

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Monday, August 31, 2026

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Operations / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Operations

- Flash Flooding – Arizona – FINAL

Hazard Monitoring

- Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding – Southwest to Central Rockies
- Tropical Activity:
 - Atlantic:
 - Disturbance 1 (AL97): High (70%)
 - Disturbance 2 (Remnants of Dolly): Low (10%)
 - Eastern and Central Pacific:
 - Hurricane Karina (CAT 4)
 - Tropical Storm Lowell
 - Disturbance 1 (EP95): High (90%)
 - Disturbance 2: Low (20%)

Disaster Declaration Activity

- No new declaration activity

Event Monitoring

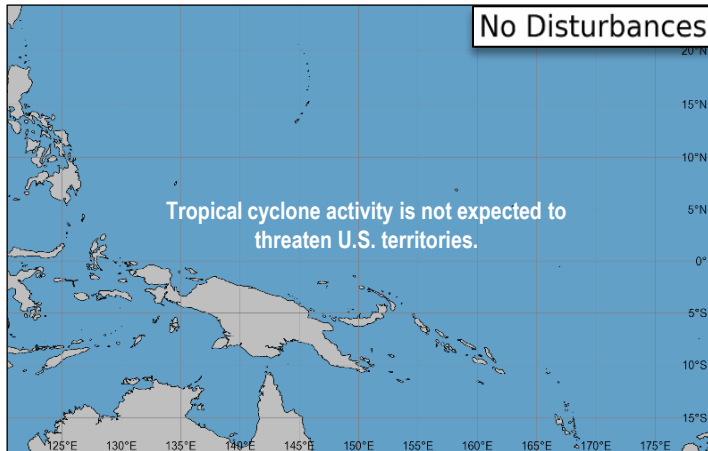
- No new significant events



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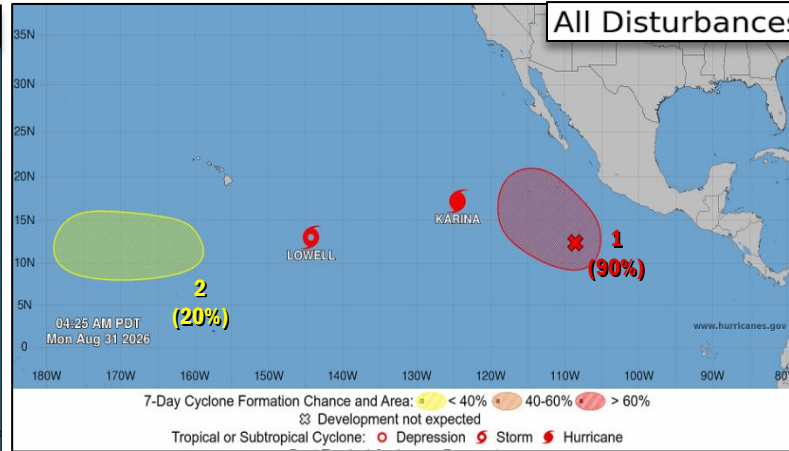
Tropical Outlook

Western Pacific



- Tropical cyclone activity is not expected to threaten U.S. territories.

Eastern and Central Pacific



Hurricane Karina (CAT 4): (Advisory #16, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- See next slide

Tropical Storm Lowell: (Advisory #15, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- See next slide

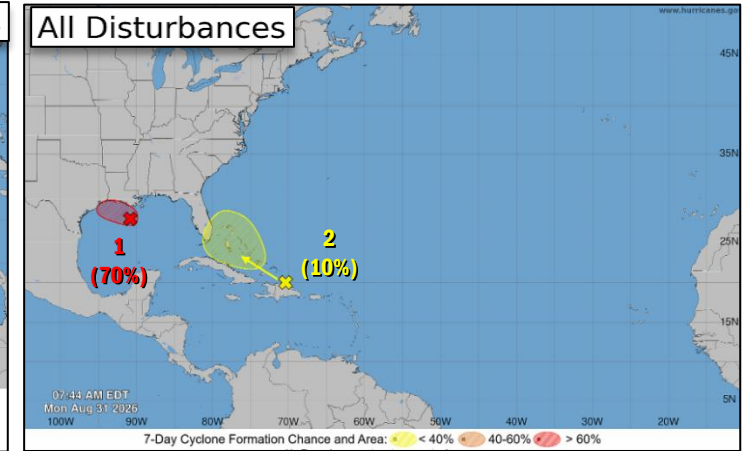
Disturbance 1 (EP95): (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located several hundred miles of southwestern Mexico
- Moving 10 mph
- Environmental conditions appear favorable for gradual development; a tropical depression is likely to form within next couple days
- Formation chance – 48-hour: High (90%); 7-day: High (90%)

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

- Located S or SW of the Hawaiian Islands
- Gradual development is possible
- Formation chance – 48-hour: Low (near 0%); 7-day: Low (20%)

Atlantic



Disturbance 1 (AL97): (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located more than 100 miles S of Louisiana coast
- Max. winds of 30-35 mph
- Additional development expected; short-lived Tropical Storm or Depression likely to form before system reaches Upper TX or LA coasts tonight of Tuesday morning
- Formation chance – 48-hour: High (70%); 7-day: High (70%)

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

- Located near Puerto Rico and USVI
- Moving WNW at 20 to 25 mph
- Redevelopment of this system is possible by mid-week
- Formation chance – 48-hour: Low (near 0%); 7-day: Low (10%)



