

Aug 28 5 AM EDT CMS Analysis

Hurricane Irene Making Landfall at Atlantic City, NJ

At 5:30 AM the [National Hurricane Center](#) reported that Hurricane Irene made landfall at Little Egg Inlet, just north of Atlantic City as a CAT 1 hurricane with sustained winds of 75 mph and a pressure of 958 mb (Figure 1). This is the first landfalling hurricane in NJ since 1903. Irene is forecast to track west of the NJ coast, re-emerging into the Atlantic Ocean near Belmar, NJ. Irene is predicted to make a second landfall at Coney Island, NY between 10 and 11 AM. A 3 foot storm surge occurred at the NOS tide gauge located at the Steel Pier in Atlantic City. A maximum water level of + 6.53 ft MLLW was reported (Figure 2). Water levels are approaching 4 ft above predicted at the Battery in NYC (Figure 3).

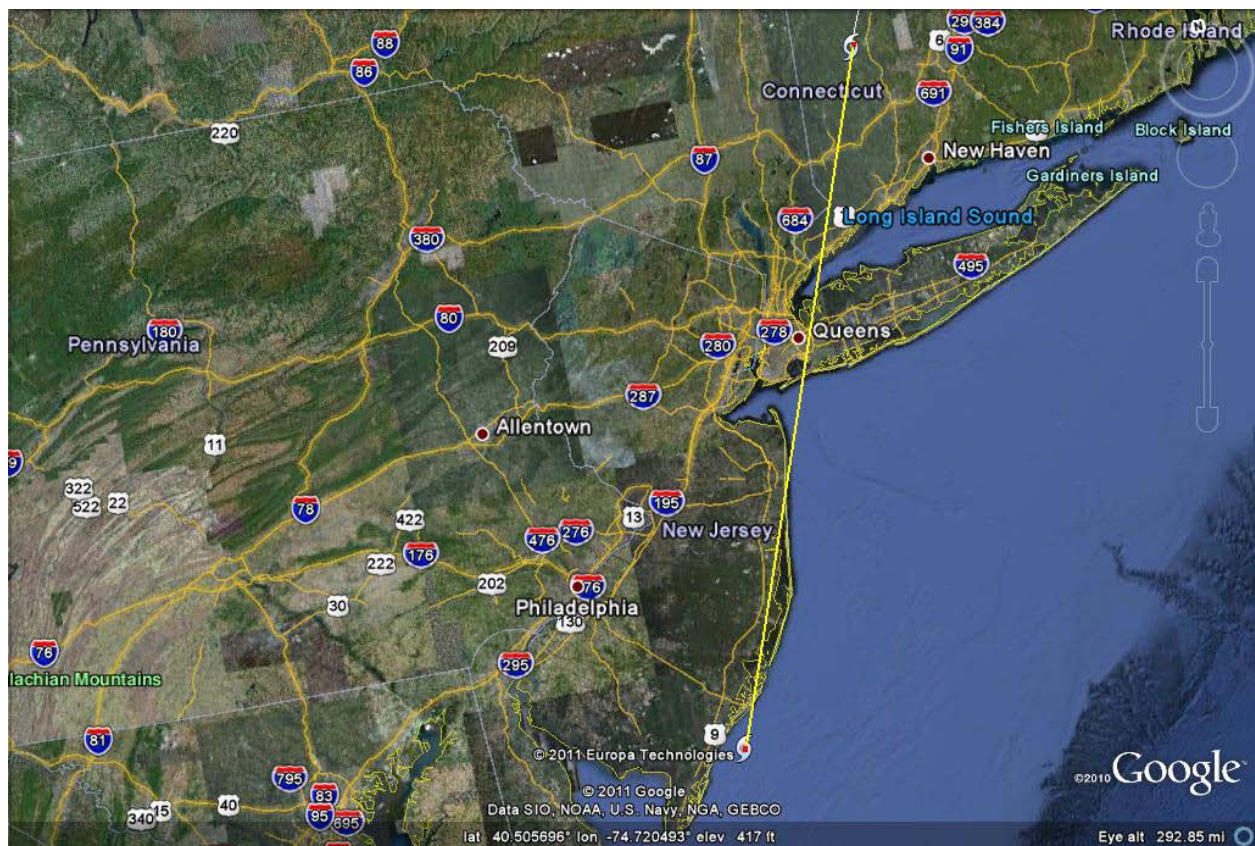


Figure 1: Most probable hurricane track issued by the National Hurricane Center at 5 AM 8/28/11.

