

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Sunday, September 29, 2024

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

- Tropical Cyclone Helene – Southeast

Hazard Monitoring

- Excessive Rainfall/Flash Flooding – Southeast
- Critical Fire Weather – Northern Plains
- Tropical Activity:
 - Atlantic:
 - Hurricane Isaac (CAT 1)
 - Tropical Storm Joyce
 - Disturbance 1: High (80%)
 - Disturbance 2: Medium (50%)
 - Disturbance 3: Low (20%)
 - Eastern Pacific:
 - Disturbance 1: Medium (40%)

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Approval: Major Disaster Declaration – FL
- Approval: Major Disaster Declaration – NC
- Request: Expedited Major Disaster Declaration – SC
- Amendment No. 1 to FEMA-3620-EM-TN

Event Monitoring

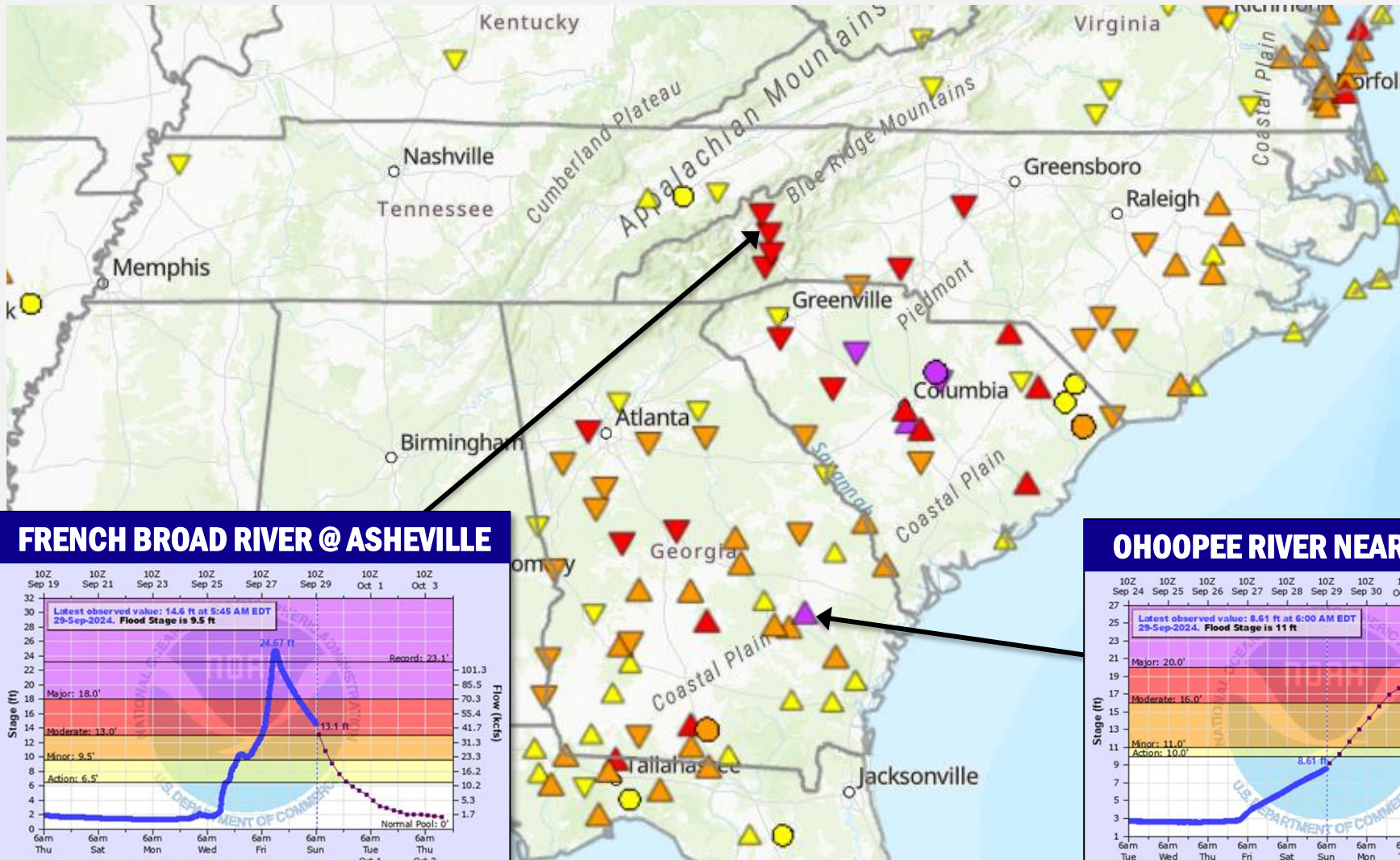
- No new significant events



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Post-Helene River Flooding

RFC MAX STAGE FORECAST (TREND)

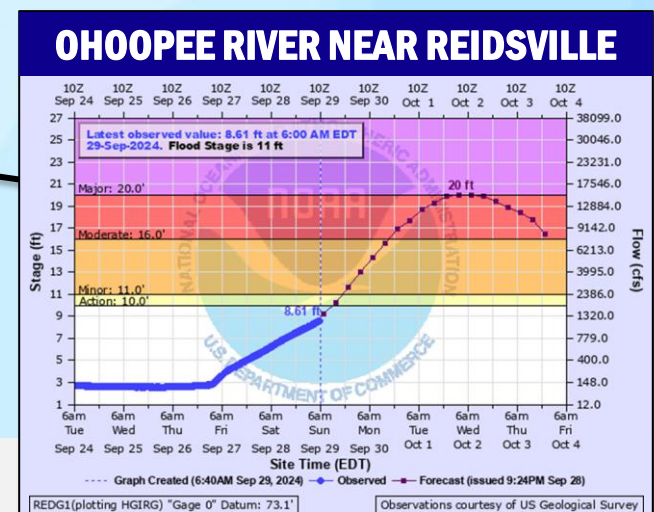
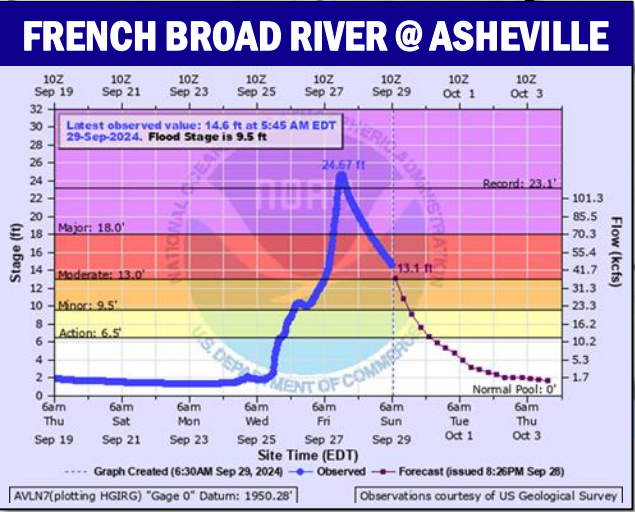


RFC Maximum Stage

- Major
- Moderate
- Minor
- Action
- Record

Forecast Trend

- Increasing
- Constant
- Decreasing



Tropical Cyclone Helene – Southeast



Situation: Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue. Evacuations are being lifted and power restoration efforts continue. At least 46 fatalities have been confirmed across the impacted area. Shelter demand continues to increase in Georgia and North Carolina.

