



# Hydrologic Analyses and Applications in ArcGIS

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SEE  
WHAT  
OTHERS  
CAN'T



# Content

- **Definitions**
- **Core capabilities:**
  - Introduction to Hydrologic Analysis in ArcGIS
  - Overview of Hydrology tools and functions
  - Hydrologic Analysis Workflows
  - Ready-to-use hydrology services on ArcGIS Online (demo)
- **Advanced capabilities:**
  - Data sources and analyses nuances
  - Arc Hydro
  - Hydrologic and hydraulic modeling support with GIS
- **Summary**



# Water Resources Issues

- Not enough (droughts)
- Too much (floods)
- Of wrong kind (water quality)
- In a wrong place (spatial distribution)
- At the wrong time (temporal distribution)



# Focus on Surface Water Quantity

- How much water is there?
  - *Hydrologic modeling* (precipitation-runoff modeling), determines for a given storm on a landscape, how much water will become runoff.
- Where will it go?
  - *Hydraulic modeling* takes the quantity of water and the shape of the landscape and stream channel and determines how deep and fast the water will be, and what area it will cover.
- And thus we have “**H&H**”



# Hydrologic Modeling

- **Goal:** Find stream discharge, **Q**, at a location for a given precipitation event.
- There are many ways to calculate **Q**.
  - Statistical methods
    - USGS regression equations (NFF, StreamStats)
    - “Physical” modeling (rainfall-runoff models)
      - HEC-HMS, SMS, etc.
- **GIS is used to summarize terrain and hydrologic characteristics of the watershed for input to a model.**



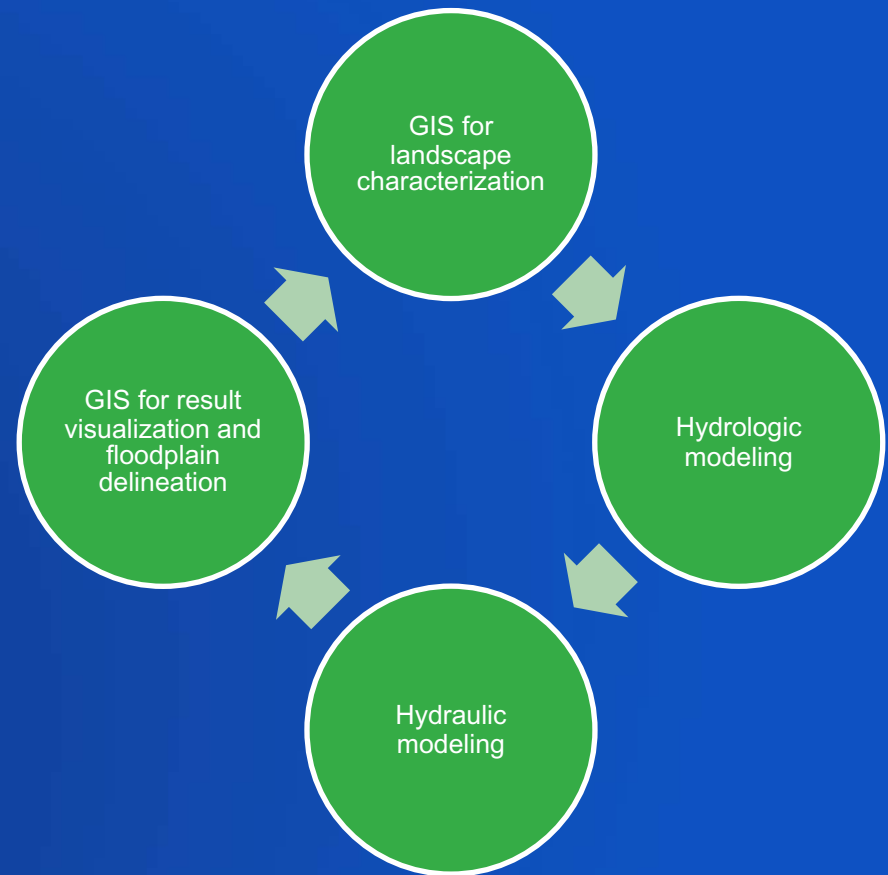
# Hydraulic Modeling

- **Goal:** Predict water surface elevations and velocities for a given discharge.
- There are many ways to do hydraulics (1D, 2D, different simplifications of St. Venant equation, ...).
- *GIS is used to summarize terrain and hydraulic characteristics of the channel for input to a model and post process hydraulic modeling results (water surface determination).*



# GIS for Hydro Modeling “Cycle”

- **GIS** is used for landscape characterization and model parametrization.
- **Hydrology and Hydraulics (H&H)** is used for determination of flows, depths and velocities.
- **GIS** is used for result postprocessing and visualization.
- GIS and H&H modeling are closely connected as one impacts the other



... and many arrow in between

## Core Capabilities:

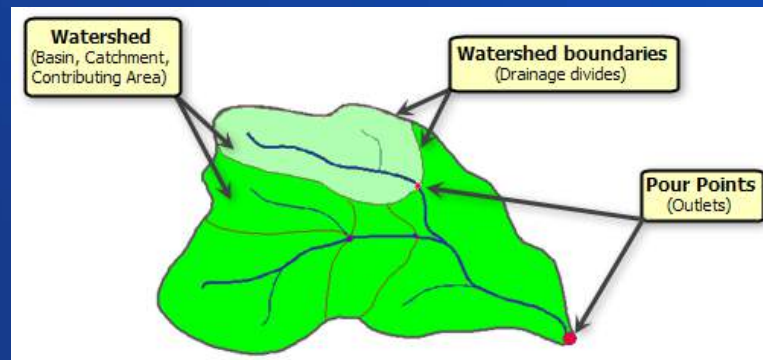
- Introduction to Hydrologic Analysis in ArcGIS
- Overview of Hydrology tools and functions
- Hydrologic Analysis Workflows
- Ready-to-use hydrology services on ArcGIS Online (demo)





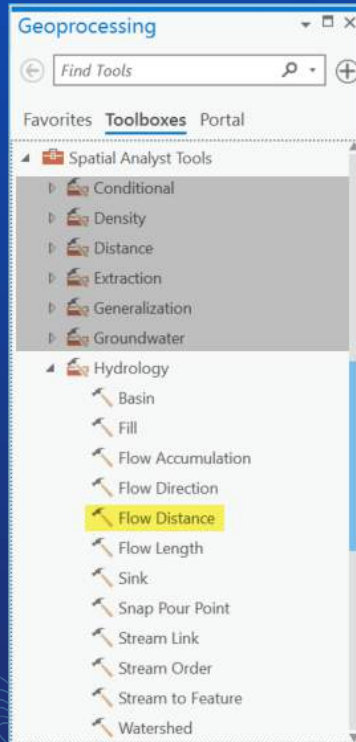
# Introduction to Hydrologic Analysis in ArcGIS

- Hydrologic Analysis in ArcGIS is used to model the flow of water across a surface.
- What are the **primary objectives** of hydrologic analysis in a GIS?
  - Extract hydrologic information and drainage system characteristics from a digital elevation model.
  - To know where the water comes from, and where it is flowing to.

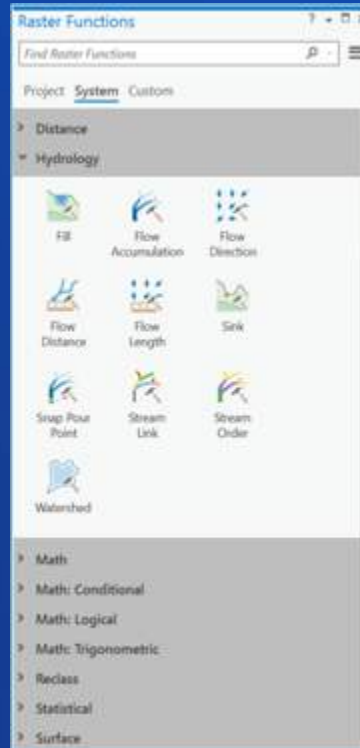


# Hydrology Tools

ArcMap / ArcGIS Pro



ArcGIS Pro



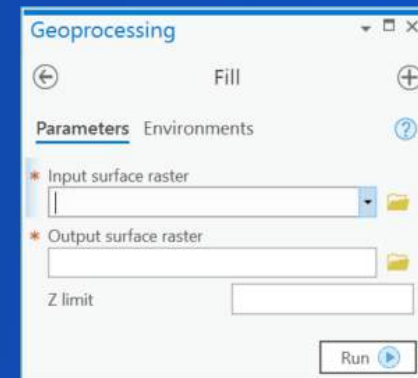
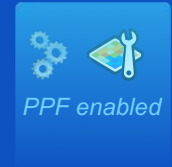
ArcGIS Image Server



# Fill

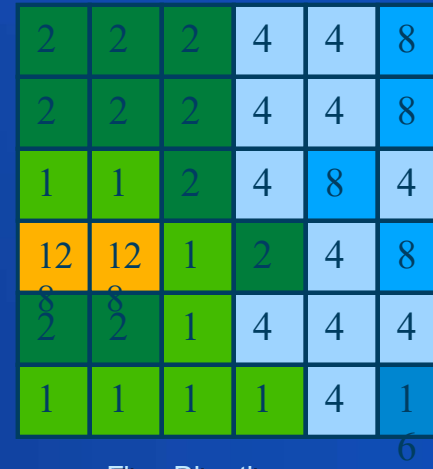
Fills sinks in a surface raster to remove small imperfections in the data.

- Remove smaller imperfections and noise in surface raster.
- Remove larger sinks and pits in the terrain.
- Provide depth filter using Z-Limit.