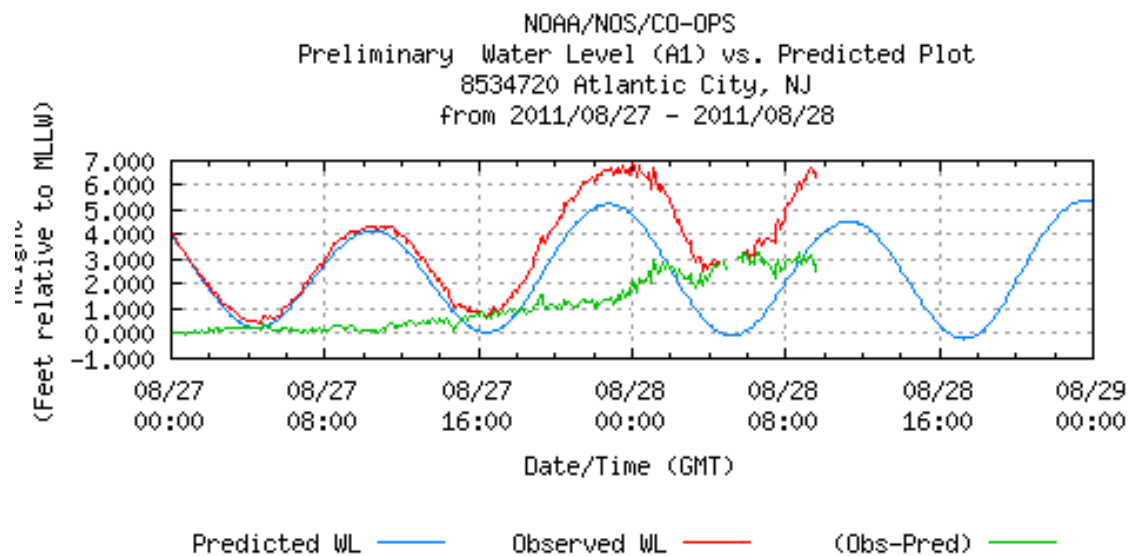


Figure 2: Predicted and Observed water level at Atlantic City, NJ

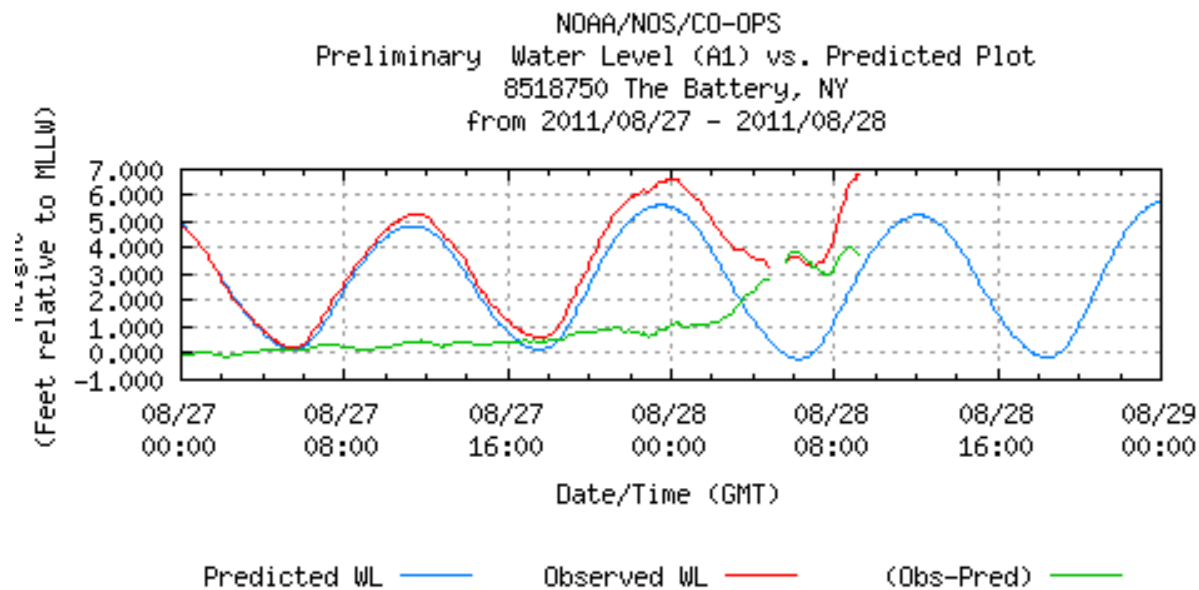
