



South Carolina  
State Emergency Operations Center  
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## HURRICANE FLOYD

### Situation Report #20

September 27, 1999; Time: 1800

**TO:** Governor's Office, Chief of Staff  
OTAG, BG Burchstead and John Shuler  
FEMA, Region IV, Atlanta  
FEMA, Region IV, Thomasville  
Georgia Emergency Management Agency  
North Carolina Department of Emergency Management

**FROM:** State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)

#### 1. STATE:

##### A. SITUATION:

South Carolina continues to monitor the consequences of Hurricane Floyd. Heavy rainfall produced by Hurricane Floyd, combined with the recent effects of Hurricane Dennis, have resulted in widespread flooding in Horry County. The Waccamaw River at Conway was at 13.20 feet this morning. The river will continue to slowly rise and is forecast to reach near 13.5 feet on Tuesday, 09/28/99, and remain at crest for the next few days. Expect the river level to remain between 13.0 and 13.5 feet for the next several days. This will continue to cause major flooding in residential areas around Lees Landing, Savannah Bluff, Pitch Landing, Jackson Bluff and Bucksville. Buildings around 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Kingston will be affected and the railroad trestles will be underwater. This crest may reach the flood of record which was 13.4 feet on September 30<sup>th</sup> 1928.

Downstream...near Bucksport and Socastee on the International Waterway... the present tidal range will gradually rise... with water levels expected about 2 feet higher this week. The Little Pee Dee River at Galivants Ferry was at 11.57 feet this morning, and will continue a slow fall for the next several days. Moderate flooding will continue with homes at Fork Retch subject to flooding. Fork Retch is located near Nichols at the confluence of the Lumber and Little Pee Dee Rivers. The Disaster Field Office began operations at 300 Arbor Lake Drive, Suite 1300, Columbia, S.C. on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

##### B. STATUS OF DECLARATIONS:

The Governor's Executive Order 99-43 authorized the South Carolina Emergency Operations Plan to be put in effect and that prudent preparations be made. The

Governor's Executive Order 99-44, declared a State of Emergency and called for a mandatory evacuation of all persons located on barrier islands: beach front property; near low-lying rivers, creeks or streams; and in manufactured housing in the following counties: Jasper, Beaufort, Hampton, Colleton, Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Georgetown and Horry. The Governor's Executive Order 99-45 directed that no person may overcharge for food, fuel, or other essential items in the State of South Carolina. Governor's Executive Order 99-46 allowed local government the power to impose curfews as needed. The Governor's Executive Order 99-47 directed that persons effected by the mandatory evacuation order set forth in Executive Order 99-44 be allowed to return to all areas except Georgetown and Horry County. The Governor's Executive Orders 99-48 and 99-49 directed that persons effected within Georgetown and Horry Counties, respectively, be allowed to return except in any damaged areas identified by local officials as necessary to insure the safety of their citizens. The Governor's Executive Order 99-50 declared September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> legal holidays for banks and savings and loans, allowing them to remain closed through September 16<sup>th</sup> due to the evacuation order and the threat presented by Hurricane Floyd. The Governor's Executive Order 99-51 authorizes Senator Arthur Ravenel, Jr. to conduct an immediate investigation into the traffic congestion problems of September 14, 1999, on Interstate 26 and to provide him with a report and recommendation within 30 days of this Executive Order. The Governor's Executive Order 99-52 authorizes the following prohibitions imposed on all water craft operations on the Waccamaw River and its tributaries between the North Carolina/South Carolina border south of its intersection with the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway: no vessel shall be operated in these waters except at idle speed, and all vessel operations are prohibited in these waters between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. except for law enforcement and emergency personnel, and those persons living in residences in the affected areas reachable only by water. The Governor's Executive Order 99-53 declared at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday, September 19, 1999 that the following prohibitions are imposed on all water craft operations on the Waccamaw River and its tributaries between the North Carolina/South Carolina border south to its intersection with the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway: no vessel shall be operated in these waters except for law enforcement and emergency personnel, and those persons living in residences in the affected areas reachable only by water. This order rescinds the Executive Order 99-52. The Governor's Executive Order 99-54 dated September 24, 1999, expanded the scope of Senator Ravenel's investigation to include an investigation into the traffic congestion problems of September 14, 1999, of the entire coast of South Carolina, and further authorizes him to designate such individuals as are necessary to assist him with the investigation. The Governor's Executive Order 99-55, dated September 24, 1999, extended the prohibitions on water craft operations imposed by Executive Order 99-53 to include the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway from the U.S. 501 bridge south to marker 27 at Enterprise Landing. This closure applies to all vessels, recreational and commercial, with the exception of law enforcement and emergency vessels, and those persons living in residences in the affected area reachable only by water. On Wednesday, September 21, 1999, President Clinton declared a major disaster exists in the state of South Carolina and ordered federal aid to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by Hurricane Floyd. The President's action makes Federal funding available to affected individuals in Charleston, Georgetown, and Horry

Counties and to local governments in Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Georgetown, Horry, Jasper, and Marion Counties. A request was submitted on September 25th to expand the disaster declaration for several counties.

**C. WEATHER REPORT/FORECAST:**

As of 1800 hours: Widespread rainfall amounts of one half to one inch of rainfall are expected through 8 AM Tuesday morning. The heaviest rain will fall along the I-95 corridor where a few locations may receive as much as two inches of additional rain by Tuesday morning. Tuesday, chance of showers; Wednesday and Thursday, partly cloudy.

