
**Confirmed Tornado
Gravenhurst, Ontario
August 20, 2009**

Date- Local: Thursday, August 20th, 2009

UTC: Thursday, August 20th, 2009

Time- Local: 1830

UTC: 2230

Location: Gravenhurst

Region: Bracebridge - Gravenhurst

Classification: Confirmed Tornado

Category: A

Casualties: None

Track Length: 15000 m

Width: 900 m

Motion: 211 degrees

Damage Estimate: None available

F-Scale Rating: F1

Code: AH

Damage Survey: Yes done by Arnold Ashton

Spotter Reports: None

Other Documents:

Storm damage survey detailing damage

E-mail from witness detailing time of event and damage

Map showing path, and another showing convergent tree damage pattern

Arnold Ashton's waypoint notes

Tornado F-Scale Assessment

Brad L. Rousseau

Tornado Data Production Assistant, Environment Canada

February 23rd, 2010

Classification: Confirmed Tornado

Date: Thursday, August 20th, 2009

Location: Gravenhurst, Bracebridge – Gravenhurst Region

Assessment: F1

F-Code: AH

Explanation of Assessment: The damage path was 14.3 km long and was primarily numerous downed trees. The most notable damage was extensive trees down (a few hundred) within the town of Gravenhurst itself, with sporadic house damage mainly due to fallen trees. There was indication of strong convergence (trees downed facing south on the northern half of damage swath, and facing north within southern half of damage area).

OSPC Storm Damage Survey Report

Investigators	<i>#1 Arn Ashton</i>	
Location / Region	<i>Gravenhurst</i>	<i>Bracebridge - Gravenhurst</i>
Event Date Local and UTC (YYMMDD)	<i>090820</i>	<i>090820</i>
Event Time Local and UTC	<i>18:30 EDT</i>	<i>22:30 UTC</i>
Severe Weather Event Type	<i>Tornado</i>	
Classification	<i>Confirmed</i>	
Classification Code	<i>A</i>	
F-scale Value	<i>F1</i>	
F-scale Code	<i>AH</i>	
Start Lat and Long	<i>44.8405</i>	<i>-79.4170</i>
End Lat and Long	<i>44.9502</i>	<i>-79.3235</i>
Path Length (m)	<i>15000</i>	
Motion (degrees)	<i>211</i>	
Max. Path Width (m)	<i>900</i>	
Avg. Path Width (m)	<i>100</i>	
Human Injuries / Fatalities	<i>None</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Animal Injuries / Fatalities	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Damage (\$K) / Source		
	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Damage Description