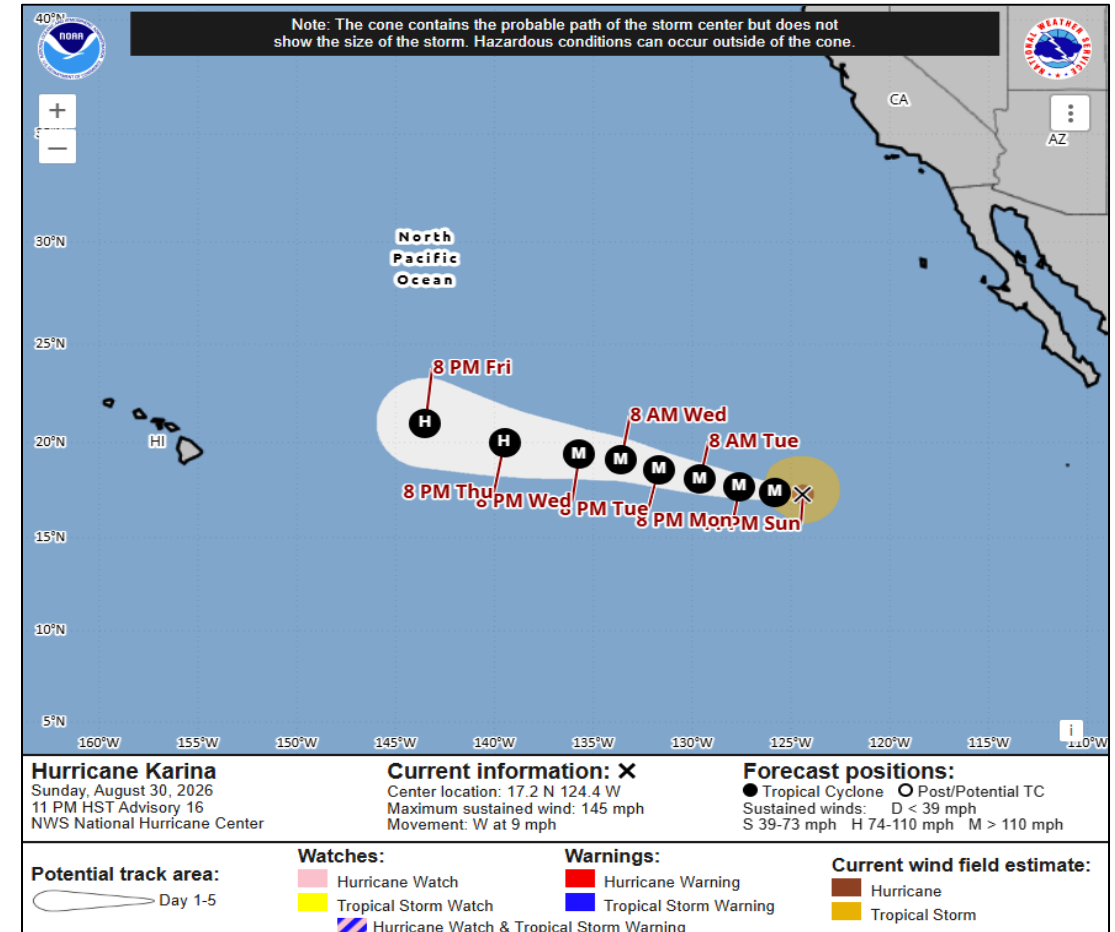
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Hurricane Karina (CAT 4) – Eastern Pacific

Situation: (Advisory #16, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located **1,020** miles WSW of the southern tip of Baja California
- Moving **W** at 9 mph
- Maximum sustained winds of **145** mph
- Hurricane-force winds up to **40** miles out from center
- Tropical-storm-force winds up to **150** miles out from center
- **Additional strengthening is possible today, followed by fluctuations in intensity through mid-week**