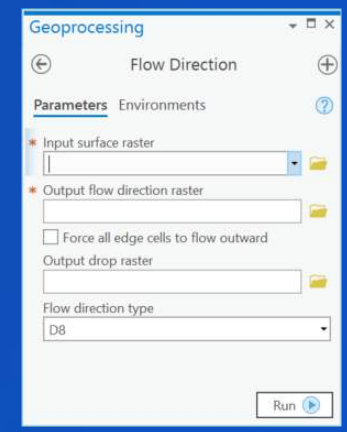


# Flow Direction: D8

Create a raster of flow direction from each cell to its steepest downslope neighbor using D8 method.

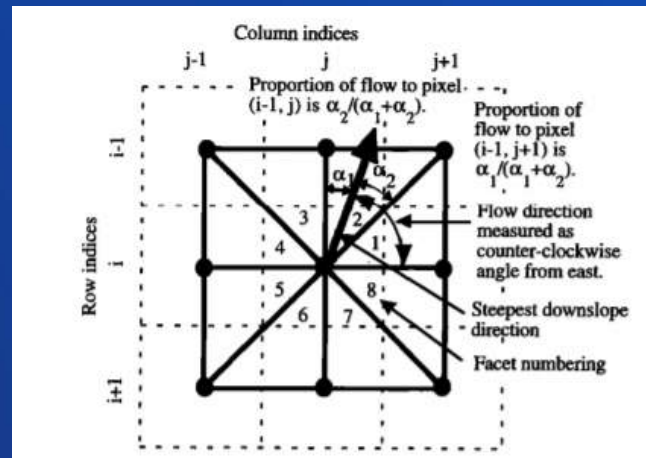


## D8 Method



# Flow Direction: D-Infinity

Creates flow direction as the steepest downward slope on eight triangular facets  
D-Infinity best for modeling distributed hydrologic processes, such as runoff generation or erosion.



D-Infinity Method

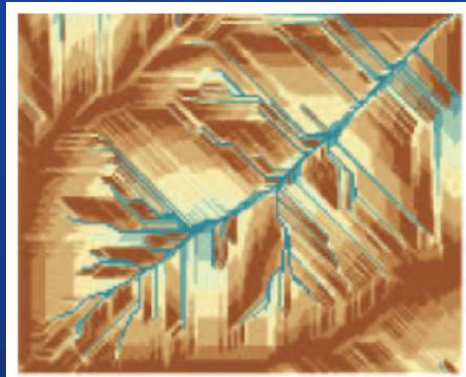
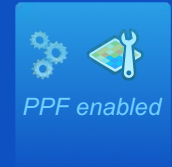
Steepest  
downslope  
direction

**Divergent flow:**  
flow proportioned  
up to two  
downstream  
neighbors

Tarboton, D. G., (1997), "A New Method for the Determination of Flow Directions and Contributing Areas in Grid Digital Elevation Models," Water Resources Research, 33(2): 309-319.

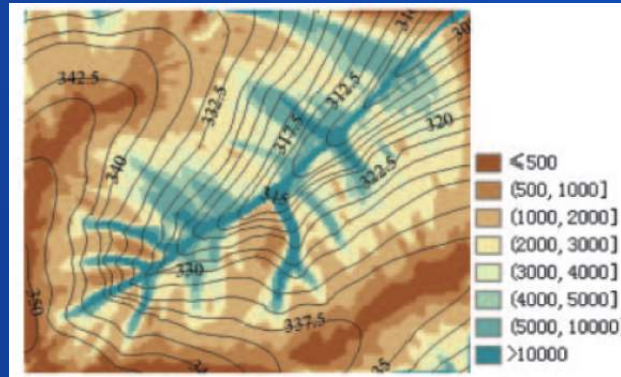
# Flow Direction: Multiple Flow Direction (MFD)

- Better flow accumulation maps in low-relief areas
- Flow partitioning is adaptive to local terrain conditions.



**D8 Flow Accumulations**

V  
S



**MFD Flow Accumulations**

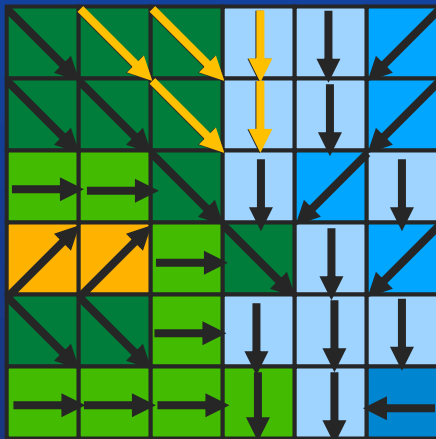
|           |     |      |             |
|-----------|-----|------|-------------|
|           | 101 | 101  | 100         |
| Elevation | 101 | 100  | 99.5        |
|           | 100 | 99.5 | 99          |
| Downslope |     |      | 26.6°       |
|           |     |      | 26.6° 35.3° |
| MFD-md    |     |      | 9.0%        |
|           |     |      | 9.0% 82.1%  |

Flow  
proportioned to  
all downstream  
neighbor(s)

Qin, C., Zhu, A. X., Pei, T., Li, B., Zhou, C., & Yang, L. 2007. "An adaptive approach to selecting a flow partition exponent for a multiple flow direction algorithm." *International Journal of Geographical Information Science* 21(4): 443-458.

# Flow Accumulation

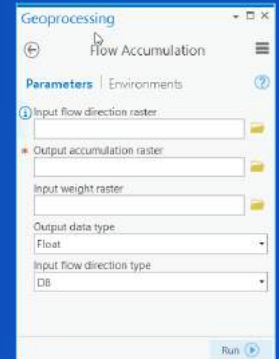
Creates a raster of accumulated flow into each cell. A weight factor can optionally be applied. Select from D8, D-Infinity or MFD flow methods.



Flow Direction

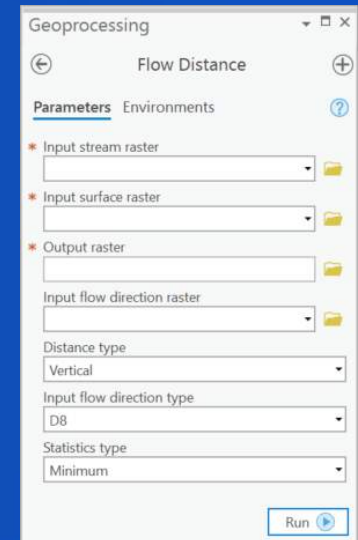
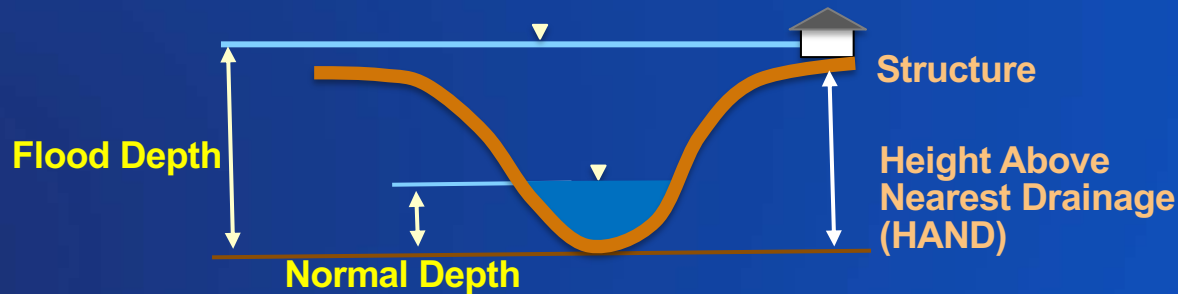
|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 0 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 0 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 2 |

Flow Accumulation



# Flow Distance

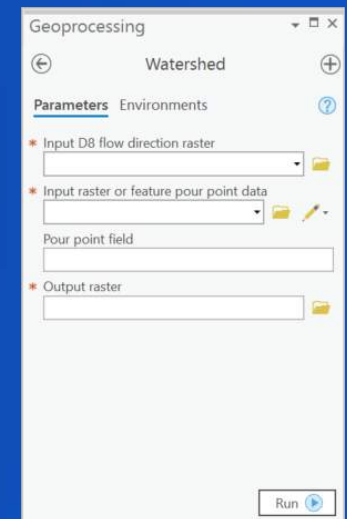
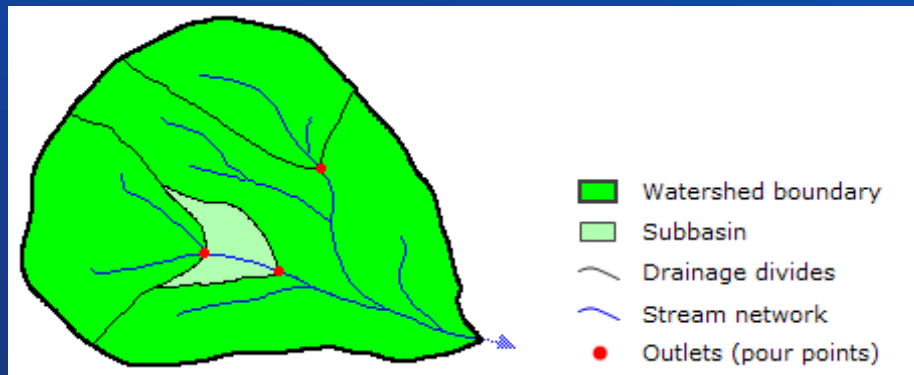
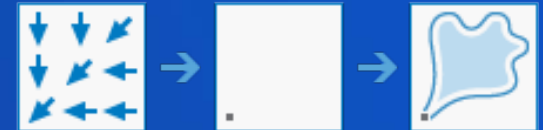
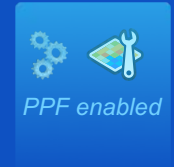
- Compute vertical/horizontal downslope distance to streams over single or multiple flow paths.
- Supports D8, D-Infinity and MFD algorithms for computing flow distance.
- In case of multiple flow paths, minimum, weighted mean, or maximum flow distance can be computed.
- Used in computation of Height Above Nearest Drainage (HAND). Flooding occurs when water depth is greater than HAND.





