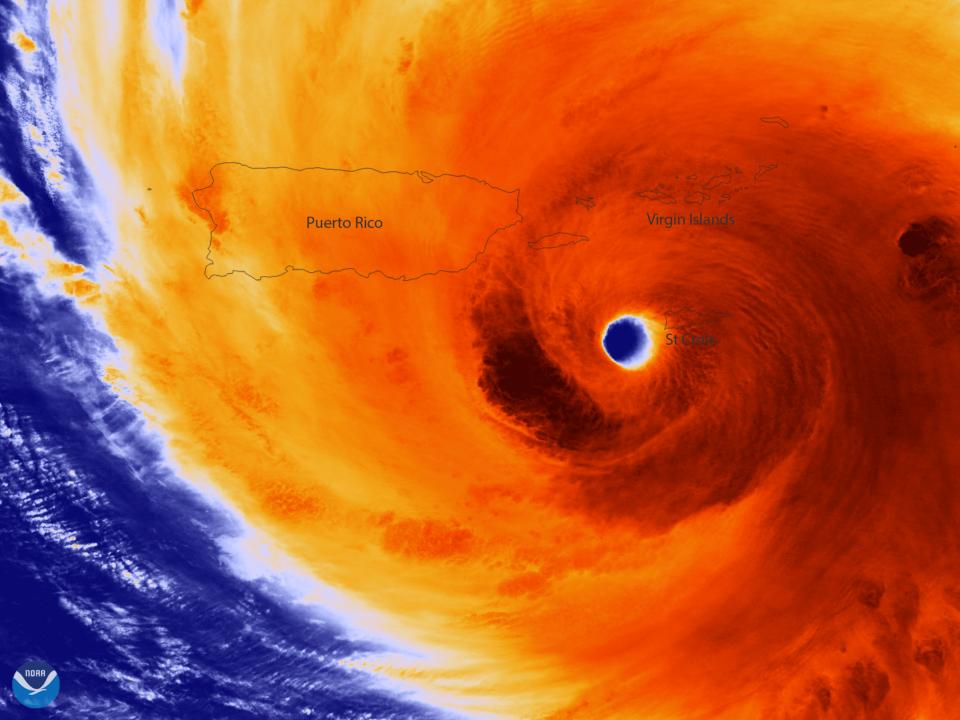
# SE CSC Science in the US Caribbean

Adam Terando, USGS – SECSC

Climate models, frog calls, and the path towards long-term adaptive species management

## With special thanks to: Jaime Collazo, NC Coop Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Jared Bowden, NCSU, Applied Ecology





Guajataca Dam, Quebradillas, PR. Source: The Atlantic



Utuado, PR. Source: NY Times



Corozal, PR. Source: The Atlantic



Yabucoa, PR. Source: The Atlantic



San Juan, PR. Source: The Atlantic



Toa Alta, PR. Source: The Atlantic



Toa Baja, PR. Source: The Atlantic



Naranjito, PR. Source: The Atlantic

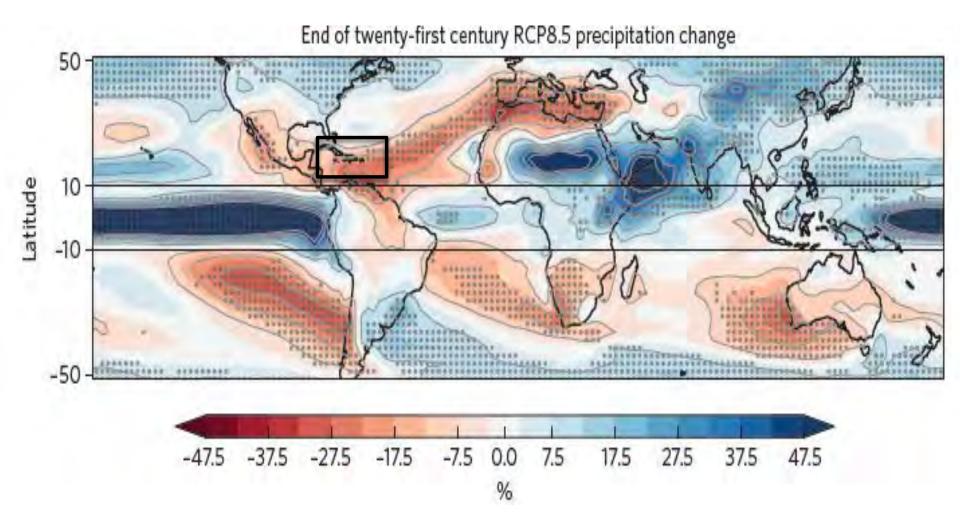
Puerto Rican Parrot (Amazona vittata)







## MOTIVATION



Chadwick, R. 2016. Sub-tropical drying explained. Nat. Clim. Change.



#### 25 species

- Endangered PR Crested Toad
- **17** Eleutherodactylus
  - 2 endangered
  - 14 at risk

## **Amphibians in Puerto Rico**





# How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?

#### El Yunque Rainforest

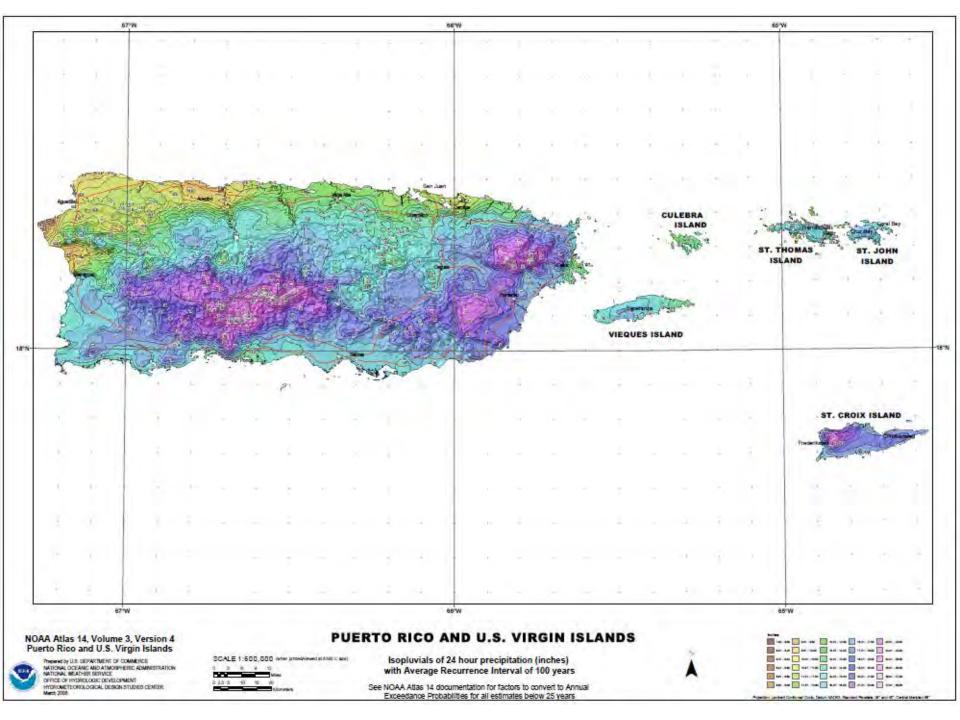
# How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?



