

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Thursday, October 3, 2024

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

- Helene – Southeast and Mid-Atlantic

Hazard Monitoring

- Excessive Heat – Southern California and Southwest
- Tropical Activity:
 - Atlantic:
 - Hurricane Kirk (CAT-3)
 - Tropical Storm Leslie
 - Disturbance 1: Low (30%)
 - Eastern Pacific:
 - Tropical Depression Eleven-E
 - Disturbance 1: Low (10%)
 - Disturbance 2: Low (20%)

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Approval: Major Disaster Declaration – TN
- Two amendments issued

Event Monitoring

- No new significant events



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Helene – Southeast & Mid-Atlantic



Situation: Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue.

Lifelines: (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Oct 2)

Safety & Security: Some school closures and curfews are still in effect; recovery operations are still on-going

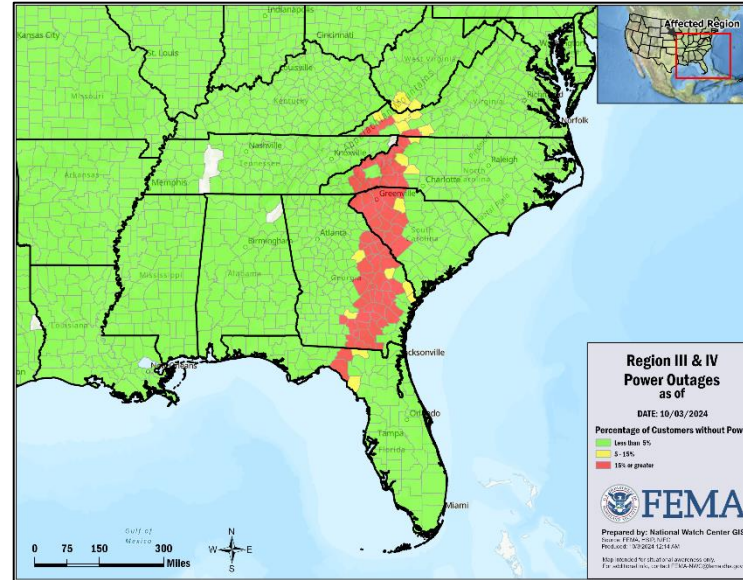
- GA: Select schools and universities reopening while some closures and curfews continue; National Guard authorized to support
- NC: Combined search and rescue efforts in western NC will continue throughout the week
- SC: Operations continue with structural evaluations; overtopping risks have lessened, but debris in spillways remain a concern

Food, Hydration, Shelter: Shelter count still increasing in most impacted states. 66 total shelters / 2,584 total occupants

- FL: 16 shelters / 487 (+16) occupants
- GA: 10 shelters / 520 (+7) occupants
- NC: Commodity distribution, mass feeding, and hydration efforts ongoing in western NC, with FEMA shipments enroute. Survivors are registering for FEMA assistance; NC activating more programs.
 - 23 (-3) shelters / 1,279 (+35) occupants
- SC: Shelter and mass feeding operations ongoing supported by VOADs and PODs
 - 10 (+1) shelters / 220 (+49) occupants
- TN: Shelter and mass feeding operations expanding with National Guard support. Schools offering meal pick-up programs. TEMA is distributing drinking water to affected counties.
 - 6 (-4) shelters / 61 (-1) occupants
- VA: 1 (-1) shelter / 17 (-1) occupants

Health & Medical: Reported fatalities have increased; some medical facilities have been taken off generator power.

- GA: 5 (-2) hospitals are currently operating on generator power, a refueling plan to support refueling ongoing; 33 (+8) confirmed fatalities
- NC: Long-term healthcare and evacuation planning is ongoing; 56 (+14) confirmed fatalities
- SC: 36 (+7) confirmed fatalities
- TN: Medical and fatality management needs being addressed; 8 (+2) confirmed fatalities
- VA: All hospitals fully operational; 2 confirmed fatalities



Water Systems: Boil water advisories continue to be issued.

