

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Operations / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

- Atmospheric River – Pacific Northwest
- Flooding – Montana

Hazard Monitoring

- Heavy Snow – Pacific Northwest, Northern Intermountain, Northern Rockies
- High Winds – Northern Plains

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Request: Emergency Declaration – MT

Event Monitoring

- No significant events



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Atmospheric River – Pacific Northwest



Situation: Last night through this morning brings about the heaviest round of precipitation and wind gusts (FEMA R10 SLB, as of 7:40 p.m. ET, Dec 16). The threats of landslides and debris flows, particularly in recent burn scar areas remain a primary concern. Federal, state, and local agencies continue to support the affected areas.

Lifeline Impacts: (FEMA R10 SLB, as of 7:40 p.m. ET, Dec 16)

Safety & Security: Evacuations and dam/levee assessments continue in affected areas.

- Approximately 395 individuals have been rescued across 11 counties
- USAR supporting White River Pacific Washington Levee failure
- Evacuations are in effect for 4 counties (Chelan, King, Snohomish, and Skagit) and 2 tribal nations (Sauk-Suiattle and Yakama)
- Levees:
 - USACE providing King County with engineering support, 300 sandbags, and 900 ft of barriers
 - USACE Seattle District is providing additional direct assistance in 7 other locations
- Dams:
 - USACE currently controls Ross Dam and Upper Baker Dam and will begin evacuating water from these dams
 - USACE exited the flood control pools at Skagit projects but will maintain operational control due to expected high flows

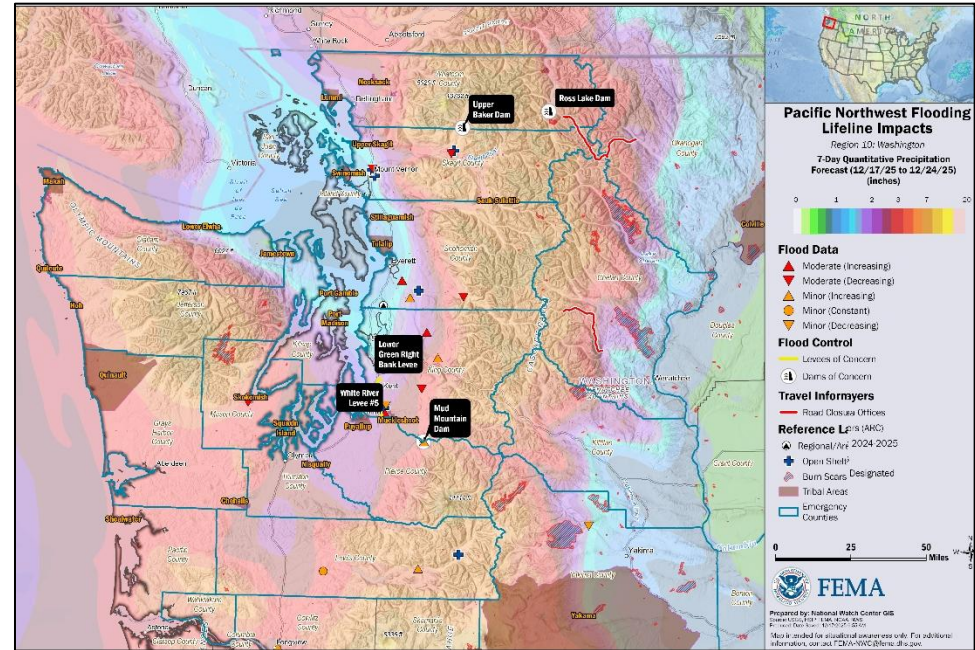
Food, Hydration, Shelter:

- 10 (-2) shelters open / 173 (-49) occupants (ARC Shelter Report, as of 6:52 a.m. ET, Dec 17)

Health and Medical: 1 confirmed fatality in Snohomish County

Water Systems: Multiple drinking water treatment plants are offline, with limited reserves in affected areas.

- Drinking Water:
 - Chelan Co., WA: Stehekin currently without potable water. Sheriff's Department is distributing pallets of water
 - Pierce Co., WA: Tacoma treatment plant is offline; residents using stored water and water conservation measures
 - Whatcom Co., WA: drinking water treatment plant in Sumas is offline; currently using stored water resources
 - Skagit Co., WA: Boil water advisory issued for Cascade River Community Club
- Treatment: Multiple drinking water treatment plants are offline affecting approximately 638k residents
- Wastewater Management:
 - Multiple county wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) are not operational and currently on bypass (i.e., Whatcom Co., Cowlitz Co., Chelan Co., Yakima Co., Benton Co.)



Energy: Minimal power outages in affected area.

- WA: 357k (11%) customers without power (Eagle-I, as of 7:45 a.m. ET)
 - Pierce County: 79k (50%) customers without power
 - Lewis County: 15k (34%) customers without power
 - Thurston County: 26k (18%) customers without power

Transportation: Multiple roads and rails remain closed; currently, Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has no unmet needs.