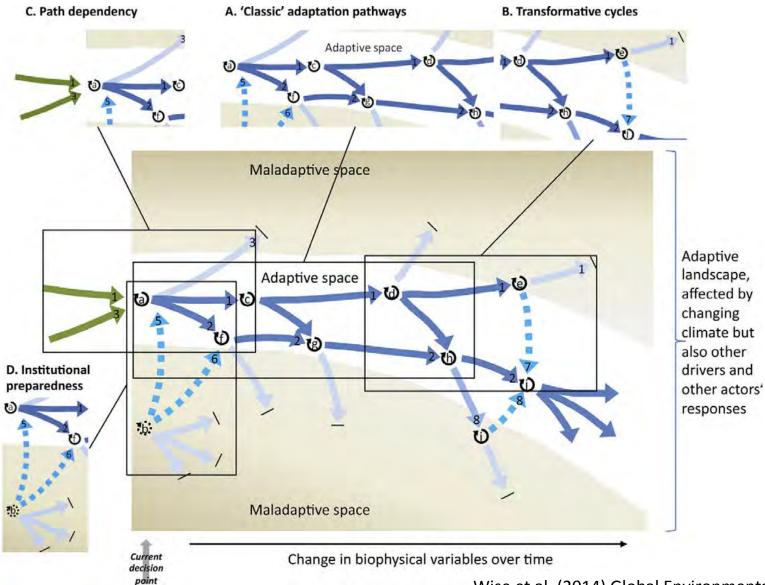
#### **Guánica Dry Forest**

# How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?

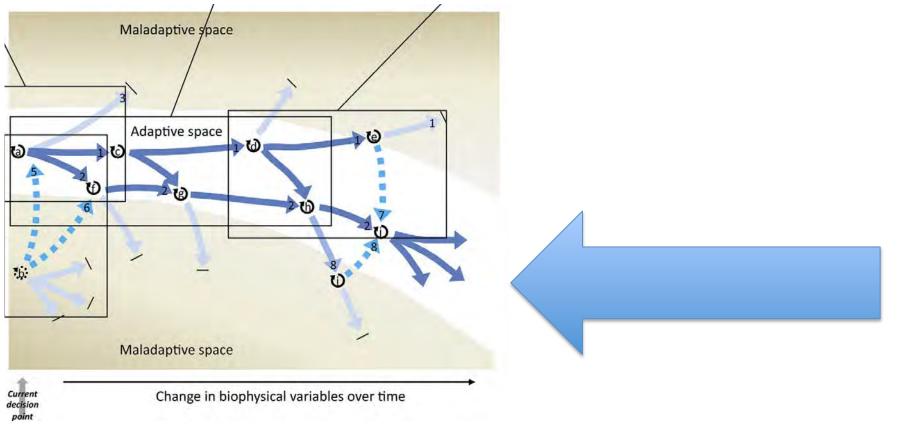




## **BROADER CONCEPTUALIZATION**



Wise et al. (2014) Global Environmental Change.



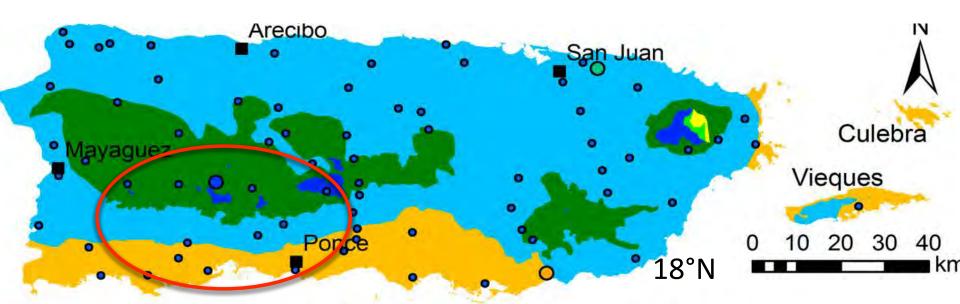
### How wide is this space? VULNERABILITY

#### What is it's trajectory?

FORCING

Ultimately, trying to evaluate candidate strategies for adaptive management

- Passive management in marginal habitats
- Translocate Populations
- Habitat acquisition



#### Life zones of Puerto Rico (Ewel and Whitmore 1973):

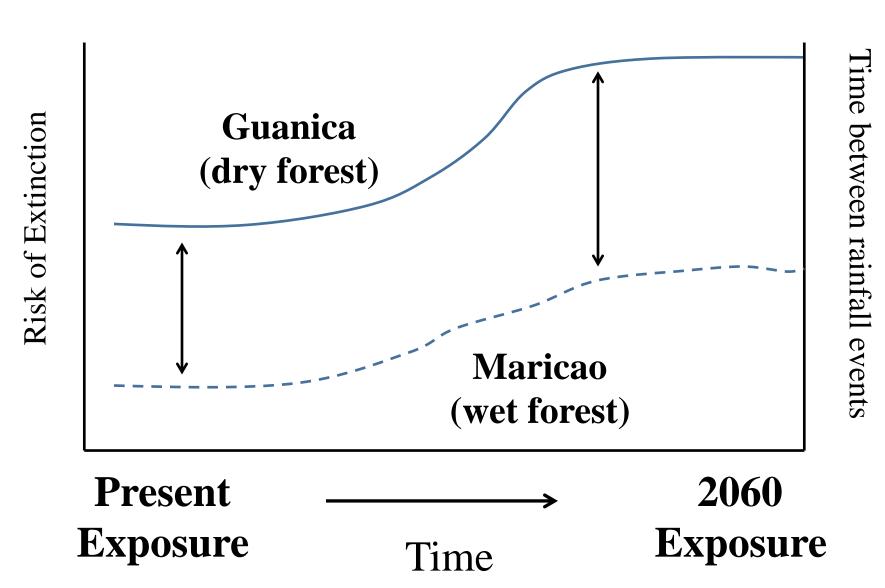


Lower montane rain forest Lower montane wet forest Subtropical dry forest

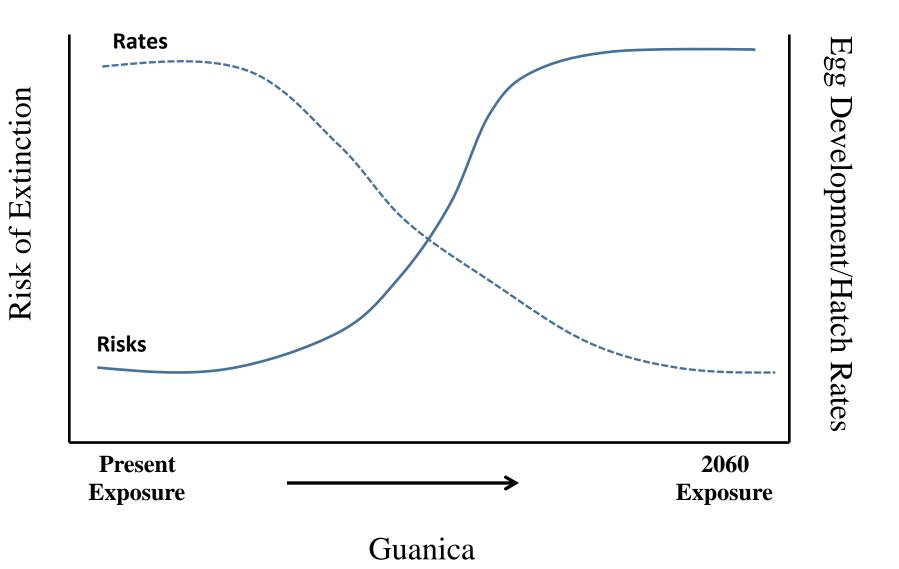
- Subtropical moist forest
   Subtropical rain forest
   Subtropical wet forest
- Major cities
- Central Mountains station
- South coast station
- San Juan station
- Other downscaled stations

Khalyani et al. (2016)

### **Exposure/Response Functions**



### **Exposure/Response Functions**



# Ground heat flux **Cloud-based height** April Rainfall > Soil moisture 9mm/day

Need information about the *climate-response function* of species and systems of interest.

#### Modeling Future Temperature and Precipitation for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Caribbean

CSCs -

#### **Project Summary**

While 21st century temperatures are projected to increase in Puerto Rico and the broader U.S. Caribbean (whose geography is contained within the Caribbean Landscape Conservation Cooperative, or CLCC), the low variability and already high annual average temperatures suggest that the largest climate-related impact on ecosystems and water resources is more likely to be through changes in the timing, pattern, and availability of moisture. The development of adaptation strategies that respond to anthropogenic climate change for the CLCC, and particularly for Puerto Rico, is currently hindered by the lack of local-scale climate scenarios that resolve the complex topographical and meso-scale

# CLIMATE MODELING

dynamically downscaled, nonhydrostatic climate model lobal tropics with a highly dynamic climate regime. The ranges of species' thermal/moisture optima. This been LCC.

Adam Terando (LS. Geological Survey) Start Date: 2013 End Date: 2016 Status: In Progress Science Topics(s):Education, Modeling and Tools Science Subtopics(s):Climate and Ecosystem Modeling Fiscal Year: 2013

#### Publications and Other

Final Project Memorandu PRDownscalingFinalMemo



About -

Climate Science Centers & National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center

Climate Change Implicati Khalyani et al. 2016; Journ

Journ

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Climate Change Implications for the Conservation of Amphibians in Tropical Environments

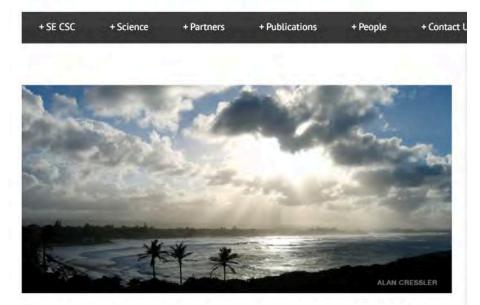
**Project Summary** 

# FIELD ECOLOGY

y birds and threatened and endangered species). The regions of the world because of the limited size of their pical environments will experience greater changes in that could impact the health of important natural ts. To help address this problem, the SE CSC project /ironmental Resources (PRDNER), University of Puerto ections to help advance the recovery and conservation of

amphibians in Puerto Rico. The USFWS and PRDNER seek to implement an adaptive conservation strategy to achieve recovery of three endangered frog species (of the genus Eleutherodactylus) and prevent federal listing of 14 other amphibians considered at risk. Implementation of the strategy requires identifying suitable habitat for the species at present and in the future, and ensuring the availability of field-tested protocols for locally supplementing, introducing, and translocating species as necessary. The main objectives of this project are: (1) to develop an understanding of the eco-physiological limits of these species and the influence of those limits on extinction rates in local patches (i.e., heterogeneous micro-habitats within an ecosystem), and (2) to assess their adaptive capacity (i.e. the ability of the amphibians to adapt to changing environmental conditions). This will inform implementation of the conservation strategy, which is partly constrained by the availability of conservation areas that meet required eco-physiological conditions. This research will contribute to a decision framework developed by NCSU scientists that can assist decision makers in determining when and where to implement conservation actions to maximize species persistence. The framework





