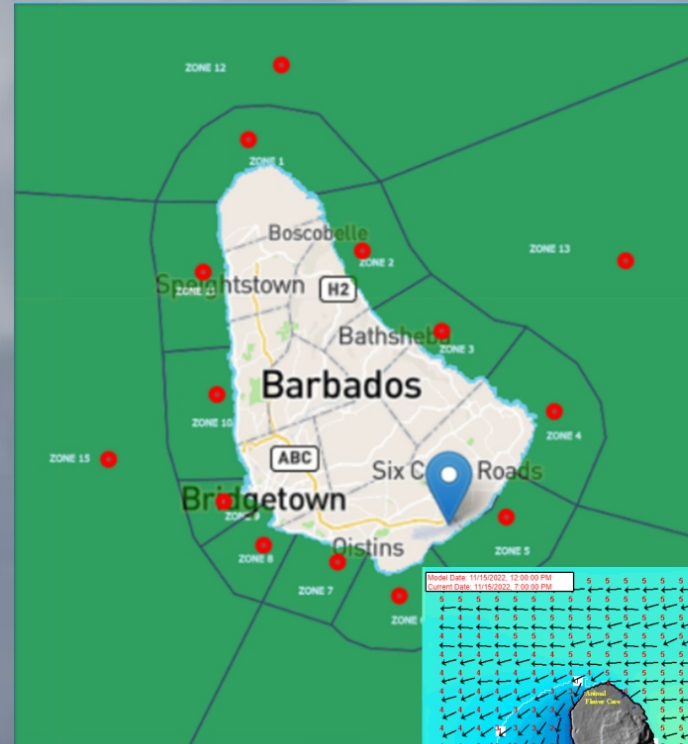
2.0m to 2.5m

2.5m to 3.0m

3.0m and above

Forecaster Considers:

- Nearshore zones (coastline to 5km)
- Open water (beyond 5km)
- Impacts vary for western and western coastlines based on bathymetry





Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

Marine

Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**



Haze Forecasting Process





Current Thresholds (2020 - 2022)

Hazard Level

Green (Minimal)

Yellow (Minor)

Orange (Significant)

Red (Severe)

Visibility

25km and above

15km to 20 km

10 km

5km and less

Forecaster Considers:

- Visibility
- Haze intensity





Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

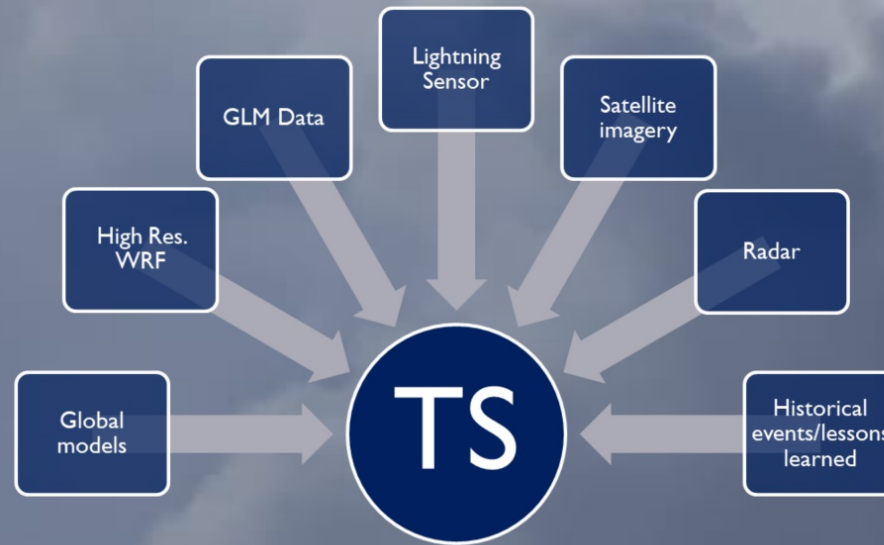
Marine

Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**



Severe TS Forecasting Process





Current Thresholds

(2020 - 2022)