Lifelines: (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Sep 28)

Safety & Security:

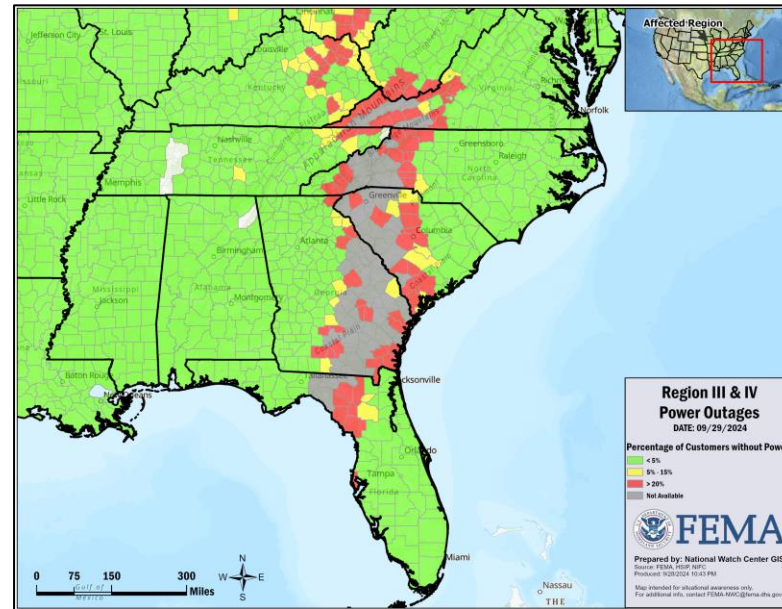
- FL: 9 (-11) counties with mandatory evacuations / 1 (-6) counties with voluntary evacuations
- GA: Mandatory evacuations in Camden Co. on Cumberland Island National Seashore
- NC: 4 counties with mandatory evacuations / 7 counties with voluntary evacuations

Food, Hydration, Shelter: (ARC Midnight Shelter Report, as of 7:50 a.m. ET, Sep 29)

- Region IV: 73 (-14) shelters / 2,033 (+133) occupants
 - FL: 27 (-16) shelters / 743 (-649) occupants
 - GA: 8 (-4) shelters / 234 (+106) occupants
 - NC: 25 (+4) shelters / 923 (+598) occupants
 - SC: 5 shelters / 33 occupants
 - TN: 8 shelters / 100 occupants

Health & Medical:

- FL:
 - 2 Health and Medical Task Forces (HMFTs) and 1 Healthcare System Assessment Teams (HCSATs) have been released
 - 54 healthcare facilities without power; 7 facilities damaged; reentry evaluations have begun
 - 1 confirmed fatality (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Sep 28)
- GA:
 - Public Health Emergency (PHE) declared by the Secretary of HHS
 - 18 medical facilities on generator power & 4 (+2) facilities without water; local and state resources addressing the concern
 - 17 (+6) confirmed fatalities
- NC:
 - 2 HMFTs enroute to Charlotte, NC for staging
 - 7 confirmed fatalities (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Sep 28)
- SC:
 - 6 hospitals are on generator power (SCEMD, as of 12:30 p.m. ET)
 - 21 confirmed fatalities (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Sep 28)



Energy: (DOE Eagle-I, as of 7:00 a.m. ET, Sep 29)

- Region IV: 2.5M (-800k) (8%) total customers without power
 - FL: 240k (-246k) (2%) customers without power
 - GA: 673k (-152k) (14%) customers without power
 - NC: 546k (-178k) (14%) customers without power
 - SC: 940k (-170k) (33%) customers without power
 - KY: 55k (-85k) (2%) customers without power
- FL: Fuel delivery is complicated by the closure of Port of Tampa. Port Everglades is a potential alternate supply point (ESF-12, as of 12:30 p.m. ET)

Water Systems:

- FL: 44 (+39) counties reported boil water notices / 23 (+20) wastewater systems are non-operational
- GA: 2 active boil water notices
- NC: 1 active boil water notice / Henderson Wastewater Treatment Facility closed due to flooding
- SC: 1 active boil water advisory
- TN: 5 potable water infrastructures non-operational / 2 wastewater systems non-operational

Communications:

- GA: 1,293 (+388) out of 13,083 cellular sites are down; 89.9% operational in the impacted area
 - Industry partners are working with Georgia EM to restore cell service in South Georgia (GEMA, as of 12:30 p.m. ET)
- NC: 26.69% cellular systems are operational in the impacted area
 - 17 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) are down; emergency calls are being routed to other PSAPs (NCEM, as of 12:30 p.m. ET)
- SC: 81.7% cellular systems are operational in the impacted area

Transportation:

- AL: Port of Mobile at Port Condition X-RAY
- FL:
 - Port of St. Petersburg, Seaport Manatee, and Port of Port St. Joe remained closed
 - Port Tampa Bay is now open with restrictions due to debris blockage
 - FDOT reported multiple bridges, and more than 100 state route roadways are closed; 3 of the 4 major bridges connecting Hillsborough (Tampa) and Pinellas (St. Pete) counties are open
 - All railways have reopened
- GA:
 - All ports are Condition NORMAL
 - All major airports are open but reporting delays and cancellations
 - Multiple roadways and interstate exit closures due to flooding and debris
- NC:
 - 418 roads closed across 43 counties
 - All major airports remain operational
- SC: All major corridors are open but extensive blockage exists to many other roads due to fallen trees and debris
- TN: Multiple local road closures due to debris, flooding, and/or downed power lines



