Section – Appendices
6-2 Hurricane Annex

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Annex 6 – 2 Hurricane Annex

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this annex is to supplement the Horry County Emergency Operations Plan by establishing procedures specific to response operations during a hurricane or tropical system. Special emphasis is placed on the use of the operational conditions and evacuation to increase the safety of the citizens of Horry County.

II. SITUATION

The Atlantic hurricane season is June 1st through November 30th, during such time Horry County is on heightened alert to the possibility of approaching tropical systems. On a day-to-day basis the Horry County Emergency Management Department continually monitors the current weather affecting the county as well as weather conditions and systems that may impact the county in the foreseeable future. There are a number of weather related resources that assist in the identification of weather related conditions, such as: The National Weather Service, The National Hurricane Center, and a suite of tools and predictive models.

The department transitions from normal, day-to-day operations to a state of heightened situational awareness when models indicate that an approaching weather system, whether an actual or anticipated tropical depression, tropical storm or hurricane could impact the Horry County coast.

Hazard and threat analysis information is maintained as part of the Horry County All Hazards Mitigation plan. Identified in the threat analysis are high-risk areas (i.e., population, infrastructure and environmental).

III. ASSUMPTIONS

A. Horry County will generally receive several days of early warning of an impending hurricane through the National Hurricane Center (NHC), the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Weather Service (NWS). There is potential for response to a storm with less than normal warning time as seen in 2004 when Hurricane Gaston developed 140 miles off the South Carolina coast intensifying from a tropical depression to hurricane in 48 hours.

B. Horry County will use this warning time to prepare using plans, protocols and procedures predefined and coordinated in this and other plans.

C. Mutual Aid Compacts and Agreements will enable assistance in shortfall areas of personnel, equipment and logistics; state-to-county, county-to-county, and county-to-municipality.

D. Horry County Council shall declare a State of Emergency to temporarily suspend normal government functions.

E. The citizens of Horry County will respond to an evacuation order or otherwise prepare themselves for an approaching hurricane.
F. A hurricane may trigger only a State and local response without a Federal response.

G. Effective communications shall be a major concern due to the disruption of telephone service and the loss and/or damage of radio antenna towers and related equipment.

H. A hurricane may result in large numbers of casualties and/or displaced people that will very quickly overwhelm local and State capabilities.

I. There will be increased security in evacuated areas to prevent looting.

J. Resources will be critical due to an increase in demand from surrounding counties.

K. Both response and recovery operations may be hampered by blocked roads, damaged bridges or roads, and downed trees and utility poles.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. This plan is used in conjunction with the responsibilities outlined in the Emergency Operations Plan and its annexes.

2. Groups and individuals responding for hurricane operations will do so generally using procedures parallel to their normal day-to-day operations.

B. Operating Conditions Levels (OPCONS)

1. Horry County shall use Operating Condition Levels as the overall tool for hurricane planning and response, thus facilitating the action of both emergency management and emergency response personnel.

2. Due to the nature of hurricane planning and the need to facilitate a possible coastal evacuation, traditional OPCON Levels must be modified for this plan. This modification helps to implement a coastal evacuation and shelter activations well before the system makes land-fall. The Operating Condition Levels (OPCONs) are based on timing required to begin and complete an evacuation of the hurricane evacuation zones (Attachment B). Evacuation of appropriate coastal zones must be complete prior to the arrival of tropical storm force winds. Therefore the evacuation decision must be made in some instances days prior to landfall. Periodically, a tropical system will intensify rapidly; which will require flexibility in the transition between OPCONs. See the Horry County Evacuation Decision Timeline (Attachment A).

3. To ensure that all activated personnel in the county, northern conglomerate and the state have a unified response, the previous OPCON modifications were also coordinated with the State Hurricane Plan.
OPCON 3

June 1st is the first day of hurricane season. Horry County will remain at OPCON 3, day-to-day operations, until the National Hurricane Center identifies a tropical system that places Horry County within the five day error cone. Reference the EOP, Preparedness Section for pre-storm preparedness activities.

Emergency Management Department

a) Daily monitor the National Hurricane Center, (NHC) Atlantic Graphical Tropical Weather outlook website.
b) Monitor further development of NHC identified areas of possible tropical cyclone formation.
c) Communicate internally with Horry County Senior Staff.
d) Email County Stakeholders distribution list of general information if a storm is named.
e) Monitor and update website and social media applications.

NHC FIVE DAY ERROR CONE FORECAST

Once the National Hurricane Center identifies a tropical system that places Horry County within the five day error cone, key personnel are notified of the possible threat and initiation of preparatory activities should be considered.. The EOC will not be activated at this stage.

County Administrator

a) Update Horry County Council on the actions being performed by county agencies and departments.
b) Consider activation of the EOP and Hurricane Annex as recommended by the EMD Director.