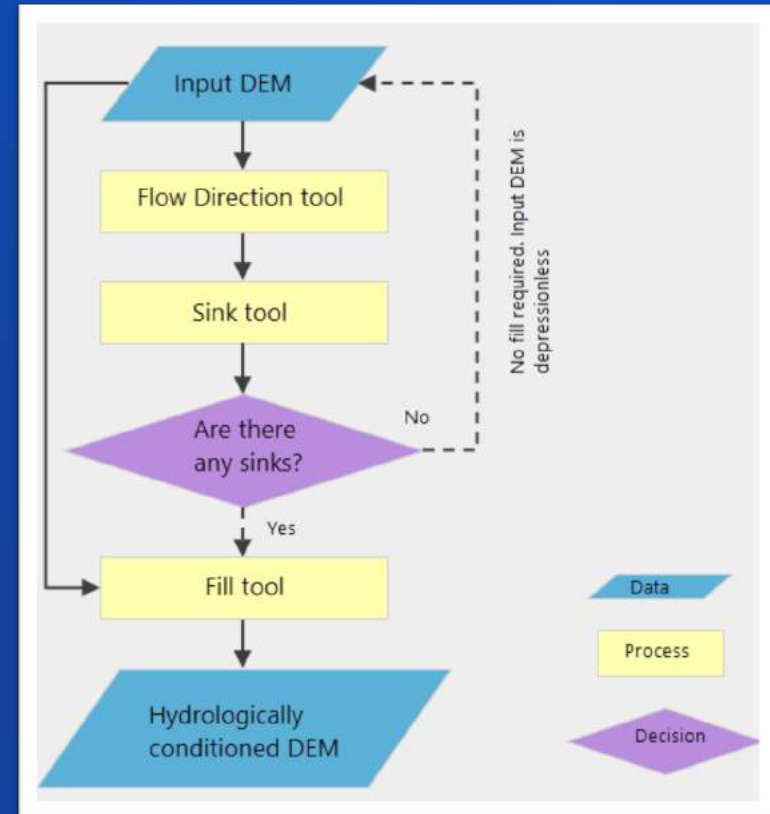
# Watershed

Determines the contributing area above a set of cells in a raster.

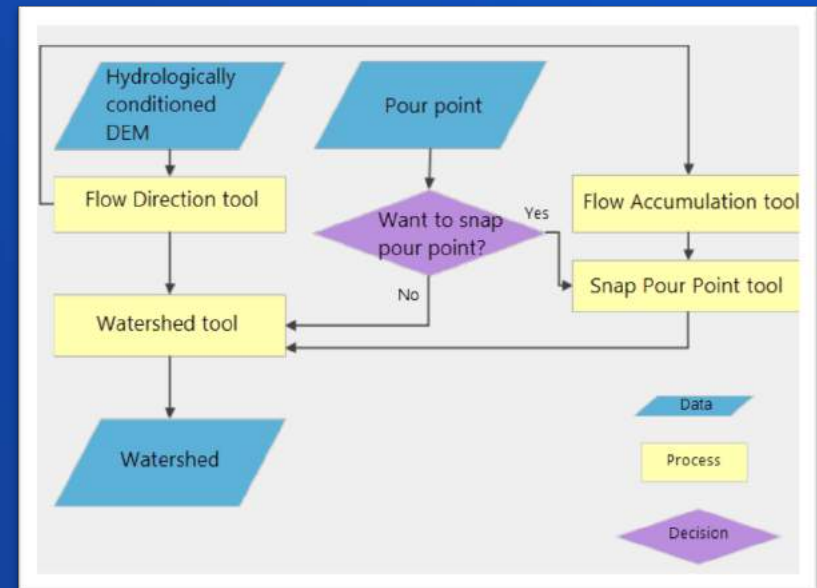
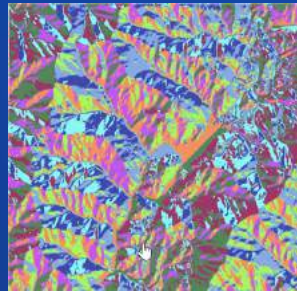
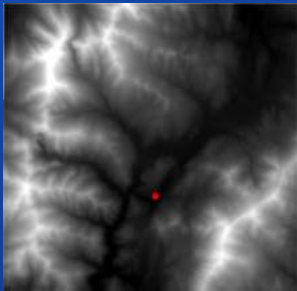


# Hydrologic Conditioning Workflow

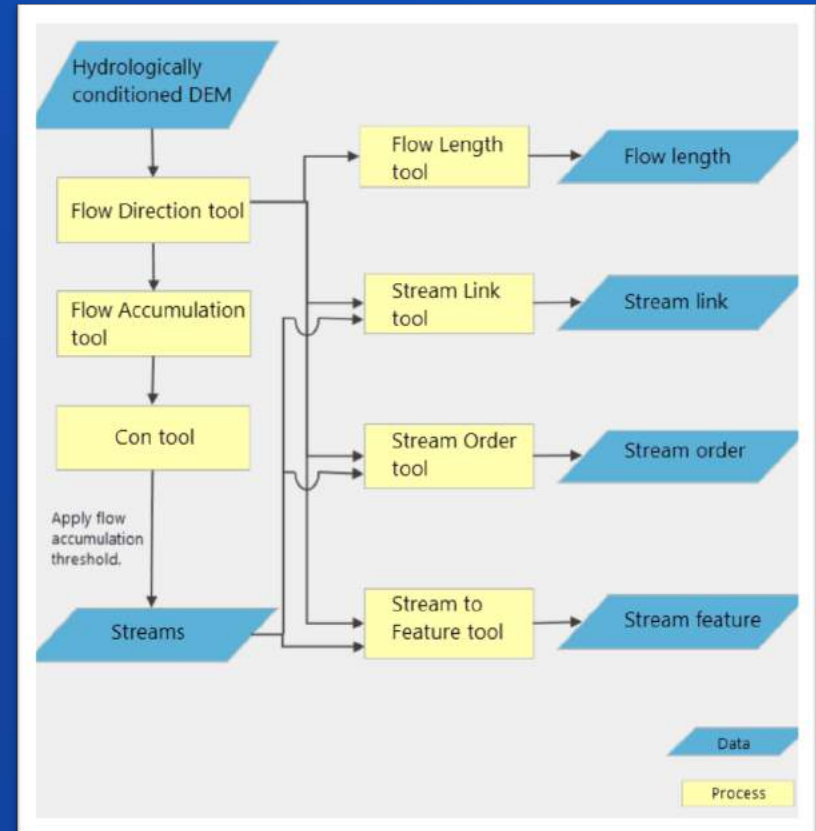
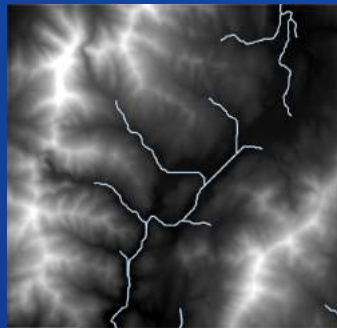
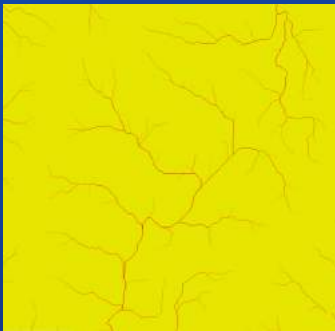
- Hydrologically conditioned DEM is a surface raster whose flow direction defines expected flow of water over the terrain (DEM).



# Watershed Delineation Workflow



# Stream Network Characteristics Workflow





# Ready-to-use services on ArcGIS Online: Create Watershed & Trace Downstream



## Advanced Capabilities:

- Data sources and analyses nuances
- Arc Hydro
- Hydrologic and hydraulic modeling support with GIS



# GIS Data for Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling

- Check out Esri's Living Atlas (AGOL)
- Digital Elevation Model and land cover
  - <http://seamless.usgs.gov/>
  - <https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/ngp/national-hydrography/nhdplus-high-resolution>
- Watershed boundaries
  - <http://www.ncgc.nrcs.usda.gov/products/datasets/watershed/>
- Hydrography
  - <http://nhd.usgs.gov/>
- Soils
  - <http://www.soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/statsgo/>



# GIS Data for Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling

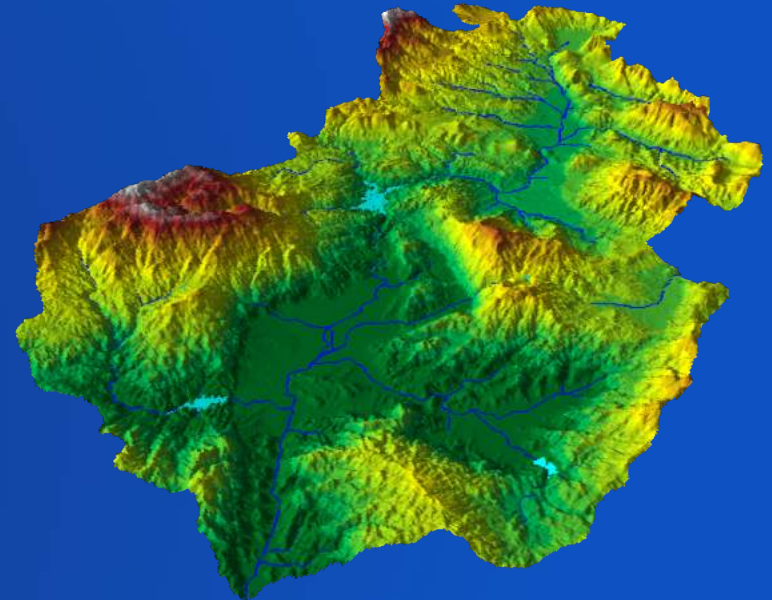
- **Current and historic water records**
  - <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>
  - <http://www.epa.gov/STORET/index.html>
  - <http://his.cuahsi.org/>
- **Climate and precipitation**
  - <http://www.weather.gov/gis/>
  - <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>
- **Channel geometry (cross sections)**
- **H&H data are very “local”**
  - “You have to be there when it rains!”





