

FEMA National Watch Center

# Daily Operations Briefing

Saturday, September 28, 2024

8:30 a.m. ET



**FEMA**

# National Current Ops / Monitoring

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## New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

- Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene – Southeast

## Hazard Monitoring

- Excessive Rainfall/Flash Flooding – Southeast
- Fire Weather – Nevada
- Tropical Activity:
  - Atlantic:
    - Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene
    - Hurricane Isaac (CAT 2)
    - Tropical Storm Joyce
    - Disturbance 1: Medium (60%)
    - Disturbance 2: Medium (40%)
  - Eastern Pacific
    - Disturbance 1: Low (30%)

## Disaster Declaration Activity

- Approval: Emergency Declaration – TN
- Request: Major Disaster Declaration – NC

## Event Monitoring

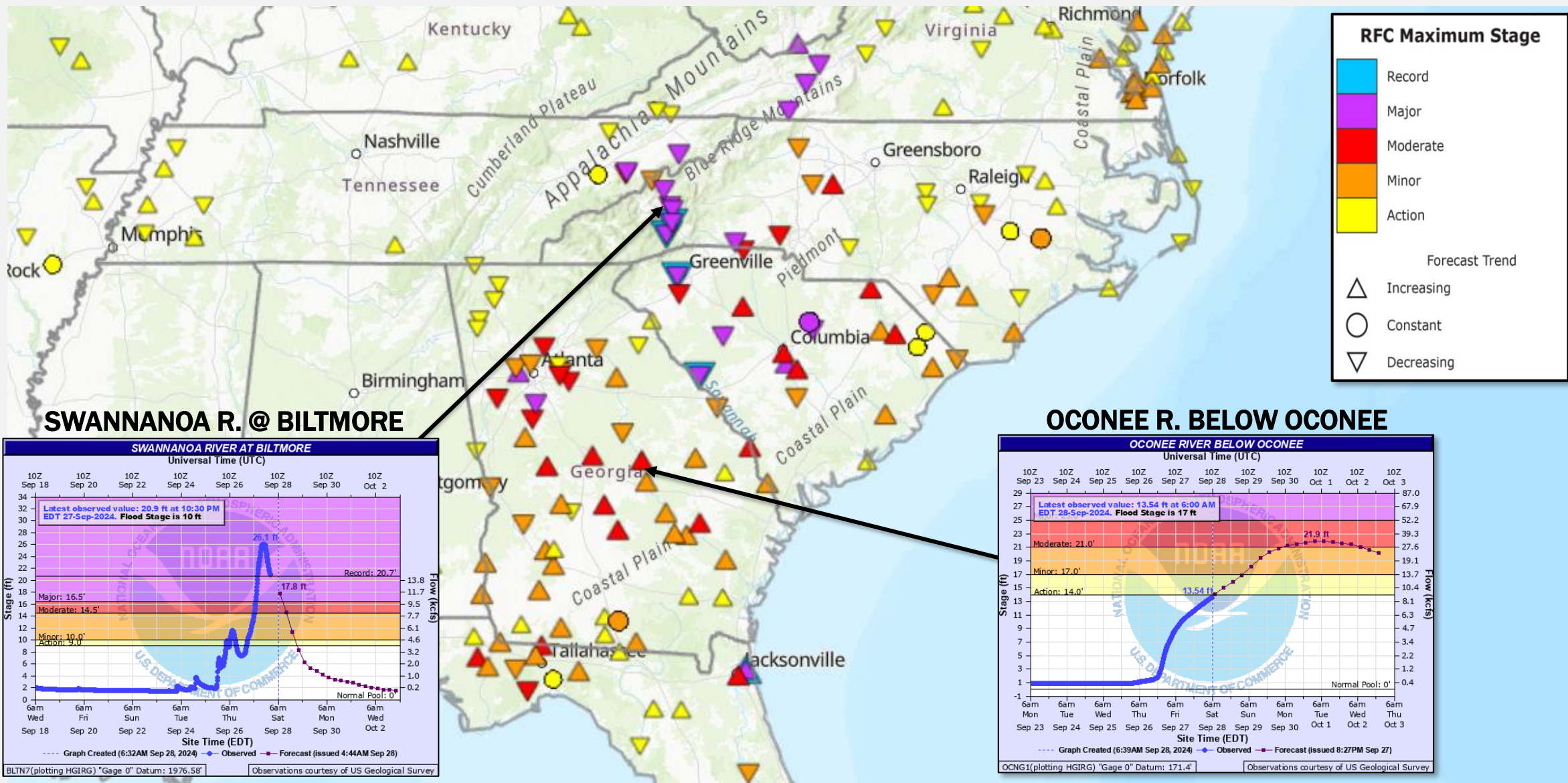
- 79<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly – NY



**FEMA**

# Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene

## RFC Max Stage Forecast (Trend)



# Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene – Southeast



**Situation:** Search and rescue efforts by local, state, and federal responders are ongoing. Significant road closures due to standing water and hazards are impeding response efforts, including power restoration, debris clearance, US&R, and damage assessments.

