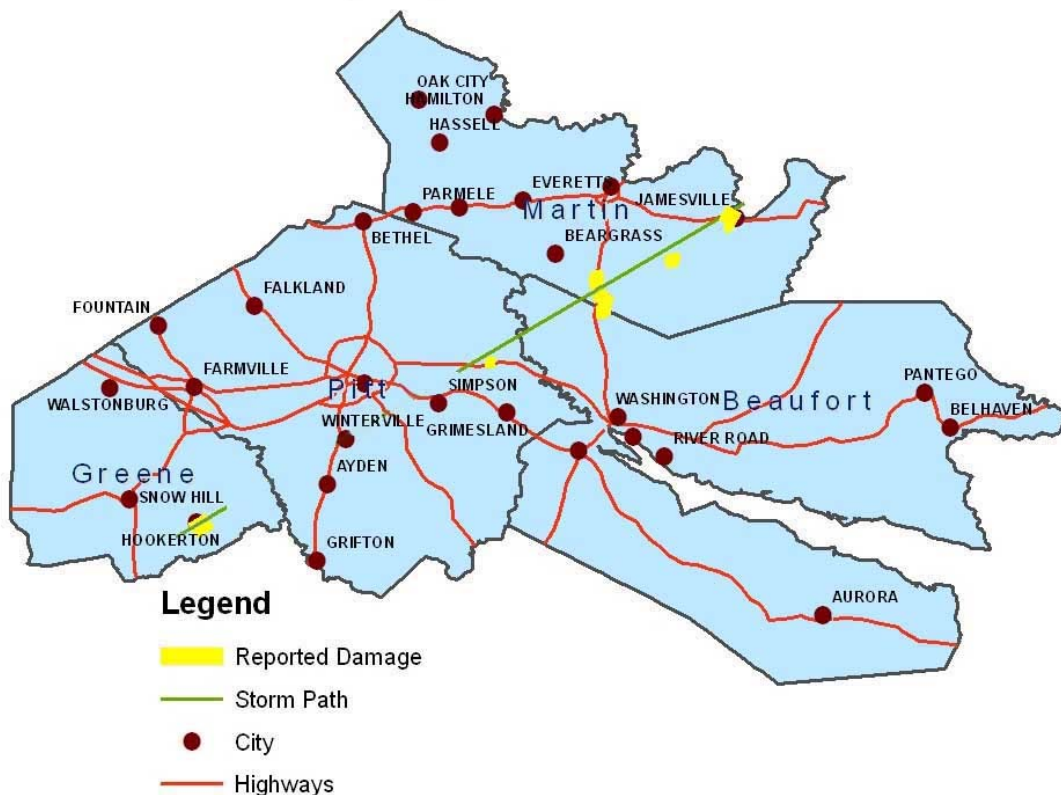


**Tornadic Event in Eastern North Carolina on February 18, 2008
Preliminary Summary**

February 18, 2008 Tornado Event



A broad, persistent, meso-cyclone tracked northeast across Eastern North Carolina in the early morning hours of February 18th. The meso-cyclone tracked northeastward from around Hookerton in Greene County, just south of Greenville, in Pitt County, across Old Ford, north of Washington in Beaufort County, and across eastern Martin County near Jamesville. As the meso-cyclone moved northeastward, it spawned two tornadoes along its path.

The meso-cyclone intensified as it moved through Greene County producing a tornado that touched down approximately one mile north of Hookerton. There it destroyed a two story solid built home. It appears the entire home shifted off the foundation and then collapsed into a pile of debris. It also ripped the roof off a mobile home in the adjacent property. Three individuals were in the house and sustained minor injuries. They were treated and released from the hospital that morning. The 911 call was placed at 412 AM, but the timing of the tornado was somewhere between 330 AM and 4 AM. The tornado also snapped several trees and caused minor roof damage to a barn as it tracked north-northeast for approximately a mile and a half. We are estimating an EF2 Tornado, with winds of 120 mph.



(Above Pictures of Damage North of Hookerton, in Greene County)

The meso-cyclone likely produced an additional Tornado which first touched down in eastern Pitt County. It produced some minor damage along Highway 264 E, east of Pactolus, about a mile from the Beaufort County line. Numerous trees were downed in this area along with damage to an out building roof. Judging by damage to the soft wood pine trees we rated this damage EF1, with winds around 90 mph.



(Above pictures of Damage in Eastern Pitt County)

The tornado may have lifted briefly and touched down again along Highway 17 in Beaufort County, in the vicinity of Old Ford, and the Martin County line. There were several old tobacco barns destroyed, as well as roof damage reported to several houses. One separate garage structure completely lost its roof after the garage doors failed. Another garage structure had the roof lift and pull the nails from the rafters, but settled back in place. Another large barn was shifted off its foundation. Debris at one location was driven into the ground. A 2x4 board was shot as a projectile through a garage wall, shattering the support beam where it entered. The tornado continued on the ground north-northeast into southern Martin County, producing damage to trees, out buildings, and old tobacco barns

along an approximately 3 mile track before lifting. The estimated time of this tornado was around 440 AM. The worst of the damage here was rated EF1 with winds around 110 mph.

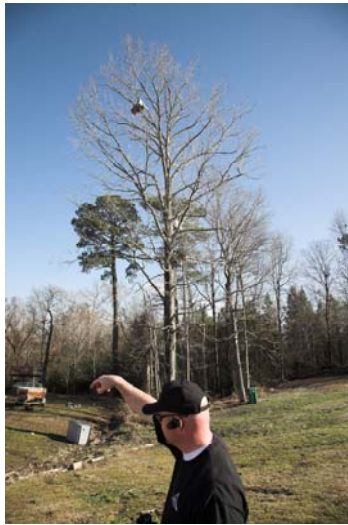




(Above pictures of Damage Along Highway 17 in Beaufort and Martin Counties)

The tornado touched down again briefly approximately 5 miles southeast of Williamston, near the intersection of Holly Springs Church Road, and J.T. Heath Road. Here it destroyed one out building and took the roof off another. It also destroyed a car port.

Remnants of a roof structure were thrown at least 150 yards onto a nearby roadway. Damage here was rated an EF0 with winds around 85 mph.



(Above pictures of Damage on Holly Springs Church Road, in Martin County)

The tornado touched down for the final time in the vicinity of Jamesville. There was some damage south of the town that may have been straight line winds. In town, it blew the roofs off of two garage structures. One structure was at a used car dealership and auto shop, where the garage doors were blown in and the roof blown off and overturned onto cars behind the shop. This tornado was rated an EF1, with winds estimated at around 110 mph.





(Above pictures of Damage in and Near Jamesville, in Martin County)