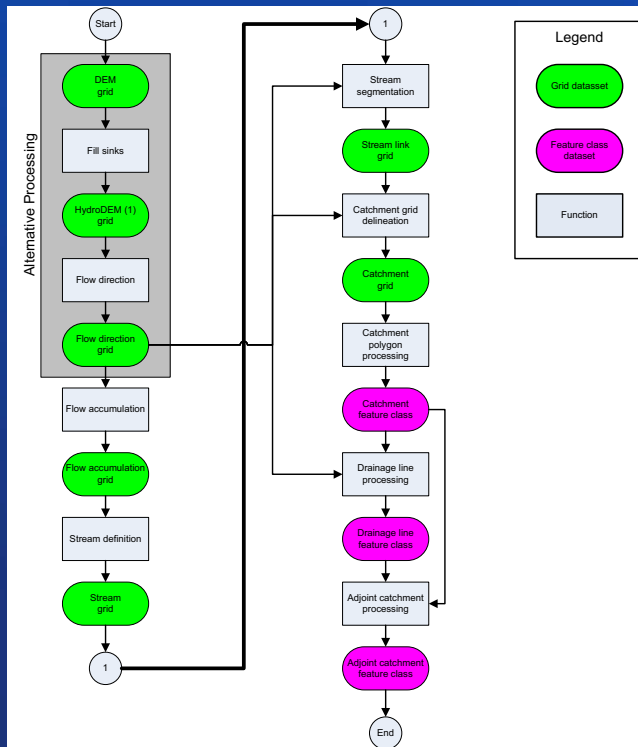
# Elevation Data – Key Dataset

- Resolution and extent
- Projection (for hydrology – use equal area)
- Source of elevation data (consistency)
- Hydro conditioning of DEM
  - Varies with the analysis purpose
    - Floods
    - Droughts
  - Different morphologies
    - Dendritic, deranged, combined



# Workflows, Workflows, Workflows

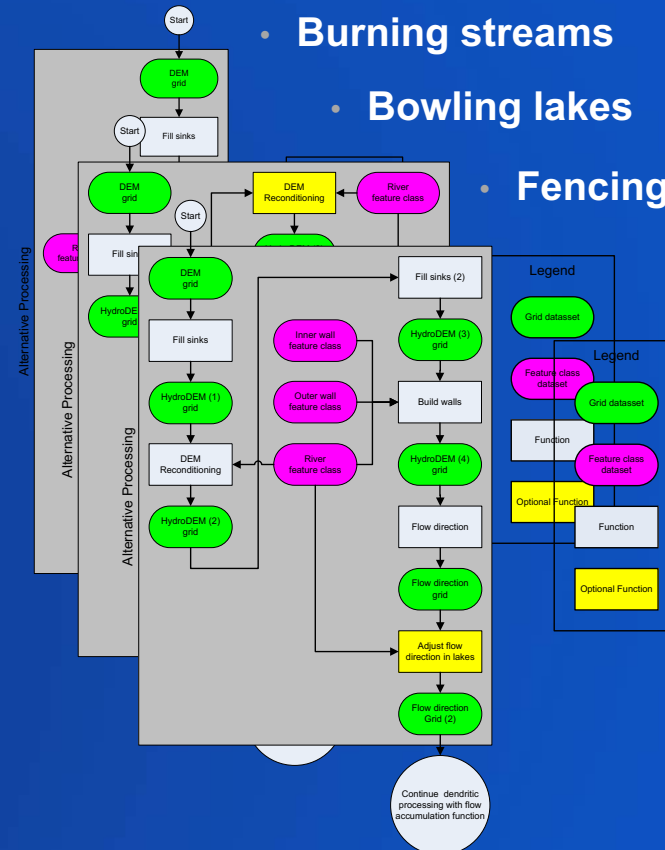
- “Basic” dendritic preprocessing



- Burning streams

- Bowling lakes

- Fencing



Continue dendritic processing with flow accumulation function

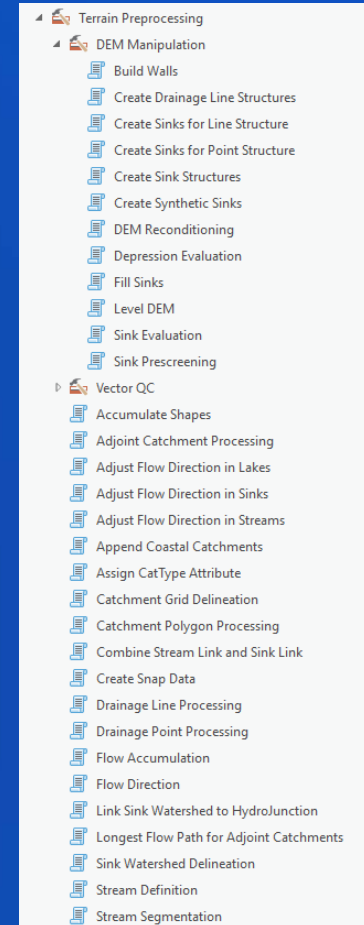
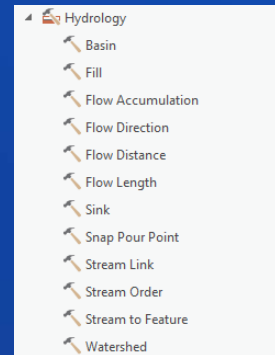
# Where is this Functionality?

- **Core capabilities:**

- ArcMap/Pro Spatial Analyst Toolbox
  - Tools in the Hydrology Toolset
- ArcGIS Raster Functions
- ArcGIS Image Server

- **Extended capabilities:**

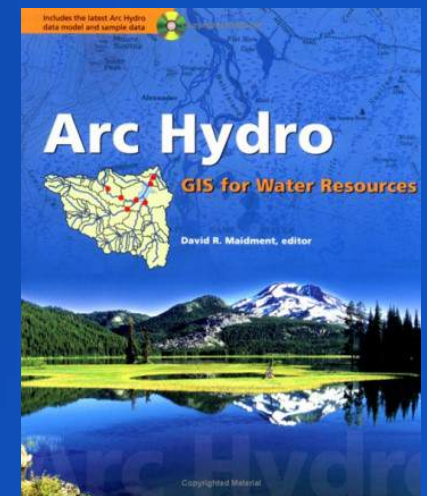
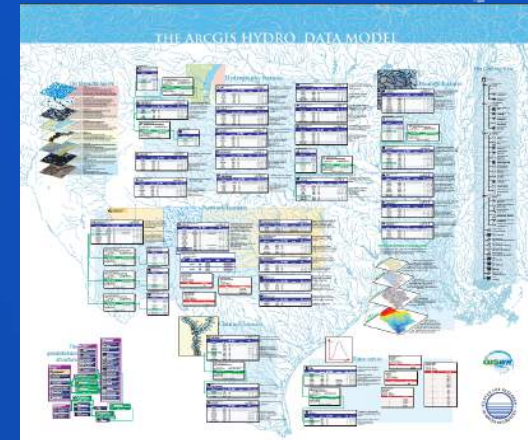
- Arc Hydro Tools
  - Arc Hydro Toolbox
  - Arc Hydro Toolbar



# Brief History

## 1999 – 2002

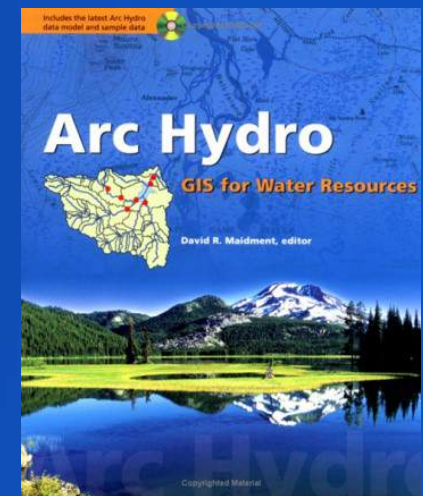
- Project to demonstrate geodatabase capabilities in water resources.
- Worked with Dr. David Maidment at the University of Texas.
- Focused on the Arc Hydro Data Model.
- Released in 2002 as a data model, a toolset, and an Esri Press book (Arc Hydro).
  - Initial set of ~ 30 tools (8.3) developed by Esri (PS) as a complement to the data model.



