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Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Columbia SC
900 PM EDT Thu May 25 2017

...MULTIPLE TORNADOES CONFIRMED ON MAY 24 2017...

...EF2 TORNADO CONFIRMED IN NORTHERN SALUDA AND NEWBERRY COUNTIES...

Rating: EF-2
Estimated Peak Wind: 115 mph
Path Length /statute/: 12 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 250 yards
Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: May 24 2017
Start Time: 304 PM EDT
Start Location: 10 miles NE of Saluda, SC
Start Lat/Lon: 34.01/-81.64

End Date: May 24 2017
End Time: 320 PM EDT
End Location: 3 miles E of Prosperity, SC
End Lat/Lon: 34.22/-81.48

...Summary...

The National Weather Service in Columbia has confirmed a tornado in Northern Saluda and Newberry Counties in South Carolina on May 24, 2017.

A tornado touched down near Denny Highway in Northern Saluda County, about 2 miles southwest of the Saluda River. The tornado then continued northeast across the Saluda River and into Newberry County, eventually passing about 2 miles south of Prosperity and dissipating about 3 miles east of Prosperity near Mid Carolina High School. The tornado had a path length of 12 miles and a maximum width of 250 yards, producing EF-0 and EF-1 damage along most of its path. However, there was a small area of EF-2 wind damage with winds up to 115 mph near Stoney Hill Road and Fire Tower Road, and also near Macedonia Church Road and Cy Schumpert Road.

Numerous trees were either snapped or uprooted along the damage path, with several trees down on homes and vehicles. Where the tornado was strongest, several masonry outbuildings had their walls blown out. Small outbuildings were moved as much as 20 yards, and a few very large hardwood trees were splintered with the tops thrown as much as 30 yards.

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...EF1 TORNADO CONFIRMED WEST OF SALUDA IN SALUDA COUNTY...

Rating: EF-1
Estimated Peak Wind: 110 mph
Path Length /statute/: 3 miles
Path Width /maximum/: 75 yards

Fatalities: 0
Injuries: 0

Start Date: May 24 2017
Start Time: 2:40 PM EDT
Start Location: 6 miles W of Saluda
Start Lat/Lon: 33.99/-81.88

End Date: May 24 2017
End Time: 2:47 PM EDT
End Location: 4 miles NW of Saluda
End Lat/Lon: 34.02/-81.85

...Summary...

The National Weather Service in Columbia has confirmed a tornado in Saluda County in South Carolina on May 24, 2017.

A tornado touched down near Fruit Hill Road just north of Highway 378. Then continued northeast crossing Henley Road and Old Charleston Road. The tornado produced EF-0 and EF-1 damage, traveling a total of 3 miles before lifting near the intersection of Old Chappell Ferry Road and Simmons Road. Numerous trees were either snapped or uprooted along the damage path and sheet metal was lifted off the roof of a small outbuilding. The strongest wind speeds of up to 110 mph occurred on Fruit Hill Road where 2 cedar trees were snapped at the trunks and thrown up to 20 yards.

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EF Scale: The Enhanced Fujita Scale classifies tornadoes into the following categories.

EF0...Weak.....65 TO 85 mph
EF1...Weak.....86 TO 110 mph
EF2...Strong....111 TO 135 mph
EF3...Strong....136 TO 165 mph
EF4...Violent...166 TO 200mph
EF5...Violent...>200mph

NOTE:

The information in this statement is preliminary and subject to change pending final review of the events and publication in NWS Storm Data.

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LCV/CJR/JAQ/FWA