

Getting Started with the Hurricane Debris Model

The goal of this tutorial is to help you learn how to use the Hurricane Debris Model offered by Mississippi State University. This tutorial covers how to use the system from start to finish.

Hurricane Debris Model Website

To navigate to the website please go to the following url:

<http://www.gri.msstate.edu/research/debris/>

Logging into the System

To login to the system follow these steps:

1. On the home page click the “Login” link on the menu bar, or you can go to this page:

<http://www.gri.msstate.edu/research/debris/login.php>

2. Once on the login page, use the following credentials:

Username = mema

Password = msdebris

3. After entering the login credentials, please click the “Login” button.

Choosing a Year

Once you login to the system, you will be prompted to select a year. Please choose your desired year.

Choosing a Storm

After a year is chosen, the storms for that year will be listed in a dropdown box. Please select the desired storm that you wish to view. The naming convention of the storms are as follows:

al012011

al = The location of the storm. In this example it is the Atlantic.

01 = The 3rd and 4th letters represent the storm number. This example would be the first storm.

2011 = The last four letters of the storm title are the year. In this case the year is 2011.

*So this example would equate to the first Atlantic storm in 2011

File Names

File naming conventions:

Final_damage: Overall potential damage

Final_hw: Potential hardwood blow down

Final_pn: Potential pine shear

User Interface

Once a storm is chosen, you will be shown the user interface. This section will cover how to use the interface.

Adding Data

Follows these steps to add a data layer on the map:

1. To add a data layer to the map click the add data button which looks like this: .
2. Once the "My Files" dialog opens, choose the data layer you want to add by double clicking it.
3. After you double click a data layer, the system will add it to the map and your data list on the far left pane.

*If your data layer was not added as soon as you double clicked it, check the system status. The system still might be loading your data layer.

4. Repeat steps one, two, and three for adding more data layers.

Removing Data

Follow these steps to remove a data layer from the map:

1. To remove a data layer from the map, please select the data layer you want to remove by single clicking it in the data list (far left pane).
2. After you have selected the data layer you want to remove, click the remove data button which looks like this: .
3. Once you click the remove data button, the data layer will be removed from the map and the data list.

Arranging the Data Layers

Sometimes the data layers you added are not in the order that would like. You can change the order in which the data layers appear on the map by following these steps:

1. Select the data layer that you want to remove by single clicking it in the data list (far left pane).
2. Then you can move the data layer up or down in the list by using the following buttons:
 - a.  Moves the data layer up in the list and on the map.
 - b.  Moves the data layer down in the list and on the map.

Changing the Base Map

If you prefer a different base map, you can change it by the following steps:

1. In the drop down list for the base map, choose the map that you desire by single clicking it.
2. You can choose from the following maps:
 - a. Imagery
 - b. None
 - c. Street Map
 - d. Terrain
 - e. Topo Map
3. After you click one of the options in step 2, the base map will change to your selection.

Change a Data Layer's Opacity

You can change a data layer's opacity so you can see through it and view the layers under it. Here are the steps to change a data layer's opacity:

1. Double click the desired data layer in the data list (far left pane) to open up its layer properties dialog.
2. Under the "Properties" header, enter a value in the "Opacity" text field.
 - a. The value must be between 0-1. The closer the value is to 0 the more transparent that layer becomes.
3. Click the "OK" button

Download a Data Layer

Follow these steps to download a data layer for your own personal use:

1. Double click the desired data layer in the data list (far left pane) to open up its layer properties dialog.
2. Under the "Download" header, select the download format in drop down box.

Available formats are:

 - a. GRID
 - b. JPEG
 - c. KML
 - d. Tiff

3. After you select a format, single-click the “Download File” link.
4. Your file will be delivered to you in zipped format

Printing a Map

These steps will guide you through the process of printing your map.

1. Once you have the map layout that you desire, click the print button ().
2. Enter the map title, pixel height, and pixel width of the map. Once finished, click “Ok”
3. You will be taken to a new page with the printable map.
4. A print dialog will usually open around three seconds after the page has opened. If you are satisfied with you map, print it. If all the data layers have not loaded onto your map, close the print dialog and let the layers load. Once the layers have loaded, press ctrl + p on your keyboard to reopen the print dialog.

Map Navigation

This section covers some back principles for navigating the map:

- Double Click = Zoom in
- Single Click & Hold= Enables user to pan map (Release when complete)
-  = Sets the map back to original extent
- Up Arrow = Pans map up
- Down Arrow = Pans map down
- Right Arrow = Pans map right
- Left Arrow = Pans map left
- AOI Button= Click once to turn on, click again to turn off. If on, zoom to an area on the map by clicking once, dragging the cursor, and then releasing the cursor. The area of interest will now load into your full map extent.
- Scroll Wheel Back = Zooms out
- Scroll Wheel Forward = Zooms in