



STATE OF OHIO
Emergency Operations Center
SITUATION REPORT

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Ted Strickland, Governor
FROM: Ohio Emergency Management Agency
SUBJECT: Severe Weather and Tornadoes – June 5-6, 2010
DATE: June 15, 2010

Information in this Situation Report is current as of 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2010.

This is the final Situation Report for the “Severe Weather and Tornadoes – June 5-6” event. There are no additional CAS-1 briefings scheduled for this incident. The SEOC Assessment Room will continue to coordinate and track open missions. After today’s closure, operations for this event will transition to recovery.

INCIDENT SYNOPSIS

Weekend of June 5-6: Unstable weather developed Friday into Saturday as a low pressure system moved northeast toward the region and a stationary front just south of Ohio became a warm front and moved north on Saturday and stalled over northern Ohio. Strong-to-severe thunderstorms developed from this front by late morning and continued into the early afternoon hours on Saturday. The most-impacted area was from Mansfield (Richland County) southeast into Holmes and Stark counties in Ohio, where significant rainfall fell through the afternoon hours. The thunderstorm activity weakened and moved east by late afternoon.

An upper-level disturbance moved east toward northwest Ohio on Saturday evening as thunderstorms developed over northern Indiana and moved east into northwest Ohio late Saturday evening. These thunderstorms developed into confirmed tornadoes that affected Fulton, Lucas, Wood and Ottawa counties.

The National Weather Service (NWS) confirmed that an EF-2 tornado touched down in Fulton County, Ohio at 10:38 p.m. The tornado began on highway 109 just north of County Road A, continued to the northeast through Maumee State Forest, then it entered Lucas County. The tornado had a path length of 7.5 miles and was a half-mile wide at its widest point. Multiple houses and structures were damaged or destroyed, and trees were uprooted, stripped and/or damaged. Maximum wind speeds were estimated at 111-to-135 mph.

NWS Meteorologists performed an extensive survey of the path of a tornado that impacted northeast Wood and western Ottawa counties and determined that it was an EF-4 tornado with winds of approximately 170-175 MPH. The tornado first touched down near I-80 and Oregon Rd. (east of Perrysburg) at 11:20 p.m., moved across the south side of Moline, near Metcalf Airport, across the northwest side of Millbury, into Ottawa county following Trowbridge Rd., and finally lifting at 11:35 p.m. just west of Clay Center.

The most intense damage from this tornado occurred in two locations. The first location was at State Route 795 near Lake High School and on the northwest side of Millbury. The damage near Lake High School was rated as strong EF-3. The damage on the northwest side of Millbury was rated as EF-4 due to the extreme damage to structures seen there. Five fatalities and numerous injuries are attributed to this tornado. On Sunday, June 13, 2010, a sixth person would die from injuries sustained in the tornado.

Sunday, June 6: The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Assessment Room was activated at 7:00 a.m., Sunday, June 6, 2010. An initial CAS-1 briefing was held at 10:00 a.m. The CAS level was escalated to CAS-2 after the morning briefing. A CAS-2 briefing was conducted in the SEOC Operations Room at 3:00 p.m.

Five deaths were initially confirmed in Wood County with an additional two added later in the evening, for a total of seven. The official death toll would be reduced to five on Monday. A Governor's Declaration was declared for Wood and Fulton counties. Ottawa County was added to this emergency declaration on Monday. Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) in these counties were opened to support local response operations. Ohio EMA staff members were dispatched to Wood and Fulton counties to support local response operations. Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers responded to search and security missions in Millbury (Wood County).

Monday, June 7: The SEOC continued operations at CAS-2 and two briefings were held. Debris management, logistics support, and donations management working group meetings were held in the SEOC. Wood County officials reported a reduction of fatalities associated with this incident from seven to five. This number was confirmed by the County Coroner. Ohio EMA personnel were dispatched to Ottawa and Tuscarawas counties.

Tuesday, June 8 and Wednesday June 9: The SEOC continued CAS-2 activities with morning briefings each day. There were missions for debris removal, acquisition of tarps and masks, donations and technical assistance. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments were conducted with local, state, and federal teams in the affected areas.

Thursday, June 10: Based on data from the Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment with local, state, and federal officials, Governor Ted Strickland sent a letter to President Obama requesting a major disaster declaration for Fulton, Ottawa, and Wood counties. The SEOC activation level was lowered to CAS-1 at 2:00 p.m. ESF lead agency representatives continue to monitor open missions.

Friday, June 11: The SEOC conducted a CAS-1 briefing at 10:00 a.m. with state agencies actively involved in missions. The SEOC Assessment Room will remain open over the weekend from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13, 2010. The Ohio Fire Response System has been activated on behalf of Wood County to provide Advanced Life Support Vehicles (ambulance), Engines and Truck company support to back up the township's assets on station.

Saturday, June 12 and Sunday, June 13: The SEOC Assessment Room was open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 11th, and was closed on Sunday, June 12th.

Monday, June 14: The SEOC conducted a CAS-1 briefing at 10:00 a.m. with state agencies actively involved in missions. There was a mission request for wood chippers in Wood County which was completed by ODOT. ESF lead agency representatives continue to monitor open missions.

The official death toll was increased to six, as victim, Ryan Walters, succumbed to injuries sustained in the tornado in Wood County. Walters' wife, Mary and son, Hayden were also killed in the storm. The Walters' daughter, Madison, survived the tornado.

Tuesday, June 15: The final CAS-1 briefing was held at 10:00 a.m. today. The SEOC Assessment Room closed at 5:00 p.m. today. A conference call was conducted in the SEOC Assessment Room with Ottawa County EMA to discuss potential new debris removal missions in the county. Additional information will follow after a local debris meeting scheduled tomorrow.

