

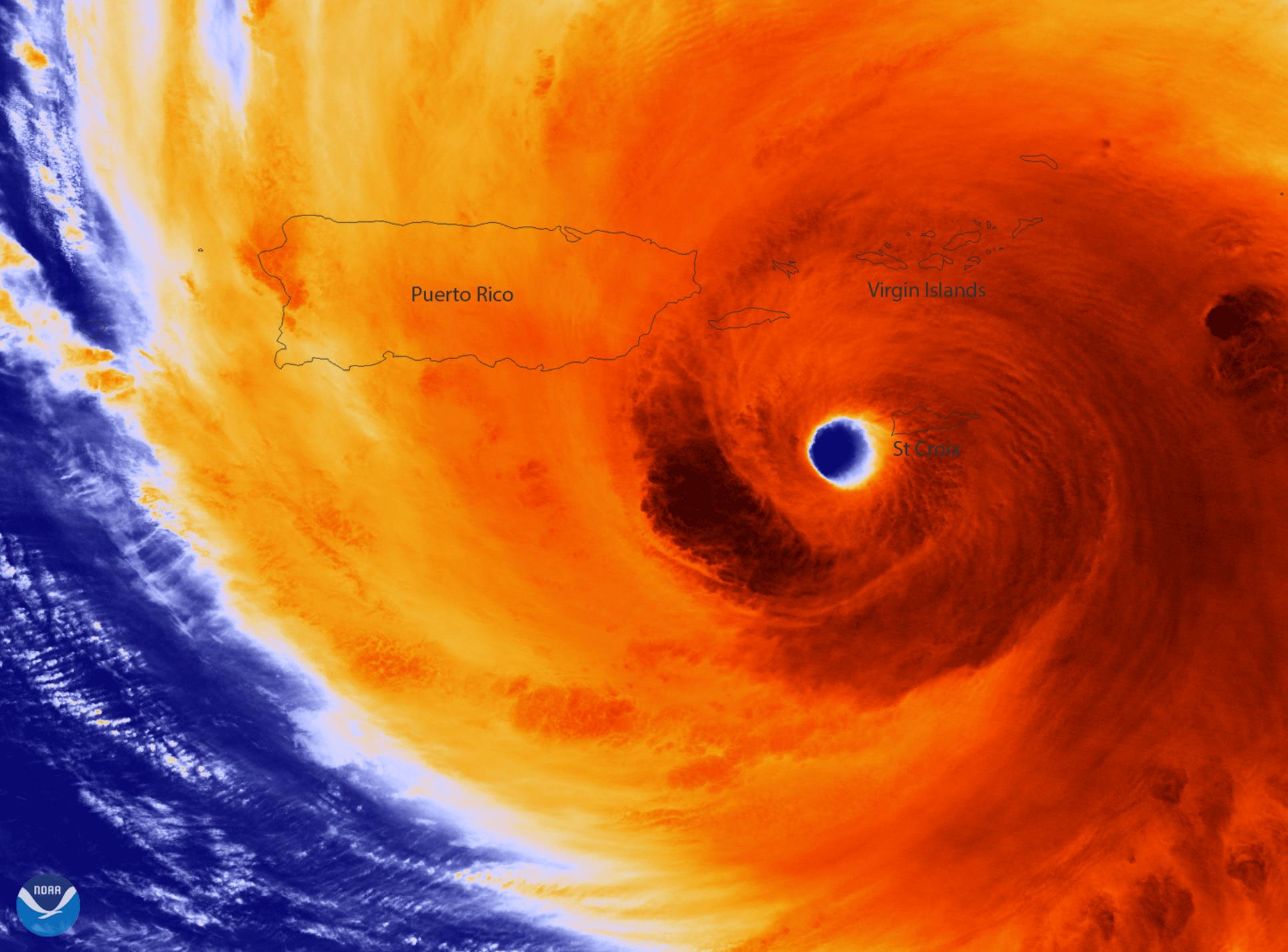
SE CSC Science in the US Caribbean

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**





Puerto Rico

Virgin Islands

St Croix





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*)

