
From: Haley, Nikki
Sent: Thursday, December 31, 2015 1:00 PM
To: Smith, Austin
Cc: Schimsa, Rebecca; Patel, Swati
Subject: Re: Dam Update from DHEC

Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 31, 2015, at 11:16 AM, Smith, Austin <AustinSmith@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

DHEC Dam Safety Program
Situation Summary for 12/31/15

Lexington County

Cromer Road Dam (Unregulated) – DHEC Regional staff visited following receipt of information that the dam appeared to be in a fragile state. Inspection found that the back slope of the dam was heavily eroded, primary spillway was substantially clogged, and flow was being conveyed through the auxiliary spillway. Staff made contact with the owner’s representative and outlined the Department’s concerns. Potential failure of this dam would likely result in inundation of a home located in a low-lying area between the toe of the dam in question and Cromer Road. Staff also alerted that homeowner to the situation. DHEC Dam Safety staff will visit the dam on 12/31 to determine if additional action is needed.

Greenwood County

1. Chinquapin Dam (Significant Hazard) - Staff inspected multiple times throughout 12/30. Overtopped during peak of event though low point/auxiliary spillway on the crest of the dam. Local roadway across dam was closed. Owners initiated EAP, DOT contacted, Greenwood CPW contacted. Owners monitored dam continuously throughout the night. Late afternoon observation on 12/30 was that it did not appear that additional material was lost towards the lake but material was lost on "wings" of the eroded area. DHEC Regional staff inspecting morning of 12/31.
2. Town & Country 1&2 (Significant Hazard) - Flow through auxiliary spillway on the crest of Town & Country 2 was observed. Owners initiated EAP, monitored conditions through night. DHEC Regional staff inspecting morning of 12/31.
3. Maxwell Springs Subdivision (High Hazard) - Staff inspected. Overtopped through auxiliary. No apparent issues. Owners will continue to monitor through night. Inspection on the morning of 12/31 found no significant damage in area where flow was observed through auxiliary. There also appeared to be slight erosion at the outfall.
4. Windsor Rd (Low Hazard) – When staff inspected water elevation was within an inch of overtopping. County EMD was on-scene to monitor for need to close county road. Regional staff to inspect on 12/31.

Chester County

Chester State Park (High Hazard) – This dam is under Order due to needed repair. Staff received no reports from park rangers of issues with the dam. Due to the significant rainfall which occurred over Chester County, Regional staff will inspect on 12/31.

DHEC and its contractor (HDR) continue to monitor dams across the state.

From: Smith, Austin
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:56 PM
To: Haley, Nikki; Schimsa, Rebecca
Cc: Patel, Swati
Subject: Re: EMD update on Rain

I've gotten a couple updates from Christy. The high points are below:

There are 29 road closures across the state. SCDOT has crews actively working in the impacted counties and stand-by crews on heightened alert in surrounding counties. Christy reports that the heaviest hit area has been Greenwood County.

SCDOT will continue to monitor roadway conditions and take the appropriate steps to close roadways as necessary to ensure the safety of the traveling public. SCDOT county crews will be on-call statewide to respond to possible road flooding and potential for fallen trees due to soil saturation and high wind gusts forecasted.

Link to map and road closure list:

<http://www.scdot-transfer.org/SCDOTPhotos/RoadClosures12302015.pdf>

At 7:00, SCE&G advised that additional water will be released from the Lake Murray Dam beginning at 4:00 a.m. SCDOT has activated bridge inspection teams to monitor water levels at I-26 and I-20 over the Saluda River.

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) advised EMD that they would be releasing water from the three lakes along the Savannah Basin (Hartwell, Russell, and Thurmond) over the next several days. SCDOT will be monitoring updates from USCOE and will activate bridge crews as necessary. In addition, SCDOT has coordinated with Georgia DOT regarding the Savannah River bridge crossings.

On Wed, Dec 30, 2015 at 1:55 PM -0800, "Haley, Nikki" <govhaley@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Thanks. Austin, let's continue to work closely with Sec. Hall on closures and openings. Remind her when in doubt, close it.

Sent from my iPad

On Dec 30, 2015, at 4:18 PM, Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov> wrote:

Parts of the upstate continue to get rain and several counties including Anderson, McCormick, Greenwood, Edgefield, Spartanburg, Cherokee, York, Laurens, Union, Chester, and Lancaster are under a flash flood warning until later today. In addition, Aiken, Chesterfield, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lexington, McCormick, Newberry, Richland and Saluda are also under a flood watch until tomorrow morning.

However, rain is expected to taper off this afternoon and this evening. Total rain amounts for this round are generally under 2 inches but combined with previous rain from last week have created localized flooding issues.

Specific county updates include:

Abbeville: Currently 10-15 roads closed but expect most to open back up as water recedes.

Anderson: EOC is partially activated at OPCON 4 but will not be going to 24 hour operations. Currently, no specific issues.

Cherokee: Evacuated a six-unit apartment building but water has not reached the building. A shelter is on standby but currently there are no sheltering requirements.

Chester: Downtown Chester is experiencing flooding but no reports of homes flooded at this time.

Greenville: Several roads closed but no major issues at this time.

Greenwood: Approximately 15 people at Wilson Creek Trailer Park off Jebosha Road were evacuated. The Main Street United Methodist Church in Greenwood opened as a shelter with 18 people. EOC is at OPCON 4 but will not go to 24 hour operations.

Newberry: Hwy 76 at Sweet Springs Road is closed. EOC is at OPCON 4 with no activation.

Spartanburg: Four roads closed but no major issues.

There are no requests for state assistance but we will remain in contact with the counties.