

= Tropical Storm Chris ( 1982 ) =

Tropical Storm Chris caused minor flooding along the Gulf Coast of the United States in September 1982 . The fifth tropical cyclone and third named storm of the 1982 Atlantic hurricane season , Chris developed from a surface low @-@ pressure area in the northern Gulf of Mexico on September 9 . Although initially displaying subtropical characteristics , the low pressure area gradually acquired tropical characteristics , and was reclassified as Tropical Depression Four within 24 hours of development . The depression then began to intensify and was upgraded to Tropical Storm Chris on September 10 . Thereafter , the storm turned north @-@ northeastward and strengthened further . On September 11 , Chris peaked as a 65 mph ( 100 km / h ) tropical storm . Later that day , it made landfall near Sabine Pass , Port Arthur , Texas . By September 13 , Chris dissipated over Arkansas .

When Chris moved ashore , it caused high waves and tides along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico . Though the storm made landfall in Texas , minimal impact was recorded in that state , though a restaurant suffered significant damage . Much of the impact occurred to the east , in Louisiana . Rainfall was relatively light in that state , though a few isolated areas experienced precipitation amounts higher than 15 inches ( 380 mm ) . The storm caused steady rainfall in parts of the Midwestern United States . Outside of Louisiana , there were rainfall totals higher than 10 inches ( 250 mm ) in western Tennessee and slightly less as the storm progressed northward . Due to minor flooding , damage in Louisiana was around \$ 1 million ( 1982 USD ) . Elsewhere , impact was limited to mostly light to moderate rainfall , though local flooding was reported in Tennessee and Kentucky . Overall , Chris caused \$ 2 million ( 1982 USD ) in damage and no fatalities .

= = Meteorological history = =

An upper @-@ low pressure system formed in the Gulf of Mexico on September 6 , with the circulation heading westward . Initially , minimal development occurred , though by September 8 , the system became a surface low . It is estimated that the surface low became a subtropical depression by 0000 UTC on the following day . Over the next 24 hours , the low began acquiring tropical characteristics , mainly from developing deep convection on its north and east sides . By early on September 10 , observations from oil rigs , radars , and Air Force reconnaissance flights indicated that the subtropical system had transitioned into Tropical Depression Four . However , the National Hurricane Center did not operationally issue advisories until 1900 UTC on September 10 , at which time Chris was already a tropical storm .

In post @-@ season analysis , it was indicated that Tropical Depression Five strengthened into Tropical Storm Chris at 1200 UTC on September 10 . Due to a large low pressure trough over the Southwestern United States , Chris immediately curved northward . Later that day , the National Hurricane Center noted that " even though conditions do not favor rapid strengthening ... winds could approach hurricane force before the center moves inland Saturday " . As it approached closer to the Gulf Coast of the United States , Chris curved slightly east of north . Shortly before 1200 UTC Chris made landfall near Sabine Pass , Port Arthur , Texas with winds of 65 mph ( 100 km / h ) . At 1200 UTC on September 11 , Chris attained its peak intensity with winds of 65 mph ( 100 km / h ) and a minimum pressure of 994 mbar ( 29 @.@ 4 inHg ) . Chris weakened quickly , and was downgraded to a tropical depression by early on September 12 while centered over west @-@ central Louisiana . The storm deteriorated further , and dissipated in Arkansas at 0000 UTC on September 13 . The remnants were last noted over the Midwestern United States .

= = Preparations = =

As Chris approached the Gulf Coast , at least 6 @,@ 500 people were evacuated from the Louisiana coast . Offshore evacuations were also completed , with many oil rig workers were taken off of rigs in the Gulf of Mexico .

Along with the evacuations , multiple watches and warnings were issued in accordance with

Tropical Storm Chris . The first was on September 9 , when a gale warning was released for the Louisiana area east of Port Arthur , Texas . Fifteen hours afterwards , a gale warning was released for Port Arthur to Port O 'Connor , Texas . The next day , the gale warnings in Texas were extended as far south as Brownsville . A hurricane watch was released at 2200 UTC on September 10 for Morgan City , Louisiana to Port O 'Connor , Texas . All watches and warnings were discontinued by 2200 UTC on September 11 , which was about 10 hours after Chris made landfall .