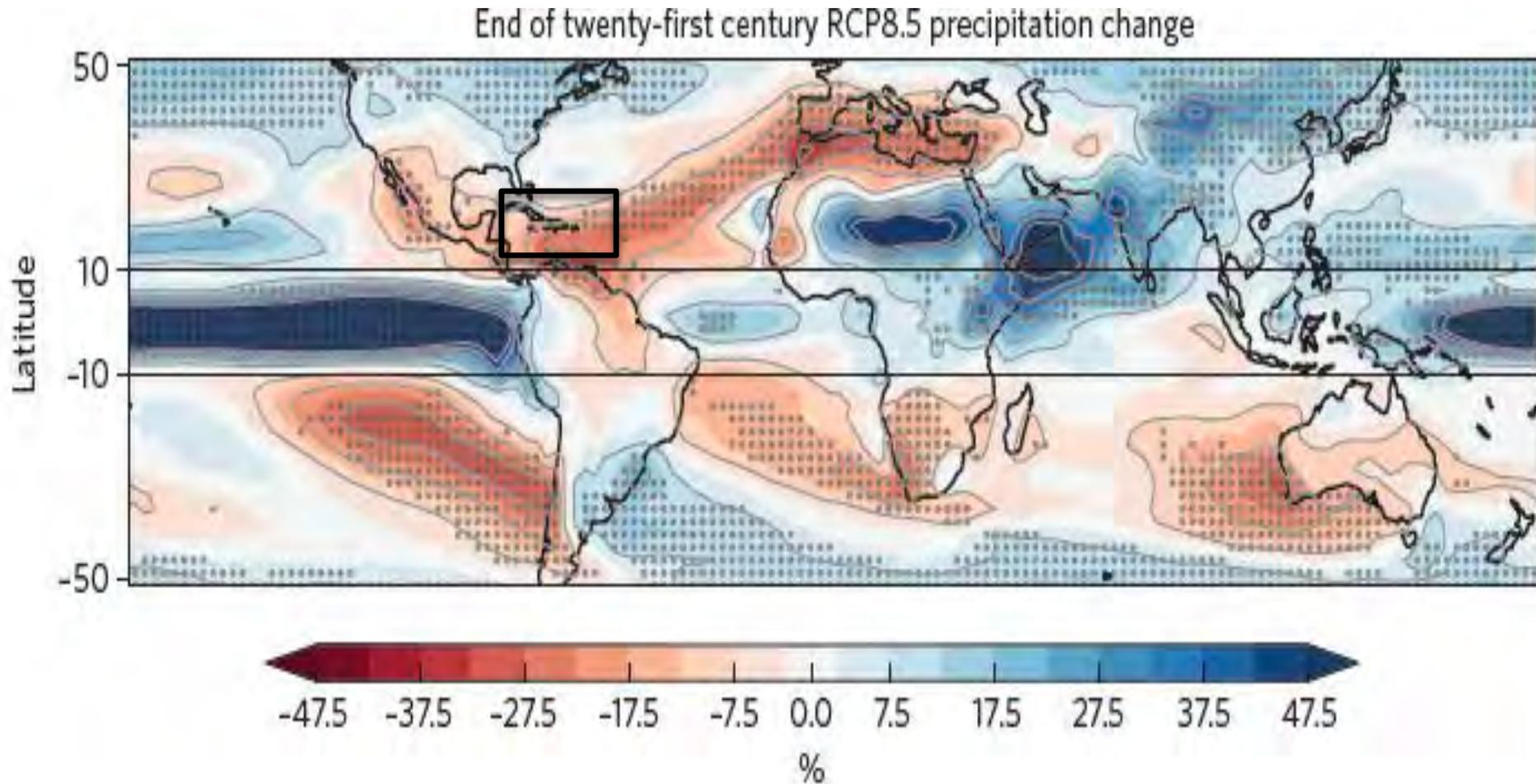
P Torres, FWS







MOTIVATION





25 species

**Endangered PR Crested
Toad**

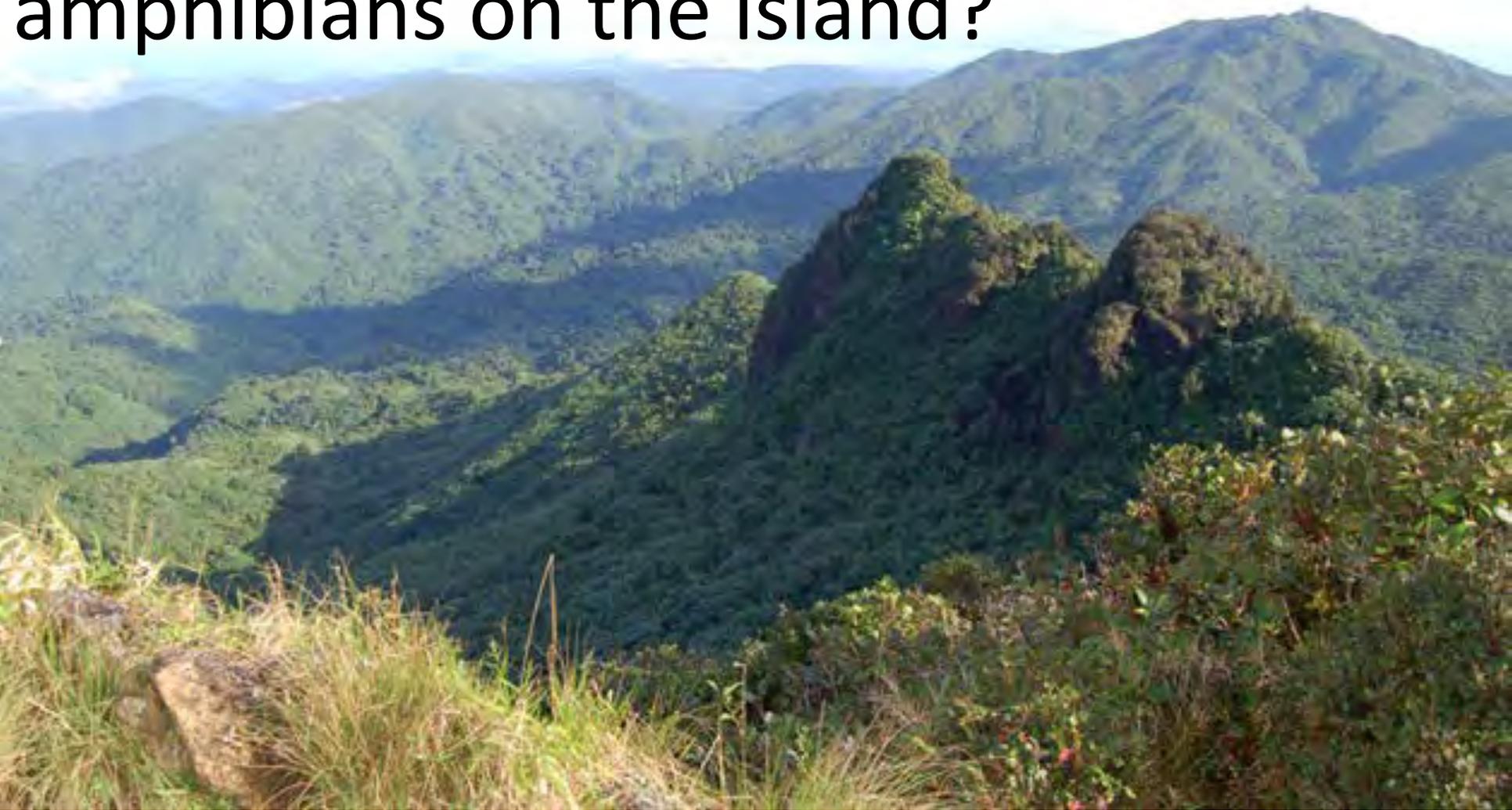
17 *Eleutherodactylus*

- 2 endangered
- 14 at risk



Amphibians in Puerto Rico

How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?



