

= Hurricane Cindy ( 1959 ) =

Hurricane Cindy impacted the Carolinas , the Mid @-@ Atlantic states , New England , and the Canadian Maritime Provinces during the 1959 Atlantic hurricane season . The third storm of the season , Cindy originated from a low @-@ pressure area associated with a cold front located east of northern Florida . The low developed into a tropical depression on July 5 while tracking north @-@ northeastward , and became Tropical Storm Cindy by the next day . Cindy turned westward because of a high @-@ pressure area positioned to its north , and further intensified into a weak hurricane off the coast of the Carolinas on July 8 . Early on July 9 , Cindy made landfall near McClellanville , South Carolina , and re @-@ curved to the northeast along the fall line as a tropical depression . It re @-@ entered the Atlantic on July 10 , quickly restrengthening into a tropical storm while it began to move faster . On July 11 , Cindy passed over Cape Cod , while several other weather systems helped the storm maintain its intensity . Cindy transitioned into an extratropical cyclone on July 12 as it neared the Canadian Maritime Provinces .

Overall structural damage from Cindy was minimal . One driver was killed in Georgetown , South Carolina after colliding with a fallen tree , and five indirect deaths were caused by poor road conditions wrought by the storm in New England . Many areas experienced heavy rains , and several thousand people evacuated . Other than broken tree limbs , shattered windows and power outages , little damage occurred . Cindy brought a total of eleven tornadoes with it , of which two caused minor damage in North Carolina . The heaviest rainfall occurred in north central South Carolina , where rainfall amounted to 9 @.@ 79 inches ( 249 mm ) . Tides ranged from 1 to 4 feet ( 0 @.@ 30 to 1 @.@ 22 m ) above normal along the coast . As drought @-@ like conditions were present in the Carolinas at the time , the rainfall produced by Hurricane Cindy in the area was beneficial . After becoming extratropical over the Canadian Maritimes , the cyclone produced heavy rains and strong winds that sunk one ship . Damage caused by Cindy was estimated at \$ 75 @,@ 000 ( 1959 USD ) .

= = Meteorological history = =

The origins of Cindy can be attributed to a deepening low @-@ pressure area that tracked from the Great Lakes as a related cold front traveled southeastward and became stationary over the Atlantic , extending from northern Florida to Bermuda . On July 5 , the front spawned a separate cut @-@ off cold @-@ core low off the coast of the Carolinas . This complex scenario resulted in the formation of a tropical depression later during the day , which slowly meandered north @-@ northeastward . Tropical cyclones of this origin typically remain at a small size and evolve slowly , and Cindy complied to this pattern .

Convection began to increase on July 6 , supported on the basis that many showers were observed to the north of the depression . An anticyclone ? a large mass of air rotating clockwise ? intensified within the depression 's vicinity , resulting in a tighter pressure gradient and increasing winds to the north of the center of the depression . The depression intensified into Tropical Storm Cindy early on July 7 , and a reconnaissance flight into the storm late during the afternoon observed maximum sustained winds of 60 ? 65 mph ( 95 ? 100 km / h ) and a minimum pressure of 997 mbar ( hPa ; 29 @.@ 44 inHg ) . Cindy began to curve westward late on July 7 as it reached peak intensity , with a minimum central pressure of 996 mbar ( hPa ; 29 @.@ 41 inHg ) , and drifted due west early on July 8 as a result of a maturing surface high to its north . Steady intensification continued throughout the day , and the storm attained hurricane status during the morning of July 8 .

At approximately 2 : 45 UTC on July 9 , the hurricane made landfall near McClellanville , South Carolina . Shortly thereafter , Cindy began re @-@ curving northwestward along the fall line , and eventually weakened to a tropical depression . The depression abruptly turned toward the east @-@ northeast over North Carolina during the afternoon hours of July 9 . Cindy then began to accelerate as it curved slightly towards the northeast , and eventually regained tropical storm status late on July 10 as it emerged into the Atlantic . Cindy scraped the southern fringe of the Delmarva Peninsula near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay at approximately 00 : 00 UTC on July 11 , and rapidly

traveled northeastward during the day . Cindy passed over Cape Cod near the mid @-@ morning of July 11 , during which a series of shortwave troughs passed near the storm , producing high @-@ level outflow that helped Cindy maintain intensity . Later on July 11 , Cindy moved ashore in New Brunswick and made landfall over Prince Edward Island the following day . The storm subsequently moved over Quebec and Labrador , where it transitioned into an extratropical cyclone .