**Lifelines:** (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 7:00 p.m. ET, Sep 27)

**Safety & Security:**

- FL: 20 counties with mandatory evacuations / 7 counties with voluntary evacuations
- GA:
  - Mandatory evacuations in Camden Co. on Cumberland Island National Seashore
  - 58 county schools closed and 18 counties on remote learning
- NC: 4 (+3) counties with mandatory evacuations / 7 (+6) counties with voluntary evacuations

**Food, Hydration, Shelter:** (FEMA Mass Care, as of 7:50 a.m. ET, Sep 28)

- Region IV: 87 shelters / 1,900 occupants
  - FL: 43 (-56) shelters / 1,521 (-6,929) occupants
  - GA: 12 (-11) shelters / 128 (-669) occupants
  - NC: 21 (+6) shelters / 325 (+198) occupants
  - SC: 5 shelters / 22 occupants
  - TN: 6 (+5) shelters / 33 (+30) occupants

**Health & Medical:**

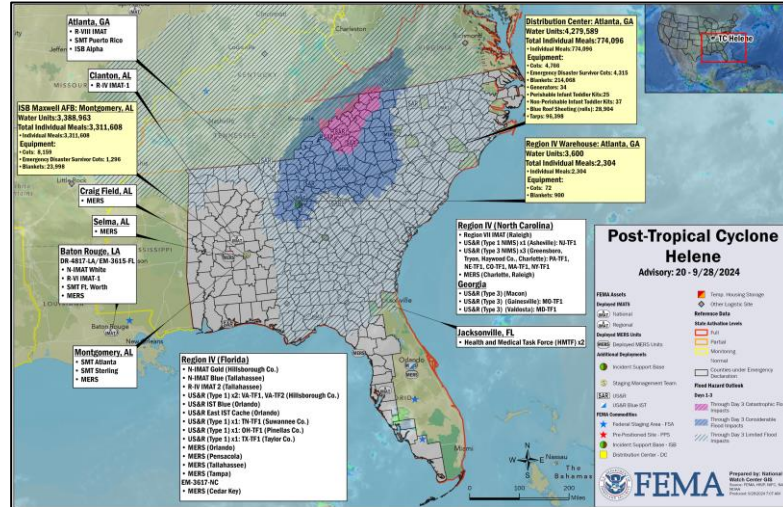
- FL:
  - 2 Health and Medical Task Forces (HMTFs) and 1 Healthcare System Assessment Teams (HCSATs) staged in Jacksonville
  - 54 healthcare facilities without power; 7 facilities damaged
- GA:
  - Public Health Emergency (PHE) declared by the Secretary of HHS
  - 18 medical facilities on generator power & 2 facilities without water; local and state resources addressing the concern
  - 11 confirmed fatalities reported

**Water Systems:**

- FL: 5 counties reported boil water notices. 3 wastewater systems are non-operational; more shutdowns are anticipated as assessments are ongoing
- GA: 1 wastewater system is non-operational

**Energy:** (DOE Eagle-I, as of 6:30 a.m. ET, Sep 28)

- Region IV: 3.3M (10%) power outages reported
  - FL: 486k (-714k) (4%) power outages reported
  - GA: 825k (-27k) (17%) power outages reported
  - NC: 724k (+632k) (14%) power outages reported
  - SC: 1.1M (+733k) (38%) power outages reported
  - KY: 140k (6%) power outages reported
- VA: 192k (5%) power outages reported
- OH: 224k (4%) power outages reported



**Communications:**

- GA: 905 out of 13,083 cellular sites are down; 93.1% operational in the impacted area
- NC: 111 out of 1,452 cellular sites are down; 92% operational in the impacted area
- SC: 111 out of 2,520 cellular sites are down; 96% operational in the impacted area

**Transportation:** (USCG Homeport, as of 1:30 a.m. ET, Sep 28)

- AL: Port of Mobile at Port Condition X-RAY
- FL:
  - Port St. Joe and Panama City are Condition Zulu, and Pensacola is Condition X-ray
  - All major Florida airports have re-opened including Tampa International, Tallahassee International, St. Pete-Clearwater International, and Gainesville Regional International
  - 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
  - Inspections are underway for railroads in the impacted area
- GA:
  - Ports of Savannah and Brunswick report Condition Yankee
  - All major airports including Hartsfield-Jackson International, Savannah Hilton Head International, and Augusta Regional Airport are open
- NC: Primary and secondary road closures are increasing due to flooding; multiple interstates and U.S. highways are closed due to flooding and mudslides
- SC:
  - All airports are operational
  - Amtrak suspended service in SC