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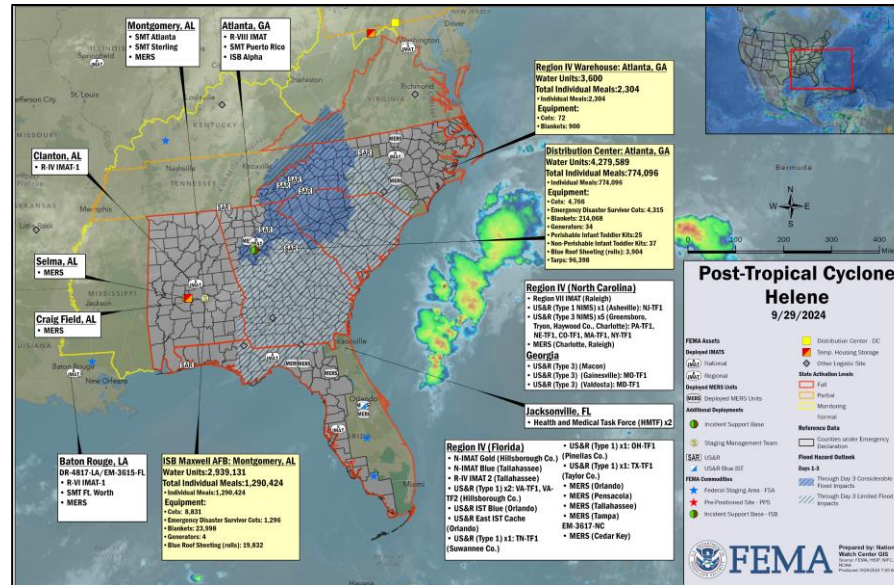
Tropical Cyclone Helene – Southeast



Situation: Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue. Evacuations are being lifted and power restoration efforts continue

State / Tribal Response:

- AL: SEOC at Monitoring (TC Helene)
 - Poarch Band of Creek Indians is monitoring; no reported requests for assistance
 - FEMA-3618-EM-AL approved on Sep 26
- FL: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared State of Emergency for 41 counties; FEMA-3615-EM-FL approved; [FEMA-4828-DR-FL approved on Sep 28](#)
 - Seminole Tribe demobilized; Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida completed assessment minimal damage; no reported request for assistance
- GA: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-3616-EM-GA approved; NC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-3617-EM-NC approved; [requested an Expedited Major Disaster Declaration](#)
- NC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - FEMA-3617-EM-NC approved, 9/26
 - [FEMA-4827-DR-NC approved on Sep 28](#)
 - Governor declared a State of Emergency
- SC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Governor declared a State of Emergency; [expedited Major Disaster Declaration requested on Sep 28](#)
 - Catawba Indian Nation reservation remains without power; tribal police are patrolling main roads
- TN: SEOC at [Monitoring](#) (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-3620-EM-TN approved on Sep 27



The NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with Region IV, with continued reporting twice daily in the FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m./3:00 a.m. ET) and the FEMA Daily Operations Briefing (8:30 a.m. ET).

FEMA / Federal Response:

- FEMA RIV:
 - RWC is Monitoring; RRCC activated to Level II with all ESFs
 - Region IV IMAT-1 deployed to AL SEOC
 - HQ: NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I
- IMAT:**
- N-IMAT Blue deployed to FL SEOC
 - N-IMAT Gold deployed to Tampa, FL
 - [FEMA Region III IMAT deploying to Raleigh, NC \(ETA 9/29\)](#)
 - [FEMA Region V IMAT deploying to West Columbia, SC \(ETA 9/29\)](#)
 - FEMA Region VII IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
 - FEMA Region VIII IMAT deployed to Atlanta, GA
 - [FEMA Region X IMAT deploying to Nashville, TN \(ETA 9/29\)](#)
- Logistics:**
- SMT Atlanta and SMT Sterling deployed to Montgomery, AL; SMT Puerto Rico deployed to Atlanta, GA
 - [ISB Team Bravo deploying to Montgomery, AL \(ETA 9/29\)](#)
- US&R:**
- 21 US&R Task Forces deployed (7xType 1, 13xType 3; 1xMRP-W)
 - Incident Support Team (IST) Blue deployed to FL
- MERS:**
- MERS assets deployed to FL, AL, GA, and NC
 - Additional MERS teams on standby



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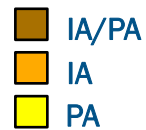
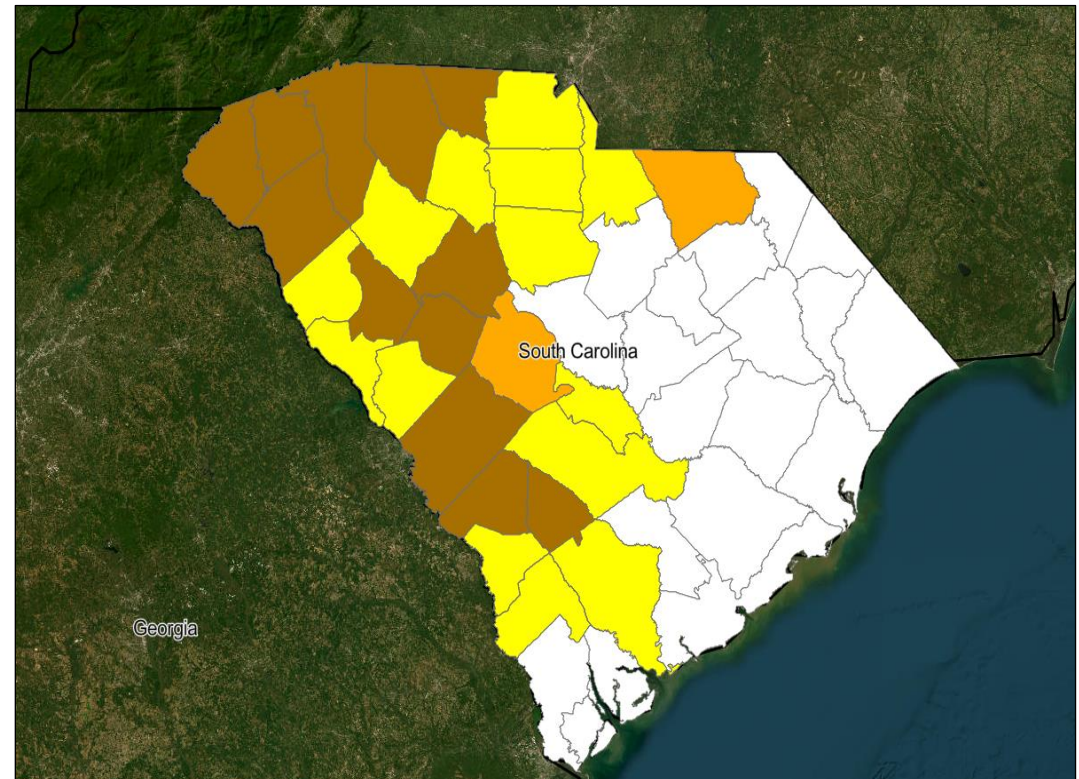
Declaration Request – South Carolina

Declaration Type: Expedited Major Disaster Declaration – South Carolina
Requested: Sep 28

Incident: Hurricane Helene
Incident Period: Sep 25, & ongoing

Requested:

- **IA/PA:** 12 counties
- **IA:** 2 counties
- **PA:** 14 counties
- **HM:** Statewide



