

Georgia Emergency Management Agency

SITUATION REPORT #10 Severe Weather Event

As of 06:00 PM, Monday, May 2, 2011

General Situation:

Recovery efforts continue following the severe weather incidents of April 27-28, 2011. The National Weather Service has confirmed a total of 15 tornadoes. They include one EF4, five EF3, three EF2, and six EF1 category storms.

A Governor's State of Emergency remains in effect for 16 counties in north and central Georgia (Bartow, Catoosa, Coweta, Dade, Floyd, Greene, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Pickens, Polk, Rabun, Spalding, Troup, and Walker). **On Monday, May 2nd, 11 Georgia counties were incorporated into the Governor's State of Emergency to include Butts, Cherokee, Gordon, Habersham, Haralson, Harris, Heard, Lumpkin, Newton, Upson, and White.**

A Presidential Disaster Declaration was made for the 16 counties listed above. As of Monday, May 2nd, Public and Individual Assistance has been designated for all counties as well.

Joint (federal, state, and local) Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) began on Friday, April 29. As of Sunday, May 1st, Individual Assistance (IA) PDAs have been completed in Coweta, Greene, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Pickens, Rabun, and Troup counties and Public Assistance (PA) PDAs have been completed in Bartow, Catoosa, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Polk, Rabun, Spalding, Troup, and Walker counties. **IA PDAs were completed in Butts, Cherokee, Gordon, Habersham, Haralson, Harris, Heard, Lumpkin, Newton, Upson, and White counties and PA PDAs were completed in Greene and Morgan counties today (Monday, May 2nd).**

Counties Reporting Damage to GEMA (28)

County	Injuries	Deaths	Current Open Shelters	State/Federal Emergency Declaration
Bartow	25	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Butts	0	0	0	Yes/No
Catoosa	2	8	1	Yes/IA & PA
Cherokee	0	0	0	Yes/No
Coweta	0	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Dade	25	2	0	Yes/IA & PA
Floyd	4	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Gordon	0	0	0	Yes/No
Greene	0	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Habersham	0	0	0	Yes/No
Haralson	0	0	0	Yes/No
Harris	0	0	0	Yes/No
Heard	1	0	0	Yes/No
Lamar	12	2	0	Yes/IA & PA
Lumpkin	1	0	0	Yes/No
Meriwether	0	0	1	Yes/IA & PA
Monroe	10	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Morgan	0	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Newton	0	0	0	Yes/No

Pickens	0	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Polk	0	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Rabun	4	1	0	Yes/IA & PA
Spalding	0	2	0	Yes/IA & PA
Troup	6	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
Upson	0	0	0	Yes/No
Walker	25	0	0	Yes/IA & PA
White	0	0	0	Yes/No
Total Reported	115	15	2	27 State / 16 IA & PA

Shelters:

- American Red Cross (ARC) shelters open as of May 2nd:
 - Catoosa – Lake View High School (May 2nd, 12PM Count: 7)
 - Meriwether – Manchester High School (May 2nd, 12PM Count: 11)

Evacuations: None

Road Closures

- All major state roads have been cleared; GA DOT is reporting that most of the local road closures have also been cleared. GFC is still assisting affected counties with debris removal and remaining road clearance efforts.

Search and Rescue (SAR) and Security

- Catoosa and Rabun county SAR operations concluded over the weekend with nothing found. All statewide SAR operations are complete. The teams from Rabun County are demobilizing and will redeploy today (Monday, May 2nd).
- **GA DPS will continue to assist local law enforcement agencies in affected counties throughout the week.**

Utilities

- **GA Power and GA EMC are reporting 100% power restoration to affected counties as of Monday, May 2nd. A caveat to these reports is that there are residential and business customers that cannot be reconnected due to extensive damage or destruction. Of these exceptions, GA Power is reporting approximately 250 customers and GA EMC is reporting approximately 500 customers that will remain offline due to damage or destruction.**

Additional Information

- **Effective May 2, 2011, the prohibition on the open burning of vegetative debris resulting from storm damage as required by Georgia EPD Air Quality Regulations is temporarily lifted. This exemption is applicable for counties declared as State of Emergency counties from the storms that swept through Georgia in late April 2011. This exemption expires at midnight on May 31, 2011.**
- **GEMA and its federal partners mentioned in previous updates will continue operations and the State Operations Center will remain at Level 2. ESF and State agencies will remain available to assist in coordinating recovery efforts in affected counties, but will no longer staff the SOC for this activation as of Tuesday, May 3rd.**

Select County Updates:

Bartow

Northeastern Bartow County has significant damage. Progress has been made in clearing roads; most roads are open, but some are restricted to local and residential traffic only. **Power has been restored as of Monday, May 2nd.**

Catoosa

Downtown Ringgold has sustained significant damages including the collapse of several commercial buildings and major damage to Ringgold High and Middle schools; due to the damage, students began half days today (Monday, May 2nd) at local elementary schools. SAR operations are complete, though one IMT representative is remaining at the county EOC until it closes. Debris removal, minor road clearance, and other recovery efforts continue.

Dade

Power has been restored to Dade County including the City of Trenton water treatment and distribution systems as of Monday, May 2nd. The Dade County Water Authority boil water advisory remains while the county waits for the lab results of recent sample testing; results are expected by tomorrow (Tuesday, May 3rd). American Legion and United Methodists are preparing meals for 2,600 responders and people in the community; Chattanooga Community Food Bank and ARC will continue to coordinate food and water supplies for the effort.

Floyd

Water treatment facilities power is back on line and most roads have been reopened. Debris removal continues with the assistance of the Southern Baptist Convention and other volunteers.

Lamar

Lamar County is still experiencing some minor road closures. IA and PA PDAs were completed on Saturday, April 30th. Debris removal, minor road clearance, and other recovery efforts continue.