**State / Tribal Response:**

- AL: SEOC at Monitoring (TC Helene)
  - Poarch Band of Creek Indians are 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; Emergency Declaration FEMA-3615-EM-FL approved
  - 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 on Sep 26
- NC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
  - Gov declared a State of Emergency
  - FEMA-3617-EM-NC approved
- KY and MS SEOCs at Monitoring (TC Helene)
- SC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
  - Governor declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-3619-EM-SC approved on Sep 26
  - Catawba Indian Nation reservation remains without power; tribal police are patrolling main roads
- TN: SEOC at Partial Activation (TC Helene)
  - Gov declared a State of Emergency; FEMA-3620-EM-TN approved on Sep 27

**FEMA / Federal Response:**

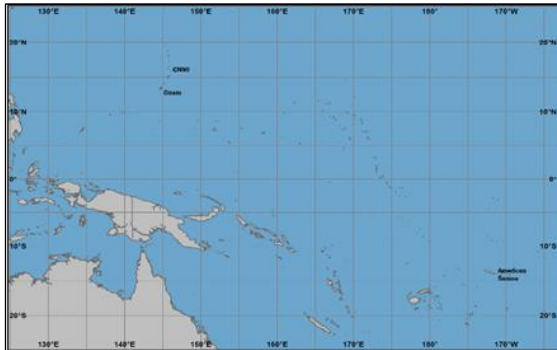
- FEMA RIV:
  - RWC is Monitoring; RRCC activated to Level II with all ESFs
  - Region IV IMAT-1 deployed to AL SEOC
- HQ: NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I
- IMAT:
  - N-IMAT Blue deployed to FL SEOC; Gold deployed to Tampa, FL
  - FEMA Regions VII IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC; FEMA Region VIII IMAT deployed to Atlanta, GA; FEMA Region X IMAT deploying to Sterling, VA today
- Logistics:
  - SMT Atlanta and SMT Sterling deployed to Montgomery, AL; SMT Puerto Rico deployed to Atlanta, GA
- US&R:
  - 21 (+6) US&R Task Forces deployed (7xType 1, 13xType 3; 1xMRP-W)
  - Incident Support Team (IST) Blue deployed to FL
- MERS:
  - MERS deployed to Tallahassee, FL, Orlando, FL, Tampa, FL, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL
  - Additional MERS assets enroute to Pensacola, FL, and Raleigh, NC
  - Additional MERS teams on standby to support US&R and operations in SC and GA

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).



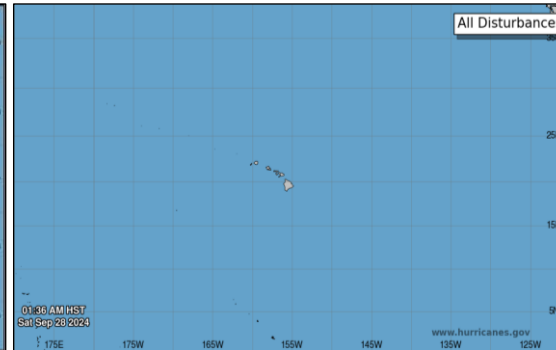
# Tropical Outlook

## Western Pacific



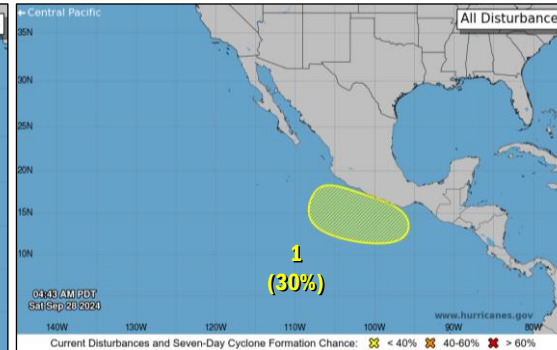
- No areas of concern for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or American Samoa

## Central Pacific



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

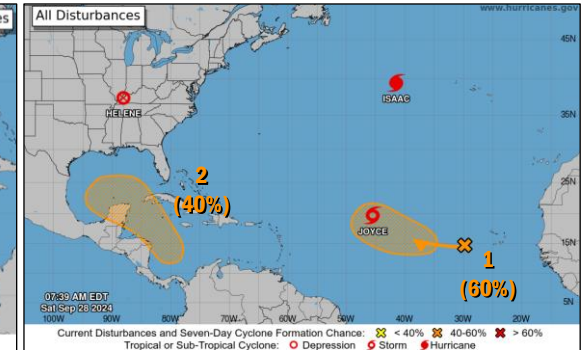
## Eastern Pacific



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

- Located off the coast of southern Mexico
- Slow development is possible
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Low (30%)

