N.C. DENR Situation Report 2 p.m. for Friday, Aug. 26, 2011

WASTE MANAGEMENT PARKS AND RECREATION AQUARIUMS – R, PK, FF REGIONAL OFFICES WATER RESOURCES WATER QUALITY AIR QUALITY COASTAL MANAGEMENT LAND RESOURCES GENERAL COUNSEL MARINE FISHERIES

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Current Status

- The 7 a.m. SERT briefing indicated that this storm event could result in 1 5 feet of water left in an estimated 27,000 homes, creating tremendous amounts of demolition waste for handling and disposal.
- Solid Waste Section Staff have investigated seven additional temporary disaster debris storage sites (TDDS) this week with one conditional approval. Still waiting for State Historic Preservation approval on six of the sites.
- The Solid Waste Section now has 352 temporary disaster debris storage sites conditionally approved statewide. They are ready for activation if needed.
- Some local government staff have asked about availability of Solid Waste Section staff on Sunday. Staff have been directed to give contact phone numbers as necessary to adequately communicate with facilities, solid waste directors and local government staff.
- Dennis Shackelford, Eastern District Supervisor, Solid Waste Section, will be available by phone around-the-clock until the EOC is closed. (919) 208-0795
- The Hazardous Waste Section has designated staff to work at the EOC if needed. The primary person is Steve Barron and the alternate is Robin Proctor.
- Hazardous Waste Section staff have contacted Large Quantity Generators and Treatment, Storage, Disposal
 facilities in the projected hurricane path to ensure that hazardous waste will be properly managed and manifested
 off-site if possible.
- Hazardous waste facilities are asked to be reviewing contingency plans to ensure they are up to date.
- The Hazardous Waste Section is prepared to respond with assistance to facilities if needed.
- DWM staff working on hurricane-related issues have been advised that, as with any storm, they should watch for the common hazards: downed electrical lines, unstable trees and limbs, flooded areas, wild animals (stinging insects / snakes), and large, unstable debris piles.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Current Situation

All state parks from the Triangle area eastward are closing on a staggered schedule. Five parks closed Thursday and earlier today. They are: Fort Macon, Jockey's Ridge, Carolina Beach, Fort Fisher and the Bear Island portion of Hammocks Beach.

All other state parks east of I-95 as well as Medoc Mountain in Halifax County and Raven Rock in Harnett County will close at 5 p.m. today. Piedmont parks that will close at 9 p.m. today are Eno River, Umstead and Weymouth Woods and state recreation areas at Jordan, Falls and Kerr lakes.

All 16 of these parks will remain closed until at least Monday. Rangers will evaluate damage and determine the safety of public areas before they are reopened.

The Central Reservations System for the state parks system is notifying those with reservations about closings. Detailed updates are posted on the website, Facebook and Twitter.

Supervisory staff have determined what field staff throughout the state are available for response through the weekend, including those available to be shifted from their normal duty stations.

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Staff have inventoried response equipment to ensure necessary items are at hand and in good working order. Those state parks nearest the projected storm path have secured equipment and facilities.

Operational Priorities

Supervisors will determine what staff are remaining in housing inside the state parks.

Supervisors will identify available rangers from piedmont and western areas that may be available for deployment if such is requested by the Emergency Operations Center.

Conference calls are scheduled Saturday, Sunday and Monday to review reports from parks and to discuss plans for potential reopening of parks.

AQUARIUMS

N.C. Aquarium on Roanoke Island (NCARI)

Current Situation

No change since our last report.

N.C. Aquarium on Pine Knolls Shore

Current Situation

No new information since previous situational report.

N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher

- The two collection vessels (boats) and big van were moved to Carolina Beach state park.
- Facility is now running on generator power.
- Animals fed and secured. Food has been prepared for Saturday.
- Paul Barrington, assistant director, staying on site through Saturday.

REGIONAL OFFICES

Washington

- The leadership team met this morning to go over emergency steps each division is taking.
- Rob Fisher- Air Quality supervisor has requested check-in with supervisor three times a day with reports on what they are doing.
- David Moye in Coastal Management reports his staff will be home and will not be here until Monday morning.
 All issues that need to be handled will be addressed at that time.
- Ricky Peed in Land Quality will work in the command center on Saturday and Sunday.
- Harry Bailey, Public Water Supply Section supervisor, said his staff will be here working beginning on Sunday morning in the Command Center covering reports from all of their people.
- Monty Griffin- IT will come in on Sunday morning to boot server back up if weather permits. (He will be bringing the server down at 5 p.m. today)
- The emergency generator has been checked to make sure it is working this morning. Command Center is open and all necessary equipment is in place for those who will be here.
- Administration MF vehicles will be taken to higher ground this afternoon.

Operational Priorities

Mall Management will check tomorrow afternoon and will access the building for any damages or leaks. He will call the RAOM and Lead Worker to report on conditions. After the report is received regarding the building, the Lead Worker will text the team and leave a message on the office phone to give them an update on conditions.

Fayetteville

No new information since previous situational report.

Raleigh

- Generator has been checked and is in good working order.
- Motor fleet vehicles have been filled and have been moved so they are accessible in the event of power outages.
- Plastic has been handed out to staff to cover equipment.
- Emergency contact numbers have been distributed to staff.

Wilmington

Operational Priorities

LAN backup tapes, fixed assets report and fire insurance reports have been taken offsite. State vehicles have been relocated to safe ground. Plastic to cover equipment has been handed out to all staff. Hurricane preparation and response plan has been given to staff. All cell phones have been charged.

