State Climatology Office

Open File Report: Tornadoes of Early April 2022

South Carolina State Climatology Office
https://www.dnr.sc.gov/climate/sco/

January 12, 2023

This report serves as a preliminary dissemination of information on the impacts of the April 5-6, 2022, tornado outbreak on the state of South Carolina.

Report Author:

Frank Strait
Severe Weather Liaison

Other Contributing S. C. State Climatology Office Staff:

Dr. Hope Mizzell
State Climatologist

Melissa Griffin
Assistant State Climatologist

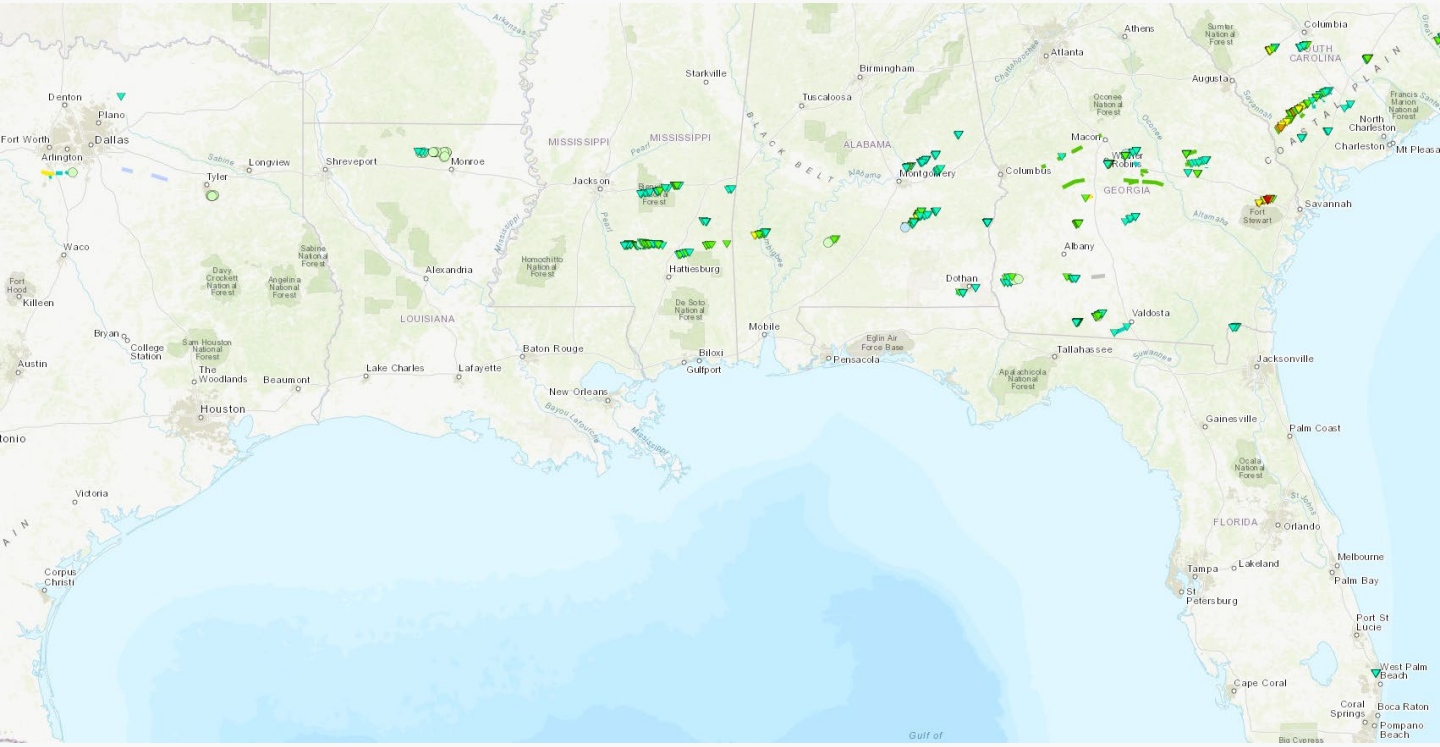
Elliot Wickham
Water Resources Climatologist

Cover Picture Credits:

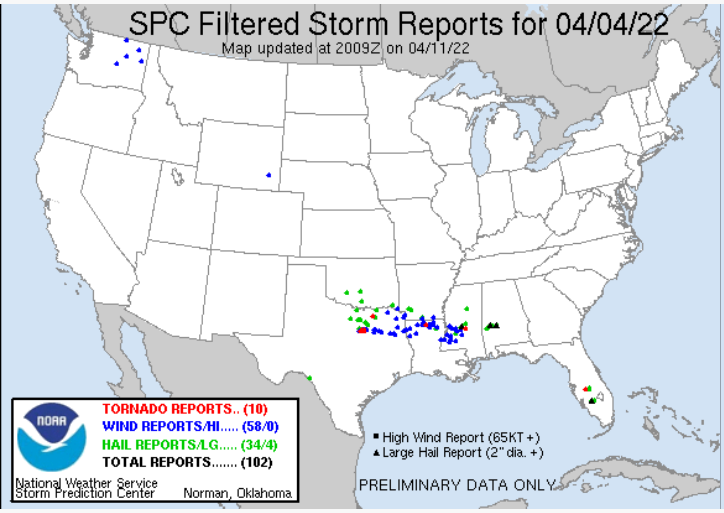
Top: Crews work to remove trees leaning over and resting upon a home just northeast of Ulmer on April 9 (Photo by Frank Strait).

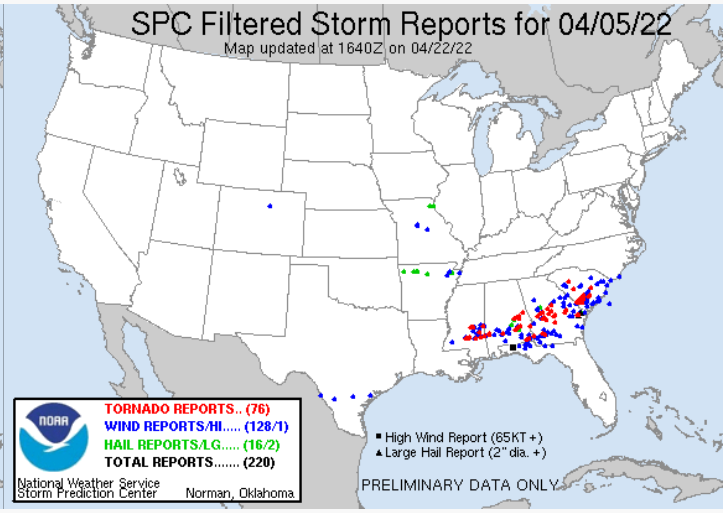
Bottom: NOAA photos showing extreme tree damage caused by an EF-3 tornado in a forested area of southern Bamberg County east of U. S. Highway 301 along and near Popeye Road, Ebeneezer Road and Low Country Highway (S.C. Route 64), roughly 2-3 miles northeast of Ulmer.

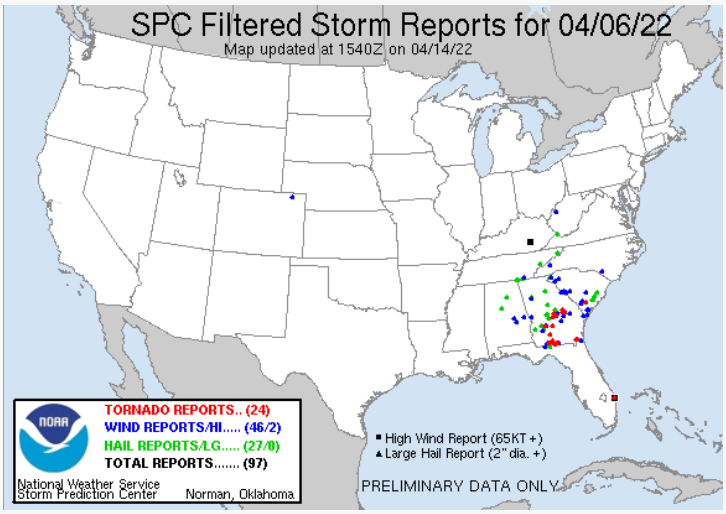
The tornadoes which affected South Carolina on April 5-6, 2022, were part of a large severe thunderstorm event which brought damaging storms across Texas, Oklahoma and the southeastern states which spawned over 60 tornadoes. The weather feature which triggered the severe storms affected Texas and Oklahoma on Monday, April 4 and the early morning of April 5, then areas farther east including South Carolina on Tuesday, April 5. Tornadoes included three rated at EF-3, two of which occurred in South Carolina, and one violent EF-4 in Georgia. A separate storm caused more severe storms in parts of the Southeast on Wednesday, April 6, including one tornado in South Carolina.



A screen capture from NOAA's Damage Assessment Toolkit showing the results of storm surveys conducted by National Weather Service employees of severe thunderstorm damage from April 4-6, 2022. Triangle-shaped markers indicate damage determined to be caused by tornadoes, while round markers indicate other severe thunderstorm wind damage. Lines indicate paths of damage caused by either tornadoes or straight-line thunderstorm winds.

