

- This is a GEMA exercise -

Georgia Emergency Management Agency

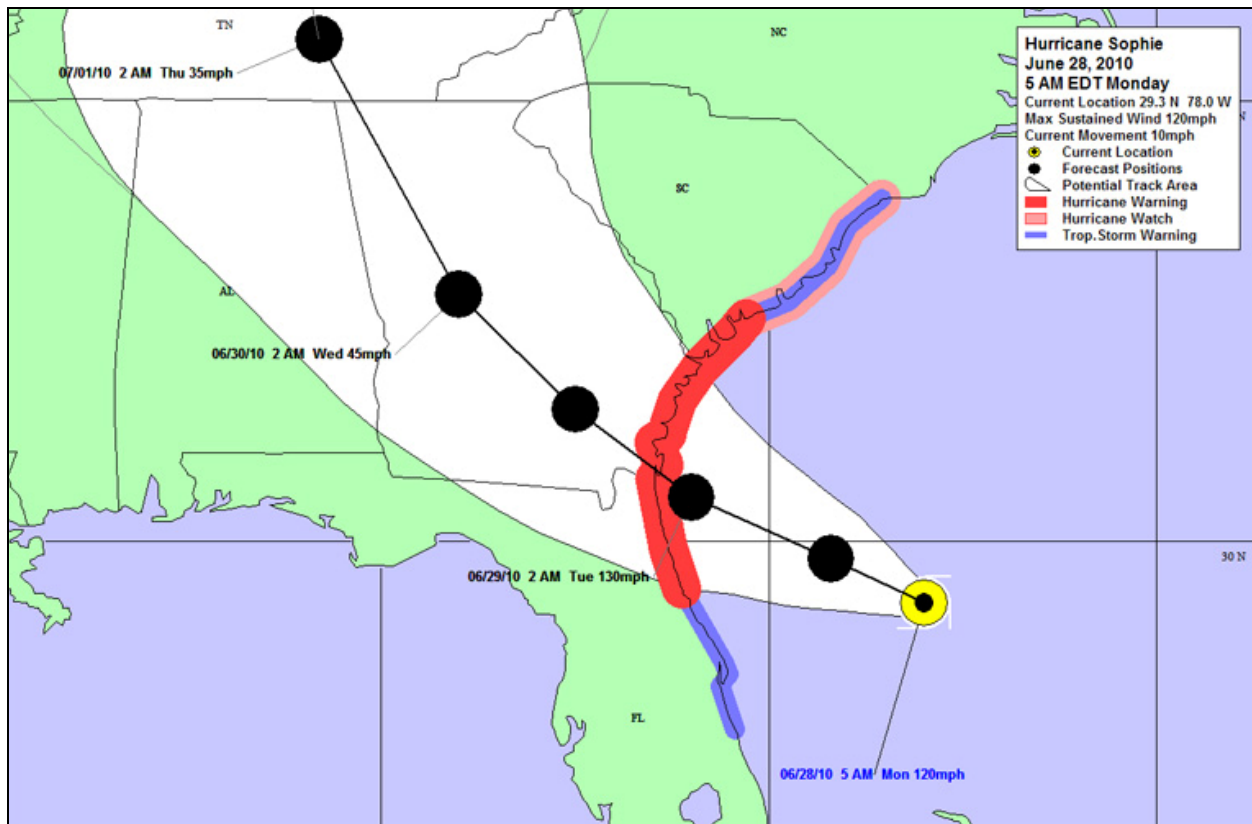
**State Operations Center
Situation Report #1
OPCON 1**



HURRICANE SOFFIE – SOC at Level 1 Full Activation

Operational Period: Monday, June 28, 2010: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

CURRENT SITUATION:



Map 1: National Hurricane Center forecast for Hurricane Soffie.

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued a **Hurricane Warning** for the Georgia Coast. According to the latest NHC advisory issued at 5:00 a.m. EST, Hurricane Soffie has intensified to become a strong Category 3 Hurricane with sustained winds of 120 mph and a central pressure of 954 mb. Soffie is located at 29.3 N latitude and 78.0 W longitude or about 255 miles ESE of Brunswick, GA and is moving west-northwestward at 10 mph.

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A **Hurricane Warning** has been issued from Flagler Beach, FL to Edisto Beach, SC to include the entire Georgia Coast. The NHC has issued a **Tropical Storm Warning** from Sebastian Inlet, FL to Flagler Beach, FL and from Edisto Beach, SC to Little River Inlet, SC. A **Hurricane Watch** has been issued from Edisto Beach, SC to Little River Inlet, SC. A Hurricane / Tropical Storm Warning indicates that hazardous conditions are expected within 24 hours. A Hurricane / Tropical Storm Watch indicates that hazardous conditions may be experienced within 36 hours.

Satellite imagery depicts a well organized hurricane with impressive outflow. Soffie is moving through the very warm waters of the Gulf Stream and exists in an environment with very low wind shear. Accordingly, the NHC is forecasting Soffie to continue to intensify reaching Major Category-3 Hurricane intensity overnight.