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Declaration Approval – North Carolina

Declaration Type: Expedited Major Disaster Declaration – FEMA-4827-DR-NC

Date Requested: Sep 27

Date Approved: Sep 28

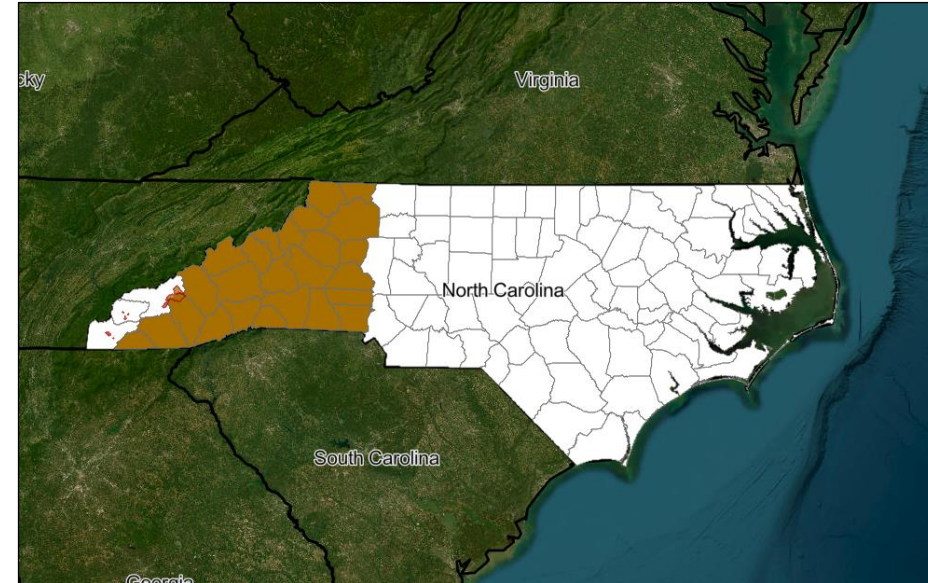
Incident: Tropical Storm Helene

Incident Period: Sep 25, and continuing

Provides:

- **IA/PA:** 25 counties and Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- **HM:** Statewide

FCO: Thomas J. McCool



■ IA/PA



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Declaration Approval – Florida

Declaration Type: Expedited Major Disaster Declaration – FEMA-4828-DR-FL

Date Requested: Sep 28

Date Approved: Sep 28

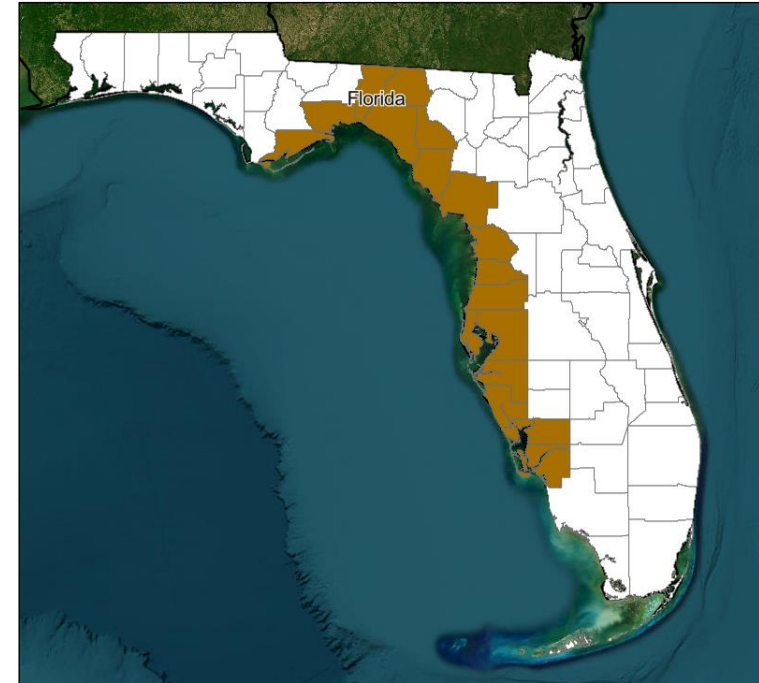
Incident: Hurricane Helene

Incident Period: Sep 23, and continuing

Provides:

- **IA/PA:** 17 counties
- **HM:** Statewide

FCO: John E. Brogan



■ IA/PA



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Declaration Requests in Process – 13

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
OH – Train Derailment	DR	X	X	X	Jul 3, 2023
NY – Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	EM		X		Jul 20
SCA* – Watch Fire	DR	X	X	X	Aug 16
NE – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Aug 29
MI – Severe Storm and Tornadoes (APPEAL)	DR	X		X	Sep 11
CRST** – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Sep 12
USVI – Tropical Storm Ernesto	DR		X	X	Sep 13
SC – Tropical Storm Debby	DR	X	X	X	Sep 16
NY – Severe Storms, Straight -Line Winds and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Sep 18
AK – Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Sep 19
HT*** – Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Sep 20
CA – Park Fire and Borel Fire	DR	X		X	Sep 24
SC – Hurricane Helene	DR	X	X	X	Sep 28
NC – Tropical Storm Helene – APPROVED	DR	X	X	X	Sep 27
FL – Hurricane Helene – APPROVED	DR	X	X	X	Sep 28

* San Carlos Apache Tribe, ** Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, ***Havasupai Tribe



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Declaration Amendments

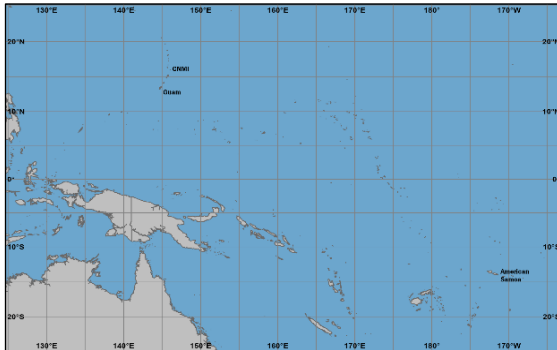
Declaration	Number	Issued	Action
FEMA-3620-EM-TN	1	Sep 28	Adds 3 counties for Public Assistance



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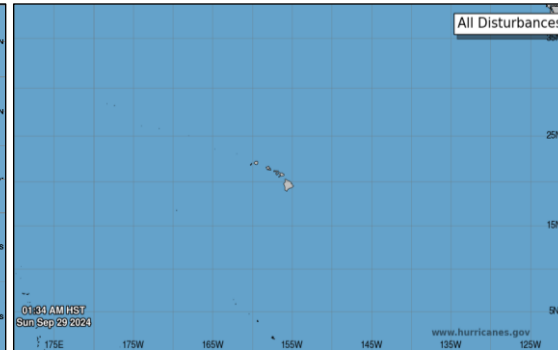
Tropical Outlook

Western Pacific



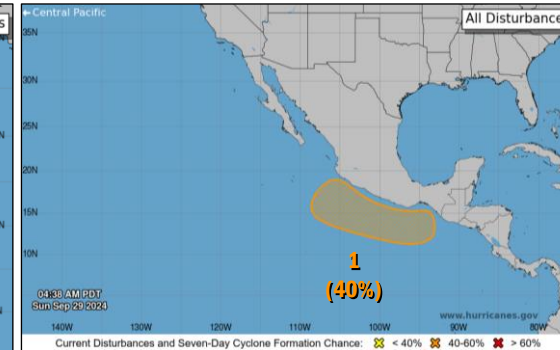
- No areas of concern for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or American Samoa

Central Pacific



- No tropical cyclones are expected in the next seven days.