- 13 (-1) WA state routes closed, with 19 closures along them; I-90 has reopened
- BNSF service for Stampede Pass opening postponed due to weather conditions
- Maritime ports of Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, and Tacoma reporting debris fields; no impacts



Atmospheric River – Pacific Northwest (cont.)



State / Local Response:

- WA SEOC at Full Activation (day shift only); WA Gov declared state of emergency on Dec 10; FEMA-3629-EM-WA approved Dec 12
- 250 National Guard servicemembers activated

FEMA / Federal Response:

FEMA Region 10:

Bothell MOC at Monitoring; RRCC at Level 2 (day shift only); all ESFs activated; R10 IMAT is Reconstituting; 2 FEMA LNOs deployed to WA SEOC; MEOV is **deployed** to support federal staging area at JBLM; **MEOV and Emergency Operations Vehicle (EOV) deployed to SEOC in Camp Murray**

HQ:

- NWC at Monitoring; Hydro LNO deployed to FEMA Region 10
- NRCC returned to **Steady-State**
- Region 3 IMAT deployed to Bothell, WA
- Elements of N-IMAT White deployed to Bothell, WA

US&R:

- White IST, West IST Cache are operating out of Redmond. **CA-TF4 and CA-TF7 operating in Kent, WA. CA-TF3 staged in Marysville, WA**

Logistics:

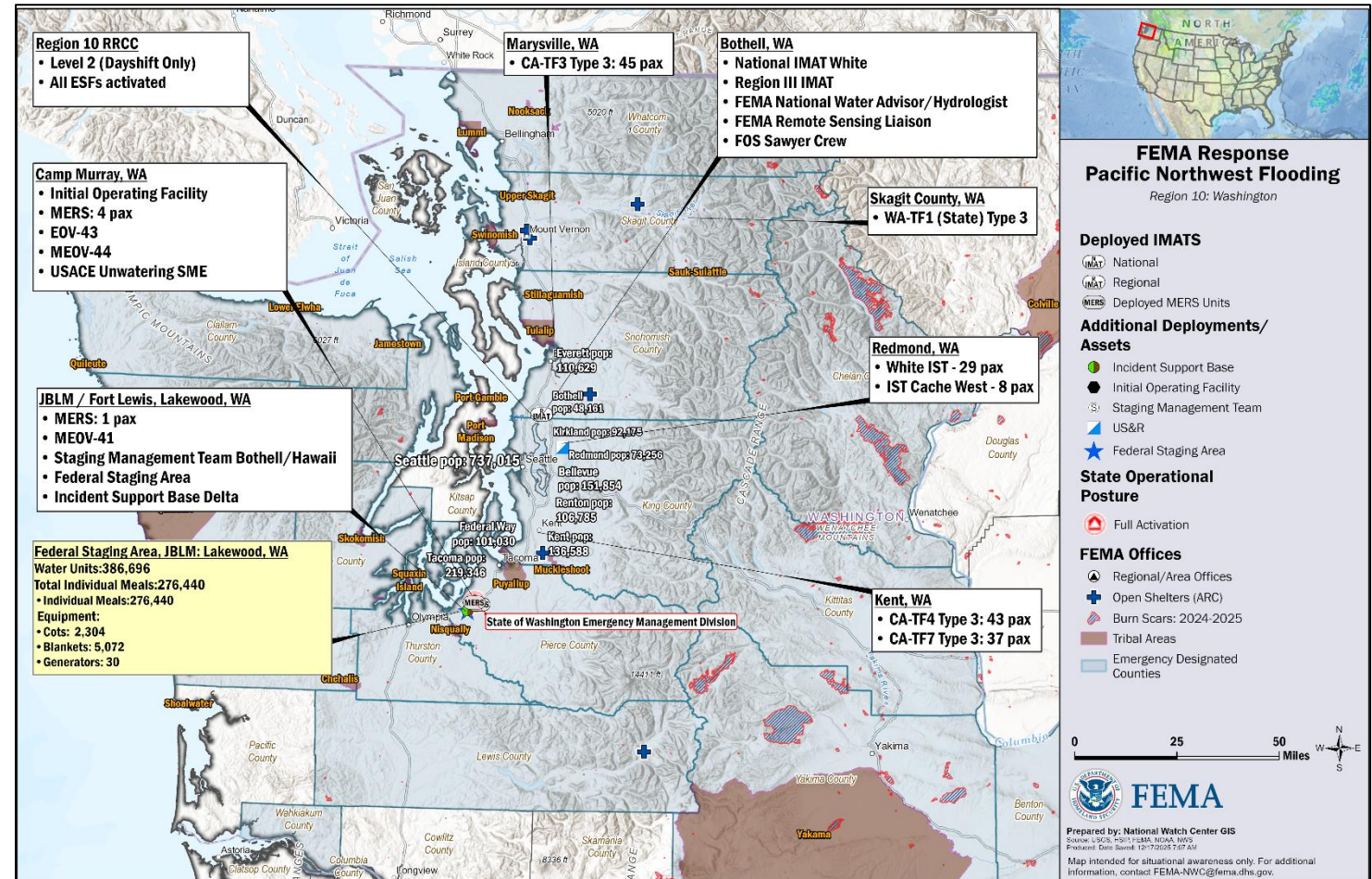
- SMT Bothell/SMT Hawaii deployed to JBLM
- ISB Delta demobilizing today**

RG0:

- Coordinating with R10 on imagery needs and damage assessment

USACE:

- Monitoring Lake Silvia Dam, Mud Mountain Dam, and Howard Hanson Dam



The NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region 10. Updates will be reported in the FEMA Daily Operations Briefing (8:30 a.m. ET) and the twice-daily FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m. / 3:00 a.m. ET).