# Brief History

## Since 2003:

- **Arc Hydro tool development through projects.**
  - This added ~300+ tools over the years.
- **Tool maintenance** (version updates, move to Pro, etc.).
- **User support** (Web pages, GeoNet, response to emails, etc.).
  - <https://community.esri.com/community/gis/solutions/arc-hydro>
- **Training classes** (managed as standard Esri training and are delivered by PS).
- **Arc Hydro Groundwater**
  - Added in 2007.
  - Collaboration with Aquaveo and published Esri Press book (Arc Hydro Groundwater, 2011).
  - Aquaveo provides extensions (fee) and support

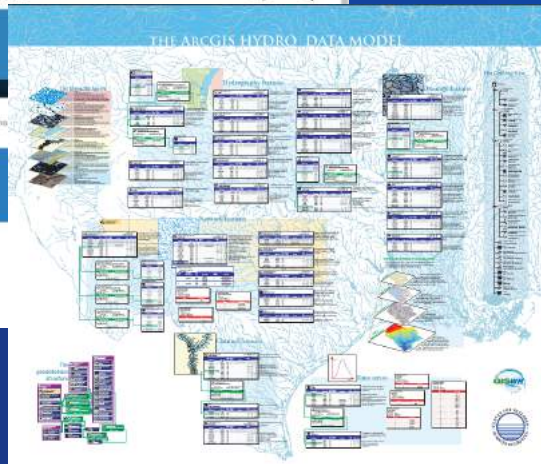


# Vision

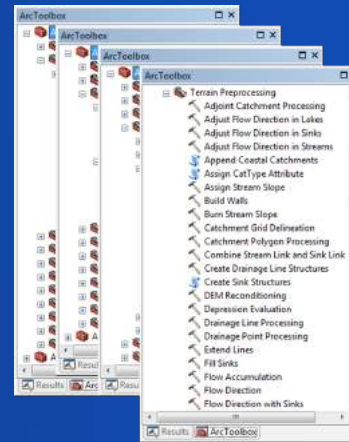
“Provide practical GIS framework for development of **integrated analytical systems** for water resources market.”



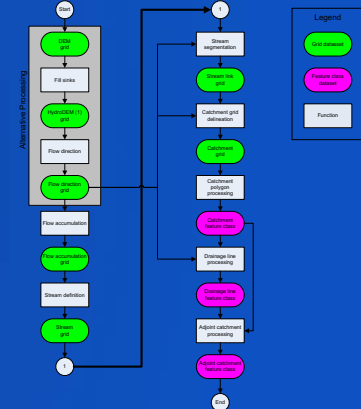
Community



Data Model



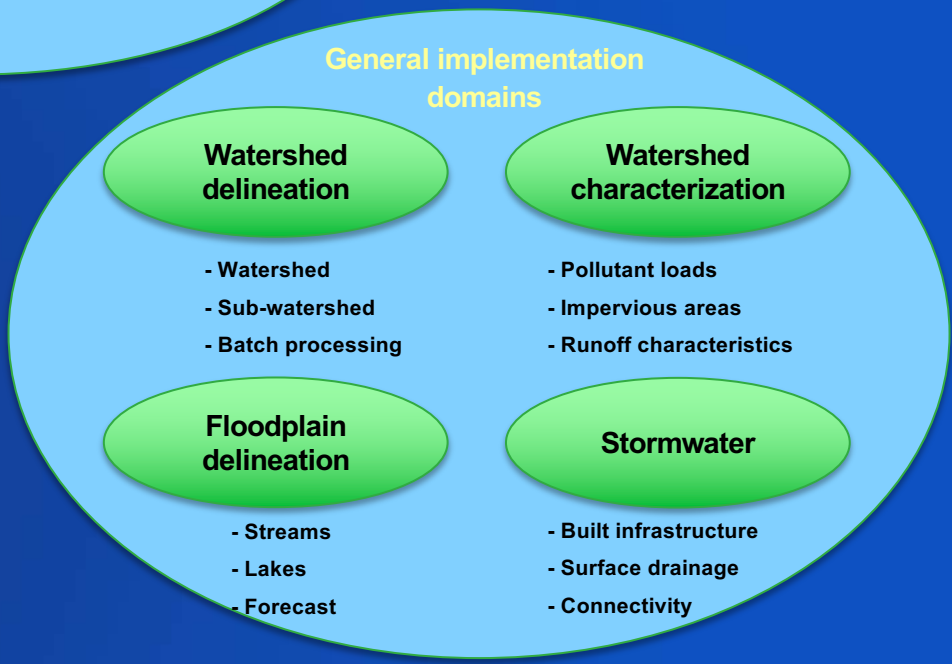
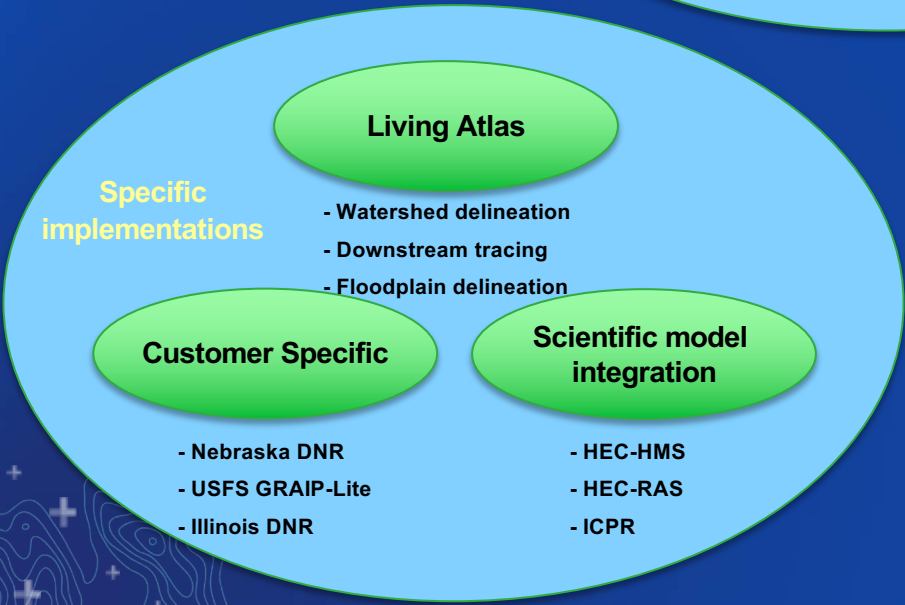
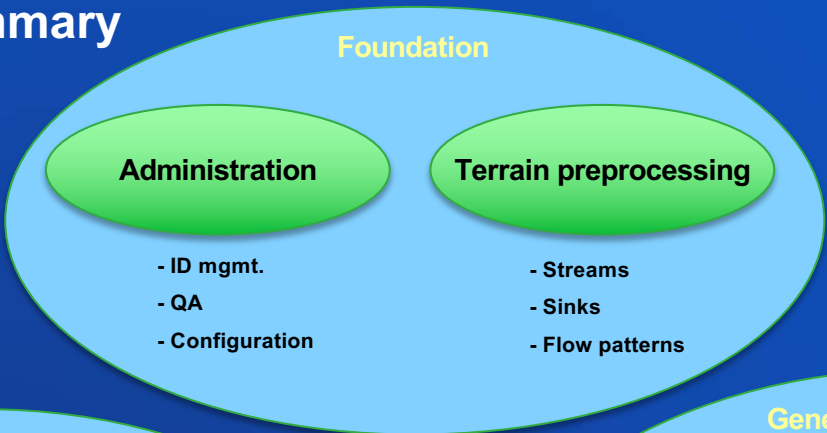
Tools



Workflows

# Arc Hydro Tools Summary

## Functionality Grouping



# “Why Should I Care” about Arc Hydro Tools?

- **Economy of development**
  - Why reinvent the wheel?
  - Established configuration methodology
  - Established development framework
- **Industry “standard”**
  - Established techniques rolled into a publicly available utility
- **Training and support**
- **Free**

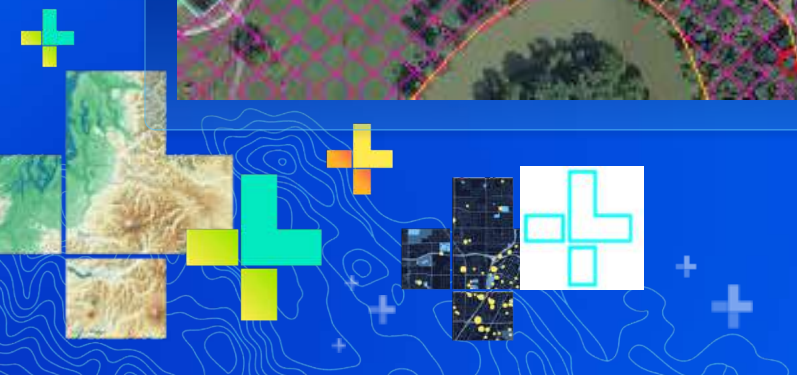






# Arc Hydro

Demo



## Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling Support with GIS:

- Hydrologic modeling:
  - Statistical hydrology - StreamStats
- Hydraulic modeling:
  - Floodplain delineation



# How “Things” Build Up

- Database design
- Data preparation
- Terrain preparation
- “Watershed” delineation
- “Watershed” characterization

Generic  
(Arc Hydro)

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## • Parameterization

Semigeneric

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## • Model pre- and post- processing

Model Specific



# Regression Equations

- Used to estimate streamflow statistics, both high and low flows, for ungaged sites (in uncontrolled flow environment)
- Relate streamflow statistics to measured basin characteristics
- Developed by all 48 USGS districts on a state-by-state basis through the cooperative program (usually sponsored by DOT)



## Example Regression Equation

- Regression equations take the form:

$$Q_{100} = 0.471 * A^{0.715} * E^{0.827} * SH^{0.472}$$

- Where

- A is drainage area, in square miles
- E is mean basin elevation, in feet
- SH is a shape factor, dimensionless