El Yunque Rainforest

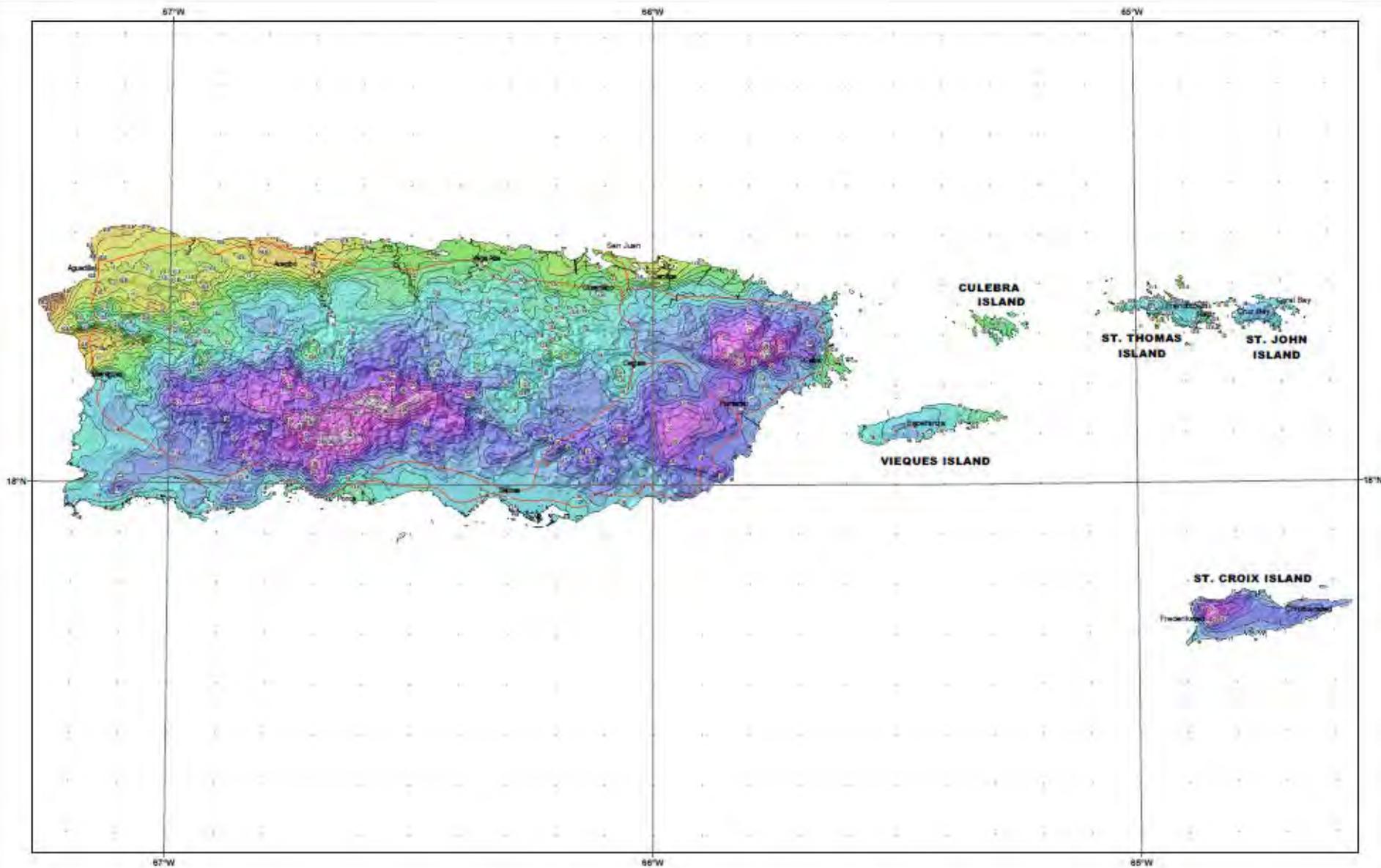
How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?



Guánica Dry Forest

How will subtropical drying affect amphibians on the island?





**NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 3, Version 4
Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands**

Prepared by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OFFICE OF HYDROLOGIC DEVELOPMENT
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DESIGN STUDIES CENTER
March 2005

SCALE 1:500,000 (not projected at 40°N 0°E)
0 3 6 9 12
0 2.5 5 10 20
Miles
Kilometers

PUERTO RICO AND U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

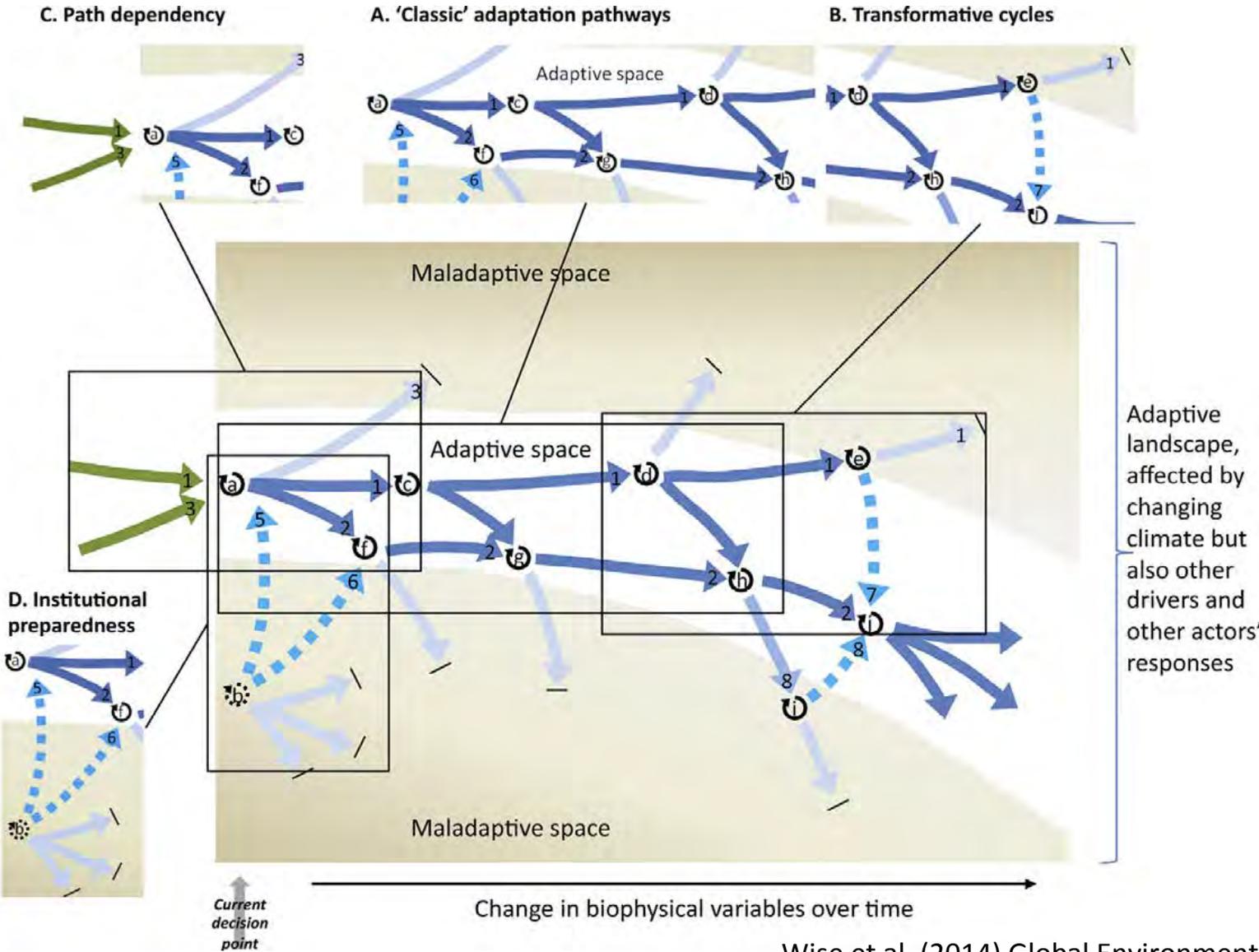
**Isopluvials of 24 hour precipitation (inches)
with Average Recurrence Interval of 100 years**