Flooding – Montana



Situation: An atmospheric river event brought flooding to Lincoln and Sanders Counties, as well as Blackfoot Nation in MT. Flooding on Flower Creek near Libby, MT (pop. 3k) resulted in damage to the Lower Flower Creek Diversion Structure. The damage has compromised the City of Libby's sole drinking water source. The Lower Flower Creek Dam will require engineering support to stabilize. Continued rainfall on saturated ground has increased the risk of additional mudslides and flooding in previously flooded areas, with a flash flood watch in effect until this afternoon. The National Weather Service is also reporting a potential high wind event (65-90mph) in the impacted area. (FEMA Region 8 RA email, as of 9:08 p.m. ET, Dec 16)

Lifeline Impacts: (FEMA Region 8 RA email, as of 9:08 p.m. ET, Dec 16)

Safety & Security:

- Lower Flower Creek Dam– The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) engineers inspected the dam (Dec 16) to confirm safety; updates to follow
- USACE installed a temporary levee in Troy following a request for direct assistance

Food, Hydration, Shelter:

- Red Cross is running a Point of Distribution (POD) at Libby Memorial Center, for water and cleanup supplies; Approximately 30 pallets of water have been distributed

Water Systems:

- Libby Water Treatment Plant intake rate resumed normal functioning, however, without the initial settling tank, an increase amount of sediment and contaminants are infiltrating the plant, which the plant is not equipped to treat

Energy:

- Power outages were reported by Flathead Electric Cooperative

Transportation:

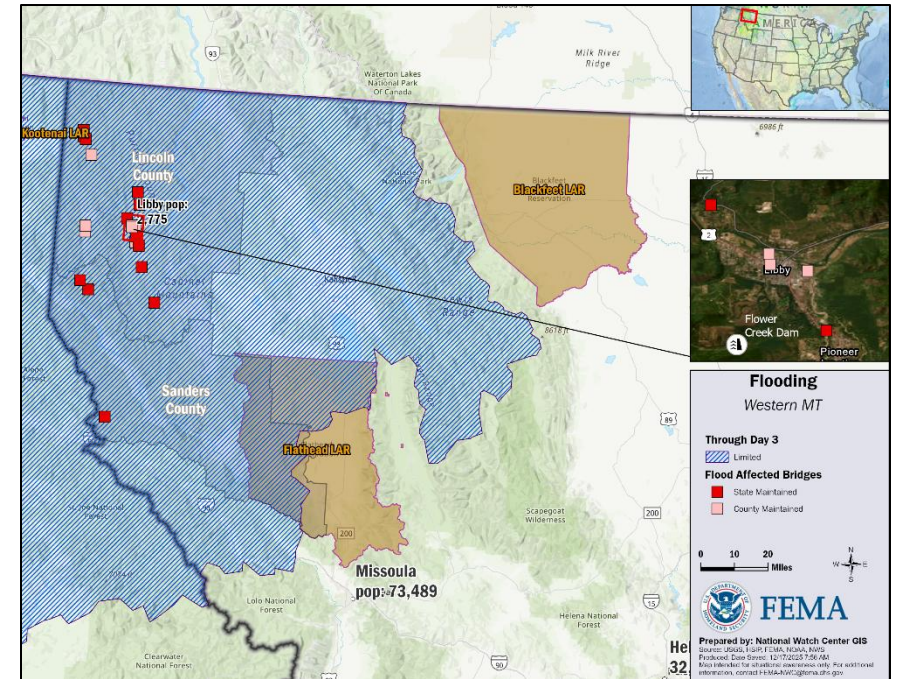
- Lincoln County: 3 bridges and 1 road washed out; 1 road compromised

State / Local Response:

- MT SEOC at Full Activation (Flooding); Gov declared a state of emergency on Dec 11; EM Declaration requested on Dec 16

FEMA / Federal Response:

- Denver MOC is at Enhanced Watch; RRCC is at Level 3 (day shift only); R8 IMAT is available
- USACE is prepared to provide technical and direct assistance under their own authorities, if requested by State (USACE LNO, as of 11:04 a.m. ET, Dec 16)



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



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Declaration Request – Montana

