

SITUATION REPORT No. 4

Horry County Fire, April 2009

0700 April 24, 2009

South Carolina State Emergency Operations Center

2779 Fish Hatchery Road

West Columbia, SC 29172

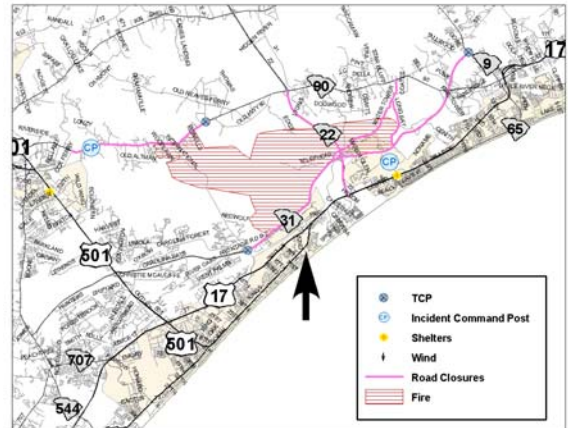
Phone (803) 737-8500; Fax (803) 737-8570

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
PIO, SCEMD

FROM: State Emergency Operations Center
(SEOC)

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER STATUS:

The State EOC was activated at OPGON 2 at 0630 on 04/23/09 in response to the fires in Horry County. ESFs 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 15 and 19 are activated. ESFs 2, 13, and 16 are being activated at 0700 24 April 2009. Offsite coordination with ESFs 12 and 17 is ongoing.



WEATHER:

Today: Light southerly winds this morning may increase to 10 to 15 mph by afternoon with gusts to 25 mph likely along the coast. Clear. High 80F.

Tonight: Partly cloudy skies. Low 62F. Winds South at 10 to 15 mph.

STATUS:

The Governor declared a State of Emergency for Horry County at 0900 23 April 2009. The fires in Horry County continue to burn; however, no additional homes have been damaged or destroyed. No businesses have been damaged or destroyed. The State Forester has issued a state wide outdoor burning ban. SC has qualified for the Fire Management Assistant Grant. According to the last reports from Forestry there have been 19,600 acres burned and at least 40% of the fire is now contained.

The Horry County EOC is activated at OPGON 1. Currently two Incident Command Posts are operational. International Fire Division, State Forestry & the Lowcountry IMT are located at the

Solid Waste Authority (1886 Hwy #90). North Myrtle Beach Division is working out of NMB Fire Station #5 (W 78 4445.65, N 33 4823.92) supported by the Pee Dee Incident Management Team. The US Coast Guard Incident Management Team continues to support operations at the Horry County EOC.

Response continues in the vicinity of the Barefoot Landing in North Myrtle Beach area of Horry County. This is east to west from Hwy #31 to Hwy #90 and north to south of Hwy #22 to International Drive. Additional areas in the North Myrtle Beach area are being considered for evacuation. This includes areas northeast of Hwy# 22 and south of Hwy# 90, to Long Bay Road.

The county is utilizing the fire fighter mobilization compact, mutual aid, and North Carolina mutual aid. Forestry fire fighters are focusing efforts on the left side of the fire to protect homes. The State Forestry has 75 personnel and equipment supporting fire fighting operations as well. A US Forest Service PB3 tanker aircraft is being made available to support operations in Horry County. The State Urban Search and Rescue Regional Response Team (Building Collapse) located in Myrtle Beach has been deployed. The Department of Transportation has activated mobile highway signs and radio messages to reroute traffic due to road closures.

The South Carolina National Guard has one UH60 Helicopter deployed to assist with fire fighting operations. North Carolina National Guard is deploying additional air assets (4 UH 60s).

The South Carolina Highway Patrol is currently manning four Traffic Control Points.

Currently there is no impact to electric and natural gas infrastructure.

Natural Gas - SCE&G reports no damage to natural gas infrastructure. SCE&G representatives are in contact with the Horry County Emergency Management Operations Center and are coordinating safety issues with the authorities.