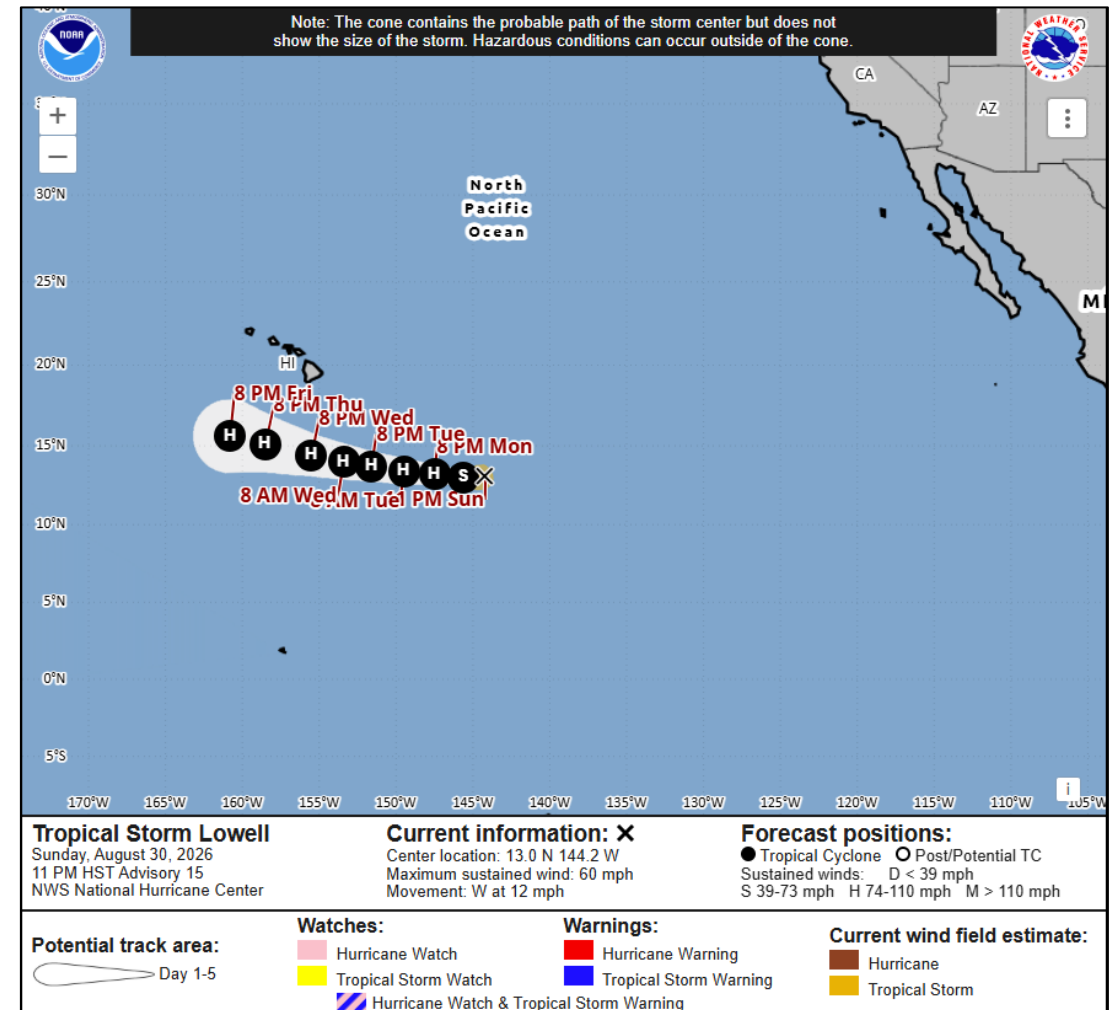
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Tropical Storm Lowell – Central Pacific