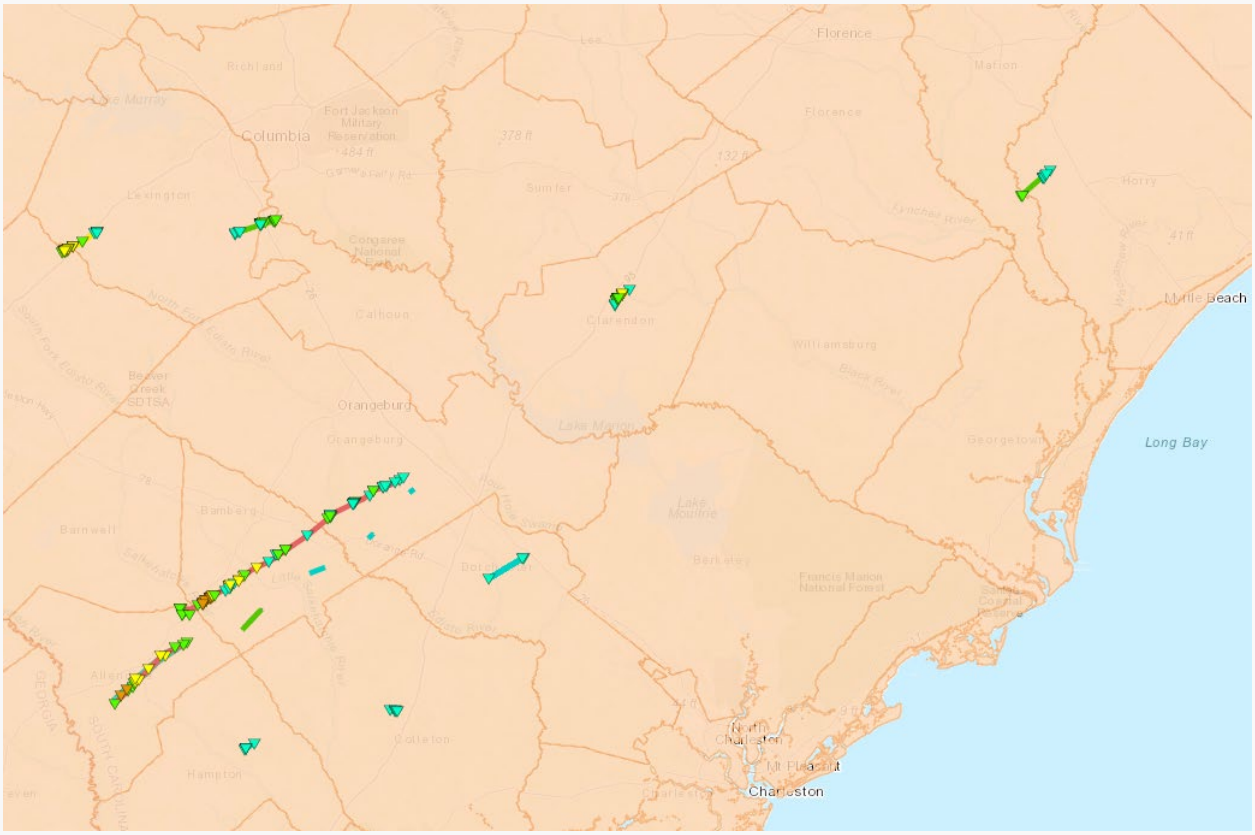




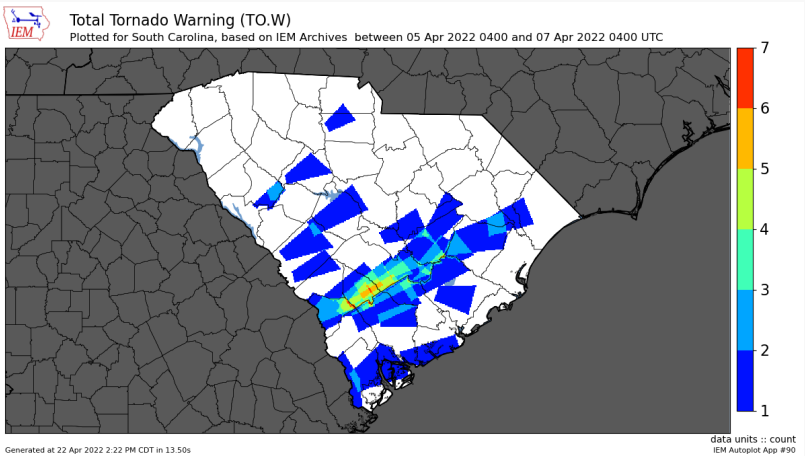


Storm reports to National Weather Service offices on April 4, 6 and 6, 2022, plotted by the Storm Prediction Center after being filtered to remove some likely duplicate reports of the same event. These can include public reports, storm spotter reports, reports by law enforcement, reports by emergency managers, public and private sector meteorologist reports, along with official and unofficial weather observations. The data used to generate these plots are considered preliminary and not an official record of storm damage. Red dots indicate tornado reports, blue dots indicate straight-line wind damage or wind observations, and green dots indicate a report of hail at least 1" in diameter.

In South Carolina, 14 tornadoes were confirmed by teams sent out by the National Weather Service (NWS) to survey storm damage on April 5 and 6. Counties affected by the tornadoes include Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Lexington, Calhoun, Clarendon, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Horry, Marion, and Orangeburg. During the event, the National Weather Service offices serving South Carolina issued a total of 34 tornado warnings; 32 of them on April 5 and two more on April 6.

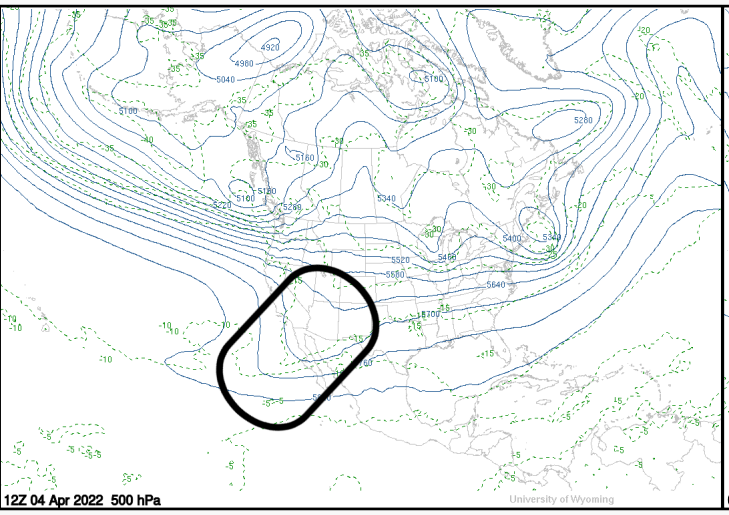


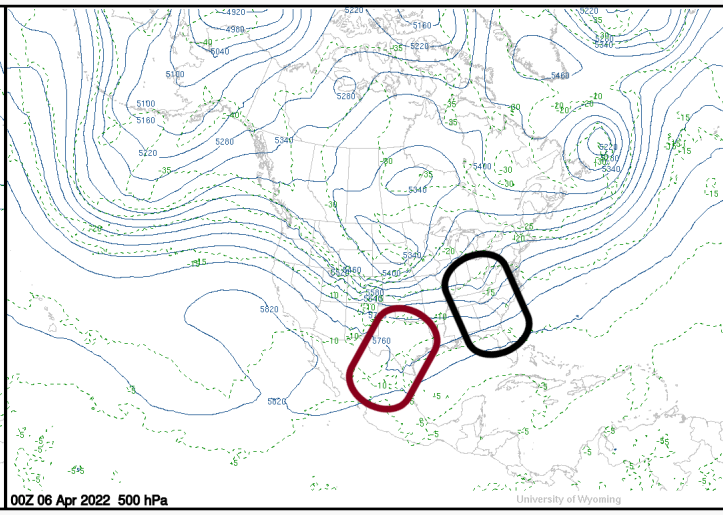
A screen capture from NOAA's Damage Assessment Toolkit showing a closeup view of the results of storm surveys conducted by the National Weather Service of severe thunderstorm damage in South Carolina from April 5-6, 2022.

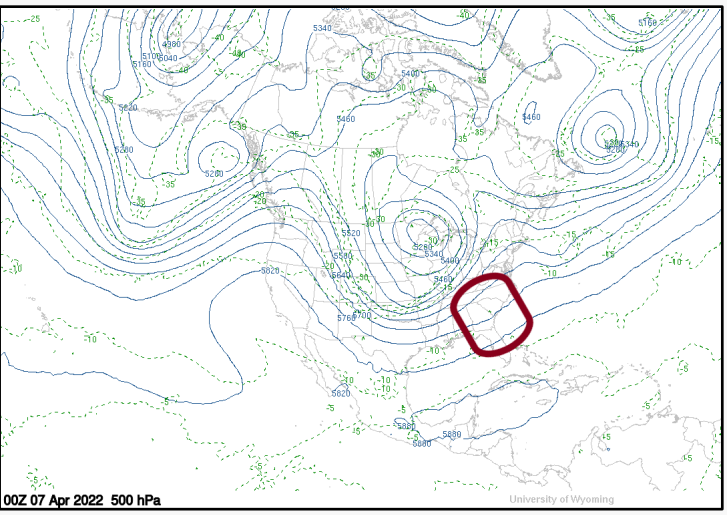


A graphic created by Iowa State University's Iowa Environmental Mesonet website showing the tornado warnings issued by the NWS affecting a part of South Carolina on April 5-6, 2022. Of the 34 warnings issued affecting a part of South Carolina, three of the warnings were issued by the Greenville-Spartanburg office, 15 by the Columbia office, 13 by the Charleston office, and three by the Wilmington, NC office.

The first indications of severe thunderstorm potential in South Carolina was noted by meteorologists at the Storm Prediction Center (SPC) on Wednesday, March 30. In their Day 4-8 outlook from that day, SPC meteorologists indicated that a part of an upper-level shortwave trough forecast to form over the southwestern U. S. by the following Monday (April 4) would eject eastward across the rest of the southern tier of states over the succeeding 48 hours. However, at that time, there was not sufficient agreement among the computer model guidance concerning this feature to confidently highlight areas in their outlook where severe thunderstorms could occur on any day. This uncertainty continued into March 31, though SPC noted the potential for a two-day event in the Southeast caused by the leading part of the shortwave trough and the remainder of the original trough which would follow it across the Southeast about 24 hours later.



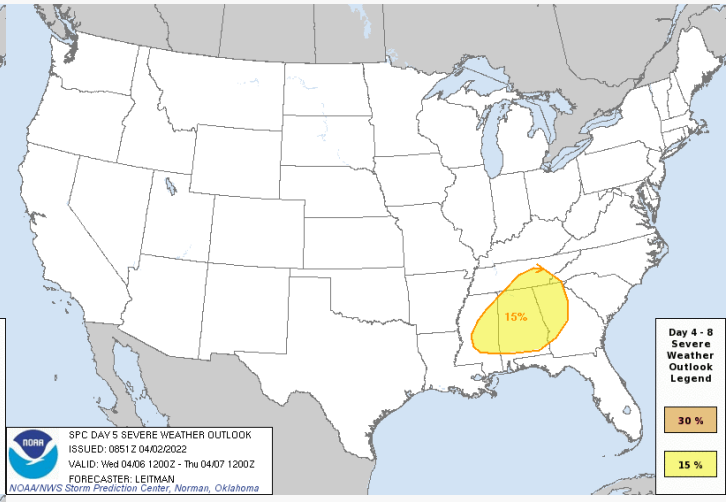


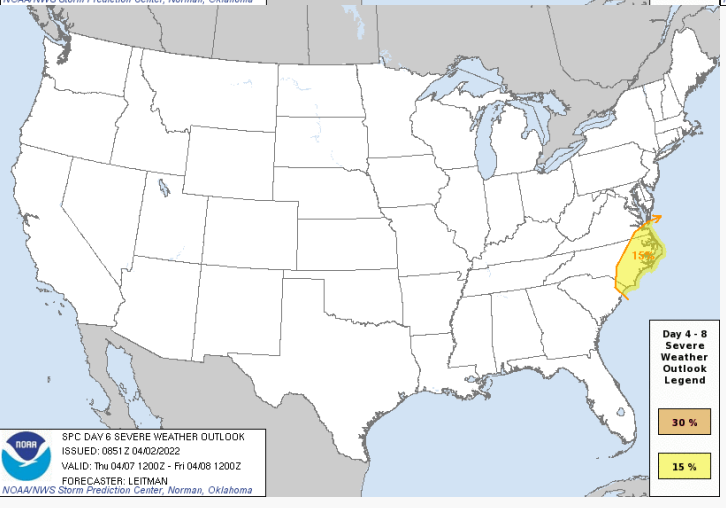


500 hPa (millibar) charts showing the progression of the two features which contributed to the severe thunderstorms which affected South Carolina on April 5-6. At 1200 UTC Monday, April 4 (7 a.m. EDT, top-left), a trough was present at this level over the southwestern United States (highlighted in black). A portion of this feature progressed eastward to the Southeastern states by 0000 UTC on April 6 (7 p.m. April 5 EDT, top right). The remainder of the trough (highlighted in red) was lingering over Texas at that time. This feature then crossed the southeastern states on April 6 and was over the Carolinas, Georgia and northern Florida at 0000 UTC on April 7 (7 p.m. April 6 EDT, left).

The approaching upper-level features caused a warm front to form over South Carolina during the evening of April 4, along which an area of low pressure would track the following day as the front lifted slowly northward. The front became a focusing mechanism for thunderstorms which would produce heavy rainfall in the hours leading up to the severe thunderstorms. The severe thunderstorms would largely remain south of this warm front, resulting in the tornado-producing thunderstorms on April 5 remaining concentrated over the Midlands, Lowcountry and southern Central Savannah River Area (CSRA).

By April 2, forecaster confidence at SPC in the evolution of surface and upper air features over the coming days was high enough to begin highlighting areas of severe thunderstorm risk in their Day 4-8 outlook, including a risk for a part of South Carolina for Days 4 and 6 (April 5 and 7). The following day, their Day 3 outlook included a slight risk (level 2 of 5) for a part of South Carolina with the rest of the state outlined at marginal (level 1 of 5) risk due to increasing concern for severe weather.