# Basin Characteristics Used for Peak Flows

| Basin characteristic   | # of States using this (including PR) |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Drainage area or contributing drainage area (square miles)     | 51                                    |
| Main-channel slope (feet per mile)                             | 27                                    |
| Mean annual precipitation (inches)                             | 19                                    |
| Surface water storage (Lakes, ponds, swamps)                   | 16                                    |
| Rainfall amount for a given duration (inches)                  | 14                                    |
| Elevation of watershed   | 13                                    |
| Forest cover (percent)   | 8                                     |
| Channel length (miles)   | 6                                     |
| Minimum mean January temperature (degrees F)                   | 4                                     |
| Basin shape ((length) <sup>2</sup> per drainage area)          | 4                                     |
| Soils characteristics  | 3                                     |
| Mean basin slope (feet per foot or feet per mile)              | 2                                     |
| Mean annual snowfall (inches)                                  | 2                                     |
| Area of stratified drift (percent)                             | 1                                     |
| Runoff coefficient   | 1                                     |
| Drainage frequency (number of first order streams per sq. mi.) | 1                                     |
| Mean annual runoff (inches)                                    | 1                                     |
| Normal daily May-March temp (degrees F)                        | 1                                     |
| Impervious Cover (percent)                                     | 1                                     |
| Annual PET (inches)  | 1                                     |

... and many others

# Role of GIS

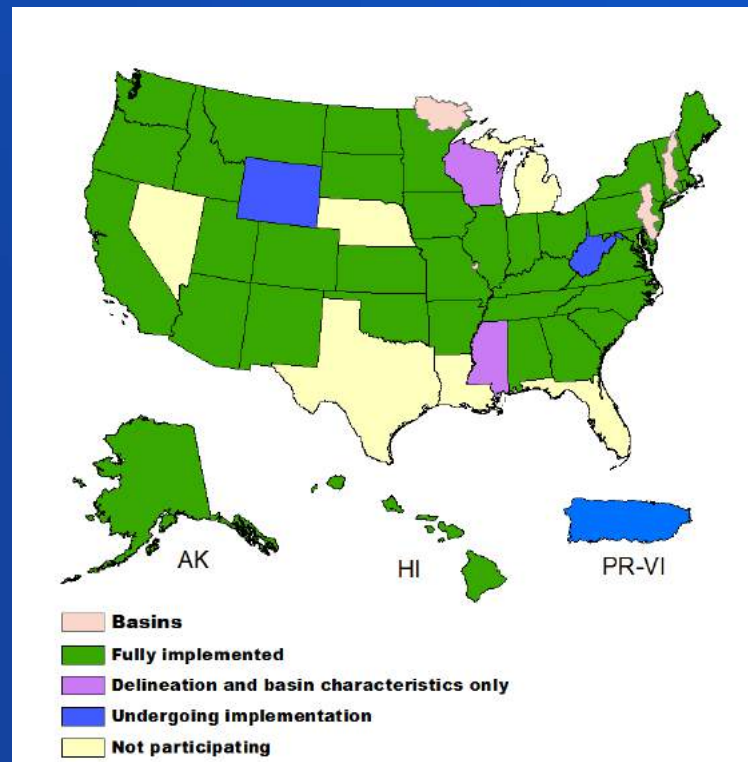
- Speed up the process (instead of hours, minutes).
- Provide a common (single) access to the methodology (for users and maintenance).
- Systematize methodology and datasets used in the process (repeatability).
- Provide better tools for deriving characteristics for regression equation determination.
- Provide a map-based user interface.
- Web and desktop implementation are based on Arc Hydro.



## StreamStats Implementation Activities

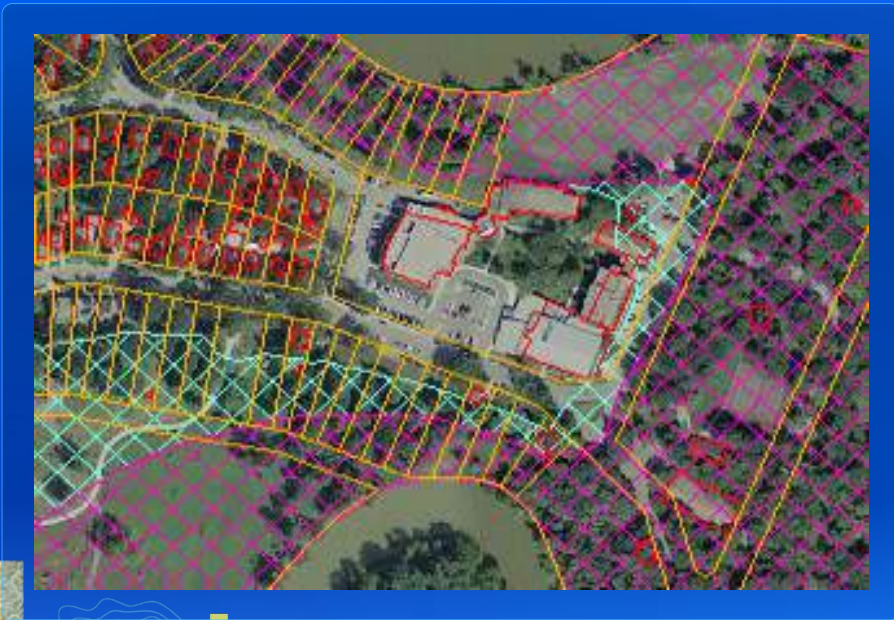
- USGS lead effort
- State-based
- ArcGIS Server technology
- Hosted in Denver
- Extended functionality

Source: <https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>



July 2018





# StreamStats

Demo

<https://streamstats.usgs.gov/ss/>

# StreamStats Demo

## Report

Enter a report title and/or comments here that will display on the printed

Enter report title:

StreamStats Report

Enter comments:

Some comments here

## StreamStats Report

Region ID:

Workspace ID:

Clicked Point (Latitude, Longitude):

Time:

ID

ID20190707003520844000

45.47590, -115.37571

2019-07-06 17:32:22 -0700



### Basin Characteristics

Parameter Code

Parameter Description

DRNAREA

Area that drains to a point on a stream

PRECPRIS10

Basin average mean annual precipitation for 1981 to 2010 from PRISM

### Peak-Flow Statistics Parameters

Parameter Code

Parameter Name

Value

Units

DRNAREA

Drainage Area

0.92

square miles

PRECPRIS10

Mean Annual Precip PRISM 1981 2010

25.4

inches

### Peak-Flow Statistics Disclaimers

One or more of the parameters is outside the suggested range. Estimates were extrapolated w

### Peak-Flow Statistics Parameters

| Parameter Code | Parameter Name                     | Value | Units        | Min Limit | Max Limit |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| DRNAREA        | Drainage Area                      | 0.92  | square miles | 8.63      | 1040      |
| PRECPRIS10     | Mean Annual Precip PRISM 1981 2010 | 25.4  | inches       | 30.6      | 49.7      |

### Peak-Flow Statistics Disclaimers

One or more of the parameters is outside the suggested range. Estimates were extrapolated with unknown errors

### Peak-Flow Statistics Flow Report

| Statistic            | Value | Unit               |
|----------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 1.25 Year Peak Flood | 2.85  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 1.5 Year Peak Flood  | 3.42  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 2 Year Peak Flood    | 4.18  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 2.33 Year Peak Flood | 4.5   | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 5 Year Peak Flood    | 6.26  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 10 Year Peak Flood   | 7.61  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 25 Year Peak Flood   | 9.75  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 50 Year Peak Flood   | 11.1  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 100 Year Peak Flood  | 12.7  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 200 Year Peak Flood  | 14    | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |
| 500 Year Peak Flood  | 16.4  | ft <sup>3</sup> /s |

### Peak-Flow Statistics Citations

Wood, M.S., Fosness, R.L., Skinner, K.D., and Veilleux, A.G., 2016, Estimating peak-flow frequency statistics for selected gaged and ungaged sites in naturally flowing streams and rivers in Idaho: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2016-5083, 56 p.

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Application Version: 4.3.8

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# Hydraulics: Floodplain Delineation





