

= Tropical Storm Danielle (1980) =

Tropical Storm Danielle caused considerable flooding in the state of Texas during September 1980 . The eighth tropical cyclone and fourth named storm of the 1980 Atlantic hurricane season , Danielle developed from a tropical wave that emerged into the Atlantic Ocean from the west coast of Africa on August 22 . Three days later , the tropical wave developed into a tropical depression . Four days later , the depression degenerated into a tropical wave . After tracking westward and entering the Gulf of Mexico , the system gradually developed , and became a tropical depression on September 4 . The depression gradually strengthened and became Tropical Storm Danielle only hours before landfall in eastern Texas on September 5 . Danielle steadily weakened inland and dissipated two days later .

Danielle produced widespread rainfall in Louisiana , though few areas reported more than 5 inches (130 mm) of precipitation . Rainfall was heavier in Texas , peaking at 18 @. @ 29 inches (465 mm) in Nederland . Much of the damage caused by the storm was as a resulting of flooding . In Port Arthur , twelve homes were damaged , while Interstate 10 was inundated by flood waters . Danielle also spawned several tornadoes in Texas , though none effects from them are unknown . Outside of Texas and Louisiana , the storm also dropped light rainfall in Oklahoma and Mississippi . Overall , Danielle caused three fatalities and at least \$ 25 million (1980 USD) in damage .

= = Meteorological history = =

A tropical wave emerged off the west coast of Africa on August 22 and tracked westward across the Atlantic Ocean . On August 25 , the system developed into Tropical Depression Six . After four days , the depression degenerated back into a tropical wave , which continued westward across the Atlantic . By September 2 , the remnants of the depression then interacted with a mid @- @ level low pressure system over southern Florida . As a result , a low @- @ level circulation developed in the Gulf of Mexico as the system as a whole moved off Florida later that day . Organization continued and it is estimated that Tropical Depression Eight at 1800 UTC on September 4 , while located about 120 miles (190 km) south of New Orleans , Louisiana . The National Hurricane Center began issuing advisories a few hours later . Furthermore , the National Hurricane Center later noted that strengthening was more likely if the depression remained offshore for a longer period of time .

Between 0600 and 1100 UTC , a barge known as the Glomar Tender II recorded sustained winds of 60 mph (95 km / h) . However , this measurement was deemed to be " small scale [d] " and not representative of the storm 's actual intensity . At 1700 UTC on September 5 , the National Hurricane Center upgraded the depression to Tropical Storm Danielle , based on observations from reconnaissance aircraft and an oil rig . The oil rig , which was location near the coast of Louisiana , reported winds of 60 mph (95 km / h) and a minimum pressure of 1 @, @ 004 mbar (29 @. @ 6 inHg) ; this would later be considered the peak intensity of Danielle . A few hours later , Danielle made landfall near Galveston , Texas at the same intensity . The storm steadily weakened after moving inland and was downgraded to tropical depression by 1200 UTC on September 6 . About four hours later , the National Hurricane Center discontinued advisories on Danielle . However , the storm did not dissipate until 1200 UTC on September 7 , while located near Del Rio , Texas . The remnants of the storm continued westward for the next two days .

= = Preparations and impact = =

= = Texas = =

As the storm was approaching , the National Weather Service issued flash flood watches from Freeport to Sabine Pass , Texas . Rainfall from the storm peaked at 18 @. @ 29 inches (465 mm) in the town of Nederland . A 24 @- @ hour precipitation record of 17 @. @ 16 inches (436 mm) was reported at the Southeast Texas Regional Airport in Beaumont . Due to heavy rainfall , an

automobile accident in Beaumont resulted in one fatality . A police officer in Beaumont noted that almost every street in the city was flooded . The heavy rainfall resulted in considerable flash flooding in eastern Texas , causing residents to evacuate their homes . Flood waters also forced the shutdown of Interstate 10 . According to a police spokesman , at least 60 % of streets in Port Arthur were inundated by water . In Orange County , two people were injured in automobile accidents . Along Highway 124 , a bayou overflowed its bank . Because there were numerous inundated streets , police barricaded roads in Beaumont , Bridge City , Orange , Vidor , and Port Arthur . A sewer system in Roscoe was also damaged by flood waters , leaving 1 @, @ 500 residents without running water . In Port Arthur , twelve homes were reported flooded ; one house in the Lakeview neighborhood had 1 foot (0 @. @ 30 m) of water inside . Flood waters entered an oil pit at Port Neches , which sent at least 200 barrels of oil into the Neches River .

Danielle also produced tides 2 to 3 feet (0 @. @ 61 to 0 @. @ 91 m) above normal , causing minor beach erosion along the Texas coast . Several boats and docks on Lake Buchanan were damaged . A third fatality from the storm occurred when a fisherman 's boat on Sabine Lake capsized , causing the man to die of a heart attack during rescue . Danielle spawned several tornadoes in the state of Texas , one of which caused an estimated \$ 1 @, @ 500 (1980 USD) in damage to a storage barn in Galveston County on the Bolivar Peninsula . Another touched down twice in Beaumont and overturned a mobile home at a mobile home park . After the storm , the American Red Cross opened storm shelters for residents forced out of their homes because of the flooding . Due to adverse conditions , " hundreds " were left without electricity in Beaumont , Silsbee , Kountze , Hamshire , and Fannett . In addition , then President of the United States Jimmy Carter declared Jefferson and Nolan counties as disaster area , allowing those areas to receive federal aid . Damage in Jefferson County alone totaled to \$ 2 @. @ 7 million (1980 USD) . Overall , Danielle caused two fatalities and between \$ 25 million and \$ 50 million (1980 USD) in damage within the state of Texas .

= = = Elsewhere = = =

In the Gulf of Mexico , rough seas from Danielle caused a maintenance barge to capsize , washing all 11 crewmen overboard . A fatality occurred when one of the crewmen drowned , though the other ten were rescued by the United States Coast Guard . Additionally , the storm also caused a United States Coast Guard helicopter to crash into the sea due to high winds and lack of fuel , though all twelve crewmen survived . Offshore , a barge encountered winds of 58 mph (93 km / h) with gusts up to 92 mph (148 km / h) and light rainfall .

Danielle ? s effects on southern and eastern Louisiana was minimal . The state received moderate to heavy rainfall ; there , the highest rainfall total there was 2 @. @ 23 inches (57 mm) in Houma . Light rainfall was also reported in Oklahoma and Mississippi , with no areas reporting at least 3 inches (76 mm) of precipitation .