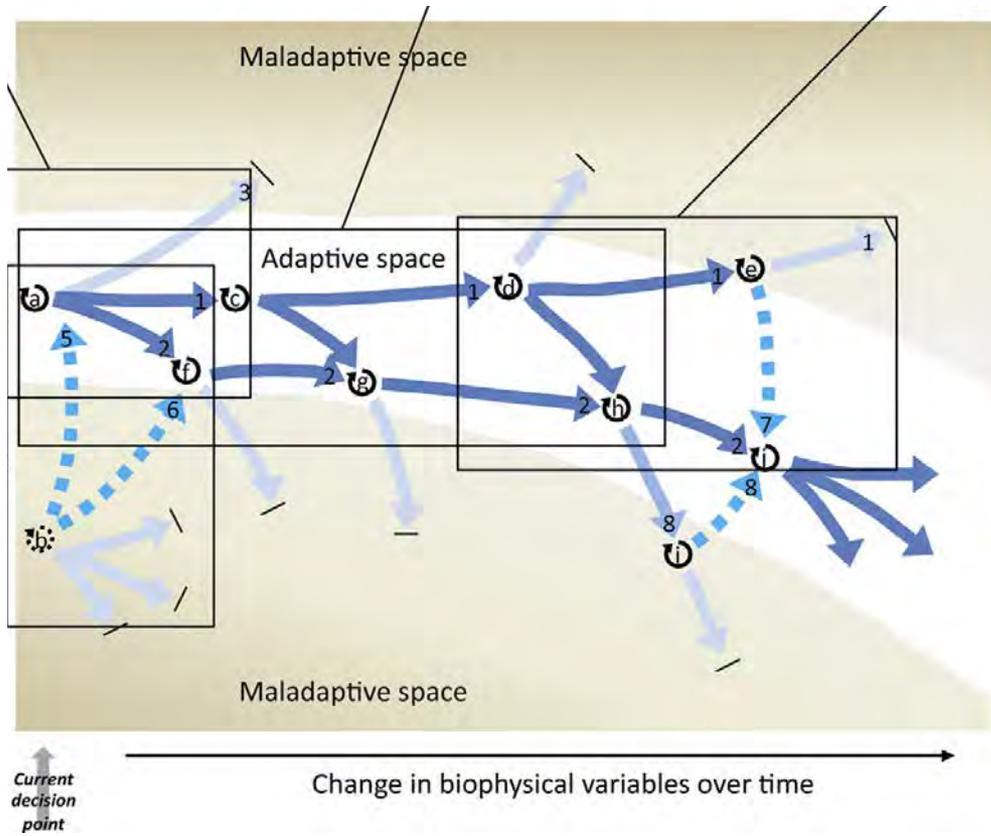
See NOAA Atlas 14 documentation for factors to convert to Annual
Exceedance Probabilities for all estimates below 25 years



Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic, Datum: NAD83, Standard Parallels: 30° and 47° Central Meridian: 81°

BROADER CONCEPTUALIZATION





How wide is this space?

VULNERABILITY

What is its trajectory?

FORCING

Ultimately, trying to evaluate candidate strategies for adaptive management

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

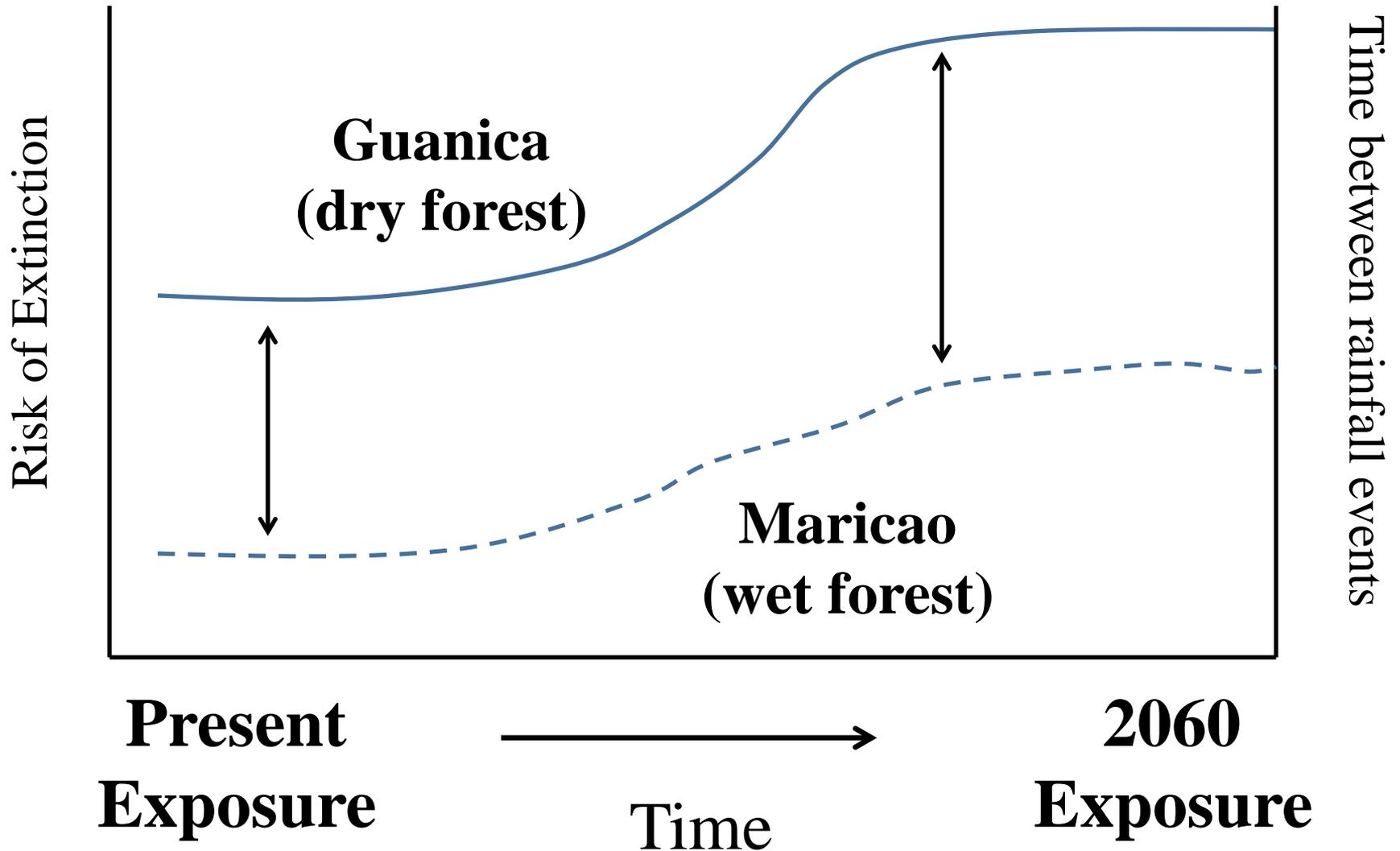


Life zones of Puerto Rico (Ewel and Whitmore 1973):