- GA: More potable and wastewater plants are becoming operational with a 52% response rate; 293 (+77) active boil water notices
- NC: Water and wastewater system restorations improved, and assessments start today; 166 (+5) boil water notices
- SC: Large drinking water systems can treat and distribute while smaller systems remain impacted; 1 active boil water advisory
- TN: Water and wastewater systems remain affected. Efforts for water purification sites ongoing; 18 (+5) active boil water notices
- VA: 31 active boil water notices

Energy: Power restoration continues in the impacted area. (DOE Eagle-I, as of 7:30 a.m. ET, Oct 3)

- Total: 1M (-200k) (3%) customers without power
- GA: 276k (-72k) (6%) customers without power
- NC: 296k (-35k) (6%) customers without power
- SC: 387k (-115k) (14%) customers without power
- VA: 24k (<1%) customers without power; power restored to over 90% of customers since peak

Communications: Restoration efforts are ongoing; however, outages persist.

- GA: DIRS reporting an increase in percentage of downed cellular sites, multiple sites using backup power
 - NC: Temporary IT and satellite communication device distribution continues. Affected counties to receive hardware to establish emergency communications pathway.
 - SC: Communication outages are improving; 1 county with >50% cell sites out. State requested 8 MCOVs.
 - TN: Restoration of cellular sites continue
- Transportation:** Primary roads in NC, SC, and TN are still impacted.
- GA: Primary route clearance is complete. Secondary and local road clearance ongoing. Railway and local transit operations in the affected area remain disrupted.
 - NC: Dangerous road conditions persist in western NC, with access limited to local and response traffic. Debris experts are supporting clearance and disposal operations.
 - SC: Detours for Highway 276 are being identified to improve access to isolated communities. Closures mainly affecting Greenville, Pickens, and Spartanburg counties.
 - TN: Portions of I-26 & I-40 remain impassable; clearance and debris removal efforts are ongoing



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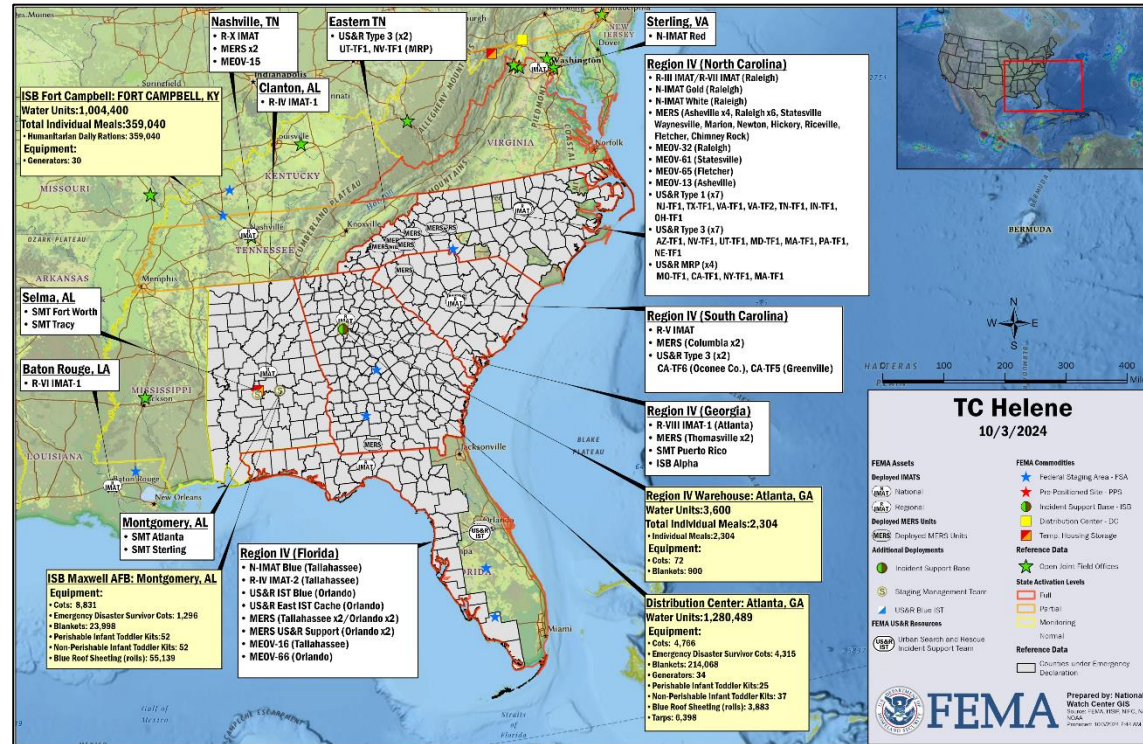