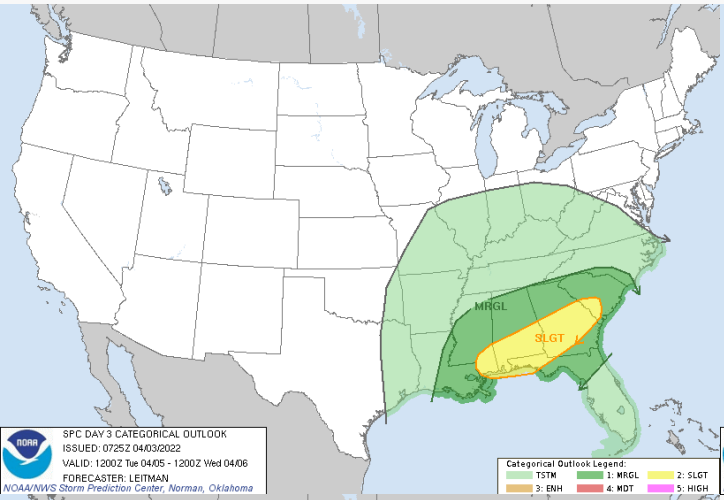


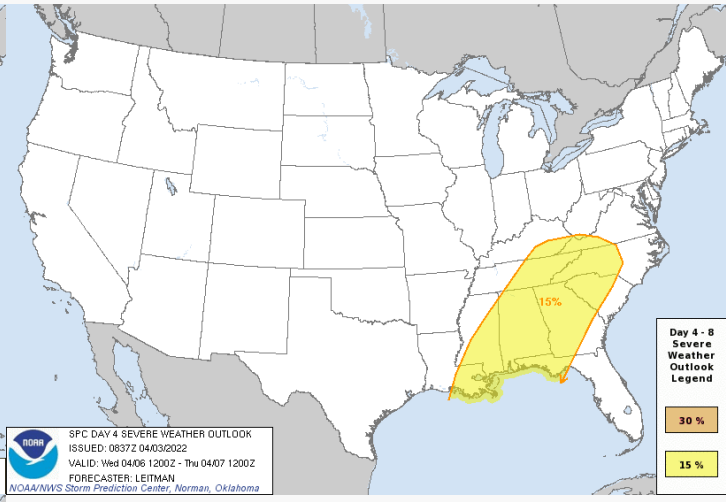


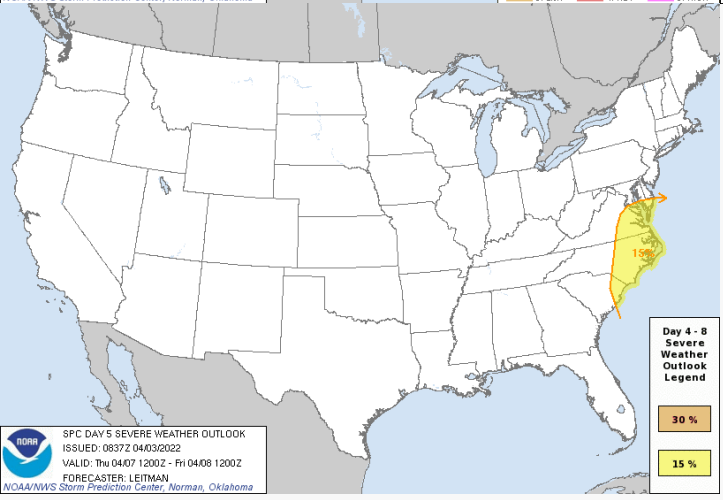
SPC Outlook graphics for Days 4, 5 and 6 issued on April 2, 2022, valid for April 5, 6 and 7.

Outlooks issued by SPC on April 3 indicated a heightened risk of severe weather in areas south of the warm front for the following day. All of South Carolina was outlined with at least a marginal (level one of five) risk area, with a small part of the state outlined with slight (level two of five) risk. The Day 2 outlook discussion noted for an area from southern Alabama to the South Carolina Coastal Plain that, “If discrete supercells develop, there is some potential for strong tornadoes given strong low-level shear amid rich boundary-layer moisture.”

The Day 4 and Day 5 outlooks focused on the risk for severe storms from the warm front still lifting northward on April 6 and a cold front that would cross South Carolina that afternoon and night, possibly lingering past daybreak in the Pee Dee region on April 7. It was noted that damaging winds and a few isolated tornadoes could occur in South Carolina in the discussion text.



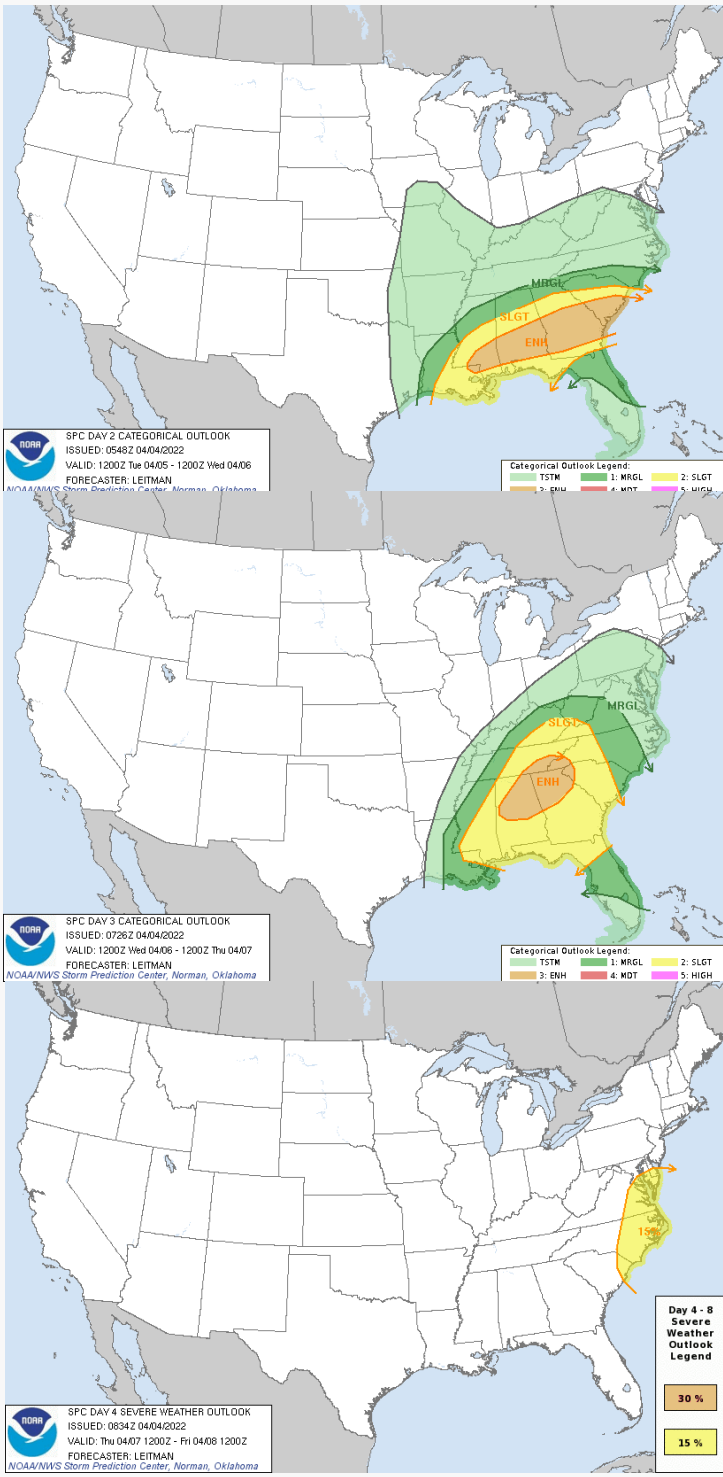




SPC Outlook graphics for Days 3, 4 and 5, issued on April 3, 2022, valid for April 5, 6 and 7.

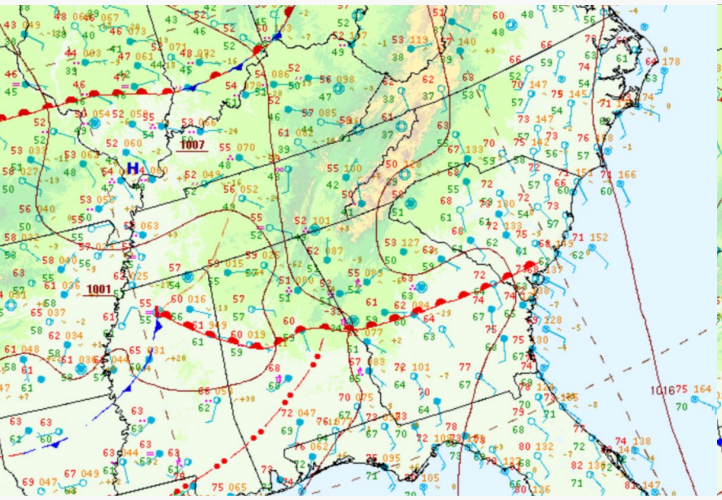
By April 4, it was clear that significant severe storm risk was present for the following day. Forecasters at SPC noted remaining uncertainty in the forecast, mostly for whether tornado-producing supercell thunderstorms would occur in the warm, humid and strongly sheared air mass present south of a warm front lifting northward through South Carolina. It was thought that cloud cover present south of the front may limit instability enough to prevent supercell thunderstorms from forming. They were more confident in severe thunderstorms occurring along the front, some of which could cause tornadoes, but discrete supercell thunderstorms occurring ahead of the front would be capable of producing intense and long-lasting tornadoes. Their outlook for the next day indicated a severe thunderstorm risk statewide, with the highest risk over the Lowcountry and some of adjacent regions of South Carolina to address the discrete supercell potential.

Their Day 3 outlook covering April 6 focused on the potential for another round of severe thunderstorms caused by both the warm front slowly lifting northward and a cold front which would move through that afternoon and night. The main concern was for damaging winds, but a few tornadoes were possible. Their Day 4 outlook covered the potential for severe storms still occurring early on April 7 before the cold front exited the state to the east.

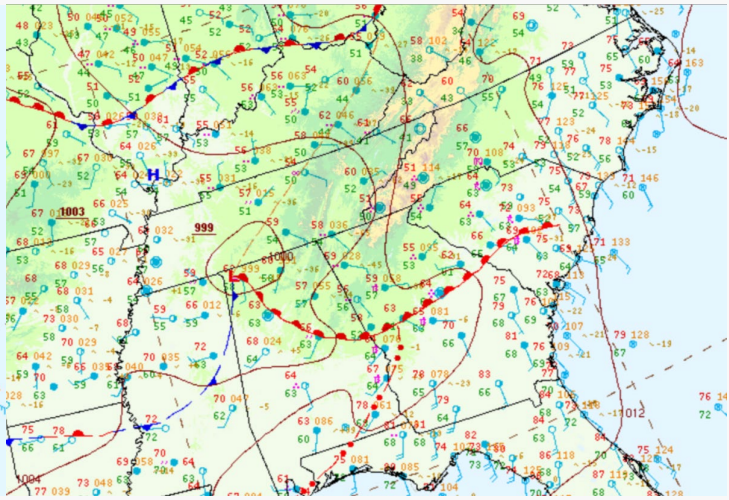


SPC Outlook graphics for Days 2, 3 and 4, issued on April 4, 2022, valid for April 5, 6 and 7.

By the morning of April 5, it was clear that a risk strong and long-tracked tornadoes would be present that afternoon over a part of South Carolina. The warm front had become established over the Lowcountry and central Georgia and would lift slowly northward through during the day. It was clear that a warm and humid air mass with favorable vertical shear and instability for supercell thunderstorms would be present along and south of this warm front.

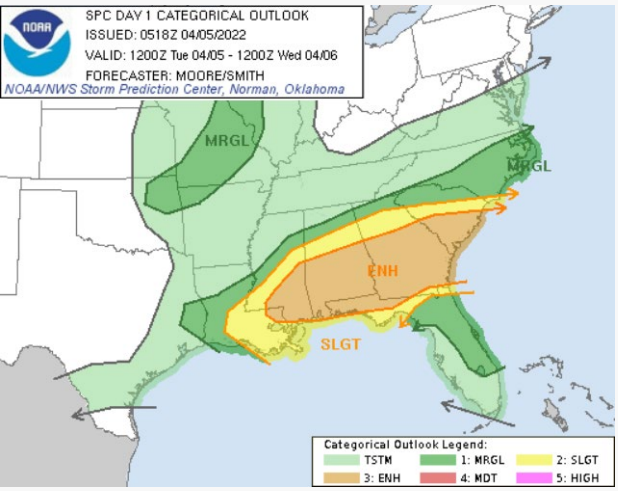


Surface weather analysis from the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) for 1500 UTC April 5, 2022 (11:00 a.m. EDT), depicting a warm front stretching from Alabama to South Carolina.



