

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Saturday, March 21, 2026

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Operations / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Operations

- Flooding / Kona Low – Hawaii

Hazard Monitoring

- Rain / Thunderstorms – Mid-Atlantic
- Freezing Rain – Great Lakes
- Critical Fire Weather – Central Rockies, Central Plains

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Major Disaster Declaration – Chickasaw Nation

Event Monitoring

- No new significant events



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Flooding / Kona Low – Hawaii

Situation: A significant Kona low storm system produced life-threatening flash flooding across the state of Hawaii, with the most severe impacts on the North Shore of Oahu (FEMA R9 RA Update as of 11:35 p.m. ET, Mar 20). The Wahiawa Dam was reported to be in imminent risk of failure and prompted evacuation orders for Waialua, Haleiwa, and Mokuleia, in Oahu for approximately 5000 people, however, the dam remains intact, and water levels have receded (USGS Wahiawa Reservoir Monitoring Location Report as of 7:15 a.m. ET, Mar 21). A Flash Flood Warning remains in effect until 11:00 a.m. ET for the Island of Oahu in Honolulu County (NWS Flash Flood Warning as of 7:56 a.m. ET, March 21). The National Weather Service forecasts additional heavy rain bands may develop on other islands (Maui and Big Island) and flash flooding is the primary threat with damaging wind gusts possible today (NWS Area Forecast Discussion as of 3:00 a.m. ET, Mar 21).

Lifeline Impacts: (FEMA R9 SPOTREP #6, as of 2:30 a.m. ET, Mar 21)

Safety and Security:

- 196 rescues were completed due to flooding
- Mandatory Evacuations remain in effect for approximately 5K people in Waialua, Haleiwa, and Mokuleia (Oahu, HI)

Food, Hydration, Shelter: (ARC Shelter Report, as of 6:47 a.m. ET, Mar 21)

- 11 shelters open / 48 occupants

Health and Medical: (FEMA R9 RA Update, as of 11:35 p.m. ET, Mar 20)

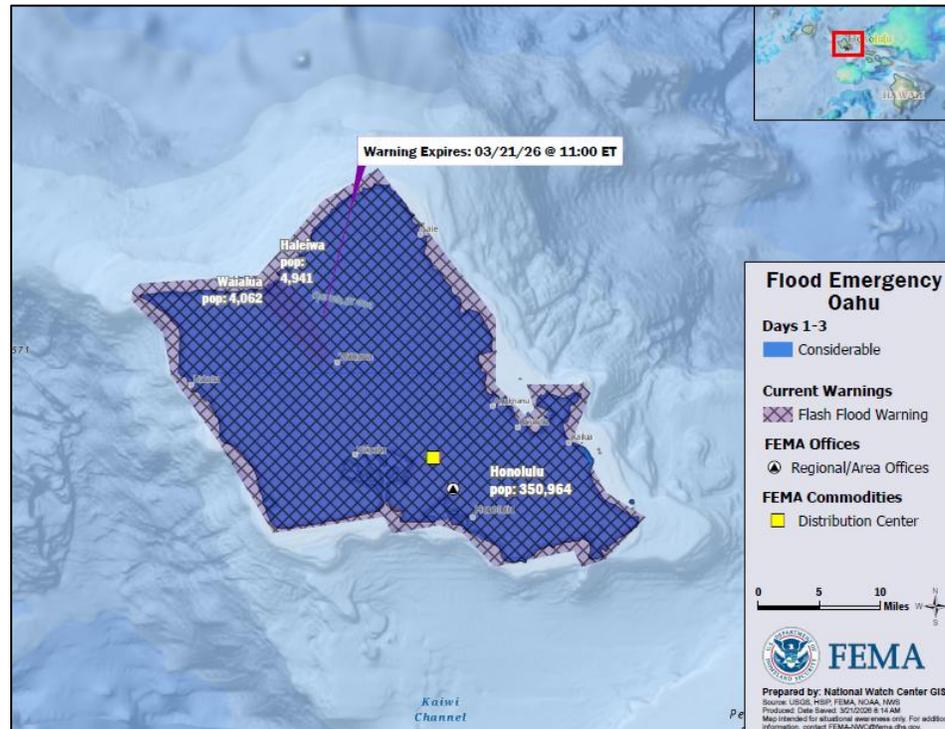
- No injuries or fatalities reported

Energy: (Hawaii Electric Oahu Outage Map as of 8:00 a.m. ET, Mar 21)

