

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2007

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
ALABAMA, Southwest				
WILCOX COUNTY --- 2.4 E PRAIRIE [32.12, -87.41], 4.2 E REHOBOTH [32.18, -87.31]				
	03/01/07 12:27 CST	1	2M	Tornado (EF4, L: 6.08 mi , W: 500 yd)
	03/01/07 12:39 CST	2	0	Source: Emergency Manager

A significant tornado first touched down around 1227 pm at State Highway 28 near Miller's Ferry dam. The tornado then tracked northeast across William "Bill" Dannelly Reservoir moving ashore on Sand Island Drive. This is where most of the severe damage occurred with numerous homes damaged or destroyed.

One resident had arrived at his home on the lake to eat lunch when the tornado hit and he was killed when his newer model manufactured home was destroyed. The straps holding the home down all snapped in the same place. He was thrown out of his home and later found in the debris. Neighbors next door had sought shelter in an underground storm shelter outside their house seconds before the tornado hit. When they safely emerged from the shelter, they found their home destroyed. Most of the homes on Sand Island are vacation homes with part-time residents. If the tornado had struck on the weekend when more people are present, the loss of life would likely have been greater.

Around 40 homes (four of these were slab homes) were damaged or destroyed along Sand Island Drive with some of the debris scattered up to two miles downstream. The tornado continued quickly to the northeast through sparsely populated areas. Damage did occur to homes and hunting camps along this path. However, the damage here was only rated as EF-0 and EF-1 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale. The tornado crossed into Dallas County.

In all, one person died and two people were slightly injured by the tornado. The injuries occurred along Sand Island Drive when a single wide trailer was destroyed with the occupants being thrown from the trailer. They were protected from flying debris by part of the trailer that had fallen on top of them. The highest wind speed of the tornado was estimated at 185 mph.

Direct Fatalities: M48MH

Isolated thunderstorms developed ahead of a strong spring cold front. One of these thunderstorms produced a significant tornado in Wilcox County.

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Miller's Ferry Tornado