## Atlantic



### Post-Tropical Cyclone Helene: (Advisory #20, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 135 miles WSW of Louisville, KY
- Continued weakening is expected this weekend

### Hurricane Isaac (CAT 2): (Advisory #10, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Expected to weaken in the central N Atlantic

### Tropical Storm Joyce: (Advisory #4, 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 west of Cabo Verde Islands
- Tropical depression could form early next week
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (20%); 7-day – Medium (60%)

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

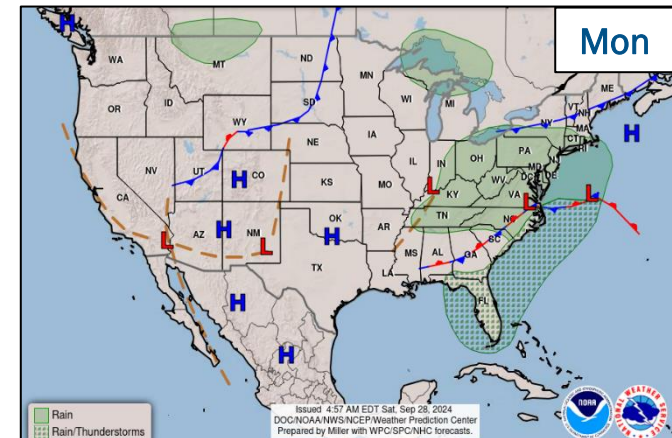
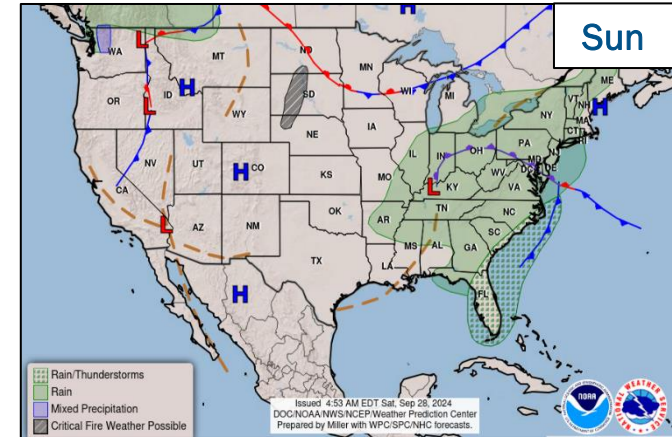
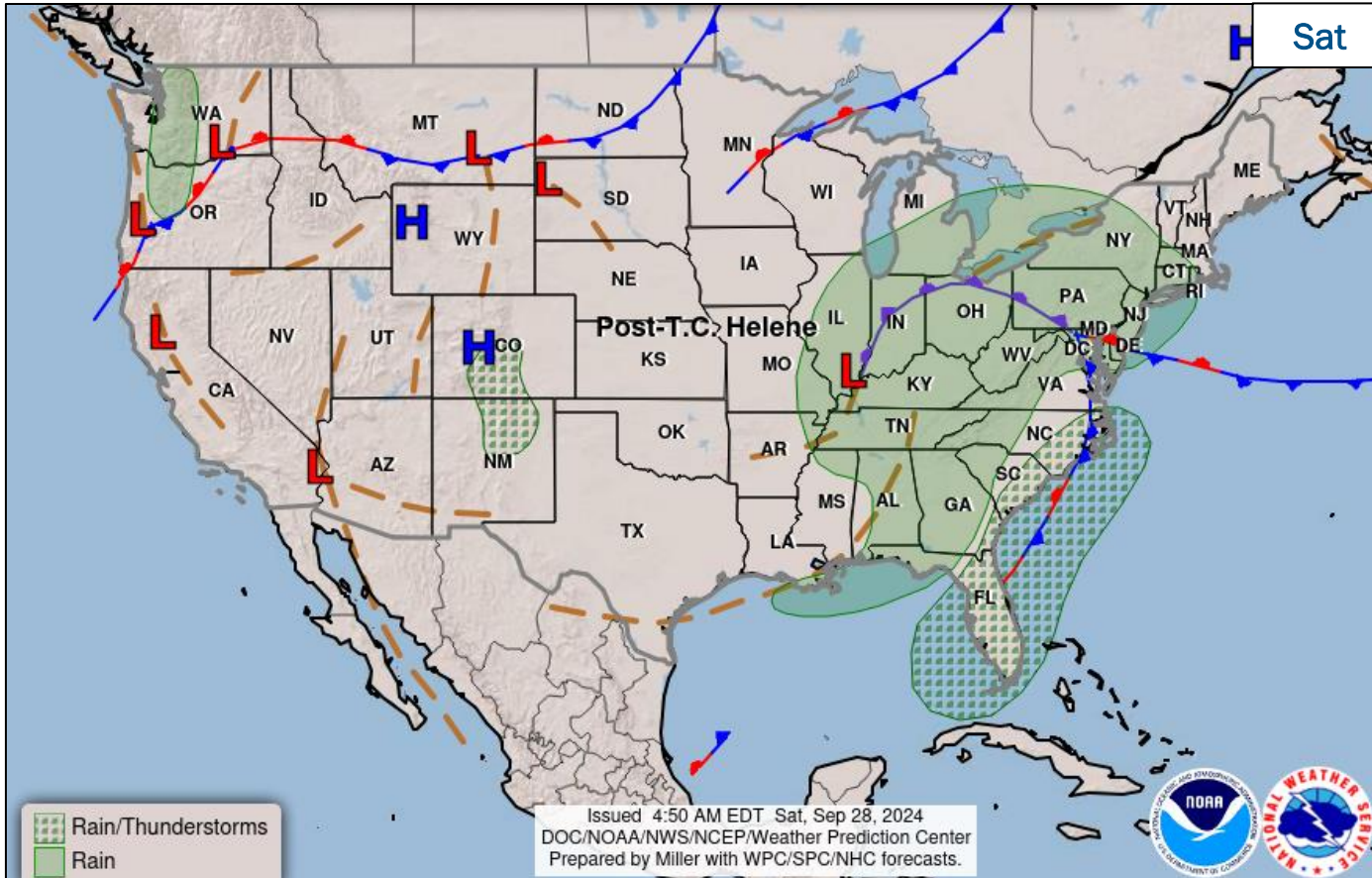
- Located over the Western Caribbean Sea
- Tropical depression could form by the middle of next week in the Gulf of Mexico
- Formation chance: 48-hour – Low (near 0%); 7-day – Medium (40%)