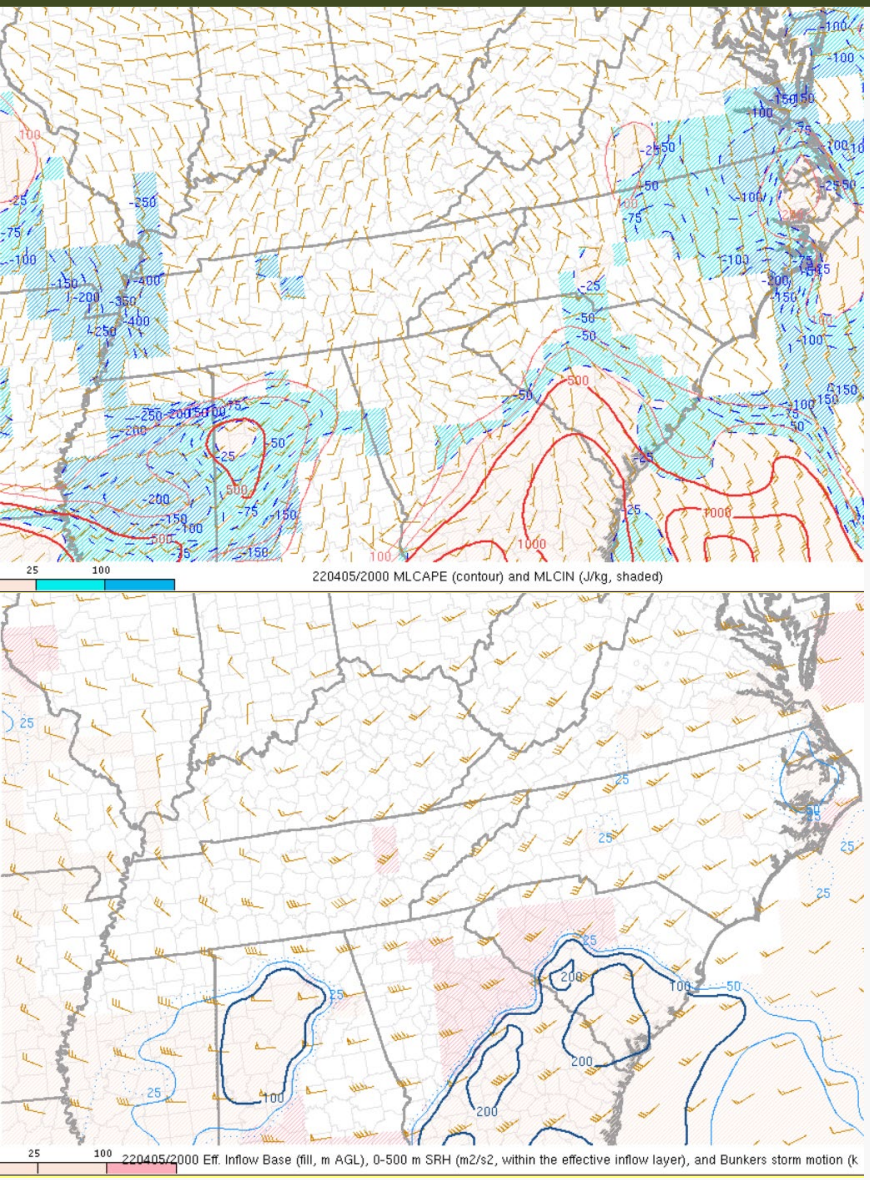
Surface weather analysis from the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) for 1800 UTC April 5, 2022 (2:00 p.m. EDT), depicting a warm front lifting northward across South Carolina.

Recognizing this, SPC forecasters outlined the Lowcountry and adjacent parts of the CSRA, Midlands and Pee Dee regions in enhanced risk for severe thunderstorms for that day, with lower risk outlined over areas farther north.



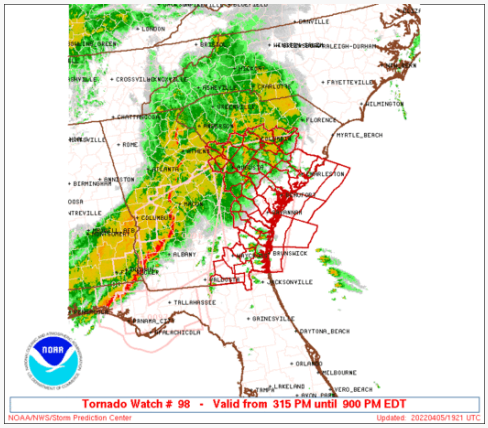
Day 1 outlook from SPC issued on April 5, 2022.

By early afternoon on April 5, a favorable environment for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes had developed over the southern half of South Carolina. A warm and humid air mass was in place near the surface. Strong vertical wind shear was present, particularly in the lowest 500 meters of the atmosphere (1,640 feet) near the surface. In addition, lapse rates were steep, leading to strong instability, and cloud bases were low, an important factor for tornado outbreaks. As a result, supercell thunderstorms began to form south of the warm front.



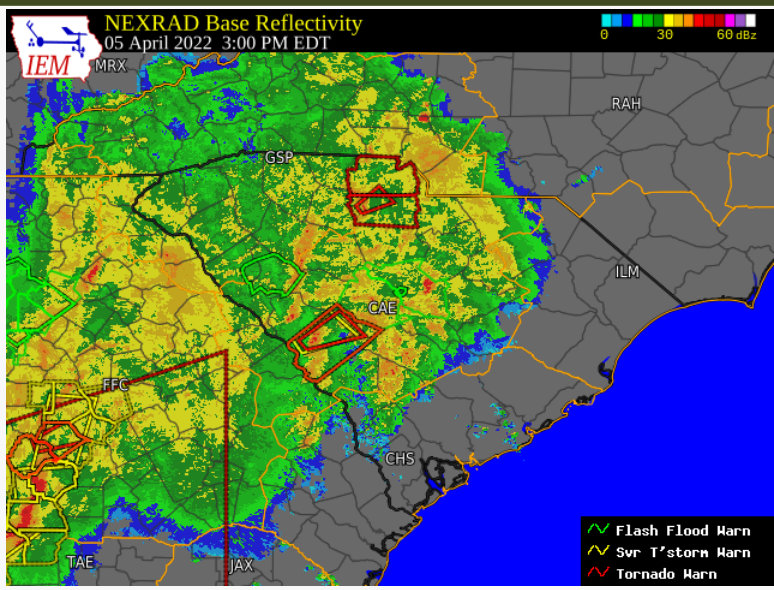
Plots of mixed-layer convective available potential energy (MLCAPE, top) and 0-500 meter storm-relative helicity (SRH, bottom) from the SPC Mesoanalysis website valid April 5, 2000 UTC (3 p.m. EDT). Convective available potential energy is a measure of instability in the atmosphere and MLCAPE considers the average condition of air present in the lowest 100 millibars (generally the lowest 3,000 feet) of the atmosphere to perform the CAPE calculation. Severe thunderstorm potential increases as MLCAPE increases, with values over 500 J/kg higher indicating severe storm potential. Values were generally 500-1000 J/kg over the southern CSRA and Lowcountry. Storm-relative helicity is a measure of wind shear, in this case considering only the lowest 500 meters of the atmosphere. Values over 100 m^2/s^2 have been shown to indicate a high potential for supercell thunderstorms to produce tornadoes, with this risk increasing as 0–500-meter SRH increases. Values were generally 100-200 m^2/s^2 at the time over southern South Carolina.

The first of two weather watches issued on April 5 was a tornado watch issued by SPC at 3:15 p.m. EDT. By this point, the warm front was over the Midlands and CSRA, with a favorable environment for thunderstorms to the south of it to produce tornadoes. The watch covered the CSRA, Midlands and Lowcountry regions of South Carolina and adjacent areas of Georgia. The second watch was a tornado watch issued at 5:45 p.m., which covered most of the Pee Dee region.

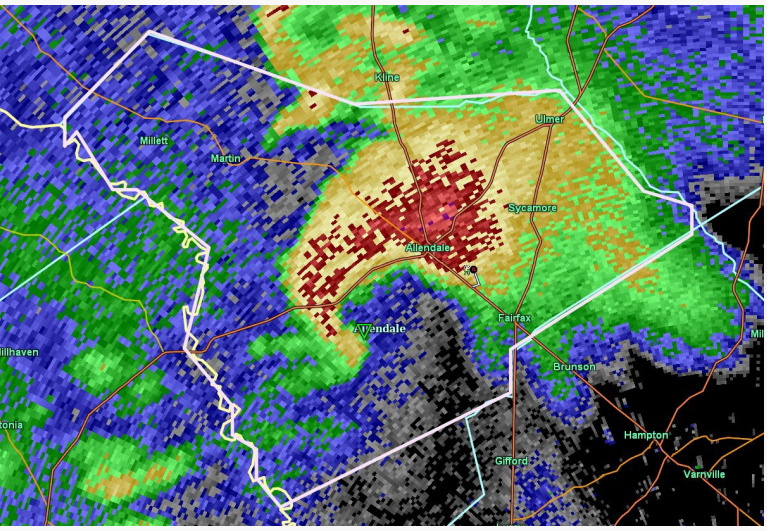


Tornado Watch 98, issued by SPC at 3:15 p.m. EDT on April 5

By the time the first tornado watch was issued, tornado warnings were already in effect for parts of South Carolina. The first warning of the day in South Carolina was issued by the Greenville-Spartanburg NWS office at 2:52 p.m. EDT for Greenwood County, which was followed soon by other warnings issued by them and the Columbia NWS office covering parts of Newberry, Aiken, Barnwell, Orangeburg, Chester and York Counties.

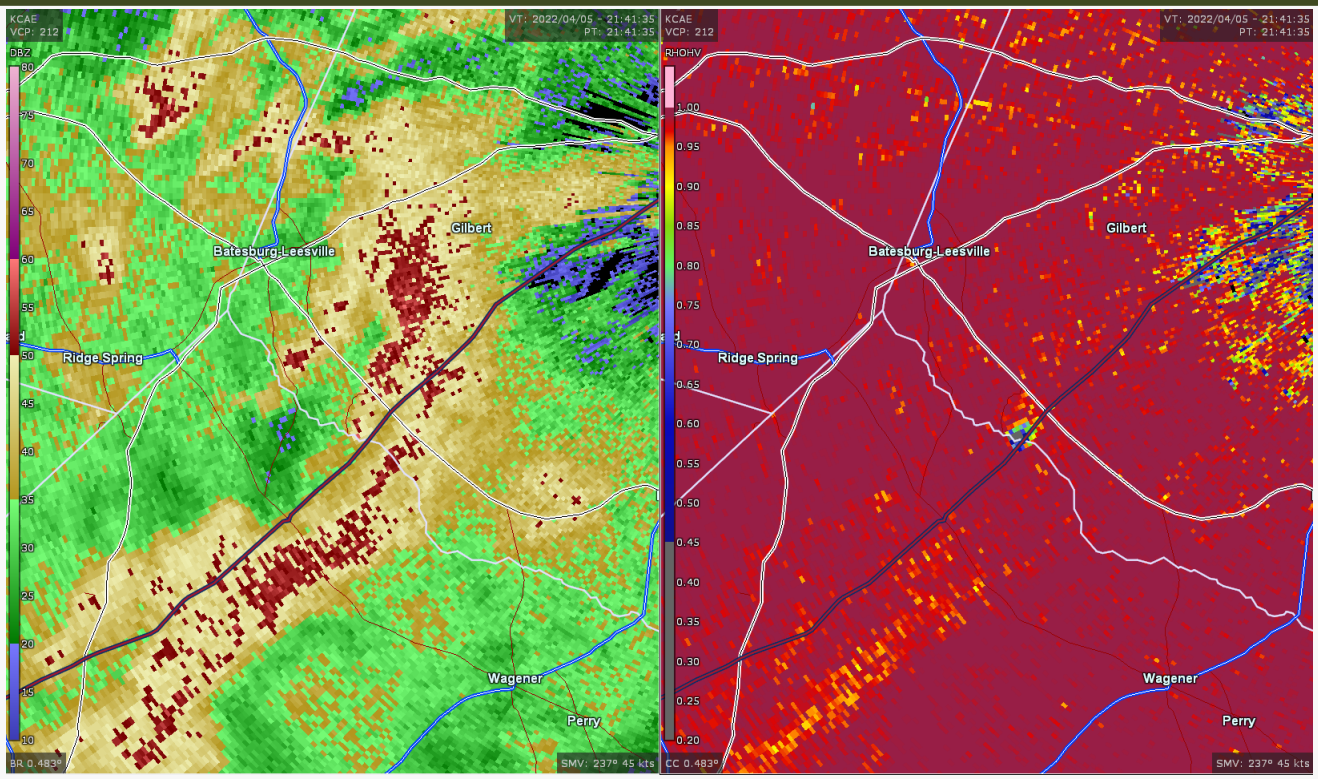


By 1900 UTC (3 p.m. EDT), the event was unfolding across South Carolina with severe thunderstorm and tornado warnings in effect in York, Chester and Aiken Counties.