Public Information

a) Update the Horry County Government website with press releases and local advisories.
b) Encourage Special Needs evacuation preparations.
c) Monitor and update website and social media applications.

Emergency Management Department

a) Review the advisory package forecast data. Determine projected evacuation timelines.
b) SCEMD led conference calls with coastal counties and National Weather Service.
c) Send out emails after each NHC package update of track and forecast.
d) Sign in and follow NWS chat.
e) Discuss and coordinate current situation and future actions with the following agencies:
   i. SCEMD
   ii. NWS, Wilmington
   iii. Georgetown County Emergency Management Department
   iv. Marion County Emergency Management Department
f) Discuss, coordinate and update on current situation and future actions with local municipalities:
   i. Town of Atlantic Beach
   ii. Town of Aynor
   iii. Town of Briarcliffe Acres
   iv. City of Conway
   v. City of Loris
   vi. City of Myrtle Beach
   vii. City of North Myrtle Beach
viii. Town of Surfside Beach

g) Update Brunswick and Columbus Counties, North Carolina on the current status of Horry County OPCON level.

h) Establish an event in Palmetto.

i) Contact the area Chamber of Commerce’s and the Clay Brittain Jr. Center for Resort Tourism to verify the tourist profile, scheduled special events, etc.

j) Check scheduling and determine who is scheduled to use the EOC. Notify them that they are subject to be rescheduled.

k) Consider notification through EOC alert roster.

l) Participate in Department of Health and Environment Control, (DHEC) led nursing home conference calls.

m) Update county departments that may be most affected by the tropical system hazards as appropriate.

n) Advise EMD staff to prepare for possible OPCON 2.

Maintenance

a) Check emergency generator at M.L. Brown building and E911 Center. Ensure fuel tanks are full.

Law Enforcement

a) J. Reuben Long Detention center to review procedures to draw down detainee population.

OPCON 2

Once Horry County is in the three day error cone, Horry County will move to OPCON 2. The EOC will be activated at this level, either at a partial or full status. The primary events that will occur will include evacuation discussions, conducting pre-evacuation conferences, intelligence and information gathering, resource management and other preparatory activities.

Executive Group

a) Discuss possible evacuation options with the Governor, municipal leaders, state and federal delegation and if appropriate make a recommendation for evacuation.

b) County Administrator to coordinate with County Council to prepare a draft “State of Emergency”.

c) Preliminary discussion and evaluation of emergency ordinances.

d) Coordinate with the Human Resources Director regarding canceling leave for all essential personnel and closure of government functions and facilities.

e) Consider activation of resources contract based on recommendation by EOC Manager.

Emergency Management

a) Recommend implementation of the EOP and Hurricane Annex.

b) Recommend the activation of the EOC, based on the situation; determine if partial or full activation is required.

c) Review the advisory package forecast data. Determine projected evacuation timelines.

d) Discuss and coordinate current situation, future actions and potential evacuation zones with the following agencies:

   i. SCEMD
   ii. NWS, Wilmington
   iii. Georgetown County Emergency Management Department
iv. Marion County Emergency Management Department
e) Discuss, coordinate and update on current situation and future actions with local municipalities. Be prepared to discuss local issues that might impact the evacuation, such as local festivals, golf tournaments, road construction, etc.
   i. Town of Atlantic Beach
   ii. Town of Aynor
   iii. Town of Briarcliffe Acres
   iv. City of Conway
   v. City of Loris
   vi. City of Myrtle Beach
   vii. City of North Myrtle Beach
   viii. Town of Surfside Beach
f) Update Brunswick and Columbus Counties, North Carolina on the current status of Horry County OPCON level.
g) Recommend activation of emergency logistical support contract to Executive Group, as appropriate.
h) Encourage departments/agencies to begin documenting hours and activities in each department.
i) Send a resource request to SCEMD for a National Guard Liaison Officer for the EOC.

ESF 1 – Transportation
   a) Coordination with CoastRTA regarding evacuation pick-up points.

ESF 2 – IT/Communications
   a) Establish the Amateur Radio Net, primarily with EOCs and hurricane evacuation shelters in the county.
   b) Activate the EOC phone bank and the Joint Information Center phone lines.
   c) Setup up iRISS with the event, in order to start receiving significant events and road closure information.

ESF 3 – Public Works/Engineering
   a) Check the evacuation routes and verify that they are prepared for maximum traffic volume. Report any problems that could affect the evacuation.
   b) Ensure all critical vehicles and equipment are at a ready state.
   c) Maintenance to prepare for closure and securing of government buildings.

ESF 4 – Fire/Rescue
   a) Coordinate the movement and/or protection of fire equipment during the storm’s impact.