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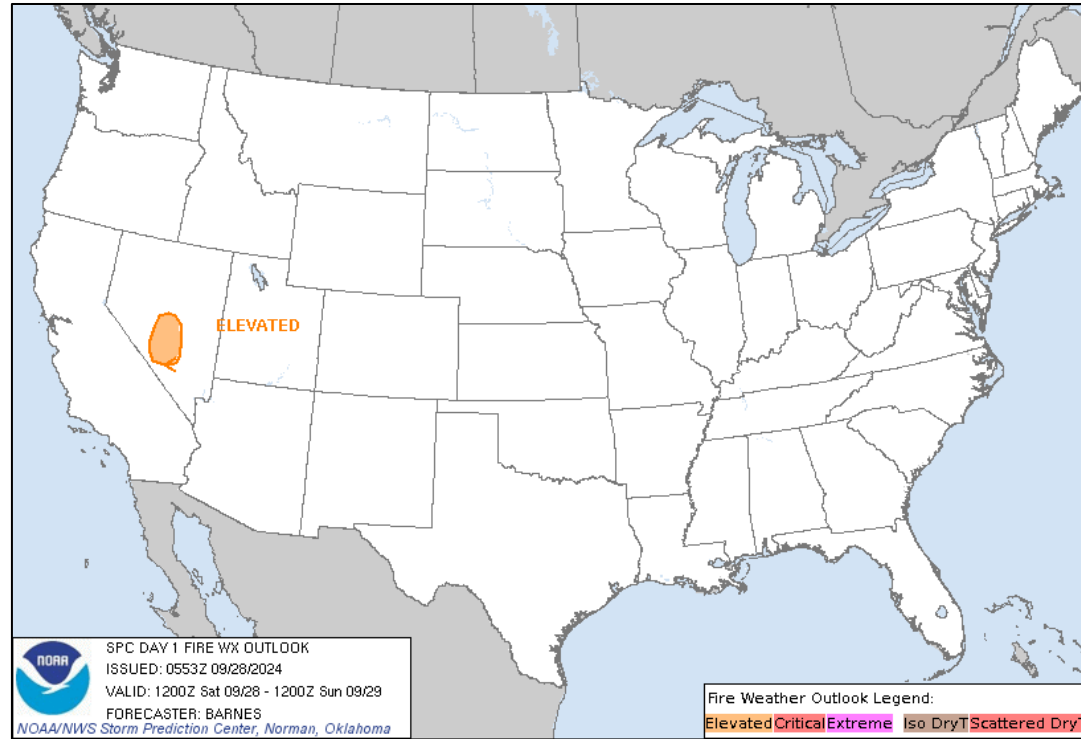
# National Weather Forecast