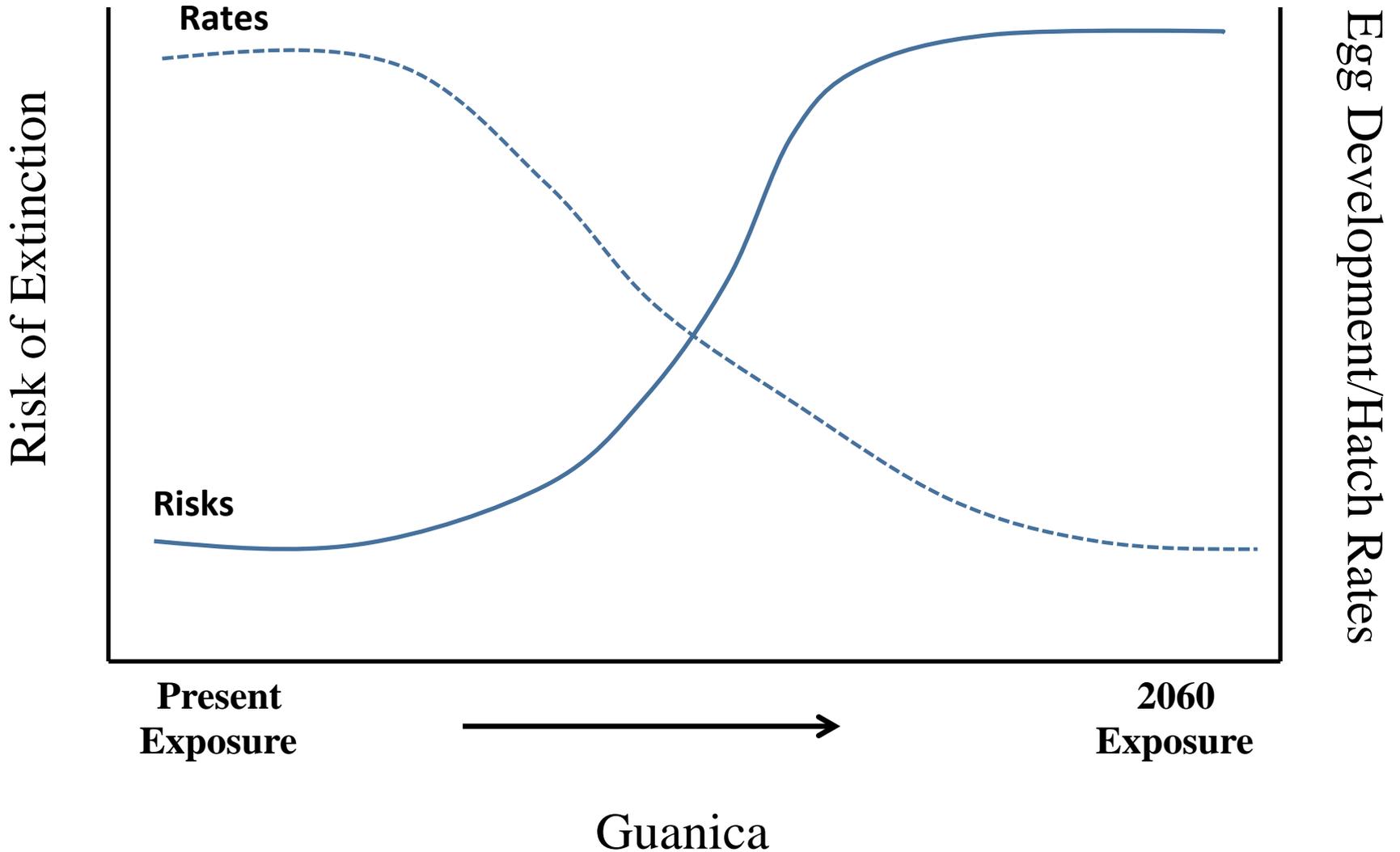
- | | |
|--|--|
|  Lower montane rain forest |  Subtropical moist forest |
|  Lower montane wet forest |  Subtropical rain forest |
|  Subtropical dry forest |  Subtropical wet forest |

-  Major cities
-  Central Mountains station
-  South coast station
-  San Juan station
-  Other downscaled stations