- 6,302 total customers impacted

Transportation:

- Multiple road closures in Honolulu County
- All airports remain open
- All seaports are open



The National Watch Center will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region 9 with continued reporting twice daily in the FEMA Daily Operations Brief (8:30 a.m. ET) and FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m. ET / 3:00 a.m. ET)

State / Local Response:

- HI SEOC is at Full Activation (Severe Weather / Wildfire Recovery)
 - HI National Guard activated
 - Governor issued Emergency Proclamation for Kona Low event

FEMA / Federal Response:

FEMA Region 9:

- Regional Watch is Monitoring; RRCC is Rostered (will activate to Level 3 today at 11:00 a.m. ET with select ESF's)
- FEMA Region 9 Hawaii FEMA Integration Team (FIT) is deployed to Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA) SEOC
- R-IMAT 1 deploying to HI from AL; R-IMAT 2 deployed to AL for training as of Mar 15 (available for disaster response)
- Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) teams deploying today

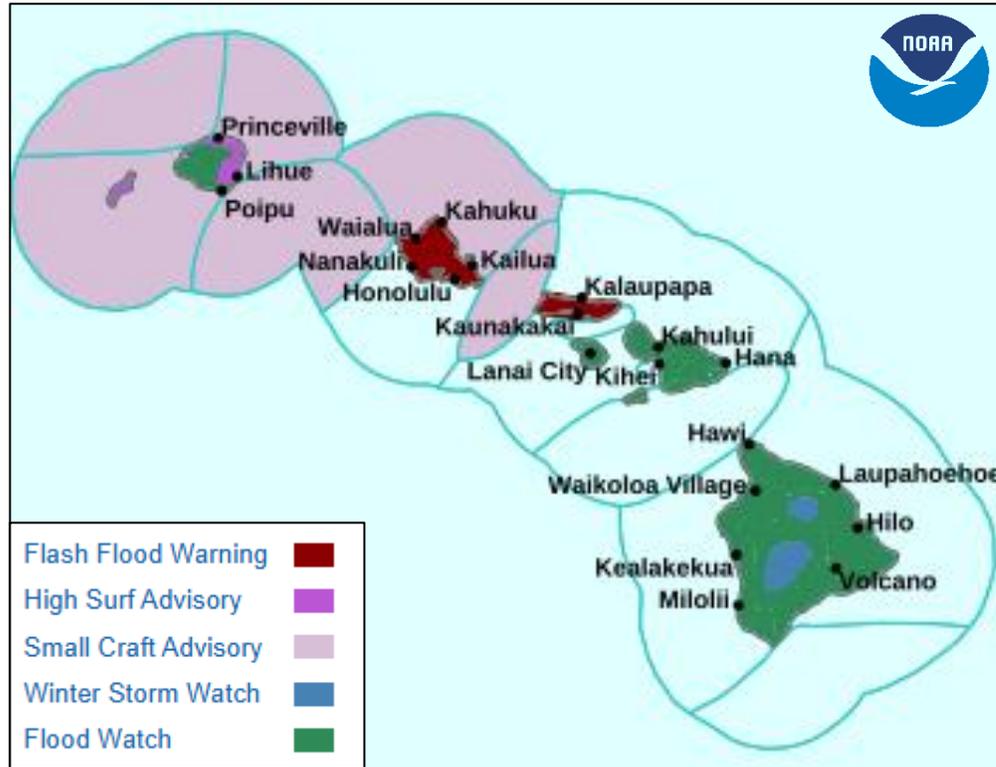
HQ

- NWC is Monitoring
- USR ESF #9 advisory issued
- Staging Management Teams (SMT's) Hawaii and Tracy deploying to distribution center in Hawaii