Hazard Level

Green (Minimal)

Yellow (Minor)

Orange (Significant)

Red (Severe)

TS Distribution

No Thunderstorms (0%)

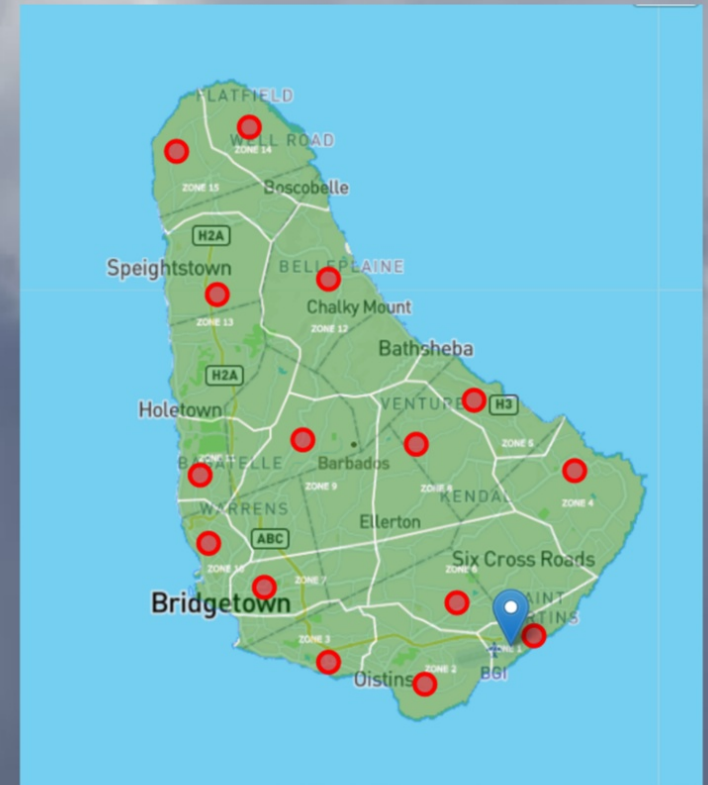
Isolated (up to 24%)

Scattered (25 to 54%)

Widespread (at least 55%)

Forecaster Considers:

- Spatial distribution
- Intensity of convection (cloud tops, radar reflectivity)
- Atmospheric dynamics
- Assets within particular zone (e.g light & power, port)
- Time of day





Hazard Forecasting Processes and Thresholds

**Excess
Rainfall**

Wind

Marine

Haze

**Severe
Thunderstorm**

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IBF LANGUAGE

**Impacts and
Responses**



Impacts (Rainfall)

No response required at this time

Expect some water settlements on roads and fields along with some minor traffic delays
Minor runoff from higher elevations

Some soil erosion on bared or scarred land surfaces
Debris such as small rocks, mud and tree foliage could end up on roads and property
Significant flooding at the foot of hillsides and coastal roads is possible

Increase water levels of existing water bodies
Invasive water settlements or rushing water on roads, field and property
Possible overflowing of canals and drains

Impact by zones
What to do?



Responses (Rainfall)

No response required at this time

No significant response required at this time.

Persons should walk with light protection rain gear e.g. Raincoat and/or umbrellas

Travel with full protective rain gear
Monitor radio or television stations for updates from BMS,DEM
Download CAP.CAP

Start your travels well in advance to allow for significant delays. Stay off roads if you can. Be ready to evacuate your property or work **ONLY** if necessary.

Responses by zones
What should you do?

Predetermined language by DEM and other stakeholders.



IBF LANGUAGE

**Impacts and
Responses**

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Watches and Warnings: Structure and Dissemination Tools

**Preset
Structure**

CAP.CAP

**BMS
Alert App**



Preset Structure

Menu | Home | What's New | Weather | **Warning G**

10/24/2022 1000 To 10/24/2022 2200

A RASH-FLOOD WARNING IS IN EFFECT FOR BARBADOS

This alert message is valid from XXX and will be UPDATED/TERMINATED at YYY or sooner if conditions warrant.

