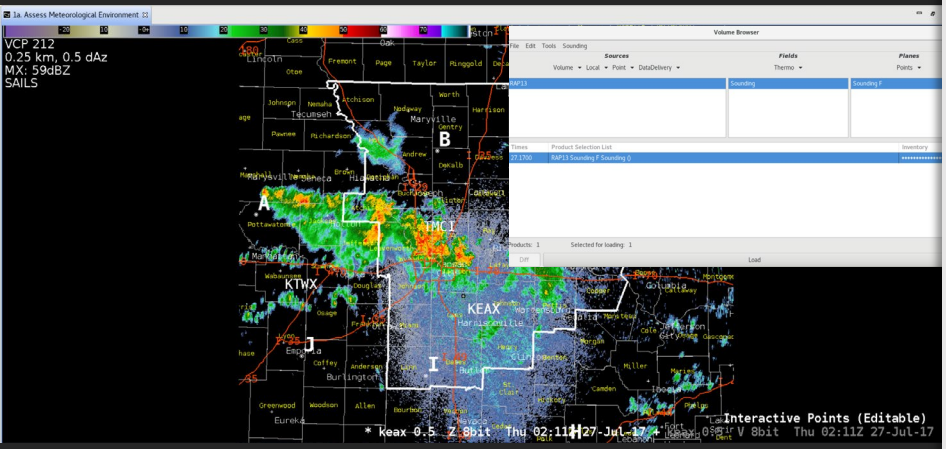
Overview of the RAC Flash Flood Procedure

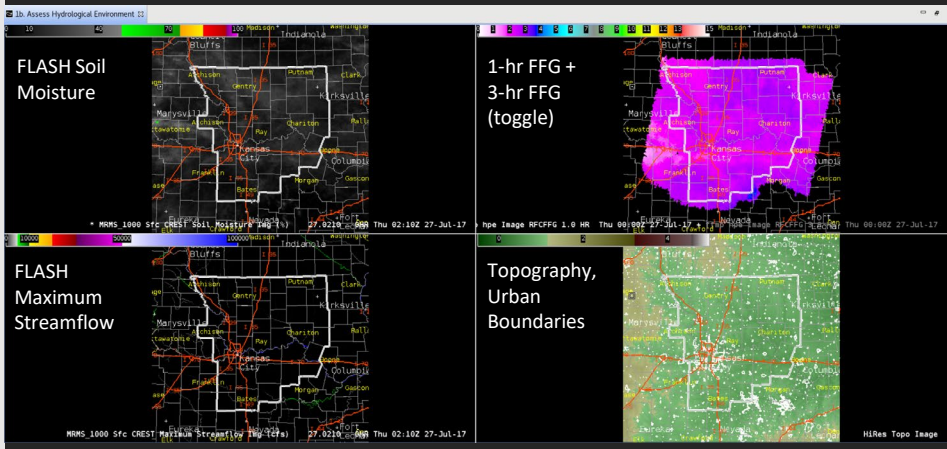
What’s in them and how to use them

Bundle 1a. Assess Meteorological Environment



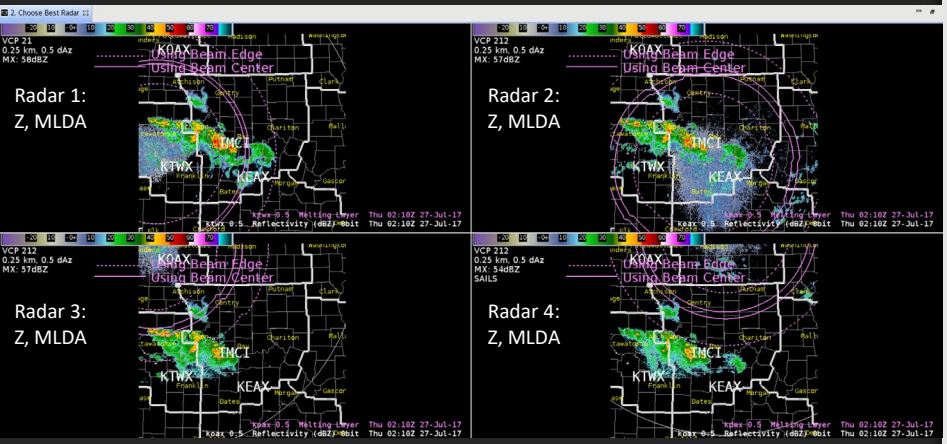
How to use: Use this bundle to assess how favorable your meteorological environment is for flash flooding by loading an NSHARP sounding.