#### Modeling Future Temperature and Precipitation for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Caribbean

Ryan Boyles and Adam Terando, USGS DOI Southeast Climate Science Center Jaime Collazo, USGS NC Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Jared Bowden, UNC Institute for the Environment William Gould, USDA Forest Service International Institute of Tropical Forestry Vasu Misra, Florida State University





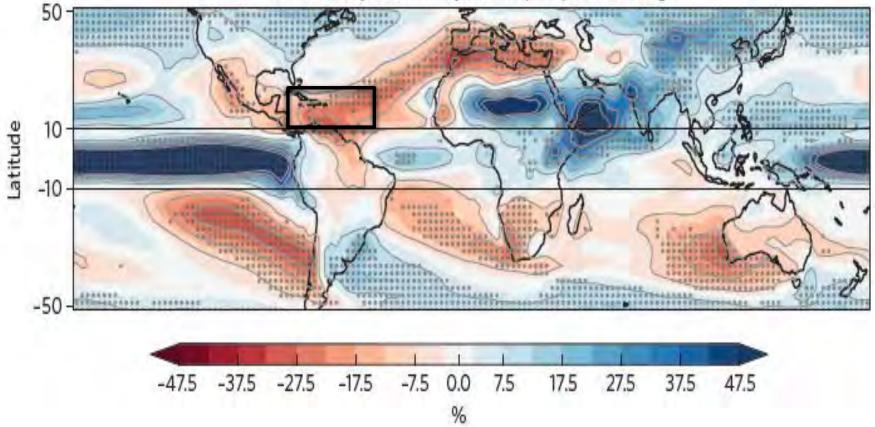
#### Climate Change Implications for the Conservation of Amphibians in Tropical Environments

Jaime Collazo, Department of Applied Ecology and USGS Coop Unit, NC State University

Total Planned Funding: \$140,000 Project Completion: August 2019 Implements Science Theme: 4 Co-PIs: Adam Terando, USGS Southeast Climate Science Center Krishna Pacifici, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, NC State University Jared Bowden, Institute of the Environment, UNC-Chapel Hill

## Expect Sub-tropical Drying in This Region

End of twenty-first century RCP8.5 precipitation change

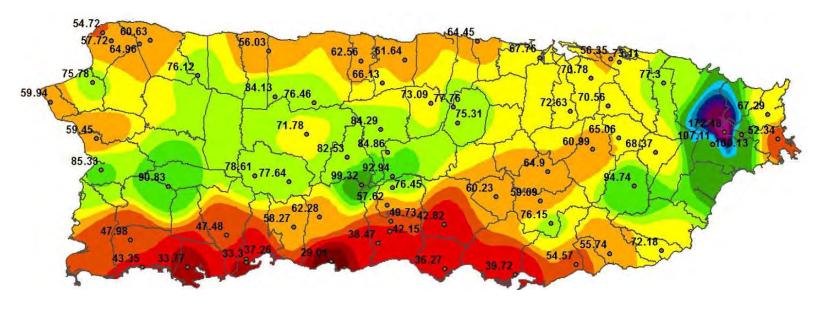


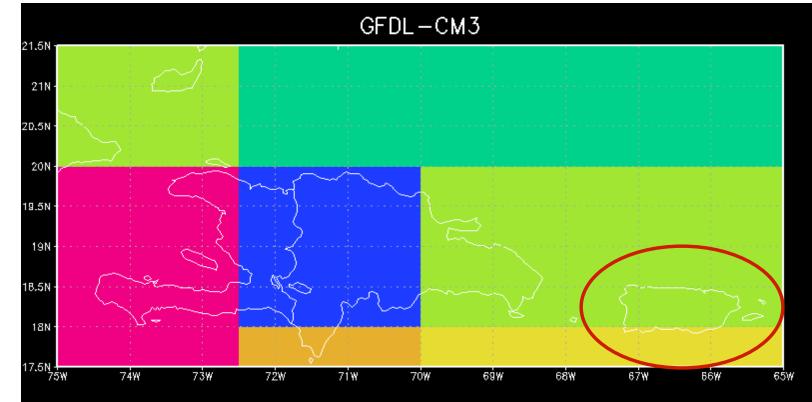
Chadwick, R. 2016. Sub-tropical drying explained. Nat. Clim. Change.



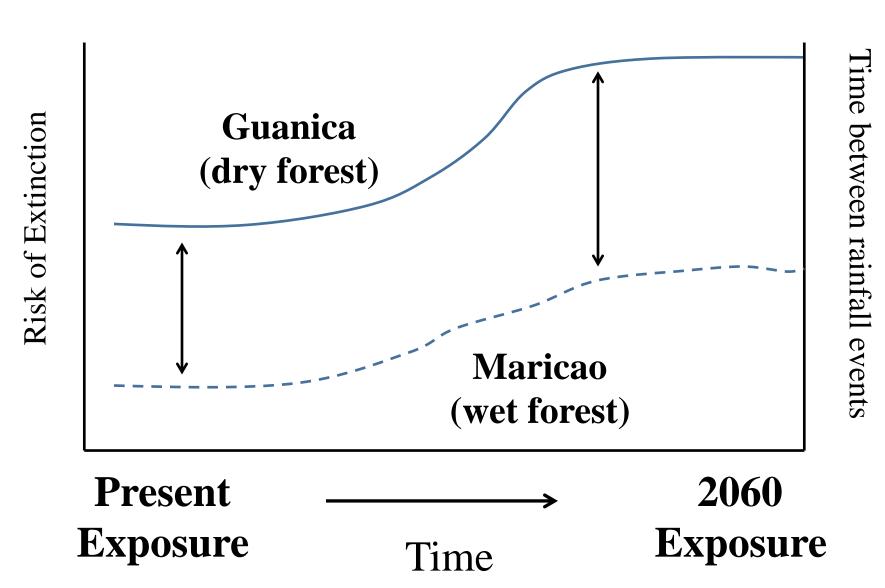
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO Image Landsat



