

Severe Thunderstorms Destroy Residences in El Dora Colonia

Estimated Microburst of 70 mph Rips Through Donna, June 7th 2010

Second Storm Drops Hail, Floods Neighborhoods

Event

An upper level disturbance sliding across the Rio Grande Valley combined with a hot humid air mass to produce a series of thunderstorms in southern Hidalgo County, leaving a combination of wind damage, quarter size hail, and urban flooding from McAllen to Donna during the late afternoon. Preliminary estimates from Emergency Management on scene, based on home construction and anchoring, combined with other reports of damage blown in a southeast to northwest direction, suggesting a **pulse-microburst** containing a *local wind gust between 65 and 70 mph*.

Less than an hour later, a second storm redeveloped in nearly the same area, pulsing up to produce torrential rains estimated in some areas up to 6 inches, along with several reports of quarter size hail. Urban flooding developed in the Alamo/Donna area and frequent to excessive lightning burned part of an industrial facility in the area.

Impacts

Most of the wind damage occurred just east of Farm to Market Road 1423 (Valverde Road) and Eldora Road in Alamo. Two mobile homes were completely destroyed (photos below), and one wood frame home under construction collapsed from the wind gust. There was also one overturned outhouse. One of the mobile homes rolled over, and another lost its entire roof. One residential addition to the mobile home destroyed.

The mobile homes that were destroyed were older and had questionable structural integrity. One tipped over and was not secured to the ground; a mother, three children, and an infant were inside but thankfully were uninjured. Those under construction also were not completely secured, and lacked structural integrity. Debris was right next to the mobile home, and contents were left in place. The wood frame structure had not been anchored, as well. Photos show most small trees left standing, as were nearby single family homes fastened to the ground.

Moderate street flooding was noted in San Juan, Alamo, and Donna. The Donna Police Department/Fire Department antenna was struck by lightning and sustained a power outage. A more significant lightning strike burned part of a warehouse in the Weslaco/Donna/Alamo region.

Initial Local Storm Reports

The following table shows the summary storm report for all events reported to the National Weather Service during the afternoon and early evening of June 7th.

PRELIMINARY LOCAL STORM **REPORT**...SUMMARY
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BROWNSVILLE TX
726 PM CDT MON JUN 07 2010

..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT.LON...
..DATE...	...MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION..ST..	...SOURCE....
	..REMARKS..		
0345 PM	TSTM WND DMG	1 NNW DONNA	26.18N 98.06W
06/07/2010		HIDALGO	TX EMERGENCY MNGR

ELDORA RD EAST OF **FM** 1423. TWO MOBILE HOMES DESTROYED.
ANOTHER MOBILE HOME LOST ROOF. ONE WOODEN FRAME HOME
UNDER CONSTRUCTION DESTROYED. NO INJURIES REPORTED.
UPDATE TO PREVIOUS **REPORT**.

0345 PM **TSTM WND** DMG 1 NE ALAMO 26.20N 98.11W
06/07/2010 HIDALGO TX EMERGENCY MNGR

EM REPORTED TREES DOWN NEAR ALAMO.

0348 PM **HAIL** 1 **WSW** EDINBURG 26.29N 98.18W
06/07/2010 M0.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

NWS STUDENT VOLUNTEER REPORTED PENNY SIZE **HAIL**.

0356 PM **HAIL** WESLACO 26.16N 97.98W
06/07/2010 E0.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

0434 PM **HAIL** 1 S DONNA 26.15N 98.05W
06/07/2010 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZE **HAIL** REPORTED SOUTH OF OLD 83...SOUTH OF DONNA

0452 PM **HAIL** 1 NNE MCALLEN 26.23N 98.23W
06/07/2010 E0.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PENNY SIZE **HAIL** REPORTED ON CYNTHIA STREET NEAR MEDICAL CENTER

0456 PM **TSTM WND GST** PHARR 26.18N 98.19W
06/07/2010 M62.00 MPH HIDALGO TX BROADCAST MEDIA

62 MPH **WIND GUST** RECORDED BY BROADCAST **METEOROLOGIST**

0457 PM **HAIL** SE SAN JUAN 26.19N 98.15W
06/07/2010 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

ALONG BUSINESS 83

0500 PM **HAIL** FALCON **DAM** 26.55N 99.13W
06/07/2010 E0.50 INCH STARR TX PUBLIC

ALSO REPORTED 50 MPH WINDS AND .49 INCHES OF RAIN IN 15 MINUTES.