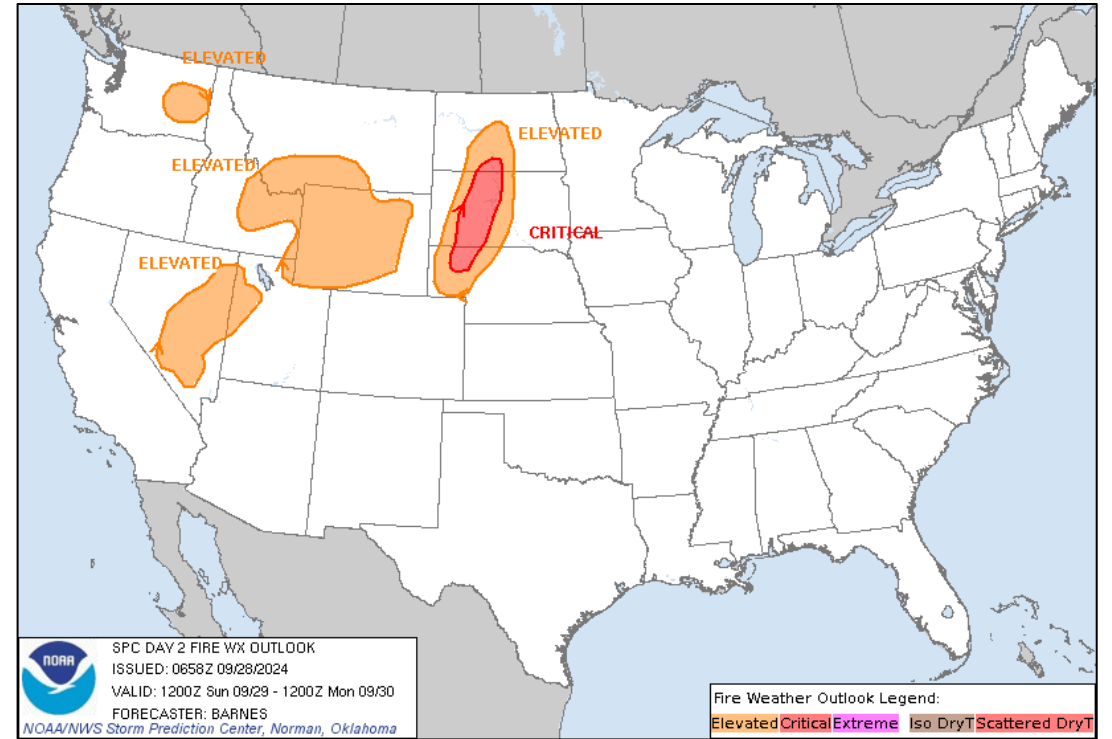
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# Fire Weather Outlook



Today



Tomorrow



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# National Fire Activity *(as of Sep 27)*

## National Preparedness Level

**PL 3**

Initial Attack Activity <i>(24-hour period)</i>	Light <i>(66 fires)</i>	
New large fires:	0	
Large fires contained:	3	
Uncontained large fires:	29	
Cumulative Acres Burned	7,889,846 (+12,162)	
Total Responders	10,546	
Type 1 IMTs deployed	1	
Complex IMTs deployed	10 of 41	

**U.S. Wildfires  
National PL 3  
9/28/2024**

**Wildland Fire Information**

- NICC Incident Management Situation Report
- Reportable Fires
- FEMA Assets:
  - Pre-Positioned Site - PPS
  - Distribution Center - DC
  - Temporary Housing Storage Site / Area - THSS-THSA
  - Other Logistic Site
- FEMA Regional Offices:
  - FEMA Headquarters

**Reference Data**

- State Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)
- Geographic Area Coordination Centers
- Preparedness Level:
  - 1
  - 2
  - 3
  - 4
  - 5
- GACC Boundaries

**FEMA**

Prepared by: National Watch Center GIS  
Product: 9/28/2024 1:00 AM  
Version: 9/28/2024 1:00 AM  
Map prepared for situational awareness only.  
For additional info, contact FEMA-WFCC@fema.dhs.gov.