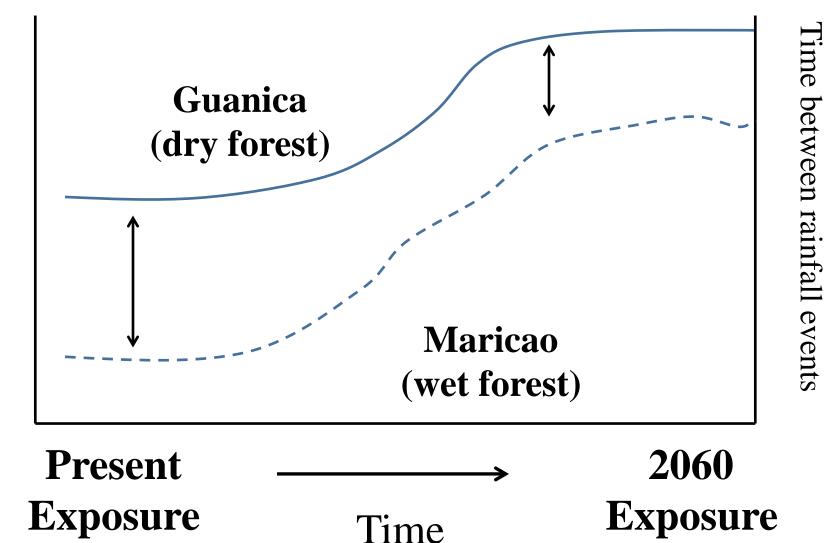


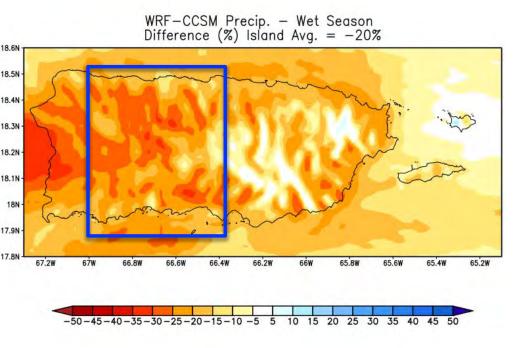


### **Exposure/Response Functions**



## **Insights from Downscaling**

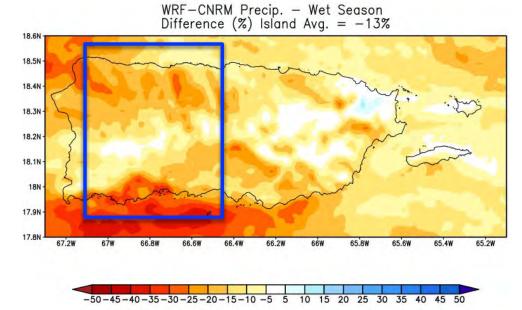


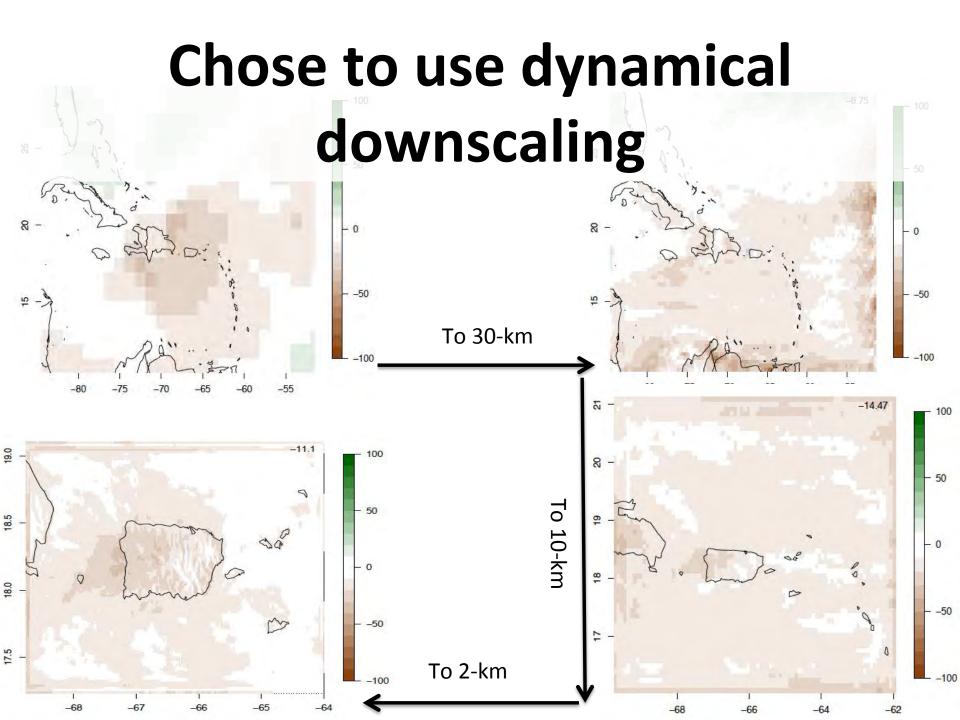


 Projections that reflect reality given constraints of GCMs and oceanic context.

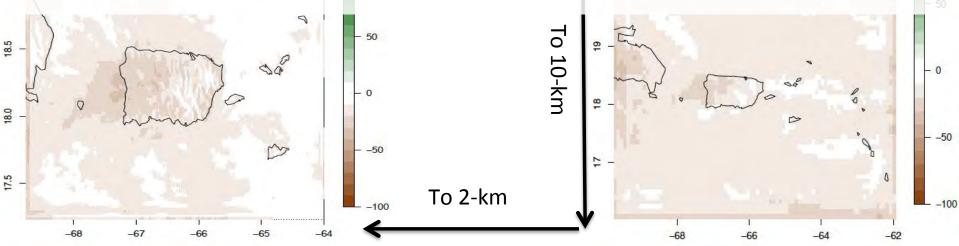
2) Simulate precipitation and other covariates response to the anthropogenic forcings across Puerto Rico.

\*\*Elicit expert knowledge
to select relevant climate
variables.

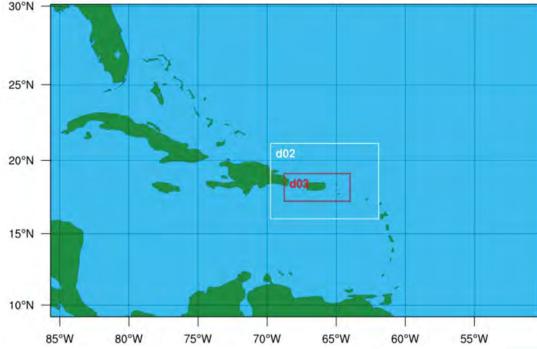




## OUR GOAL: 2-KM Horizontal Resolution With Hourly Output Using multiple RCM-GCM combinations

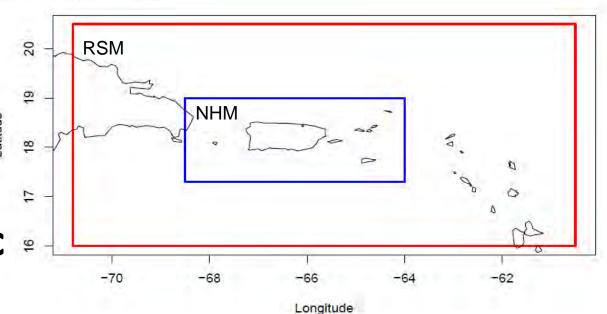


#### WRF Domain Configuration



## Weather Research and Forecasting Model (WRF)

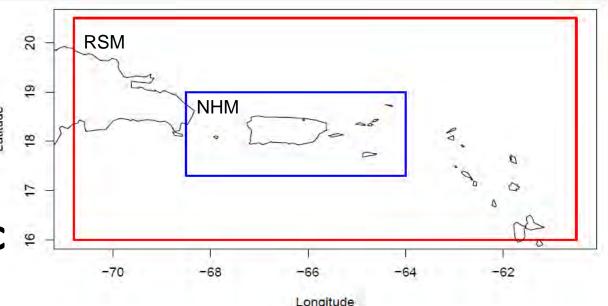
## Regional Spectral Model (RSM) and the Non-Hydrostatic Model (NHM)

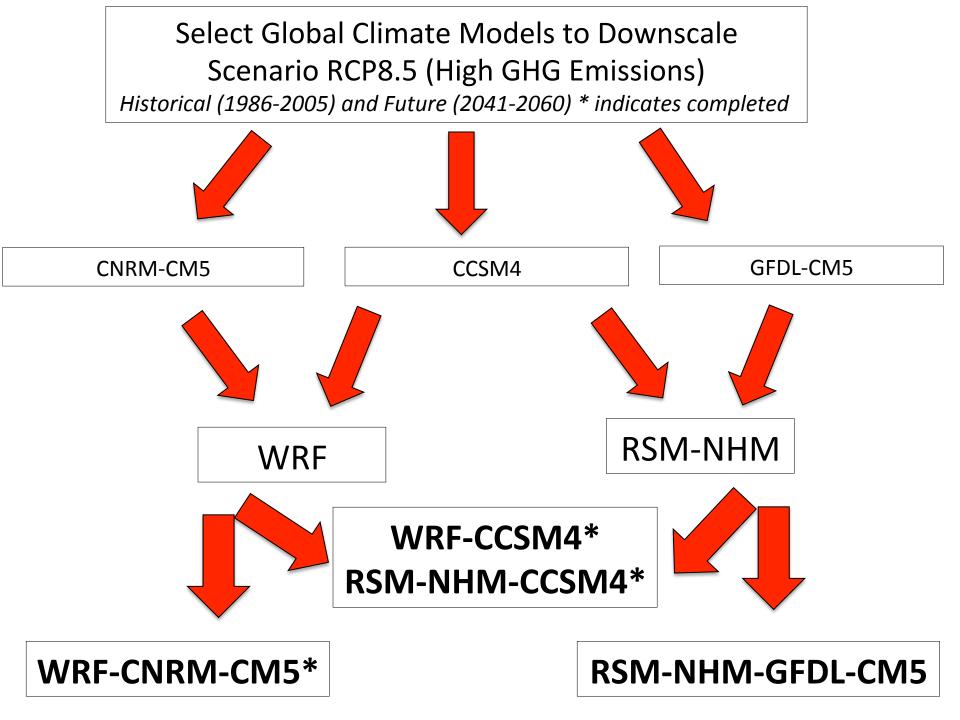


**NRF** Domain Configuration

## Collaboration with Vasu Misra at FSU

## Regional Spectral Model (RSM) and the Non-Hydrostatic Model (NHM)





## Experimental Design for Regional Climate Modeling

- THREE GCMs
  - CCSM4, CNRM5, GFDL-CM3
- TWO RCMs

– WRF, NHM-RSM

- TWO 20 year periods
  - 1986-2005 (past)
  - 2040-2060 (future)

– RCP 8.5 – high fossil fuel emissions scenario

## **Many More Physical Variables Available**

(and relationships between variables are maintained)

- Surface
  - Rainfall, Temperature, Humidity, winds, soil moisture/ temperature, runoff, evapotranspiration, pressure
- Above canopy
  - As above, plus others
  - Mixing height, vertical winds
- Radiation
  - Incoming, outgoing, diffuse, net, cloud fraction
- Diagnostic Variables
  - Height of cloud base,
  - Statistical : Heat Wave duration, extremes, percentiles, etc.