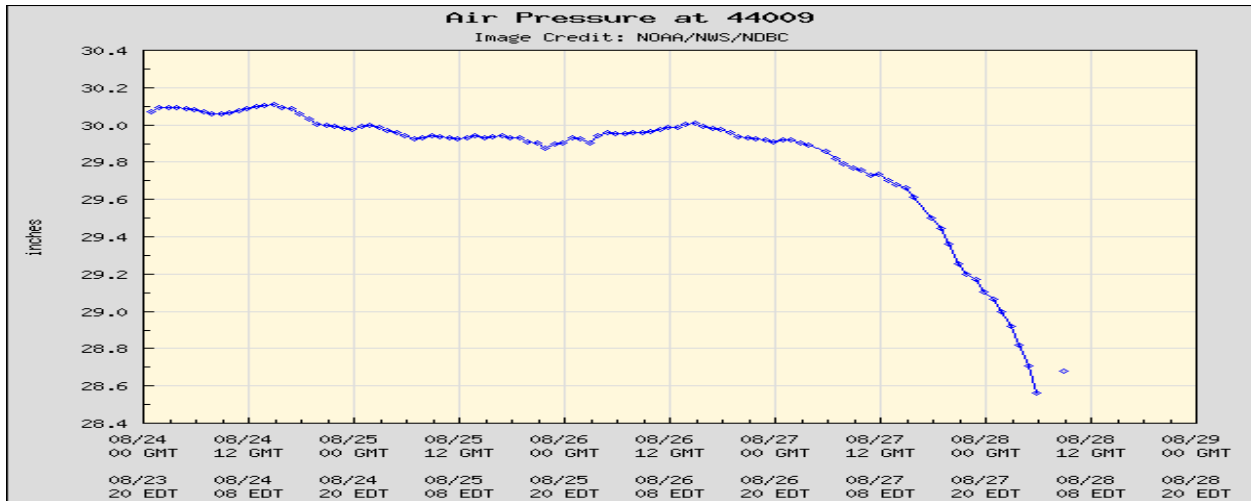
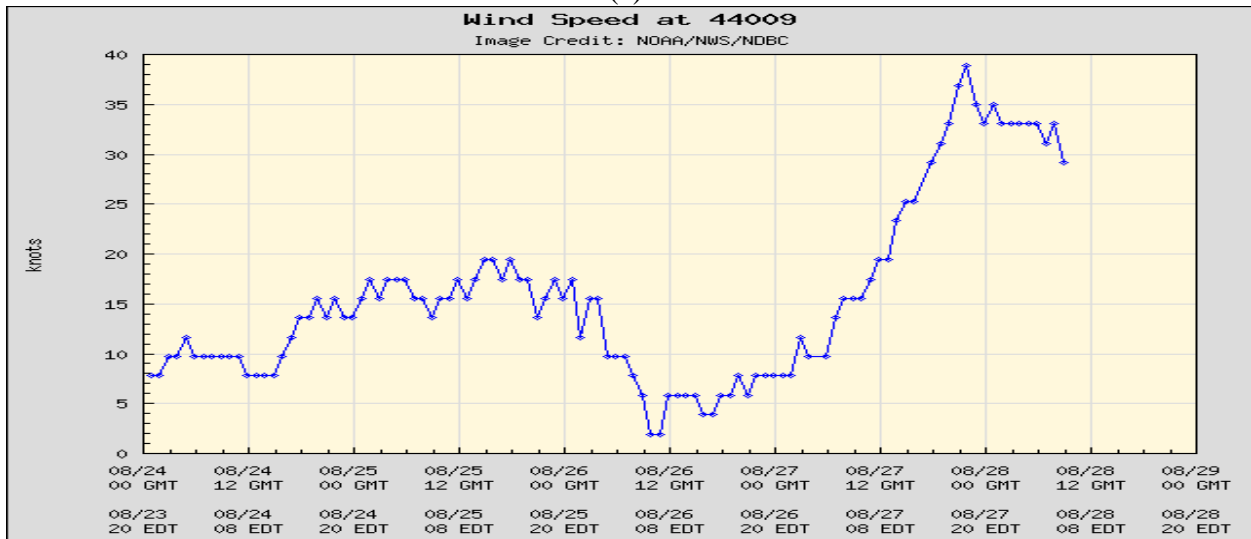


Figure 3: Predicted and Observed water level at The Battery, NYC.