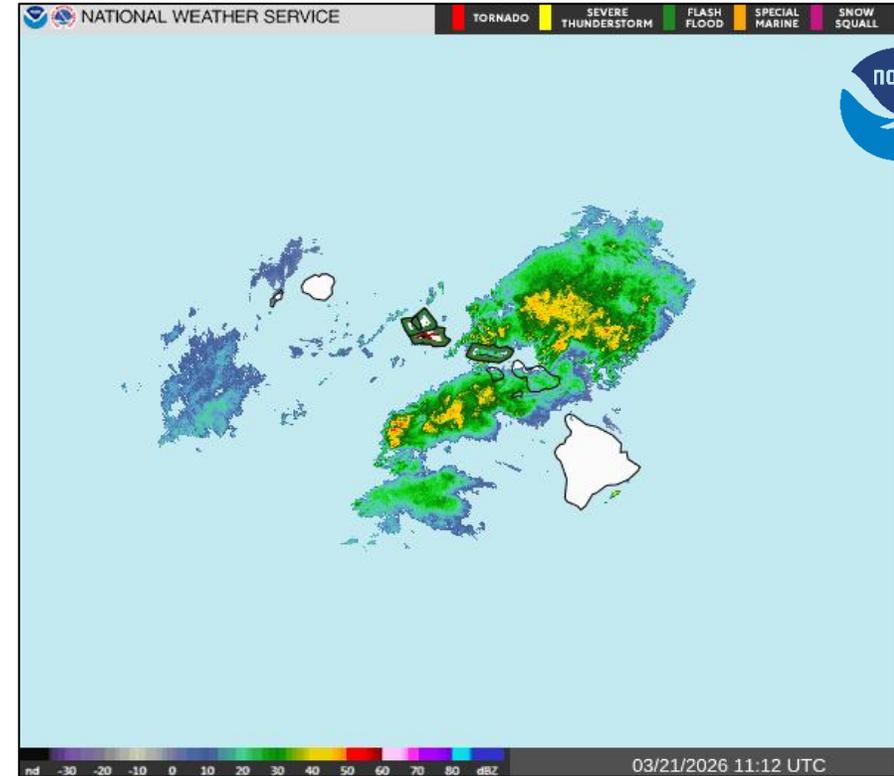


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Hawaii Weather Outlook



Watches and Warnings