= = Impact = =

At an offshore oil rig , a wind gust up to 81 mph ( 130 km / h ) was reported . In addition , several boats in the Gulf of Mexico sustained heavy damage . About 9 miles ( 14 km ) southeast of Sabine Pass , a 65 feet ( 20 m ) utility boat sunk . Minimal rainfall was reported in Texas , reaching about 1 inch ( 25 mm ) . Winds were light , remaining below tropical storm force in eastern Texas . However , a restaurant on Pleasure Island suffered an estimated \$ 200 @, @ 000 in damage ( 1982 USD ) . In addition , minimal damage occurred at Sea Rim State Park , totaling to only \$ 1 @, @ 000 ( 1982 USD ) . In the Port Arthur area , numerous power outages were reported . Flooded roads and power outages were reported in Beaumont , though damage was not significant in that city .

Along the southwestern coast of Louisiana , tides between 4 and 7 feet ( 1 @. @ 2 and 2 @. @ 1 m ) were reported . On land , Chris produced tropical storm force winds in a few areas and light to moderate rainfall . Throughout the state , precipitation was generally between 5 and 10 inches ( 130 and 250 mm ) , though peaking at more than 16 inches ( 410 mm ) in Delhi . Elsewhere in Louisiana , about 5 inches ( 130 mm ) of rainfall was reported in Lake Charles . Street flooding in Lake Charles was severe , though only a few houses suffered flood damage . To the south of Lake Charles , minor damage was reported in Cameron Parish , totaling to about \$ 500 @, @ 000 ( 1982 USD ) . However , due to high tides , damage along the coastal areas of that parish was considerable . A Cameron Parish official noted " There 's power out all over the place , and we understand there was quite a bit of damage at Holly Beach " . In Evangeline Parish , an F2 tornado on the Fujita Scale destroyed four buildings and damaged seven other structures . In northeastern Louisiana , wind damage was " spotty " and limited to downed trees and powerlines . As a result of heavy rainfall in that portion of the state , low @- @ lying areas flooded , and bayous overflowed . A tornado , rated at F3 , destroyed eleven houses and one church in Clayton . In addition , the tornado knocked down trees and powerlines in the area . Overall , damage in Louisiana was near \$ 1 million ( 1982 USD ) .

Throughout Louisiana and Mississippi , a combined total of nine tornadoes were reported . One of the tornadoes in Mississippi damaged several homes and businesses in Cleveland , and at least four injuries were reported . Another tornado spawned in a rural area overturned a mobile home in Eden . Two other twisters in the state caused minimal damage . In Mississippi , rains peaked at about 10 inches ( 250 mm ) in the northwest section of the state . The rest of state reported widespread rains of 1 ? 7 inches ( 25 ? 178 mm ) . Rainfall in Alabama peaked at 3 inches ( 76 mm ) in some areas , and similar amounts were observed in Georgia . In Florida , rainfall peaked at 7 inches ( 180 mm ) in an extremely southern part of the Panhandle . Precipitation was also recorded in Lake Okeechobee , with 1 inch ( 25 mm ) reported there . The northeastern section of the state reported 5 inches ( 130 mm ) of rain . No rain was reported in the Florida Keys .

In Arkansas , only 1 inch ( 25 mm ) of rain was reported , which were in several portions of the state . Missouri reported a peak of 5 inches ( 130 mm ) of precipitation , in the southeastern portion of the state . Other rains in the state include 1 ? 3 inches ( 25 ? 76 mm ) , which was widespread . Illinois reported mainly 1 inch ( 25 mm ) of precipitation , with one area of 3 inches ( 76 mm ) , all in the southern half of the state . Very little rain was reported in Indiana , with only 1 @- @ inch ( 25 mm ) on the southern border of the state . In Tennessee and Kentucky , rains of 10 ? 16 inches ( 250 ? 410 mm ) were reported with locally heavy flooding . The western portions of Tennessee reported flood waters at least waist high in some city streets . In addition , schools in Milan were closed , while portions of U.S. Routes 70 and 79 were submerged into water . A few businesses in the city of Huntington suffered flood damage . Others rains include 1 inch ( 25 mm ) in the Carolinas , New York , Michigan , Virginia and Ohio . Overall , damage from Tropical Storm Chris was slightly less

than \$ 2 million ( 1982 USD ) , and no fatalities were reported .