Bundle 1b. Assess Hydrological Environment



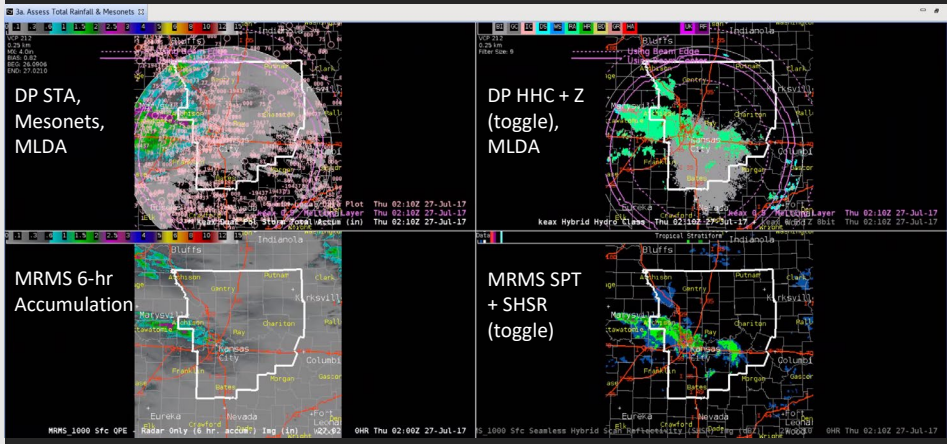
How to use: Use this bundle to assess how favorable your hydrologic environment is for flash flooding by noting areas of high soil moisture, low FFG values, major river locations, significant elevation change, and/or any major urban footprints.

Bundle 2. Choose Best Radar



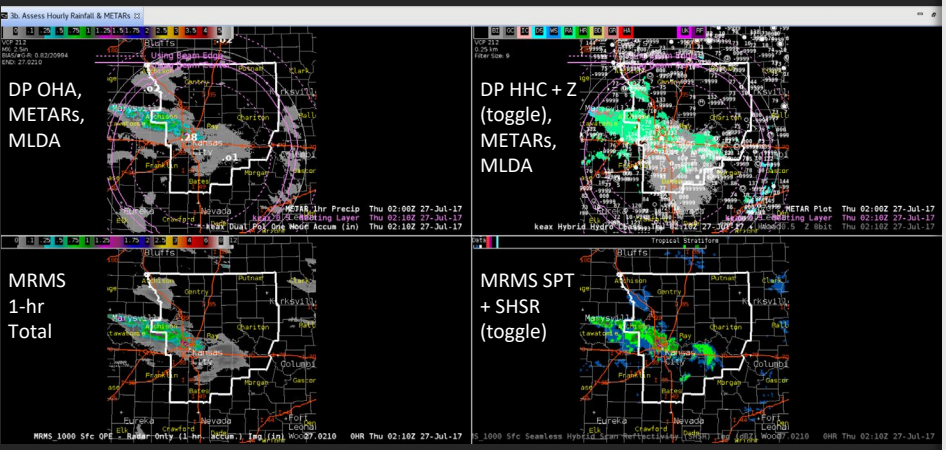
How to use: Use this bundle to choose the radar that is sampling lowest down and closest to your area of heaviest precipitation.