## **Many More Physical Variables Available**

#### • Surface

Time, Storage, and Processing

# Constraints => Cannot Retain All

## Radi Variables at All Time Steps

- Incoming, outgoing, diffuse, net, cloud fraction
- Diagnostic Variables
  - Height of cloud base,
  - Statistical : Heat Wave duration, extremes, percentiles, etc.

## 2-Day Stakeholder workshop hosted by CLCC in San Juan to refine climate model output

Ī

IDEA IS TO HAVE CLIMATE PROJECTIONS THAT ARE SPECIFIC TO THE DECISION, BUT ALSO RELEVANT TO OTHER SCIENTIFIC/ ECOLOGICAL QUESTIONS



# How could climate change affect shade coffee production?



## Providing public goods

## Follow-up workshop in August 2016 to discuss available modeling outputs



#### Providing public goods

# Rank climate variables based on *ecological significance*

Temperature	Variable	Кеер	Why	Temporal Scale	Notes
	Air temperature at pressure levels	yes	It might have effects on the canopy and sensitive species	Daily	if hourly, need more info on which levels
	Air temperature at 2m	yes	Rate of ecosystem processes, decomposition rates, tolerance of species, animal physiology, ET	Hourly	
	Ground temperature	yes	amphibians and reptiles, ground surfaces processes	Daily/hourly	
Moisture				Contract Street	1
	Relative humidity at pressure levels	yes	important for gas exchange for leaves	daily/hourly	
	Specific humidity at 2m	yes	for amphibians and reptiles	daily	
	Dewpoint Temperature	yes	use for calculation of RH	daily	28
	Canopy wetness	yes	live fuel moisture, plant disease, soil chemistry, thrufall, flooding modeling	hourly	same time step as precipitation
Precipitation			10		
	Convective precipitation	no			1 h h
521	Total precipitation	yes	many reasons	hourly	rainfall recommended at 15 minutes for exploration
Winds					
	Speed, direction at 10m	yes	ET, traffic patterns, fire risk, wind mills	hourly	needed at 2m, discussion regarding the air quality modeling if there really is need for hourly winds

Used this dialogue to help retain necessary climate model data

#### **Downscaled Climate Variables**

	Variable		
Temperature			
_	Air temperature at pressure levels		
	Air temperature at 2m		
	Ground temperature		
	Soil Temperature		
Moisture			
	Relative humidity at pressure levels		
	Specific humidity at 2m		
	Dewpoint Temperature		
	Canopy wetness		
Precipitation			
	Convective precipitation		
	Total precipitation		
	Soil Moisture		
Winds			
	Speed, direction at 10m		
	Speed, direction at pressure levels		
	Vertical velocity at pressure levels		

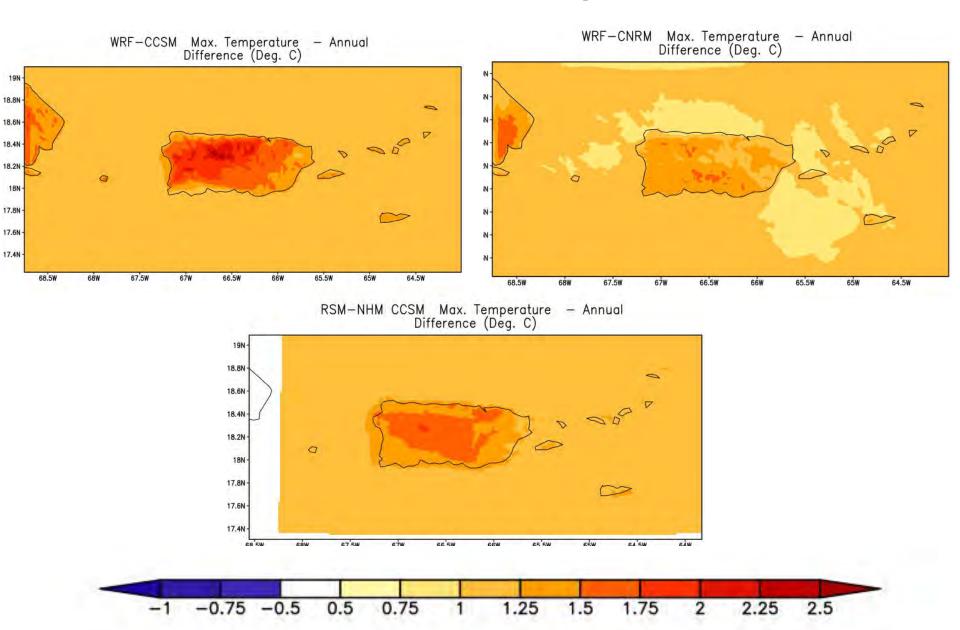
	Variable
Radiation	
	Solar radiation down
	Solar radiation up
	Terrestrial radiation down
	Terrestrial radiation up
Clouds	
	Bottom height (for low, medium, high clouds)
	Top height (for low, medium, high clouds)
	Cloud cover % (low, medium, high, total)
Pressure	
	Surface pressure
	Pressure tendency (i.e., time-derivative of pressure, indicates pressure rising or falling)
	Geopotential height (i.e., height of pressure levels)
Energy Fluxes	
	Sensible
	Latent
	Ground
	Potential evapotransporation

# Exceeded *1 million* CPU hours to accomplish the downscaling for just one of the regional climate models.

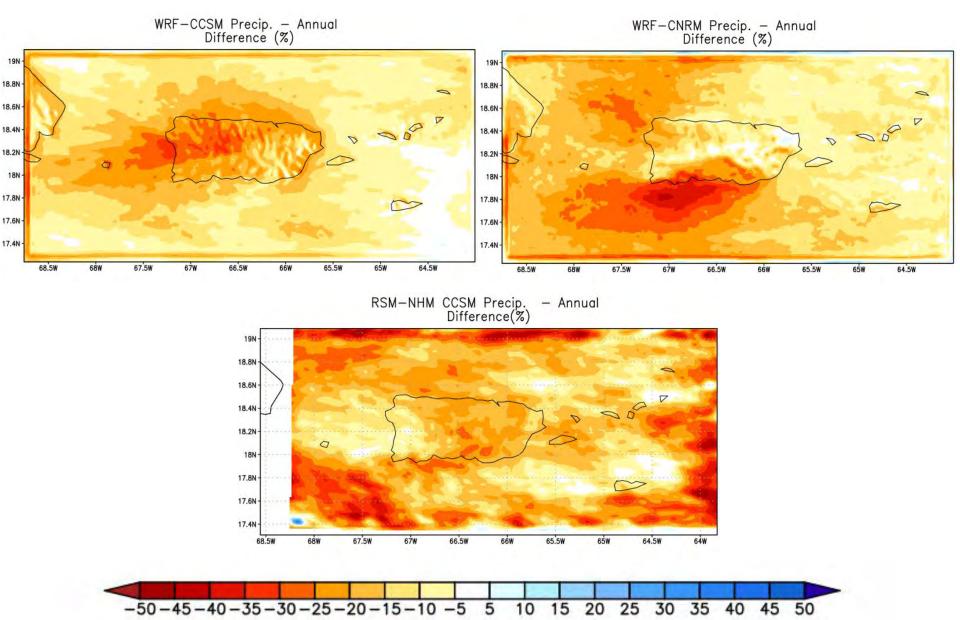


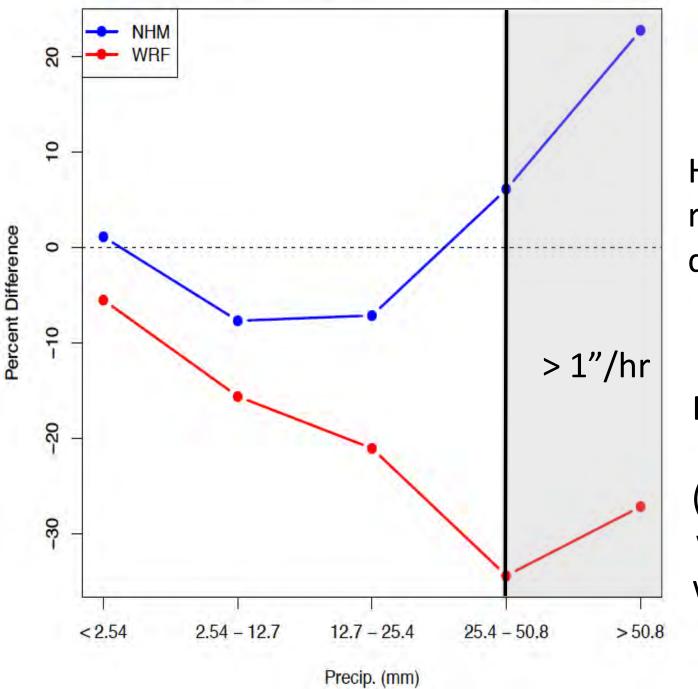
We reduced ~1 Petabyte of model output to < 20TB with the knowledge of climate variables to retain from prior workshop