A flash-flood warning is issued when rapid flooding due to heavy or excessive rainfall in a short period of time (generally less than 6 hours) is occurring or is imminent in the warning area.

**** (Hazards) ****

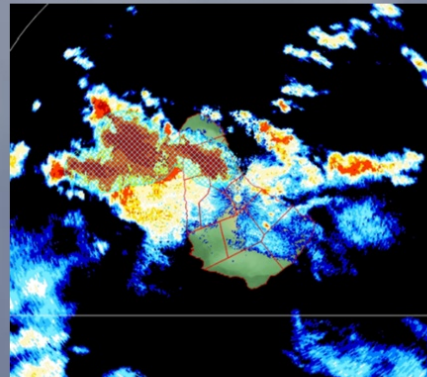
**** For sector(s): 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15 ****
Maximum Rainfall Accumulations of 20.0 to 75.0 mm in heavy showers

For more information specific to your area, please visit:-
<https://www.barbadosweather.org/weather/BarResp.php> or our social media pages

**** For sector(s): 12 ****
Key Message: Residents and visitors should note that the following impacts are imminent during this forecast period :- Significant runoff from higher elevations. Significant soil erosion is likely on exposed or scarred land surfaces. Large water settlements on roads and fields. Significant adjustments to water levels of existing water bodies (ponds etc). Significant delays on traffic routes with some roads possibly impassable. Large objects or debris from higher elevations may also become embedded within fast moving water flows. Significant flooding at the foot of hillsides and coastal roads is possible.

**** For sector(s): 4,5,11,13,15 ****
Key Message: Residents and visitors should note that the following impacts are imminent during this forecast period :- Strong runoff from higher elevations. Soil erosion likely on bare or scarred land surfaces. Debris such as small rocks, mud and tree foliage could end up on roads and property. Traffic delays are likely. Flooding at the foot of hillsides and coastal roads is possible.

**** For sector(s): 1,2,3,6,7,8,9,10,14 ****
Key Message: Residents and visitors should note that the following impacts are imminent during this forecast period :- Some soil erosion on bare or scarred land surfaces. Water settlements on roads and fields. Increases water levels of existing water bodies (eg ponds etc). Some delays on traffic routes in the area.



A Flash Flood Warning is in Effect for Barbados
From 3:30 am Monday 26th September, 2022



Barbados Meteorological Services
Civil Aviation Department Building
Charnocks, Christ Church
Telephone #: (246) 535-0021, 535-0022 | Fax #: (246) 535-0029
Website: www.barbadosweather.org



A FLASH-FLOOD WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR BARBADOS
Issued: Wed, 28 Oct 2020 12:04 PM

This alert message is valid from 12 NOON Wednesday 28th October, 2020 and will be UPDATED at 6PM or sooner if conditions warrant.

A Flash-Flood Watch is issued when heavy or excessive rainfall in a short period of time (generally less than 6 hours) could result in flash flooding within the watch area. It does not mean that flooding will occur, but it is possible.

**** Hazard Info ****

A tropical wave interacting with a mid to upper-level trough has already generated up to 20mm across sections of the island. A further increase in rainfall accumulation is expected later today as conditions become more unsettled across the island.

Key Message: Residents and visitors should be prepared for the following possibilities if this alert level elevates to red (Warning):- Significant runoff from higher elevations. Significant soil erosion is likely on exposed or scarred land surfaces. Large water settlements on roads and fields. Significant adjustments to water levels of existing water bodies (ponds etc.). Significant delays on traffic routes with some roads possibly impassable. Large objects or debris from higher elevations may also become embedded within fast-moving water flows. Significant flooding at the foot of hillsides and coastal roads is possible.