Helene – Southeast & Mid-Atlantic

Situation: Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue.

State / Tribal Response:

- GA: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-4830-DR-GA approved
- NC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency
 - FEMA-3617-EM-NC approved on Sep 26
 - FEMA-4827-DR-NC approved on Sep 28
- SC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Governor declared a State of Emergency
 - FEMA-4829-DR-SC approved on Sep 29
- TN: SEOC at Partial Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency
 - FEMA-3620-EM-TN approved on Sep 27
 - [FEMA-4832-DR-TN approved on Oct 2](#)
- VA: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared a State of Emergency
 - FEMA-4831-DR-VA approved on Oct 1
 - [FEMA-3621-EM-VA approved on Sep 29](#)



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 RIII: RRCC at Level II with select ESFs; LNOs deployed to VDEM
- FEMA RIV: RRCC activated to Level II with all ESFs
 - IMAT-1 deployed to AL SEOC
 - IMAT-2 deployed to FL SEOC
- HQ: NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I
 - National Responder Mobilization Team deployed to Grapevine, TX

IMAT:

- N-IMAT Blue deployed to Tallahassee, FL
- N-IMAT Gold deployed to Raleigh/Asheville, NC
- N-IMAT Red staged in Sterling, VA
- N-IMAT White deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region III IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region V IMAT deployed to West Columbia, SC
- FEMA Region VII IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region VIII IMAT deployed to Atlanta, GA
- FEMA Region X IMAT deployed to Nashville, TN

Logistics:

- SMT Fort Worth and SMT Tracy deploying to Selma, AL
- SMT Atlanta and SMT Sterling deployed to Montgomery, AL
- SMT Puerto Rico deployed to Atlanta, GA
- ISB Team Bravo deployed to Montgomery, AL
- [ISB Team Charlie deploying to Charlotte, NC](#)

US&R:

- 21 US&R Task Forces deployed (7xType 1, 13xType 3; 1xMRP-WR)
- Incident Support Team (IST) Blue deployed to FL

MERS:

- MERS assets deployed to FL, AL, GA, and NC
- Additional MERS teams on standby



Declaration Approval – Tennessee

Declaration Type: Major Disaster Declaration – FEMA-4832-DR-TN
Requested: Sep 30

Date Approved: Oct 2

Incident: Tropical Storm Helene

Incident Period: Sep 26 and continuing

Provides:

- **IA/PA:** 8 counties
- **Hazard Mitigation:** Statewide

FCO: Darryl L. Dragoo



■ IA/PA



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Declaration Requests in Process – 12

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
TN – Tropical Storm Helene – APPROVED	DR	X	X	X	Sep 30

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



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Declaration Amendments

Declaration	Number	Issued	Action
FEMA-4827-DR-NC	1	Oct 2	Adds 25 counties and 1 tribe for permanent work [Categories C-G] (already designated for Individual Assistance and assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures [Categories A and B], including direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program).
FEMA-4829-DR-SC	1	Oct 2	Adds 3 counties for IA and 3 debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct federal assistance under the Public Assistance program.