Situation: (Advisory #15 as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

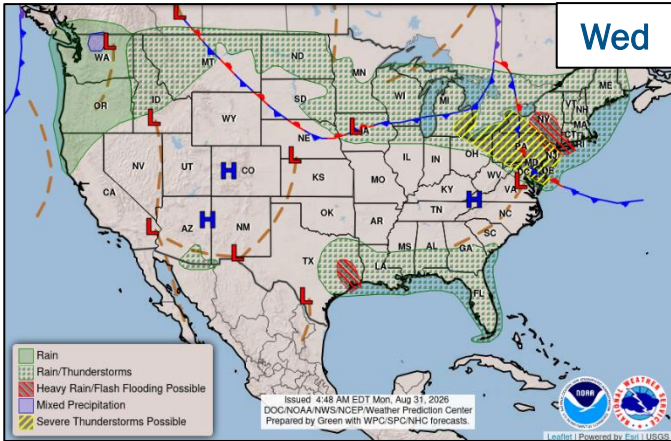
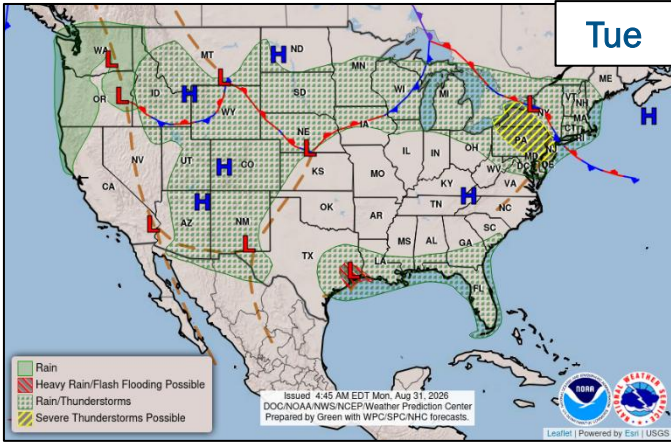
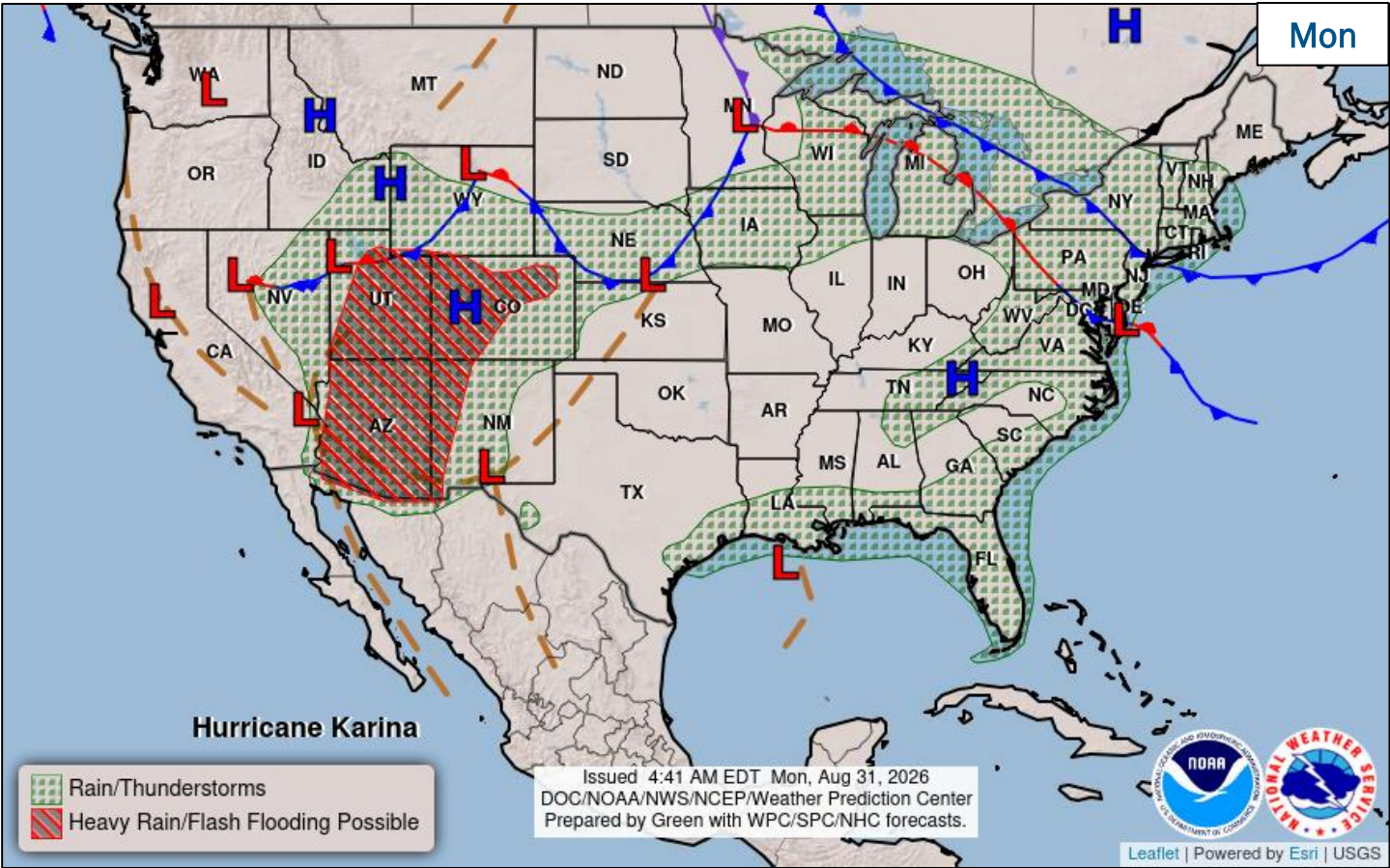
- Located **855** miles ESE of Hilo, Hawaii
- Moving **W** at **12 mph**
- Maximum sustained winds of **60** mph
- Tropical-storm-force winds up to **70** miles out from center
- Gradual strengthening is expected **over next few days**, and Lowell could become a hurricane by Monday night **or Tuesday**