Bundle 3a. Assess Total Rainfall & Mesonets



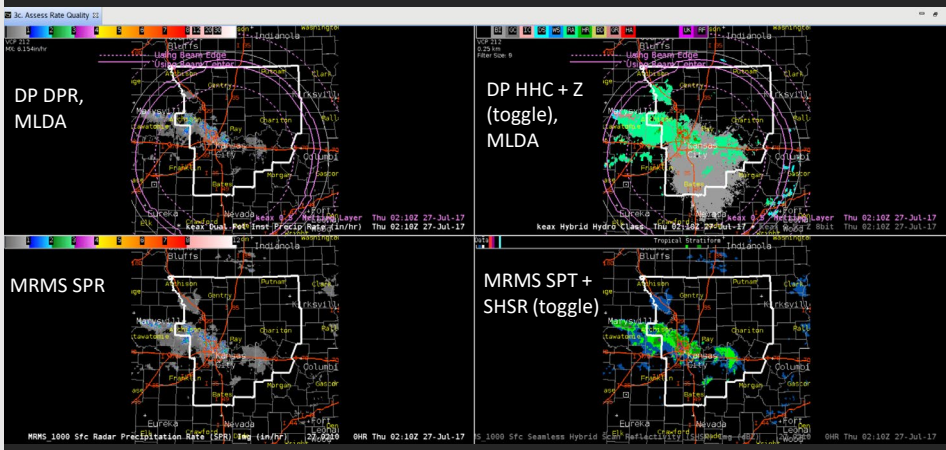
How to use: Use this bundle to assess longer-term DP and MRMS accumulations and compare both to any available Mesonet observations (top left) to note any QPE biases.

Bundle 3b. Assess Hourly Rainfall & METARs



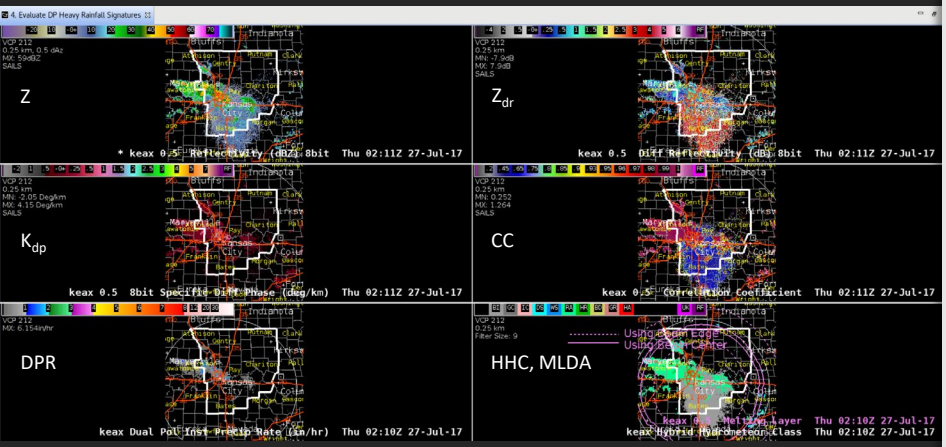
How to use: Use this bundle to assess hourly DP and MRMS accumulations and compare both to any available METAR observations (top right) to note any QPE biases.

Bundle 3c. Assess Rate Quality



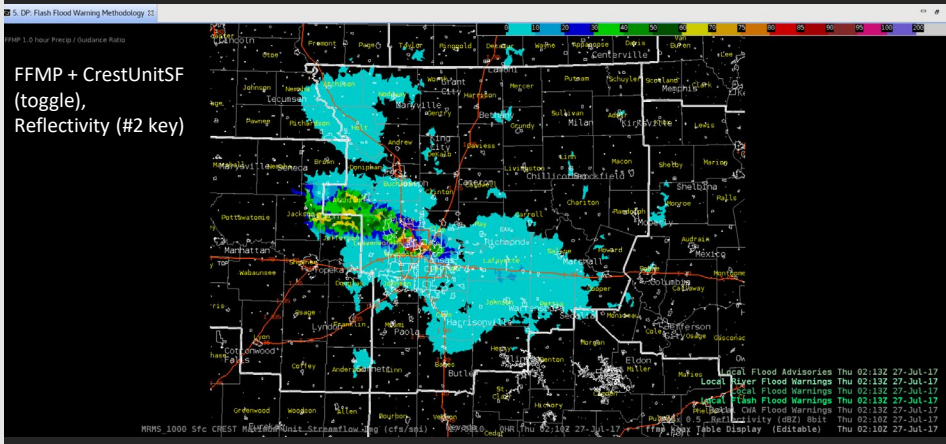
How to use: Use this bundle to assess any significant differences between instantaneous DP and MRMS rainfall rates and also note where your precipitation is relative to the melting layer.