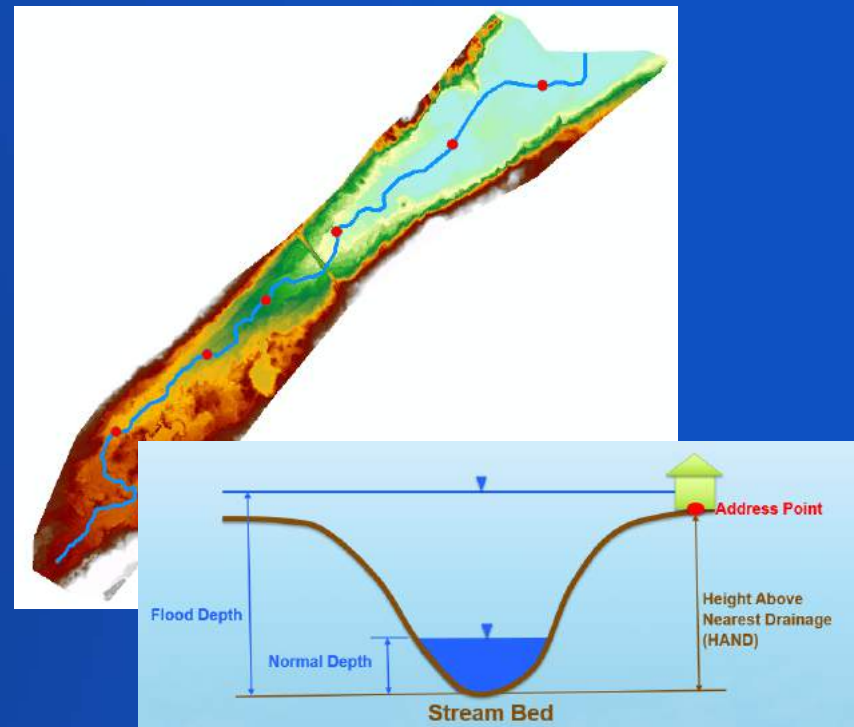
# Pin2Flood

Demo

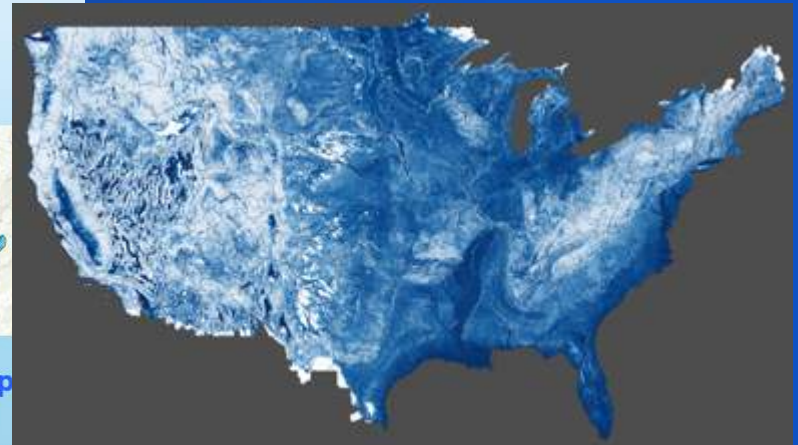
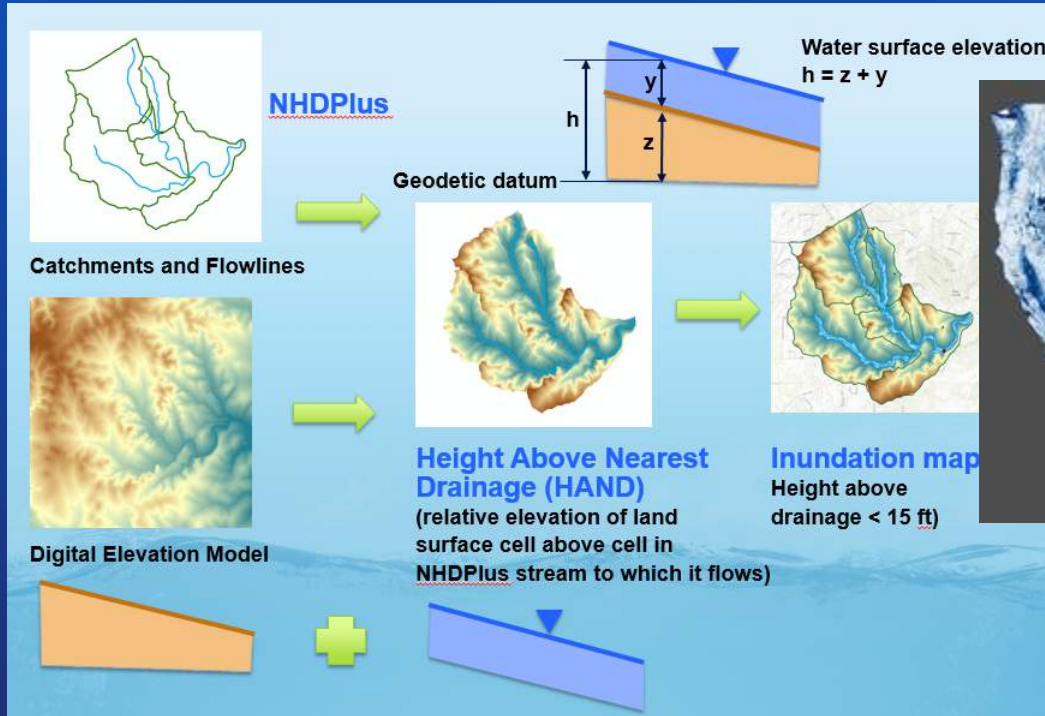


# Floodplain Delineation Solutions Matrix

- Different levels of complexity are possible/needed to determine flood extents
- Simple:
  - “Flooding out” based on DEM, stream centerline, and point data (fixed depth, incremental depth, observed measurements, modeled flows at points and conversion to WSE)
  - HAND approach (constant depth of flooding per reach)



# Flood Inundation Mapping – NHDPlus-HAND Method



Source: Yan Liu, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Landscape characterization

- Streams

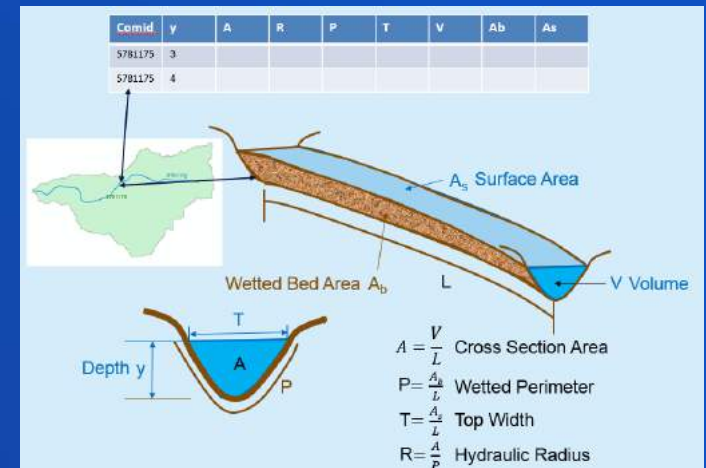
- DEM alignment and thalweg adjustment
- Longitudinal WSE interpolation based on point values

- Cross-sections/reach

- Characterization: h, A, B, P, R curve
- Synthetic rating curve (based on normal depth with n and S<sub>0</sub> assumption)
- WSE Interpolation

- Floodplain (for incremental or specific stages)

- Depth of flooding
- Water surface elevations
- Flood extent

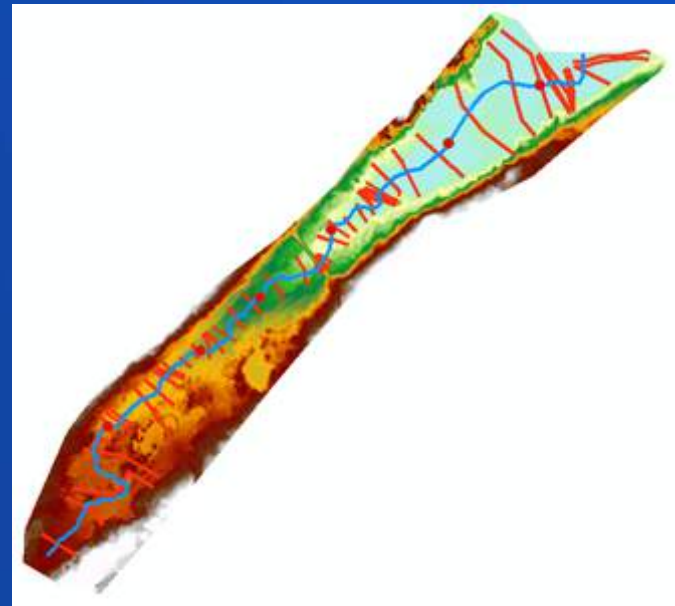


Source: David R. Maidment, UT Austin

| XID  | Z       | H     | A       | P      | R    | B      | Q       |
|------|---------|-------|---------|--------|------|--------|---------|
| 1451 | 1676.99 | 28.99 | 38655.6 | 1955.3 | 19.8 | 1932.3 | 55214.7 |
| 1451 | 1671.19 | 23.19 | 27689.7 | 1867   | 14.8 | 1850   | 39551.4 |
| 1451 | 1665.4  | 17.4  | 17209   | 1759   | 9.8  | 1746.6 | 24581   |
| 1451 | 1659.6  | 11.6  | 9212.7  | 1967.1 | 4.7  | 1957.4 | 13159.2 |
| 1451 | 1653.8  | 5.8   | 855.2   | 1075.3 | 0.8  | 996.4  | 1221.5  |
| 1452 | 1688.18 | 35.9  | 64511.6 | 2733.8 | 23.6 | 2710.2 | 85305.9 |
| 1452 | 1681    | 28.72 | 45492   | 2563.3 | 17.7 | 2542.4 | 60155.6 |
| 1452 | 1673.82 | 21.54 | 28000   | 2335.9 | 12   | 2315.7 | 37025.4 |
| 1452 | 1666.64 | 14.36 | 19863   | 2893.6 | 6.9  | 2873.7 | 26265.5 |
| 1452 | 1659.46 | 7.18  | 2891.5  | 2040.4 | 1.4  | 1877   | 3823.5  |

# Floodplain Delineation Solutions Matrix

- **Less simple:**
  - Same as above, but using cross-sections to control lateral distribution of water surface elevations along the stream centerline





