



# StEER

**STRUCTURAL**  
EXTREME EVENTS  
RECONNAISSANCE

## Accelerating the Disaster Data to Knowledge Life Cycle through Coordinated Reconnaissance: The StEER Perspective

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Auburn University



**StEER: Building Resilience through Reconnaissance**

# OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION



StEER approach to  
coordinated  
reconnaissance

Tracy  
Kijewski-Correa



Origins of approach

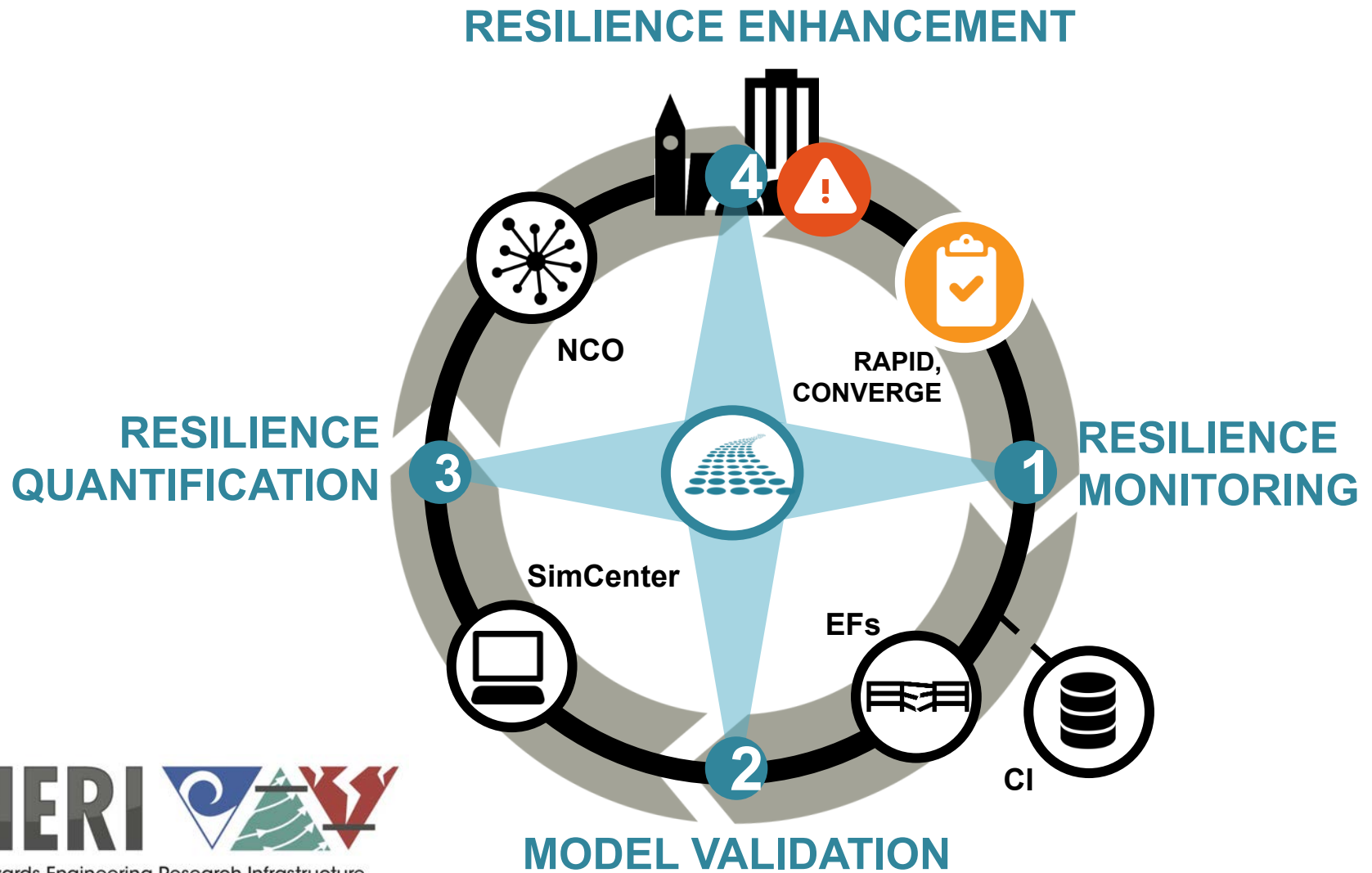
David O.  
Prevatt



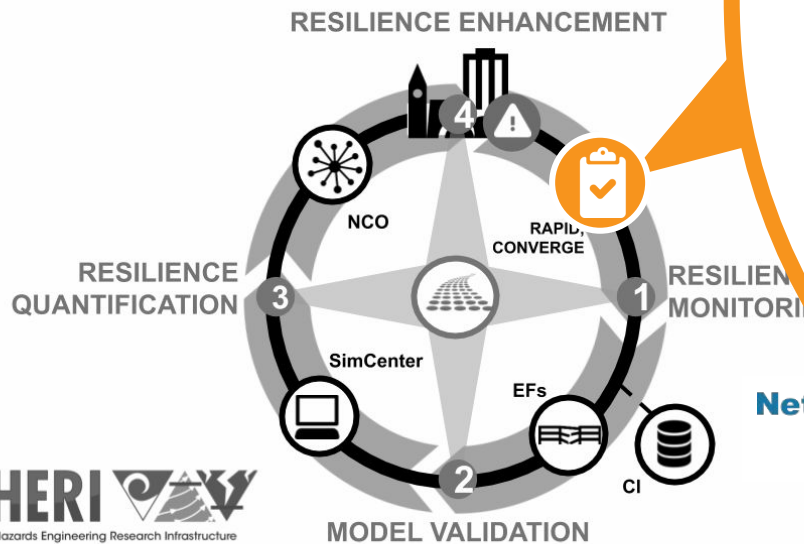
StEER data workflows

David  
Roueche

# DISASTER DATA-TO-KNOWLEDGE LIFE CYCLE



# DISASTER DATA-TO-KNOWLEDGE LIFE CYCLE



**Network Coordination Office (NCO)**



**DesignSafe Cyberinfrastructure**



**Natural Hazards Reconnaissance Facility**



**StEER: Building Resilience through Reconnaissance**

# VISION & MISSION



# StEER

**STRUCTURAL  
EXTREME EVENTS  
RECONNAISSANCE**

**VISION:** StEER builds societal resilience by generating new knowledge on the performance of the built environment through impactful post-disaster reconnaissance disseminated to affected communities.

**MISSION:** StEER deepens the structural natural hazards engineering (NHE) community's capacity for reliable post-event reconnaissance through:

## **CAPACITY**

promoting **community-driven standards**, best practices, and training for field reconnaissance

## **COORDINATION**

coordinating **early, efficient and impactful** event responses

## **COLLABORATION**

broadly engaging communities of **research, practice and policy** to accelerate learning from disasters



# OUR COMMUNITY & HAZARD PROFILE

## OUR COMMUNITY

StEER broadly serves any and all stakeholders invested in or affected by the performance of buildings and other infrastructure, including academia, public and private sectors, government, non-profit, and public-at-large.

## TARGETED HAZARDS

StEER focuses on natural hazards causing structural damage to the built environment, including:



Hurricanes



Tornadoes



Earthquakes



Storm Surge  
and Tsunami

## APPROACH

- Collect and curate high-quality perishable evidence of the damage to built environment
- Enables others to use data to conduct research, including RAPIDs

# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



Data Service  
Providers &  
Data Librarians



Roueche



External &  
Internal  
Governance



Kijewski-Correa

Earthquake  
Reconnaissance  
Community



Mosalam



Coastal  
Reconnaissance  
Community



Robertson



Wind  
Reconnaissance  
Community



Prevatt



StEER: Building Resilience through Reconnaissance

# StEER MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

<i>Formal training or experience as structural engineer or allied field of natural hazard engineering</i>		<i>Data or computer scientists</i>
<b>VAST: VIRTUAL ASSESSMENT STRUCTURAL TEAM</b>	<b>FAST: FIELD ASSESSMENT STRUCTURAL TEAM</b>	<b>DATA ENRICHMENT AND INTEGRATION WORKING GROUP</b>

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
No prior field experience or substantive participation on Virtual Assessment Structural Teams	No prior field experience, but substantive participation on Virtual Assessment Structural Teams	Some prior field experience	Significant prior field experience
VAST only	VAST FAST Trainee	VAST FAST member Working Groups	VAST FAST Lead Working Groups Steering Committee Host Regional Node



# RESPONSE LEVELS



Active monitoring by StEER leadership

Outreach by community

Communications through CONVERGE

Major hazard event with little potential to generate new knowledge

- No VAST or FAST
- **Event Briefing**

Major hazard event with potential to generate new knowledge

- Activate VAST
- **Preliminary Virtual Reconnaissance Report (PVRR)**

Major hazard event with ability to generate new knowledge

- Continue with VAST, Activate FAST
- **Early Access Reconnaissance Report (EARR)**
- **Curated dataset**

