## Confirmed Tornado Devlin, Ontario July 14, 1994

Date-Local: Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1994

UTC: Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1994

Time-Local: 1445

**UTC:** 1945 ·

Location: SW of Devlin

**Region:** Fort Frances - Rainy Lake **Classification:** Confirmed Tornado

Category: G
Casualties: None

Track Length: 6000 m

Width: None available
Motion: None available
Damage Estimate: Non available

F-Scale Rating: F0

Code: TS

Damage Survey: None Spotter Reports: One

Other Documents:

1994 Manitoba Environmental Service Centre Summer Severe Weather Report by

Mark Geryland, documenting reported severe weather events for NW Ontario

Prairie database provided by Pat McCarthy also documenting the event

Map showing the approximate location of the tornado.

### **Tornado F-Scale Assessment**

Brad L. Rousseau Tornado Data Production Assistant, Environment Canada August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Classification: Confirmed Tornado Date: Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1994

Location: SW of Devlin, Fort Frances - Rainy Lake Region

Assessment: F0 F-Code: TS

**Explanation of Assessment:** Some minor tree damage, telephone poles bent over and minor roof damage. Watcher returned call - reported narrow path of damage (intermittent) - about 6 km long. Was closer to Devlin than earlier reported.

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# THE 1994 MANITOBA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE CENTRE

# SUMMER SEVERE WEATHER REPORT

by

Mark Gerlyand

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Intense thunderstorm activity, like all weather elements in their extremes, pose a threat to life and property. Each summer, a national watch and warning program is initiated to alert the public where and when intense thunderstorm activity is expected. The main purpose of this report is to review and evaluate the 1994 summer severe weather season in order to improve the effectiveness of the Manitoba Environmental Service Centre (MENSC) forecast program. Included in this report is a chronological listing of all watches and warnings issued and all confirmed severe weather events in 1994. (See Appendices 1 and 2)

#### 2. THE 1994 SUMMER SEVERE WEATHER PROGRAM

#### 22.1 Program Overview

The MENSC operated a severe weather desk from May to September 1994. Watches and warnings were issued for Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. In 1994 the Saskatchewan Environmental Service Centre (SENSC) took over the responsibilities for Saskatchewan. The program was on standby for the last half of April and through September and could be put into operation when required.

The Severe Weather Desk was staffed by a severe weather specialist daily, including weekends, between the hours of 1000 and 2040 CST. Mainly three individuals worked the desk this summer. On occasion, as dictated by weather conditions, staffing was extended into the evening/night. Due to shortage of staff no severe weather assistants were used during the summer.

Standard summer severe weather assessment techniques as developed by Miller (1972) were performed with 12Z surface and upper air data. Additional techniques developed since 1972 were also utilized. The forecaster would assess the potential for convection based on the synoptic conditions and issue prognostic charts indicating areas of severe convection valid for 12 hours later.

Due to operational requirements and poor performance during previous years the KASSPr system (Knowledge Augmented Severe Storms Predictor system) was not run at the MENSC as part of the 1994 Summer Severe Weather program.

Watches were issued on the basis of the potential for severe weather and/or actual development. Warnings were issued when severe weather was imminent or was occurring. When warnings were issued, the MENSC issued graphical warnings to weather offices of concern and a few selected radio stations. It was hoped that the graphical warning would be of more use in identifying the area effected by the thunderstorm.

