

## Lab 9: Tornadoes

### **Background:**

For this lab, you will determine the strength of different categories of tornadoes using the Enhanced Fujitua (EF) scale.

Use this site:

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/efscale/ef-scale.html>

**Read the lab manual (pages 57-58) to learn how to assess the damage of a tornado.**

### Case Study

**You will be assessing 2 tornadoes!!!** (The lab manual only says to do one; this is incorrect!)

For each tornado, there are 3 pictures of the damage done. For each picture, you will fill out a “Tornado assessment.” You will do each case study individually **using the Tornado Assessment forms handed out to you** (You can ‘X’ out pages 60-62). Answer in the provided hand-out instead.

### **Question 1:**

There is no page 8. **It’s a typo.**

Simply fill out the Tornado Assessment for each of the 2 tornadoes (3 pictures each to assess) in the forms provided.

Using the website above, write the damage indicator(s), degree of damage, and expected wind speed in the space provided.

Next, write down the assessed wind speed and EF rating for each assessment based on the information you have found.

The 3 sets of images for each of the 2 tornadoes are provided in the following pages.

**Tornado 1:**





**Tornado 2:**







**After you complete the individual assessment, form a group of 2-3 people. Return to page 59.**

**Question 2:**

“Your EF Rating” refers to what you put as your rating, while the groups’ consensus rating is what you agree on as a group. Do this for each picture. Be sure to draw a dividing line in the table to differentiate between Tornado 1 and Tornado 2.

The text under the “Location #” column should look like this:

- Tornado 1 Location 1
- Tornado 1 Location 2
- Tornado 1 Location 3
  
- Tornado 2 Location 1
- Tornado 2 Location 2
- Tornado 2 Location 3

**Questions 3 and 4:**

Based on all of the photos for each tornado, what does your group think the overall EF rating is? Overall wind speed? Do this for each tornado (just draw a slash in the blank space to differentiate between tornado 1 and 2.

**Answer Questions 6-8 individually.**