For more information specific to your area, please visit:-

<https://www.barbadosweather.org/weather/BarResp.php> or our social media pages

Prepared by Andrew Daniel
Meteorologist (II) (Ag)
Approved by Tia Browne
Senior Meteorologist (Ag)
Barbados Meteorological Services



Watches and Warnings: Structure and Dissemination Tools

**Preset
Structure**

CAP.CAP

**BMS
Alert App**



CAP.CAP

CAP.CAP

Active alerts

Common Alerting Protocol based
Emergency Warning System

Updated at 08:35 on 14.10.2022

No alerts



kindly use the direct web link provided in this message, or visit our social media pages

<http://www.barbadosweather.org>
| Facebook@BarbadosMeteorolog
| Instagram@BarbadosMetService
| Twitter@BarbadosMet

Contact Tia Browne
Category Met
Urgency Expected
Severity Extreme
Certainty Observed
Sent by Barbados Meteorological Services

Alerts for watches and warnings automatically sent to mobile phones once published by BMS

CAP.CAP

A FLASH-FLOOD WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR BARBADOS

Effective 11th October 2022 11:54 am
Expires 11th October 2022 6:00 pm

Description
This alert message is valid from 12:00 Noon Tuesday, 11th October, 2022 and will be updated at 6:00 pm Tuesday, 11th October, 2022 or sooner if conditions warrant.



Watches and Warnings: Structure and Dissemination Tools

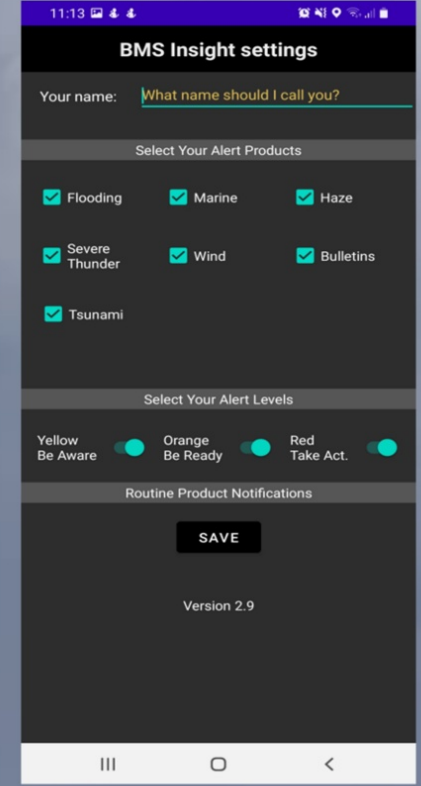
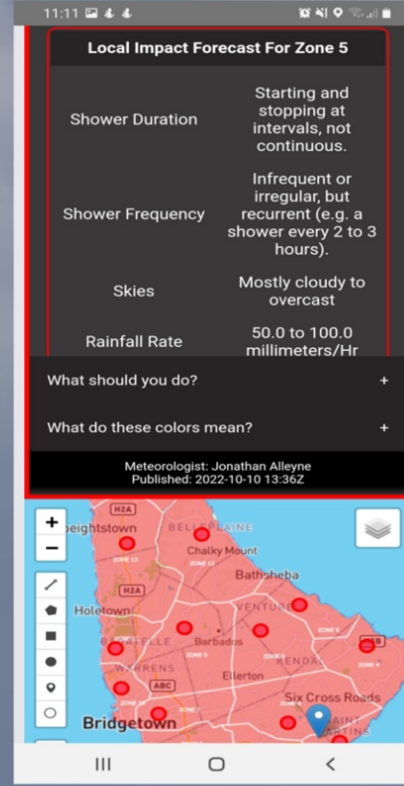
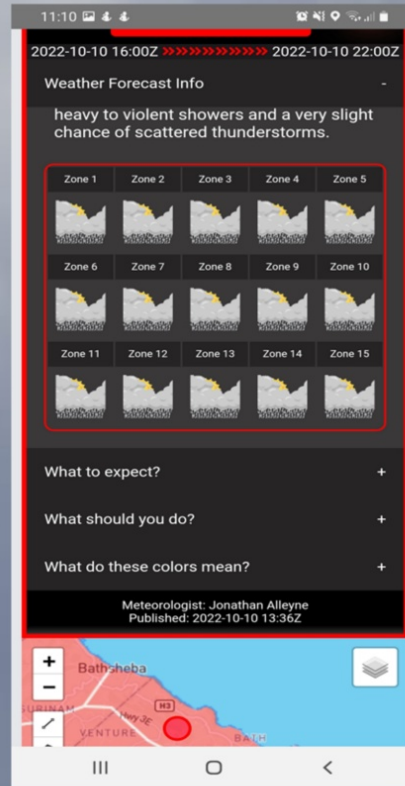
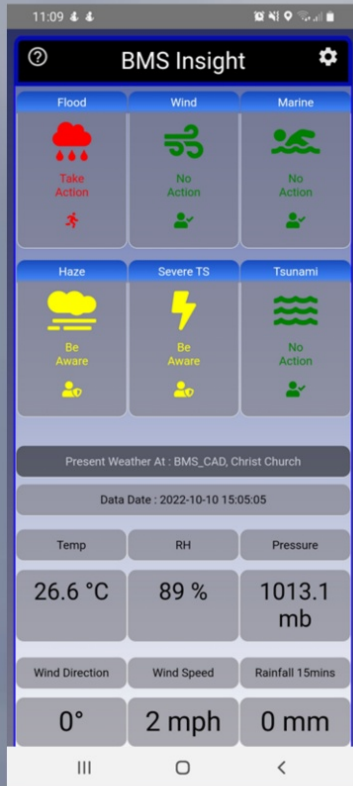
**Preset
Structure**