= = Preparations and impact = =

Cindy prompted a hurricane watch and gale warnings for areas extending from Cape Hatteras , North Carolina , to Charleston , South Carolina , and a hurricane warning for areas between Beaufort and Georgetown , South Carolina , on July 8 . A preliminary alert was issued for naval and marine areas in the Carolinas from Norfolk , Virginia . Special forecasts from the Weather Bureau office in Columbia , South Carolina were activated on the radio at 16 : 50 UTC on July 8 . Several thousand people evacuated in areas of South Carolina , including Folly Beach , Sullivan 's Island , Isle of Palms , and Pawleys Island . The issuance of an emergency flood forecast for Columbia , South Carolina occurred as a result of Cindy .

The highest rainfall total measured was 9 @.@ 79 inches ( 249 mm ) in Winnsboro , South Carolina , although unofficial sources east of Columbia , South Carolina , measured rainfall totals of up to 15 inches ( 380 mm ) . Tides ranged from 1 to 4 feet ( 0 @.@ 30 to 1 @.@ 22 m ) above normal . A total of eleven tornadoes were reported in association with Cindy . Only one direct death was caused by Cindy , in addition to five indirect deaths . Little damage was attributed to the hurricane , other than downed tree limbs and broken windows . Damage from Cindy was estimated at \$ 75 @,@ 000 ( 1959 USD ) .

= = = South Carolina = = =

A driver was killed in Georgetown on U.S. Route 17 after colliding with a fallen tree . Along the main street of Georgetown , the Sampit River topped its banks , resulting in flooding that impacted business in the area . At Georgetown , tides were about 2 @.@ 5 feet ( 0 @.@ 76 m ) above normal during Cindy , while at McClellanville , the point of landfall , tides were approximately 4 feet ( 1 @.@ 2 m ) above normal . At Folly Beach , Sullivan 's Island , and Isle of Palms , only 600 people of the normal population of approximately 6 @,@ 500 chose not to evacuate . Strong winds that accompanied Cindy snapped tree limbs , shattered a few windows , damaged roofs , and knocked power out in Charleston , but little other damage was wrought . Several points throughout the state measured at least 3 inches ( 76 mm ) of rainfall , including Columbia , Charleston , Myrtle Beach , and Sumter .

The Congaree River rose dramatically near Columbia during the hurricane , where rainfall totaled 5 @.@ 82 inches ( 148 mm ) , although some reliable unofficial sources state the figure to be 15 inches ( 380 mm ) . Several thousand sought safety in Red Cross shelters in schools and armories , though the Weather Bureau announced it was safe for evacuees in Charleston to return to their homes shortly after the storm came ashore . Most of the rainfall produced by Cindy was beneficial to drought @-@ stricken regions , albeit not enough to provide significant relief .

= = = Elsewhere = = =

As Cindy moved inland , tornadoes touched down in North Carolina , Virginia , and Maryland along the outer bands of the storm . A tornado was observed near Nags Head around 17 : 40 UTC on July 10 , and a second was observed 25 minutes later . Both tornadoes caused minimal damage ? the first damaged four buildings and the second uprooted trees and toppled power poles . In addition , two waterspouts were noted offshore North Carolina , of which one was near New Topsail Beach in the mid @-@ morning of July 8 and another near Sneads Ferry . No damage was reported from the waterspouts .

Prior to the storm 's landfall in the Carolinas , tides at Wilmington , North Carolina , were 2 feet ( 0

@. @ 61 m ) above normal ; tides were near the same level at other areas of the southern fringes of North Carolina . In New England , five indirect deaths resulted from traffic accidents on highways as a result of the slippery conditions on roads wrought by Cindy 's rains . At Boston , 2 @. @ 37 inches ( 60 mm ) of rainfall was measured , while 2 @. @ 85 inches ( 72 mm ) fell at Bedford . Between the cities of Atlantic City , New Jersey , and Eastport , Maine , tides were 1 foot ( 0 @. @ 30 m ) to 3 feet ( 0 @. @ 91 m ) above normal . Rainfall in the Mid @- @ Atlantic peaked at 8 @. @ 43 inches ( 214 mm ) at Belleplain State Forest in New Jersey , while rainfall in New England peaked at 3 @. @ 85 inches ( 98 mm ) at Lake Konomoc , Connecticut . Rainfall was also recorded in Georgia , Delaware , Pennsylvania , New York , Connecticut , Rhode Island , Vermont , New Hampshire , and Maine .

Most impacts in Canada occurred after the hurricane transitioned into an extratropical cyclone . Cindy brought strong winds and downpours along the coast of Nova Scotia . Many small vessels sought safety , but the ship Lady Godiva sank near North West Arm ; the two people on board were later rescued . No damage was reported on the island itself . In New Brunswick , up to 2 inches ( 50 mm ) of rainfall was produced by Cindy , although no damage is known to have been reported .