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Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

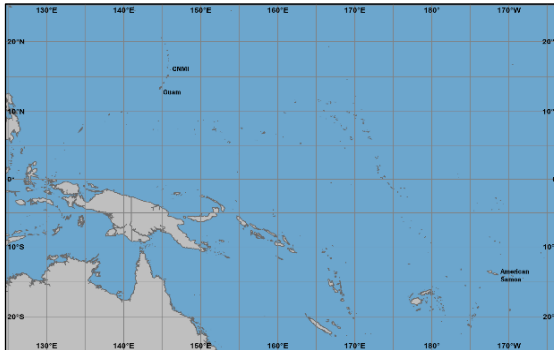
Region	State / Location	Incident	IA	Number of Counties/Jurisdictions		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
IV	NC	Tropical Cyclone Debby Aug 5-19	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	1	0	9/23 - TBD
IX	Navajo Nation	Shiprock Flooding Aug 25	IA	1	0	10/7 - TBD
			PA	1	0	10/7 - TBD



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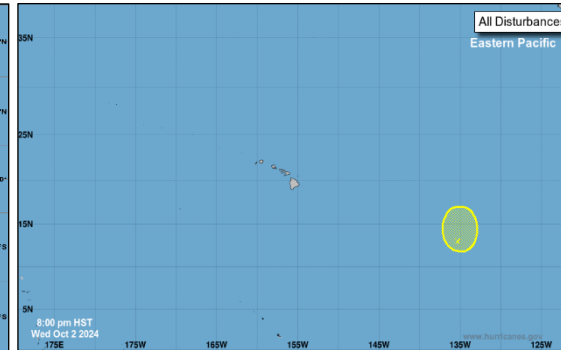
Tropical Outlook

Western Pacific



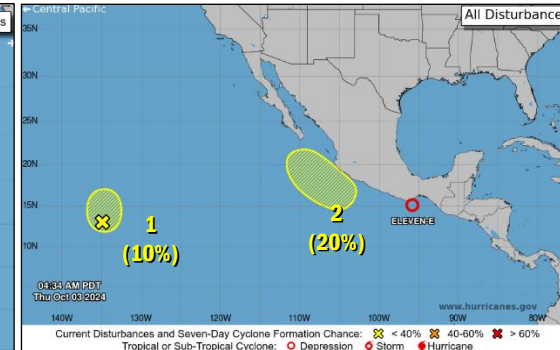
- No areas of concern for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or American Samoa

Central Pacific



- No tropical cyclones are expected in the next seven days. See Eastern Pacific for Disturbance 1

Eastern Pacific



Tropical Depression Eleven-E: (Advisory #7A, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 70 mi SSE of Puerto Angel, Mexico
- Moving NE at 4 mph
- Maximum sustained winds 35 mph
- Expected to move toward southern Mexico and make landfall tonight or early Friday; forecast to be a tropical storm when it reaches the coast of Mexico

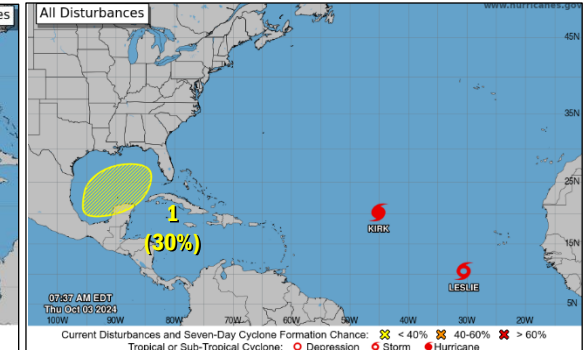
Disturbance 1: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located well WSW coast of the southern tip of Baja California peninsula
- Conditions should become less conducive and prevent development by the weekend
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (10%); 7-day – Low (10%)

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

- Located off the coast of southwest Mexico
- Slow development is possible while the system drifts NW
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Low (20%)

Atlantic



Hurricane Kirk (CAT-3): (Advisory #16, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 1,185 miles E Leeward Islands Moving NW at 10 mph
- Maximum sustained winds 120 mph
- Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 35 miles; Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 185 miles
- Strengthening is forecast next day or so

Tropical Storm Leslie: (Advisory #4, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 515 miles SW of Cabo Verde Islands
- Moving W at 6 mph
- Maximum sustained winds 40 mph
- Tropical-storm force winds extend outward up to 60 miles
- Strengthening is anticipated