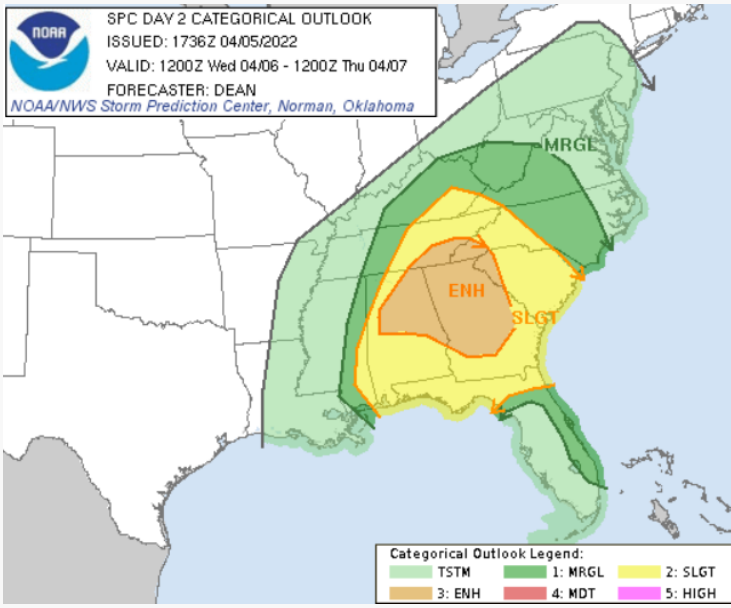
Weather radar located near Grays, SC was tracking a supercell thunderstorm spawning a tornado over Allendale County at about 3:55 p.m. on April 5, 2022.

However, the first tornado of the day in South Carolina began at 3:50 p.m. in Allendale County, the first of two long-tracked EF-3 tornadoes that affected South Carolina that day. Eleven other confirmed tornadoes hit the state through that afternoon and evening, affecting Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Calhoun, Clarendon, Dorchester, Hampton, Horry, Lexington, and Marion Counties.



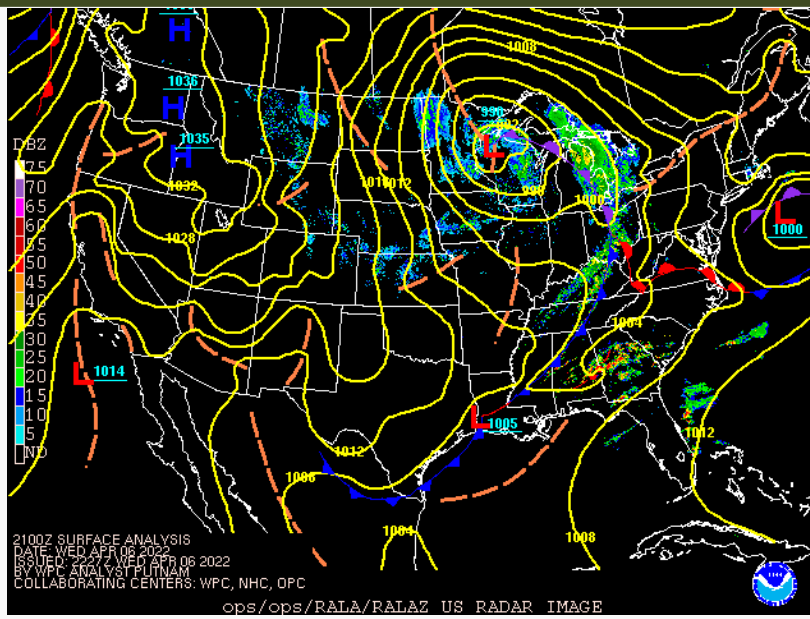
At 5:41 p.m. on April 5, weather radar located at Columbia Metropolitan Airport tracked an innocuous-looking line of thunderstorms judging by reflectivity imagery (left), but dual-polarization correlation coefficient imagery (right) reveals a tornado debris signature (a blue area indicating low correlation coefficient) at the Aiken-Lexington County Line over Interstate 20. A tornado warning was in effect for parts of Aiken, Lexington and Richland Counties at the time. An NWS storm survey rated the tornado EF-2.

Forecasters at SPC were already looking ahead to severe storm potential for April 6 while the tornadoes were marching across South Carolina on April 5. In their Day 2 outlook valid for April 6, a part of the Upstate was outlined with enhanced risk for severe weather by SPC, with most of the remainder of the state in a slight risk area. This was due to concern that a cold front forecast to move through during the evening of April 6 and early morning of April 7 would generate more severe thunderstorms with an attendant tornado risk.

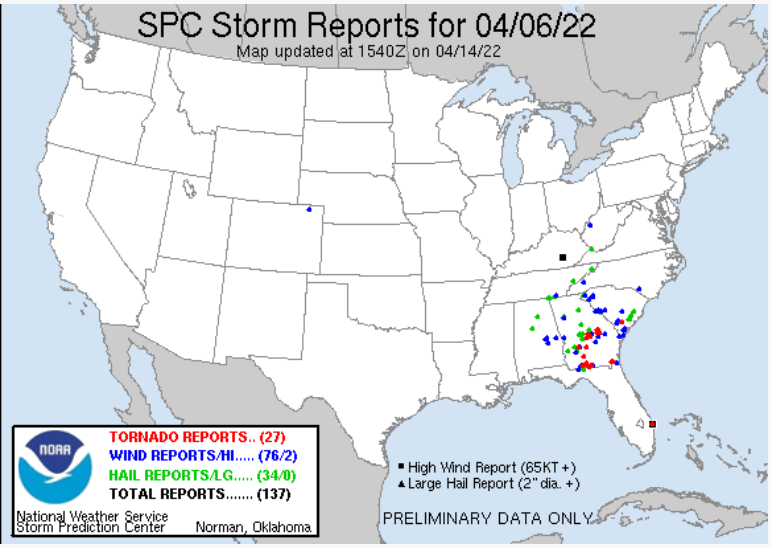


Day 2 outlook from SPC issued on April 5, 2022.

The last tornado of April 5 struck Horry County near Aynor just before 8:00 p.m. A period of calm ensued through the rest of that night and the morning of April 6. Then a cold front associated with the trailing shortwave trough approached from the west and began to trigger showers and thunderstorms along the Savannah River during the midday hours. By midafternoon, the thunderstorms became severe in some areas, causing locally damaging wind and hail in the CSRA, southern Midlands and Lowcountry. The storms continued into the evening, with a generally linear storm mode. However, a few supercells were embedded in the lines of storms during the evening. One of them produced a tornado near Walterboro at around 11:00 p.m. on April 6.



WPC surface analysis from 2100 UTC (5 p.m. EDT) on April 6, 2022, depicting a cold front approaching from the Tennessee and lower Mississippi Valleys and a radar overlay showing rainfall from thunderstorms over Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina.

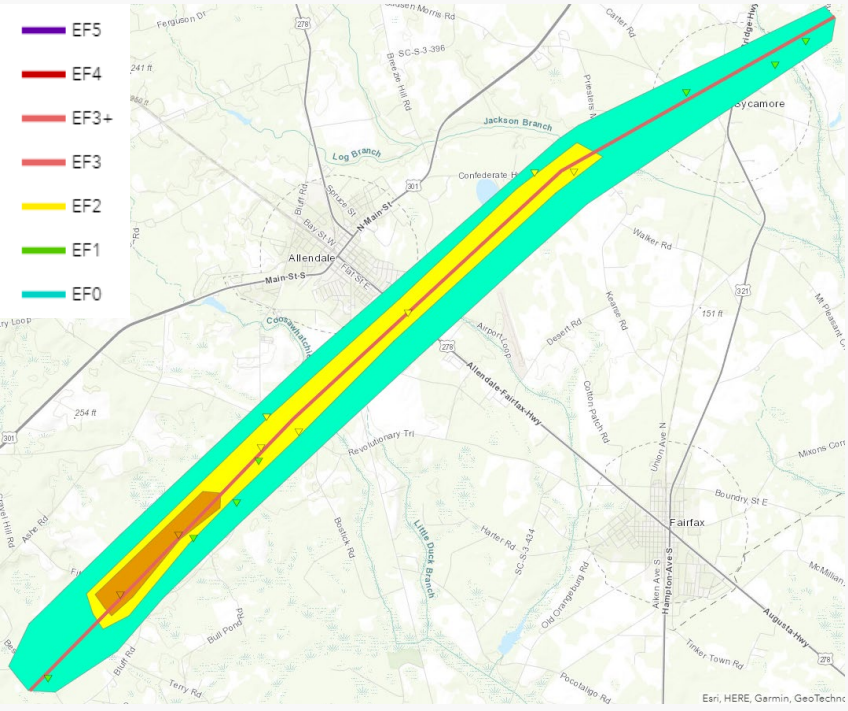


Storm reports received by SPC between 8 a.m. EDT on April 6, 2022, and 8 a.m. EDT April 7, 2022.

Another line of thunderstorms crossed the state during the early morning hours of April 7 as well, producing locally damaging wind and hail over parts of the Upstate and CSRA, but no tornadoes were reported. This line of thunderstorms moved eastward and exited South Carolina just after daybreak on April 7. In all, about three dozen instances of damaging wind and hail were reported in South Carolina during the April 6 reporting day for SPC (which runs from 1200 UTC on April 6 to 1159 UTC on April 7) along with the one tornado near Walterboro.

1: The 2022 Allendale and Sycamore EF-3 Tornado

This was the first tornado of the outbreak. It began near the intersection of Bluff and Best Loop Roads. It tracked northeastward over Burton Road and Allendale-Fairfax Highway then across Confederate Highway and into the northeast side of Sycamore near Williams Road. A few mobile homes were destroyed completely on Fitts and St. Mark Roads, where one person was injured. A building was damaged along Burton Road. Other minor damage and considerable tree damage was reported in this area. Minor damage to structures and tree damage was reported near the end of the track in and near Sycamore.



A map showing the track, damage areas, and NWS survey team damage points from the 2022 Allendale and Sycamore EF-3 Tornado, which began at about 3:50 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about 30 minutes.

One of a few mobile homes that were demolished by this tornado southwest of Allendale. Also, the mobile home's undercarriage was lifted and moved about 30 feet. Significant tree damage is also evident.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team.