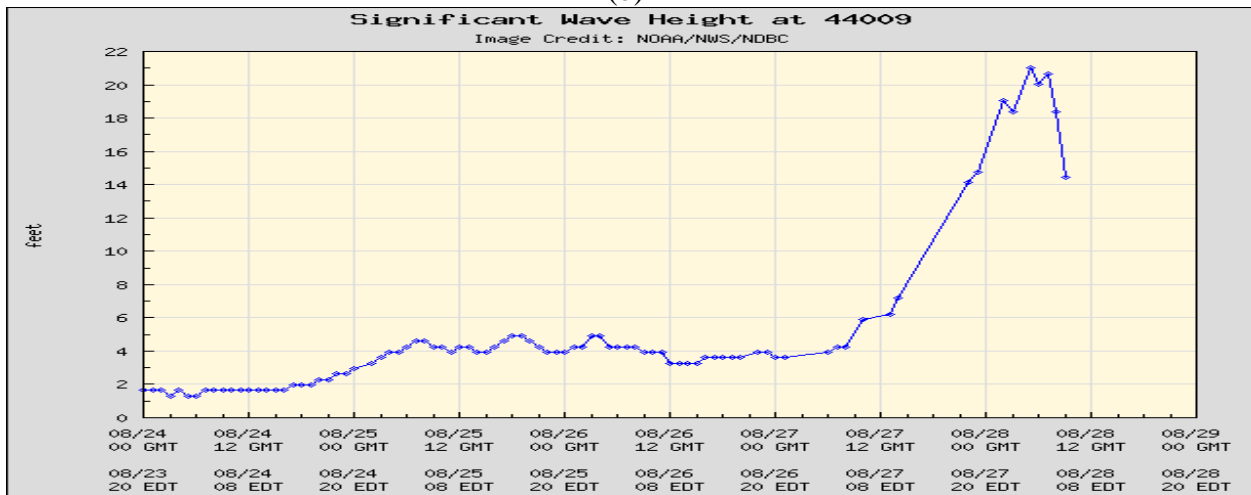
NOS Buoy 44009, located 26 nautical miles south of Cape May, is now reporting winds from the WSW indicating the passage of the eye of Hurricane Irene. A minimum central pressure of 967 mb, sustained winds of 38 knots and peak wave heights of 21 ft were measured at the buoy (Figures 4). Wave heights are forecast to range between 25 to 30 feet (Figure 5) as the hurricane approaches New York Harbor.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 4: Data from Buoy 44009; (a) Barometric Pressure in/Hg, (b) Wind Speed in knots, (c) Significant Wave Heights in feet.