WATER RESOURCES

No new information since previous situational report.

AIR QUALITY

Current Situation

- DAQ staff monitoring storm progress and forecasted track.
- Staff in Fayetteville, Raleigh, Wilmington and Washington regional offices have shut down and secured all air monitoring equipment east of I-95.
- Teresa Colon of DAQ air toxics assisted with Spanish translations for the Governor's hotline from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. today.
- Regional staff consulting with Division of Waste Management and county solid waste agencies about establishing staging areas for disposing storm debris.
- Wilmington regional office working with Camp Lejeune to accommodate debris disposal at an existing permitted site
- Encouraging all agencies to chip and grind debris rather than burn it.

Operational Priorities

- Staff in all affected regional offices will cover computers, monitors and other electronic equipment with plastic and lift them off the floors to protect from potential water damage before leaving work Friday.
- Staff in all affected regions will move state vehicles from flood-prone areas to higher ground.
- PIO Tom Mather scheduled to work in the Joint Information Center at the Emergency Operations Center from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

Current Status

- Washington DCM office closed at 1 p.m. Staff has secured the offices and protected all files and equipment with plastic. Vehicles were filled with gas and moved to high ground at the DMV office on US17 north.
- DCM office in Wilmington is closed. All vehicles and equipment secured.
- The Wilmington reserve office at UNCW's Center for Marine Science is secured as well as the sheds/outside items. UNCW issued a voluntary evacuation beginning noon Friday. Staff went home after all was secured.
- All other DCM/Reserve offices (except Raleigh) will be closed and equipment secured.
- DCM has a representative at State EOC.

LAND RESOURCES

Current Situation

Final preparations underway:

- Vehicles have been fueled, will be moved to higher ground nearer the Systel building by COB today;
- Emergency and safety equipment assembled by staff.
- Dam Safety staff held a briefing at 9 a.m. on 8/26/11 to update central office & regional office staff on the event
- Washington Regional Office state owned vehicles have been moved away from flood prone areas
- Office equipment is being covered today before close of business to protect from rain
- Correspondence has been received from PCS Phosphate indicating that they are following their procedures for tropical system effects throughout the entire facility, including their dams.
- A schedule to staff the EOC 24 hours per day has been made through Sunday night at this time.

Operational Priorities

• Currently determining inspection team dispatch availability in accordance with the current HPC rainfall predictions.

MARINE FISHERIES

Current Situation

- DMF has completed all IT-related back-ups and has shut down all IT infrastructure including servers and the LAN. Only webmail from other internet sources or mobile phones is available for reporting.
- Marine Patrol communications office closed at noon on Friday and will reopen at 11 am on Sunday, weather permitting.
- Power has been shut off for the DMF Headquarters facility.
- All staff in all offices (Elizabeth City, Manteo, Wilmington, Washington, and Morehead City) have been released.
- DMF management is monitoring the situation remotely. The Director and Deputy Director have been issued Viper radios for communication with Marine Patrol throughout the storm.

Future

Staff has developed a plan for assessing tires from old ocean artificial reefs that will wash up on Bogue Banks and/Brunswick County beaches to be enacted after the storm passes. The plan is to assess the situation on Sunday after 12 p.m., if possible. Based on the location, tides, and number of tires an action plan will be developed that will position resources and staff in areas with the most tires to start tire clean up on Monday at 10 a.m.

WATER QUALITY

Current Status

Permitted Facility Preparations and Assessments

- Washington, Wilmington and Fayetteville regional offices have contacted permitted facilities, assessed status, given technical guidance where appropriate.
- Currently no compliance issues noted with wastewater treatment plants, collection systems or animal operations in Fayetteville or Wilmington regions.
- Fayetteville Region Moore County noted one pump down will replace today.
- In Washington region most facilities in good shape, a few non-discharge facilities (small wastewater treatment plants, animal lagoons) have been identified as having marginal freeboard (~25" rather than 30") and will be closely monitored.
- Staff have been assigned to communicate with specific facilities through event; facilities have been given staff numbers to call in reports as soon as safe to begin assessments.
- DOT sites contacted or visited to be sure protective measures in place.
- Plans and provisions for post-storm monitoring are being addressed.
- Forms and information for work hours / expenses record keeping per federal requirements have been distributed.

Regional Office Preparations

- State vehicles have been fueled and are being moved to safe ground as appropriate.
- Boats have been secured.
- Safety gear and personal protection equipment needs have been addressed.
- DWQ has coordinated with other agencies within regional offices to be sure offices are secure.
- Staff securing supplies for potential needs to assist facilities.
- The Environmental Sciences Section updated all staff contacts and have potential assignments if needed to do water quality sampling next week. ESS staff have gathered all the needed sampling equipment, topped off gas in vehicles/ boats, checked and replaced equipment batteries, stored ice in bags in freezers, secured light weight boats, checked all safety gear/ supplies, etc. based on the 48 and 24 hour requirements listed in the ESS Hurricane Response SOP.

Next Steps

- Safety is number one priority.
- Finish preparations of offices and homes for storm.
- Contact lists have been distributed for communication through the weekend.
- Personnel have been assigned to represent division at state Emergency Operation Center in Raleigh through the weekend.
- PIO and staff have plan in place to report status of agency and permitted facilities as event develops.
- Conference call scheduled for Monday to regroup, assess status and determine next steps.

NCDENR GENERAL COUNSEL

Current Status

No new information since previous situational report.