



South Carolina
State Emergency Operations Center
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TROPICAL THREATS BONNIE and CHARLEY

Situation Report #4

August 14, 2004 0800 hours

TO: Governor's Office, Chief of Staff
SC State Agencies SERT members
SC Counties
OTAG
FEMA, Region IV, Atlanta
FEMA, Region IV, Thomasville
GEMA
NCDEM

FROM: State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)

SITUATION:

The Governor has declared a state of emergency and issued a mandatory evacuation of all persons located on barrier islands and on beachfront property in Georgetown and Horry Counties. Persons in inland counties near the projected path of Hurricane Charley should take all precautions to ensure their protection from potential high winds and inland flooding. Specific details: Georgetown County; All residents and tourists east of US 17 and US 17 Bypass in the northern portion of the county. Horry County; all residents and tourists east of Business US 17 in the southern Grand Strand and east of US 17 in the northern Grand Strand area. The scope of the order may be expanded to include such areas inland as are identified on a county-by-county basis by local emergency management officials for people who are deemed to be in immediate danger. However, hospital administrators may elect to shelter in place essential personnel and patients who cannot be moved pursuant to the approved evacuation plan for each facility, after consultation with emergency management personnel, and appropriate health care professionals.

Furthermore, county administrators, after consultation with emergency management personnel, may elect to shelter in place essential emergency response personnel who, by the nature of their duties, must remain and perform such duties before and immediately after landfall.

WEATHER:

Hurricane Charley is moving northeast in the Atlantic. A hurricane warning remains in effect for the entire South Carolina coast. An inland tropical storm wind warning remains in effect for all of south coastal South Carolina for tonight and Saturday. At 4 am, the center of Hurricane Charley was located about 200 miles south-southwest of Georgetown. Charley is moving toward the north-northeast near 25 mph. Forward speed is expected to increase later this morning. Even minor changes in the forecast track of Hurricane Charley can result in large differences in the expected conditions. Early Saturday morning, tropical storm force winds of 35 to 45 mph are expected with possible gusts to near hurricane force. By late morning, along the

central and northern South Carolina coast, winds of 55 to 75 mph are expected with gusts in excess of 85 mph. With the current projected track, tides are expected to be 3 to 5 feet above predicted levels in Charleston County. Tides could be 6 to 8 feet above normal along northern Horry County and around 4 to 6 feet along the east facing beaches of Georgetown County and southern Horry County. Low tide will occur at 1:07 pm at Springmaid pier at Myrtle Beach. The ground is already saturated in some areas, especially in coastal counties. An additional 2 to 6 inches of rain is forecast along the path of Hurricane Charley, with locally heavier amounts possible, mainly over coastal South Carolina. Significant flooding is possible in places with poor drainage, along small streams, and low lying areas. Isolated tornadoes are possible through early afternoon with a Tornado Watch Issued for all South Carolina Counties east of a line from Aiken to Lancaster County.

ESTIMATE OF CASUALTIES:

None reported

STATUS OF DECLARATIONS:

Governor Sanford declared a State of Emergency, Executive Order Number 2004-18.

STATUS OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS:

SEOC is activated at OPGON 1 as of 6:30 PM.

ESF-1: TRANSPORTATION:

All drawbridges in Beaufort and Charleston Counties have been locked down due to the voluntary evacuation recommendation. Bridges in Georgetown and Horry Counties will be locked down by 7:00 pm. Hampton County EOC requested 2000 sandbags. These bags were provided by the Department of Corrections (Wateree Facility) and transported to Hampton using SCDOT forces. A waiver on the Oversize/Overweight Permit requirements for utility companies has been requested. Waiver was granted upon emergency declaration in Georgetown and Horry Counties. 30,000 sandbags have been filled and are available at Wateree Correctional Institution. US 501 lane reversal was successful.

ESF-2: COMMUNICATIONS:

Continue to coordinate with wireless and land communications providers, all systems are currently operating normally. Communications have been verified with all counties are up and operational. FEMA communications have been verified and continues at regular intervals. The 800 MHZ radio system is fully operational and continues to be monitored. 125 cell phones are active. 35 each 800 MHZ radios have been deployed to various public safety agencies. An additional 25 each 800 MHZ radios are available. The telephone bridge is being monitored and the required maintenance has been completed. Civil Air Patrol and amateur radio operators have been contacted in preparation for deployment. The Emergency Communications Vehicle and Emergency Communications Network are available.

ESF-3: PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING

Not activated.

ESF-4: FIRE SERVICE

See ESF9 Report, information is the same.

ESF-5: INFORMATION AND PLANNING

Preparations are in place for the arrival of FEMA ERT-A team.

ESF-6: MASS CARE

Open shelters; Allendale (1), Beaufort (3), Berkeley (4), Charleston (5), Colleton (2), Dorchester (6), Georgetown (4), Horry (11), Jasper (2), and Marion (5). There are 43 shelters open with 1,946 sheltered in place. The bulk of the sheltered were in Horry Co. with 1,482 in place, 158 in Charleston Co. and 124 in Georgetown Co. The remaining 182 were in the seven other counties. At this time the American Red Cross, DHEC, DSS, DHHS, and PPP staff have been deployed for shelter operations. The Salvation Army has informed us that 22 mobile kitchens are still available and are ready to be deployed when requested.