2: The 2022 Ehrhart Area EF-2 Tornado

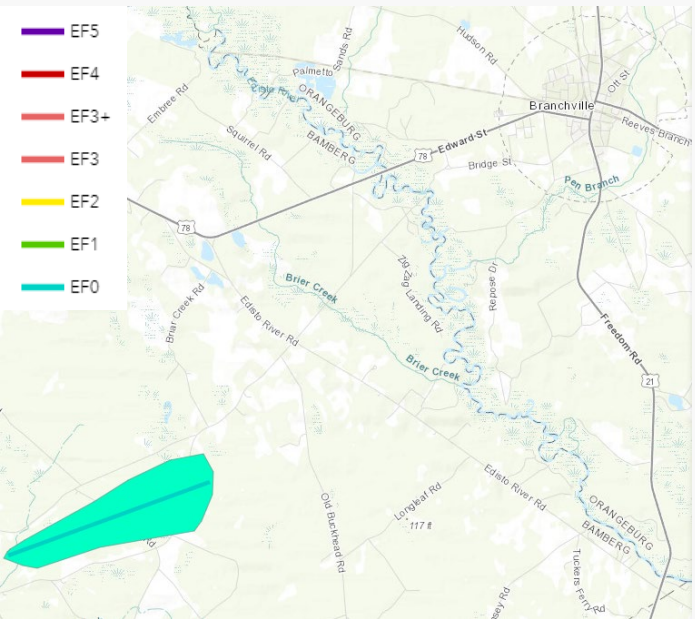
This second tornado of the outbreak began near St. John's Church Road and tracked northeast across Low Country Highway and Singleton Road. While crossing a property on Pocketville Road, a shed was destroyed, several vehicles and a tractor were spun or shifted, and shingles and siding damage occurred to a home. It dissipated near the intersection of Pocketville and Ehrhardt Road after destroying a shed and damaging a home in the area. Considerable tree damage was reported along the damage path, including 12 large pecan trees uprooted near the end of the track.

A map showing the track, damage areas and NWS survey team damage points from the 2022 Ehrhart Area EF-2 Tornado, which began at about 4:18 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about nine minutes.

No damage photos from this tornado are available.

3: The 2022 Farrell's Crossroads Area EF-0 Tornado

This third tornado of the event touched down just east of Hunter's Chapel Road, crossed Bay View Road and dissipated near Farrells Road. Only sporadic tree damage was reported from this tornado, though some of the trees were uprooted or snapped.

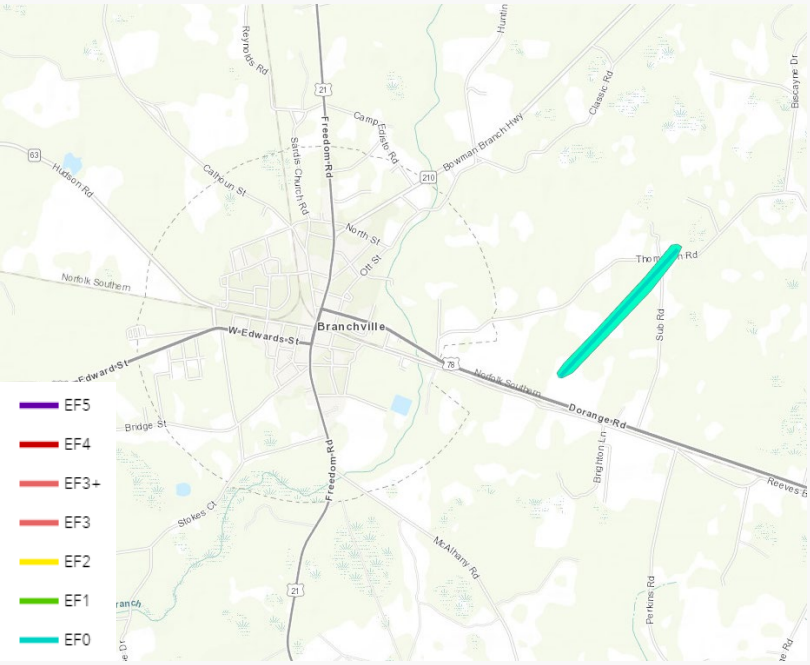


A map showing the track and damage areas from the 2022 Farrell's Crossroads Area EF-0 Tornado, which began at about 4:39 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about two minutes.

No damage photos from this tornado are available.

4: The 2022 Branchville Area EF-0 Tornado

The fifth tornado of the event began near Holder Road and Huckleberry Finn Road. It tracked toward I-20 near Exit 39, then across U. S. Highway 178 (Fairview Highway) and to Live Oak Road, where it dissipated. Considerable tree damage occurred; hundreds of trees were snapped or uprooted. At least five homes were damaged along with a few damaged or destroyed outbuildings.

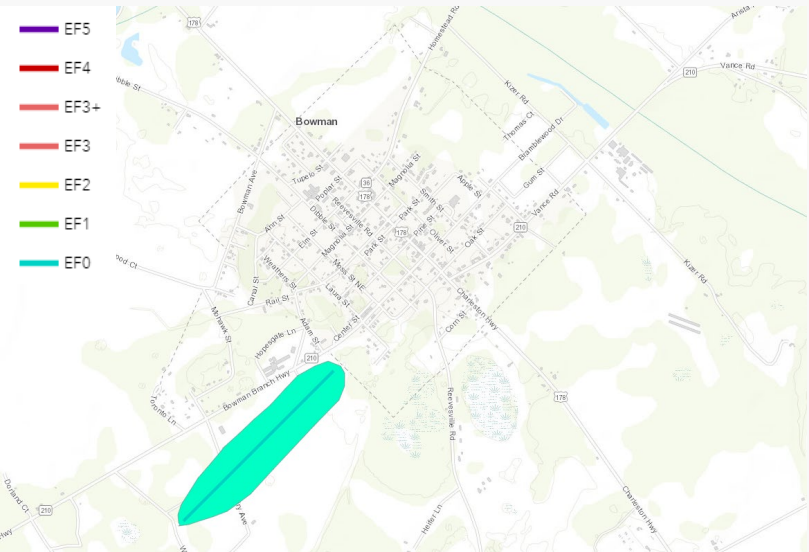


A map showing the track and damage areas from the 2022 Branchville Area EF-0 Tornado, which began at about 6:35 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about two minutes.

No damage photos from this tornado are available.

5: The 2022 Bowman Area EF-0 Tornado

This fourth tornado of the event touched down in the athletic fields of Branchville High School, where bleachers were displaced, and damage was reported to baseball field fencing and an equipment shed. It then tracked northeast and damaged roofs near the intersection of Thompson Road and Sub Road before dissipating.



A map showing the track and damage areas from the 2022 Bowman Area EF-0 Tornado, which began at about 5:07 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about two minutes.

No damage photos from this tornado are available.

6: The 2022 Aiken-Lexington Line EF-2 Tornado

The sixth tornado of the event began near Holder Road and Huckleberry Finn Road. It tracked toward I-20 just west of Exit 39, then across U. S. Highway 178 (Fairview Highway) and to Live Oak Road, where it dissipated. Considerable tree damage occurred; hundreds of trees were snapped or uprooted. At least five homes were damaged along with a few damaged or destroyed outbuildings. One injury was reported from this tornado in Aiken County.

A map showing the track, damage areas, and NWS survey points from the 2022 Aiken-Lexington Line EF-2 Tornado, which began at about 6:35 p.m. on April 5, 2022, near the Aiken-Lexington county line just north of I-20 and was on the ground for about 12 minutes.

While primarily tree damage was caused by this tornado, there was some minor damage to structures, such as the shingle damage to this home.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team.

A photo of tree damage along I-20 close to the Aiken-Lexington County Line.

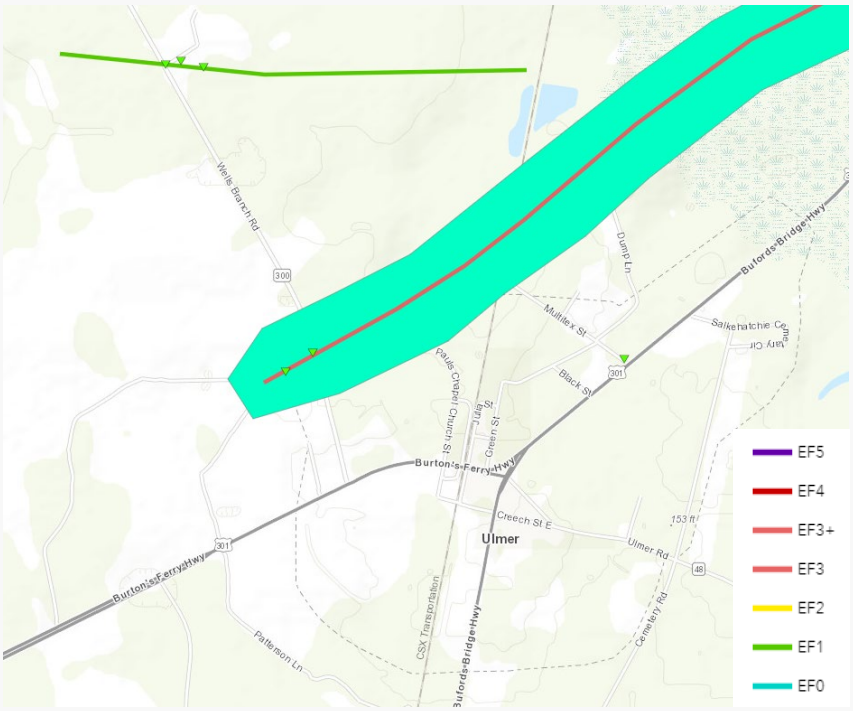
Photo by an NWS storm survey team.

Damage to a mobile home's underpinning along Annie Hallman Road in Lexington County.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team.

7: The 2022 Wells Branch EF-1 Tornado

This seventh tornado of the event began just west of Wells Branch Road, where hardwood trees were snapped and uprooted, and some minor roof damage occurred to some homes. The tornado tracked eastward across Wells Branch Road and cause some additional tree and roof damage. The tornado continued eastward through a wooded area, ending just before reaching CSX Railroad tracks north of Ulmer.

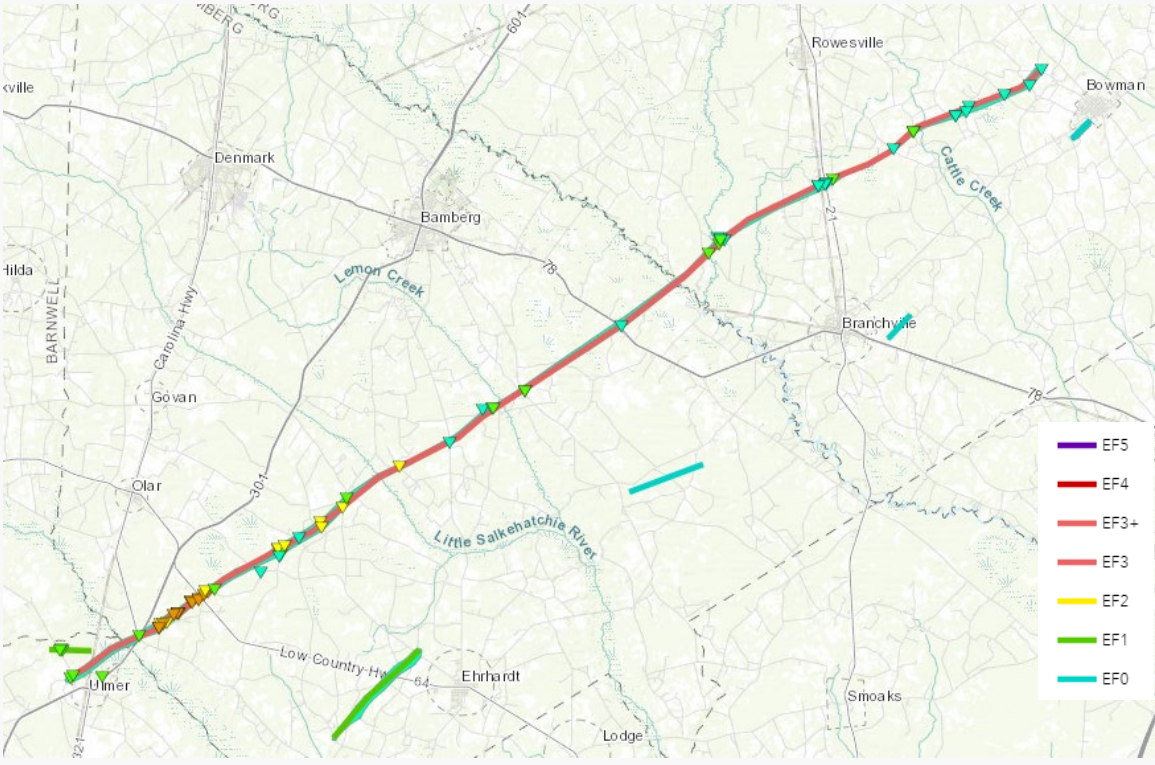


A map showing the track and NWS storm survey points from the 2022 Wells Branch EF-1 Tornado (green line at top left), which began at about 6:03 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about two minutes. The other damage area to the south is the beginning of the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 tornado, which started near the same time.