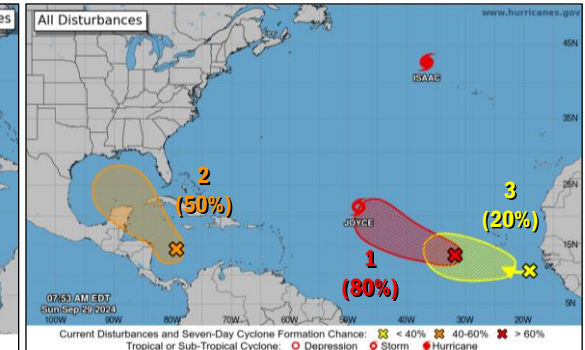
Eastern Pacific



Disturbance 1: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located off the coast of southern Mexico
- Tropical depression could form by the middle of the week
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Med (40%)

Atlantic



Hurricane Isaac (CAT 1): (Advisory #14, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Expected to weaken in the central N Atlantic

Tropical Storm Joyce: (Advisory #8, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Expected to weaken in the central Atlantic

Disturbance 1: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located to the WSW of Cabo Verde Islands
- Tropical depression likely to form early next week
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Med (60%); 7-day – High (80%)

Disturbance 2: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located over the Western Caribbean Sea
- Tropical depression could form by the middle of next week in the Gulf of Mexico
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Med (50%)

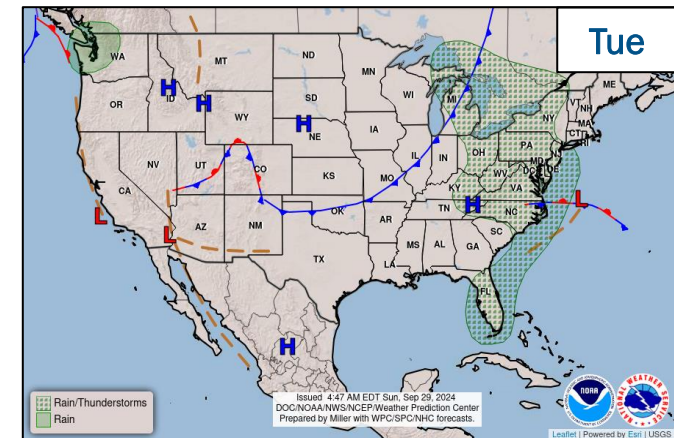
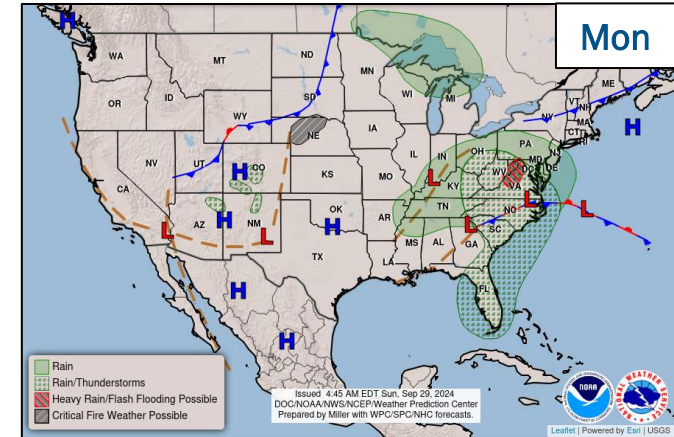
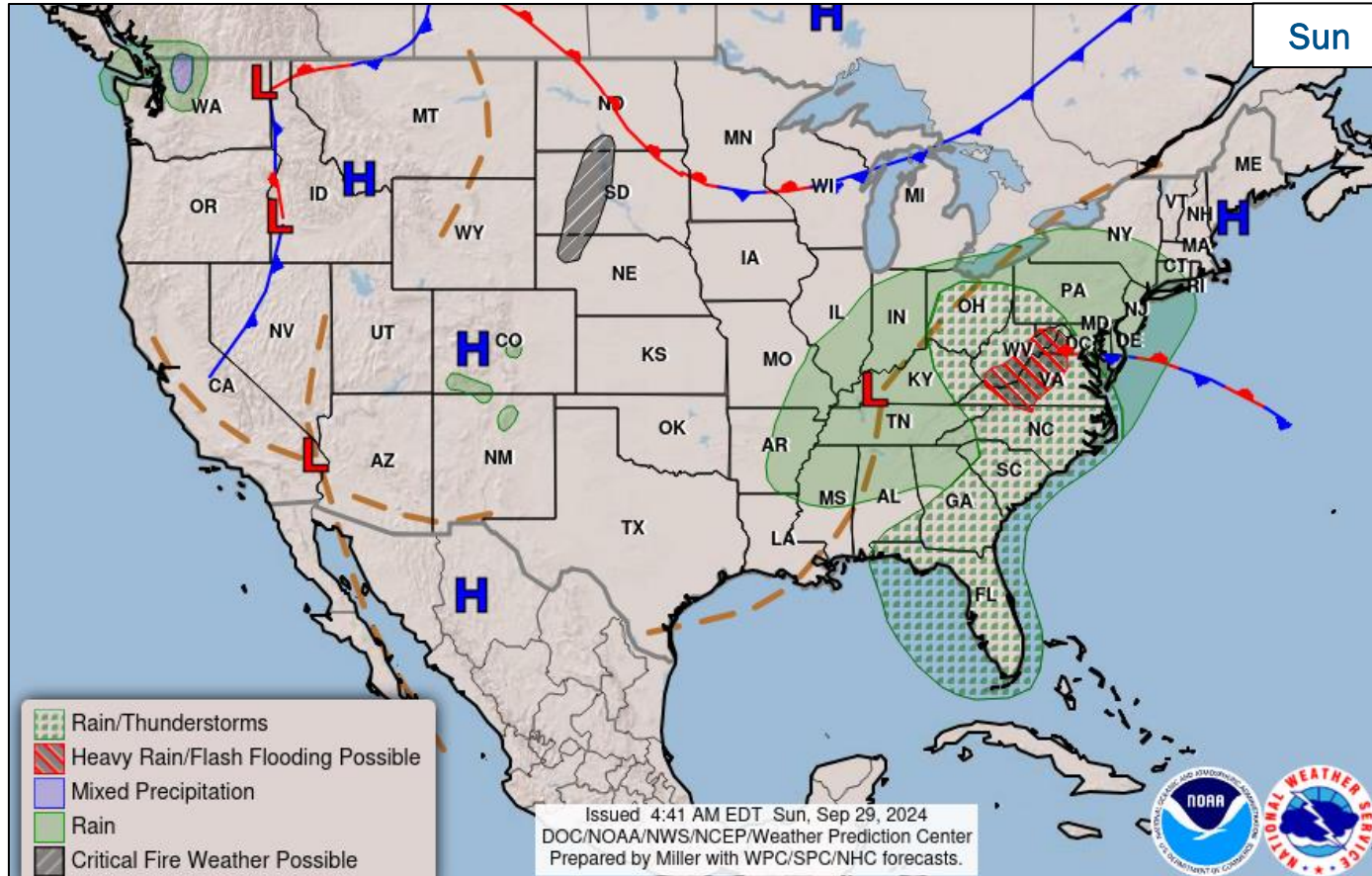
Disturbance 3: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located near the coast of W Africa
- Gradual development is possible over the next few days
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Low (20%)



