# Extreme Precipitation: Historical \& Future Trends 

Jessica Spaccio, Climatologist j|r98@cornell.edu


Extreme Precipitation Events


## lrene

## 8/28-29/2011

2-Day storm events on 8/28-29/2011


Cavendish, VT: 7.60" = 100 yr storm event
Gorham, NH: 6.71" = 50 yr storm event
Andover, ME: 6.22" = 50 yr storm event


Heavy Rainfall \& Flooding - NH 2017



## Extreme Precipitation

2-day precipitation totals that exceed a threshold for a 1-in-5-year occurrence


Heavy Downpours Increasing
Heaviest $1 \%$ of daily events


Observed Change in Very Heavy Precipitation



Projections?

## Projected Change in Heavy Precipitation Events

## Rapid Emissions Reductions (RCP 2.6)

By late century (2081-2100) daily precipitation events that now occur once in 20 years, would occur nearly twice as often.


## Continued Emissions Increases (RCP 8.5)

By late century (2081-2100) daily precipitation events that now occur once in 20 years, would occur 3-5 times as often.


Future Change Multiplier


## Annual Maximum Precipitation

Precipitation falling on the wettest day of the year.
Rapid Emissions Reductions (RCP 2.6)
Continued Emissions Increases (RCP 8.5)


Change (\%)


Northeast Regional Climate Center

## Projected Changes in Atlantic Hurricane Frequency by Category




## Projected Rainfall \&

Frequency of 100-year storm
Return period (years)
Rainfall (inch)


- Return period of storm equivalent to 1961-1990 100-year storm - Amount of 100 -year storm



Thank you!<br>Jessica Spaccio<br>jlr98@cornell.edu

