Extreme Rain Events and Flooding: Research, Modeling, and Response

Hazards_Caucus_Briefing_on_Extreme_Rain_and_Floods_Flyer.pdf

The Congressional Hazards Caucus and the Hazards Caucus Alliance invite you to a briefing on severe storms and flash floods that impact the U.S.

The briefing will discuss the science behind extreme rain events such as atmospheric rivers, and highlight the application of research, observation, and modeling to improve flood mitigation and response.

Atmospheric rivers are a key feature of the global water cycle that produce significant amounts of rain and snow, particularly on the West Coast, and contribute to both water supply and flood risks. Although atmospheric rivers can provide beneficial precipitation, some of the more powerful events can disrupt travel, induce mudslides and other hazards, and cause catastrophic damage to life and property.

Flash floods also pose a major threat to life and property, and usually occur as a result of torrential rain. These are a particularly dangerous type of flood because they combine the destructive power of flooding with incredible speed and unpredictability.

Speakers with expert knowledge in hydrology and disaster management will explain the importance of modeling and forecasting to help improve the resiliency of communities. The briefing will also highlight operational tools that engage emergency managers, businesses, government agencies, and others in preparing for heavy rain events and flooding aftermath.

Date: Wednesday, November 8, 2017

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Location: Cannon Room 121

Speakers:

Michael Dettinger, U.S. Geological Survey

Jonathan J. Gourley, NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory

Jeffrey Stern, Virginia Department of Emergency Management

Sponsored by:

Senator Lisa Murkowski

Senator Maria Cantwell

Representative Suzan DelBene