# StEER PRODUCTS & TYPICAL RESPONSE TIMELINE



~24 hrs  
Event Briefing  
Released\*



~2-3 days  
PVRR  
Released



~2 days post-FAST  
EARR  
Released



~30 days  
Dataset  
Curated



EVENT

VAST: Compile  
Preliminary Data

FAST: Deploys  
VAST: Rapid Screen Data

VAST+FAST:  
DE/QC & Data Curation

## VAST

1. Collect public information for **PVRR**
2. Author **EARR**

Data Librarians

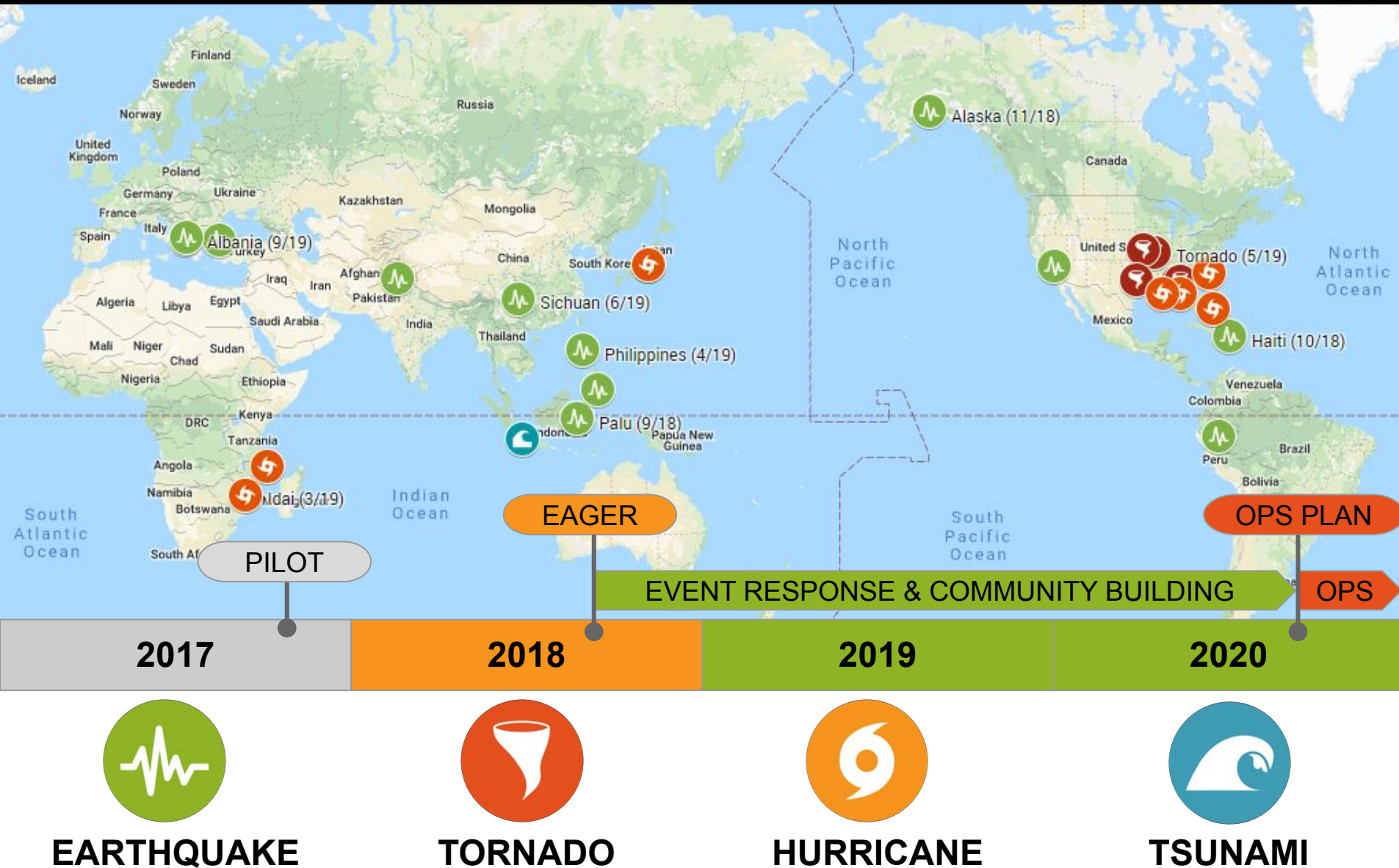
Lead **Data Enrichment and Quality Control (DE/QC)** process & author **Data Report**

## FAST

- Deploys for targeted sampling rapidly after event
- **Daily Summaries** inform the EARR
- Supports DE/QC process and report preparation



# CHRONOLOGY & GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



# BENEFITS OF STEER APPROACH

## EARLY.

Swift deployment with pre-approved funding

Centralized event coordination with targeted sampling strategies

Network of regional nodes with access points

Tiered membership and capacity building initiatives

## EFFICIENT.

Real-time collaboration and coordination, shared assets

Data standards, handbooks, templates, training resources

Streamlined data collection, reporting, curation workflows

Coordinated virtual reconnaissance support

## IMPACTFUL.

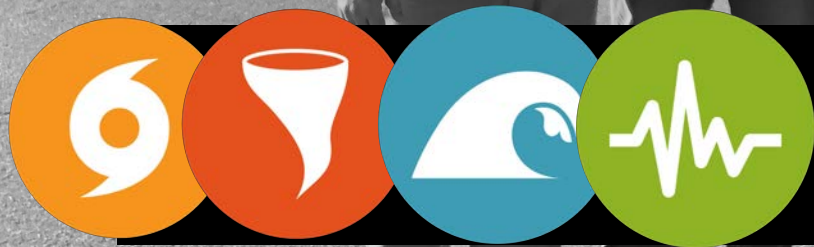
Real-time open data sharing in Fulcrum

Expansive datasets with rigorous quality control and data enrichment

Robust dissemination and long-term curation promoting re-use, collaboration

Consistency through community-wide standards





**ORIGINS**



**StEER: Building Resilience through Reconnaissance**

# My research mission - why study hurricanes?



Hurricane Andrew 1992 - Miami, FL

Hurricane Hugo 1989 - Montserrat and Charleston, SC

Hurricane Gilbert 1988 - Jamaica

- Profoundly affected housing stock of these communities
- The housing stock consists of non-engineered structures

# Tornadoes in 2011 - a similar problem



Tuscaloosa

5,144 homes damaged - 1,240 destroyed  
95% of damaged homes were single-family  
3 area Elementary Schools destroyed  
64 Fatalities, 1500+ injuries  
\$4 Billion in insured losses

Joplin

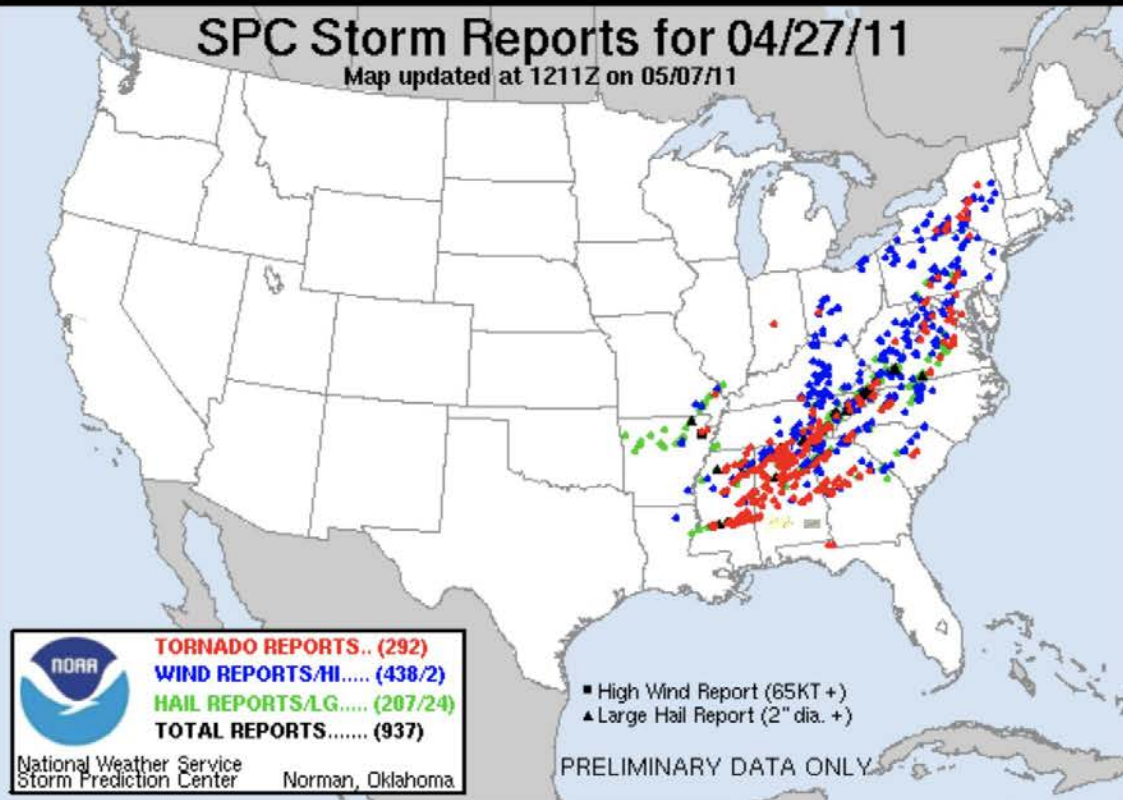
7000 homes damaged - 4700 destroyed  
95% of damaged homes were single-family  
Substantial damage to Joplin High School  
5 Other schools also impacted  
Significant damage to St. John's Regional Hospital  
159 Fatalities, 1150+ injuries  
\$3 Billion in insured losses