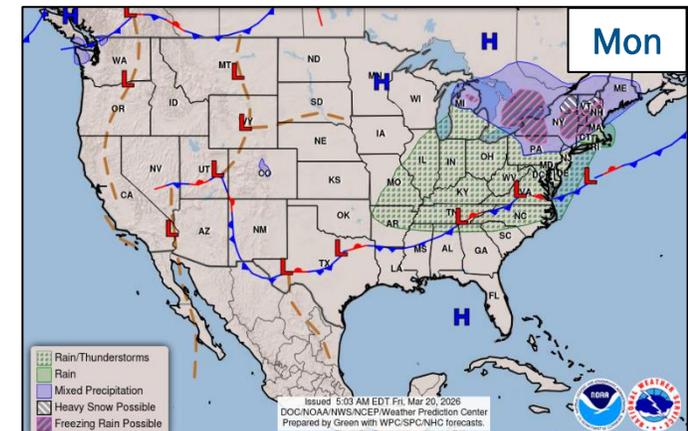
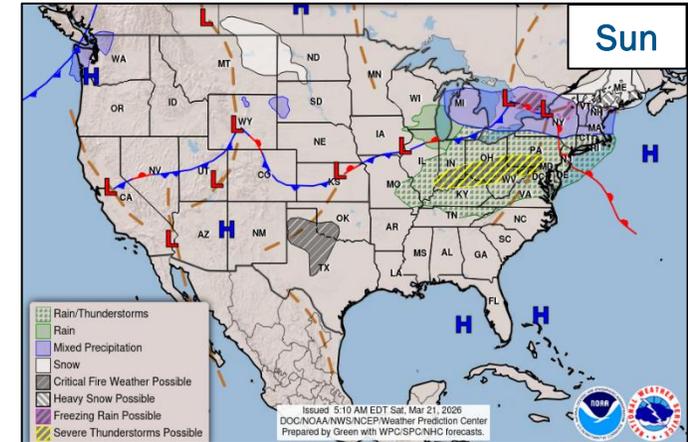
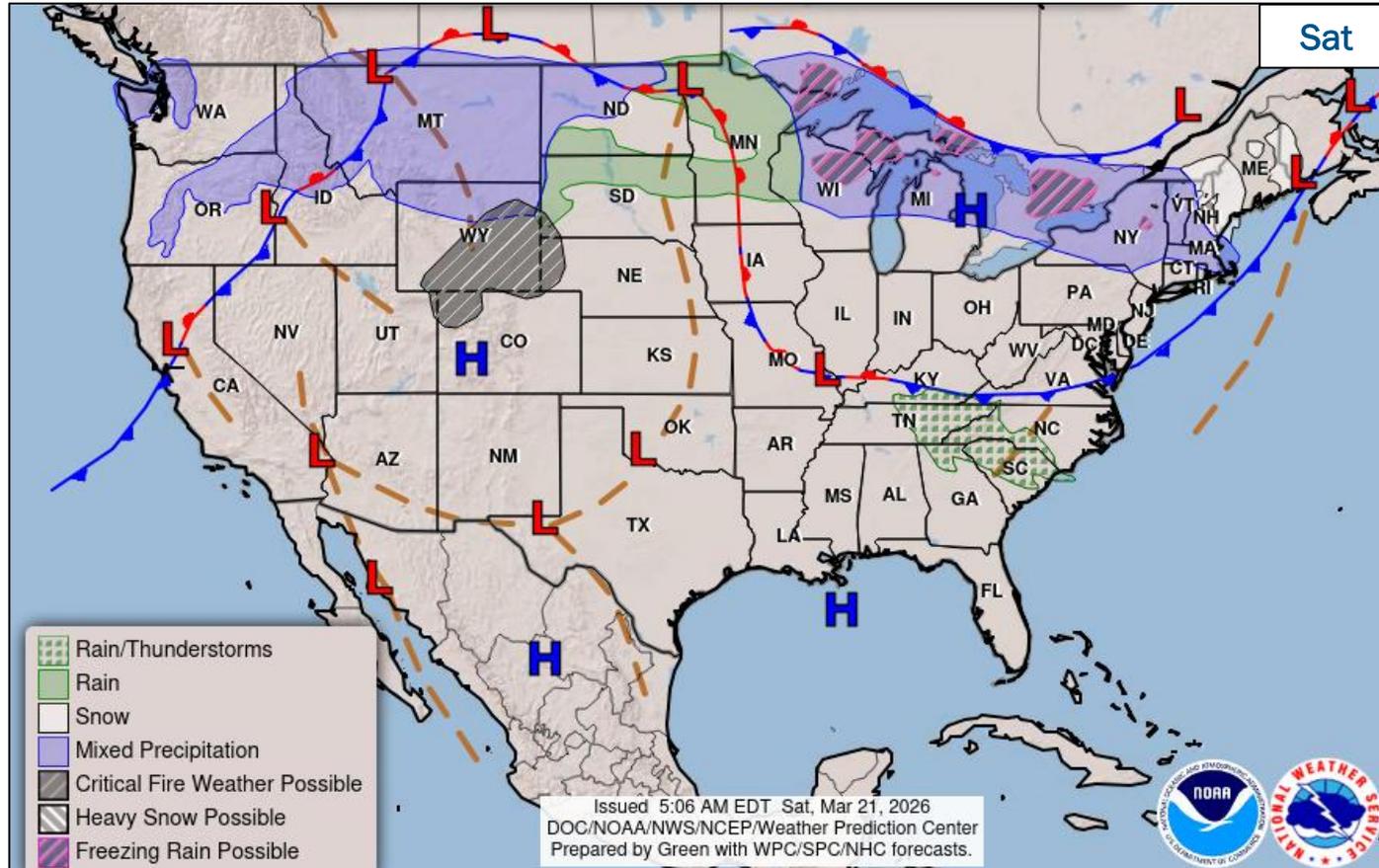