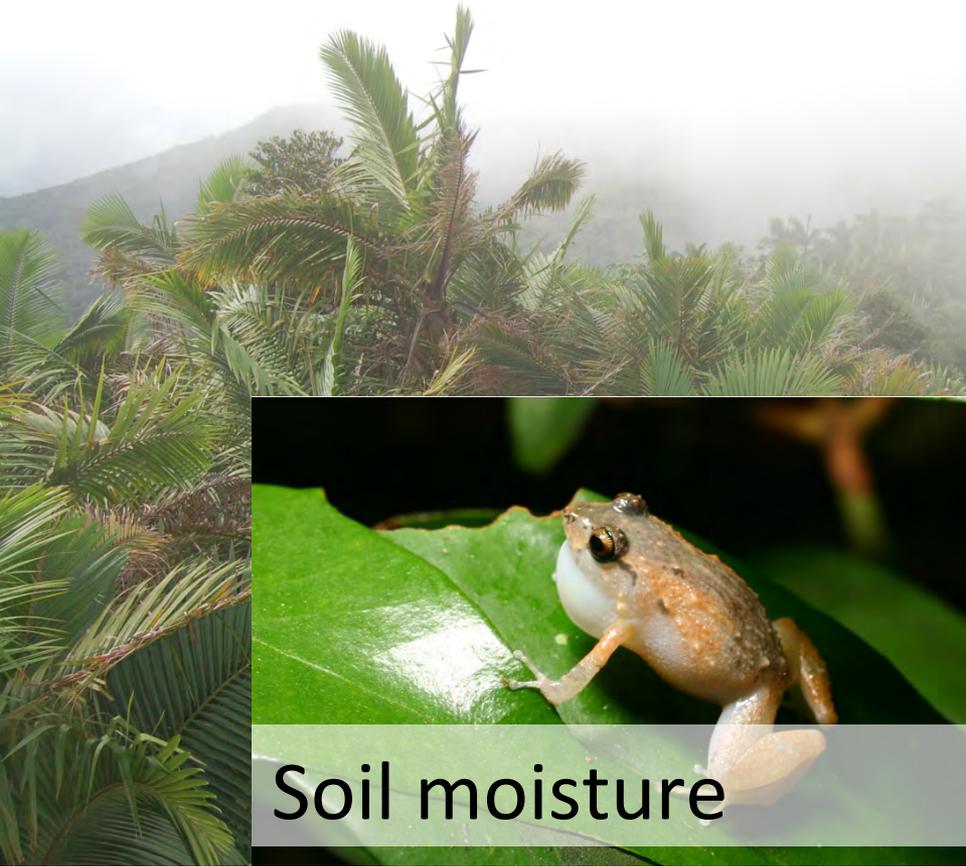
Exposure/Response Functions



Exposure/Response Functions



Cloud-based height



Ground heat flux



Soil moisture



April Rainfall >
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

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

CLIMATE MODELING

Adam Terando (U.S. 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 Memorandum
PRDownscalingFinalMemo

Climate Change Implications
Khalyani et al. 2016; Journal

ScienceBase Link: <https://>



Climate Science Centers & National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center

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Climate Change Implications for the Conservation of Amphibians in Tropical Environments

Project Summary

FIELD ECOLOGY

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

by birds and threatened and endangered species). The regions of the world because of the limited size of their tropical 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 actions to help advance the recovery and conservation of