# Both tornadoes a part of larger storms systems

## SPC Storm Reports for 04/27/11

Map updated at 1211Z on 05/07/11



April 25-28

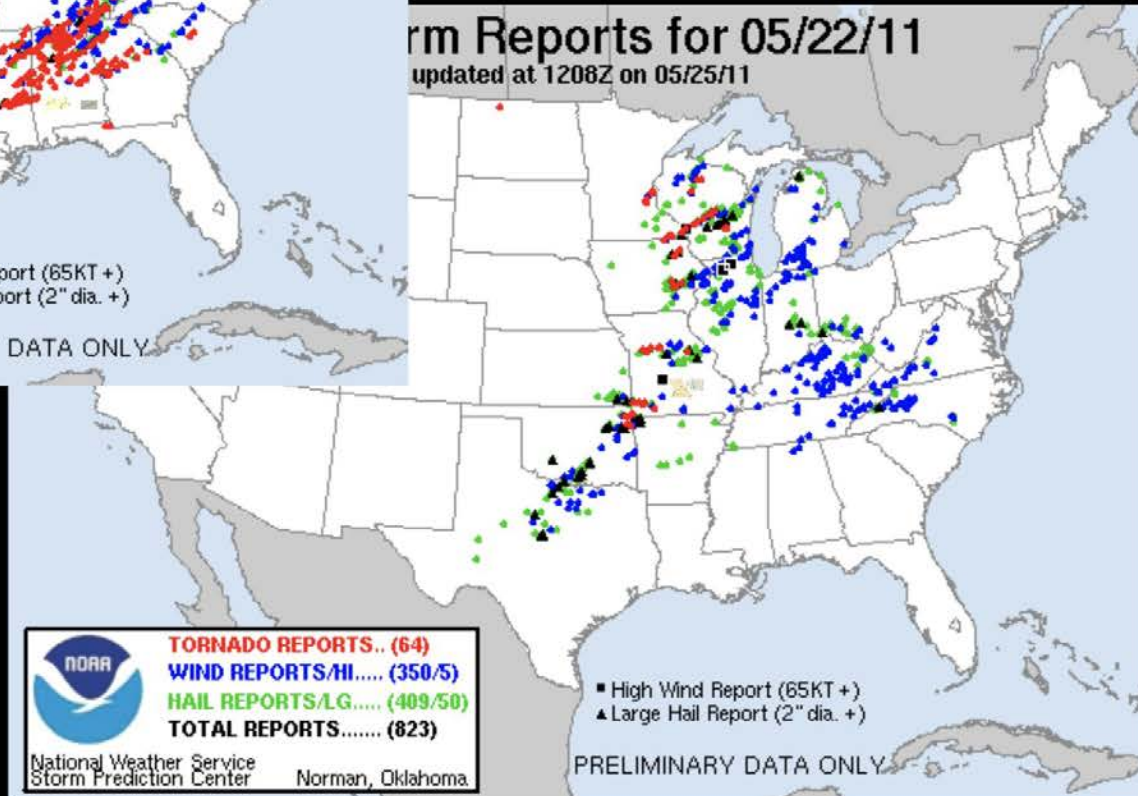
359 tornadoes confirmed

346 Fatalities

\$7 Billion in Damages

## Storm Reports for 05/22/11

Map updated at 1208Z on 05/25/11



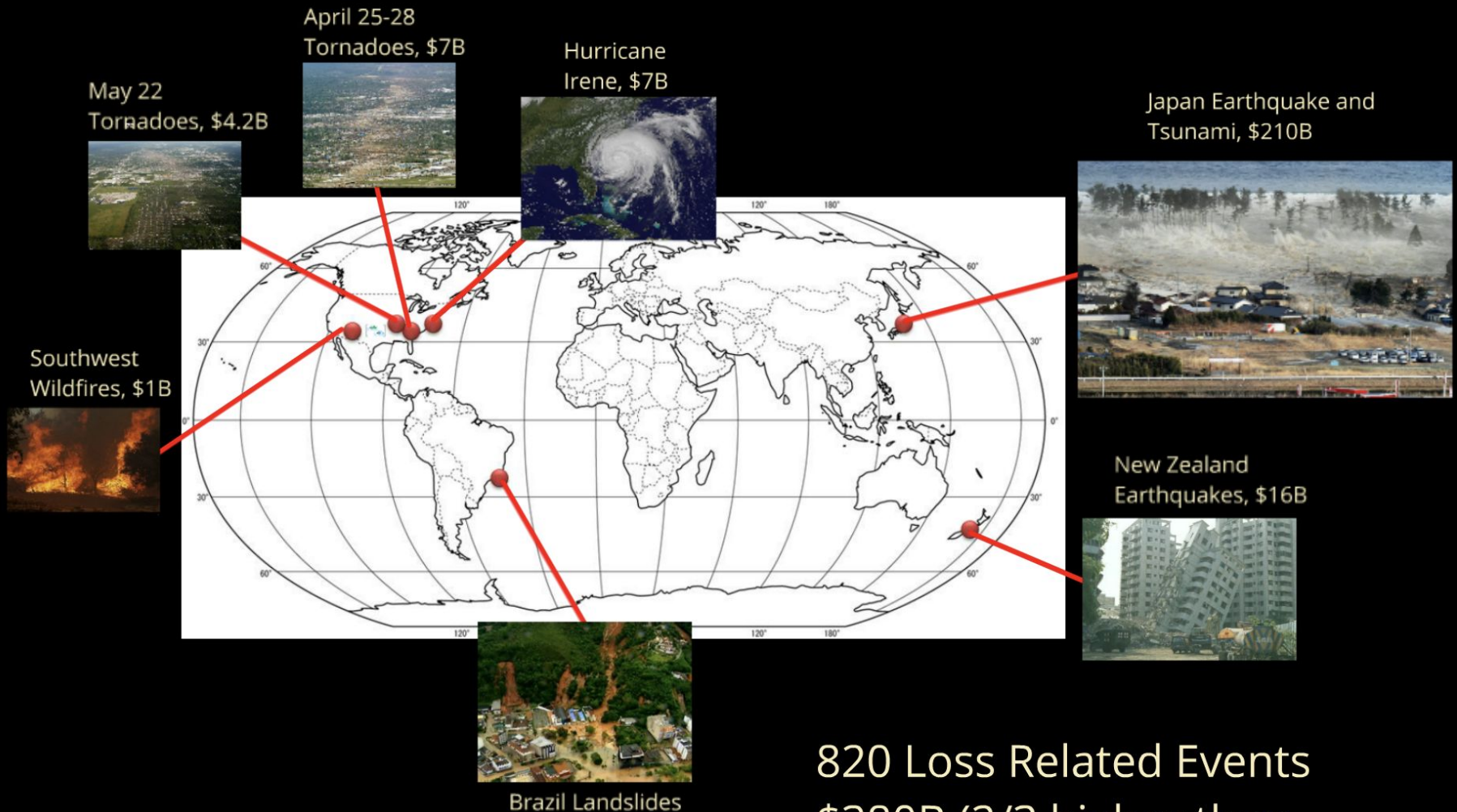
May 21-26

180 Tornadoes confirmed

186 Fatalities

\$4 Billion in Damages

# 2011 Natural Disasters



820 Loss Related Events  
\$380B (2/3 higher than  
previous record year, 2005)

Source: Re Munich

# A second mission - why study tornadoes?

## Tri-State Tornado of 1925

Deadliest US tornado with  
695 fatalities in MO, IL, IN

Extensive destruction of houses

## MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW

Editor, ALFRED J. HENRY

Assistant Editor, BURTON M. VARNEY

Vol. 53, No. 4  
W. B. No. 867

APRIL, 1925

Closed June 3, 1925  
Issued June, 1925

### THE TORNADOES OF MARCH 18, 1925<sup>1</sup>

By ALFRED J. HENRY

#### THE CYCLONIC STORM THAT GAVE RISE TO THE TORNADOES

The destructive tornado that swept eastward over parts of Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana, together with those of shorter path in Kentucky and Tennessee, on March 18, 1925, created a new record of destruction both of human life and property from these much-drilled storms. Seven separate and distinct tornadoes were observed on the date mentioned, the most destructive of which was the one starting near Annapolis, Mo., which moved in an almost straight line to the Mississippi River, crossing that stream into Jackson County, Ill. It laid waste a number of towns and villages as it crossed Illinois, continuing its devastating course into

The previous history of the cyclonic storm with which the tornadoes were associated is not illuminating; evidently the storm was an offshoot from a cyclone which occupied the northeast Pacific from March 13 to 18. This offshoot was first recognized on the p. m. chart of the 16th as a depression centered over western Montana. At that time and during the next 24 hours, this depression gave no evidence of anything out of the ordinary; on the morning of the 18th it was centered in northwestern Arkansas, as shown in Figure 1 (A). At this time, 7

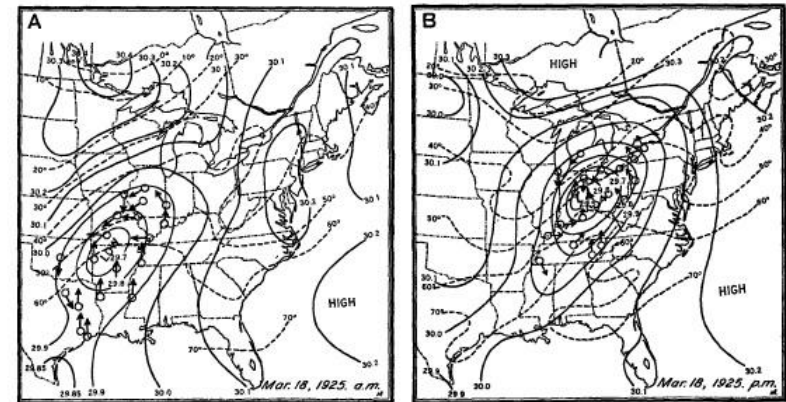


FIG. 1.—Weather maps for 8 a. m. and 8 p. m., March 18, 1925

Indiana and finally disappearing 3 miles southwest of Petersburg, Pike County, Ind.

Two Weather Bureau officials, William E. Barron, of the Cairo station, and Clarence J. Root, of the Springfield station, were at once directed to survey the path of the storm.

Grateful acknowledgment is here made for the matter I have drawn from the report of these two officials. Information as to the remaining tornadoes was drawn largely from the printed issues of "Climatological Data" for the States in which the storms occurred.

<sup>1</sup> Condensed from reports by the following field officials: J. H. Arrington, William E. Barron, James L. Kendall, Roscoe Nunn, George Roeder, Clarence J. Root, and Geo. B. Wertz, with discussion by the editor on the meteorological aspect of the phenomenon. Details of loss of life and damage to property were included in this Review for March, 1926, and may also be found in the publication "Climatological Data" for Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee for the same month.—Ed.

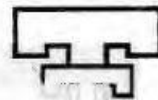


# THE LUBBOCK STORM

MAY 11, 1970



RESPONSE OF STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS  
TO THE LUBBOCK STORM



