

Joshua Barnes, AEM, MPH

Manager, Disaster Response Coordination System, NASA

Speaker Bio:

Joshua Barnes is the manager of the Disasters Response Coordination System (DRCS) Project Office within NASA's Disasters program. In his role, he leads the coordination of NASA-wide efforts to use the best available science, technology, and expertise to aid decisions of those working in operational disaster response.

Barnes formerly served as recovery director at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in Washington, DC. He is a highly experienced emergency management and community development leader with demonstrated success working with federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, non-profit, and private sector leaders across the country in deriving solutions to complex challenges.

Prior to SBA, Barnes led the Recovery Division in the Department of Health and Human Services, served on the White House National Security Council Staff as the Director for Preparedness Policy, and served as the Economic Development Administration Disaster Recovery Coordinator.

Barnes holds a Bachelor of Science in Geographic Sciences from James Madison University and a Master of Public Health from A.T. Still University.

Presentation:

Eyes in the Sky, Boots on the Ground: Three Years of NASA DRCS Support of State and Local Response

NASA's Disasters Response Coordination System (DRCS) fosters integrated relationships with disaster science and technology initiatives, tapping into the agency's end-to-end Earth science capabilities and unifying disaster science expertise across NASA centers. These capabilities can provide situational awareness and data-driven decision support over large areas that may be too remote, inaccessible, or extensive to survey through traditional methods. Responding to requests from international, federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, and voluntary disaster response agencies all of NASA's data products have free and

open access through the NASA Disasters Portal ArcGIS Online website. Recent disaster responses have shown both immense opportunities for leveraging new technology and data sources while also highlighting critical gaps where the organic connections between the research community, data providers, and the end users' practical needs don't always align. After roughly three years of deploying the system to support disaster response, the team has observed trends and themes that have been part of the continuous improvement, innovation, and development of value-add products to better serve the needs of emergency managers. This presentation will highlight how these lessons observed are being integrated into lessons learned and will invite participants to be part of that process in blue-skies through the promotion of joint planning, training, and exercises.