

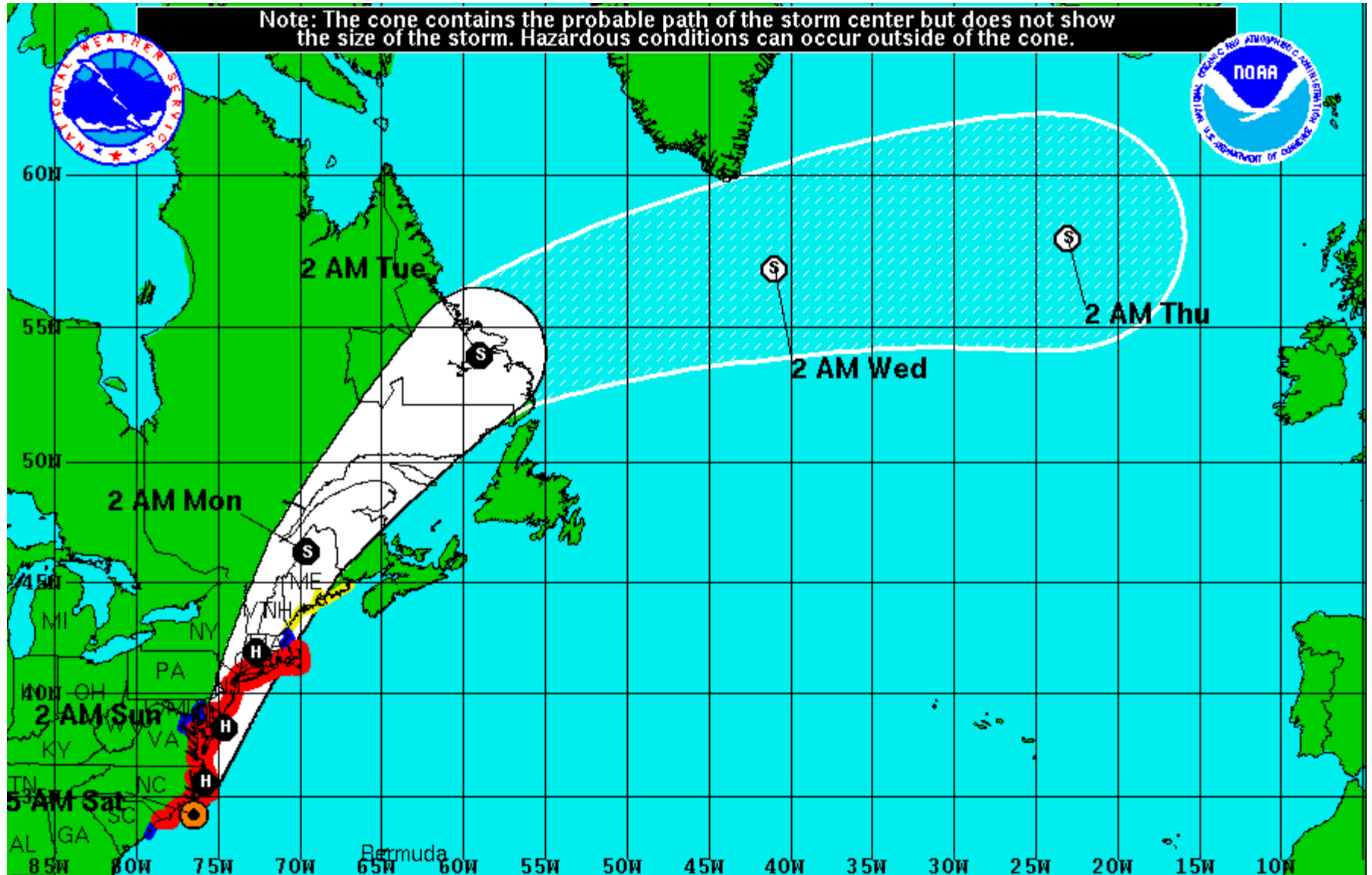
HURRICANE IRENE

CONFERENCE CALL BRIEFING SLIDES

Saturday August 27, 2011

8:30 AM

Note: The cone contains the probable path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions can occur outside of the cone.