#### Maximum 2-m Temperature Change annual average



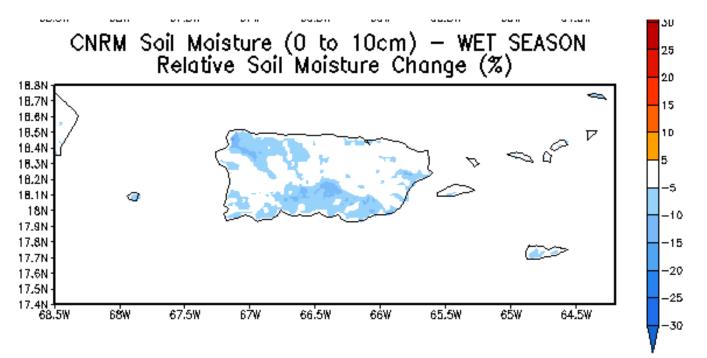
#### **Precipitation Change** percent change for the annual total





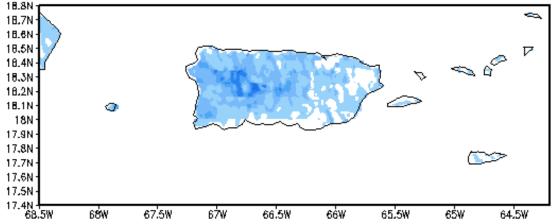
Hourly rainfall bin % difference

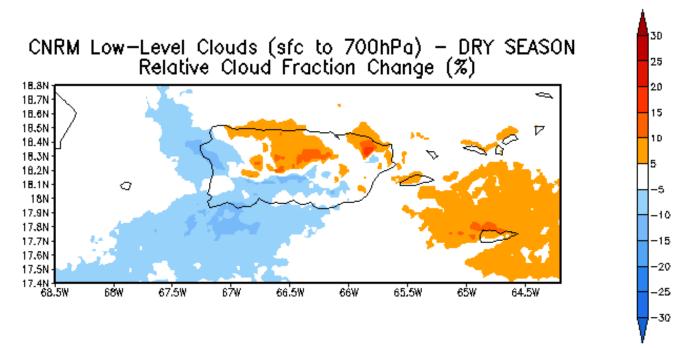
ECOREGION ANALYSIS (Subtropical wet forest wet season)



## Projected Changes Soil Moisture

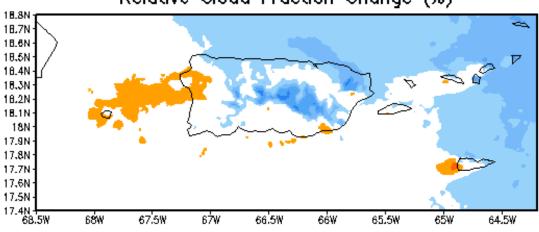
CCSM Soil Moisture (0 to 10cm) - WET SEASON Relative Soil Moisture Change (%)

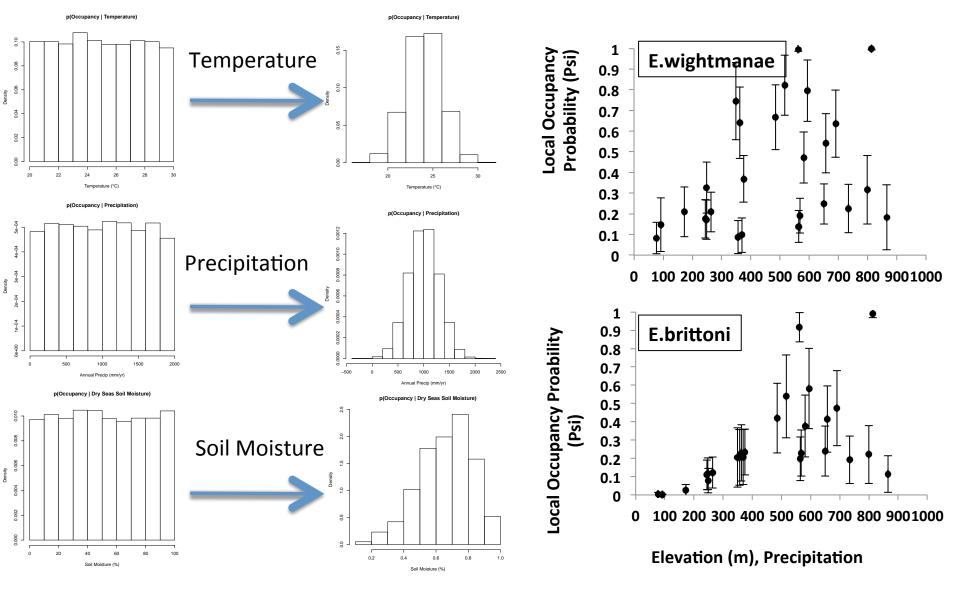




CCSM Low-Level Clouds (sfc to 700hPa) - DRY SEASON Relative Cloud Fraction Change (%)

## Low-level Cloud Fraction

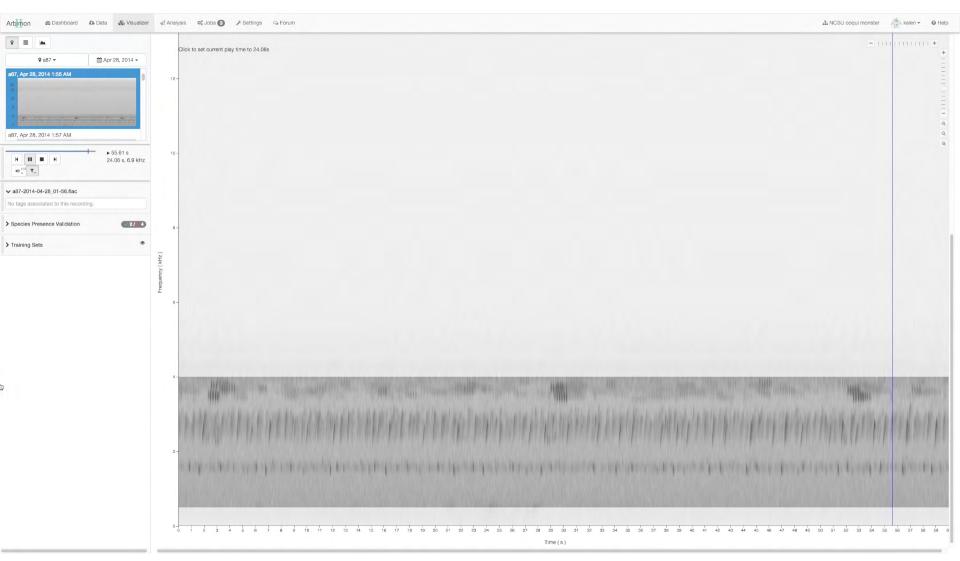




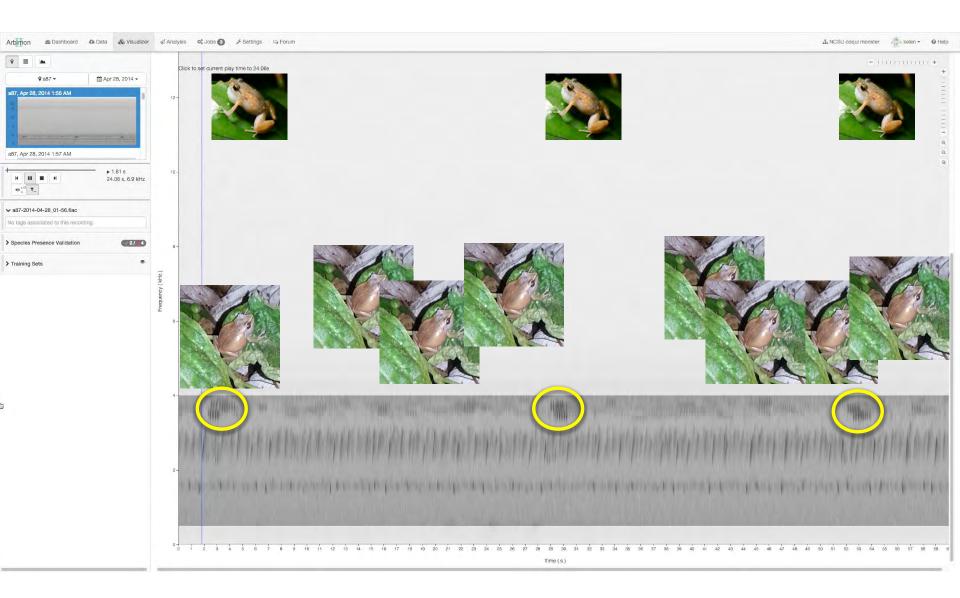
What are the environmental limits of these species?