Declaration Type: Emergency Declaration – MT

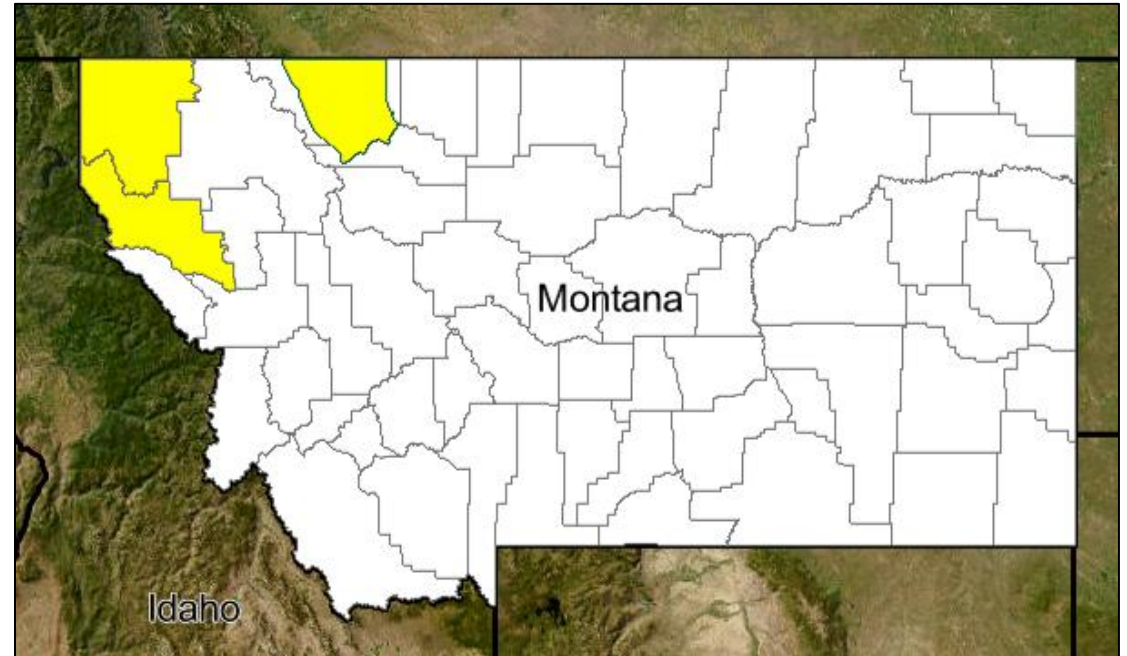
Date Requested: Nov 12

Incident: Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds and Flooding

Incident Period: Dec 8 and is continuing

Requested:

- **PA:** 2 counties and 1 tribe



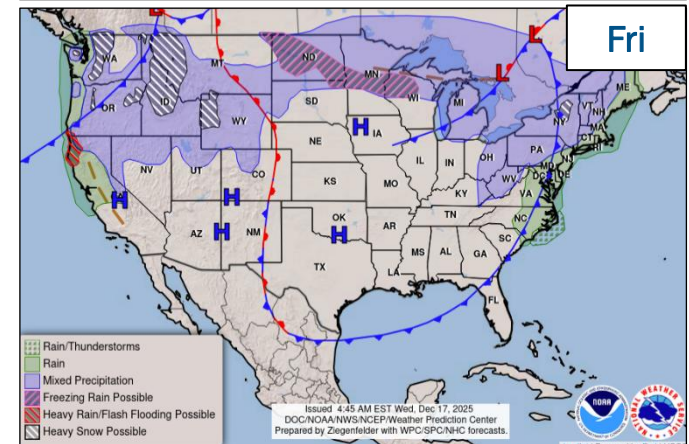
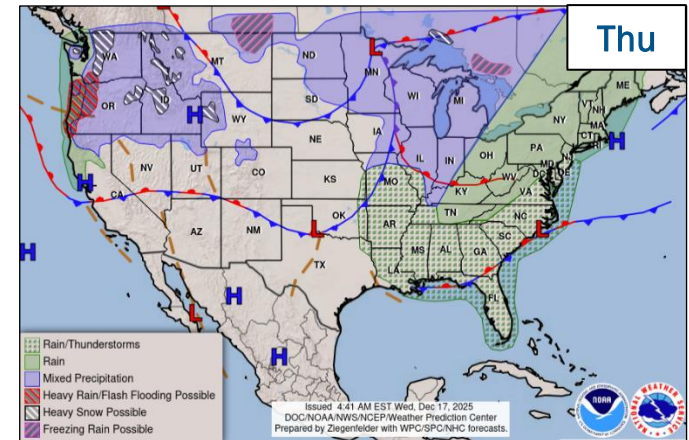
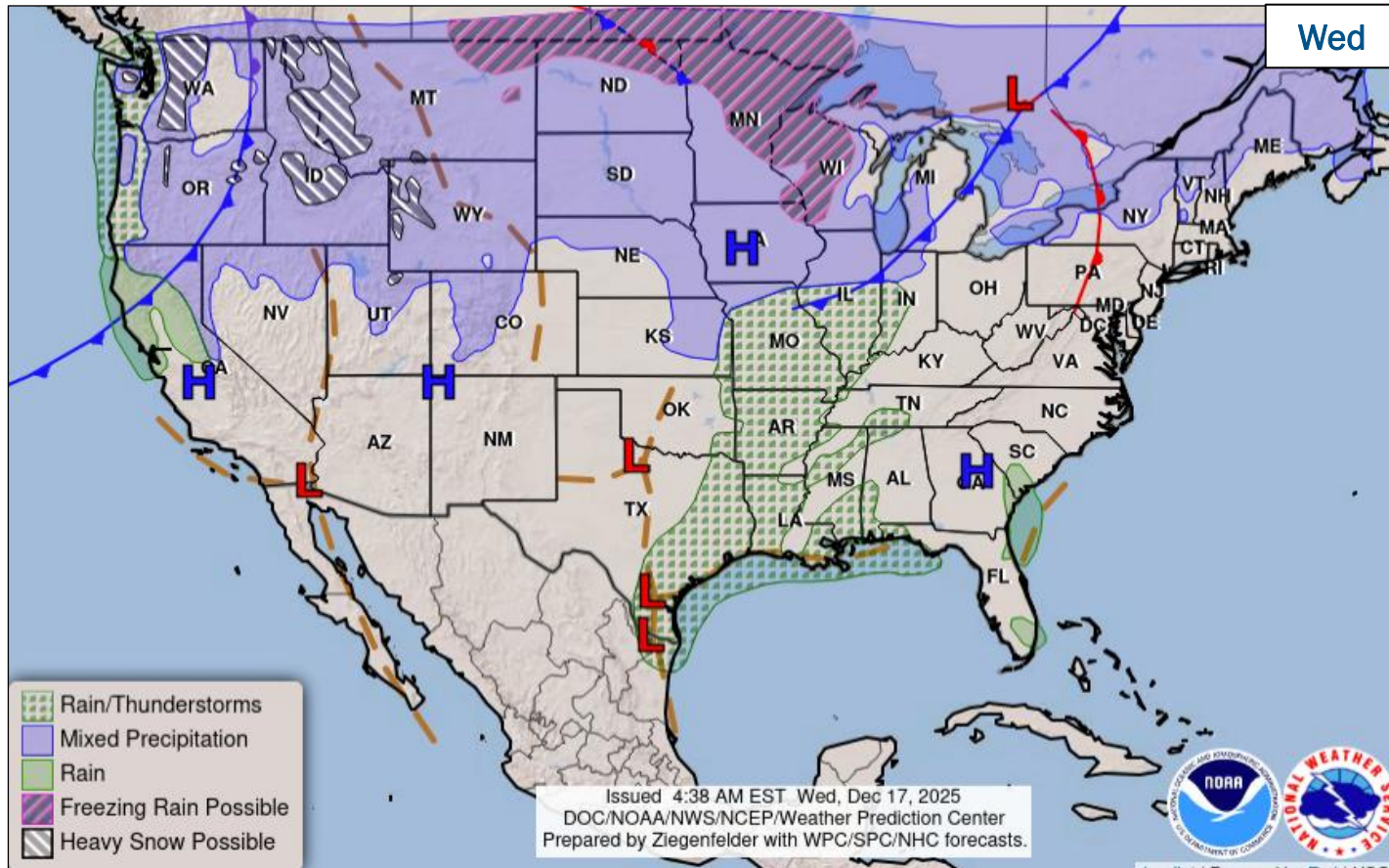
■ PA



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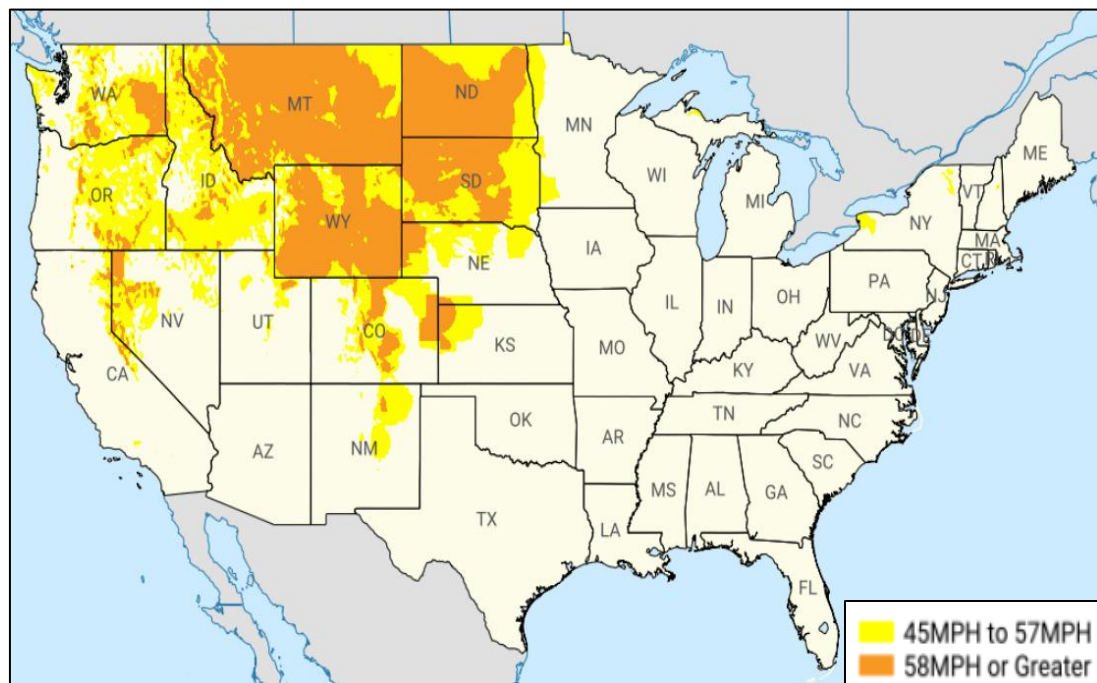
National Weather Forecast