Currently there are 3 shelters open. Shelters are: The House of Blues, Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, and Loris Wellness Center (Special Medical Needs). Several businesses and churches have volunteered to provide shelters for pets. Department of Mental Health has 4 behavioral health teams on call to support shelter operations. The American Red Cross in coordination with the local non-profits is preparing approximately 550 meals for evacuees and responders for breakfast. The Southern Baptist Convention has deployed a feeding team to support the American Red Cross feeding effort. The Salvation Army is prepared to provide feeding support if needed.

The South Carolina Emergency Management Division is currently providing support to Horry County with assistance from Department of Social Services (and Mental Health and American Red Cross), Department of Transportation, the National Guard, Department of Natural Resources office of Climatology, Department of Health and Environment Control, Department of Public Safety, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Licensing and Regulation Division of Fire Safety, Budget and Control Board's Division of State Information Technology, and South Carolina Department of Public Safety/Highway Patrol.

The following fire fighting assets are deployed from 15 counties in addition to assets from Horry County (See Attached Spreadsheet):

- 22 - Engines
- 16 - Brush Trucks
- 9 - Command Officers
- 143 – Firefighters
- 5 - Tankers
- 2 - Firefighter Mobilization Coordinators

COUNTY STATUS:

County

Horry

Damage

Approximately 19,600 acres burned, approximately 69 homes destroyed and 100 with structural damage, eight automobiles have been destroyed.

Road Closures -1700 23 April 2009:

SC31 from Grissom Parkway to SC 9 is closed due to the fire.
(Approximately 9 miles of hwy)

SC22 from SC90 to US17 (Approximately 4 miles of hwy)

SC90 from Secondary 901 to Bear Bluff Rd. (Approximately 8 miles of hwy)

SC90 and Bear Bluff Road (trooper is directing traffic down Bear Bluff to Old Reaves Ferry)

SC9 and SC31 (Not allowing any traffic to travel south on SC31)

SC31 and Grissom Parkway (directing all northbound traffic to exit onto Grissom Pkway)

SC90 at SC22 (prohibiting all traffic from entering SC22 to travel east.

Intracoastal Waterway from Hwy 501 to the Little River Swing Bridge is closed to boating traffic and will be monitored by both the US Coast Guard and SC Department of Natural Resource.

School Closings- April 24

Blackwater Middle School
Carolina Forest Elementary and High School
Waccamaw Elementary School
Ocean Bay Elementary and High School
Academy Arts, Science and Technology

Available Shelters – April 24

The House of Blues- OPEN
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church-OPEN
Loris Wellness Center (Special Medical Needs) -OPEN

SC Firefighter Mobilization Resources
Deployed for Horry Fire: 4/23-24/2009

County	Department	Resources				# Personnel	
		Engine	Brush Truck	Command Officer	Tanker	Firefighter	Firefighter Mobilization Coordinator
Charleston	Charleston	1				4	
Chester	Chester City		1			2	
Colleton	Colleton County	2				8	
Richland	Columbia	2		1		9	
Darlington	Darlington City	1				4	
Darlington	Darlington County	1	1			6	
Florence	Florence City		1			2	
Georgetown	Georgetown City	1				4	
Greenville	Greer		1			2	
Florence	Howe Springs	1				4	
Charleston	Isle of Palms	1		1		5	
Darlington	Darlington County	1				4	
Lexington	Lexington	1		1		5	
Marion	Marion City	1				4	
Greenville	Mauldin	1	1			6	
Charleston	North Charleston	3		4		16	
Florence	South Lynches				2	4	1
Sumter	Sumter	1	1	1		7	
Williamsburg	Williamsburg		4			8	
Florence	Windy Hill		1			2	
Clarendon	Clarendon		1			2	
Florence	Florence City		1			2	
Greenville	Greenville City						1
Florence	Howe Springs	1				4	
Darlington	Hartsville	1				4	
Florence	Hannah Salem	1				4	
Florence	Windy Hill		1			2	
Spartanburg	North Spartanburg		1	1		3	
Spartanburg	Spartanburg City	1				4	
Spartanburg	Roebuck				1	2	
Spartanburg	Holy Springs				1	3	
Spartanburg	Duncan				1	3	
Spartanburg	Cowpens		1			4	ATV
15	33	22	16	9	5	143	2