Hurricane Irene

Saturday August 27, 2011
 5 AM EDT Advisory 28
 NWS National Hurricane Center

Current Information:

Center Location 34.1 N 76.5 W
 Max Sustained Wind 90 mph
 Movement NNE at 14 mph

Forecast Positions:

● Tropical Cyclone ○ Post-Tropical
 Sustained Winds: D < 39 mph
 S 39-73 mph H 74-110 mph M > 110mph

Potential Track Area:

▭ Day 1-3 ▨ Day 4-5

Watches:

■ Hurricane ■ Trop.Storm

Warnings:

■ Hurricane ■ Trop.Storm

HURRICANE IRENE WATCHES/WARNINGS

- **Hurricane Warning along south coast including all of Cape Cod and Islands**
- **Tropical Storm Warning Massachusetts east coast north of the Cape Cod Canal**
- **Tropical Storm Warning all of interior southern New England**
- **Tropical Storm Watch southern New Hampshire – may go to Tropical Storm Warning later today**

IRENE

TRACK/INTENSITY

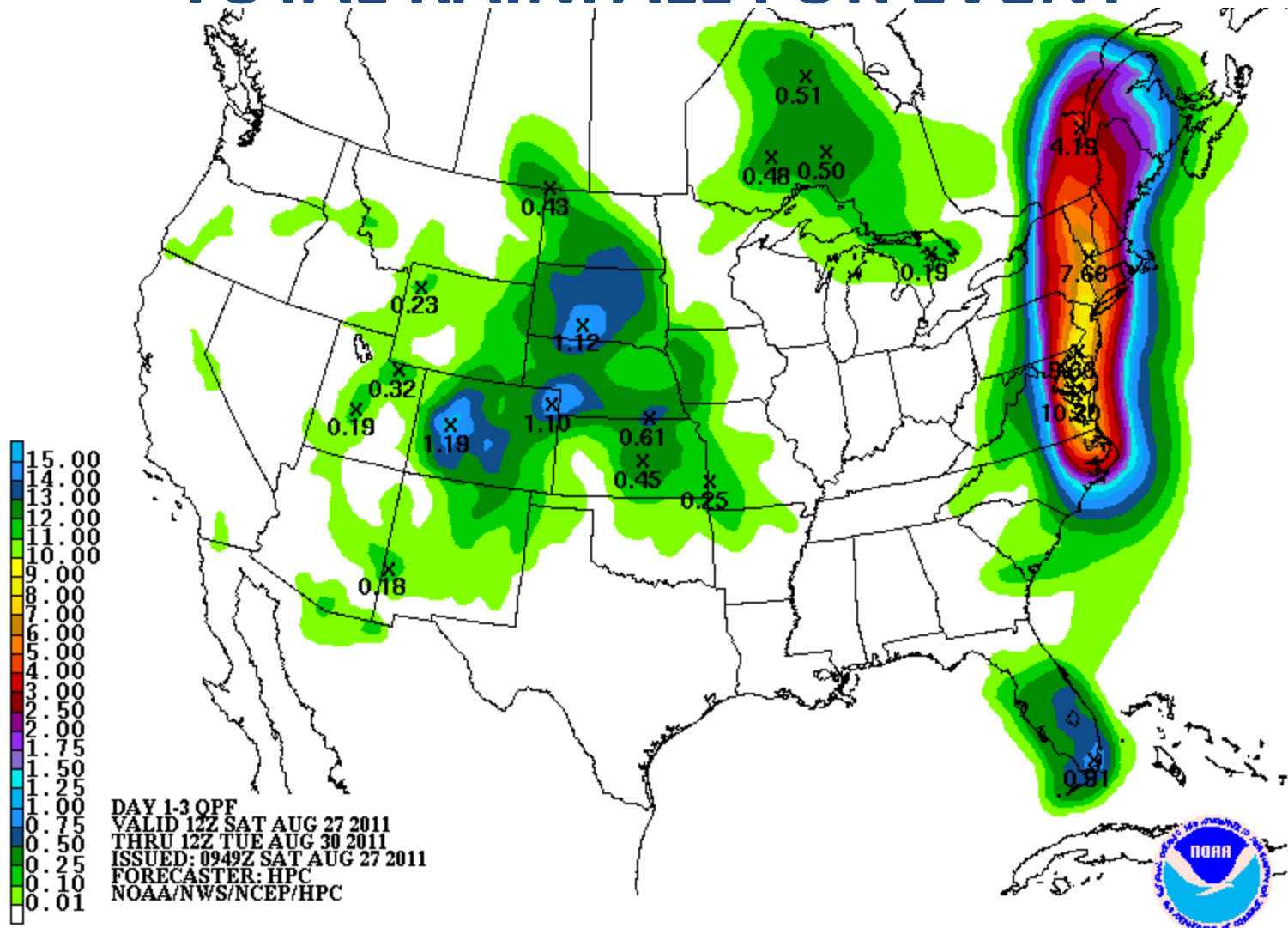
- Most likely track:
 - Western Long Island to near Hartford to near Concord, NH
 - Vicinity of Hartford early or mid Sunday afternoon
- Intensity
 - Arrive as Category 1 Hurricane or strong tropical storm

