

**From:** Schimsa, Rebecca  
**To:** Haley, Nikki <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>  
Haley, Michael <MichaelHaley@gov.sc.gov>  
Stirling, Bryan <BryanStirling@gov.sc.gov>  
Patel, Swati <SwatiPatel@gov.sc.gov>  
Godfrey, Rob <RobGodfrey@gov.sc.gov>  
Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>  
Mayer, Doug <DougMayer@gov.sc.gov>  
**CC:** Soura, Christian <ChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov>  
Pitts, Ted <TedPitts@gov.sc.gov>  
**Date:** 3/20/2013 2:22:54 PM  
**Subject:** RE: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

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SBA Declaration: Horry County has identified 47 homes (16 owners and 31 renters without insurance), which is above the threshold minimum of 25 homes. The SBA has been contacted and will conduct a joint preliminary damage assessment tomorrow to verify and confirm numbers.

The Governor will be asked to sign a declaration to the SBA, which we can expect to receive later this week. (Yesterday's email on this issue was in error; action from our office is, indeed, required.)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Schimsa, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 10:33 AM  
**To:** 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov'; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Taillon, Jeff; Mayer, Doug  
**Subject:** RE: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

POSSIBLE Federal Assistance: NOTHING HAS BEEN CONFIRMED, but EMD is receiving indications from Horry County that the uninsured rate may be higher than anticipated, which could open up a SBA declaration.

A SBA declaration makes loans available to assist (1) homeowners/business owners when real or personal property has been damaged; and (2) renters when personal property has been damaged. The threshold for this declaration is as follows: At least 25 homes/businesses within a declared county must sustain uninsured or underinsured losses equal to 40% or more of the estimated fair replacement value.

If the incident reaches 25 homes with these qualifications, then EMD will request the SBA to conduct an assessment and issue a declaration. NO ACTION FROM OUR OFFICE WOULD BE NEEDED.

-----Original Message-----

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 2:43 PM

To: 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov'; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Taillon, Jeff; Mayer, Doug

Subject: Re: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

Confirmed: No human fatalities. Several pets were killed.

More to come after N's visit is complete.

----- Original Message -----

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 11:54 AM

To: 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov' <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Taillon, Jeff; Mayer, Doug

Subject: Re: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

Funding and possible Declaration Information:

County: Horry County declared a State of Emergency as of yesterday.

State: Responding state agencies will use internal funding. Programs for individuals will be provided through voluntary agencies.

Federal: Horry County is verifying the status of home ownership, but it is unlikely that they will be eligible for a presidential declaration or SBA declaration. EMD does not want to completely rule it out until all information has been gathered, but it is not likely we would ask for federal funding.

----- Original Message -----

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 08:07 PM

To: 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov' <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Taillon, Jeff; Mayer, Doug

Subject: Re: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

Fatalities: No fatalities are known at this time.

Estimated Damage: Damages are estimated at \$12 million for the 109 housing units that were destroyed.

Sheltering: As of 5 PM today, the Red Cross was relocating the shelter to the Beach Church on 557 George Bishop Parkway, Myrtle Beach. Last night, only 7 of the expected 45 displaced persons used the shelter.

Ongoing Operations: Incident Command is set up at the Windsor Green Development in Myrtle Beach, 4921 Windsor Green Way and will remain operational from 7 AM to 7 PM. Horry County

declared a local state of emergency this afternoon. Fire Marshal's Office, through Firefighter Mobilization, is coordinating Urban Search and Rescue team support. Recovery Operations are expected to last from two to five days. Elements from SLED, Forestry, Highway Patrol, and SCEMD are also providing assistance.

Next update is expected tomorrow morning.

----- Original Message -----

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 04:52 PM

To: 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov' <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob; Taillon, Jeff

Subject: Re: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

Governor's Visit: NH will be landing at Myrtle Beach Aviation tomorrow at 2pm. Weather permitting, she will do a flyover of the site upon arrival. She will then visit the site of the fire and meet with all appropriate officials (emergency management, law enforcement, local elected, forestry, search and rescue, firefighter, etc). Horry County EMD has requested that no media be allowed on site as the search and rescue mission is still ongoing. A media availability will be scheduled off site (location to be determined) on the back end of the visit with NH and officials. The exact line-by-line of her visit will be determined mid-morning tomorrow.

----- Original Message -----

From: Schimsa, Rebecca

Sent: Sunday, March 17, 2013 01:09 PM

To: 'govhaley@gov.sc.gov' <govhaley@gov.sc.gov>; Haley, Michael; Stirling, Bryan; Patel, Swati; Godfrey, Rob

Subject: EMD - Horry County wild/residential fire

Update: Twenty-six buildings (all 2-3 story condominium buildings with 140-150 units total and one nearby maintenance building) were burned yesterday evening in the Windsor Gate subdivision off Hwy 501 near the Carolina Forest in between Conway and Myrtle Beach.

Injuries/fatalities: Three firefighters who were hospitalized for smoke inhalation have been released. No other injuries or fatalities have been reported, but an unknown number of individuals who may have been in the units are currently unaccounted for (a hotline for out-of-town residents has been established; and Search and Rescue has been called in - see below).

Sheltering: The Red Cross sheltered 45 people last night in a local school who will be transferred to another shelter so that school can open tomorrow. Four of the residents are Canadian, and the consul has been called to re-issue their paperwork.

State Assistance: Horry EMD requested state assistance (firefighter mobilization for search and rescue operations) this morning. The Myrtle Beach regional USAR team to begin operations today until 8pm tonight, again tomorrow, and possibly 2-3 additional days as needed.

Governor's Action: NH has spoken with Chief Keel and is calling the sheriff and county emergency manager this afternoon.

Next Steps: Horry EMD may be requesting a Declaration of Emergency for Horry County this afternoon. Additional updates can be expected throughout the day and week.