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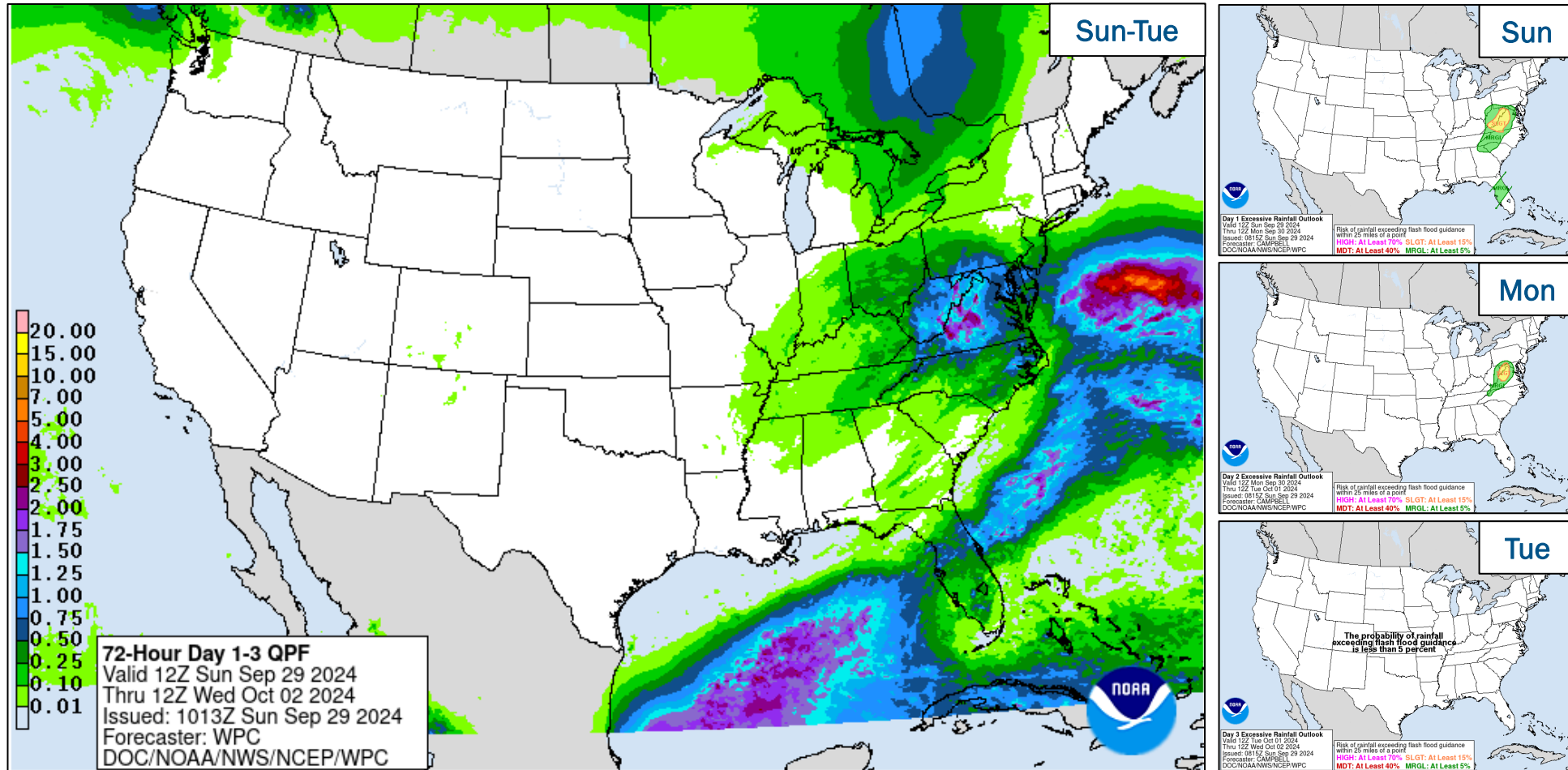
National Weather Forecast



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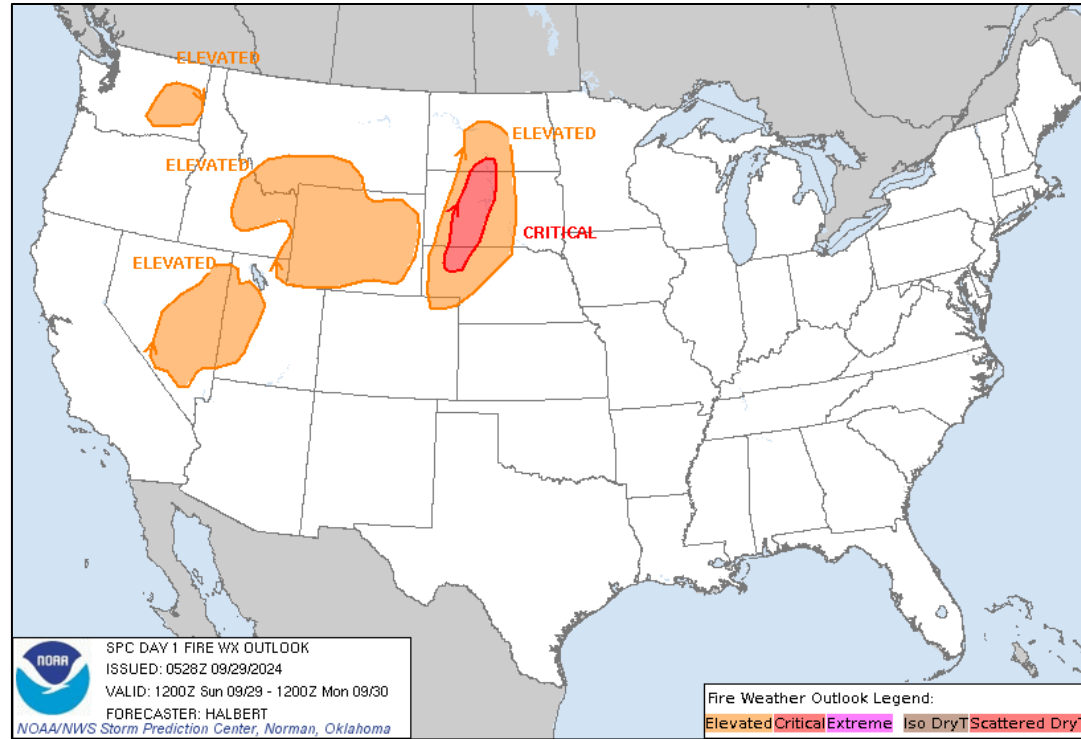
Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