CAP.CAP

**BMS
Alert App**



BMS Insight App





Watches and Warnings: Structure and Dissemination Tools

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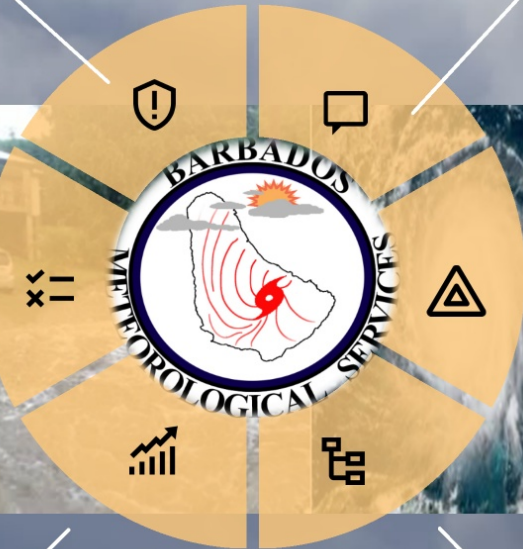
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Successes and Identified Issues

**Mesoscale
Events**

**Predictions
vs. Impacts**

**Improvements
in IBF
Forecasting**



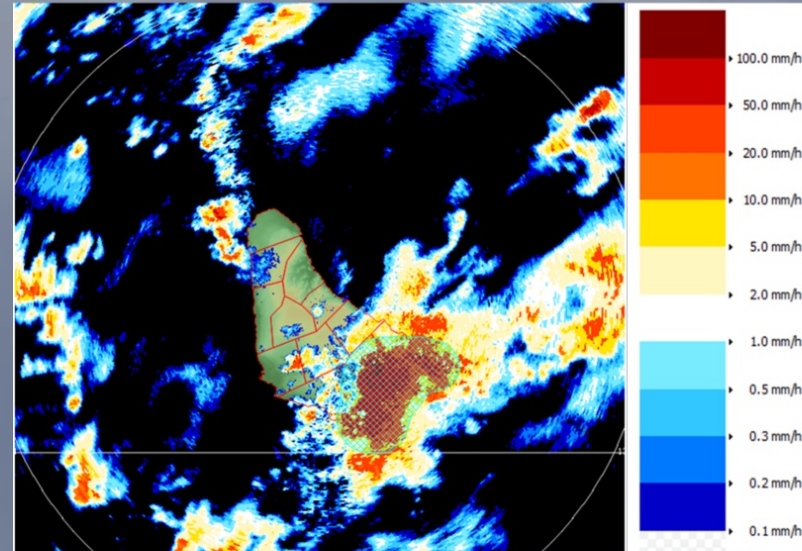