### 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  
**104 + 14** Major Disasters Emergency Declarations  
**12** Direct Housing Missions **17** RSF-Supported Disasters **5** Joint Recovery Offices

Saturday  
 September 28, 2024  
 8:30 a.m. ET

FEMA HQ	
NWC	NRCC
Monitoring	Level I
FEMA REGIONS	
Watch	RRCC
Monitoring	I Rostered
Monitoring	II Level III
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

N-IMATs	
2-5 Teams Available	
Red	
White	LA (Sep 10)
Blue	FL (Sep 23)
Gold	FL (Sep 23)
HS	

R-IMATs	
≤ 3 Teams Available	
I	VT (Aug 19)
II	USVI (Aug 9)
III	PA (Sep 12)
IV-1	AL (Sep 24)
IV-2	FL (Aug 2)
V	IL (Sep 23)
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	VA (Sep 28)

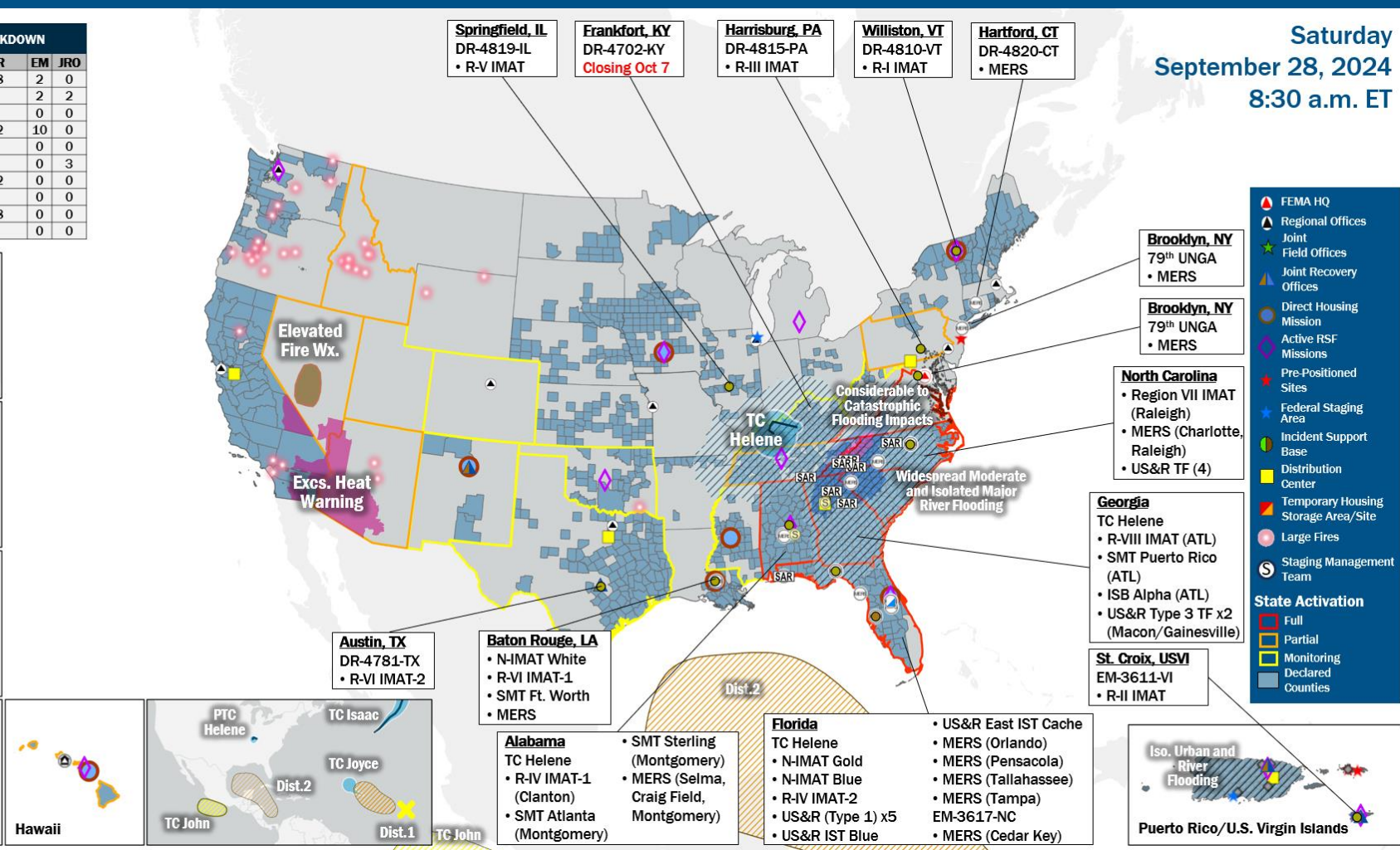
Notes:

NRCC/RWCs/RRCCs:	State EOCs:
• NRCC: TC Helene	• OK: Severe Weather
• RII RRCC: 79 <sup>th</sup> UNGA	• HI/OK/NM/NV/ID/WY/UT/NE: Wildfires
• RIV RRCC: TC Helene	• 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	Deployed
7,840	8 (-1)
Surge Capacity Force	
Rostered	Deployed
7,784 (+1)	0