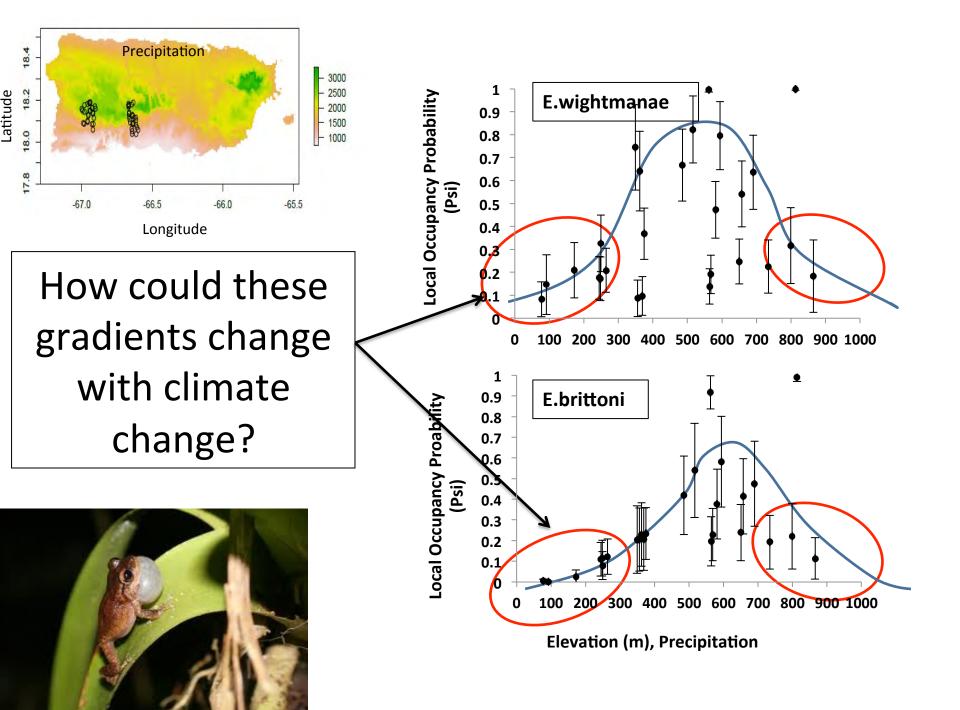


Use acoustic recorders to estimate occupancy of three species across environmental gradients