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

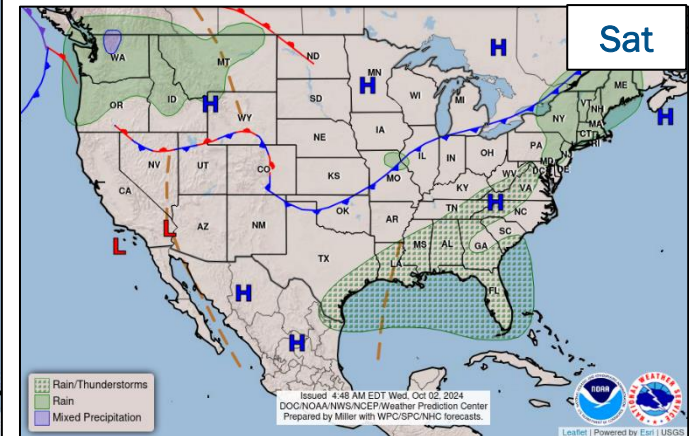
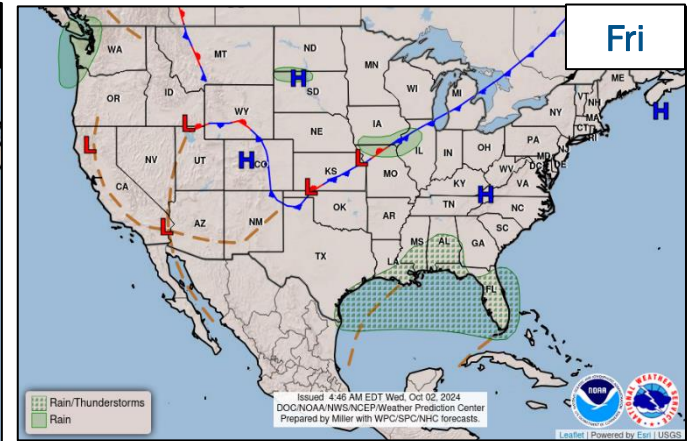
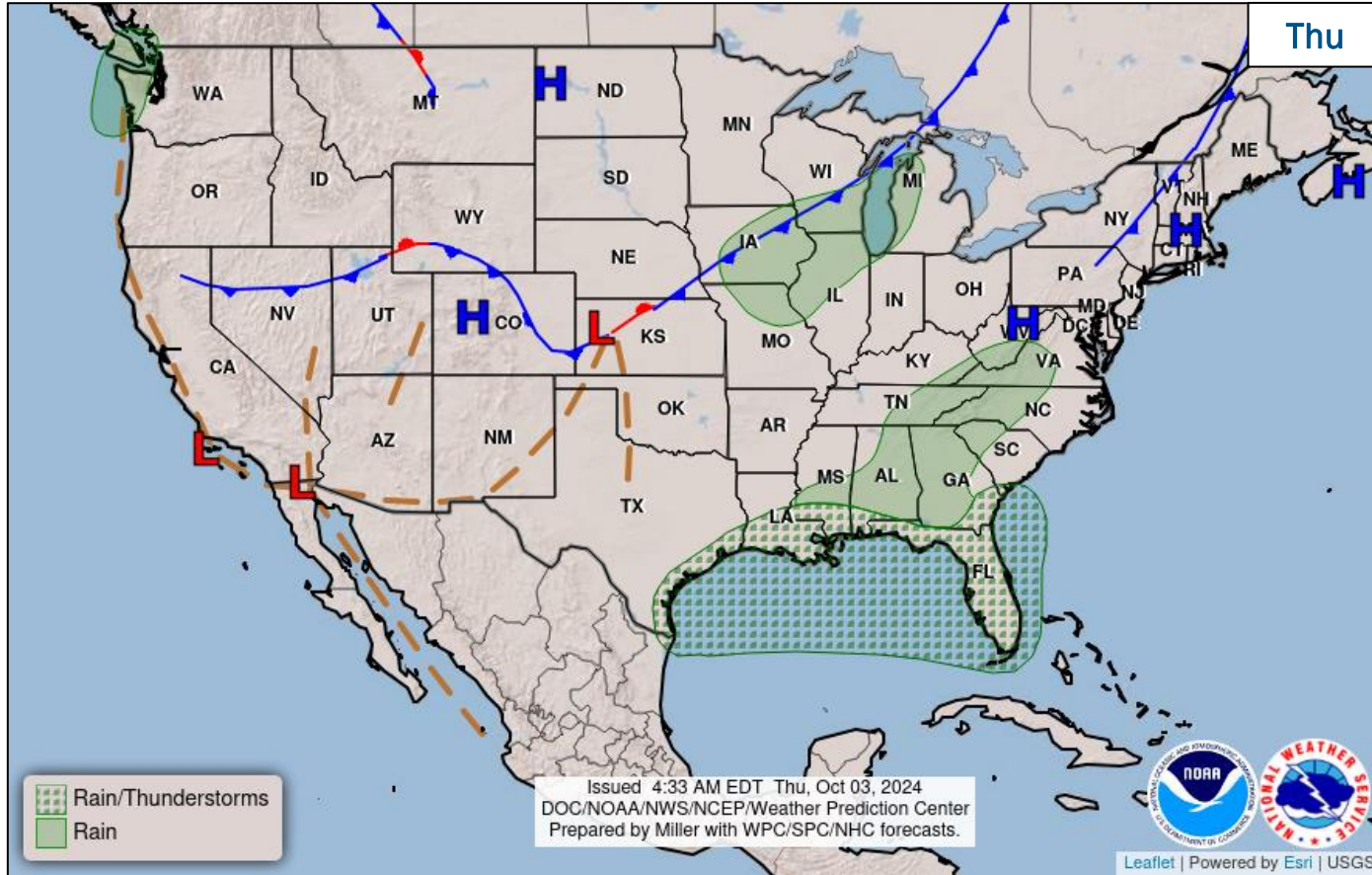
- Located over portions of the Gulf of Mexico
- Tropical or subtropical development limited
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Low (30%)