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	22	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 (+48) Assigned  
 4,799 (+30) Unavailable  
 6,951 (-25) Deployed  
 14% / 1,943 (+43) Available

## IM Cadre Availability

17 Cadres ≤ 25% Availability

Civil Rights: 20% (33/164); Disability Integration: 19% (8/43); Disaster Survivor Assistance: 16% (192/1,182); External Affairs: 8% (42/516); Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: 11% (89/822); Field Leadership: 12% (18/145); Financial Management: 23% (54/237); Hazard Mitigation: 8% (89/1,184); Human Resources: 8% (13/172); Individual Assistance: 8% (199/2,525); Information Technology: 16% (106/662); Logistics: 11% (174/1,598); Operations: 7% (25/337); Public Assistance: 14% (311/2,263); Planning: 5% (22/451); Safety: 4% (4/93); Security: 21% (29/137)

**MERS**  
 ≥ 66%

36 Assigned  
 0 Unavailable  
 11 Deployed  
 25 Available

**US&R**  
 < 33%

28 Assigned  
 2 (-1) Unavailable  
 21 (+7) Deployed  
 5 (-6) 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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# Declaration Approval – Tennessee

**Declaration Type:** Emergency Declaration – FEMA-3620-EM-TN

**Date Requested:** Sep 27

**Date Approved:** Sep 28

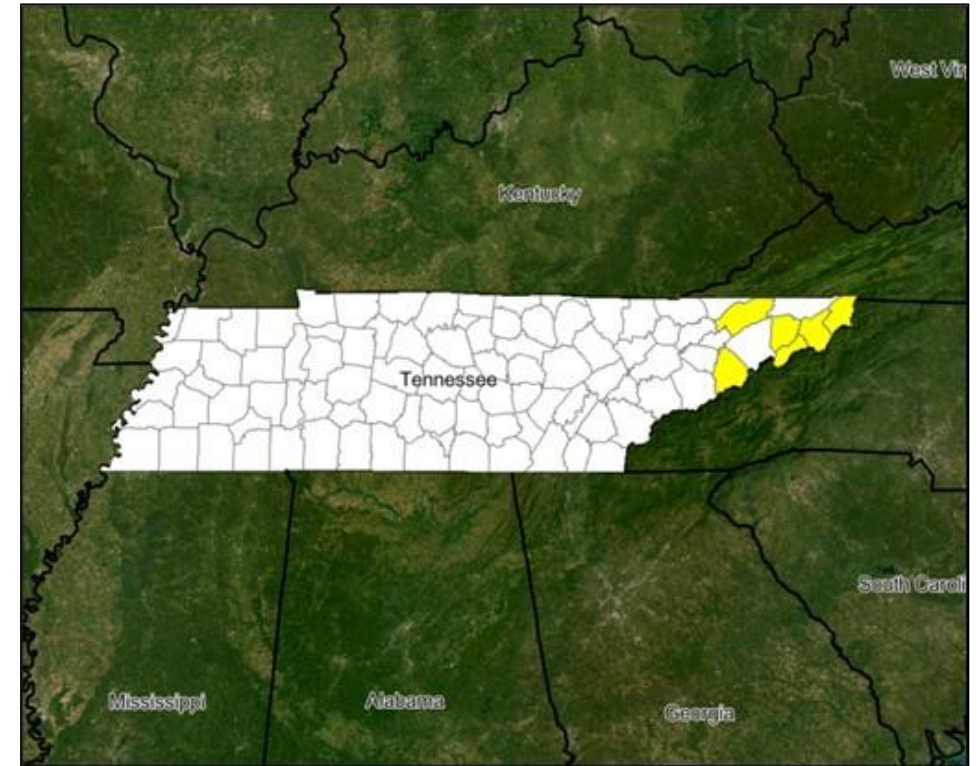
**Incident:** Tropical Storm Helene

**Incident Period:** Sep 26, and continuing

**Provides:**

- **PA:** 6 counties

**FCO:** Darryl L. Dragoo



■ PA



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# Declaration Request – North Carolina

**Declaration Type:** Major Disaster Declaration – North Carolina

**Date Requested:** Sep 27

**Incident:** Tropical Storm Helene

**Incident Period:** Sep 25, and continuing

**Requested:**

- **PA:** 39 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- **Hazard Mitigation:** Statewide



■ 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
TN – Tropical Storm Helene – APPROVED	EM		X		Sep 27
NC – Tropical Storm Helene	DR	X	X	X	Sep 27

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



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