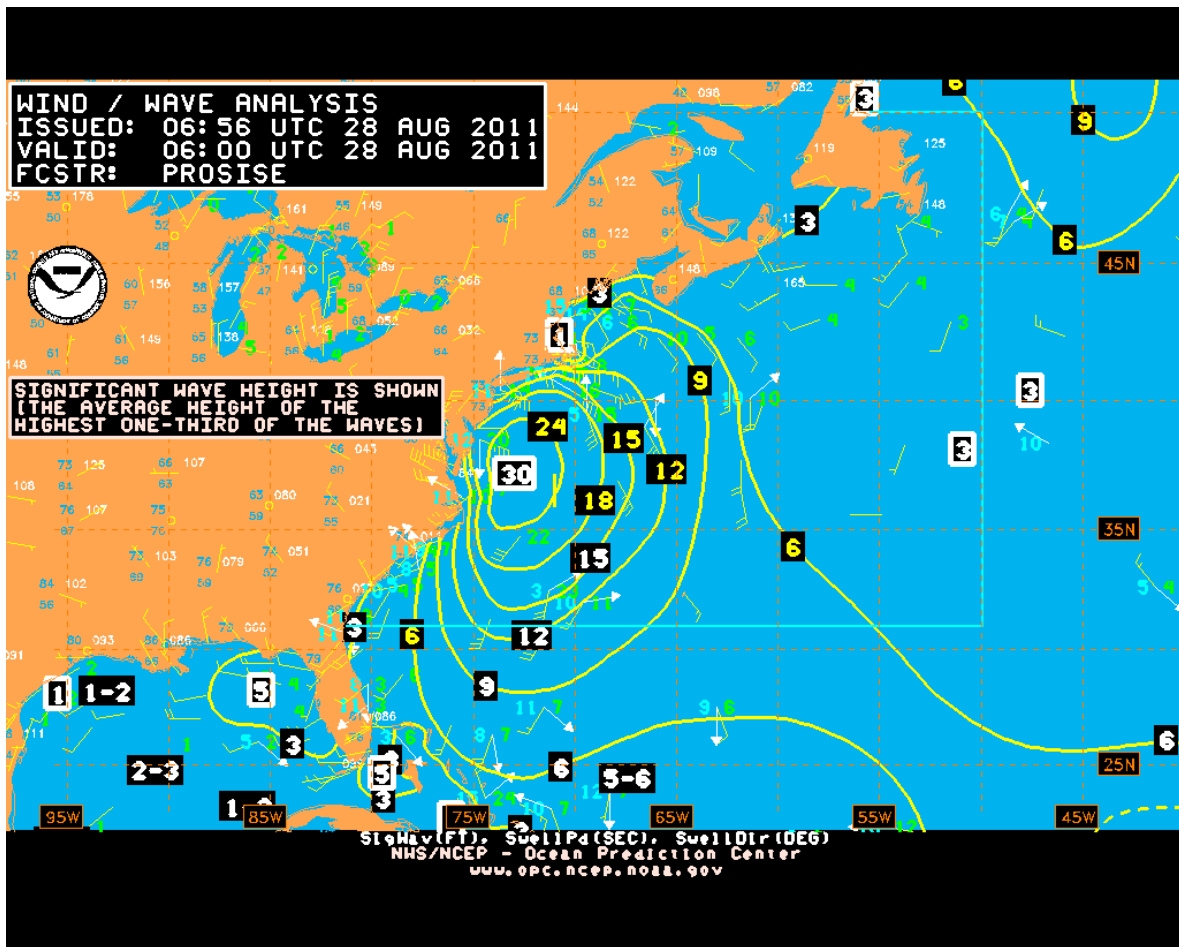


Figure 5: Forecasted winds and wave heights at 8 AM tomorrow morning.

Inland flooding is beginning to start on the smaller watersheds in NJ. Among others, the Bound Brook in Middlesex has exceeded flood stage (Figure 6).

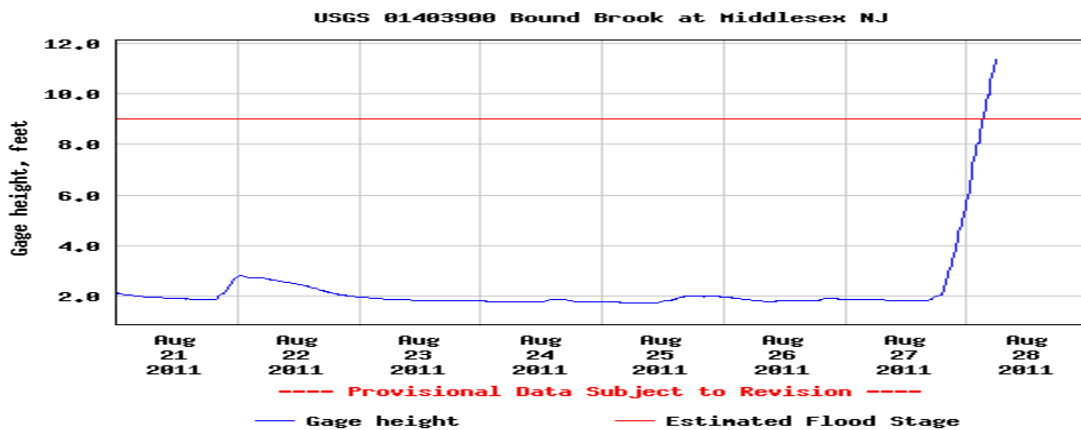


Figure 6: Water stage at Bound Brook, NJ