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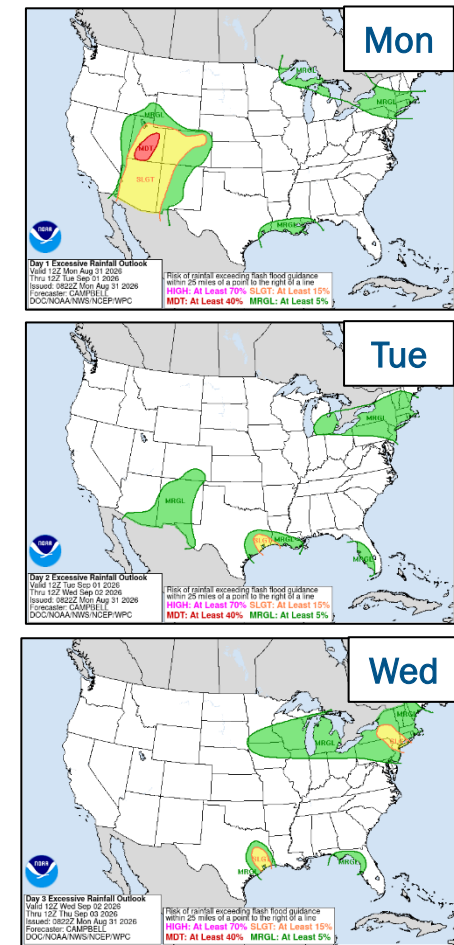
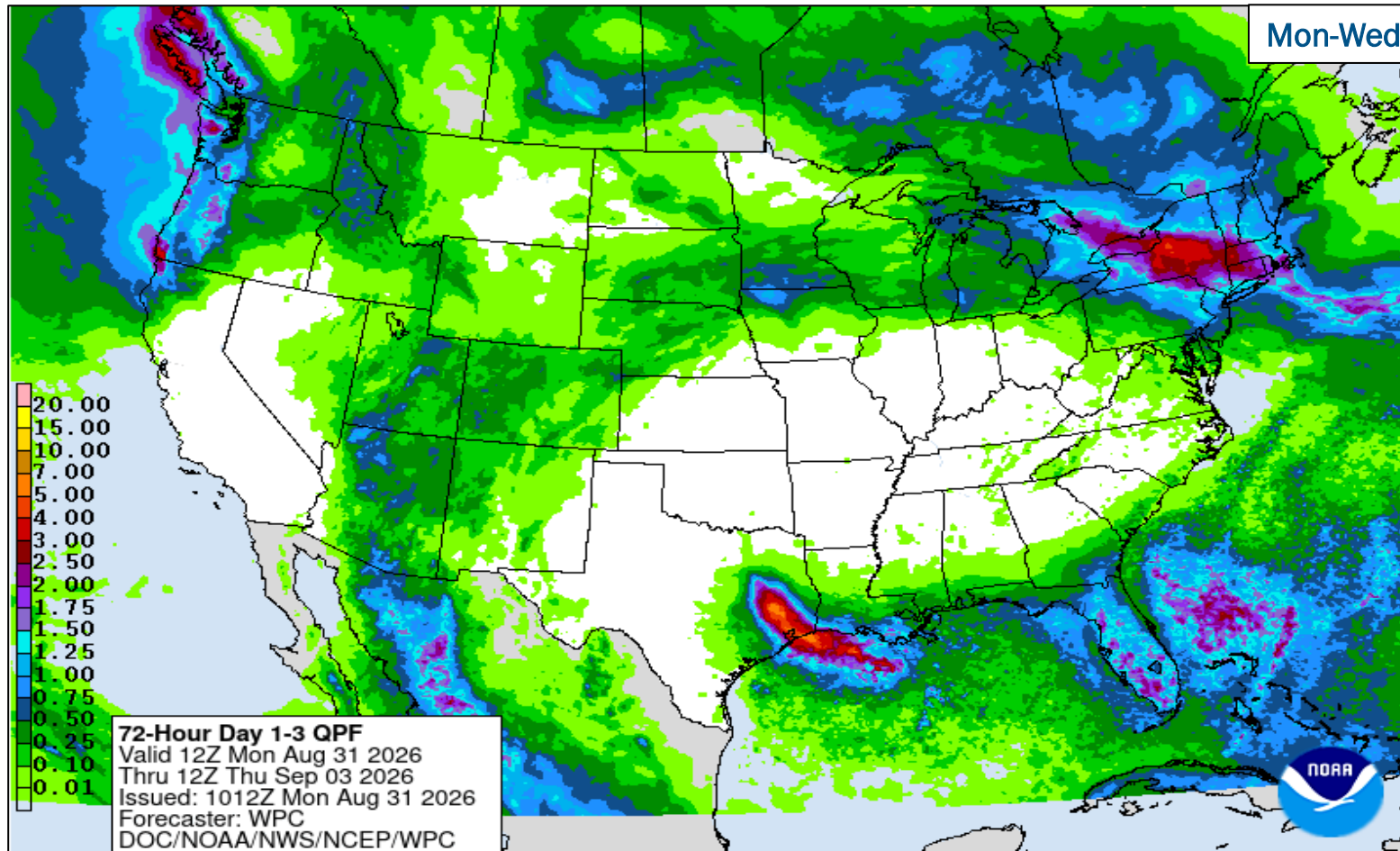
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National Weather Forecast



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Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



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Flash Flooding – Arizona – FINAL

Situation: A significant flash-flood event struck Bright Angel Canyon and the Phantom Ranch area of Grand Canyon National Park, prompting evacuations, closures, and ongoing damage assessments on August 29. The incident has garnered wide-spread media attention and open-source reporting indicates evacuations are ongoing, unconfirmed fatalities and unaccounted people ([Open- Source Media, as of 7:00 a.m. ET, Aug 31](#)). Major areas, including Phantom Ranch, Bright Angel Campground, the North Kaibab Trail, Black Bridge, Silver Bridge, and the Colorado River, are closed until further notice due to infrastructure damage, debris, and unsafe conditions. Additional thunderstorms and heavy rainfall may create further hazards, including flash flooding, debris flows, rockfall, and rapidly changing trail and river conditions. There is no request for FEMA assistance ([National Park Service as of 8:50 p.m. ET, Aug 30](#)).

Lifeline Impacts: ([FEMA Region 9 SPOTREP Update #1, as of 11:46 p.m. ET, Aug 30](#))

Safety and Security: A total of 80 individuals evacuated; 20 others remain unaccounted for
Transportation:

- Local roadways may be impacted in some areas due to debris or flood waters
- Portions of Colorado River closed to river traffic until further notice

State /Local Response:

- AZ SEOC at Normal Operations

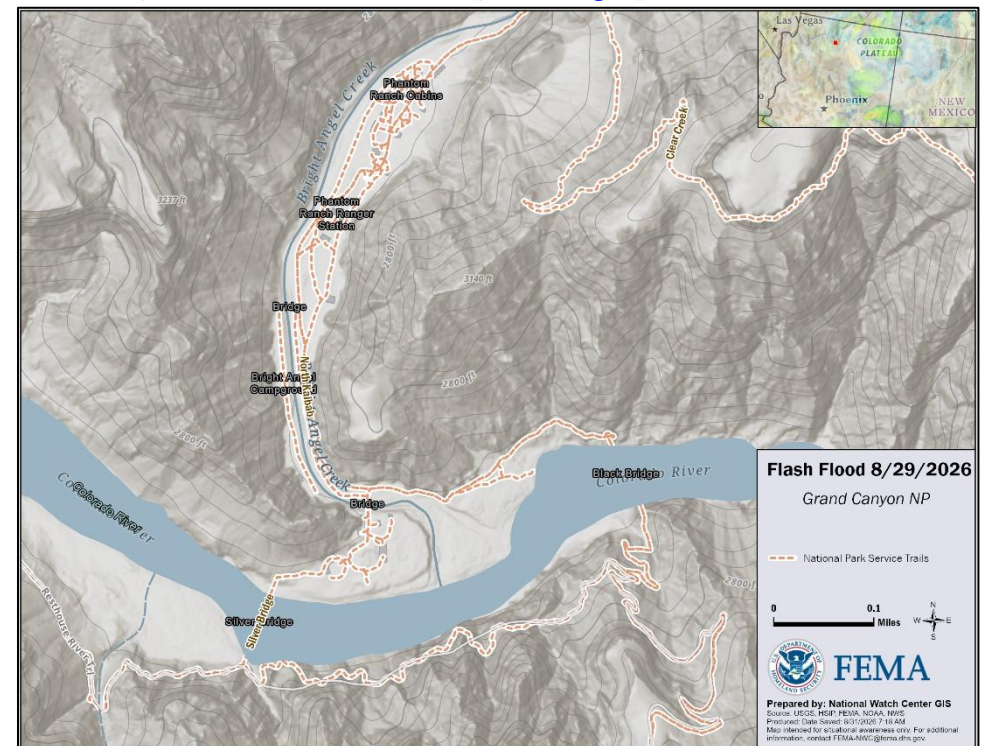
Federal / FEMA Response:

FEMA Region 9:

- RWC is Monitoring; RRCC is Rostered; R-IMAT 1 deployed (Carson City, NV Wildfires); R-IMAT 2 deployed (DR-4910-MP & EM-3647-MP)

FEMA HQ: NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Steady State

National Park Service: National Park Service Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) is enroute to support Grand Canyon National Park



FEMA NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region 9, however, barring any significant developments this will be the final report.



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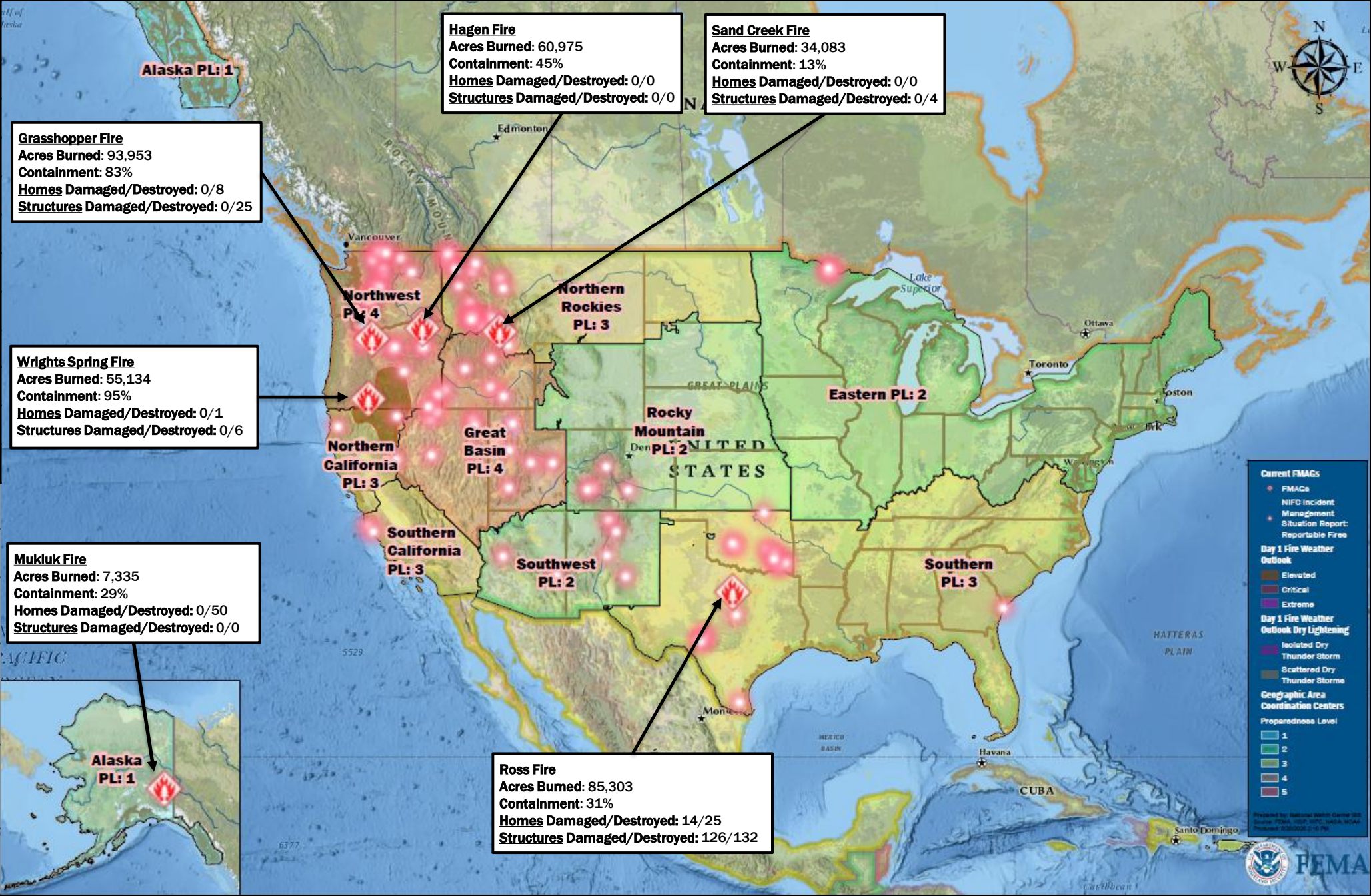
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National Fire Activity – August 31, 2026