Morgan

The county is reporting over 40 residential homes with significant damage (including 4 mobile homes) and 15 totally destroyed (including 11 mobile homes). **PA PDAs were completed today (Monday, May 2nd).**

Rabun

Many county roads remain restricted to local traffic and emergency vehicles; however, progress is continuing. **SAR operations are complete with no casualties identified; SAR teams are demobilizing and redeploying today (Monday, May 2nd). Two DNR rangers continue to patrol a local lake from 0700-1900 daily, but all other DNR and law enforcement operations have ceased.**

Spalding

Over 150 homes have sustained heavy damage or were destroyed; PA PDAs were completed over the weekend. **State law enforcement personnel will continue to assist Spalding County SO in patrolling designated areas following reports of looting. Two GSP troopers will be assigned to Spalding County for the duration of the week (Monday, May 2nd – Sunday, May 8th) for an 8AM-6PM security escort detail to provide security for ongoing road clearance and debris removal efforts.**

Emergency Support Function (ESF) Reports

ESF 1 Transportation - Significant Activities:

- GDOT continues to clear debris and assist several counties with clearing of county roads.
- Coordination for Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments in State Declared counties is ongoing.

ESF 2 Communications - Significant Activities:

- **The Rabun County request for 2 mobile VHF repeaters has been cancelled.**

ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering - Significant Activities:

- All water systems in Ringgold (Catoosa County) and Barnesville (Lamar County) have resumed normal operations as of Monday, May 2nd.
- **Power has been restored to the City of Trenton water systems in Dade County; the boil water advisory remains in effect while the county waits for lab results from recent sample testing.**

ESF 4 Fire Services and Life Safety - Significant Activities:

- **GFC continues to provide chainsaw strike teams and heavy equipment to affected counties for debris removal and road clearance in support of ongoing community recovery and power restoration efforts.**

ESF 5 Emergency Management - Significant Activities:

- SOC will remain partially activated (Level 2) to coordinate all requests for assistance from impacted counties and continue monitoring recovery efforts.
- **FEMA is coordinating resource requests for multiple counties in the affected areas for tarpaulins to cover damaged roofs as recovery efforts continue. These counties include: Bartow; Catoosa; Coweta; Dade; Floyd; Heard; Lamar; Meriwether; Pickens; Polk; Spalding; and Walker.**

ESF 6 Mass Care, Housing, and Human Services - Significant Activities:

- Coordination of shelter activities continued in Catoosa and Meriwether counties.

ESF 8 Public Health, Environmental, and Medical Services - Significant Activities:

- All hospitals have resumed normal operations.

ESF 9 Search and Rescue - Significant Activities:

- **All statewide SAR operations are complete; the remaining teams in Rabun County are demobilizing and redeploying today (Monday, May 2nd).**

ESF 12 Energy - Significant Activities:

- **As of Monday, May 2nd, GA Power and GA EMC are reporting 100% power restoration. There are approximately 250 GA Power and 500 GA EMC customers that cannot be reconnected due to extensive damage or destruction.**

ESF 13 Law Enforcement - Significant Activities:

- **DNR operations continue in Rabun County; two rangers remain on a daily 0700-1900 water-borne patrol. All other DNR operations related to the severe weather incident have concluded as of Monday, May 2nd.**
- **GA DPS units will continue assisting local law enforcement agencies in Spalding County throughout the week (May 2 – May 8, 2011).**

ESF 14 Long-Term Recovery - Significant Activities:

- **As of Monday, May 2nd, Individual Assistance (IA) PDAs have been completed in Coweta, Greene, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Morgan, Pickens, Rabun, and Troup counties and Public Assistance (PA) PDAs have been completed in Bartow, Catoosa, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Polk, Rabun, Spalding, Troup, and Walker counties.**
- **IA PDAs were completed in Butts, Cherokee, Gordon, Habersham, Haralson, Harris, Heard, Lumpkin, Newton, Upson, and White counties and PA PDAs were completed in Greene and Morgan counties today (Monday, May 2nd).**

ESF 15 Public Affairs - Significant Activities:

- There were a total of 107 media inquiries over the weekend. **There were 10 media inquiries on Monday, May 2nd.**
- **ESF 15 representatives continue to assist in coordination efforts regarding staffing needs for the Disaster Recovery Centers.**

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) – Significant Activities:

- **The Southern Baptist Convention is continuing to assist recovery efforts in Catoosa, Dade, Floyd, Morgan, Polk, and Walker counties.**
- **American Legion and United Methodists are preparing meals for 2,600 responders and people in Floyd County; Chattanooga Community Food Bank and ARC will continue to coordinate food and water supplies for the effort.**

State Agencies or State Level Organizations Responding

- GEMA – Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- GBI – Georgia Bureau of Investigation
- GDA-Georgia Department of Agriculture
- DNR – Department of Natural Resources
- DOAS – Department of Administrative Services
- DOC – Department of Corrections
- DOT-Department of Transportation
- GAA – Georgia Aviation Authority
- DPS / GSP – Department of Public Safety / Georgia State Patrol
- GA DOD / GSDF – Georgia Department of Defense / Georgia State Defense Force
- DHS – Department of Human Services
- GDPH / DCH – Georgia Department of Public Health / Division of Community Health
- GEFA – Georgia Environmental Finance Authority
- GFC – Georgia Forestry Commission
- GMAG – Georgia Mutual Aid Group
- ARC – American Red Cross
- SA – Salvation Army
- GA VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Thank you,

State Operations Center Staff

Please do not respond to this email. If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-800-TRY-GEMA.

This email message, including any attachment, is for the sole use of the intended recipient (s). If you are not the intended recipient, please contact 1-800-TRY-GEMA.