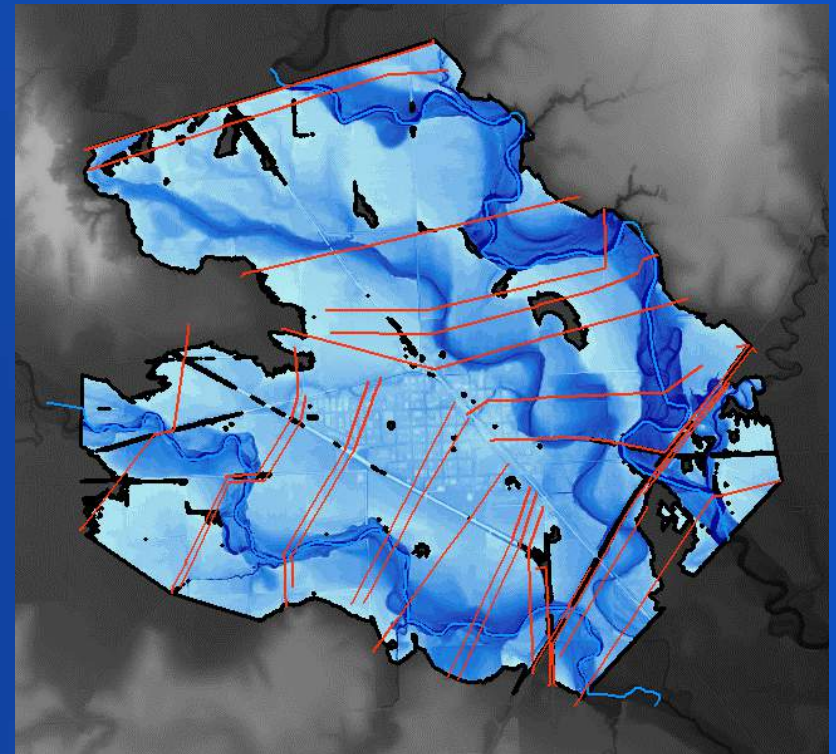
# Floodplain Delineation Solutions Matrix

- **More complex:**
  - 1-D hydraulic modeling in operational mode (complexity in data collection)
  - 1-D hydraulic modeling in design mode (for fixed flood frequency – design discharges derived using statistical methods)
  - 1-D hydraulic modeling in design mode (for fixed flood frequency – design discharges derived using deterministic methods)
- **Most complex:**
  - Fully integrated 2-D hydrologic and hydraulic modeling



# Simplified Floodplain Delineation Tools

- **Support for floodplain analysis**
  - Real-time (observed, forecasted flows)
  - Planning (flood frequency)
- **Facilitate landscape characterization for floodplain analysis**
  - Streams
  - Cross-sections
  - Floodplain
- **Floodplain delineation**
  - Points
  - Cross-sections
  - From models



# Tools

- Organized in several AH toolsets (most in “H & H Modeling” and “Utility”)
- ~ 35 tools

- [-] Arc Hydro Tools.tbx
  - [+] Arc Hydro Setup
  - [+] Attribute Tools
  - [+] GIS Data Exchange
  - [+] **H & H Modeling**
  - [+] Network Tools
  - [+] Point Characterization
  - [+] Terrain Morphology
  - [+] Terrain Preprocessing
  - [+] Terrain Preprocessing Workflows
  - [+] **Utility**
  - [+] Watershed Processing

- [-] **H & H Modeling**
  - [+] **Cross-Section Characterization**
  - [+] **Floodplain Delineation**
  - [+] GeolCPR
  - [+] Green and Ampt
  - [+] **Map to Map**
  - [+] Streamstats
  - [+] Time of Concentration
  - [+] Utility

- [-] **Utility**
  - [+] **Support**
    - [+] **Convert 3D Line to Raster**
    - [+] **Convert 3D Line to Raster Py**
    - [-] Create Thiessen Polygons
    - [-] Create Unit Patch By Near Neighbor Method
    - [-] Create Zone By Distance
    - [-] Create Zone By Distance From Raster
    - [+] **Download Time Series Data**
    - [-] Export Data Cart to XML
    - [-] Feature Class To Batch FC
    - [-] Generate Processing Units
    - [-] Intersect Areas
    - [+] **Point TSValue to 3D Line**
    - [-] Terrain Profile
    - [+] **Update TSValue on Points**
    - [-] Weighted Average

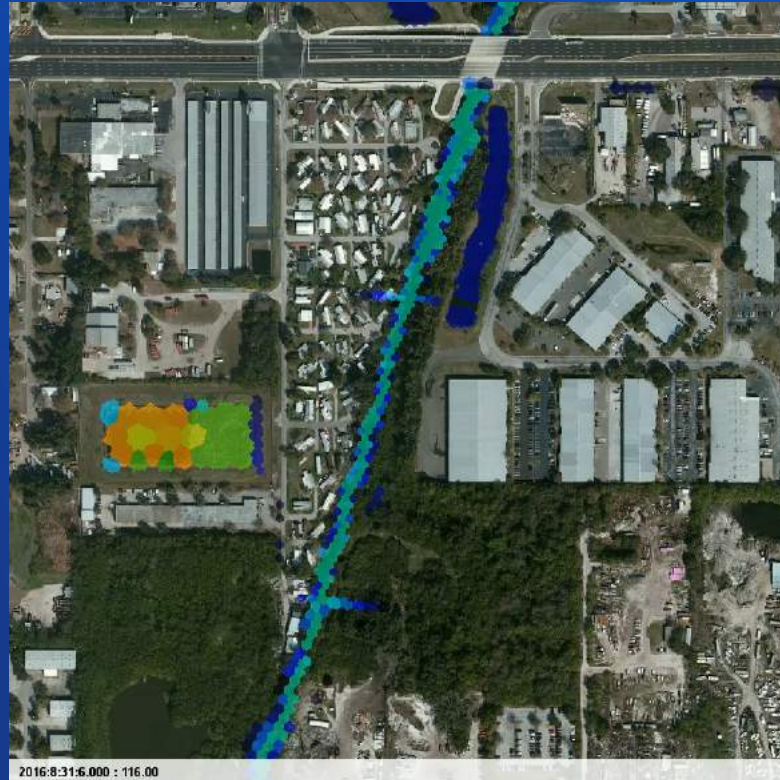
- [-] **Cross-Section Characterization**
  - [+] Assign Hydrology River Properties to Cross-section
  - [+] Assign River Slope to Cross-section
  - [+] Calculate 3D Cross-section Characteristics
  - [+] Calculate Manning's N for Cross-section
  - [+] Calculate Normal Depth
  - [+] Calculate Potential Q
  - [+] Define 3D Cross-section from 2D

- [-] **Floodplain Delineation**
  - [+] Calculate WSE for Selected Model
  - [+] Create 3D Stream WSE Line
  - [+] Create 3D WSE Stream Line Grid
  - [+] Derive BFE - no smoothing
  - [+] Derive BFE - with smoothing
  - [+] Derive Extended BFE - No Smoothing
  - [+] Find Intersect Points
  - [+] Flood from Cross-Section
  - [+] Flood from Stream WSE Py
  - [+] Interpolate WSE at Cross-Sections
  - [+] Merge Cross-Section Feature Classes
  - [+] Select WSE To Process

- [-] **Map to Map**
  - [+] Export to DSS
  - [+] Flood From Stream WSE
  - [+] GeoRAS to Flood
  - [+] HMS to GeoRAS
  - [+] Import from DSS
  - [+] Run HMS
  - [+] Run RAS
  - [+] SDF to XML
  - [+] Stream WSE From Point WSE Measurements
  - [+] Update RAS Flow



# Complex H&H Conditions



ICPR4 Model: Cross Bayou - Mariners Cove Area  
Flood Depth Animation: T.S. Hermine (Aug 31 – Sept 1, 2016)

# Summary

- GIS provides many capabilities for support of hydro analyses
- Integrated, multi-purpose database for storage of H&H and related data
- Consistent methodology for spatial data processing and analytical functionality, such as terrain processing, watershed delineation and characterization
- Pre- and post-processing for H&H models significantly reduces time for data preparation for modeling support
- Needs approach to GIS as an analytical technology.



# Summary

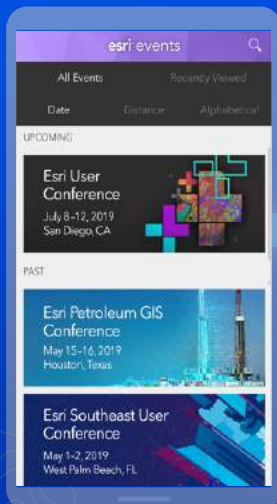


- **Easy evaluation of alternatives**
- **H&H model integration and automation**
  - Operational and change in conditions
- **Environment for integrated solution management:**
  - Emergency management
  - Design
  - Decision support
- **Leverage existing online templates for information augmentation and result publishing**
  - E.g. identify affected people in a floodplain and present the information through operations dashboard or story map

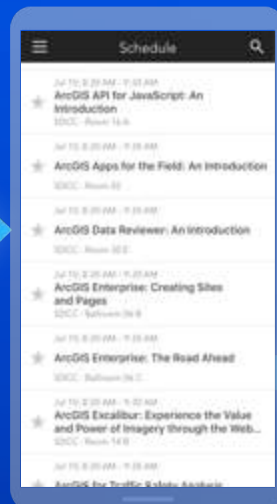


# Please Share Your Feedback in the App

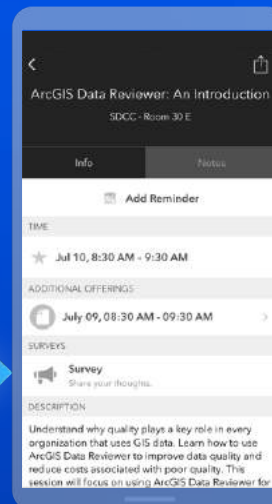
Download the Esri Events app and find your event



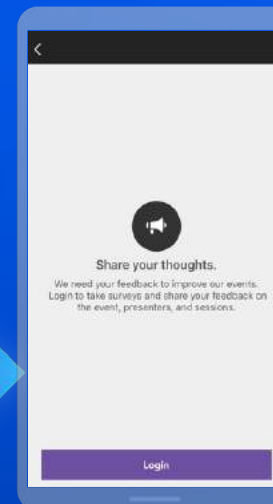
Select the session you attended



Scroll down to "Survey"



Log in to access the survey



Complete the survey and select "Submit"