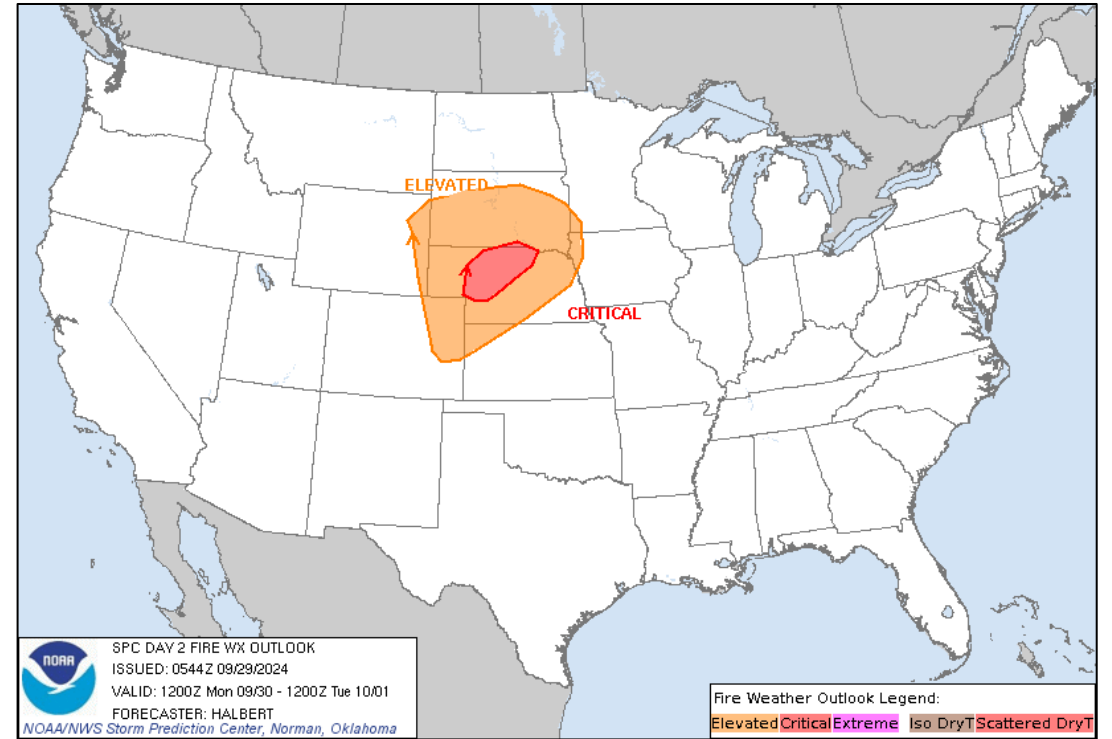
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Fire Weather Outlook



Today



Tomorrow



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National Fire Activity *(as of Sep 28)*

National Preparedness Level

PL 3

Initial Attack Activity (24-hour period)	Light (53 fires)
New large fires:	4
Large fires contained:	1
Uncontained large fires:	31
Cumulative Acres Burned	7,895,785 (+5,939)
Total Responders	10,844
Type 1 IMTs deployed	0
Complex IMTs deployed	10 of 41



Preparedness Levels Legend

PL 1	Minimal fire activity; many resources available
PL 2	Large wildland fires burning throughout country; resources mobilized from other areas
PL 3	Wildfire activity ongoing throughout 25% of country; National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) sets priorities, allocates resources, and mobilizes assets at national level
PL 4	High levels of fire activity and areas are competing for firefighting resources; 60% of the nation's wildland firefighting resources committed
PL 5	Extremely high levels of fire activity; 80% of nation's firefighting resources committed