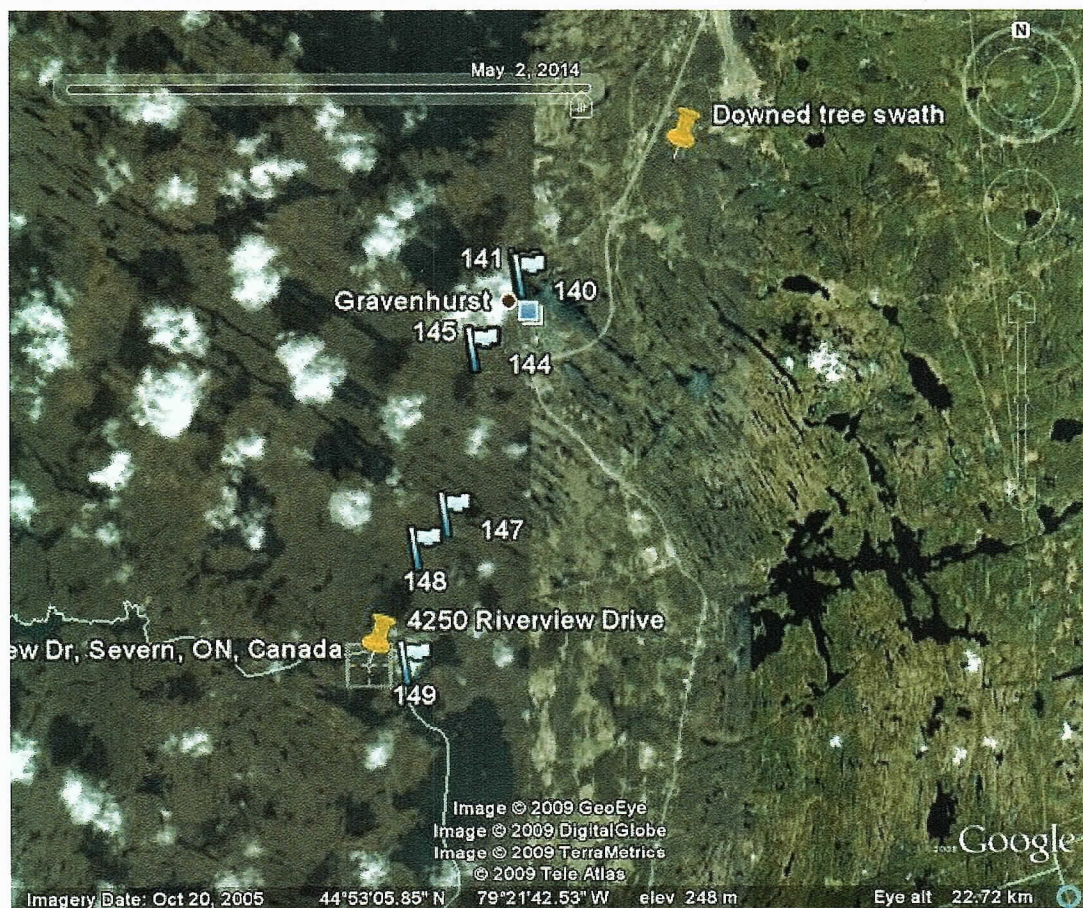
Damage caused by the F0 tornado extended from southwest of Gravenhurst to near (just southwest of) the Muskoka airport. The damage path was 14.3 km long and was primarily numerous downed trees. The most notable damage was extensive trees down (a few hundred) within the town of Gravenhurst itself, with sporadic house damage mainly due to fallen trees. Also, the damage path was wide in Gravenhurst, in the order of 900 metres at its maximum. It initially seemed like downburst damage due to the damage width. However, on close inspection there was indication of strong convergence (trees downed facing south on the northern half of damage swath, and facing north within southern half of damage area). It was rated F0 based on majority of trees being shallow-rooted white pines. Correction made to F-scale rating: upgraded to F1

Other Notes

Several witnesses saw tornado, with description of a **resounding loud roar for a short timeframe (under a minute) along with swirling and sightings of the cone/funnel shape. Path length later extended to include downed trees sighted by pilot Peter Elmhirst**

Images and Captions

include storm photos, damage photos, maps, etc. below



Map of Gravenhurst F0 Tornado Damage Track. Length = 14.3 km.



Facing NE - Numerous white pines fallen to the southeast in Gull Lake Park in Gravenhurst



Probably facing S - Several white pines down on 4250 Riverview Drive (initial touchdown)



Facing E - damage to a house in Gravenhurst (not caused directly by falling tree damage)



Facing E - swath of tree damage in golf course just west of Gravenhurst



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Gravenhurst:

My notes say WP139 (that can't be right!).....N end of damage in Gravenhurst in park (near 3rd and Brock)

A fellow driving in area apparently was lifted in his truck during the event (2nd hand report).

WP140 - in same area as above - quite a few large white pine/some birch fallen (2 pics)

WP141 - SE extent of damage in town (near lake) ...near Pinedal Rd and Fairview

WP143 - Muskoka Bayclub Golf Course - swath of damage/snapped off trees...

WP 144 and/or WP 145 - couple trees down.....more trees down at WP 146

WP 147 end of Shell Rd.....several trees down

WP 148 some trees down (Southward Rd)

WP149 possible starting point....end of Kilworthy Rd

Hello,

I was speaking with Jeronim on Friday regarding a tornado that passed through Gravenhurst Ontario last Thursday, August 20th, 2009. The specific location that it was sighted at was the Muskoka Bay Club, located at 160 Carrick Trail in Gravenhurst (this golf club is owned by the company I work for - Freed Developments). The tornado was first seen at approximately 7:30pm. The funnel formed right in front of the club house by the parking lot. It traveled across the 18th hole around the clubhouse towards and then headed north east across the first hole. On our property it damaged approximately 4 to 5 km of the course. You can actually see the path that it took. It took out several hundred trees destroyed the patio and pools, fencing, glass and the statue out front. Furniture was found more than 1 km away after the storm. Some golf carts were missing, and some were completely demolished. There are several people who witnessed the tornado in close proximity. Please see the pictures attached –let me know if you would like to see more of the photographs taken. There will be another email of attachments to follow.

I hope that this is helpful - Please let me know if you have any questions, or if we can provide any further information.

Thank you,

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