#### Summer Severe Weather Events Log Confirmed Severe Thunderstorm Events

Pro	v. Date of Event	Time of Event (lcl)	Wtch out?	_		Comment
ON	06/14/94	1745	Y	N	13 km south of Nestor Falls.	Tornado/funnel cloud was not seen by Candy, but was reported to her and she in
-	, ,					turn passed on the information to us. Damage path was 800 meters wide concrete power towers were
e horas		•				<pre>damageds Anhydro poles in Neston Falls were snapped 20 mm in diameter hail</pre>
	,	:		•		occurred lasting about 10 minutes. Strong wind. 15 mm or rain.
ON	06/14/94	1915	Y )		16 km north of Ranier (just east of International Falls)	Funnel cloud was observed from the International Ealts Weather Office shortly after the tornado report was received. Both
			•			Matt Davis and Dean Packingham are meteorologists at International Falls.
ON	06/14/94	9999 Y	. N	-	lestor Falls and Caliper Lake.	Damage to cabin roofs, dock and power towersat Grawford/sResont at Nestor Falds area: Tornado was
		٠.		•	· .	spotted 4 km east of Caliper Lake which is 8 km south of Nestor Falls. Lots
	* · · *.	, '4	,			of trees are broken and twisted. Aircraft is damaged and trees are
			٠.			broken in a 800 meters by  16 km strip from Gohere Bay  on Lakerof the Woods to  Pipestone Laker The storm
				•	•	knocked down four of the 23 meters twins pole structures
N	06/14/94 9	999 N	N		km northwest of nora.	The time of the event was probably close to the time of the special report from the Kenora airport, ie. 2010Z. (1510 PM CDI). The
٠.						report reported moderate, showers and golf ball size hail

Prkestone Point penthsula (49 km) south of Kenora)

Report from OPP officers
about tornado causing
fairly extensive damage to
bush and some property in

#### Summer Severe Weather Events Log Confirmed Severe Thunderstorm Events

Prov	of Event	Time of Event (lcl)	Wtch Wr out? ou	=	Comment
:					Pikestone point peninsula.  No details on shape or path of tornado. Weather office recieved later a video showing tornado moving across the Lake of the Woods. Observer at the Kenora Airport reported funnel cloud at 1617 CDT.
ON	06/30/94	1620 1	N N	12-15 km southeas of Kenora.	t Observer actually did not see tornado. Very loud noise (like passing train) with thunderstom and lots of damage to property. Guest cottage blown into the take, 16 feet boat sevenly damaged, lots of trees down.
ON :	06/30/94	1700 N	! <b>N</b>	Kakagi Lake, Ont. (SSE of Kenora)	Possible tornado and a lot of damage in area. Downed trees and some building damage. A new cabin disappeared. Some hail was also reported.
ON	06/30/94	9999 N	<b>N</b> .	Mather Island, On. (30 km south Kenora)	Report of a possible tornado. Caller wasn't home at the time of the event but the cabin was moved 3-4, meters and damaged the deck Also many trees were destroyed in the vicinity.
) <b>N</b>	07/05/94	1650 Y	N	Fort Frances	Large marble size hail and very heavy rain.
ON.	07/11/94	1800 N	<b>N</b>	5 km south of Osnaburgh House (south of Pickle Lake)	Tornado was observed over the lake St. Joseph which later moved across a cemetery. The cemetery sustained significant damage. Some granite tombstones were blown over.

Lots of large trees broken.

Tornado was between 200 to
500 metres across. After
discussion with OPP officer
our conclussion that this
tornado could have been
between F2 to F3 intensity.

#### Summer Severe Weather Events Log Confirmed Severe Thunderstorm Events

Prov. Date

Time Wtch Wrng

of

of Event

(lcl)

out? out?

Event

Location

Comment

07/14/94 1445 N Less than 16 km south-southwest of Devlin.

Tornado touched the ground briefly - watcher saw debris but couldn't see it on the ground. Skinny funnel cloud. Brief funnel afterwards. Tornado should be cold core funnel type. Watcher returned call at 20:10 CDT - reported narrow path of damage

(intermittent) - about 6 km long. Some minor tree damage, telephone poles bent over and minor roof, damage: Was closer to Devlin than earlier reported. Trace of small hail, heavy rain for about 10-15 mins.

ON 07/30/94 1530 Y Kenora.

Heavy rain with near zero visibilities causing local flooding and 20 mm in diameter hail were reported.

07/30/94 1640 Y

Morson (southeast side of the Lake of

Golfball sized hail was reported.

the Woods).

08/27/94 1050 Y Devlin, Ontario.

· Reported dark layer of cloud. Marble sized hail, a few large marble (20 mm in diameter). Covered the ground. Wind southwest 20 to 40 km/h.

1.7 mm of rain.