HURRICANE IRENE

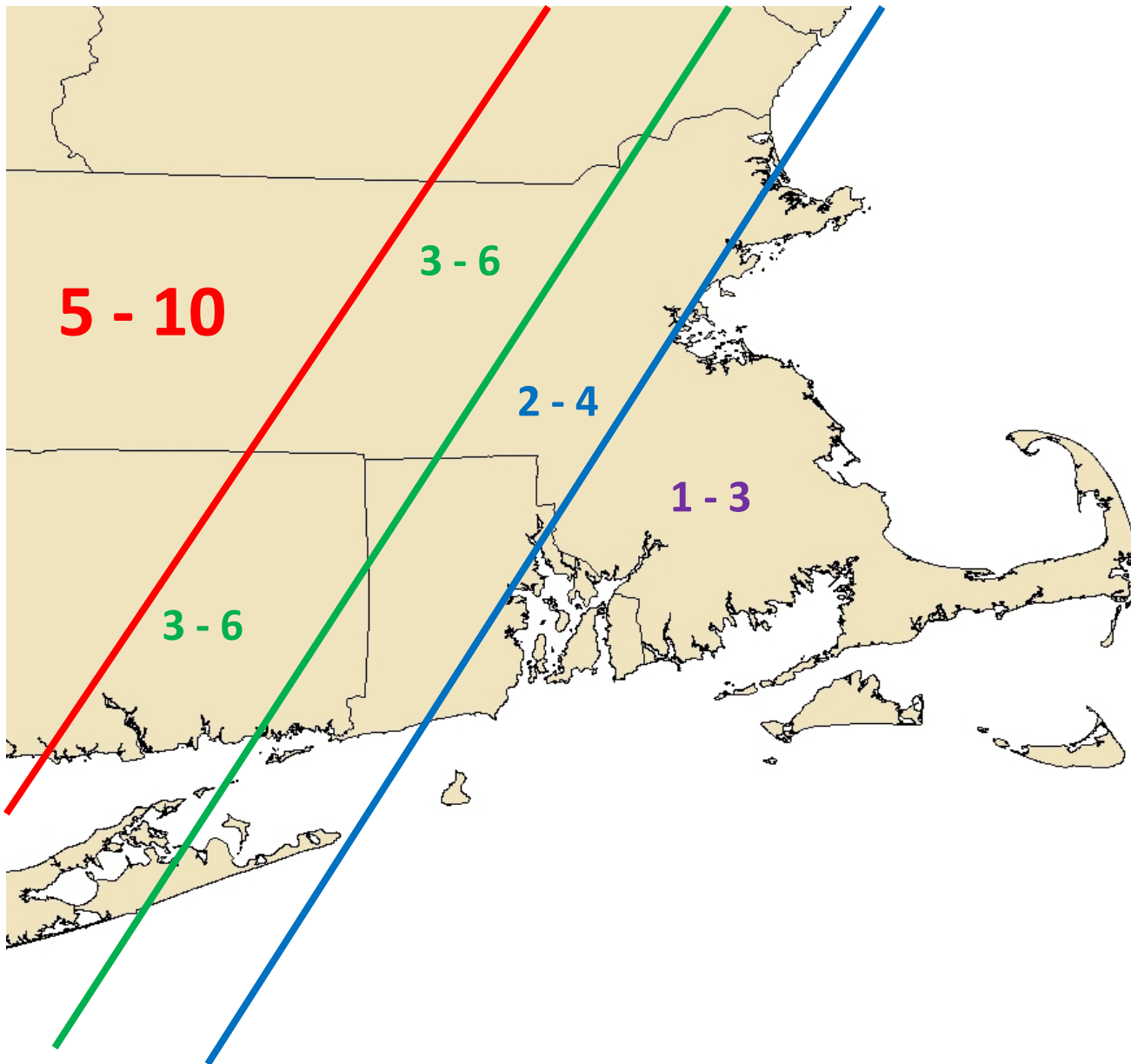
IMPACTS – HEAVY RAIN/FLOODING

- Heavy rain
 - 5 to 10 inches Connecticut River Valley
 - 3 to 7 inches eastern Connecticut, northwest Rhode Island, central Massachusetts, and southwest New Hampshire
 - 2 to 4 inches rest of Rhode Island and Eastern Massachusetts except less over Cape and Islands
- Flood Potential
 - Most of southern New England in a Flood Watch
 - Widespread minor to moderate flooding across Connecticut River Valley with isolated major possible (e.g. Connecticut River at Middletown)
 - Rivers approaching or into minor flood across Rhode Island, central Massachusetts, and southwest New Hampshire
- Timing
 - Heaviest rain tonight and Sunday – ending early Sunday evening

TOTAL RAINFALL FOR EVENT



RAINFALL (inches)