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National Weather Forecast



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National Fire Activity *(as of Oct 2)*

National Preparedness Level

PL 3

Initial Attack Activity <i>(24-hour period)</i>	Light <i>(55 fires)</i>	
New large fires:	3	
Large fires contained:	2	
Uncontained large fires:	28	
Cumulative Acres Burned	7,952,458	
Total Responders	9,505	
Type 1 IMTs deployed	0	
Complex IMTs deployed	13 of 41	

**U.S. Wildfires
National PL 3
10/3/2024**

Wildland Fire Information

- NICC Incident Management Situation Report
- Responsible Fires
- Current FEMA FMAG Fires
- Wildfire

FEMA Assets

- Open Joint Field Offices
- Pre-Positioned Site
- PPS
- Distribution Center
- DC
- Temporary Housing
- Storage Site / Area
- THSS / THSA

Geographic Area Coordination Centers

- Preparedness Level
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- GACC Boundaries

Reference Data

- Other Logistics Site
- FEMA Regional Offices
- Headquarters
- Regional Offices
- State Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)

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Prepared by: National Watch Center GIS
Source: FEMA, NWS, IIR, NOAA, NOAA
Revised: 10/03/2024 13:45:00
Map intended for informational purposes only.

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

Wildfire Summary

Fire Name (County, ST)	FMAG #	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures (Homes / Other)			Fatalities / Injuries
					Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
Elk Fire (Sheridan, WY)	5539-FM-WY	34,486 (+12,731)	0%	M: 400 (+400)	H: 1,200 (+1,164)	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 1 (+1)
				V: 0	O: 210 (+156)	O: 0	O: 8 (+2)	

(Evacuations: M = Mandatory / V = Voluntary; Structures: H = Homes and Mixed Commercial/Residential / O = Non-residential Commercial/Other Minor Structures)



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