**D. STATUS OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS:**

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) moved to OPCON-1 at 1400 hours September 17, 1999. A recall was conducted to bring the SEOC to full operation. The flooding in the Northeast counties of South Carolina, as a direct result of Hurricane Floyd, is being closely monitored.

**COUNTY NAME OPCON EOC ACTIVATION**

HORRY 1 Full

**E. STATUS/ESF SUMMARY:**

**ESF 1 (TRANSPORTATION) SUMMARY:**

Horry County road conditions as of 1600, 9/26/99: Portions of US 701, SC- 905, S-14, S-106, S-1135/S-1183/S-901, S-31, SC-105, S-1233, S-185, S-639, S-348, S-634 are closed due to flooding. Wateree River Correctional Institution, Rembert, S.C. is the primary point for filling of sandbags. The DOC sandbag detail has sent out 250,000 sandbags as of September 24, 1999. DOT currently has about 100 personnel working to prevent flooding and destruction of roadways. DOT transporting pallets of MREs from the manufacturing plant to Horry County. Six engineers reported to the DFO September 27 for possible deployment and to assist in quantifying debris removal and road repair costs.

**ESF 2 (COMMUNICATIONS) SUMMARY:**

No change since last report.

**ESF 3 ( PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING ) SUMMARY:**

Work on protecting the Socastee Lift Station should be completed 2100, September 26. Planning on debris removal issues continues. Work on removal of shoals in the Intracoastal Waterway began 2100, September 25.

**ESF 4 (FIREFIGHTING) SUMMARY:**

Water rescue squads and swift water rescue teams from several counties are working in mutual aid now or are planned for September 28. These teams will assist in rescue and emergency management of stranded persons. Firefighters and firefighting equipment (airboats, and fireboats) have been working in mutual support for the past ten days. Numerous county and city fire departments have responded in mutual aid.

**ESF 5 (INFORMATION & PLANNING)**

No change since last report.

**ESF 6 (MASS CARE) SUMMARY:**

The Salvation Army has 5 canteens (4 mobile, 1 stationary) currently operating in Conway. The Red Cross has delivered 1,000 cot shelter kits and have deployed 9 ARC Emergency Response Vehicles. The Red Cross has established a statewide assistance hotline ( 1-800-306-2029 ) for the victims of Floyd. Total number of personnel: DSS - 2; ARC -154; Salvation Army - 37. The ARC is standing by to execute. DSS is providing

assistance to 4 DRC's. DSS is coordinating with FEMA to determine areas for Individual and Family Grants and Food Stamp distribution.

**ESF 7 (RESOURCE SUPPORT) SUMMARY:**

A total of 3,623 National Guardsman were called to active duty. Of that number 198 remain activated, assisting with law enforcement, debris removal, generator support and flood detail. A National Guard firefighter was activated to act as firefighting coordinator for deployed assets in Horry County. Budget and Control Board procured bottled water and MREs for delivery to Horry County.

**ESF 8 (HEALTH AND MEDICAL) SUMMARY:**

A DHEC EMS representative has arrived in the Myrtle Beach area and will act as an onsite liaison. DHEC on site EMS Coordinator continues to obtain replacement EMS vehicles and crews for assisting Horry County EMS in responding to calls. The Agency Emergency Evaluation Team (EET), is now on site and has initiated the assessment process. Additional nurses and one environmentalist are now on site to assist district staff and the ARC. Both EQC and Health District personnel are present in the Horry County EOC. Waccamaw, Tricounty and the Pee Dee Mental Health areas have been alerted and are prepared to provide agency resources to Horry County. In addition, 15 three person Crisis Counseling Teams are ready to report to Horry County when needed.

**ESF 9 - URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE) SUMMARY:**

10 CAP aircraft and crews on telephone standby, located at Florence, Camden, Columbia and other locations. Total CAP Aircraft - 3 Total CAP Personnel - 4 Total Flying Hours - 10 est.

**ESF 10 ( HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ) SUMMARY:**

No change since last report.

**ESF 11 (FOOD) SUMMARY:**

No change since last report.

**ESF 12 (ENERGY) SUMMARY:**

Due to flooding, Horry Electric Cooperative has switched off power to 4 different areas: Lees Landing, Savannah Bluff, Jackson Bluff and Bucksville. This equates to approximately 250 customers without power. Santee Cooper has also disconnected approximately 80-100 customers in the Conway area due to flooding. The utilities companies estimate damage in Horry County to be around \$3,000,000.00.

**ESF13 (LAW ENFORCEMENT) SUMMARY:**

The following agencies and equipment are located in Conway: DNR reports 30 officers, 10 boats, 1 plane and 6 ATVs. DNR's helicopter is back in service as of Friday, September 24, 1999. SLED reports 39 officers, and has 1 Huey helicopter, NG has 2 OH-58 helicopters. Probation & Parole reports 10 officers and SCHP reports 18 officers. LE Mission: Manning checkpoints and road closures. Additional posts are being manned due to water rising. DNR coordinated with Charleston County for airboat. Charleston County's airboat is currently at the Conway staging area.

**ESF 17 - (ANIMAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE) SUMMARY:**

Rescue van staged on SC/NC border for deployment if needed. Horry County Animal Control Director continues to monitor pet, livestock and exotic properties.

**2. COUNTIES:**

**A. HORRY:**

Horry County has developed a Flood Fight Plan based on weather situation in item 1C.

Horry County has requested additional manpower, equipment and supplies in anticipation of the flood and probable rescue operations.