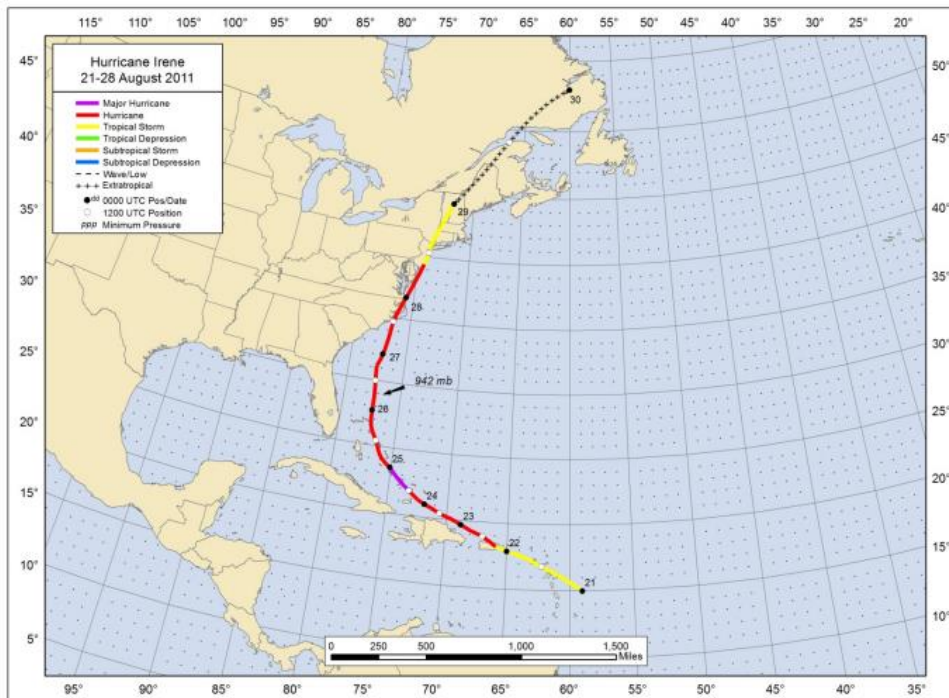


# Irene – August 28, 2011

Irene was the first tropical system to directly impact the entire NWS Albany county warning and hydrologic service areas since tropical storm Floyd affected the region on 16-17 September 1999. Despite similar tracks (Floyd's track was about 50 miles farther east), and similar rainfall amounts ([4 to 12 inches with local amounts up to 18 inches for Irene](#)), the flooding from Irene was far worse than from Floyd.

Irene produced [floods of record at 13 river gage sites](#) across the Albany hydrologic service area. Tidal flooding also occurred along the Hudson River as far north as Albany. The very wet antecedent conditions, combined with extreme rainfall rates of an inch per hour for up to 12 hours, produced widespread flash flooding on all waterways, including main stem rivers. The rapid water level rises on main stem rivers were similar to flash flooding that occurs on small streams during thunderstorms with extreme rainfall rates. Many towns in southern Vermont, the Schoharie Valley and eastern Catskills suffered devastating flash flooding.

[Tropical storm force winds](#) took down many trees and power lines, resulting in nearly one million people without power in the Albany forecast area. Tropical storm force winds extended for hundreds of miles inland from the coast. Tree damage and power outages from Irene extended as far inland and west of the track as the Adirondacks and western Mohawk Valley.



Best track positions for Hurricane Irene, 21 -28 August 2011. Track during the extratropical stage is based on analyses from the NOAA Hydrometeorological Prediction Center.