ESF-7: RESOURCE SUPPORT

Not activated.

ESF-8: HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DHEC website will allow the public to find shelter information during storms and hurricanes. The site,

<http://scangis.dhec.sc.gov/dhecshelters/public/>, enables anyone to enter their home address and find the location of the nearest open shelter. Driving directions are also available. This site is active only during a declared state of emergency. DHEC staff have contacted all shelters and are available on call to shelters as needed. Only two SMNS Shelters have sheltered as of 0011. DHEC EQC (dam safety) will also be staffing ESF-3 beginning 8/14/04 8:00AM ESF-10 will have staffing beginning 8/14/04 0800. Until ESF-10 is staffed, HAZMAT calls should be reported using normal means. DMH staff have been active with coastal mental health centers to make sure they received their disaster plan, made storm preparations and relocated consumers to safer areas. Of particular interest are centers on the coast where high winds, storm surge and flooding will threaten the safety of individuals. DMH has alerted staff in the hard of hearing/deaf service to inform persons who are deaf of the potential dangers from the storm. Where requested, DMH local staff will assist with shelter situations. Per DMH, Mental Health beds are available.

ESF-9: SEARCH AND RESCUE

The Division of Fire and Life Safety personnel have been manning ESF 9, Search & Rescue and ESF 4, Fire since 0600 hrs August 13, 2004. The Fire Fighter Mobilization plan was activated at 1600 hours on 8/12/04. Fire and rescue resources have been notified and place in a state of readiness. The Anderson Fire Department Rescue team with helicopter is on standby. Other fire service teams from around the state are ready if needed. Four -4 person SC USAR support teams are on stand-by status. Fire & rescue teams may be activated based on the projected path of the storm. ESF 4 & 9 will be continuously manned until the released by the SEOC. All Fire & Life Safety employees are on stand-by to support the state emergency plan. SC Forestry has 5 Law Enforcement Officers in Conway and 11 Law Enforcement Officers statewide on stand-by. Awaiting further assignments as needed

ESF-10: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Not activated.

ESF-11: FOOD SERVICES

Not activated.

ESF-12: ENERGY

Not activated.

ESF-13: LAW ENFORCEMENT

ESF 13 is fully staffed and operational with SLED, DNR and PPP SERT Team members. Six SLED officers are staged in Beaufort to support Low Country security missions. 2 agents are assigned to Charleston EOC and 2 agents assigned to Beaufort EOC for support. 68 SLED and 27 DNR have been deployed to Conway to support Highway Patrol with traffic control and perform security missions. All other agents and officers have been notified and are on standby status available for deployment. DNR had 6 officers who were assigned to sweep waterways from Georgetown to Beaufort. DNR had 5 officers assigned to sweep waterways from Georgetown north to Stateline which was completed at 6 pm. SLED dispatched helicopter to assist in lane reversal in Horry Cty. The SLED helicopter returned to Headquarters at approximately 10:15 pm due to weather conditions. Six (6) Forestry officers were deployed to Conway to assist in lane reversal and security missions (assisting w/SLED). PRT is also providing around-the-clock security at the SEOC. Major Vaught called and informed that @ 6:30 am Sat., 10 agents from Conway will go to Georgetown to set up operations. Capt. Bill Graham and Lt. Charles Huggins will be in charge. Capt. Graham and Lts. Huggins and Grimsley plus 6 SLED agents will set up operations in Georgetown. 17 personnel to report @ 6:00 am for traffic control and security operations in Horry County. 66 SLED agents, 28 DNR agents, and 4 Forestry officers total assigned.

ESF-14: DONATED GOODS AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Not activated.

ESF-15: MILITARY SUPPORT

Active and preparing for post-storm response. No National Guard assets have been needed so far, however numerous resources have been placed on standby if needed.

ESF-16: EMERGENCY TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Twenty-six Troopers from the ACE Team are currently staged in Beaufort County, and two Troopers are staffing Jasper County. Two Troopers have been assigned to the Charleston EOC per Kathy Hayne's

request. Received a verbal waiver from Colonel Amos of State Transport Police to allow Duke Power trucks to bypass interstate weigh stations enroute to Florida for hurricane assistance efforts. Previously received a verbal waiver from SCANA. Highway Patrol requested ten DNR personnel and fifteen SLED personnel to man traffic control points for evacuation in Horry County. Twenty-five standby personnel from PPP have been assigned to Conway and will report to the Conway Patrol Office. Lane reversal at 20:30 hours on US501 at SC22 activated. Traffic at this time is running smoothly. Additional 55 SCDPS personnel to report to Conway Patrol Office at 3:00 a.m. Due to emergency situation, SCDOT has waived all size and weight permits. Traffic on US501 Business in Marion County, is being re-routed on SC576 into Florence County. Traffic will then travel on US76 to SC327 to I-95. A message board will be placed on the Florence side of the Big Pee-Dee River with information advising drivers of alternate routes. The traffic situation in Marion County has improved on US501 Business. Marion City officers are manning the traffic signals and report that traffic is heavy but moving.

ESF-17: ANIMAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

No changes overnight. ESF-17 Animal Emergency Response has contacted sheltering facilities for horses. We have stables available at the Hippodrome in North Augusta and at the State Fairgrounds in Columbia. Pet sheltering available thru vets and kennels, and pet-friendly hotel/motel list on website.