FEMA Common Operating Picture

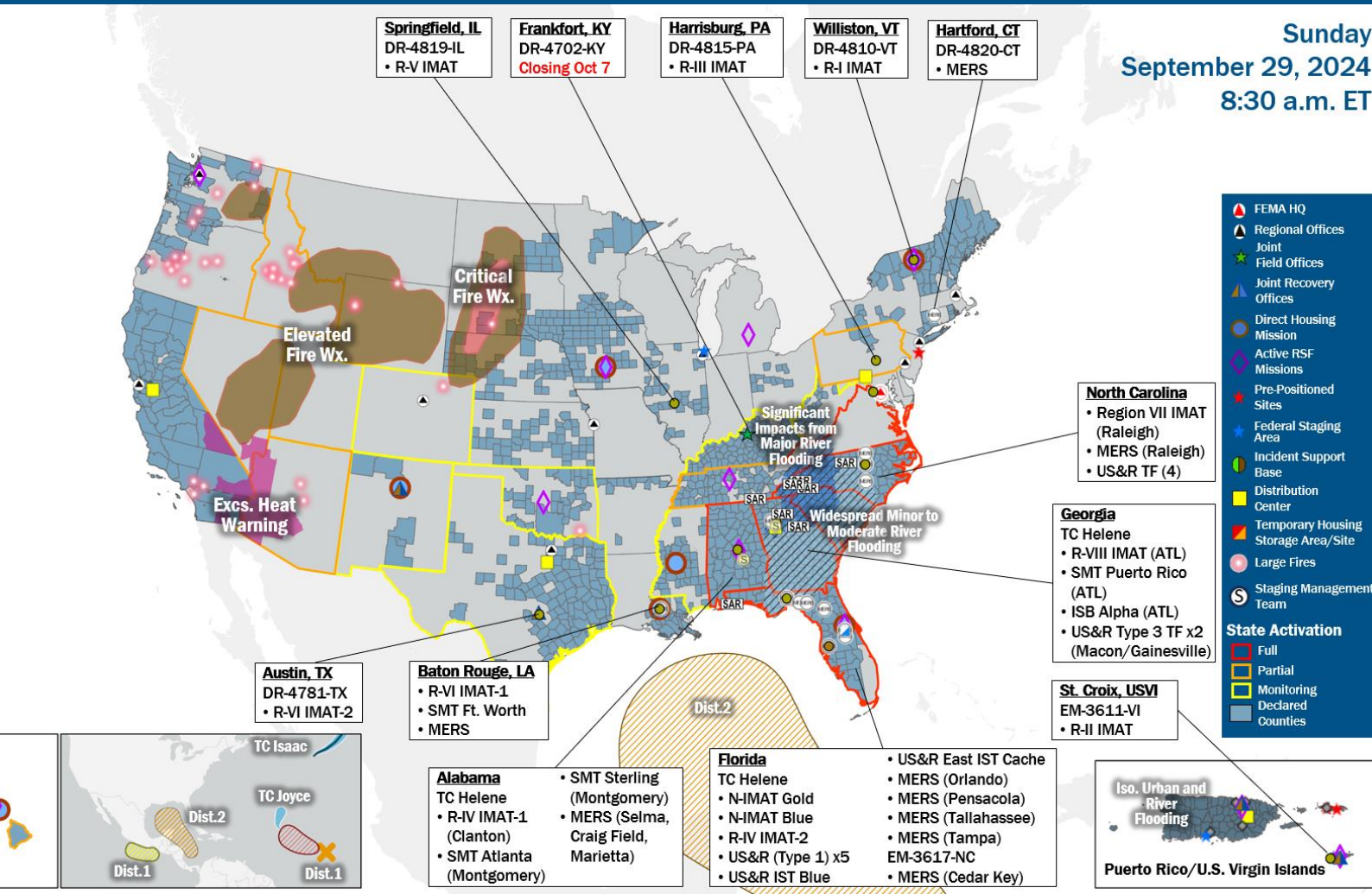
28 + 5 Joint Field Offices Virtual Joint Field Offices Supporting
106 + 14 Major Disasters Emergency Declarations
12 Direct Housing Missions **17** RSF-Supported Disasters **5** Joint Recovery Offices

Sunday
September 29, 2024
8:30 a.m. ET

FEMA HQ	
NWC	NRCC
Monitoring	Level I
FEMA REGIONS	
Watch	RRCC
Monitoring	I Rostered
Monitoring	II Rostered
Monitoring	III Rostered
Monitoring	IV Level II
Monitoring	V Rostered
Monitoring	VI Rostered
Monitoring	VII Rostered
Monitoring	VIII Rostered
Monitoring	IX Rostered
Monitoring	X Rostered
Notes:	
NRCC/RWCs/RRCCs:	State EOCs:
• NRCC: TC Helene	• OK: Severe Weather
• RIV RRCC: TC Helene	• HI/OK/NM/NV/ID/WY/UT/NE: Wildfires
	• AZ: SW Border
	• CO: Hwy. 50 closure/Avian Flu
	• NM/AZ: Flooding
	• TX: TC Francine
	• PA: TC Debby
	• WV: Drought
	• VA: Operation FREE
	• FL/AL/GA/MS/NC/SC/TN/KY/VA: TC Helene
Volunteer Force	
Rostered 7,840	Deployed 8
Surge Capacity Force	
Rostered 7,787 (+3)	Deployed 0

N-IMATs		2-5 Teams Available	
Red			
White			
Blue	FL (Sep 23)		
Gold	FL (Sep 23)		
HS			
R-IMATs		≤ 3 Teams Available	
I	VT (Aug 19)		
II	USVI (Aug 9)		
III	NC (Sep 29)		
IV-1	AL (Sep 24)		
IV-2	FL (Aug 2)		
V	SC (Sep 29)		
VI-1	LA (Sep 10)		
VI-2	TX (May 17)		
VII	NC (Sep 25)		
VIII	GA (Sep 24)		
IX-1	Personnel		
IX-2	Personnel		
X	TN (Sep 29)		
Fully Mission Capable (FMC)			
Partially Mission Capable (PMC)			
Not Mission Capable (NMC)			
Deployed			

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN				
	JFO/VJFO	DR	EM	JRO
I	4/0	18	2	0
II	3/1	6	2	2
III	1/0	4	0	0
IV	4/0	24	10	0
V	2/0	4	0	0
VI	5/0	9	0	3
VII	3/1	12	0	0
VIII	1/1	2	0	0
IX	2/1	18	0	0
X	3/1	9	0	0



FEMA HQ

- Regional Offices
- Joint Field Offices
- Joint Recovery Offices
- Direct Housing Mission
- Active RSF Missions
- Pre-Positioned Sites
- Federal Staging Area
- Incident Support Base
- Distribution Center
- Temporary Housing Storage Area/Site
- Large Fires
- Staging Management Team

State Activation

- Full
- Partial
- Monitoring
- Declared Counties

IM Workforce

13,690 Assigned
 4,848 (+49) Unavailable
 6,900 (-51) Deployed

14% / 1,942 (-1) Available

IM Cadre Availability

17 Cadres ≤ 25% Availability

Civil Rights: 21% (35/164); Disability Integration: 16% (7/43); Disaster Survivor Assistance: 15% (175/1,182); External Affairs: 7% (36/516); Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: 11% (94/822); Field Leadership: 13% (19/145); Financial Management: 24% (57/237); Hazard Mitigation: 7% (87/1,184); Human Resources: 8% (13/172); Individual Assistance: 9% (230/2,515); Information Technology: 16% (103/662); Logistics: 10% (156/1,598); Operations: 4% (12/337); Public Assistance: 15% (335/2,263); Planning: 3% (12/451); Safety: 5% (5/93); Security: 20% (28/137)

MERS
 ≥ 66%

36 Assigned
 0 Unavailable
 11 Deployed

25 Available

US&R
 < 33%

28 Assigned
 2 Unavailable
 21 Deployed

5 Available

FCO
 1 Type I

52 Assigned
 9 Unavailable
 42 (33 FCOR) Deployed

1 Available

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Incident	IA	Number of Counties/Jurisdictions		Start – End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
I	CT	Severe Storms & Flooding Aug 18-19	IA	3	3	8/29 – 9/5
			PA	3	1	9/9 – TBD
IV	NC	Tropical Cyclone Debby Aug 5-19	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	1	0	9/23 – TBD
VII	Kickapoo Tribe	Severe Storms Aug 15-28	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	1	0	9/26 – TBD
IX	Navajo Nation	Shiprock Flooding Aug 25	IA	1	0	10/7 – TBD
			PA	1	0	10/7 – TBD



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