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SITUATION REPORT #5

HURRICANE CHARLEY
AUGUST 13, 2004 9:00 am

At 7am EDT, the center of Hurricane Charley was located near latitude 24.3 north, longitude 82.9 west or about 75 miles west-southwest of Key West, Florida. A move to the north is expected today. Maximum sustained winds are near 110 mph with higher gusts. Some strengthening is expected. As of the current forecast the storm is a category 2 hurricane.

Hurricane force winds extend outward up to 25 miles from the center and tropical storm force winds extend outward up to 115 miles.

The coastal area is under a tropical storm watch. Tropical Storm force winds in excess of 40 mph will develop from the southwest tonight and spread across a large part of southeast Georgia before sunrise. With the current projected strength and location of the storm, tides could be 3' – 5' above predicted levels. Moderate beach erosion will be possible with this storm.

With the rainfall during the past 24 hours, the ground is saturated in some areas. An additional 3 – 5" is predicted with Charley. Flooding is possible in places with poor drainage, small areas, and low lying areas. Isolated tornadoes are possible after midnight and early Saturday morning.

Businesses and individuals should finalize the securing of their property which could be affected by tropical storm force winds

CEMA will continue to monitor conditions and provide updates as information becomes available. CEMA remains at Operating Condition 4 and will partially activate the Emergency Operations Center at 7:00 pm tonight.

The next advisory will be at 1:00 pm today.