0510 PM **HAIL** ALAMO 26.19N 98.12W
06/07/2010 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

0520 PM **FUNNEL CLOUD** DONNA 26.17N 98.05W
06/07/2010 HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

REPORTED ON SOUTH SIDE OF DONNA. ABOUT HALFWAY TOWARDS GROUND.

0532 PM **FUNNEL CLOUD** SW WESLACO 26.16N 97.98W
06/07/2010 HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

LASTED ABOUT A MINUTE. VIEWED TO SW FROM INTERSECTION OF HOPPR ROAD AND 34TH STREET.

0540 PM **FLASH FLOOD** DONNA 26.17N 98.05W
06/07/2010 HIDALGO TX EMERGENCY MNGR

SEVERAL ROADS UNDER WATER IN DONNA AREA.

0607 PM **LIGHTNING** WESLACO 26.16N 97.98W

06/07/2010

HIDALGO

TX

EMERGENCY MNGR

STRUCTURE FIRE AT SALINAS AND NORTH.

0607 PM

FLASH FLOOD

ALAMO

26.19N 98.12W

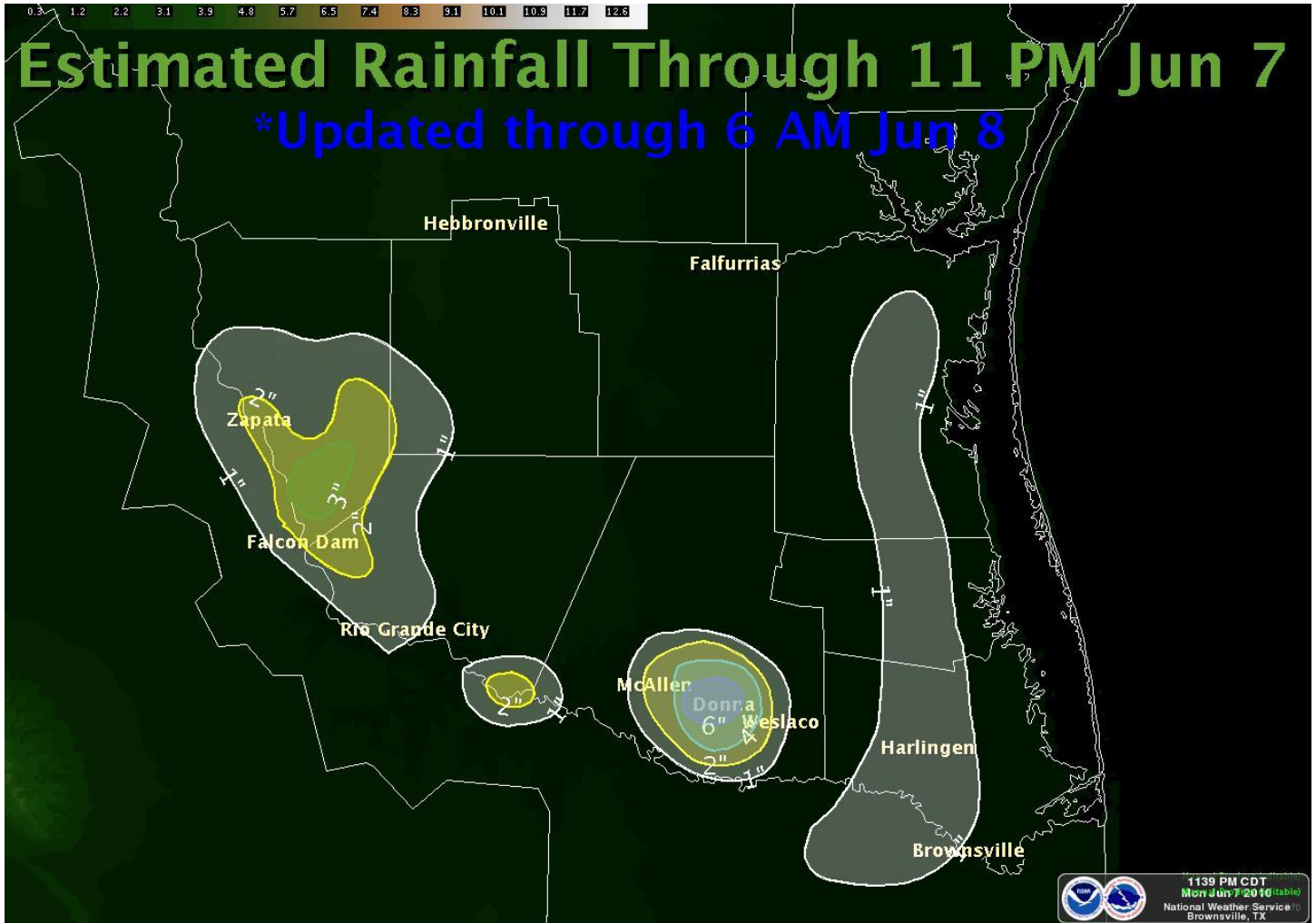
06/07/2010

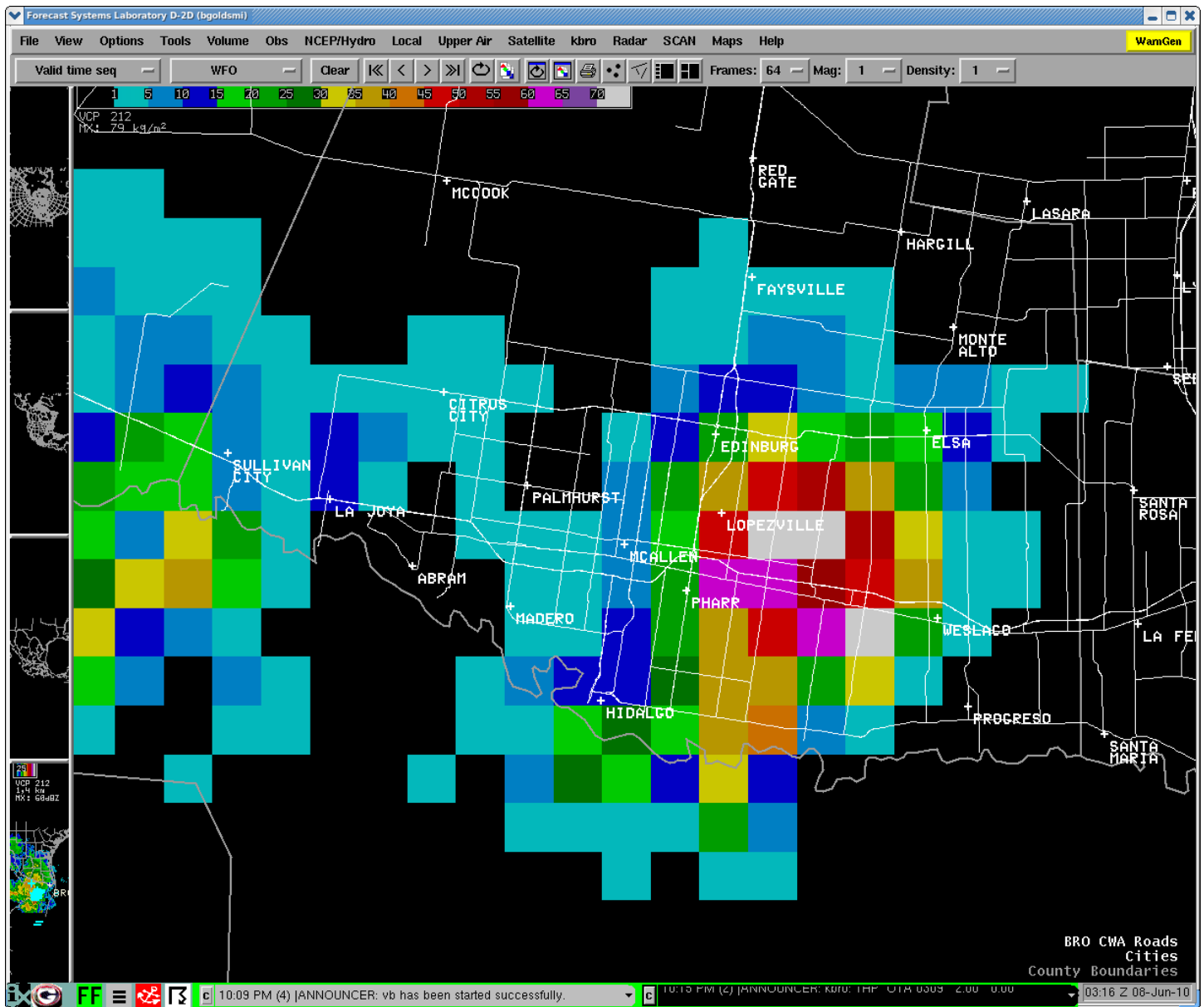
HIDALGO

TX

NWS EMPLOYEE

REPORTED A FOOT OF WATER OVER SEVERAL ROADS IN ALAMO.