ESF 5 – Information and Planning
   a) Will utilize HurrEvac, HAZUS, and SLOSH to develop and provide timely and accurate actionable intelligence.

ESF 6 – Mass Care
   a) Coordinate the possible opening of hurricane evacuation shelters and special medical needs shelters. Verify the shelters are capable of sustaining operations and required personnel are notified.
   b) Discuss with school district officials shelter schedule modifications and school closings.
ESF 7 – Resource Support

a) Review food operations for the EOC and consider activation of the caterer per resources contract.
b) Communicate to County staff about the Hazardous Weather and Emergency Leave policy decisions.
c) Consider implementing the Logistics plan.
d) Consider implementing emergency procurement procedures.

ESF 8 – Public Health

a) Monitor possible evacuations of hospitals and nursing homes, if applicable

ESF 13 – Law Enforcement

a) Discuss security measures pre and post storm.
b) Develop a security plan for evacuation zones.
c) SCDNR to determine closing times for Intercoastal Waterway turn-bridges.

ESF 16 – Emergency Evacuation

a) Prepare to implement the traffic evacuation procedures.
b) Coordinate the additional resources for evacuation traffic control points, if applicable.

ESF 22 – Air Operations

a) Prepare to implement procedures for evacuation for commercial and private aircraft.
b) Prepare for closure and securing of airport facilities.

ESF 24 – Business and Industry

a) Coordinate with local businesses regarding the situation.
b) Identify major events and special activities that could impact the evacuation.
c) Consider coordinating with directors of special public activities and events.

OPCON 1

Once an evacuation is ordered by the Governor, the OPCON automatically moves to OPCON 1. At this level, the primary activity will be the evacuation of the vulnerable populations and hurricane evacuation shelter management. The EOC will remain at full activation throughout the evacuation and landfall.

Executive Group

a) Implement closure of county facilities, as appropriate.
b) Consider limiting the response of high profile and light weight emergency service response vehicles when sustained winds are 40 mph as conditions are too dangerous.
c) Consider suspending all emergency service responses when sustained winds are 60 mph as conditions are too dangerous.
Emergency Management

a) Discuss and coordinate current situation and future actions with the following agencies:
   i. SCEMD
   ii. NWS, Wilmington
   iii. Georgetown County Emergency Management Department
   iv. Marion County Emergency Management Department

b) Discuss, coordinate and update on current situation and future actions with local municipalities.
   i. Town of Atlantic Beach
   ii. Town of Aynor
   iii. Town of Briarcliffe Acres
   iv. City of Conway
   v. City of Loris
   vi. City of Myrtle Beach
   vii. City of North Myrtle Beach
   viii. Town of Surfside Beach

c) Update Brunswick and Columbus Counties, North Carolina on the current status of Horry County OPCON levels.

ESF 2 – IT/Communications

a) Monitor the status of all communication systems. Coordinate for immediate repair or replacement following landfall.

ESF 3 – Public Works/Engineering

a) Complete actions to protect critical county facilities and infrastructure.
   b) Move and disperse equipment to safe areas, as required.
   c) Begin planning for debris management following impact.
   d) Monitor the evacuation and ensure traffic moves as rapidly as possible.
   e) Begin preparations for an immediate assessment for the road network following the storm’s impact.
   f) Review the priority for assessing and clearing the roads. (Attachment F)

ESF 4 – Fire/Rescue

a) Move equipment to safe areas, as required.
   b) Develop a plan for post impact search and rescue of the impacted areas.

ESF 6 - Mass Care

a) Monitor the status of the evacuation shelters. Determine if supplemental evacuation shelters are necessary. Coordinate closely with other agencies.
   b) Document shelter occupancy levels for hurricane evacuation shelters and special medical needs shelters.
   c) Begin planning for the transition from hurricane evacuation shelters to post-impact shelters.

ESF 7 – Resource Support

a) Identify possible staging areas.
b) Identify resource needs.

ESF 8 – Public Health

a) Monitor the evacuations of Grand Strand Medical, Waccamaw Hospital and nursing homes.

ESF 13 – Law Enforcement

a) Monitor the evacuation routes and maintain maximum traffic flow.
b) Review and plan to implement re-entry.
c) Plan for post-impact security requirements.