Mesoscale Events

Rainfall based on rain rates
...But what about duration?

- Isolated events
- High rain rates
- Duration: 30min to 1 hour
- Quick run-off



1-hr Rainfall Accumulation



Radar DPSRI

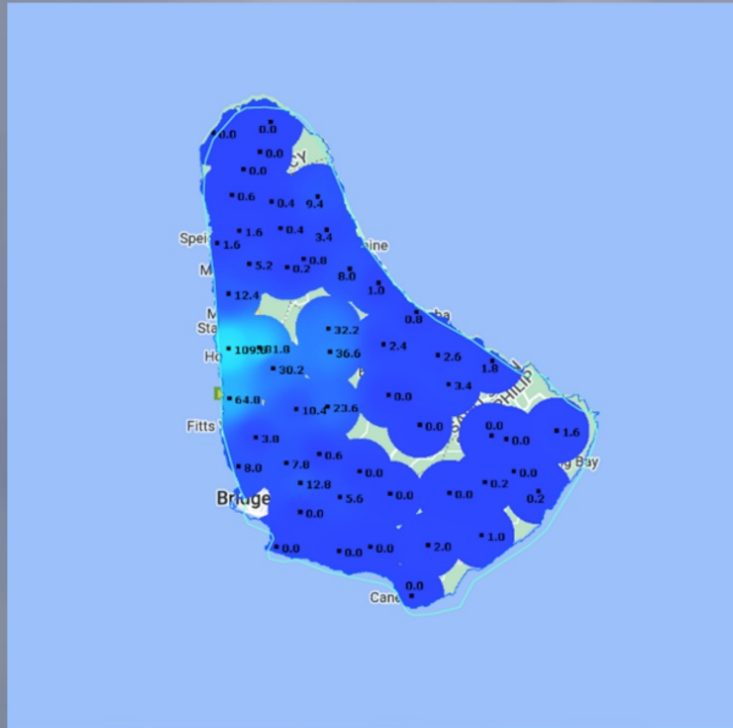
Flash-Flood Watch/Warning?



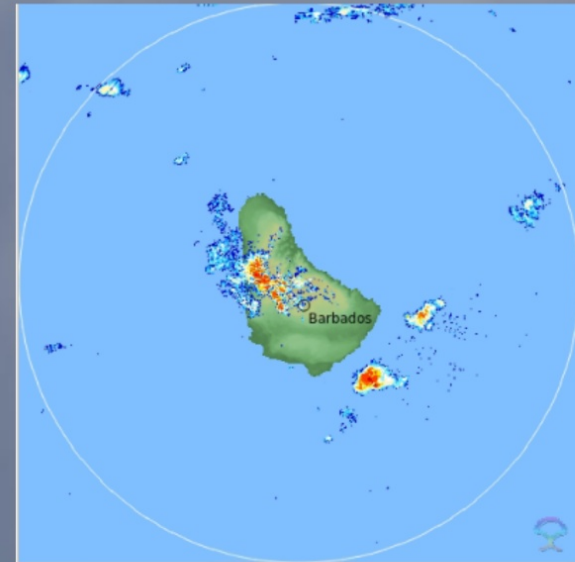
Mesoscale Events

Rainfall based on rain rates
....But what about duration?