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

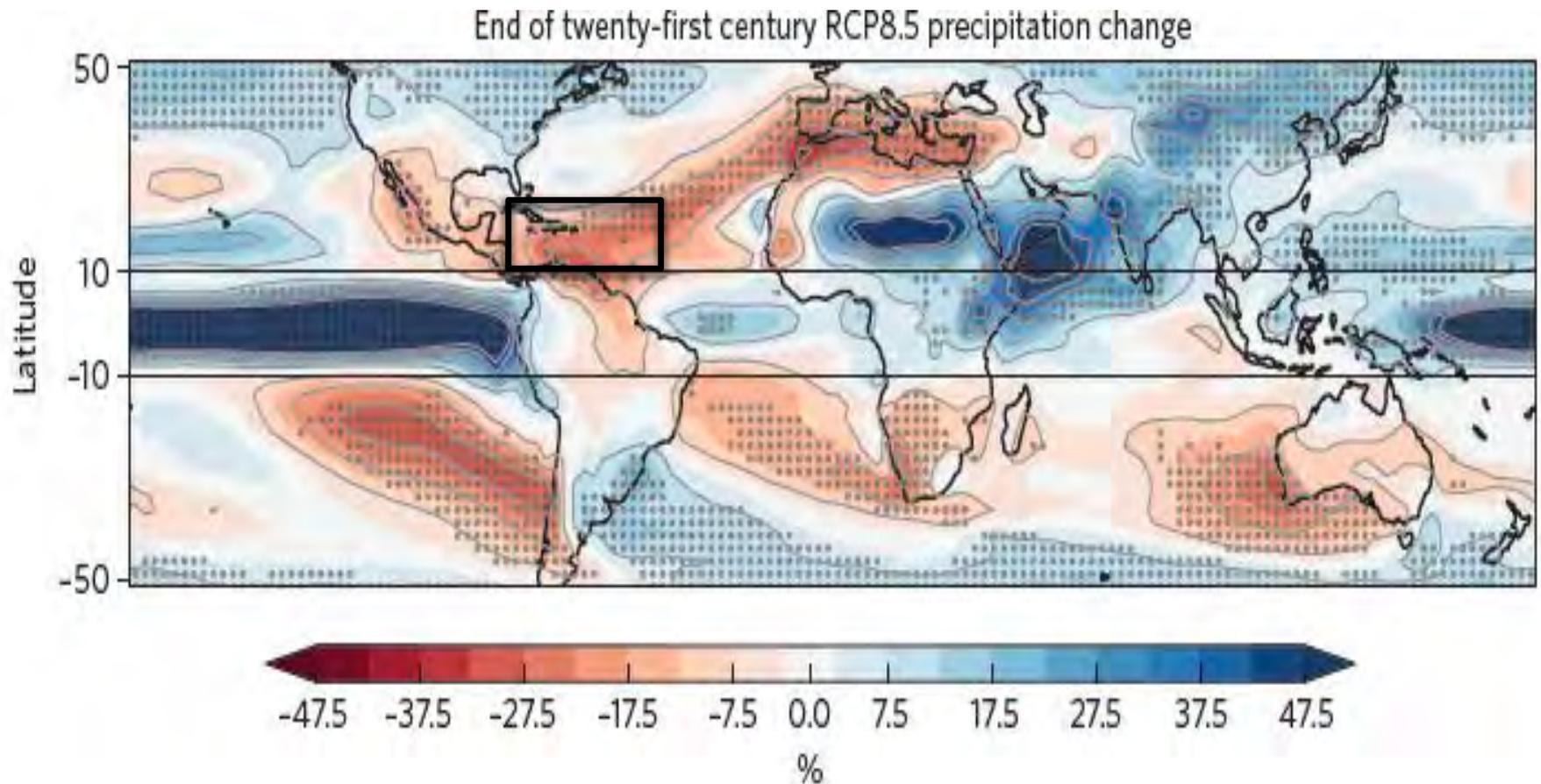
Total Planned Funding: \$140,000

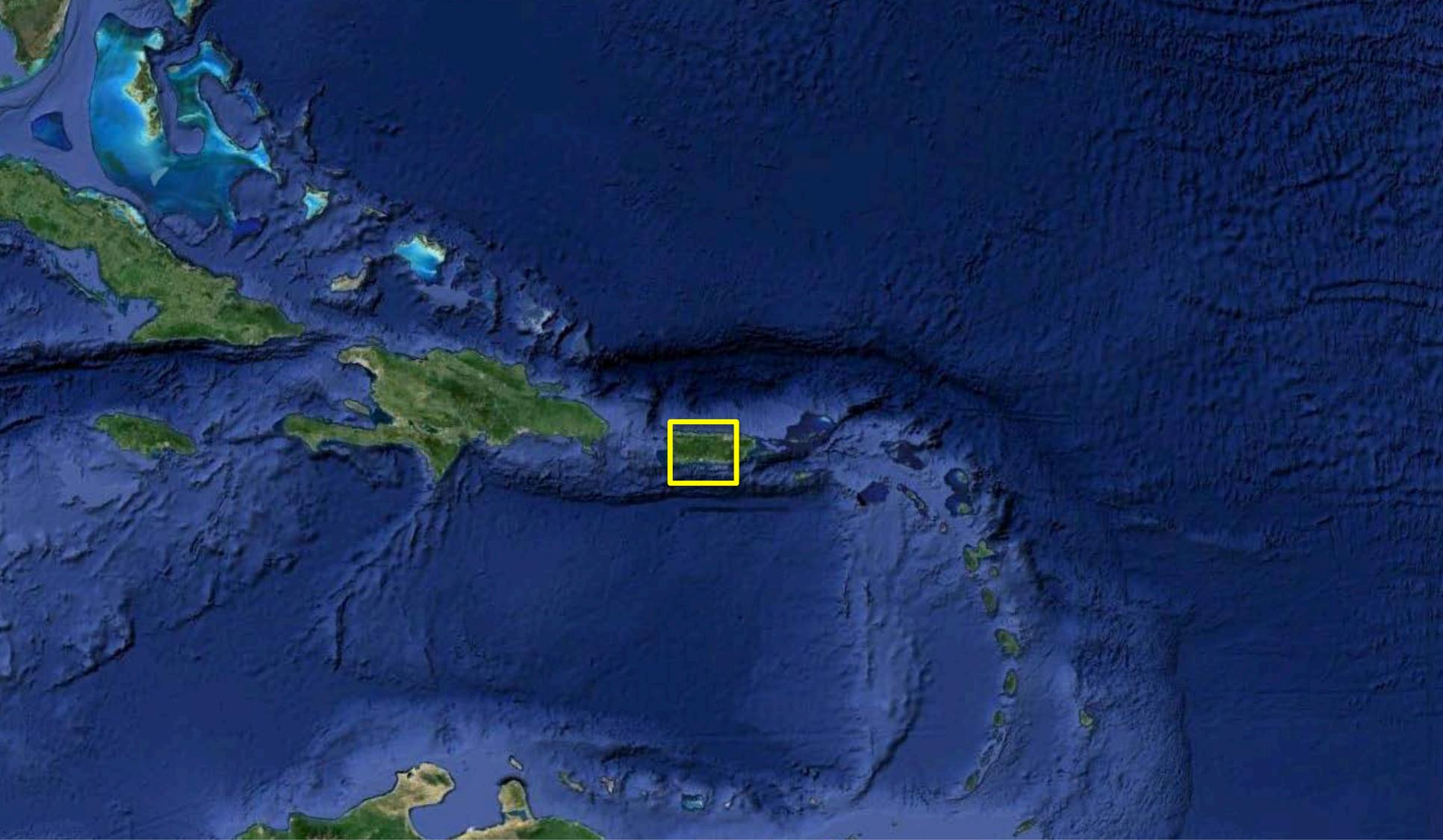
Project Completion: August 2019

Implements Science Theme: 4

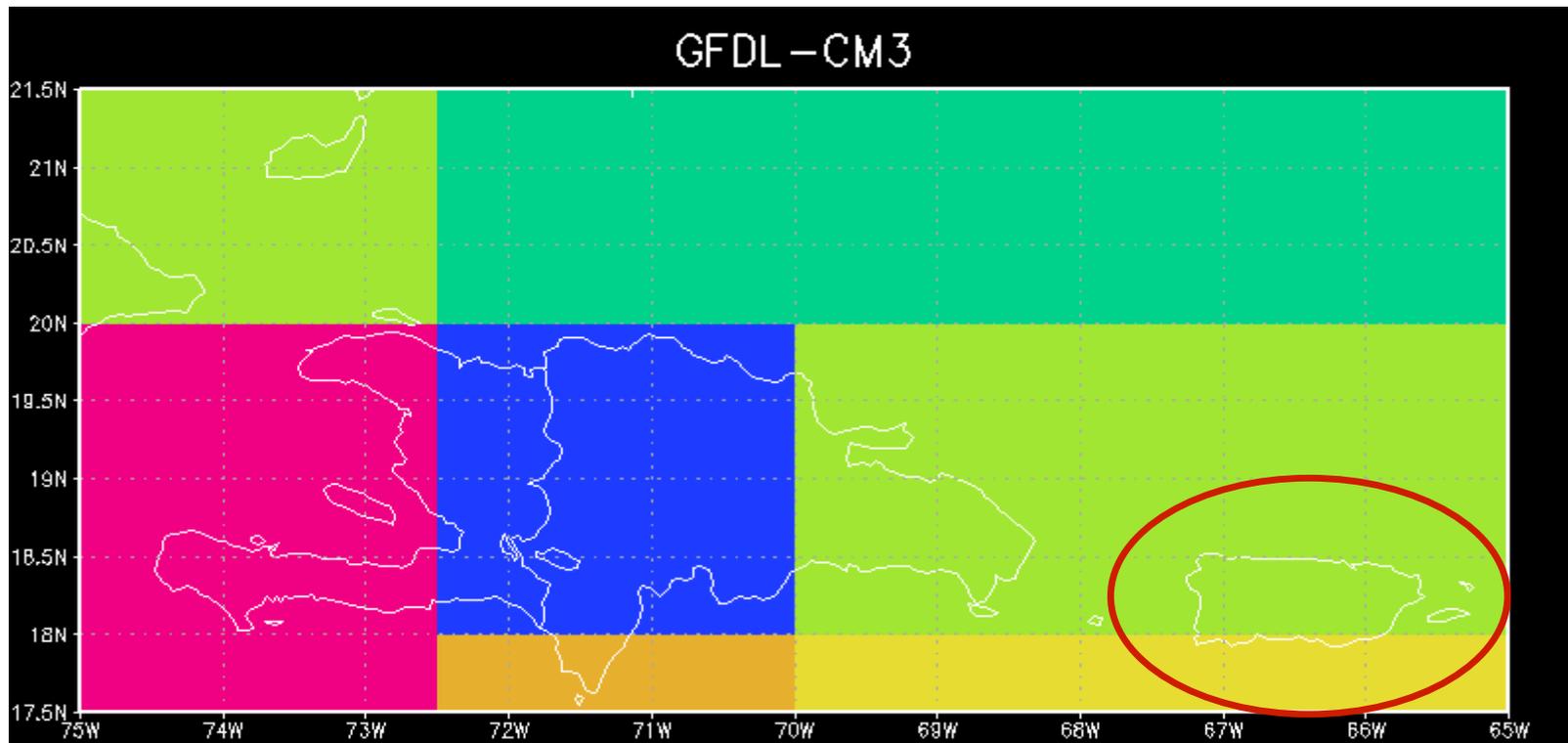
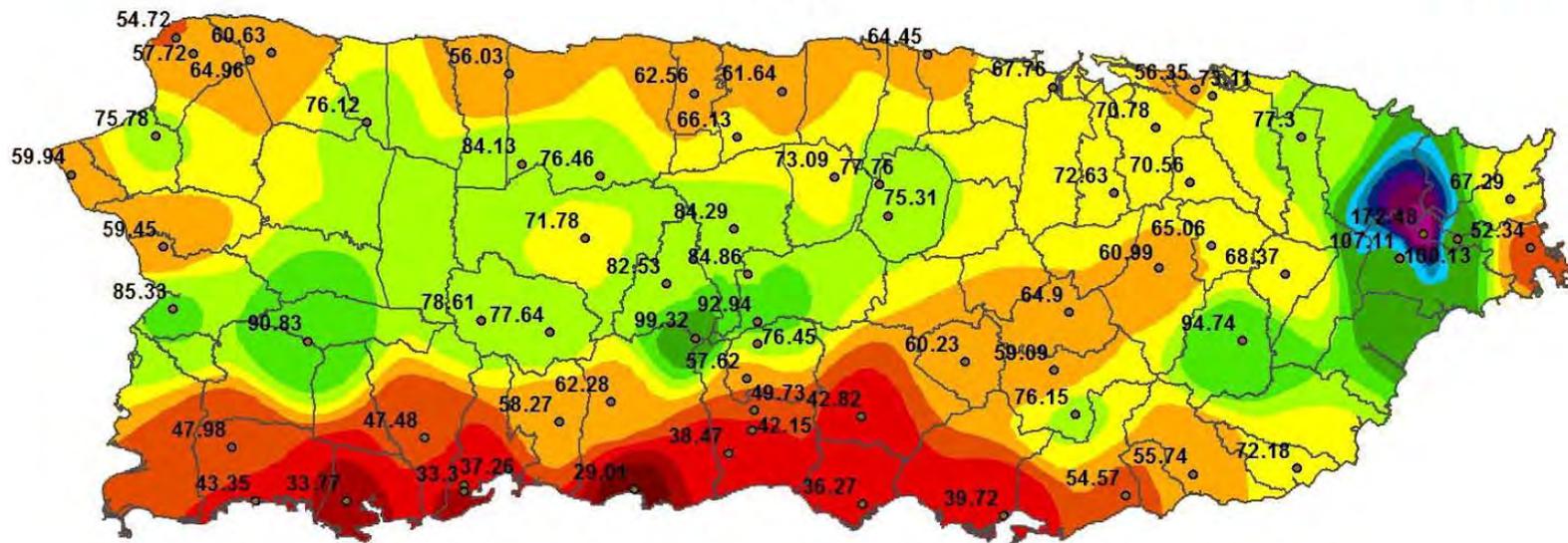
Co-PIs: Adam Terando, USGS Southeast Climate Science Center
Krishna Pacifici, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, NC State University
Jared Bowden, Institute of the Environment, UNC-Chapel Hill