PL 5

INITIAL ATTACK ACTIVITY (24-hour period)	Light (184 fires)
New Large Fires	8
Large Fires Contained	2
Uncontained Large Fires	98
Year-to-Date Acres Burned	8,221,246
Total Responders	22,168
Type 1 IMTs Deployed	1
Complex IMTs Deployed	15
FMAGS	Total
2026 (FYTD)	61
2025	75
3 Year Average	53

Preparedness Levels:	
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	
Grasshopper (Wasco, OR)	5648-FM-OR	93,952 (+29)	83%	M: 12	H: 2,288	H: 0	H: 8	0 / 16
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 25	
Hagen (Umatilla/Union, OR)	5664-FM-OR	60,975 (+144)	45% (+10)	M: 3,585	H: 1,434	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 6
				V: 0	O: 717	O: 0	O: 0	
Wrights Spring (Klamath, OR)	5666-FM-OR	55,134	90% (+5)	M: 27	H: 294	H: 0	H: 1	1 / 3
				V: 0	O: 701	O: 0	O: 6	
Sand Creek (Beaverhead, MT)	5671-FM-MT	34,083	13%	M: LIFTED	H: 168	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 6
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 4	
Mukluk (Southeast Fairbanks, AK)	5672-FM-AK	7,335	29%	M: LIFTED (-75)	H: 0 (-72)	H: 0	H: 50 (+6)	0 / 0
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 0	
Ross (Palo Pinto, TX)	5675-FM-TX	85,303	31%	M: 250	H: 100	H: 14	H: 25	0 / 2
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 126	O: 132	

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



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FEMA Common Operating Picture

National Watch Center

Incident Workforce

18,931
Assigned a Disaster Title

6,336 / 33%
Deployed

6,007 / 32%
Available to Deploy for 30 Days

6,588 / 35%
Remaining

Surge Capacity Force
7,702 / 0 / 770
Rostered / Deployed /
Est. Available to Deploy for 30 Days