A local declaration was received from Clermont County for the village of New Richmond due to road damage resulting from flash flooding on Saturday, June 12, 2010.

DECLARATIONS

Local – Clermont County (village of New Richmond)

County – Tuscarawas

County/State – Fulton, Ottawa and Wood

WEATHER

Weather Forecast

Showers and thunderstorms are possible today especially in central and southern Ohio. Some thunderstorms may be severe. Expect a few showers and thunderstorms tonight as a cold front approaches Ohio and again on Wednesday as the front moves through the state. Dry weather will return for Thursday and Friday along with warmer temperatures. Highs temperatures today will range from the upper 70s near Lake Erie to the high 80s further south. Expect statewide highs to be in the mid to upper 80s by Friday.

Warnings, Watches and Advisories

The Wilmington NWS office issued a flash flood watch in effect until Wednesday morning for the following counties: Adams, Auglaize, Brown, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hardin, Highland, Hocking, Licking, Logan, Madison, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Shelby, Union, and Warren.

A frontal boundary will push slowly south across the region through Wednesday morning. This will lead to a chance of showers and thunderstorms through tonight. Heavy rainfall can be expected with some of the thunderstorms. Recent rainfall over the past few days has already saturated the ground. Additional rainfall may cause localized flash flooding.

The Charlestown NWS office issued a flash flood watch in effect until Wednesday evening for Athens, Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Morgan, Perry, Vinton, and Washington counties.

Recent rainfall has saturated soils across the area. With ample moisture in the atmosphere and multiple disturbances passing through the region scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected to continue through Wednesday evening some with very heavy rain posing a threat for flash flooding. Heavy thunderstorms capable of producing 1 to 2 inches of rain per hour can occur anywhere today in the very moist and unstable atmosphere. The threat then increases later tonight across southeast Ohio. While many areas have now had significant rainfall and are primed for water problems, areas south of interstate 64 are especially vulnerable with less than an inch of rain needed in an hour to cause more flood problems.

STATE LEVEL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIONS

ESF 1 – Transportation

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

State Route 795 East of I-280 remains detoured in Wood County for storm clean-up.

ESF 3 – Engineering and Public Works

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)

ODOT continues to work two active debris missions for equipment requests in Ottawa and Wood counties. ODOT completed its mission in Fulton County today. The debris mission in Ottawa County is expected to be completed this afternoon. ODOT expects to complete the mission in Wood County by late tomorrow, Wednesday, June 16.

Wood County: ODOT continues to work the Millbury area with 17 Highway Technicians, 4 Dumps, 1 Loader, 1 Backhoe, 2 Chippers, and 1 Skid Steer. Yesterday a total of 13 loads of debris were hauled, bringing the total to 1,035 cubic yards hauled.

Ottawa County: ODOT continues to work the Williston/Clay Center areas with 5 Highway Technicians, and 5 Dumps. Yesterday a total of 22 loads of debris were hauled, bringing the total to 1,278 cubic yards hauled.

Fulton County – ODOT continues to work the Swan Creek Township area with 11 Highway Technicians, 5 Dumps, 3 Loaders, 1 Backhoe, and 3 Pickups with chainsaws. ODNR will provide 2 dumps with drivers. Today a total of 7 loads of debris were hauled, bringing the total to 927 cubic yards hauled.

ESF 6 – Mass Care

American Red Cross (ARC)

The Red Cross has served 2,940 meals and 3,445 snacks at fixed and mobile feeding sites in Fulton, Ottawa, and Wood counties. Red Cross has also provided 140 clean-up kits, 35 comfort kits, and 3,388 various bulk distribution items to impacted residents. Fixed feeding operations will conclude at the close of business on Wednesday, June 16.

Case management and mental health access activities at St. Peter’s Church, Millbury, will continue through today from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. These services will conclude close of business tomorrow, June 16. Follow-up assistance will be provided through the Red Cross chapter upon request.

Long term recovery committees are being established in Fulton and Wood counties to address unmet needs. Volunteer clean-up efforts continue in the impacted areas.

ESF 14 – Recovery and Mitigation

Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

Ohio EMA will formulate a strategy to utilize the \$673,837 in state aid approved yesterday by the State Controlling Board to assist Wood, Fulton and Ottawa counties with costs associated with disaster relief and emergency situation aid resulting from the June 5-6 tornadoes, severe storms, and high wind event.

ESF 15 – Emergency Public Information and External Affairs

Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA)

The SEOC Joint Information Center is closed. Media inquiries are directed to the Public Affairs Office at (614) 799-3695.

County Impacts

The following county reports are current as of 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 15, 2010.

Wood County

Wood County has established a Long Term Recovery Committee to address unmet immediate needs for this event. United Way was selected to serve as fiscal agent for monetary donations. The fund will be known as “Millbury/Lake Tornado.

Wood County Health Department will remain open through Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to issue tetanus shots.

Fulton County

Efforts are still underway addressing many residents with removal of wooded debris from their homes.

Ottawa County

The county EMA has scheduled a meeting Wednesday with local officials to discuss debris issues pertaining to downed trees in Crane Creek, Little Crane Creek, and north Branch of Turtle Creek.

Lucas County

Short term recovery is continuing in Lucas County through this week as the county coordinates mutual aid and volunteer debris removal for residents of Swanton and Monclova townships. Lucas County EMA is also considering long term recovery needs of local residents. Of the approximately sixty homes affected during the event, they have identified a few with insufficient insurance or other financial hardship. The county would like to meet with representatives of community service and faith-based organizations to discuss long term recovery issues.

BRIEFING/SITREP DATA

This is the final CAS-1 briefing scheduled for the “Severe Weather and Tornadoes – June 5-6, 2010” event.