

= Tropical Storm Tammy ( 2005 ) =

Tropical Storm Tammy was a short lived tropical storm during October in the 2005 Atlantic hurricane season which caused minor damage to the southeastern United States . More significant , however were its remnants which contributed to the Northeast U.S. flooding of October 2005 .

Tropical Storm Tammy formed from a non @-@ tropical system off the Florida coast on October 5 . It moved north just offshore before making landfall later that day . The tropical storm rapidly weakened as it moved overland and dissipated the next day . Its remnant circulation moved south towards the Gulf of Mexico , while the moisture was absorbed by a northeasterly moving cold front . There were no fatalities directly related to Tammy ; however , ten people were killed by the remnants of the storm in combination with the remnants of Subtropical Depression Twenty @-@ Two . Total damages from the storm were \$ 30 million .

= = Meteorological history = =

A tropical wave left the western coast of Africa on September 24 and crossed the Atlantic without any development . The wave began to develop on October 2 north of the Lesser Antilles when it encountered an upper level trough . It strengthened as it passed through the Bahamas and early on October 5 a vigorous tropical disturbance formed . As the system already had tropical @-@ storm force winds , it was immediately named Tropical Storm Tammy . Upon being classified , the system was poorly organized , with deep convection only persisting to the northeast of the center of circulation . Tropical storm @-@ force winds were presumed to be located underneath the convection as ship reports nearby the system only reported winds up to 35 mph ( 55 km / h ) . Tammy quickly tracked towards the northwest in a southerly flow between a mid to upper @-@ level low over the Gulf of Mexico and a ridge located over the western Atlantic Ocean . Later that day , a reconnaissance flight into the storm recorded flight level winds of 61 mph ( 98 km / h ) , which corresponds to surface winds of 50 mph ( 85 km / h ) . However , small areas of 60 mph ( 95 km / h ) to 65 mph ( 100 km / h ) were reported by the crew members of the aircraft . At 6 : 30 pm EST ( 2300 UTC ) , the storm made landfall with winds of 50 mph ( 85 km / h ) near Atlantic Beach , Florida . The tropical storm then moved inland over Georgia and into southeastern Alabama near Ozark , where it lost its circulation on October 6 .

The remnant low drifted south towards the Gulf of Mexico before being absorbed by a cold front ( which also picked remnants of Subtropical Depression Twenty @-@ two ) , and moving northeast . This cold front , of which Tammy 's remnants were a part , affected much of the Northeastern United States over the next few days .

= = Preparations = =

Tropical Storm Tammy surprised forecasters when it formed on October 5 . Because they had not expected the disturbance to develop , warnings were not issued until about 12 hours before the storm made landfall . Despite the short warning , tourists and business travelers cancelled flights as the storm neared landfall . Upon the storm developing , a tropical storm warning was immediately issued for the coast from Cocoa Beach , Florida to the Santee River , South Carolina .

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security 's U.S. Coast Guard , 7th District issued an advisory to mariners , warning them to prepare for the storm and avoid the ocean if possible . In Georgia , the National Park Service evacuated the residents of Cumberland Island and closed the ferry which services it . The Glynn County Emergency Operations Agency monitored and prepared for Tropical Storm Tammy 's landfall , however the poor warning hampered their efforts . Residents all over the state expressed frustration at the lack of time they had to prepare . When Tammy moved inland 12 hours later the southern end of the warning zone moved north to Altamaha Sound , Georgia before all warnings were discontinued on October 6 .

= = Impact = =

Tropical Storm Tammy caused minor damage . Its highest sustained winds were 50 mph ( 80 km / h ) and its strongest recorded wind gust was 60 mph ( 97 km / h ) . The winds produced no significant damage , but did disrupt power to 16 @, @ 500 utility customers and delayed the Trysail College Regatta . Lightning produced by a thunderstorm in Broward County , Florida struck three teenagers during a football game in Coconut Creek , killing one and injuring the other two .

To most areas in north Florida and southern Georgia , Tammy brought 3 to 5 in ( 76 to 127 mm ) of rain , though some isolated areas received 10 inches ( 250 mm ) . In Georgia , flooding damaged over 30 homes in Brunswick . Several dirt and coastal roads were washed out , and sewers overflowed as far north as Baltimore County , Maryland . Two small pond dams burst , including a 173 @-@ year @-@ old wooden dam , but new stone dams were constructed in place before the old ones failed . Conversely , Tammy 's rains were beneficial in South Carolina , where they helped alleviate dry conditions after a rainless September .

Tammy 's storm surge was approximately 2 to 4 ft ( 0 @.@ 61 to 1 @.@ 22 m ) and caused salt @-@ water flooding along the coast of northeastern Florida , Georgia , and South Carolina . The surge damages boardwalks along the coast , and wave action causes over 2 feet ( 0 @.@ 6 m ) of beach erosion . In addition to the flooding , Tropical Storm Tammy spawned one tornado . Rated an F0 tornado , it touched down near Brunswick , Georgia where it snapped trees and caused moderate roof damage along its 2 mi ( 3 @.@ 2 km ) path . The storm 's total damage was estimated at around \$ 30 million ( 2005 USD ) . The outer bands of Tammy brought heavy rains , peaking around 7 in ( 180 mm ) in places , and caused significant beach erosion . Winds along the coastline gusted up to 59 mph ( 95 km / h ) , downing numerous trees . The worst damage occurred in Beaufort County where 30 trees were downed , one of which fell on a home . Rough seas undermined several beach homes and caused one to be condemned .

= = Aftermath , naming and records = =

A Red Cross shelter at Seldon Park , Brunswick , Georgia , opened for two days following the storm to temporarily house those whose houses were flooded . Tammy 's remnant low was absorbed a larger extratropical low which tracked north and contributed to the Northeast U.S. flooding of October 2005 , which killed ten people and caused significant damage . As a result of the flooding , the Federal Emergency Management Agency paid \$ 44 million in losses .

Shrimpers in the Carolinas blamed high fuel prices and the disruption of Tropical Storm Tammy for some of the troubles facing the shrimping industry in 2005 . Rising fuel prices and dwindling demand has already created tough conditions that year , but the disruption of several days ' fishing due to Tammy escalated the situation .

When Tropical Storm Tammy formed on October 5 , it was the earliest ever in the season that the twentieth storm formed , beating the previous record held by Storm 20 of the 1933 season by 21 days .