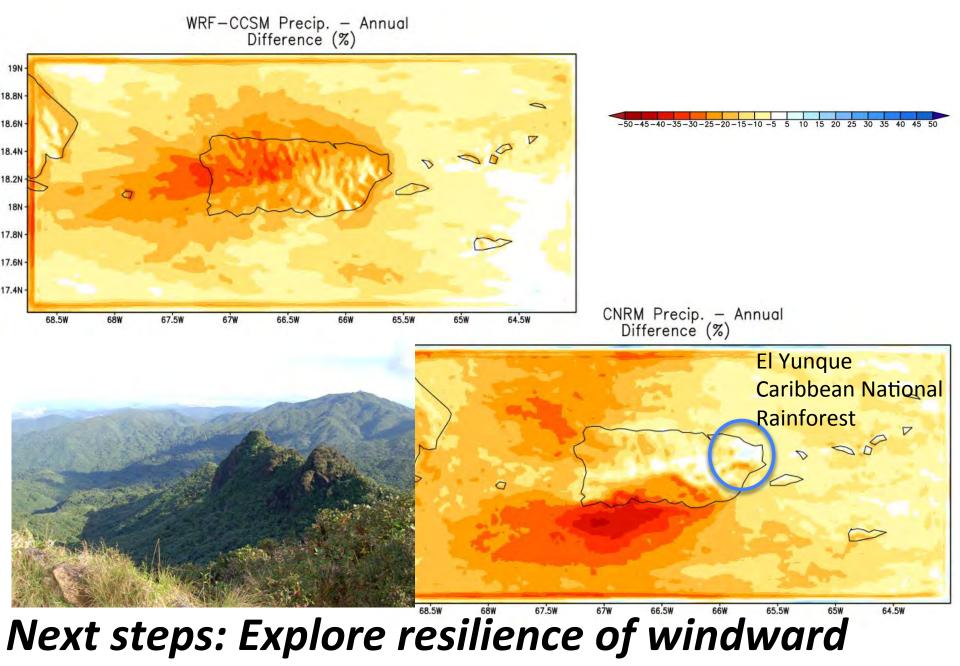


# Estimate occupancy based on recorded calls

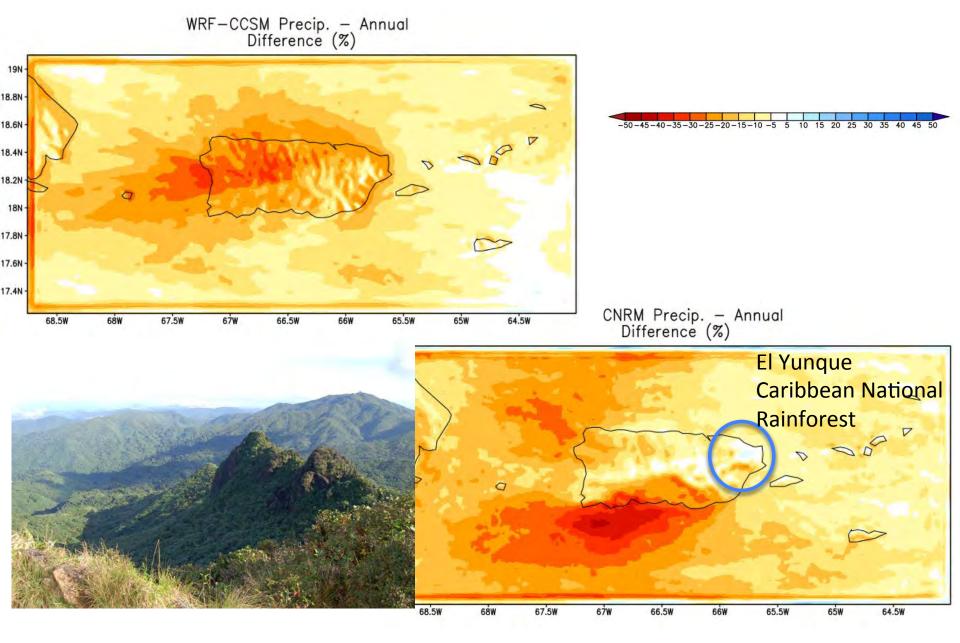




NEXT STEPS

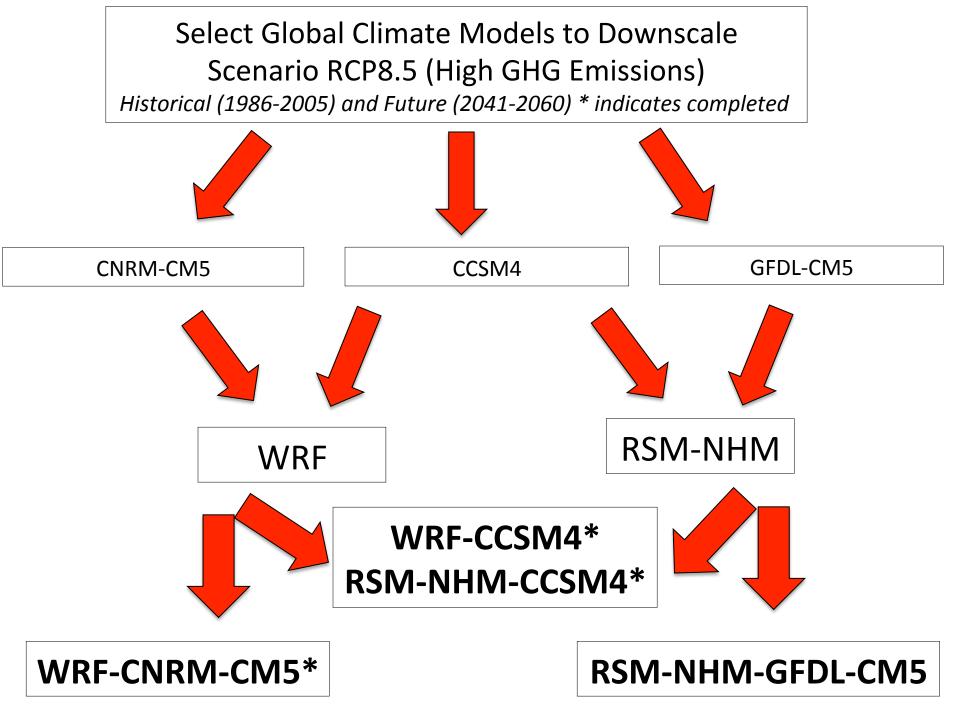


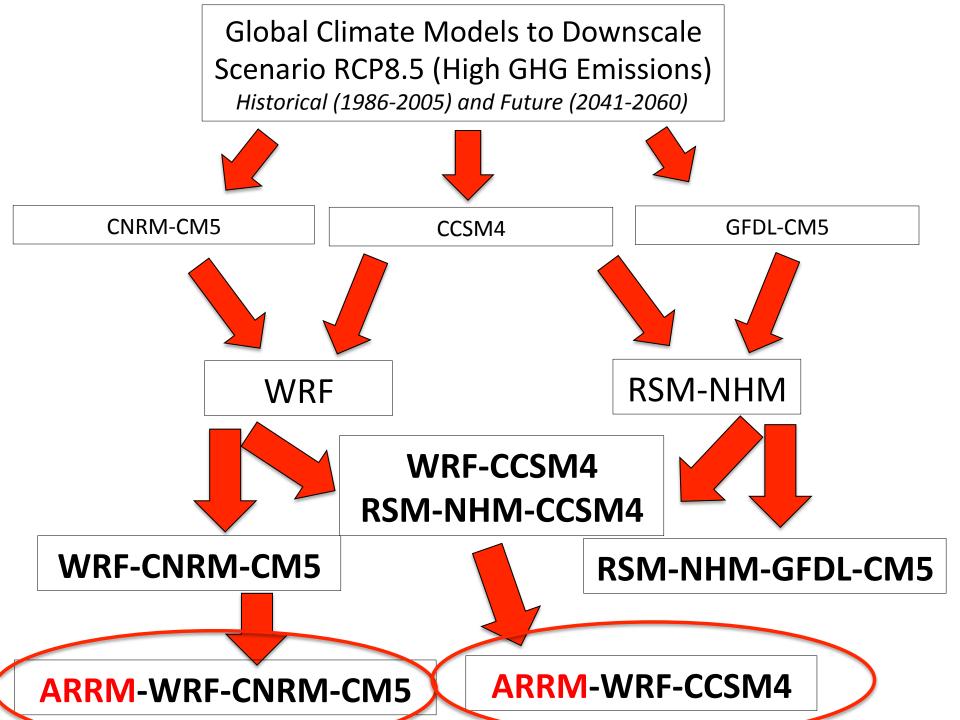
#### slopes

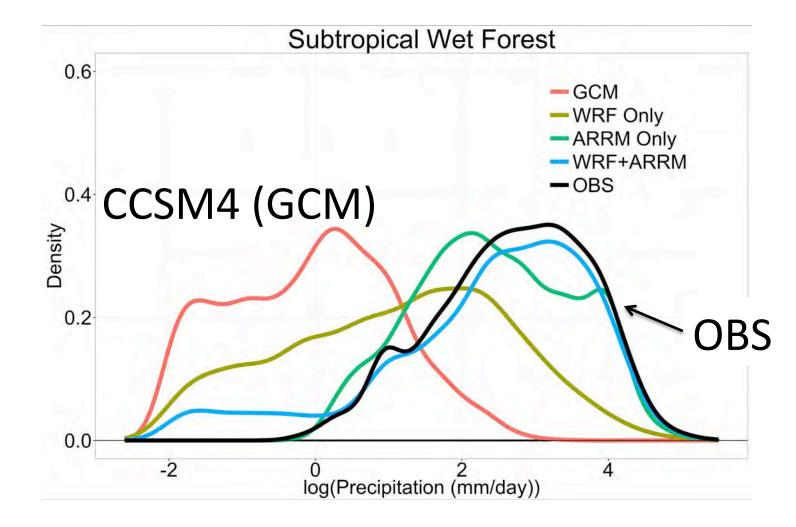


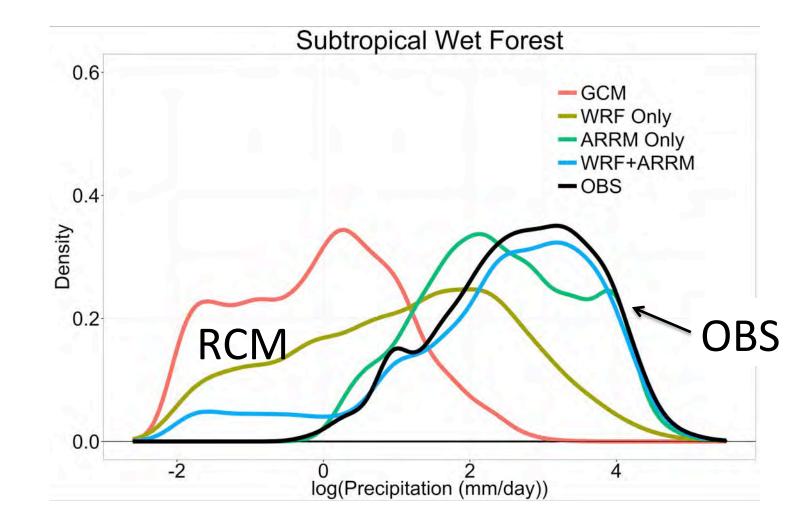
#### Potential to couple to WRF-Hydro Model

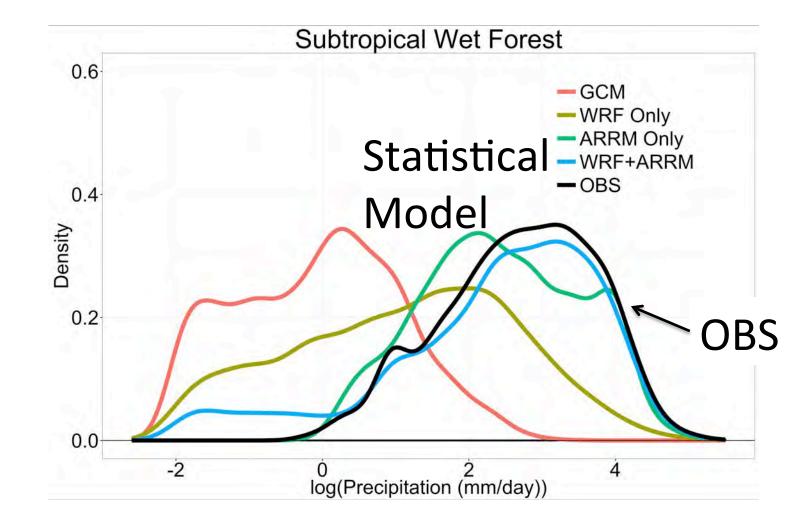
## Hybrid downscaling

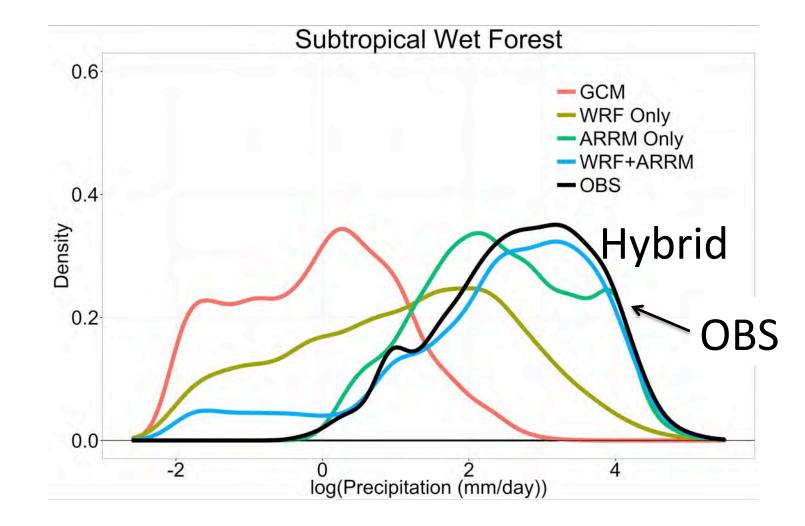
















Taking occupancy modeling a step further.

Is reproduction occurring at occupied sites? Are sites being occupied by a few individuals or by "many"? Plus genetic work to establish population structure.



Augment field work with terraria experiments to test ecophysiological limits (w/colleagues at Univ. Puerto Rico)



Web-based access to and processing of global change data to address climate and landscape change

## THANKS! QUESTIONS?