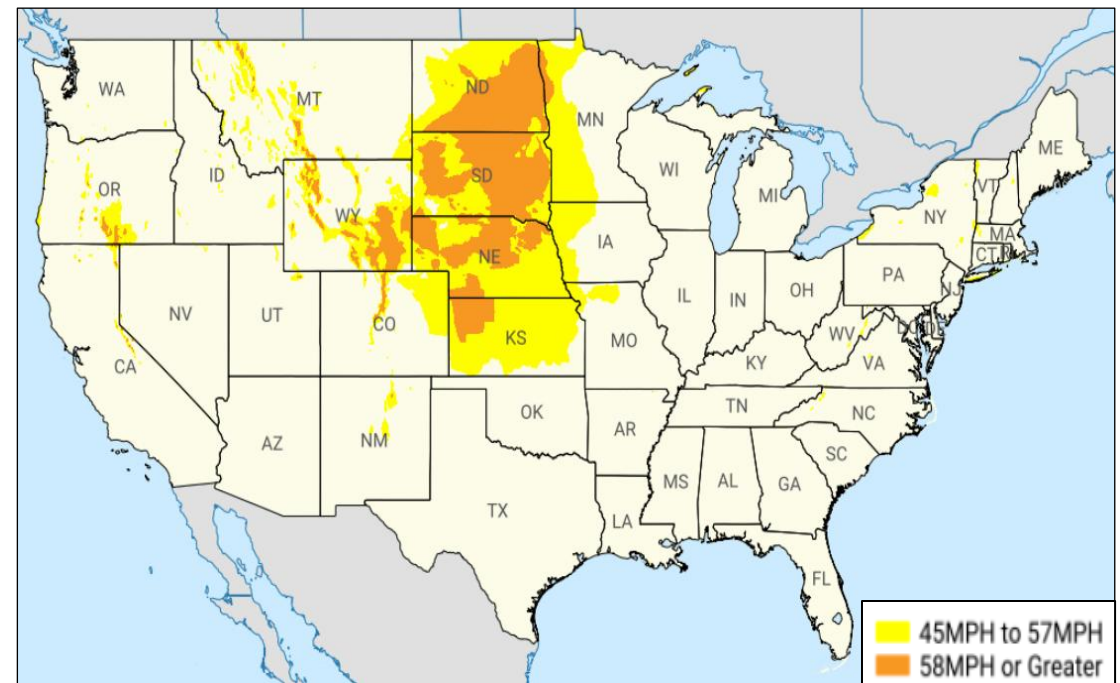
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Wind Threat