HURRICANE IRENE

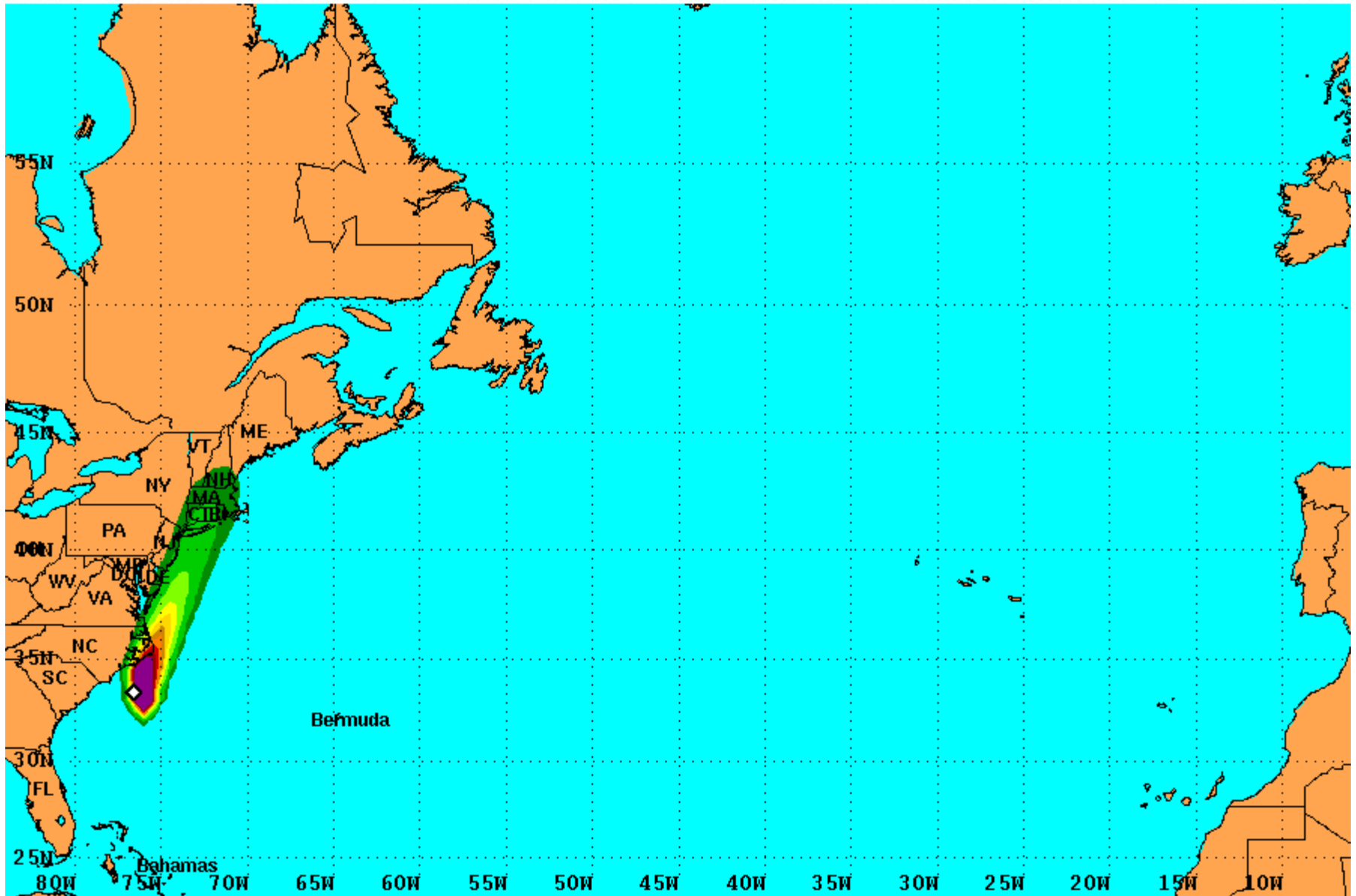
IMPACTS - WIND

- **Damaging winds likely over much of the area**
 - Most extensive damage eastern Connecticut, Rhode Island, central and eastern Massachusetts
 - High end tropical storm force or minimal hurricane force winds along Rhode Island and Massachusetts south coast including Cape Cod and Islands
 - Tropical storm force winds with scattered hurricane force gusts possible inland and along the coast north of the Cape Cod Canal
- **Timing**
 - Tropical storm force squalls will likely approach the south coast around daybreak Sunday and spread north during the morning
 - Strongest winds Sunday afternoon and early evening – dropping below tropical storm force by late evening
- **Tornadoes**
 - Risk of isolated tornadoes over southern New England (northeast quadrant)
 - Any tornadoes would likely be narrow and short-lived
 - Challenging to detect in real time as well as identify after the fact



Hurricane Force Wind Speed Probabilities

For the 120 hours (5 days) from 2 AM EDT Sat Aug 27 to 2 AM EDT Thu Sep 1



Probability of hurricane force surface winds (1-minute average ≥ 74 mph) from all tropical cyclones