Expect Sub-tropical Drying in This Region

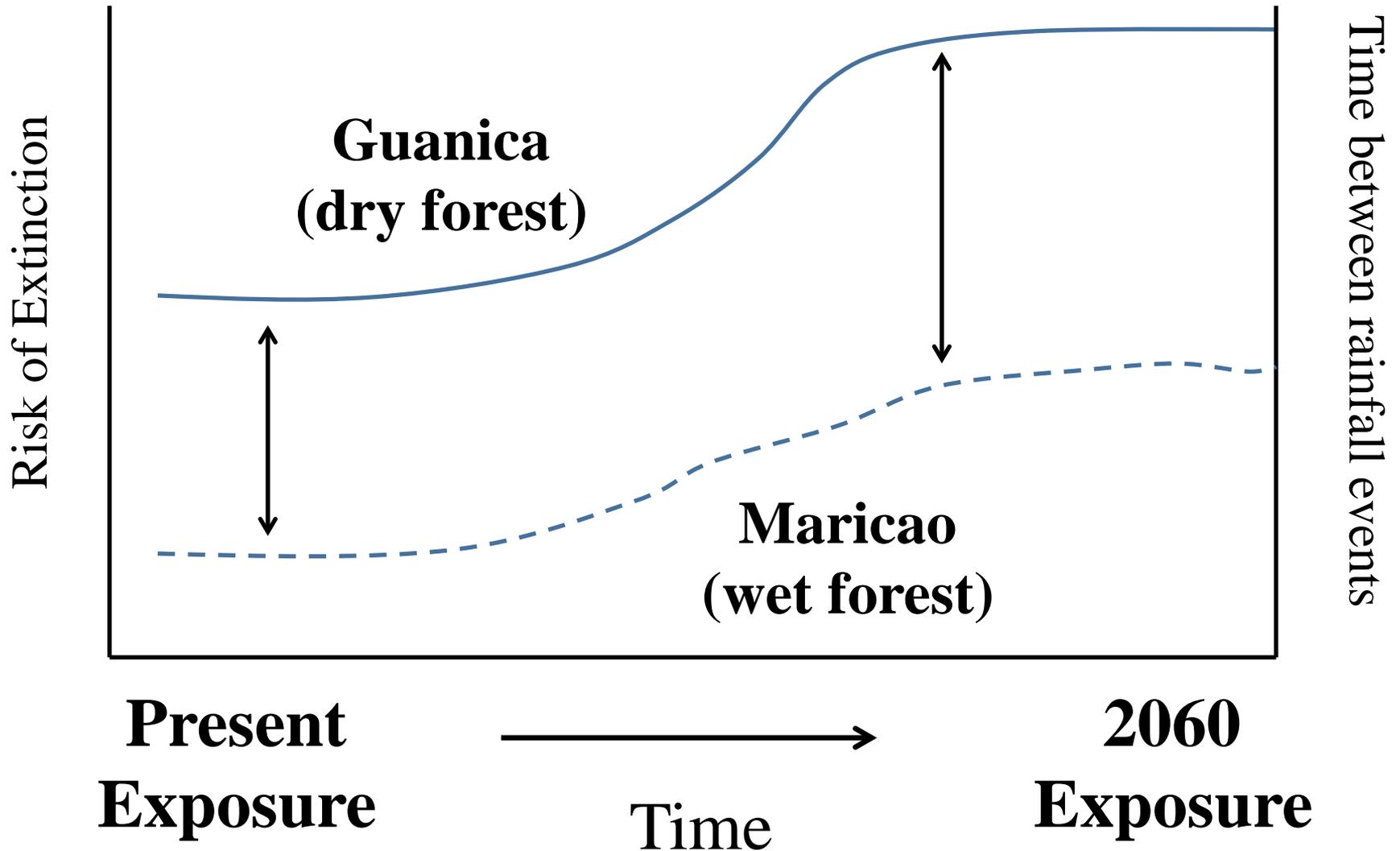




Global Climate Models are still very coarse



Exposure/Response Functions



Insights from Downscaling