Projected Impacts to Georgia:

The current forecast for Soffie demonstrates that a landfall on the Georgia Coast is very likely. Computer model guidance has been tightly clustered during the past 60 hours on a track that has Soffie making landfall on or very near the Georgia Coast. The current error cone for the forecast track includes locations from Titusville, FL northward to Beaufort, SC.

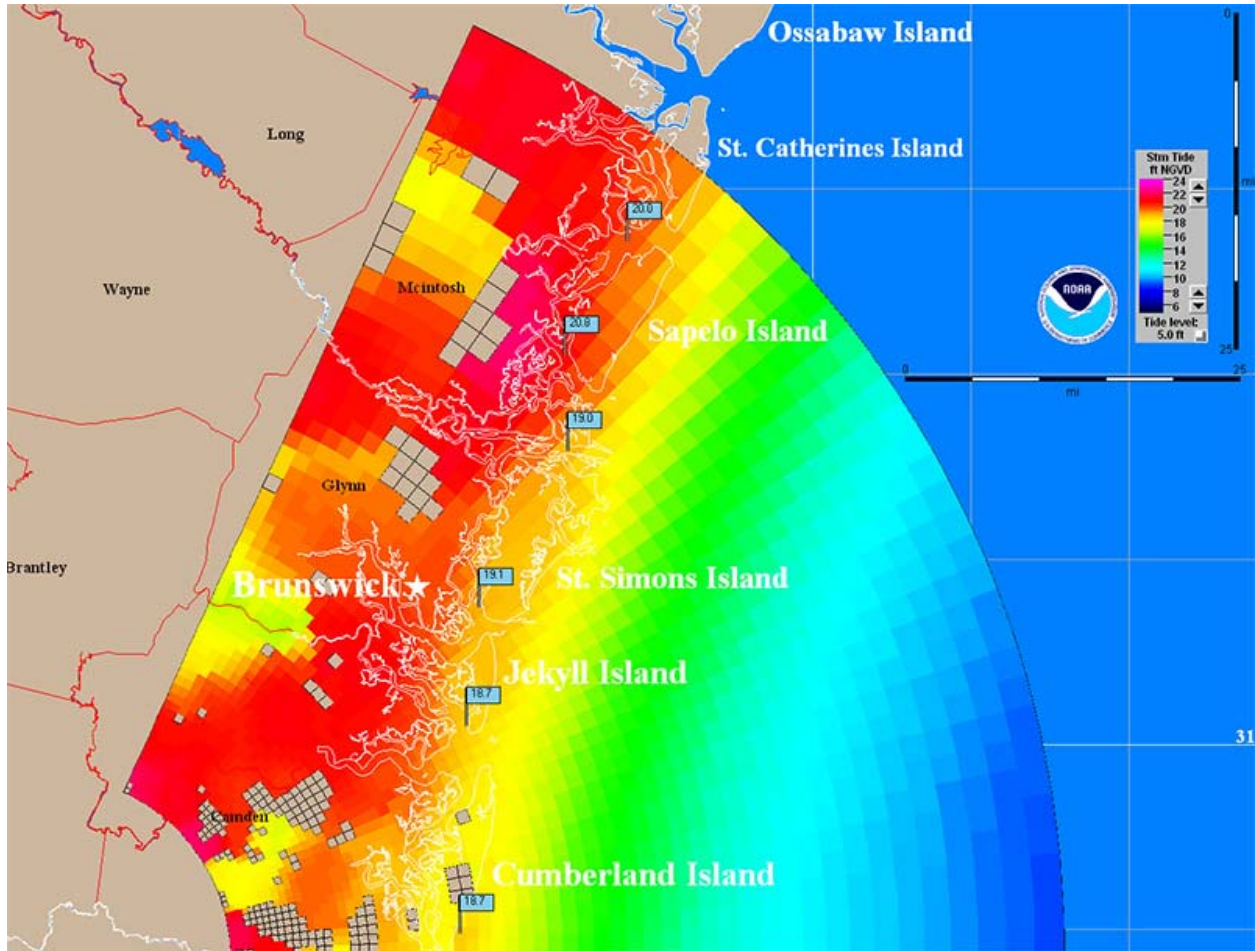
A landfalling hurricane at Major Category 3 or Category 4 intensity would produce a catastrophic storm surge event on the Georgia Coast. The forecast calls for Soffie to make landfall near the Florida / Georgia border as a Major Category 3 hurricane; therefore, a planning assumption for Soffie to make landfall as a Category 4 is being adopted. Map 2 below depicts the maximum expected storm tide from a Category 4 hurricane.

A landfalling hurricane at Major Category 3 or Category 4 intensity has the potential to produce hurricane force winds throughout GEMA Area 5 and for portions of GEMA Areas 3 and 8. Near hurricane force winds are possible as far inland as Macon.

Tornadoes spawned by Soffie will be possible in locations north of the track and in the northwest quadrant. Tornadoes that are produced by hurricanes are typically between EF0 – EF2 intensity.

Due to the forward speed of 10 – 12 mph that is forecast for Soffie, flooding is a concern. The Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) is predicting between 10 – 15 inches or rain will fall in central and northern Georgia during Wednesday and Thursday.

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Map 2: Maximum expected storm tide for Hurricane Soffie.