Monday
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National Readiness

National Watch Center

NRCC

N-IMAT Red

N-IMAT White

N-IMAT Blue

N-IMAT Gold

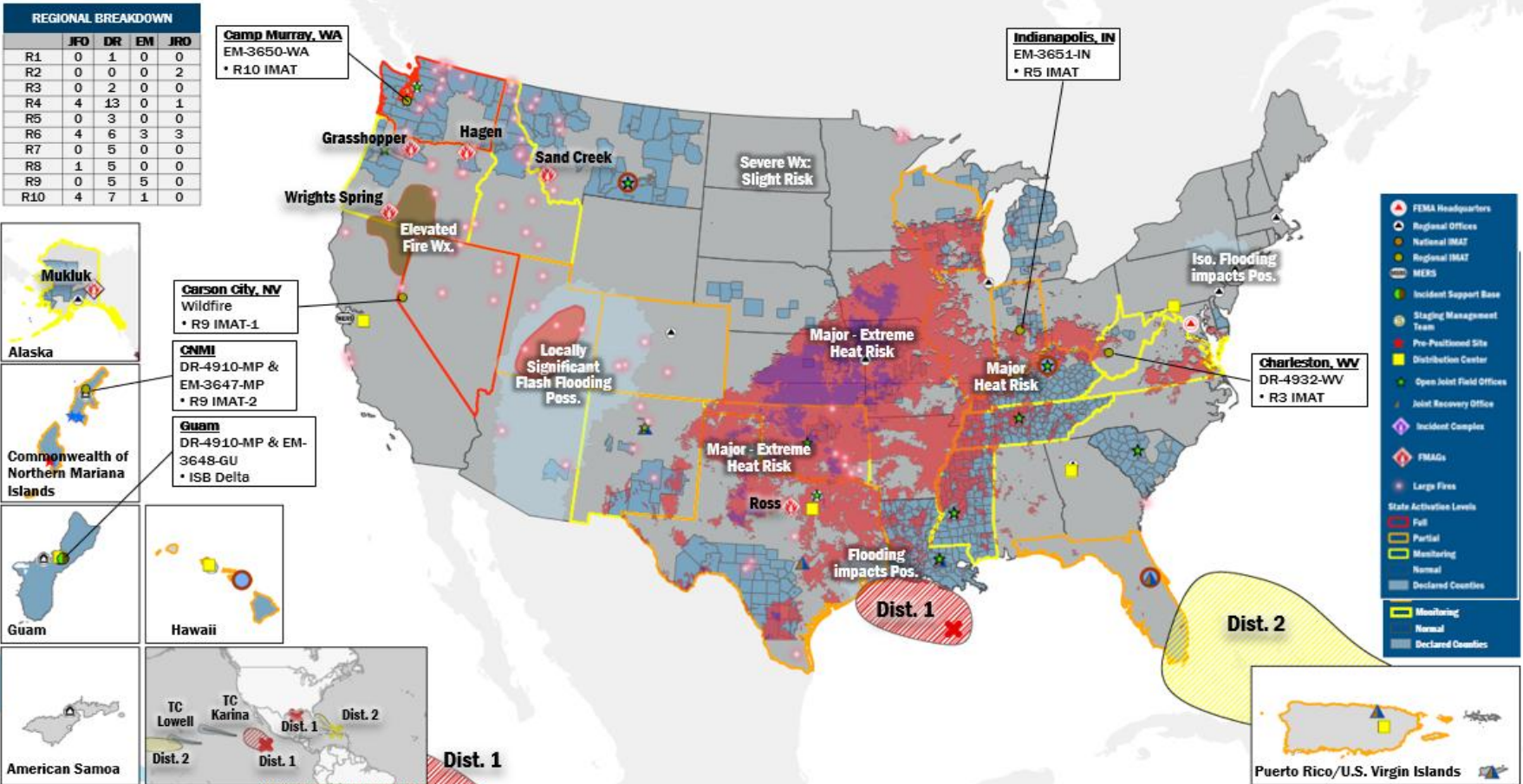
N-IMAT HS

National Notes

National Watch:
• NWC: Staffing

NRCC:
• Rostered

National IMATs:
• N-IMAT Red: Staffing
• N-IMAT White: Staffing
• N-IMAT Blue: Staffing



Regional Readiness

Watch RRCC IMAT

Region 1

Region 2

Region 3

Region 4

Region 5

Region 6

Region 7

Region 8

Region 9

Region 10

Regional Notes

Watches/RRCCs:
• R2 Watch: Equipment
• R5 Watch: Staffing

State EOCs:
• FL/MS: Previous Incidents
• AK/CO/ID/NM/NV/OK/OR/UT/WA: Wildfires
• IL/IN/KY/TN/TX/WV: Severe Weather
• MP: TC Bani/Saudel
• PR/VA: Drought
• WI: Support for 4923-DR-WI
• HI: TC Lala/Moke

IMATs:
• R1: Staffing
• R3: 4932-EM-WV
• R5: 3651-EM-IN
• R4-1/2: Staffing
• R7: Reconstituting (FMC 9/9)
• R9-1: 5674-FM-NV
• R9-2: 4910-DR-MP
• R10: 3650-EM-WA

Legend

- Fully Mission Capable
- Partially Mission Capable
- Requires Augmentation
- Deployed/Activated

Commodities & Equipment

	CONUS	Caribbean	Hawaii	Guam
Water				
Meals				
Generators				

SMT

Operational	11/11
Requires Augmentation	3/11
Deployed	0/11

MERS Det.

30/36 Operational	
Maynard	4/6
Frederick	6/6
Thomasville	6/6
Denton	6/6
Denver	4/6
Bothell	4/6

US&R

Task Forces	
Assigned	28
Non-FEMA Deployed	0
FEMA-Deployed	0
Not Mission Capable	0
Available	28
FEMA Support Staff	11/21

FCO

Assigned	38
Not Mission Capable	1
Deployed	30 (21 FCOR)
Available	7

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start – End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
R3	WV	Severe Storms Aug 15-18	IA	3	0	8/31 – TBD
			PA	0	0	N/A
R4	TN	Straight-line Winds and Severe Storms Aug 22	IA	1	0	TBD – TBD
			PA	1	0	TBD – TBD
R5	OH	Severe Weather Aug 11 and continuing	IA	23	23	8/24 – TBD
			PA	16	0	8/24 – TBD
	IL	Severe Weather Aug 11-16	IA	8	0	8/31 – TBD
			PA	0	0	N/A
R6	OK	Severe Storm Jul 4	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	4	0	8/31 – TBD
R7	KS	Severe Storms Aug 18--19	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	1	0	TBD – TBD
R8	RST*	Severe Storms, Hail, and Straight-line Winds Aug 11-12	IA	1	0	8/31 – TBD
			PA	1	0	8/31 – TBD

*Rosebud Sioux Tribe



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Declaration Requests in Process – 23

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
NY – Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, and Straight-line Winds – Appeal	DR		X	X	Mar 25
MA – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Apr 7
ND – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Tornadoes	DR		X	X	Jul 6
NH – Severe Storm and Flash Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 8
RI – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 15
TX – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Jul 17
NJ – Severe Winter Storms and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 20
HI – Earthquake	DR	X			Jul 21
ID – Severe Storm and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 22
KY – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR	X	X	X	Jul 23
SD – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 24
MO – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 28
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 28
OST* – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Jul 29
IA – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR		X	X	Aug 3
IN – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Aug 6

*Oglala Sioux Tribe



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Declaration Requests in Process – 23 (cont'd)

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
GU – Super Typhoon Bavi	DR	X	X	X	Aug 11
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Aug 11
MN – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X		X	Aug 20
UT – Cottonwood Fire, Flooding, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Aug 22
CO – Wildfires, Flooding, and Mudslides	DR	X	X	X	Aug 23
WI – Severe Storms and Tornado	DR	X	X	X	Aug 26
NV – Hawk Fire	EM		X		Aug 27



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