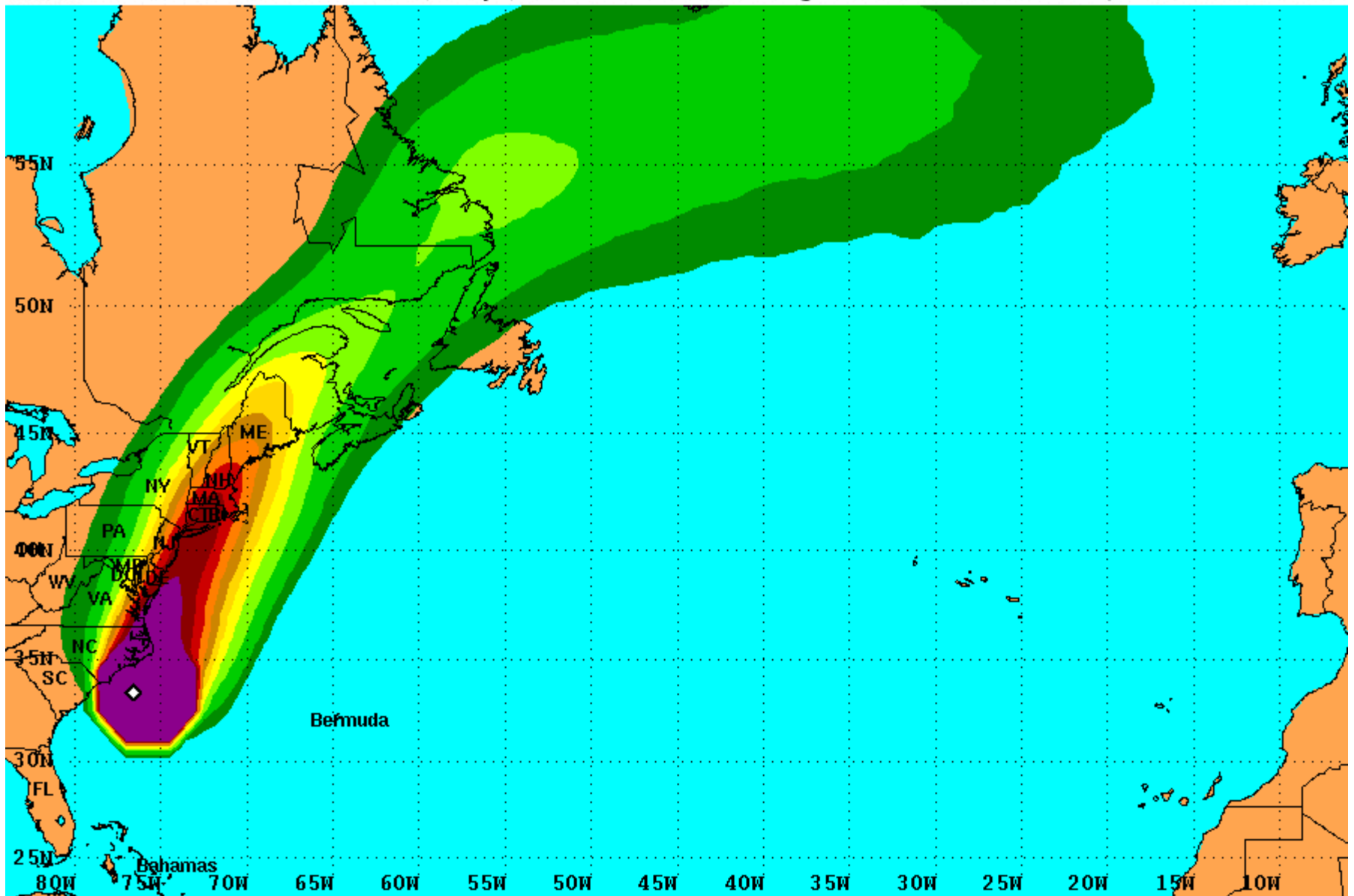
◇ indicates HURRICANE IRENE center location at 2 AM EDT Sat Aug 27 2011 (Forecast/Advisory #28)





Tropical Storm Force Wind Speed Probabilities

For the 120 hours (5 days) from 2 AM EDT Sat Aug 27 to 2 AM EDT Thu Sep 1



Probability of tropical storm force surface winds (1-minute average ≥ 39 mph) from all tropical cyclones

◇ indicates HURRICANE IRENE center location at 2 AM EDT Sat Aug 27 2011 (Forecast/Advisory #28)

