

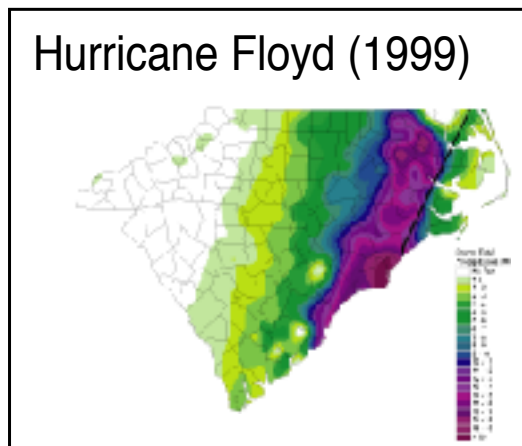
# Disaster Mitigation & Emergency Management

The State Climate Office is active with several government working groups. As a member of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT), SCO staff and students provide weather support to the Division of Emergency Management during severe weather situations. Whenever severe weather approaches North Carolina, the SCO helps Emergency Management staff to provide around-the-clock monitoring of the weather situation, including real-time data, and acts as a resource for questions on tropical cyclone dynamics and potential impacts on threatened communities. The State Climatologist is the Science Officer of the NC Emergency Management Weather Team and a member of the Disaster Recovery Team.

In order to better monitor approaching tropical cyclones, an automated weather station was installed at Aurora, in Beaufort County, as an additional component of the NC ECONet. It was funded by FEMA and the NC Division of Emergency Management. During emergency weather situations, the SCO provides real-time weather information from the NC ECO Net to the Division of Emergency Management. During the Hurricane Floyd disaster, such information was provided in order to aid rescue helicopters and for mosquito spraying.

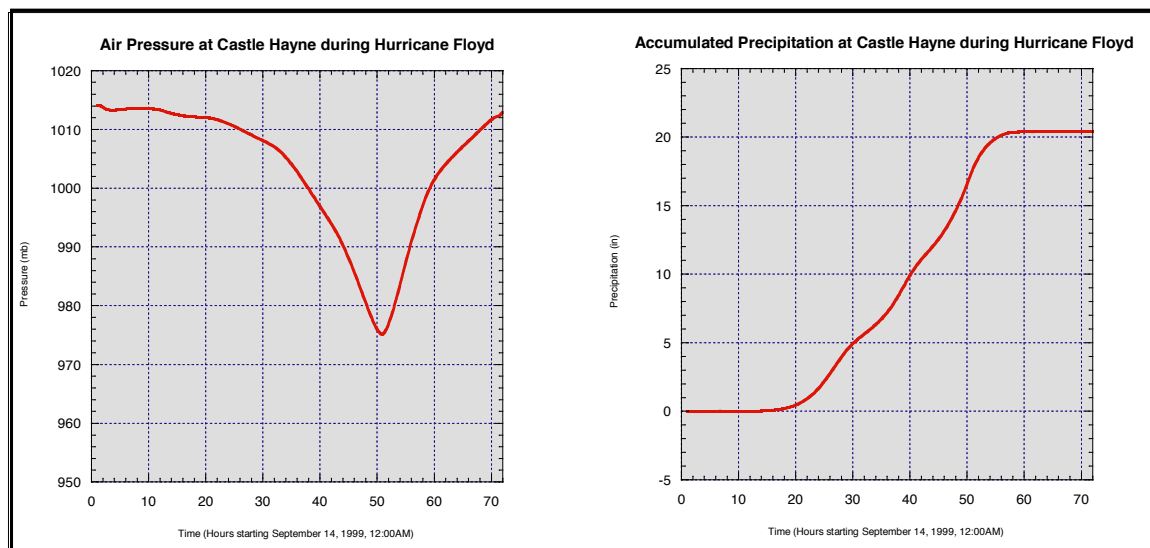


NC ECONet stations provide real-time information for approaching tropical storms and other emergency situations.



Storm Total P Precipitation and Track after Landfall

The State Climate Office serves as a resource for decision-makers, whether for emergency management or long-term planning. The SCO is active in enhancing severe weather awareness through the media and participation in public meetings and community forums. Since weather and climate impacts many aspects of life in North Carolina, providing weather products for use by government agencies is an important mission of the SCO.



The State Climate Office provides real-time information for emergency situations, such as these pressure and precipitation observations during Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Such observations are critical for disaster mitigation and emergency decision making.