V. ANNEX MAINTENANCE

Horry County Emergency Management has the responsibility of coordinating, developing and maintaining the Hurricane Annex and is the designated Lead Agency. The Hurricane Annex will be updated in conjunction with the CEMP as stated in Section VII, Plan Development and Maintenance.
ATTACHMENTS

A. Horry County Evacuation Decision Timeline
B. Horry County Evacuation Zone Maps
C. CoastRTA Evacuation Zone A Pickup Map
D. CoastRTA Evacuation Zone B & C Pickup Map
E. Horry County Evacuation Shelters for General Population
F. Horry County Prioritized Roads
Horry County Evacuation Decision Timeline

OPCON 3
Possibility a tropical system may threaten

36 hrs
Heightened Situational Awareness

OPCON 2
Activate the EOC significant impact very likely

12 hrs
Evacuation Decision

OPCON 1
Decision made for mandatory evacuation and opening of shelters

24 hrs
Time to Assemble Resources

Mandatory Evacuation Starts

27 - 15
Includes Lane Reversal
Zone A - 15hrs
Zone AB - 19hrs
Zone ABC - 27hrs

Evacuation must be finished

Arrival of Tropical Force Winds

8 -12
Landfall eye of Hurricane

Starts Mandatory Evacuation
and opening of shelters

Assemble Resources

Includes Lane Reversal
Zone A - 15hrs
Zone AB - 19hrs
Zone ABC - 27hrs

36 hrs
Heightened Situational Awareness

12 hrs
Evacuation Decision

24 hrs
Time to Assemble Resources

27 - 15
Includes Lane Reversal
Zone A - 15hrs
Zone AB - 19hrs
Zone ABC - 27hrs

Evacuation must be finished

Arrival of Tropical Force Winds

8 -12
Landfall eye of Hurricane
HURRICANE ANNEX

1. 7900 Ocean Boulevard at 70th Avenue North
2. 5200 Ocean Boulevard at 25th Avenue North
3. 3000 Ocean Boulevard at 30th Avenue North
4. 1304 Ocean Boulevard at 13th Avenue North
5. 201 Ocean Boulevard at 31st Avenue South
6. 304 Ocean Boulevard at 25th Avenue South
7. 1501 Ocean Boulevard at 15th Avenue South
8. 2201 Ocean Boulevard at 22nd Avenue South
9. 1701 Ocean Boulevard at 26th Avenue South
10. 7000 Ocean Boulevard at 70th Avenue North

WARD BEACH

ZONE A

Pick up Points for Zone A
This attachment provides a framework for establishing, opening, and demobilizing hurricane shelters to be used for pre-landfalling hurricanes for the general population once a mandatory evacuation order is issued by the Governor. This attachment does not address sheltering in any other capacity.

Horry County is vulnerable to the storm surge produced by tropical systems. Hurricane sheltering is generally tied to the anticipated evacuation due to hurricane storm surge and is coordinated with the South Carolina Emergency Management Division along with the Governor’s Office. Hurricane shelters will not be located in any known storm surge zone nor mapped flood zone in Horry County.

1. Hurricane shelter coordination between Horry County Emergency Management, Horry County School District, and the American Red Cross will be done on annual basis before the beginning of each hurricane season.

2. Discussions regarding opening shelters will begin as soon as there is a recognized threat of storm surge in Horry County. These discussions will include the current forecast, potential impacts to evacuation zones, and anticipation of when a mandatory evacuation order may be issued.

3. Preparations to open may begin at the designated hurricane shelters once it is determined that the Governor may issue a mandatory evacuation order due to the threat of an approaching hurricane. Shelters will be opened once the Governor has issued the order.

4. Shelter operations will be governed by the multi-agency agreement in place at the time the shelters are activated.

5. Overall coordination of sheltering and mass care will be organized through Emergency Support Function (ESF) 6 in the Horry County Emergency Operations Center.

6. During shelter operations, regular updates of the status of each shelter including the current number of people located in the shelter shall be provided to the EOC Section Liaison, EOC Manager or Emergency Management Director.

7. Issues that arise during shelter operations, which may not be addressed in the shelter agreement, will be forwarded to the EOC Manager or the Emergency Management Director for resolution.
8. Horry County Emergency Management, Horry County Schools and the American Red Cross will coordinate on demobilizing the hurricane shelters as quickly as possible post event. It is necessary to re-open schools as soon as feasible to help to stabilize the community. Schools will not be used for post-hurricane sheltering.

9. Following each hurricane season, Horry County Emergency Management will review the current shelter list and determine any changes that need to be made and implemented before the next hurricane season.

### Horry County Hurricane Shelters 2019

**Shelters for all Zones**  
CTN- Critical Transportation Need – Execute Bus routes with Pick-up Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Location</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aynor Middle School</td>
<td>1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conway High School</td>
<td>1278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loris High School</td>
<td>1163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean Bay Middle School (CTN) - Limited Routes (Non-Advertised)</td>
<td>825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Capacity</strong></td>
<td><strong>4292</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reserve Shelters for all Zones**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Location</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aynor High School</td>
<td>627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loris Middle School</td>
<td>1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserve Total Capacity</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Shelter Capacity</strong></td>
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</tr>
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</table>