Today

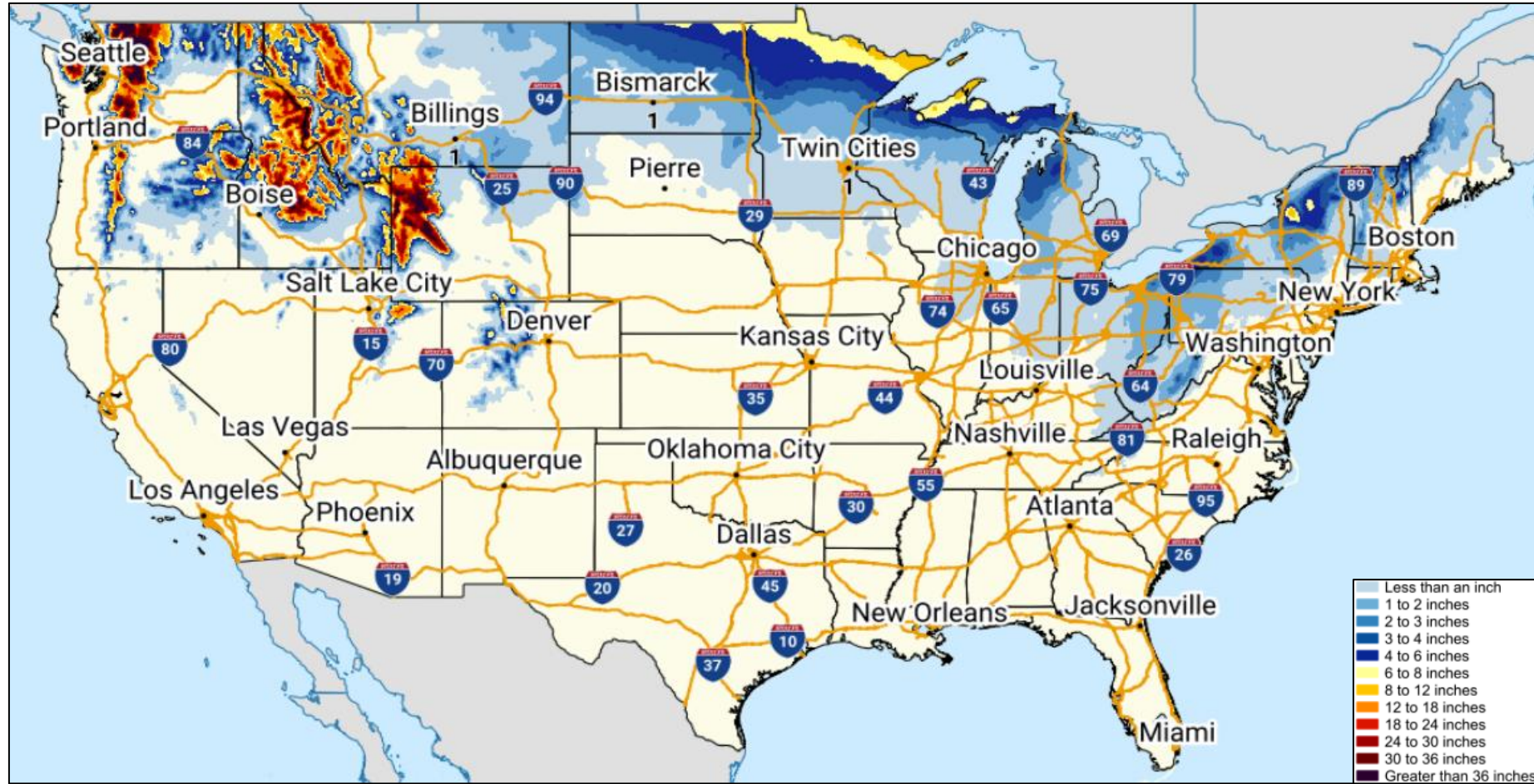


Tomorrow



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Snowfall Forecast



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FEMA Common Operating Picture

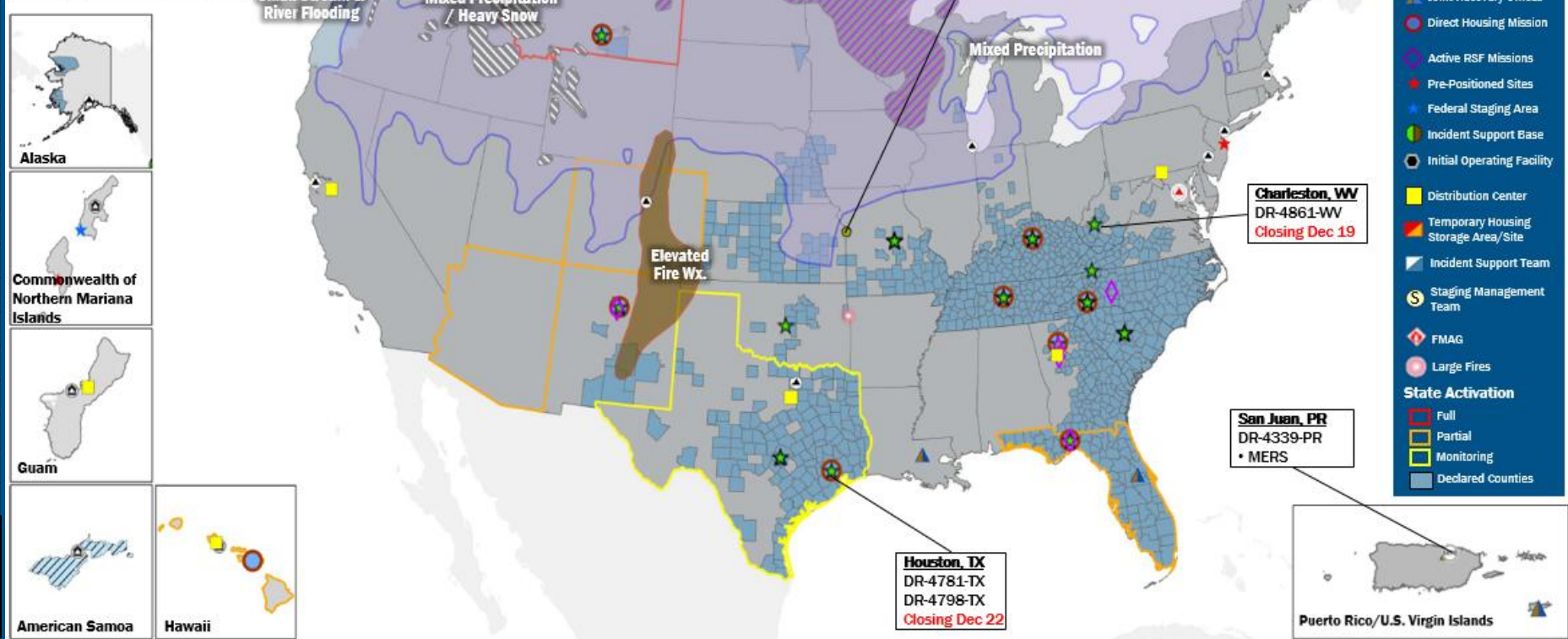
14 Joint Field Offices **Supporting** **44** Major Disasters **+** **8** Emergency Declarations **12** Direct Housing Missions **8** RSF-Supported Disasters **6** Joint Recovery Offices