Weather Radar



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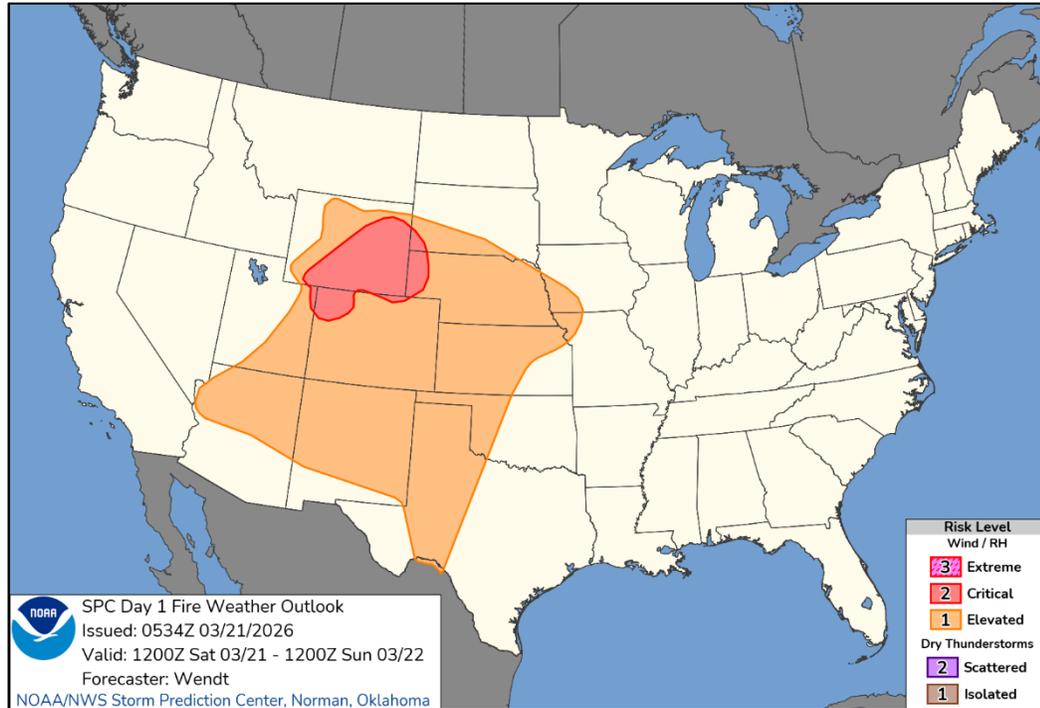
National Weather Forecast



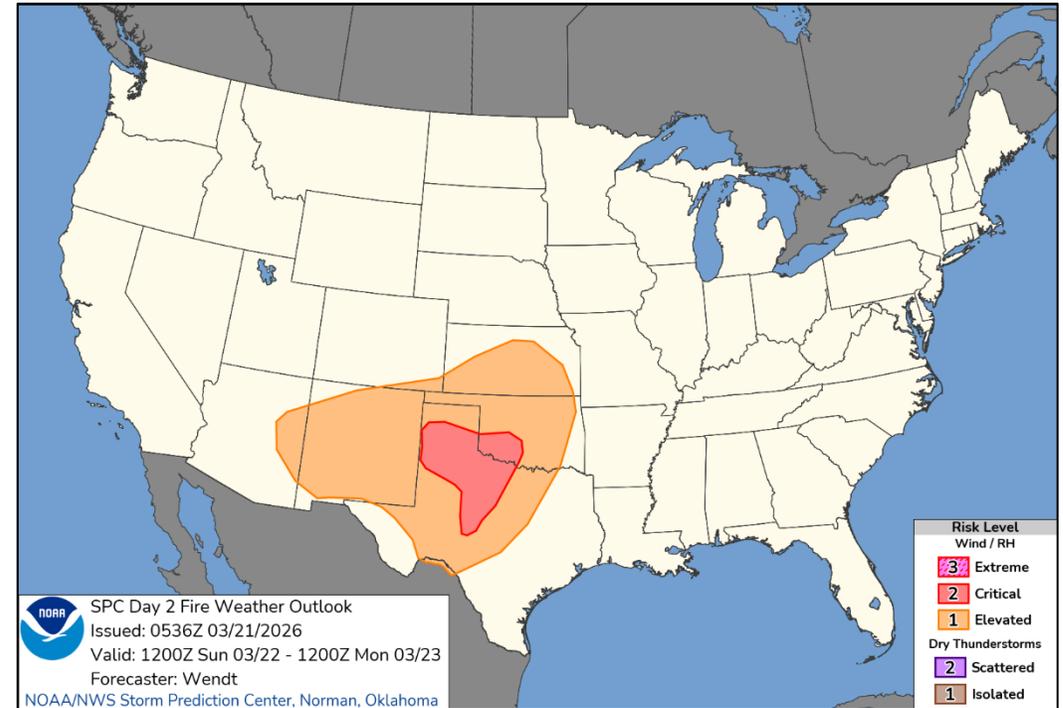
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Fire Weather Outlook