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

TA  
654.3  
.M44  
1971



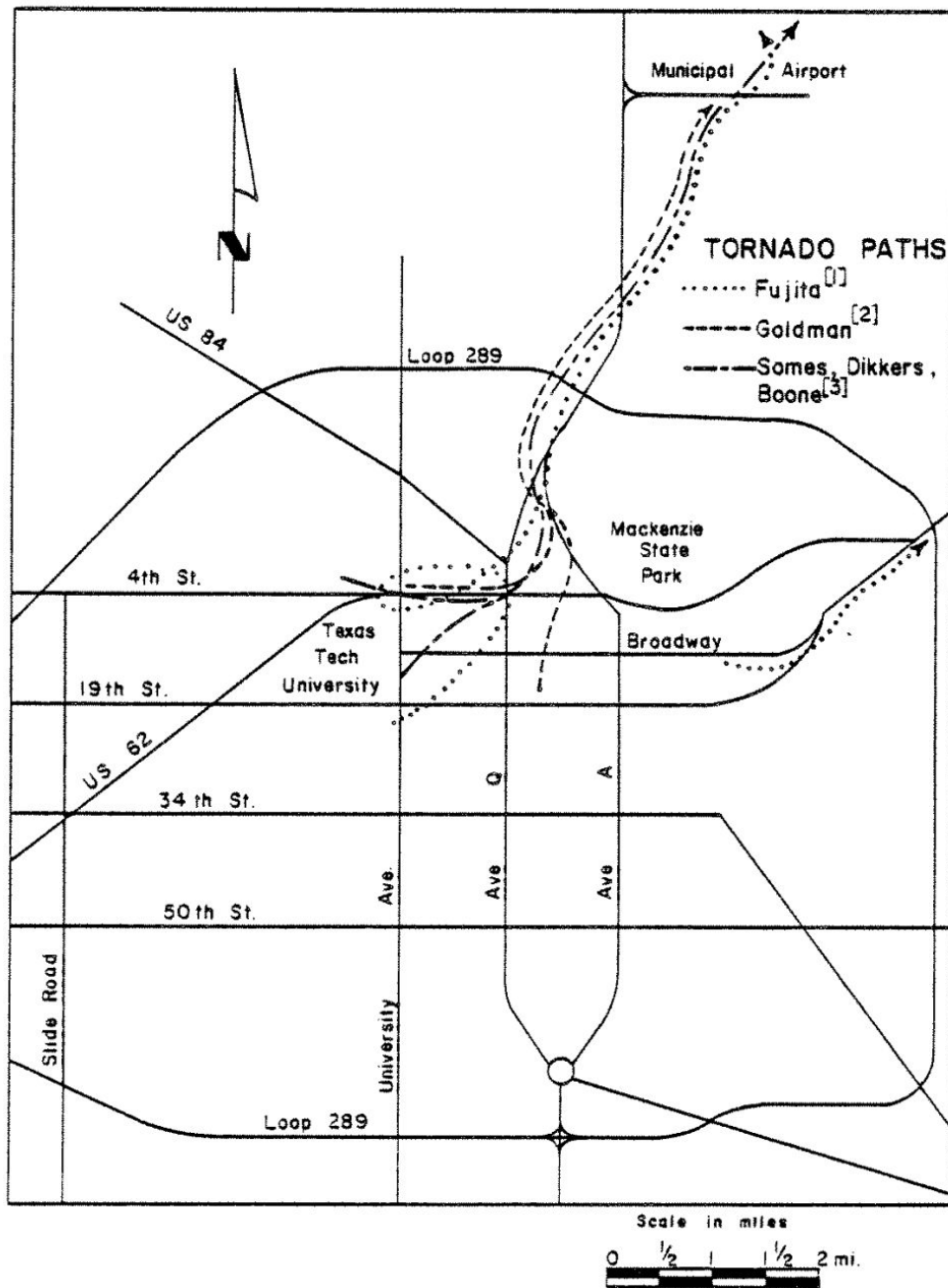


FIGURE 1. SUMMARY OF THREE THEORIES REGARDING THE CONFIGURATION AND PATH OF THE LUBBOCK STORM

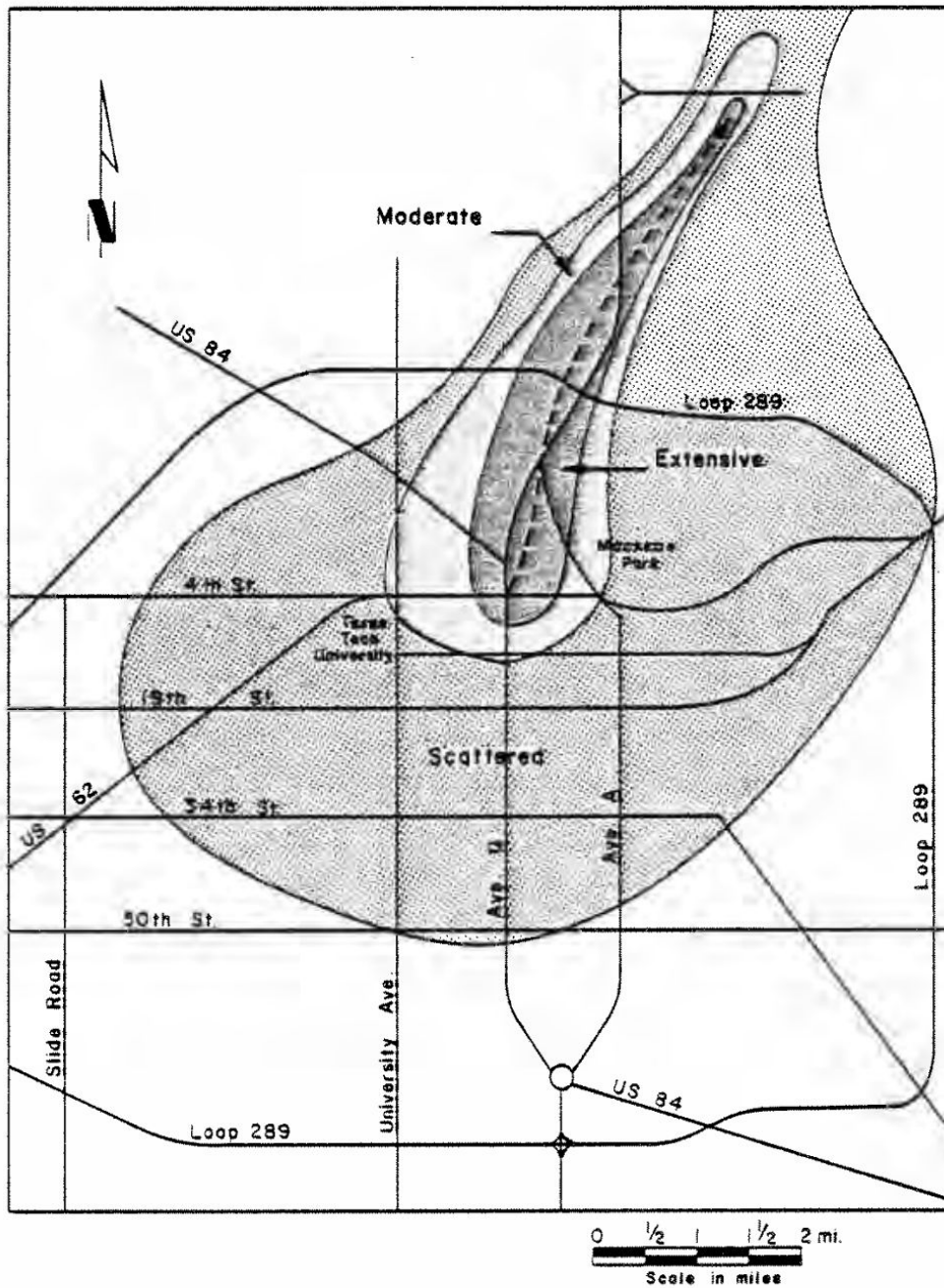


FIGURE 2. PATTERN OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE LUBBOCK STORM

# 93 Case Studies of Lubbock Tornado

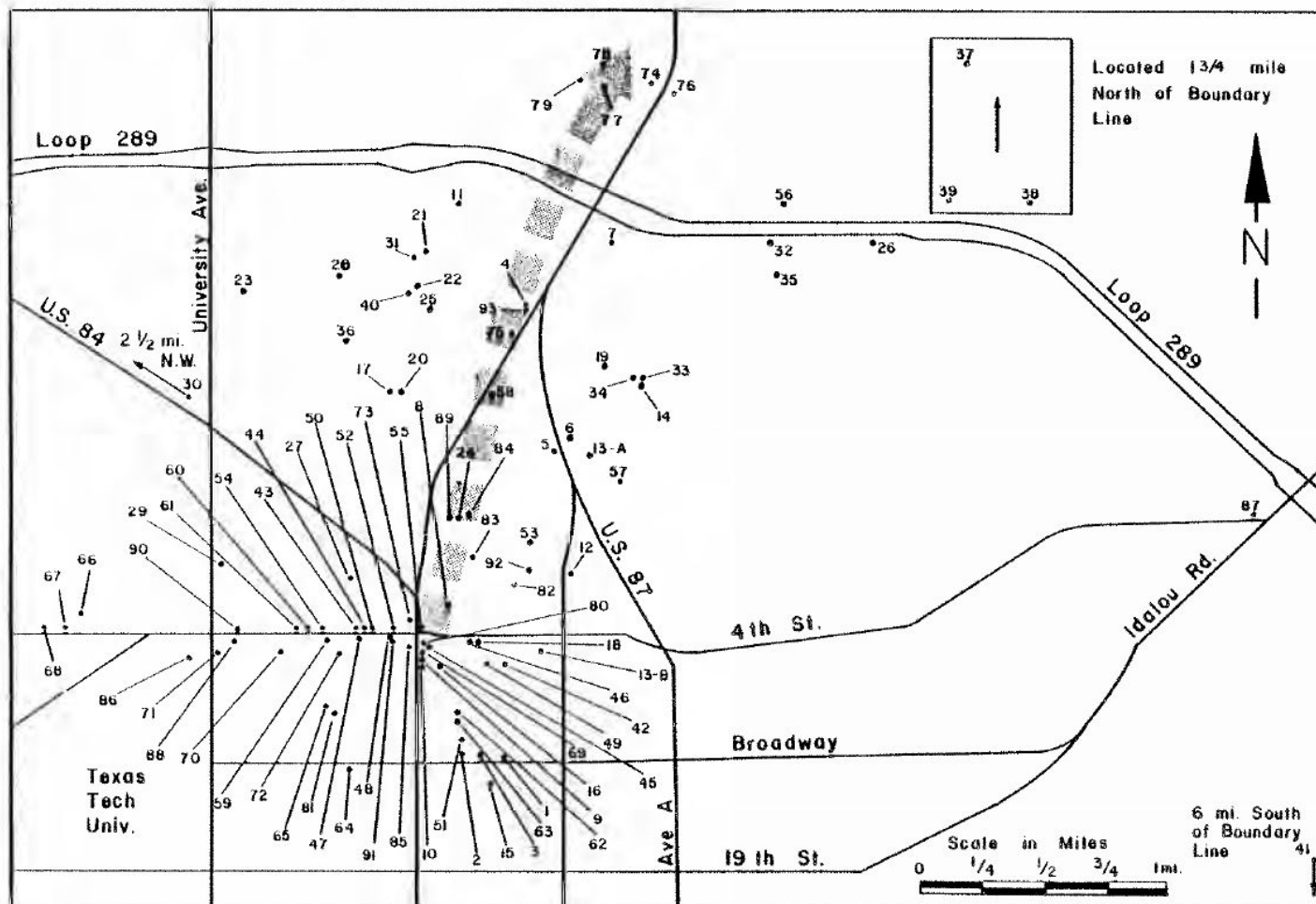


FIGURE 4. LOCATIONS OF 93 DOCUMENTED STRUCTURES

# Recommendations from the Lubbock Tornado

The best estimate of the highest wind velocity generated near ground level by the Lubbock Storm is 200 mph. No evidence was observed that would indicate a value of wind velocity at ground level greater than 200 mph.

Most of the damage sustained by structures in Lubbock was caused by winds in the range of 75 to 125 mph.

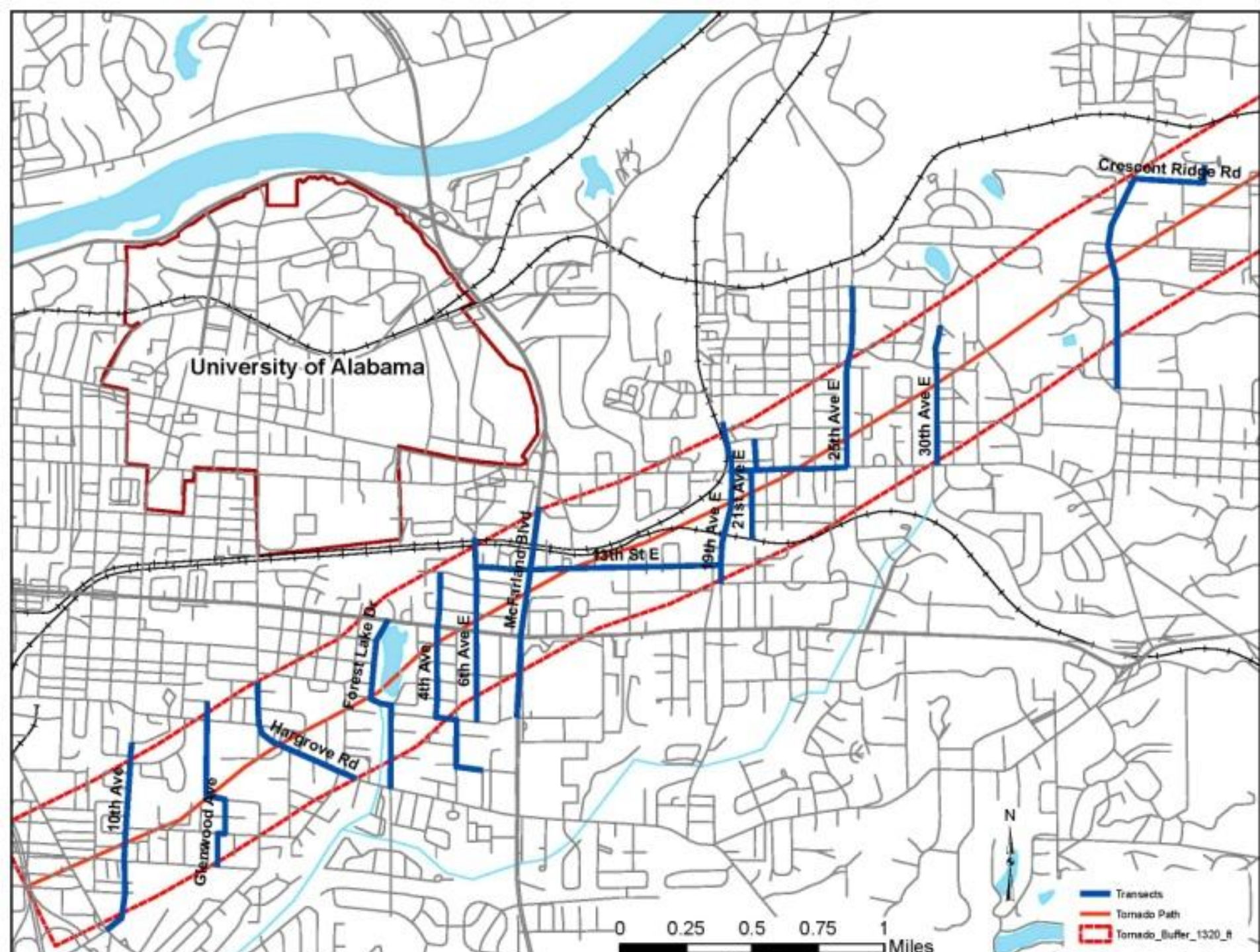
# Interdisciplinary Teams:

Engineers, Meteorologists, FEMA Officials, Social Scientists



Sponsors:

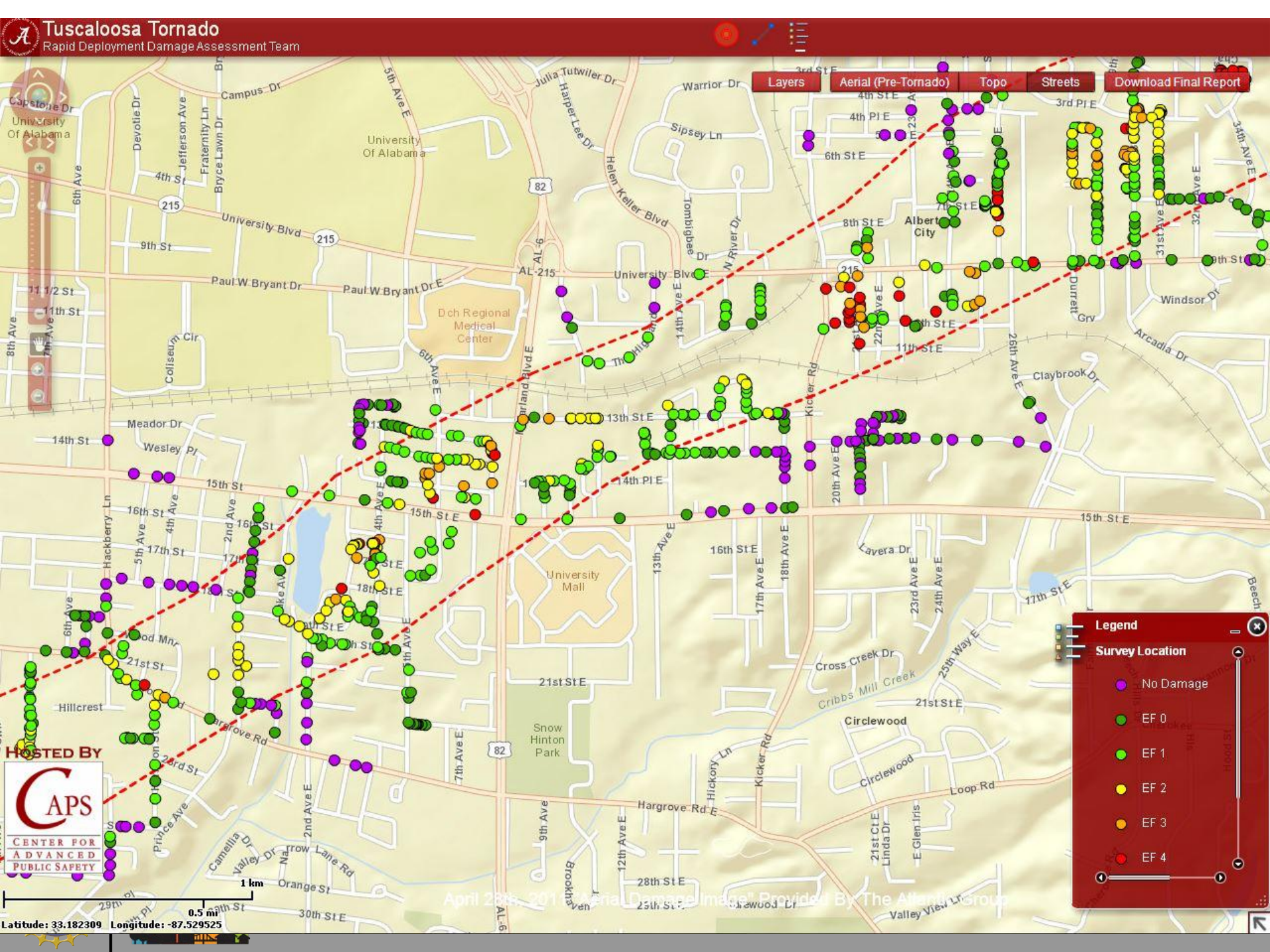


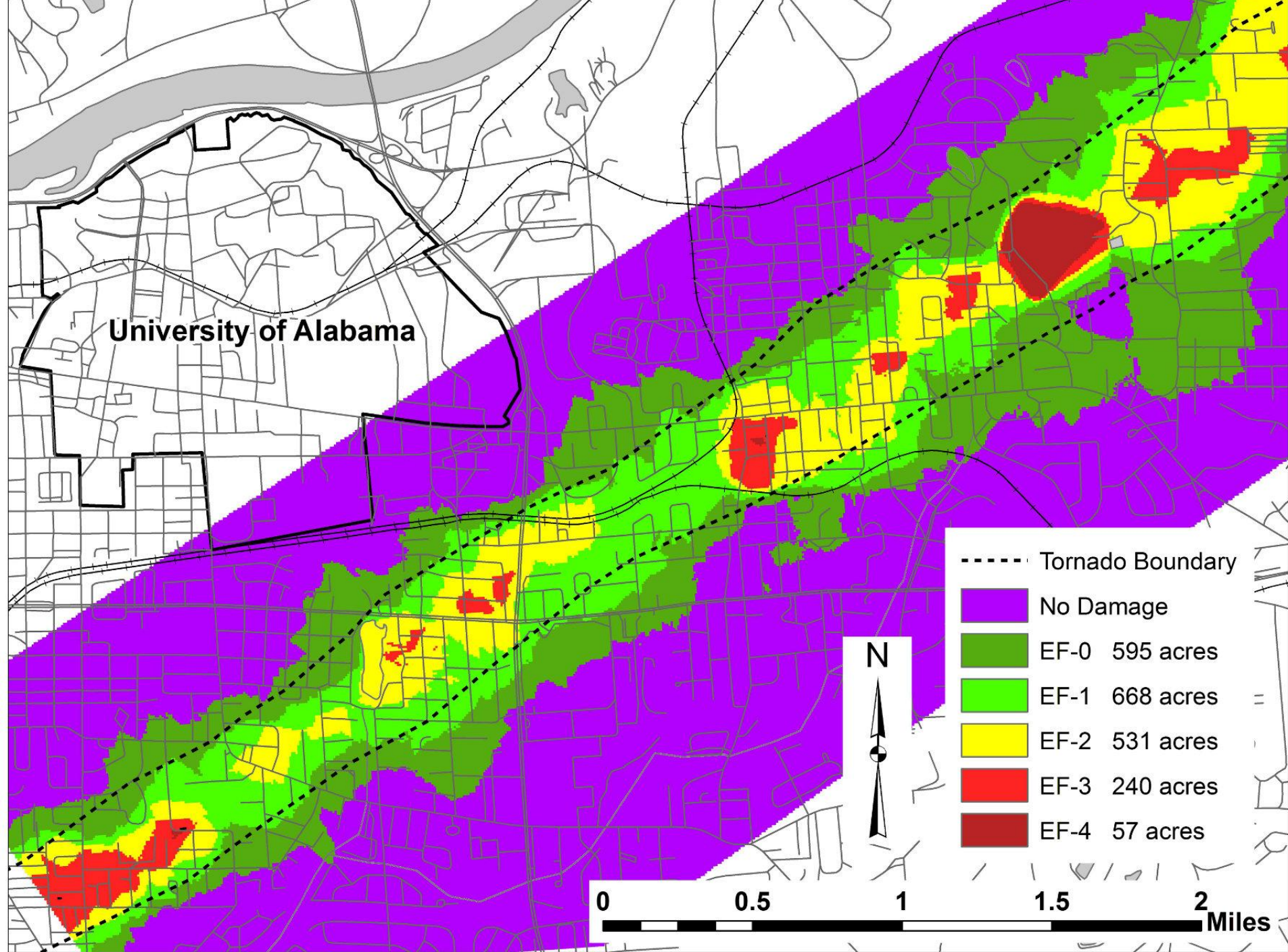


# Geolocation turns photos into data points









# Damage Survey available online within 3 months

## Damage Study and Future Direction for Structural Design Following the Tuscaloosa Tornado of 2011



David O. Prevatt, Ph.D., P.E., University of Florida, Gainesville, FL  
John W. van de Lindt, Ph.D., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL  
Andrew Graettinger, Ph.D., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL  
William Coulbourne, P.E., Applied Technology Council, Rehoboth Beach, DE  
Rakesh Gupta, Ph.D., Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR  
Shiling Pei, Ph.D., P.E., South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD  
Samuel Hensen, P.E., Simpson Strong Tie, Pleasanton, CA  
David Grau, Ph.D., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

July 27, 2011



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Online Summary  
Damage from the 31 May 2013 Tornado in El Reno, OK



(Image Courtesy of <http://www.weather.com/news/tornado-central/storm-damage-friday>)

University of Florida Wind Hazard Damage Assessment

PI: David O. Prevatt, Ph.D., PE  
[dprev@ce.ufl.edu](mailto:dprev@ce.ufl.edu)

Contributing Authors:  
Jeandona Doreste  
Alyssa Egnew  
June 6, 2013



Online Summary  
Damage from the 20 May 2013



(Image Courtesy of [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/oklahoma\\_n\\_3308904](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/oklahoma_n_3308904))

University of Florida Wind Hazard

PI: David O. Prevatt, Ph.D., PE  
[dprev@ce.ufl.edu](mailto:dprev@ce.ufl.edu)

Contributing Authors:  
David Roueche  
Austin Thompson  
Jeandona Doreste  
May 21, 2013



Online Summary  
The 1 August 2013 Tornado in Jacksonville, FL



(Image Courtesy of <http://arlington.firstcoastnews.com/news/news/1199-thinking-about-renters-rights>)

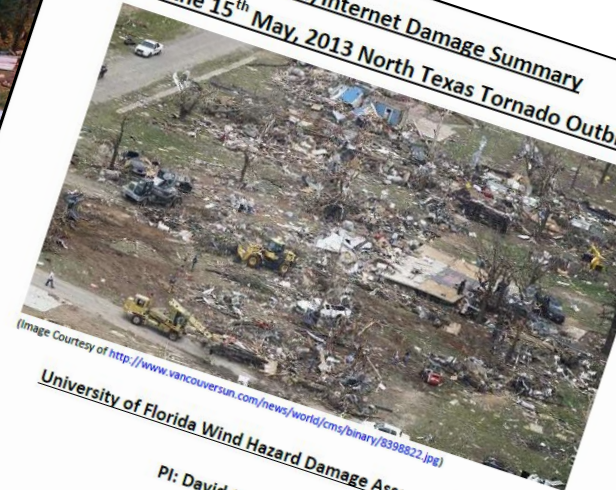
University of Florida Wind Hazard Damage A