- Isolated events
- High rain rates
- Duration: 30 minutes to 1 hour
- Quick run-off



6-hr Rainfall Accumulation



Flash-Flood Watch/Warning?



Successes and Identified Issues

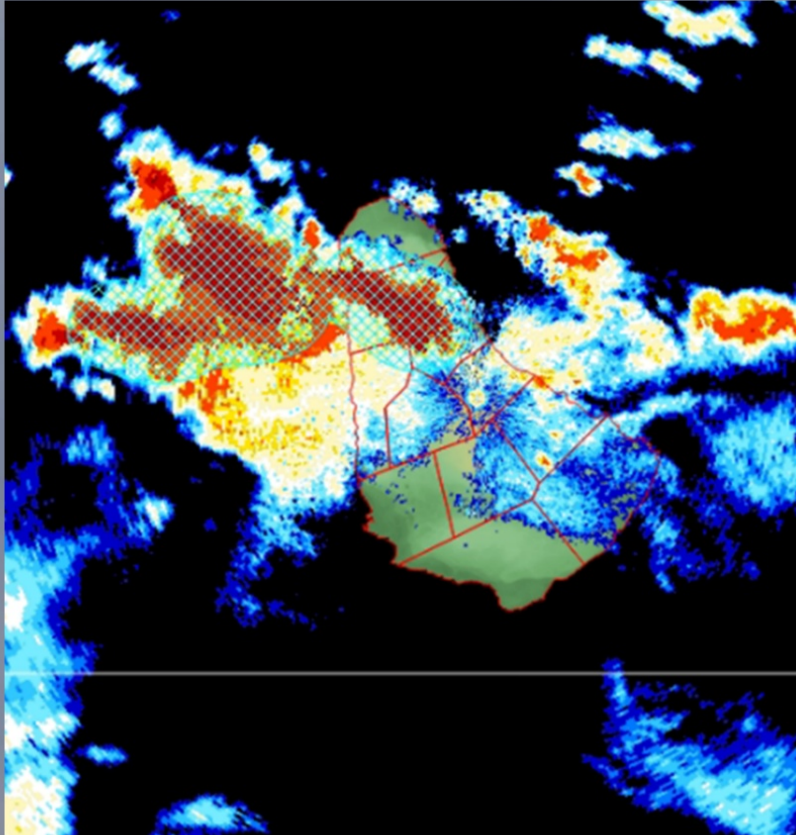
**Mesoscale
Events**

**Predictions
vs. Impacts**

**Improvements
in IBF
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Predictions vs. Impacts



- Rates observed from radar during rainfall events exceed the forecasted thresholds.
- Expected impacts may not always "gel" well with the alert level.



2-ft water



Successes and Identified Issues

**Mesoscale
Events**

**Predictions
vs. Impacts**

**Improvements
in IBF
Forecasting**



Improvements in IBF Forecasting

- With each event forecasters gain more experience and insight in the use of short-term forecasting products such as those available from radar products and wx stations across the island.
- Forecaster considers other factors that may influence a particular hazard such as the situation on the ground.
- Public reaction and reception help in the feedback mechanism of products produced.
- Added IBF automated decision-making process improves services and product production times.



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IMPROVEMENTS

**IBF
Forecasting**

**Media
Platforms**



IBF Forecasting

- Re-evaluation of rain rates for each alert level
- Update impact language (are the identified impacts appropriate for the hazard level?)
- What constitutes the elevation of the alert level? (Consider duration and intensity)
- Providing less subjective forecast among meteorologist (Is this achievable?)
- Consider, the type of event and incorporate conditions on the ground.



IMPROVEMENTS

**IBF
Forecasting**

**Media
Platforms**



Media Platforms

BMS Insight

- Ability to view bulletins/watches/warnings
- User defined notifications (warning fatigue?)
- Provision for apple users

Social Media/Partnership

- Reassessment with DEM on what to expect and responses the public should exercise
- Improvements in transmission delay to media outlets
- Continued improvements in social media presence.



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