Bundle 4. Evaluate DP Heavy Rainfall Signatures



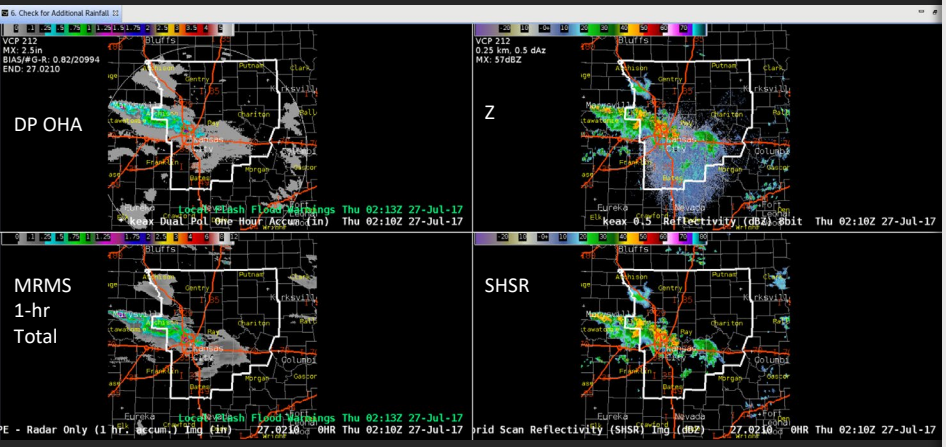
How to use: Use this bundle to identify areas of melting hail and/or any enhanced heavy rainfall signatures in DP.

Bundle 5. [PRECIP SOURCE]: Flash Flood Warning Methodology



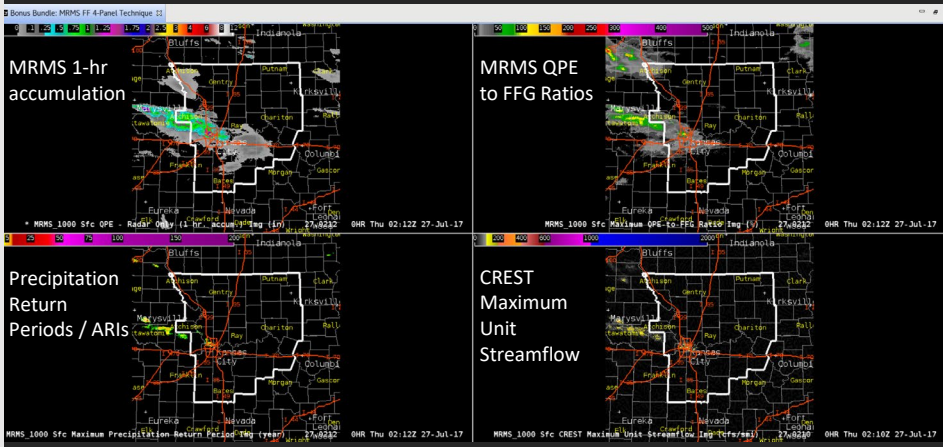
How to use: Use this bundle to draw up your FFWs by toggling between both FFMP and CrestUnitSF. Use reflectivity (#2 key) to account for the current & future precip threat in your FFW polygon. Use WarnGenLoc to differentiate urban vs. rural areas.

Bundle 6. Check for Additional Rainfall



How to use: Use this bundle to estimate additional rainfall amounts in your FFW by looking at upstream hourly totals and reflectivity trends in either DP (top) or MRMS (bottom)

Bonus Analysis: FLASH Sit. Awareness



How to use: Use this bundle to monitor anomalous MRMS rainfall signals (left side) and concerning flash flood signals (right side).

End of FF Procedure