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Changes in Ocean Color at Puerto Rico due to Tropical Storms¹ ANGELA FERRA, FERNADO GILBES, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez — In this research we analyze the impact of tropical storms in the ocean color of the Puerto Rico coast. The changes in ocean color are due to the absorption and scattering of light. It has been shown that remote sensing techniques are used as a fast and economical way to study the concentrations of phytoplankton and other water constituents at the ocean. Data from MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) were used to generate images of ocean color. The images were downloaded from internet and processed using the program developed by NASA called SeaDAS. The processing involved the standard atmospheric correction and algorithm application. Dramatic changes in ocean color were detected due to tropical storms Earl and Jeanne. The results support the use of remote sensing in this type of assessments.

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