PI: David O. Prevatt, Ph.D.,  
[dprev@ufl.edu](mailto:dprev@ufl.edu)

Contributing Authors:  
Jeandona Doreste, Alyssa Egnew, Da  
9 August 2013



Online/Internet Damage Summary  
of the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 North Texas Tornado Outb



(Image Courtesy of <http://www.vancouversun.com/news/world/cms/binary/8398822.jpg>)

University of Florida Wind Hazard Damage Assessment Team

PI: David O. Prevatt, Ph.D.,  
[dprev@ce.ufl.edu](mailto:dprev@ce.ufl.edu)

Contributing Authors:  
David Roueche  
Tuan Vo  
Ashlie Kerr  
Austin Thompson  
Xinlai Peng  
Alyssa Egnew  
May 17, 2013



Damage Summary of the 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 North/Central  
Oklahoma, Eastern Kansas and Western Missouri  
Tornado Outbreak



(Image Courtesy of <http://www.myaic.com/ap/ap/general/tornadoes-slam-plains-midwest-1-dead-in-okla/hXw3f/>)

University of Florida Wind Hazard Damage Assessment Team

PI: David O. Prevatt, Ph.D.,  
[dprev@ce.ufl.edu](mailto:dprev@ce.ufl.edu)

# The deafening silence of disasters

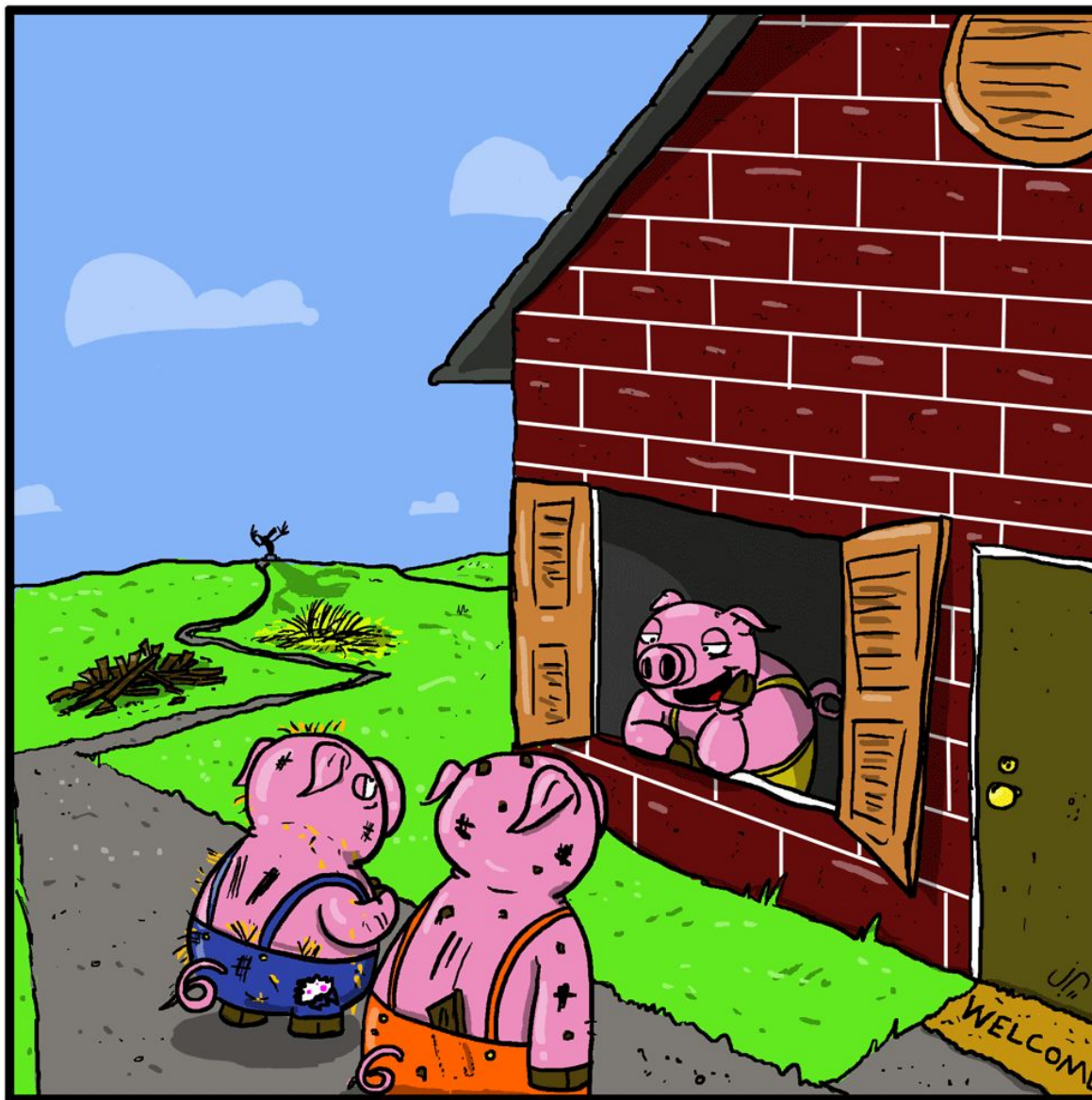


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# Haiti (Matthew 2016) - Health facility unscathed





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"Mitigation isn't so funny now, is it?"



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**WORKFLOWS**



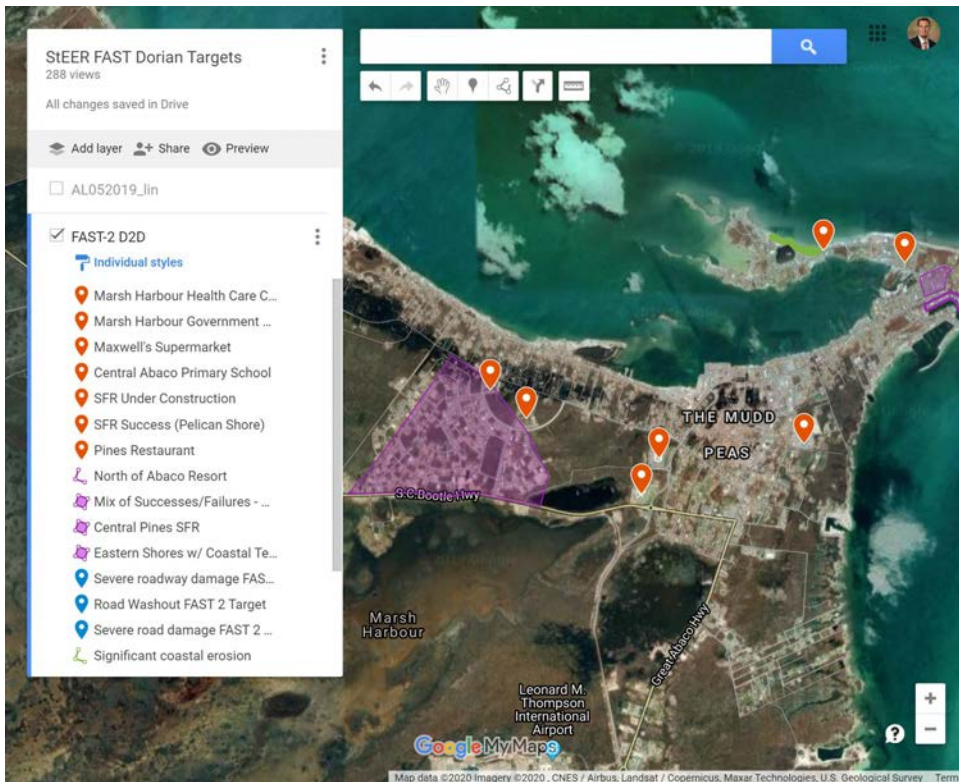
**StEER: Building Resilience through Reconnaissance**

# FAST AND FAST IN StEER EVENT RESPONSE WORKFLOW

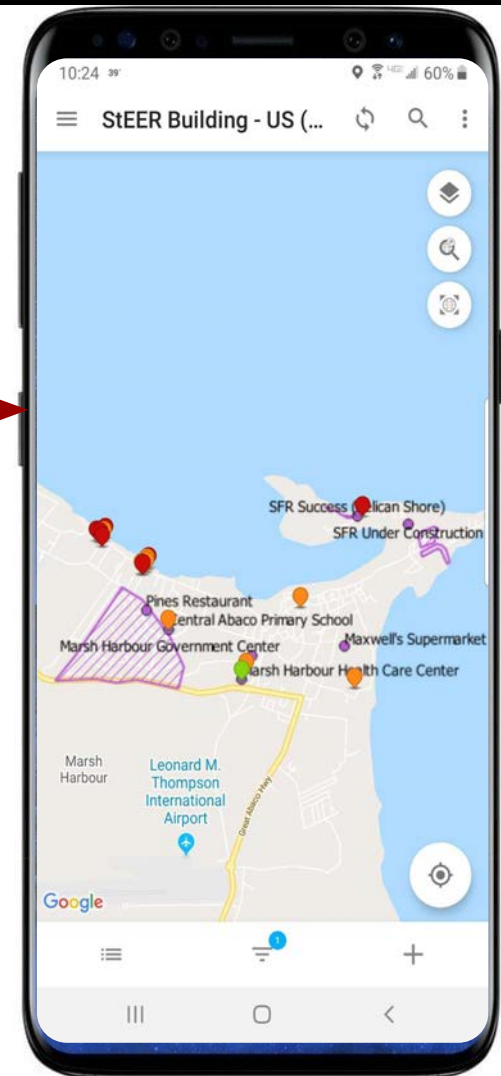
	PRE-DEPLOYMENT	DURING DEPLOYMENT	IMMEDIATE POST-DEPLOYMENT	LONG-TERM POST-DEPLOYMENT
VAST TASKS	VAST formed, VAST Lead appointed	VAST reviews Fulcrum entries submitted by FAST	VAST leads <b>Data Enrichment/Quality Control</b> Process	VAST leads <b>Data Enrichment/Quality Control</b> Process
	VAST seeks information on event, collaborates on Slack	VAST reviews <b>Daily Summary</b> from FAST	VAST publishes <b>EARR</b>	Publish <b>Data Report</b> and curate final data set in DesignSafe
	Author and publish <b>PVRR</b>	VAST initiates <b>EARR</b>	VAST interacts with FAST on Slack to initiate <b>DATA Report</b>	
JOINT TASKS	Prepare supplies, StEER Apps, templates and other resources for field	Disseminate preliminary observations and media to raise awareness of StEER response	Possibly secure additional RAPID funding for research inspired by FAST observations	Co-author journal papers(s) and pursue long-term funding opportunities
FAST TASKS	FAST secures reservations and coordinates logistics on dedicated Slack channel	Collect data using targeted sampling strategy; synchronize Fulcrum entries and backup/transfer data daily	Ensure all data collected outside Fulcrum is transferred to DesignSafe and that all Fulcrum data has synchronized	Assist with <b>Data Report</b> and final curation in DesignSafe
	FAST formed, FAST Lead appointed	Prepare <b>Daily Summary</b> and share with VAST	Assist with <b>EARR</b> Complete Google Form with expenses	Possibly present findings at conferences