08/27/94 1050 Y

International Falls, Minnesota. Weather report of hail as large as 1 inch (25 mm) in diameter.

Prov.	Date of Tornado	Time of Tornado	Watch in Effect?	Warning in Effect?	•	Comments
ON	06/14/94	1745	Υ	N	13 km south of Nestor Falls.	Tornado/funnel cloud was not seen by Candy, but was
			,	. •		reported to her and she in turn passed on the information to us. Damage path was 800 meters wide. Concrete power towers were
•			-	` .		damaged. 4 hydro poles in Nestor Falls were snapped. 20 mm in diameter hail
		•	,.		•	occurred Lasting about 10 minutes. Strong wind. 15 mm or rain.
ON		1915	Υ.,	Y	16 km north of Ranier (just east	Funnel cloud was observed from the International
		,	•		of International Falls)	Falls Weather Office shortly after the Tornado report was received. Both Matt Davis and Dean Packingham are
						meteorologists at International Falls.
ON		9999	Υ	N	Nestor Falls and Caliper Lake.	Damage to cabin roofs, dock and power towersat Crawford's Resort at Nestor Falls area. Tornado was spotted 4 km east of
			,			Caliper Lake which is 8 km south of Nestor Falls. Lots of trees are broken and twisted. Aircraft is
		•				broken and trees are damaged in a 800 meters by 16 km strip from Gohere Bay on Lake of the Woods
			٠٠			to Pipestone Lake. The storm knocked down four of the 23 meters twin-pole structures.
ON .	06/30/94	1604	N .		Pikestone point peninsula (19 km south of Kenora).	Report from OPP officers about tornado causing fairly extensive damage to bush and some property in
		•				Pikestone point peninsula. No details on shape or path of tornado. Weather

office recieved later a video showing tornado

moving across the lake of the Woods.

about 6 km long.

minor roof damage.
Was closer to Devlin
than earlier reported.
Trace of small hail, heavy
rain for about 10-15

bent over,

mins.

Some minor tree damage, damaged telephone poles

ON						
UN		1620	N	N .	12-15 km souther of Kenora.	see tornado. Very laud
						noise (like passing train)
	•				•	with thunderstom and lots
						of damage to property.
						Guest cottage blown into
						the lake, 16 feet boat
						severly damaged, lots of
					•	trees down.
ON	06/30/9	94 1700	N.	N	Kakagi Lake, Ont	
•	•				(SSE of Kenora)	
	•				(OSE OF REIDIA)	of damage in area. Downed
					'	trees and some building
					•	damage. Also new cabin
						disappeared. Will try and
		1			•	send us a few photos of the damage. Also reported
		•				some hail.
ON	•	9999	N	N	Mather Island, On	· · · ·
	•			•	(30 km south	tornado. Caller wasn't
				,	Kenora)	home at the time of the
						event but the cabin was
			•		,	moved 3-4 meters and
					`	damaged the deck. Also
						many trees were destroyed
	·					in the vicinity.
ON	07/11/94	1800	N .			
	017 11774	1000	N .	N	5 km south of	Tornado was observed over
			-		Osnaburgh House (south of Pickle	the lake St. Joseph which
					Lake)	later moved across a
					rake)	cemetery. The cemetery
					•	sustained significant
						damage. Some granit tombstones were blown
						over. Lots of large trees
	-		•			broken. Tornado were
						between 200 to 500 metres
						across.
ON	07/14/94	1445	N	N	less than 16 km	Tornado
				•	south-southwest of	cold core funnel type
			•		Devlin.	tornado.
						Touched ground briefly -
	*		•			watcher saw debris but
٠		•			·	couldn't see ground.
•				•		Skinny funnel cloud. Brief
	*				•	funnel afterwards.
•					,	Watcher returned call at
		•				20:10 cdt -
					_	reported narrow path of
		1				damage (intermittent) -