Photos of tree damage caused by this tornado on the west side of Wells Branch Road.

8: The 2022 Tri-County EF-3 Tornado

This long-tracked tornado was the eighth of the event and began near Ulmer just west of Well Branch Road and snapped trees and telephone poles in this area. It tracked northeastward to the intersection of U. S. Highways 321 (Carolina Highway) and 301 (Main Highway), downing or snapping many trees, with at least one falling onto a home. Just northeast of there, the tornado became very intense in a forested area along Popeye Road, destroying 80-100 percent of mature trees in this area, with younger pines stripped of needles or debarked and delimbed. From there, the tornado tracked across S. C. Highway 64 (Low Country Highway) and Wild Flower Road, causing additional heavy damage to the forest. It then struck a residential area along Carver Road, where a mobile home was destroyed, and an older site-built home was severely damaged. Other homes saw damage to their roofs or siding. The tornado then crossed Little Salkehatchie River and U. S. Highway 601 (Broxton Bridge Road), where more tree damage was reported. The tornado was weaker as it crossed U. S. Highway 78 (Heritage Highway) and the Edisto River into Orangeburg County. However, it regained strength in Orangeburg County, damaging several homes along U. S. Highway 21 (Freedom Road) and causing considerable additional tree damage. The tornado weakened on approach to the Bowman area and dissipated just north of Bowman, though damage was found to many trees and a few structures just west of that town. In all, many thousands of trees were snapped off or uprooted with dozens of homes damaged. This is the strongest tornado of 2022 in South Carolina to date as of this report's release. It's 34.81-mile path is also the longest of 2022. The tornado's average forward speed, about 42 miles per hour, illustrates why one in the path of a tornado should never try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle, as weather, traffic and road conditions would prevent a driver from maintaining a significantly higher average speed than this.



A map showing the track and damage areas from the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 Tornado (red line), which began at about 6:03 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about 50 minutes. The tracks of five other tornadoes that occurred earlier or around the same time that day can also be seen on this map.

A crew works to remove trees on April 9, 2022, near and around a cabin near Ulmer, near the start of the damage path of the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 Tornado.

Photo by Frank Strait

A photo of extreme tree damage caused by the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 tornado. In Barnwell County, where the tornado was most intense, nearly all the trees in the damage path were snapped or uprooted. Similar tree damage was found in an area nearly two miles long and about 150 yards wide in Bamberg County, stretching roughly from the intersection of Popeye Road and Ebenezer Road to Wildflower Road just northwest of S. C. Highway 64 (Low Country Highway).

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

The tornado caused damage to the roof and siding of this home along Greywood Drive in Orangeburg County and dropped a large limb onto it.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

A tree was uprooted by this tornado along U. S. Highway 21 (Freedom Road) in Orangeburg County, which fell onto a mobile home and caused extensive damage.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

This old stick-built barn along Cramer Road in Orangeburg County was destroyed by this tornado.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

A crew works to remove trees on April 9, 2022, near and around a cabin near Ulmer, near the start of the damage path of the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 Tornado.

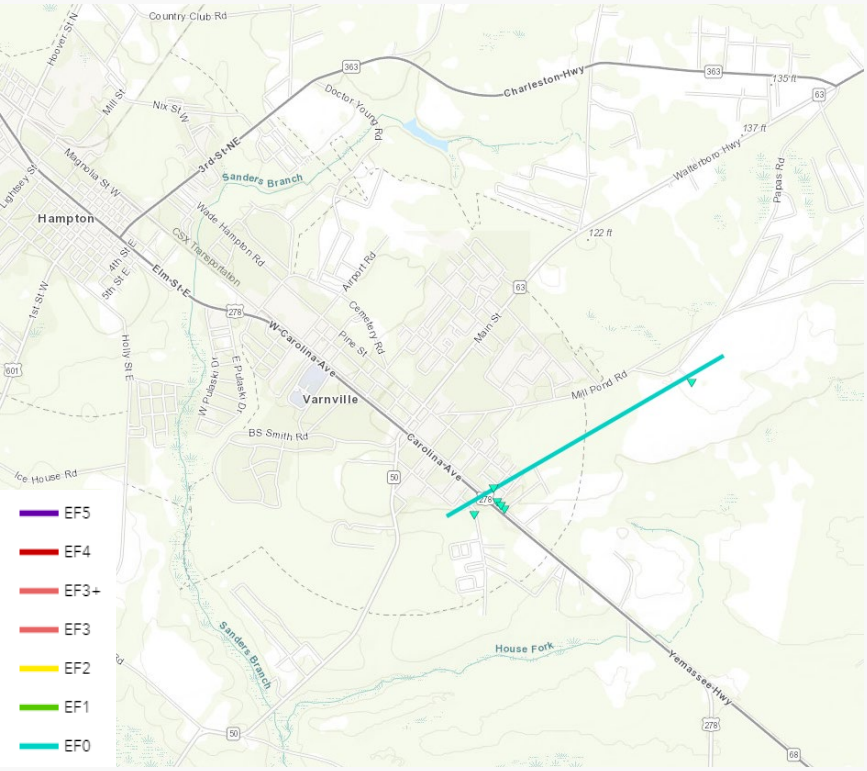
Photo by Frank Strait

A photo of extreme tree damage caused by the 2022 Tri-County EF-3 tornado. Nearly all the trees in the damage path were snapped or uprooted by this tornado where it was most intense in Barnwell County. Similar tree damage was found in an area nearly two miles long and about 150 yards wide in Barnwell County, stretching roughly from the intersection of Popeye Road and Ebenezer Road to Wildflower Road just northwest of S. C. Highway 64 (Low Country Highway).

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

9: The 2022 Varnville EF-0 Tornado

This tornado began just west of Pepper Street in Varnville and tracked northeast across US Route 278 and through a wooded area, eventually ending in an open field east of the intersection of Papas and Mill Pond Roads. Minor roof damage to a home was reported along with a small grain bin and some utility tractors were overturned. Also, numerous trees were snapped or uprooted.



A map showing the track and damage survey locations from the 2022 Varnville EF-0 Tornado (red line), which began at about 6:20 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about four minutes.

A photo of minor damage to a couple of homes caused by this tornado along Howard Street in Varnville.

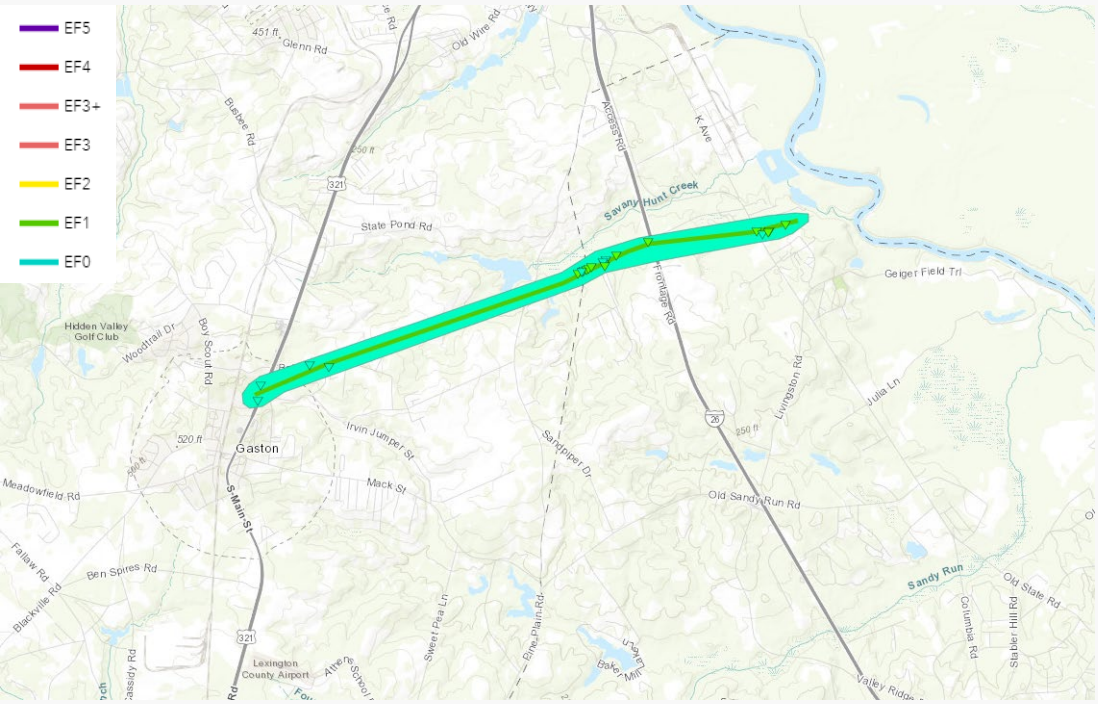
Photo by a NWS storm survey team

A photo of tree damage and a flipped outbuilding on a farm along Papas Road east of Varnville.

Photo by a NWS storm survey team

10: The 2022 Gaston to Sandy Run EF-1 Tornado

The tornado began in the northern part of Gaston with minor damage in that area. The tornado then tracked to the east-northeast to Dixon and Savany Hunt Creek Roads, where the worst damage was reported. It crossed I-26 near mile marker 122, then tracked to Plantation Estates Road and ending just before reaching the Congaree River. Primarily tree damage was reported from this tornado, though at least one outbuilding was demolished.



A map showing the track, damage areas and NWS storm survey locations from the 2022 Gaston to Sandy Run EF-1 Tornado, which began at about 6:20 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about nine minutes.

A photo of tree damage along Highway 378 (North Main Street) in Gaston, near the start of the damage path.

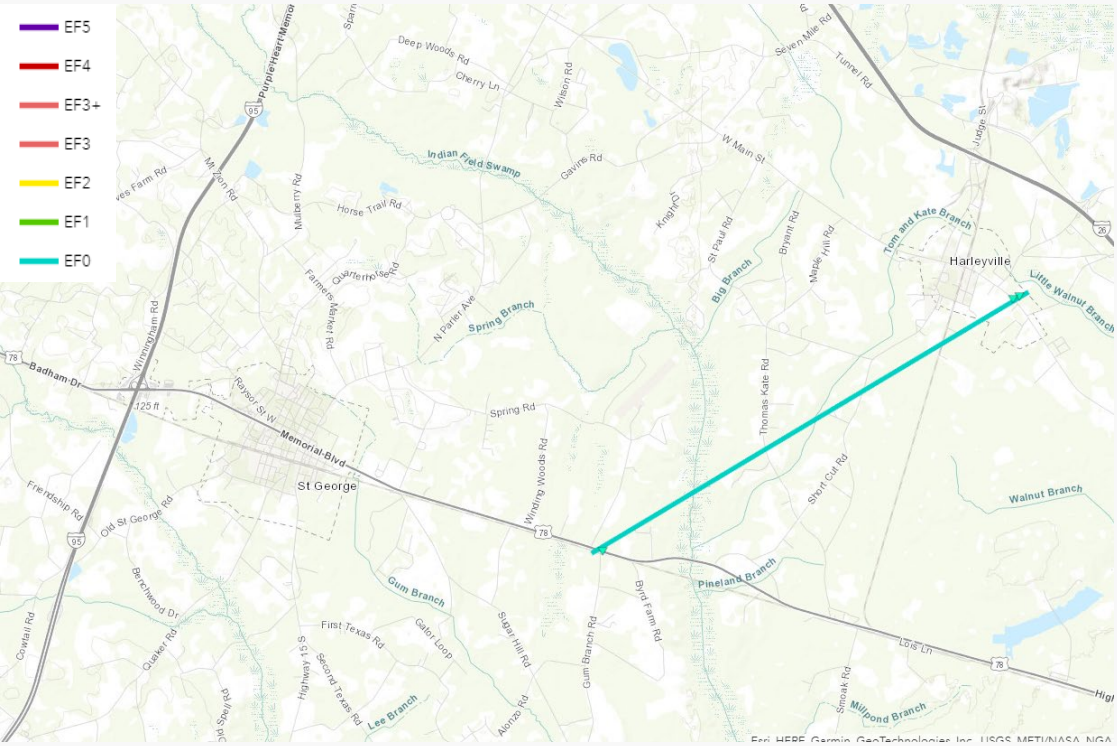
Photo by a NWS storm survey team

A photo of tree damage near Sandy Run on Plantation Estates Road, near the end of the damage path.