# PRE-DEPLOYMENT TARGET SELECTION



Targets synced  
to Fulcrum for  
offline access  
by FAST



- Satellite imagery, social media used to identify points of interest (successes and failures)
- Representative samples chosen across a diversity of structure typologies
- Typologies matched with expertise of FAST members where possible
- **Pre-selected targets are recommendations - not absolute**

# TYPICAL ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGIES

## Door-to-Door (D2D) Damage Assessments using Mobile Apps



## Unmanned Aerial Surveys



## Applied StreetView and 360 imaging technologies



## Terrestrial Scanning Technologies

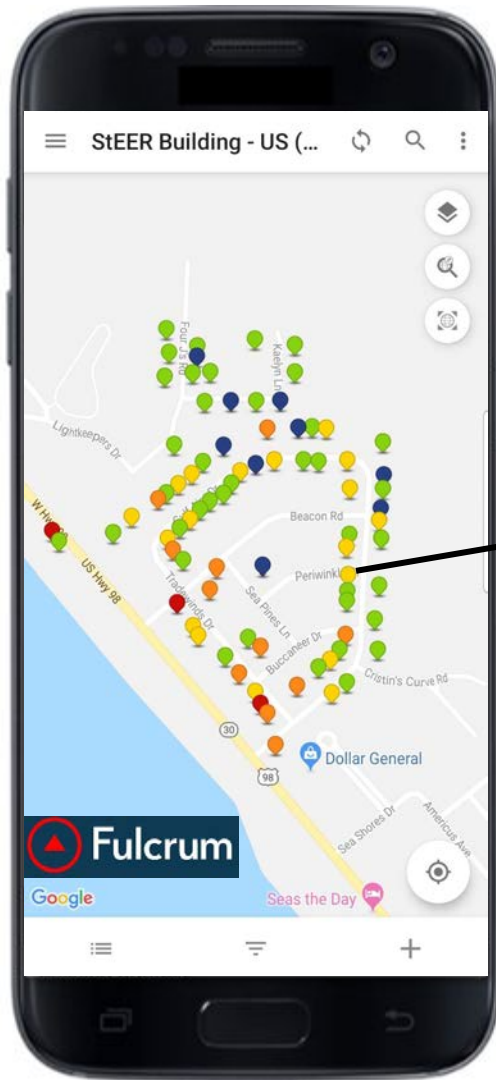


# TYPICAL DATA COLLECTION STRATEGY

Overlapping data collection technologies ensure D2D teams can sample efficiently in the field while still capturing the context and broad damage patterns



# LEVERAGING MOBILE APPS IN DISASTER RECONNAISSANCE



Photographs

Audio

Free-form Text

Upper story soffits gone  
Garage door gone  
Siding failure on right and left wall  
Right wall window damaged

Standardized Data Fields

Investigation Notes

Building Attributes

Structural Attributes

Walls and Foundation

Fenestration

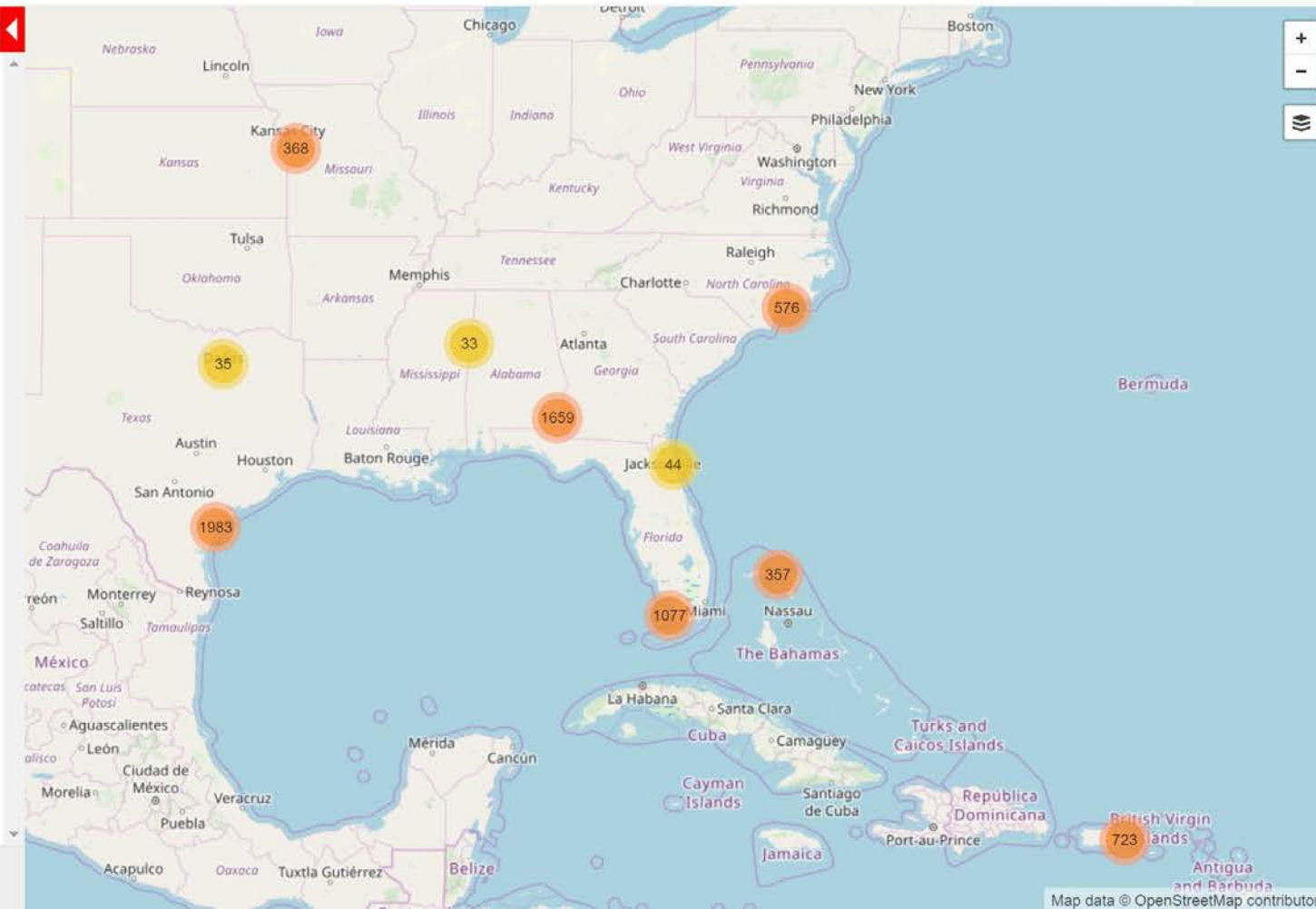
Roof Structure

Wind-induced Damage

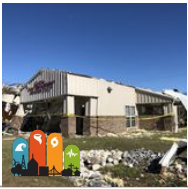




Surge-induced Damage

Multiple data types contained within a single, geolocated record that is easily exportable to common formats: Excel, ESRI Shapefile, GeoJSON, etc

# REAL-TIME DATA SHARING THROUGH FULCRUM COMMUNITY



# CURRENT StEER APP LIBRARY

	Name and Description	Availability
	<b>StEER Building - US (Windstorm)</b> <i>D2D assessment form for coastal and inland buildings affected by severe windstorms such as hurricanes and tornadoes.</i>	In-use
	<b>StEER Non-Building (Windstorm)</b> <i>General assessment form for non-building structures - such as towers, bridges, and dams - affected by severe windstorms.</i>	In-use
	<b>StEER Earthquake Rapid Evaluation Form</b> <i>D2D assessment form loosely based on the ATC-20 Rapid Evaluation Safety Assessment form, modified to include basic capabilities for non-building structures to be assessed.</i>	Available
	<b>StEER Earthquake Detailed Evaluation Form</b> <i>Detailed D2D assessment form for buildings and possibly non-buildings, responsively developed to meet the needs of the structural earthquake engineering community.</i>	Coming soon
	<b>StEER Tsunami</b> <i>Assessment form for documenting performance of buildings and other structures impacted by tsunami-induced hazards</i>	Coming soon

# PARTITIONING DATA COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

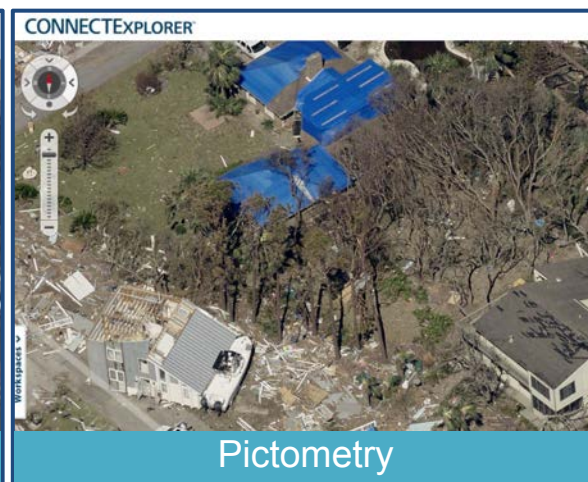
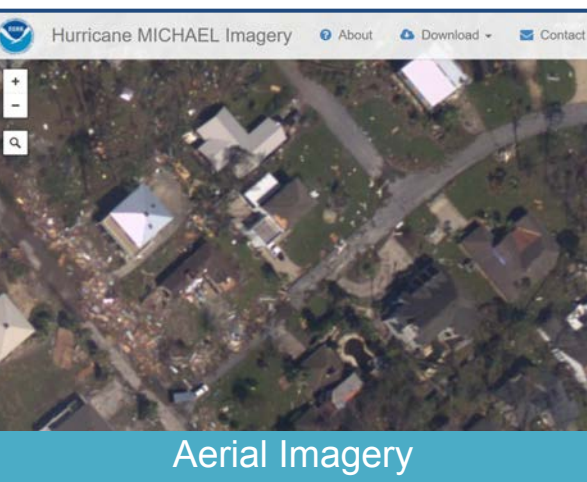
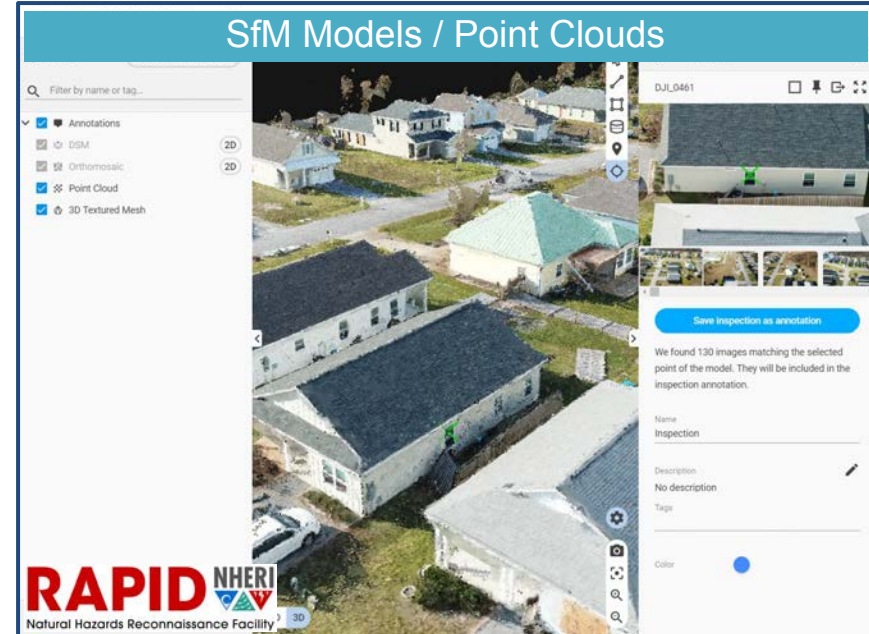
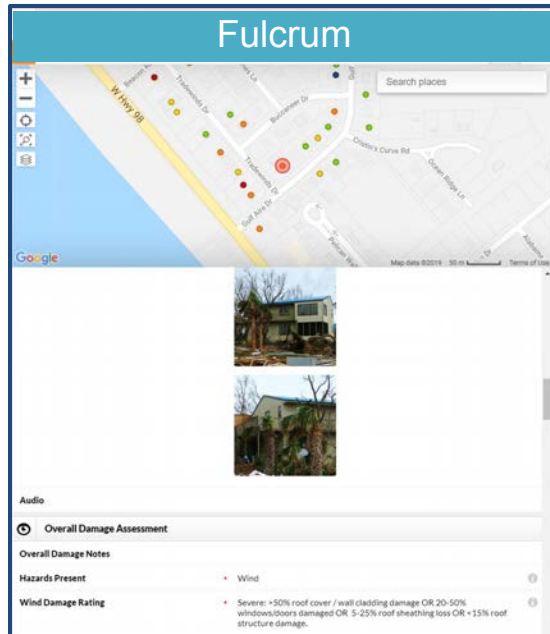