Today



Tomorrow



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Wildfire Summary

Fire Name (County, ST)	FMAG #	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures (Homes / Other)			Fatalities / Injuries
					Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
Qury (Custer, SD) FINAL	5622-FM-SD	9,168 (+7)	57% (+30)	M: LIFTED	H: 50	H: 0	H: 6	0 / 0
				V: 0	O: 25	O: 4	O: 5	
Cottonwood (Lincoln, NE)	5623-FM-NE	128,192 (+156)	94% (+14)	M: 300	H: 170	H: 2	H: 3	0 / 1 (+1)
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 41	
Buckhorn (Murray, OK)	5626-FM-NE	1,585	0%	M: 0	H: 600	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 0
				V: 164	O: 0	O: 0	O: 0	



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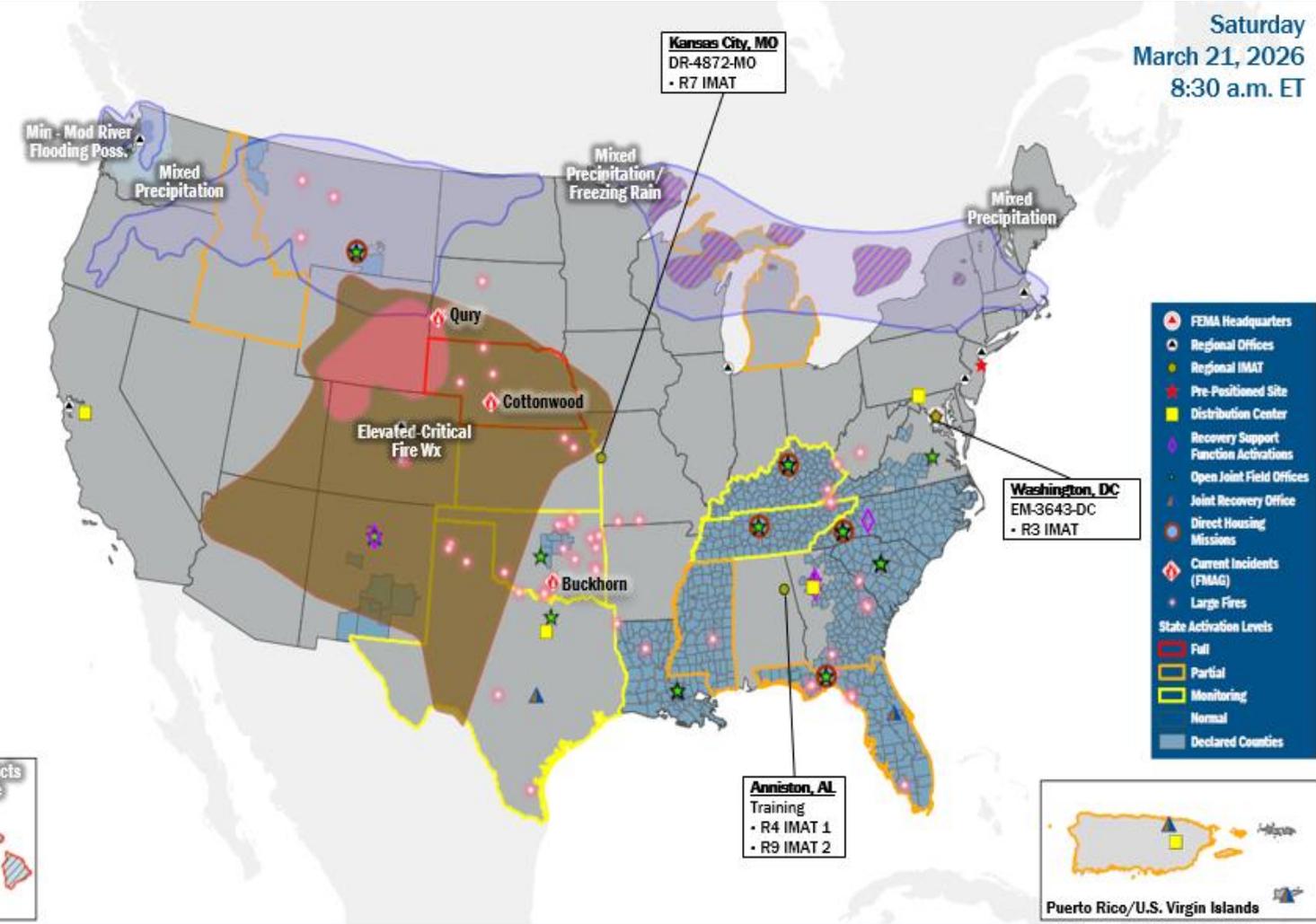
FEMA Common Operating Picture