Photo by a NWS storm survey team

11: The 2022 Harleyville EF-0 Tornado

This tornado began near the intersection of US Route 78 and Horne Taylor Road. It tracked northeast through a mostly wooded area and ended just northeast of East Main Street in Harleyville. Only sporadic tree damage was reported from this tornado.



A map showing the track, damage areas and NWS storm survey locations from the 2022 Harleyville EF-0 Tornado, which began at about 7:12 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about seven minutes.

A photo of a downed tree along U. S. Highway 78 southeast of St. George near the start of the tornado damage path.

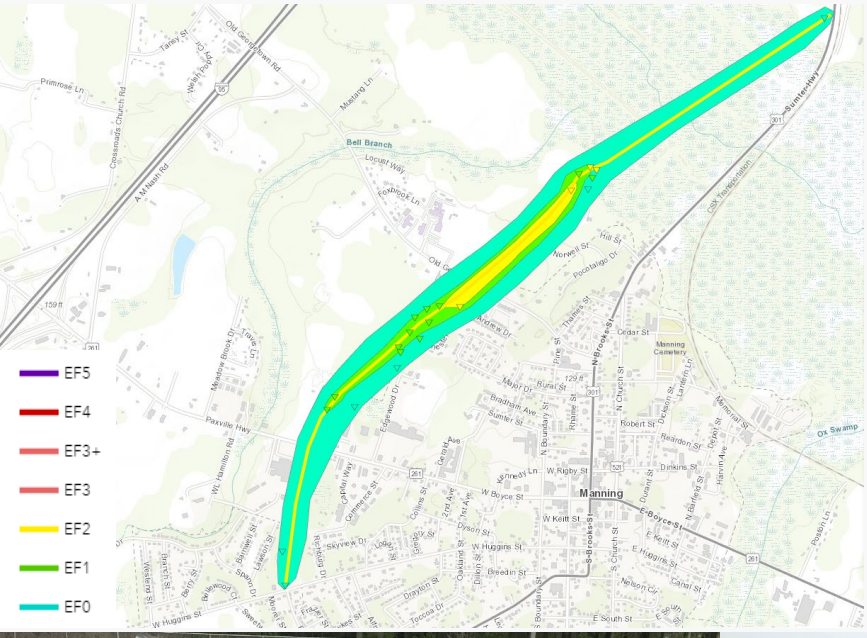
Photo by an NWS storm survey team

A photo of tree damage at a residence near the end of the damage path along U. S. Highway 178 (East Main Street) in Harleyville.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

12: The 2022 Manning EF-2 Tornado

This tornado began near West Huggins Street and Brunson Street in Manning. It tracked to the north-northeast in an arcing path through Kensington Pointe Apartments and Old Georgetown Road. It then tracked over the Pocotaligo River and lifted near the intersection of U. S Highway 521 (Sumter Highway) and June Burn Road. It caused considerable tree damage along its path and damaged several homes to varying degrees, with the worst near Bob White Drive and Gossett Court, where recently built homes saw serious damage. Damage to vehicles was reported in this area as well as at a Walmart on S. C. Highway 261 (Paxville Highway).



A map showing the track, damage areas and NWS storm survey locations from the 2022 Manning EF-2 Tornado, which began at about 7:38 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about four minutes.

A photo of a basketball goal bent over by the tornado's winds and debris from a nearby building's roof along West Huggins Street in Manning.

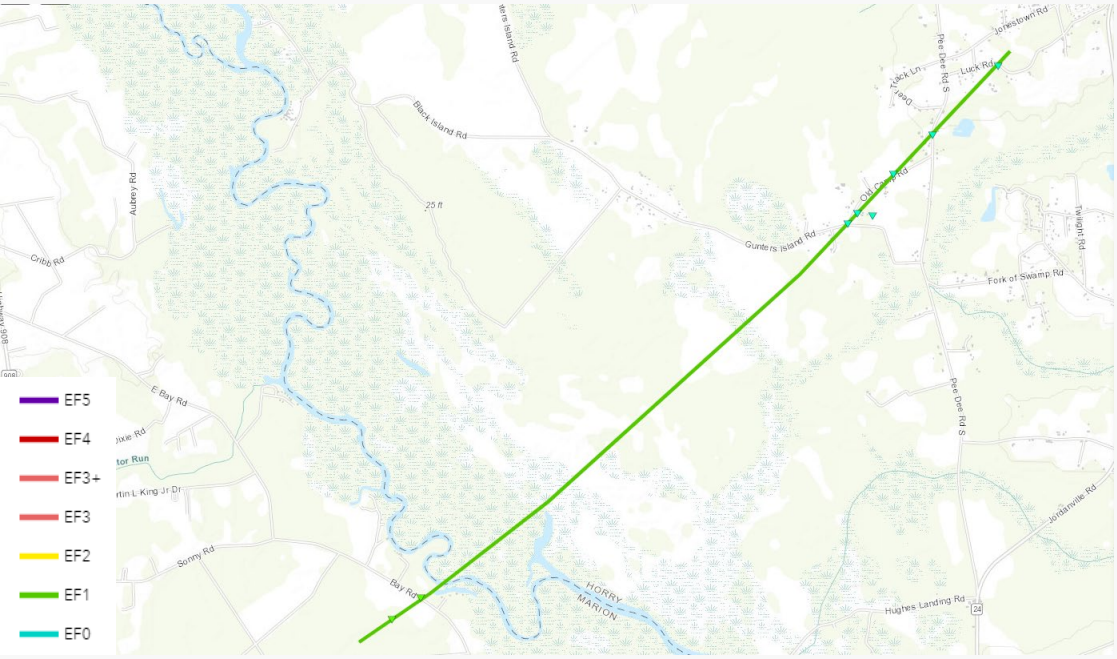
Photo by an NWS storm survey team

A photo of significant damage to a residence on Gossett Court north of Manning. Hurricane clips on this home's roof likely prevented even worse damage.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

13: The 2022 Gresham-Aynor Area EF-1 Tornado

The tornado began in a forested area north of U. S. Highway 378 and east of S. C. Highway 908, just southwest of Bay Road. It tracked to the east-northeast across Bay Road and across the Little Pee Dee River into Horry County. It then moved nearly parallel to Old Camp Road and across Pee Dee Road South before dissipating near Luck Road. Structural damage was reported on Bay Road, Gunters Island Road, Old Camp Road and Pee Dee Road South. Considerable tree damage was reported all along the tornado's damage path.



A map showing the track and NWS storm survey locations from the 2022 Manning EF-2 Tornado, which began at about 7:51 p.m. on April 5, 2022, and was on the ground for about six minutes.

A photo of tree damage and minor roof damage to a home along Bay Road in Marion County.

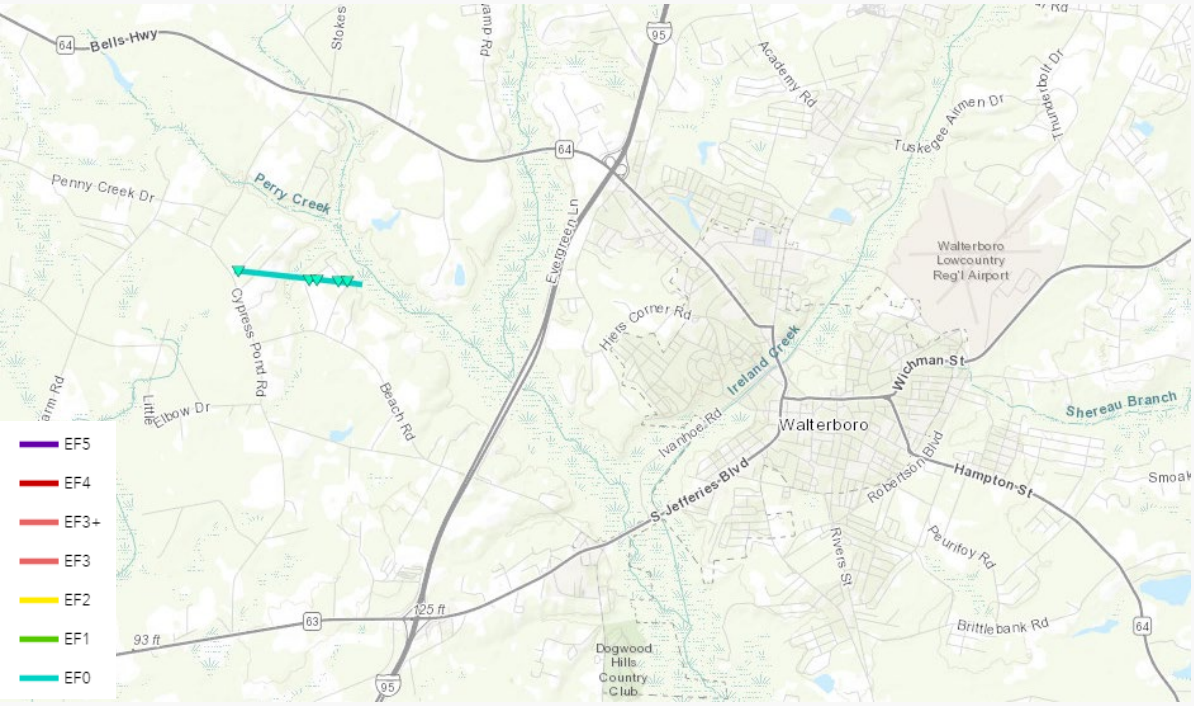
Photo by a NWS storm survey team

A photo of damage to a home and vehicle along Gunters Island Road southwest of Aynor in Horry County.

Photo by a NWS storm survey team

14: The 2022 Walterboro Area EF-0 Tornado

This tornado began just west of Alisin Lane and moved east through a wooded area, across Sandy Springs Circle and ended in a wooded area just east of that road. The tornado caused damage to several trees along its path, destroyed a fence, and damaged roof shingles on a few homes.



A map showing the track and NWS storm survey locations from the 2022 Walterboro Area EF-0 Tornado, which began at about 10:59 p.m. on April 6, 2022, and was on the ground for about three minutes.

A photo of shingle damage to a home and debris in its yard from this tornado along Sandy Springs Circle west of Walterboro.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

A photo of a fence destroyed by this tornado at a residence along Sandy Springs Circle west of Walterboro. A shed on this property was damaged as well.

Photo by an NWS storm survey team

Acknowledgements

The South Carolina State Climate Office would like to thank the following entities which contributed data or photos for this report:

- The Greenville-Spartanburg, Columbia, Charleston and Wilmington National Weather Service Offices
- NWS Storm Prediction Center
- NOAA Northeast Regional Climate Center's xmACIS website
- South Carolina Emergency Management Division
- South Carolina Department of Public Safety
- South Carolina Department of Transportation
- The University of Wyoming
- The State Newspaper