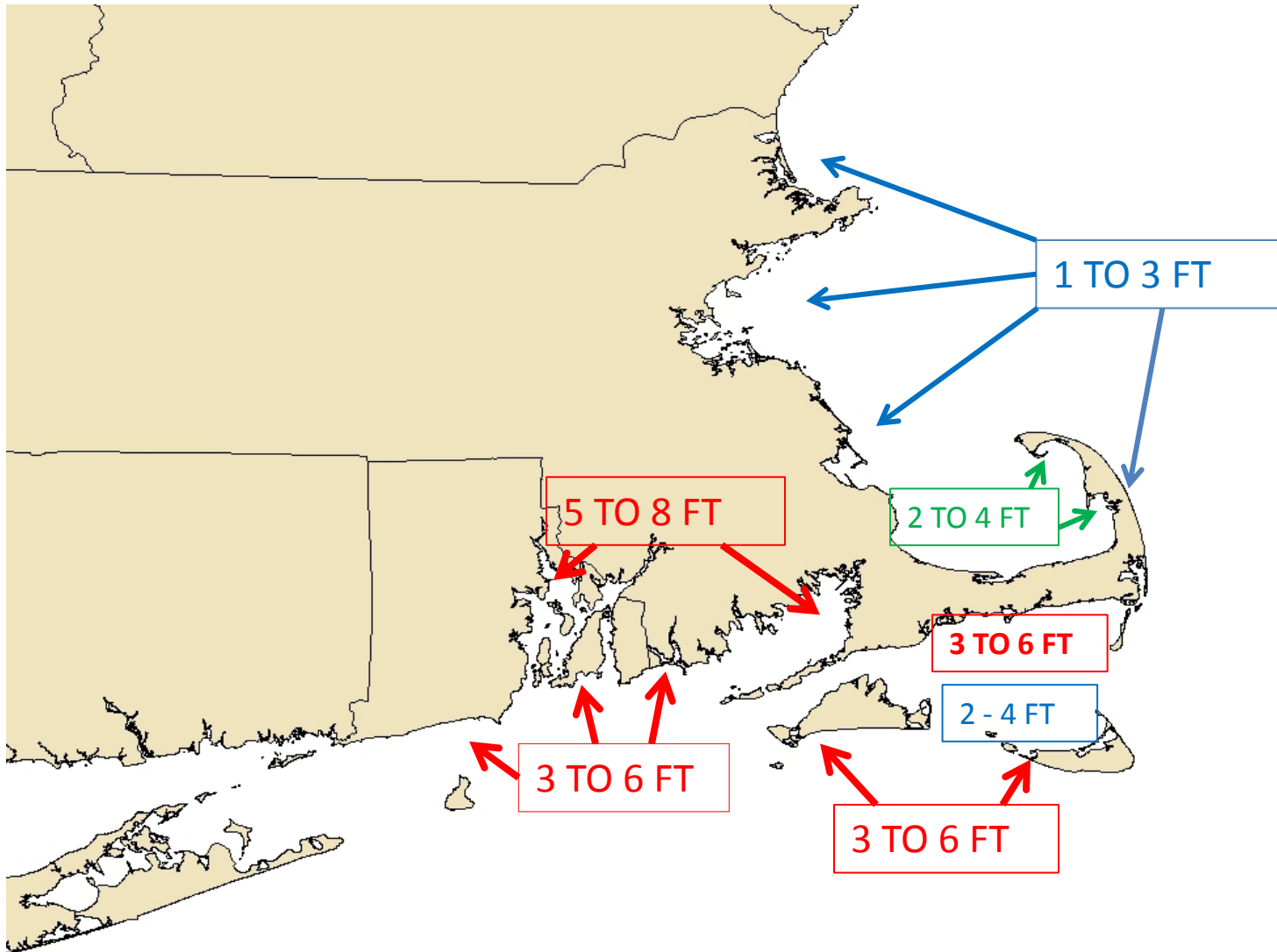


HURRICANE IRENE

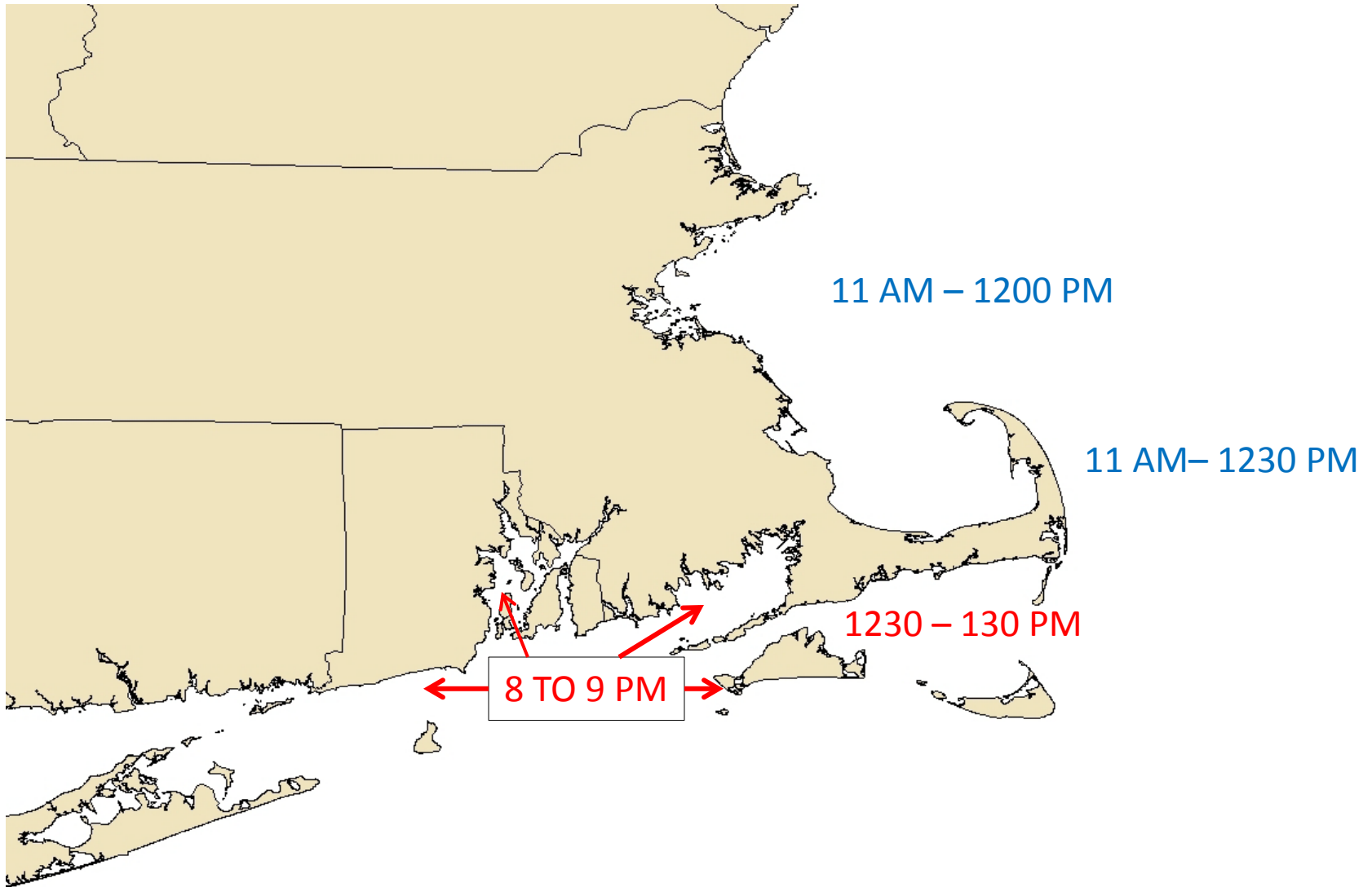
IMPACTS – COASTAL FLOODING

- Severity of coastal flooding dependent upon timing with respect to high tide
- Two areas and times of concern
 - South side of Cape Cod Woods Hole to Chatham during early afternoon high tide (3 to 6 foot surge possible)
 - Narragansett and Buzzards Bay during Sunday evening high tide (4 to 8 foot surge possible)
- High surf along exposed Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts coasts will cause erosion

STORM SURGE POTENTIAL



SUNDAY HIGH TIDE TIMES



HURRICANE IRENE

IMPACTS – MARINE/BEACHES

- Seas
