

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MELBOURNE FL
752 PM EST FRI JAN 22 2010

...A NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DAMAGE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED TODAY (GROUND SURVEY ONLY)...AND RADAR DATA WERE REVIEWED FOR THE SEVERE WEATHER EVENT WHICH IMPACTED CENTRAL BREVARD COUNTY DURING THE MORNING OF JANUARY 22 2010...

THE PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENT OF THE EVENT FOLLOWS...

A WEAK TORNADO INITIALLY TOUCHED DOWN IN THE TOWN OF VIERA IN BREVARD COUNTY JUST EAST OF INTERSTATE 95 AT 738 AM EST. A CONTINUOUS TORNADO DAMAGE PATH WAS OBSERVED TO U.S. ROUTE 1 AT THE INDIAN RIVER...THEN CONTINUED ACROSS CENTRAL MERRITT ISLAND FROM THE INDIAN RIVER TO THE BANANA RIVER... AND ACROSS THE BARRIER ISLAND IN COCOA BEACH FROM THE BANANA RIVER TO THE ATLANTIC. THE TORNADO LIKELY REMAINED ON THE GROUND ALONG THIS ENTIRE 7.3 MILE LONG TRACK...CROSSING THE INDIAN RIVER...BANANA RIVER AND THEN EXITING INTO THE ATLANTIC (AT 748 AM EST) AS A TORNADIC WATERSPOUT.

DAMAGE ALONG THE TRACK WAS CONSISTENT WITH A LOW-END EF0 TORNADO ON THE ENHANCED FUJITA TORNADO SCALE. BASED ON DAMAGE TO STRUCTURES AND TREES ALONG THE PATH...MAXIMUM WINDS WERE ESTIMATED AT 65 TO 75 MPH.

INITIAL TORNADO DAMAGE OCCURRED IN VIERA JUST EAST OF INTERSTATE 95 IN THE AREA OF JACQUES DRIVE...LIONEL DRIVE...AND CRANE CREEK BOULEVARD. THE DAMAGE PATH CONTINUED TO U.S. ROUTE 1 AT VIERA BOULEVARD...IMPACTING THE AREA NEAR THE RIVER WAY CONDOS. DAMAGE OCCURRED TO 280 HOMES IN VIERA. STRUCTURAL DAMAGE TO HOMES WAS MOSTLY MINOR...ALTHOUGH MANY EXPERIENCED DAMAGED OR DESTROYED POOL SCREEN ENCLOSURES. NUMEROUS TREES WERE TOPPLED OR SNAPPED.

DAMAGE ON MERRITT ISLAND AFFECTED THE AREA NEAR HACIENDA BOULEVARD... DEL SOL DRIVE AND SOUTH TROPICAL TRAIL. MOSTLY MINOR DAMAGE OCCURRED TO SIX HOMES. NUMEROUS LARGE TREES WERE TOPPLED OR SNAPPED.

DAMAGE ON THE BARRIER ISLAND AT COCOA BEACH IMPACTED THE AREA NEAR HIGHWAY A1A AND 36TH STREET SOUTH. MINOR DAMAGE WAS SUSTAINED BY SEVERAL UNITS OF AN APARTMENT COMPLEX AND SEVERAL VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED.

SOME MINOR WIND DAMAGE WAS ALSO NOTED ALONG THE TRACK OF THE STORM TO THE WEST OF INTERSTATE 95 FOR SEVERAL MILES. WHILE THIS DAMAGE WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH A TORNADO...WIND GUSTS OF 50 TO 60 MPH WERE LIKELY EXPERIENCED FROM THE AREA OF BRUNOT CIRCLE IN VIERA TO THE GOVERNMENT CENTER COMPLEX NEAR JUDGE FRAN JAMIESON WAY AND STADIUM PARKWAY TO INTERSTATE 95. DAMAGE WITHIN THIS AREA CONSISTED OF SEVERAL TOPPLED NEWLY PLANTED PALM TREES...DOWNED FENCES AND DAMAGE TO A FEW POOL SCREEN ENCLOSURES.

CONTINUOUS TORNADO LENGTH: 7.3 MILES
TOUCHDOWN LOCATION/TIME: 28.2537N 80.7246W / 738 AM EST
EXIT INTO ATLANTIC/TIME: 28.2728N 80.6059W / 749 AM EST
TORNADO WIDTH: 0.15 MILES (265 YARDS)

TORNADO STRENGTH: EF0 (LOW END, ESTIMATED 65-75 MPH)

FOR A COMPLETE SUMMARY OF THE EVENT...PLEASE SEE THE NWS MELBOURNE
WEB-PAGE AT: [HTTP://SRH.NOAA.GOV/MLB](http://srh.noaa.gov/mlb)

THE INFORMATION ON THE WEB-SITE WILL BE UPDATED OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL
DAYS AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.

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