TABLE 3D

1994 TORNADOES RATED BY F-SCALE

	PRO	OVINCE	DATE	T	IME	LOCATION ST	RENGTH
	MAN	1	10/06/94	1620	CDT	1.5 km west of Neepawa	F0
	MAN	1	10/07/94	1750	CDT	10 km south of Binscarth	F2*
	MAN	1	10/07/94	1905	CDT	southeast of Birtle	F3
	MAN	1	10/07/94	1935	CDT	Strathclair	FO
	MAN	1 .	10/07/94	1940	CDT	southwest of Shoal Lake	FO
	MAN	1	15/07/94	1510	CDT	10 km northwest of Dauphin	n FO
	MAN	1	12/08/94	2200	CDT	Gardenton area	F1
	MAN	ī	27/08/94	0300	CDT	southwest of Kilarney	F2
	MAN	ī	27/08/94	0800	CDT	Piney	F1*
	NW	ONT	14/06/94	1745	CDT	13 km South of Nestor Fall	lsF1
	NW	ONT	14/06/94	1915	CDT	16 km North of Rainer (eas	t of
					, _	International Falls.	F0
	NW	ONT	30/06/94	1604	CDT	Pikestone Point peninsula	
						(Lake of the Woods)	F1
	NW	ONT	30/06/94	1700	CDT	Kakagi Lake	F1
	NW	ONT	11/07/94	1800	CDT	5 km south of Osnaburgh Ho	of the Control of
						(south of Pickle Lake)	F3'\
	WM	ONT	14/07/94	1445	CDT	16 km southwest of Devlin	F0
100	my acceptance						

(\* denotes likely intensity)

Prairie Dotabase.

1001 05	0.5	00.05	401 11 60 11:		_				
1994 05	05	22:05	,	AB	Tornado	53.37	-115.42	42.5	F0
1994 5	13	0:15	10 km NE of Saskatoon	SK	Tornado	52.19	-106.52	Н	Funnel cloud just N Saskatoon arcing out of F0
1994 6	5	19:50	15 km SE (4 km NE?) Saskato		Tornado	52.04	-106.37	Н	Observed by SENSC meteorologist and wat F0
1994 6	5	19:30		SK	Tornado	52.16	-106.56	Н	Tornado picked up water. Observed by SEN F0
1994 06	05	19:30		SK	Tornado	52.16	-106.56		F0
1994 6	6	0:15	And the second s	MB	Tornado	49.52	-100.95	L	Report to Winnipeg weather office: tore sidir X
1994 6	10	18:45		MB	Tornado	49.00	-97.91	M	Customs official reports funnel cloud lowere X
1994 6	10	21:20		MB	Tornado	50.23	-99.48	Н	Funnel cloud touched ground, moving S F0
1994 6	13	20:30	6 miles N and 3 miles W of Cut		Tornado	52.83	-109.13	M	Lasted 5-10 seconds. Could be same tornac F0
1994 6	13	20:30	7 km W of Delmas	SK	Tornado	52.93	-108.69	Н	Observed by SENSC meteorologist. Tornad F0
1994 6	13	20:45	The second secon	SK	Tornado	52.94	-108.54	Н	Video taken. This is likely the same tornadc F0
1994 6	14	23:15	10 N Ranier, MN (in Ontario)	ON	Tornado	48.73	-93.38	Н	Tornado on the ground, reported by US r F0
1994 6	14	21:45	Nestor Falls to Caliper Lake	ON	Tornado	49.05	-93.86	Н	Tornado spotted 8 km S and 4 km E Nest F0
1994 06	24	21:25	5 km S of Swift Current	SK	Tornado	50.24	-107.80		Touched down for 5 minutes. F0
1994 06	26	22:10	10 km E of Gibbons	AB	Tornado	53.88	-113.24		F0
1994 6	29	23:30	Between Mortlach & Caron	SK	Tornado	50.46	-105.98	L	Tornado causing damage to farms & house: F1
1994 6	29	21:47	Ernfold	SK	Tornado	50.47	-106.88	Н	Tornado down for 5 min causing damage at F1
1994 6	29	23:07	SW of Caronport	SK	Tornado	50.43	-105.92	Н	Tornado & 2 funnels in Saskatchewan Envir F0
1994 06	29	21:40	Sovereign (16 km SE of Roset	SK	Tornado	51.52	-107.72		F0
1994 6	30	0:00	10 km W of Avonlea	SK	Tornado	50.02	-105.17	L	Another report received of a funnel cloud NVF0
1994 6	30	0:12	24 km SE of Moose Jaw (Brien	SK	Tornado	50.18	-105.31	H.	In Saskatchewan Environmental Services C F0
1994 06	30	0:40		AB	Tornado	49.78	-112.13		F0
1994 6	30	3:30	Grand Coulee	SK	Tornado	50.43	-104.85	L	Second-hand report of tornado between 21: F0
1994 6	30	0:30	SE of Caronport	SK	Tornado	50.42	-105.83	M	Tornado reported second hand by radio stat F0
1994 7	1	2:00	•	SK	Tornado	50.80	-103.52	Н	Newspaper reports that family watched funn F0
1994 7	1	0:00		SK	Tornado	50.02	-105.17		Tornado down for 19 min F0
1994 7	1	0:12	24 km SE of Moose Jaw	SK	Tornado	50.40	-105.21		F0
1994 7	10	23:13		SK	Tornado	50.49	-104.30	L	Identification based on damage and visual a F1
1994 7	10	22:50	10 km S, 1 km W Binscarth (Fo	MB	Tornado	50.52	-101.24	Н	Tornado touched down and destroyed some F1
1994 7	10	21:15	,	SK	Tornado	50.63	-102.10	M	Seems to have been witnessed by farmer. TF0
1994 07	10		Francisco Company (Company Company Com	MB	Tornado	50.40	-100.39		F0
1994 07	10			MB	Tornado	50.43	-100.58		F0
1994 7	11	0:40		MB	Tornado	50.43	-100.58	L	Near Shoal Lake, up and down for 45 minutix
1994 7	11	0:05		MB	Tornado	50.38	-100.94	H	Two farms take a direct hit. 1st farm torn pa F4
1994 7	11	0:17		MB	Tornado	50.40	-100.39	H	Tornado observed by climate observer at St F0
1994 7	14	18:45		ON	Tornado	48.47	-93.75	Н	Skinny funnel, cold core type, debris see F0
1994 7	15	20:10		MB	Tornado	51.20	-100.16	Н	Various reports. Duration 1 min, 2-3 min, 3-; F0
100-7	10	20.10	- Mil 14 and 5 Mil VV Daupilli	טועו	Torriado	01.20	-100.10	11	various reports. Duration 1 min, 2-3 min, 3-7FU