14 Joint Field Offices **24** + **10** Major Disasters **8** Direct Housing Missions **5** RSF-Supported Disasters **6** Joint Recovery Offices

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
Monitoring	R8 Rostered
Monitoring	R9 Rostered
Monitoring	R10 Rostered
Notes:	
NRCC/RWCs/RRCCs: • R5 RWC: Staffing (Dayshift Only) • R9 IMAT-1: Enroute to HI; EOD Mar 22	State EOCs: • DC: Potomac Interceptor • FL: Previous Incidents • MS: Winter Storm • PR: Influenza Epidemic • HI/KS/NE/OK/TX: Wildfires • HI/KY/MI/OK/TN/TX: Severe Weather • MS: Winter Weather • ID: Atmospheric Event
Surge Capacity Force	
Rostered 7,965	Deployed 0

N-IMATs	
2-5 Teams Available	
Red	
White	
Blue	
Gold	
HS	
R-IMATs	
≥ 7 Teams Available	
R1	
R2	3
R3	DC (Feb 24)
R4 (1)	AL* (Mar 15)
R4 (2)	Reconstituting
R5	
R6 (1)	
R6 (2)	
R7	MO (Feb 15)
R8	1
R9 (1)	HI (Mar 22)
R9 (2)	AL* (Mar 15)
R10	2
Legend: 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	1	1	0
R4	6	17	6	1
R5	0	0	0	0
R6	4	4	2	3
R7	0	0	0	0
R8	1	1	1	0
R9	0	0	0	0
R10	1	1	0	0



Saturday
March 21, 2026
8:30 a.m. ET

IM Workforce
11,266 Assigned
4,186 (+22) Unavailable
2,543 (-8) Deployed

40% / 4,537 (-14) Available

IM Cadre Availability
7 Cadres ≤ 25% Availability
Civil Rights: 23% (22/94); Disability Integration: 19% (3/16); External Affairs: 25% (67/270); Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: 17% (108/641); Field Leadership: 18% (21/118); Hazard Mitigation: 19% (148/764); Planning: 19% (67/345)

MERS
≥ 66%
36 Assigned
6 Unavailable
0 Deployed

30 Available

US&R
≥ 66%
28 Assigned
0 Unavailable
0 Deployed

28 Available

FCO
2 Type I
35 Assigned
2 Unavailable
26 (14 FCOR) Deployed

7 Available

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Incident	IA	Number of Counties		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Completed	
1	MA	Severe Winter Storm Feb 22-23	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	6	0	3/11 - TBD
	MWT*	Severe Winter Storm Feb 22-23	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	1	0	3/18 - TBD
	RI	Severe Winter Storm	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	5	0	3/12 - TBD
2	NJ	Winter Storm Feb 22-23	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	19	0	3/13 - TBD
	NY	Winter Storm Feb 22	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	8 (+5)	0	3/16 - TBD
3	DE	Severe Winter Storm Feb 22-23	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	3	0	3/16 - TBD

*Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe



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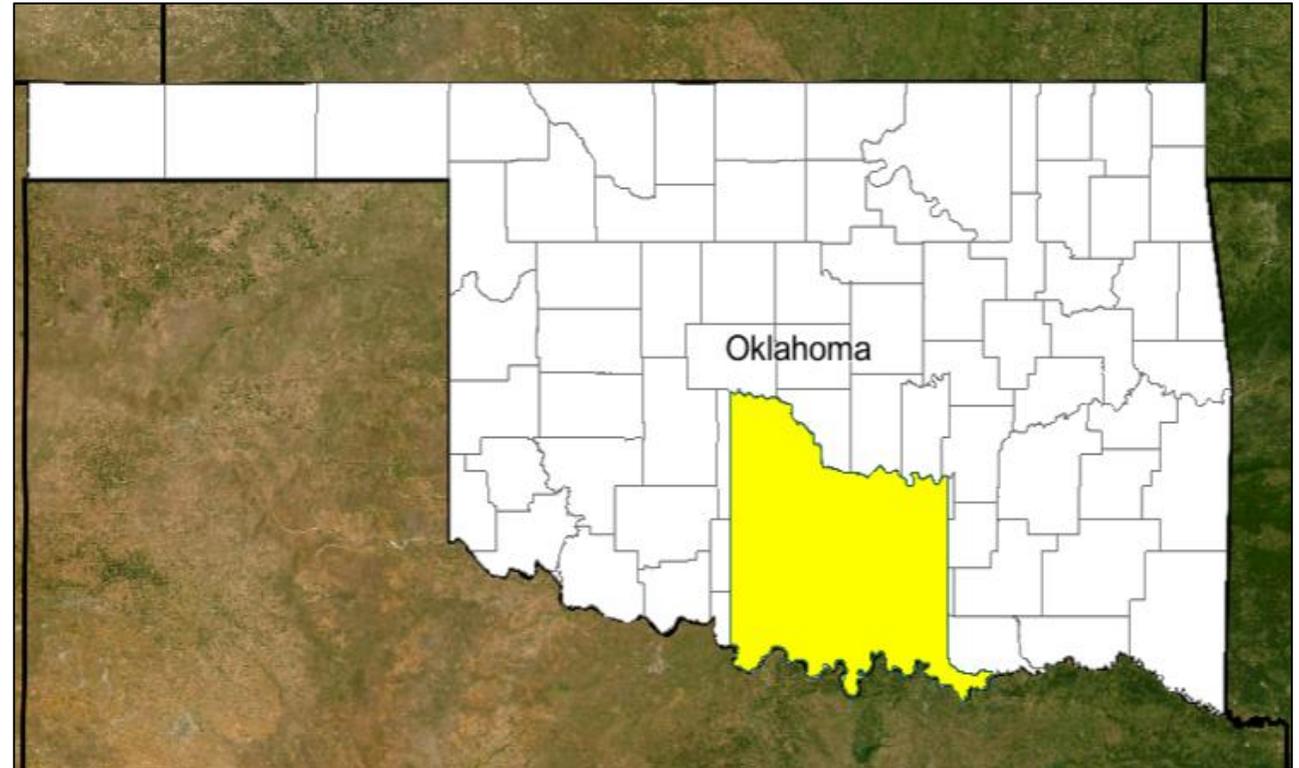
Declaration Request – Chickasaw Nation

Declaration Type: Major Disaster – Chickasaw Nation
Requested: Mar 18

Incident: Severe Winter Storm
Incident Period: Jan 23-24

Requested:

- **PA:** All tribal lands
- **Hazard Mitigation:** All tribal lands



■ PA



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Declaration Requests in Process – 22

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
AZ – Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Oct 24
IL – Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR	X			Nov 21
SCA ¹ – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Nov 26
SCA ¹ – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Dec 15
MT – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jan 10
NVK ² – Severe Storms, Flooding, and Remnants of Typhoon Halong	DR		X	X	Jan 11
MT – Severe Winter Storms and Straight-line Winds	DR		X	X	Jan 15
CO – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jan 16
CO – Lee and Elk Fires, Flooding, and Mudslides – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jan 16
WA – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR	X			Jan 21
SD – Straight-line Winds	DR		X	X	Jan 27
AK – Severe Storms and Straight-line Winds	DR		X	X	Jan 30
KY – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Feb 5
ID – Straight-line Winds	DR		X	X	Feb 6
FPA & ST ³ – Severe Storm and Straight-line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 11

¹San Carlos Apache Tribe / ²Native Village of Kipnuk / ³Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes



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Declaration Requests in Process – 22 (cont'd)

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
CTM ⁴ – Straight-line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 12
FBIC ⁵ – Severe Storms and Straight-line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 13
OR – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Feb 18
WA – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Feb 17
SC – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Feb 25
GA – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 12
CN ⁶ – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 18

⁴ Crow Tribe of Montana / ⁵ Fort Belknap Indian Community / ⁶ Chickasaw Nation



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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.



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