 - Likely build to 25 to 35 feet to right of track
 - Even 40 feet possible well offshore south of New England
 - Timing
 - Building Saturday night
 - Highest Sunday afternoon and night
- High risk of rip currents through the weekend for ocean exposed beaches
- Significant Beach erosion likely south facing exposed beaches

CONFERENCE CALL SCHEDULE

DAY

- 8:30 AM Southern New England area
– covered by Taunton Weather Forecast Office (BOX)
- 11:30 AM Rhode Island
- 12:30 PM Massachusetts
- 1:15 PM Connecticut
- 2:15 PM Southern New England (BOX)

CONFERENCE CALL SCHEDULE

EVENING (as requested)

- 5:30 PM Rhode Island
- 6:30 PM Massachusetts
- 7:15 PM Connecticut
- 8:15 PM Southern New England Area

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- **Irene has weakened but still constitutes a significant threat**
 - Inland flooding likely especially Connecticut River Valley area
 - Large swath of wind damage especially along and to right of a Hartford Worcester Manchester, NH line with widespread tree and power line damage (no where near the scale of the 1938 Hurricane but most significant in many years)
 - Potential for serious storm surge flooding along RI and MA south coast – especially during Sunday evening tide when winds will be from the southwest
- Expect arrival of tropical storm force squalls around daybreak Sunday