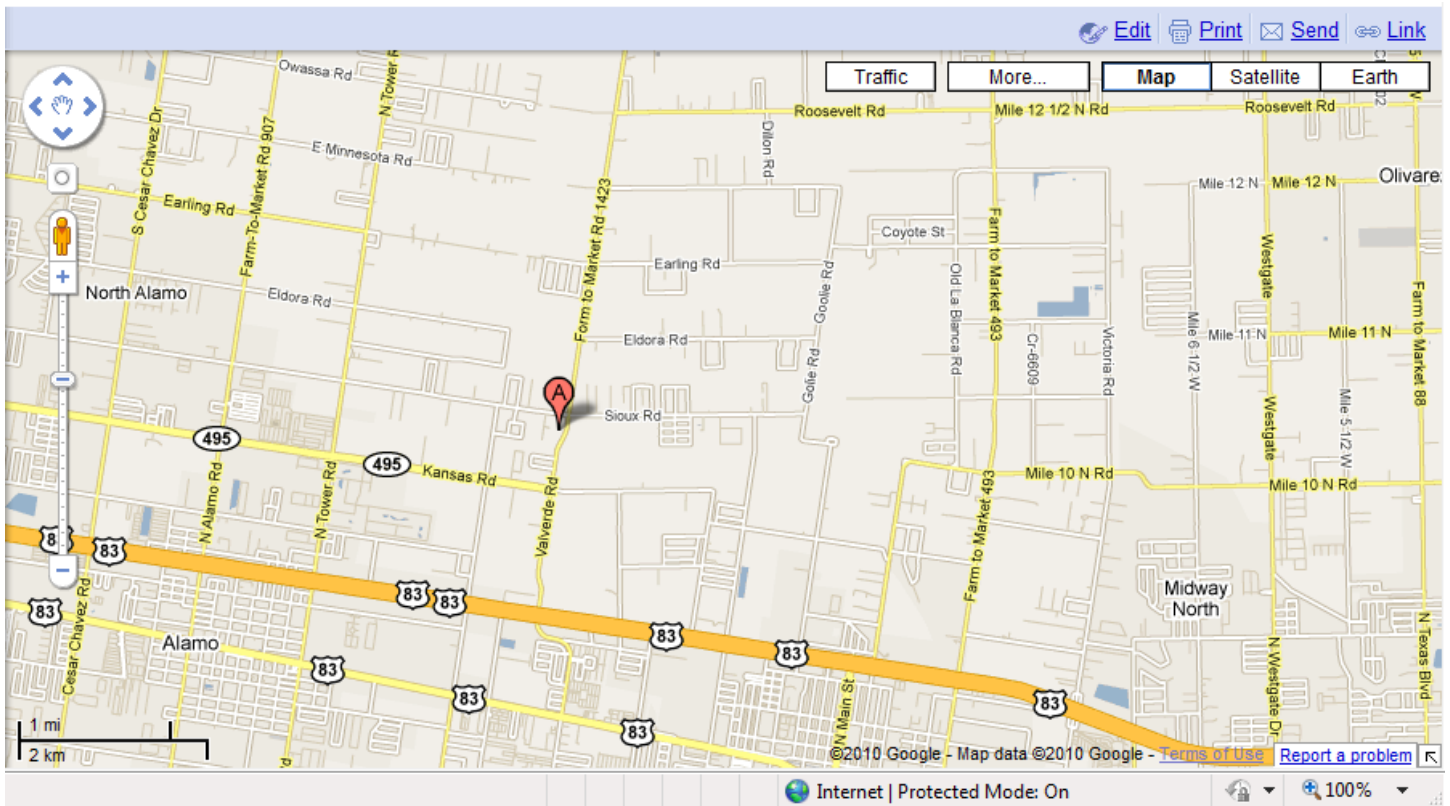


Vertically integrated liquid core, showing 79 kg/m^3 , indicating sufficient precipitation above the freezing level. Shortly after this image, several reports of quarter size hail were received by the NWS office in Brownsville.

Photos/Credits

The following pages include photographs taken on June 7th in the damage and flood areas of Donna and Alamo.

Thanks to Tony Peña, Emergency Coordinator for Hidalgo County, for the damage photos of the El Dora Colonia below. Thanks to Tim Smith, Chief Meteorologist, KRGV-TV-5, for the flood photos in the Donna/Alamo area.



Location of Wind Damage (Eldora Road and ValVerde Road, one block north of the balloon marked by the letter “A”.