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FEMA HQ	
NWC	NRCC
Monitoring	Steady State
FEMA REGIONS	
Watch	RRCC
Monitoring	R1 Rostered
Monitoring	R2 Rostered
Monitoring	R3 Rostered
Monitoring	R4 Rostered
Monitoring	R5 Rostered
Monitoring	R6 Rostered
Monitoring	R7 Rostered
Enhanced	R8 Level 3
Monitoring	R9 Rostered
Monitoring	R10 Level 2
Notes:	
NRCC/RWCs/RRCCs:	State EOCs:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> R10 RRCC: Atmospheric River (Dayshift only) Denver MOC/R8 RRCC: MT Flooding R5 RWC: Staffing (Dayshift only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HI: Wildfires FL: Previous Incidents AZ/MT/TX: Flooding WA: Atmospheric River CO: High Winds
IMATs:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> R10 IMAT: Reconstituting (Dec 12-26) 	
Surge Capacity Force	
Rostered	Deployed
7,969	0

N-IMATs	
2-5 Teams Available	
Red	
White	WA (Dec 12)
Blue	
Gold	
HS	
R-IMATs	
≥ 7 Teams Available	
R1	3
R2	
R3	WA (Dec 11)
R4 (1)	
R4 (2)	1
R5	
R6 (1)	
R6 (2)	2
R7	MO (Oct 27)
R8	
R9 (1)	
R9 (2)	
R10	Reconstituting
Fully Mission Capable (FMC)	
Partially Mission Capable (PMC)	
Not Mission Capable (NMC)	
Deployed	

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN				
	JFO	DR	EM	JRO
R1	0	0	0	0
R2	0	0	0	2
R3	2	5	1	0
R4	6	16	5	1
R5	0	2	0	0
R6	4	7	1	3
R7	1	11	0	0
R8	1	2	0	0
R9	0	0	0	0
R10	0	1	1	0



IM Workforce

11,626 (+4) Assigned
5,670 (+2) Unavailable
3,040 (-1) Deployed

25% / 2,916 (+3) Available

IM Cadre Availability

14 Cadres ≤ 25% Availability

Alternative Dispute: 13% (4/31); Civil Rights: 15% (15/101); Disability Integration: 12% (2/17); External Affairs: 11% (32/287); Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: 7% (44/664); Field Leadership: 17% (20/120); Financial Management: 20% (37/183); Hazard Mitigation: 10% (75/780); Human Resources: 18% (29/159); Interagency Recovery Coordination: 20% (40/197); Public Assistance: 17% (348/2,051); Planning: 8% (29/355); Safety: 10% (9/90); Security: 10% (11/112)

MERS

≥ 66%

36 Assigned
6 Unavailable
2 (+1) Deployed

28 (-1) Available

US&R

≥ 66%

28 Assigned
1 (+1) Unavailable
3 Deployed

24 (-1) Available

FCO

2 Type I

38 Assigned
5 Unavailable
26 (17 FCOR) Deployed

7 Available

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Incident	IA	Number of Counties		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Completed	
R10	WA	Severe Storms Dec 5 and continuing	IA	12	0	12/15 - TBD
			PA	0	0	N/A



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Declaration Requests in Process – 15

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
OK – Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Aug 19
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Sep 17
RST* – Severe Storm, Straight-line Winds, and Tornado – Appeal	DR	X	X	X	Sep 18
CO – Lee and Elk Fires, Flooding, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Sep 26
MT – Water Systems Failure	EM		X		Oct 22
POA** – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Oct 22
AZ – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR		X	X	Oct 24
CO – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Nov 12
AZ – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR	X			Nov 12
VT – Severe Storm and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Nov 20
IL – Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR	X			Nov 21
IL – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding – Appeal	DR	X			Nov 21
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Nov 21
LLBO*** – Building Fire	DR		X	X	Nov 30
MT – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	EM		X		Dec 16

*Rosebud Sioux Tribe, **Pueblo of Acoma, ***Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



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