Hurricane Irene

New Technology – Hurricane Gliders

Two Gliders Deployed by MARACOOS in Hurricane Irene

MARACOOS glider offshore captures strong wind and inertial response

EPA glider nearshore captures mixing and surface cooling event

New Science – Ocean Modeling Challenges

Mixing occurs rapidly when bottom currents accelerate, cooling the surface layer

Existing ocean models have difficulty reproducing the observed mixing and cooling of the surface layer

Impacts on Atmospheric Forecasts

Warm pre-storm operational SST overpredicts Irene intensity

Cool SST based on glider data reduces Irene intensity to observed