# PARTITIONING DATA COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITIES



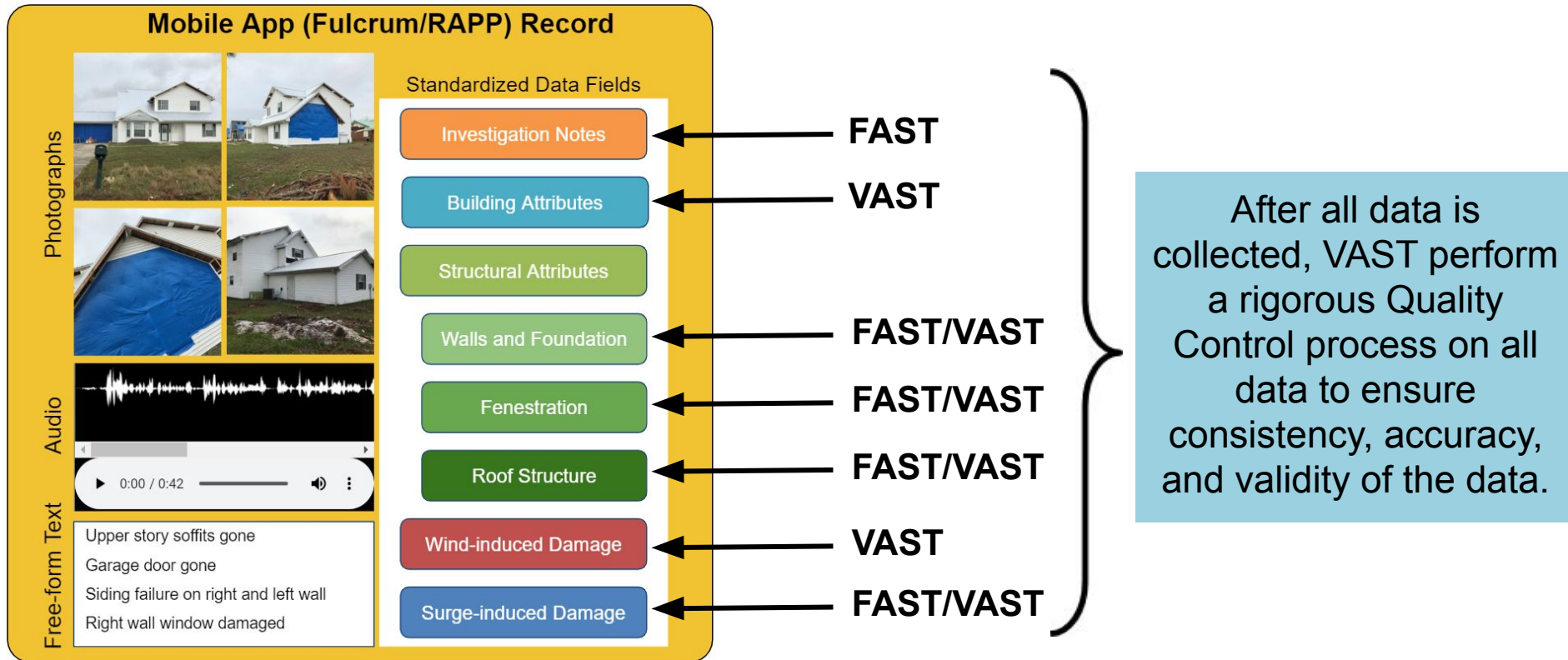
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# SUPPLEMENTAL DATA SOURCES FOR DE/QC



# DATA ENRICHMENT AND QUALITY CONTROL

Field Priority data is captured by FAST on-site. Remaining data is collected by the VAST using the FAST data (all contained within the Fulcrum record) and any available supplemental data.



Data Enrichment and Quality Control (DEQC) process is an excellent training opportunity for StEER Level 1 and 2 members and students.

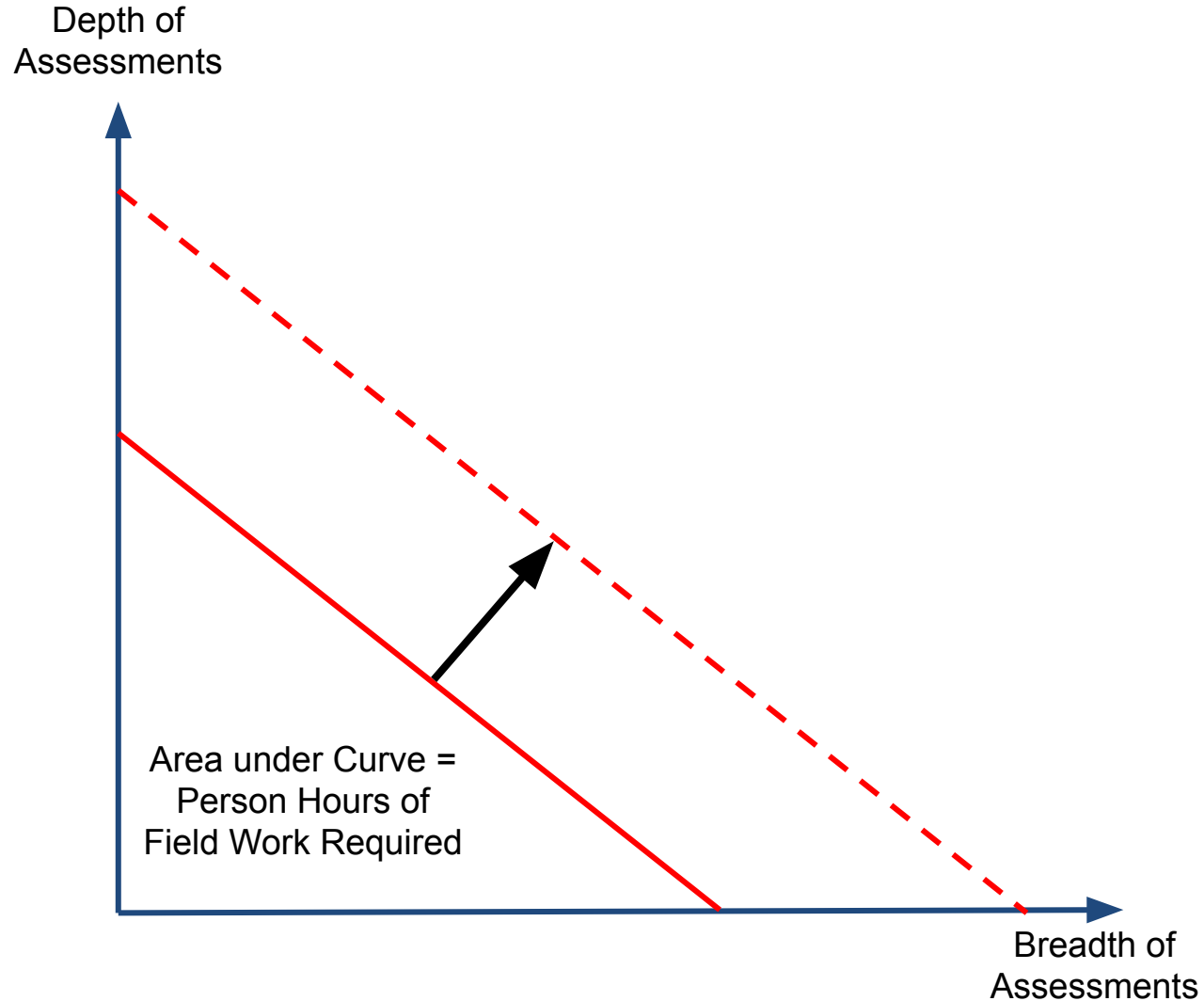
# DATA ENRICHMENT AND QUALITY CONTROL

Stage	Purpose	Target Timeframe
1	Verify the location of the record.	1 week after FAST deployment completes
2	Validate or fill out the minimum fields that can be considered a complete record in accordance with the StEER data standards.	1-3 weeks after FAST deployment completes
3	Verify, update, or add missing information in the records for parameters that should be available through photographs, or supplementary data sources for the majority of records, e.g., damage ratios, building attributes.	3-6 weeks after completion of DE/QC Stage 1
4	Verify, update or add information that was not captured in the field and may not be available or applicable for all buildings. Typically these fields are noted as Field Priorities, and can generally be evaluated more readily in damaged buildings than undamaged buildings. Trained investigators are often needed to identify these fields in undamaged buildings while on-site.	3-6 weeks after completion of Stage 1
5	Final QC validation and checks in preparation for curation on DesignSafe. Check for blank fields, inconsistencies (e.g., Gulf vs GULF County), etc.	6-7 weeks after completion of Stage 1

*The goal of the DE/QC process is to curate and publish complete, accurate and standardized reconnaissance datasets in a timely manner for use by the broader structural engineering community.*



# StEER RECONNAISSANCE STRATEGY



# BENEFITS OF STEER APPROACH

## EARLY.

Swift deployment with pre-approved funding

Centralized event coordination with targeted sampling strategies

Network of regional nodes with access points

Tiered membership and capacity building initiatives

## EFFICIENT.

Real-time collaboration and coordination, shared assets

Data standards, handbooks, templates, training resources

Streamlined data collection, reporting, curation workflows

Coordinated virtual reconnaissance support

## IMPACTFUL.

Real-time open data sharing in Fulcrum

Expansive datasets with rigorous quality control and data enrichment

Robust dissemination and long-term curation promoting re-use, collaboration

Consistency through community-wide standards



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