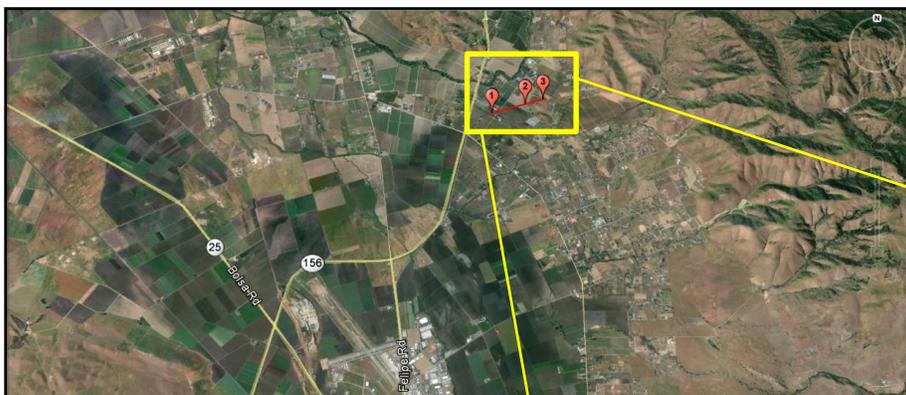




National Weather Service
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January 6, 2016 EF-0 Hollister Tornado

At 8:50 AM PST on the morning of January 6, 2016, a weak tornado touched down in a field between Highway 156 and Orchard Road approximately 7 miles north of Hollister, CA in San Benito County. Results from a damage survey conducted by the National Weather Service later that day showed the damage to be consistent with a tornado of EF-0 intensity (maximum wind speeds of 75 MPH). The tornado lasted just a minute or two and caused spotty damage along a ¾-mile length path 10-20 yards in width that crossed Orchard Road as it moved to the north-northeast. Two large barns/sheds were moderately-to-significantly damaged along with a fence and some trees.



Rating	EF-0 (estimated 75 MPH)
Begin	8:50 AM PST 36.9373°, -121.3821°
End	8:51 AM PST 36.9402°, -121.3705°
Path Length	0.75 miles (intermittent)
Path Width	10 to 20 yards



Description of points on path map:

1. **Damage to shed:** A large shed sustained significant damage with its roof blown off into a nearby tree. Additional roofing material was blown approximately 150 feet to the right of the shed with small tree limbs also scattered around the property.





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- 2. Large sheet metal debris:** Several large pieces of sheet metal were scattered near the intersection of two private roads along the tornado's path, one wrapped around a steel fence post. Tree limbs were also observed hanging on power lines in an empty field.



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3. **Damage to large barn:** A large barn sustained significant damage with its roof blown off of the structure. Metal and wood roofing material were scattered up to 250 feet away into a nearby vineyard. Fence damage also occurred on the property.



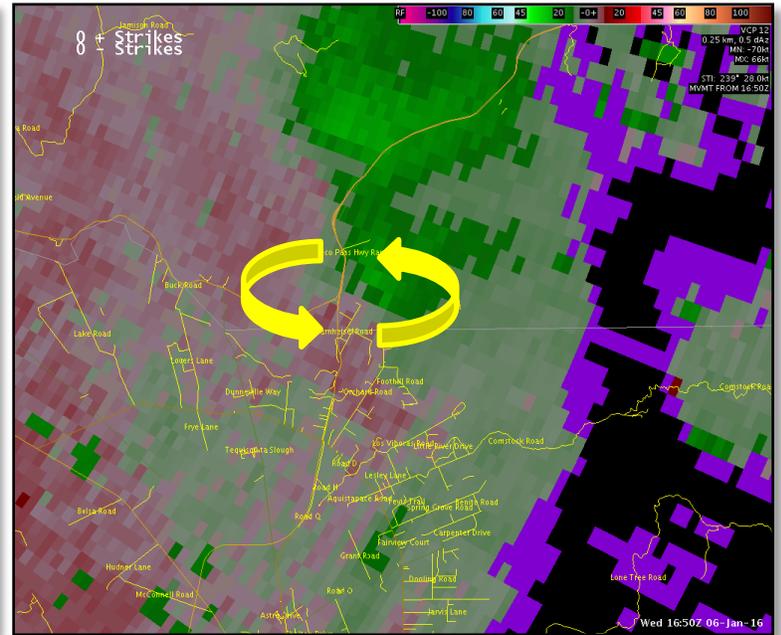
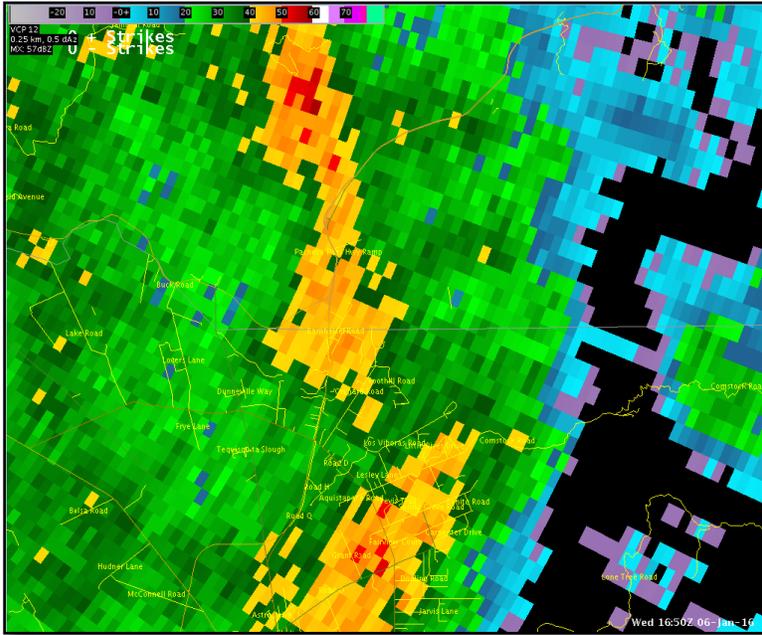


NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
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The above images show KMUX radar data from 8:50 AM PST January 6, 2016, the approximate time of the tornado. The left image shows base (lowest scan level) reflectivity and the right image base storm relative motion. In the latter, mesoscale cyclonic rotation can be seen just north of where the tornado touched down. But it is important to note that even the lowest-elevation KMUX scans are centered more than 5000 feet above ground level at this location. Circulations aloft like this are not uncommon in association with lines of convection, but only a small percentage are associated with tornadoes. Especially with brief and weak non-supercell tornadoes such as in the present case, radar beam elevation can severely limit detection capabilities.