	•							. '						
-				• •										
	1994	7	19	-	4 miles S and 2 miles W Haze	SK	Tornado	51.94	-103.04	L	From Sa	askatoon WO daily	log. Quoting si	tor F0
	1994		13	3:00	Gardenton	MB	Tornado	49.08	-96.69	H		loes moved throug		
	1994		17	22:20	NW of Gull Lake	SK	Tornado	50.10	-108.48	Ν	In Saska	atchewan Environn	nental Services	CF0
	1994		18	1:00	NE part of Edmonton	AΒ	Tornado	53.55	-113.47		;			. F0
	1994		18	21:30	1.5 km W Rossman Lake	MB	Tornado	50.74	-100.69	H	· started 1	1.5 km W Rossma	n Lake (NW YE	3R] F0
	1994		27	7:00	Boissevain	MB	Tornado	49.16	-100.03	L	10 km E	: Highway 10, 10 ki	m N US border	, b X
	1994		27		SW of Killarney	MB	Tornado	49.18	-99.66	•		al tornado caused		
	1994		27	13:00	Piney	MB	Tornado	49.08	-95.98	Н	A small	ánd a large tornad	o sighted, large	tr F1
	1994		29	20:20	3-5 miles N of Beaverlodge	ΑB	Tornado	55.26	-119.44					F0 .
	1994		29	23:20	10 km E of Fort McLeod	AB	Tornado	49.72	-113.28		•			F0
	1994	09	10	0:00	Trochu	AB	Tornado	51.83	-113.22					F0
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