Major natural events such as hurricanes, floods etc. have a great impact on the life, property and environment on the areas where they strike. Assessment of the damages caused by the natural disasters especially by hurricanes may take days or even weeks to finalize. This may contribute to the delay of necessary relief efforts and identify the areas where relief and restoration works need to be prioritized. With the help of remote sensing technologies, it is now possible to retrieve images within a short time and use tools such as data fusion and tasseled cap transformation to observe the dynamics of vegetation cover and landscape changes where the hurricane landfill takes place. The changes in the landscape also help create a connection with water quality parameters such as total organic carbon and sea surface salinity, which help in the assessment of impact on coastal drinking water supply systems and groundwater aquifers in the coastal watersheds.

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Approved for distribution by Ni-bin Chang, Committee Chair, on October 9, 2017.

The public is welcome to attend.