

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Saturday, May 23, 2026

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Operations / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Operations

- Chemical Release – Garden Grove, California

Hazard Monitoring

- Heavy Rainfall / Flash Flooding – Southern Plains to Lower Mississippi Valley

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Request: Major Disaster Declaration – WI

Event Monitoring

- No new significant events



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Chemical Release – Garden Grove, California

Situation: Local authorities are responding to an ongoing chemical spill at the GKN Aerospace facility in Garden Grove, CA, involving methyl methacrylate—a flammable, toxic, and highly volatile substance used in the production of acrylic plastics. On May 22nd, a chemical vapor leak from a 34,000-gallon industrial tank prompted the reissuance of mandatory evacuation orders for nearby residents.

There are three affected GKN Aerospace facility tanks.

- Tank #1 has a malfunctioning valve is unable to be neutralized
 - The valve has seized due to a chemical reaction with the contents
 - Water cooling by fire fighting resources has kept the temperature of Tank #1 stable
- Tank #2 is structurally sound; a neutralizer has been added to the methyl methacrylate in this tank and being monitored for efficacy
 - If effective the neutralizer will be added to Tank 4
- Tank #4 is structurally sound however status of contents are unknown

The response remains active, and no injuries have been reported. The evacuation zone affects a densely populated area with 50,000 residents, multiple public facilities—including schools, hospitals, nursing homes, fire and law enforcement stations—critical infrastructure, and essential services, all currently subject to mandatory evacuation and ongoing response operations. Unified Command has been established between Orange County Fire Authority, Garden Grove Police Department, and Orange County Health Care Agency. [\(FEMA Region 9 Watch, as of 1:17 a.m. ET\)](#)

Lifeline Impacts: [\(FEMA Region 9 Watch, as of 1:17 a.m. ET\)](#)

Safety and Security:

- Mandatory evacuations in place for 50,000 residents
- 5 EMS stations within evacuation area

Food, Hydration, and Shelter: [\(ARC and open sources, as of 6:50 a.m. ET\)](#)

- 4 overnight shelters, 1 full; at least 157 occupants

Health and Medical:

- Local hospital and 11 nursing homes within evacuation area

Transportation:

- Multiple roads closed in the evacuation zone

Hazardous Materials:

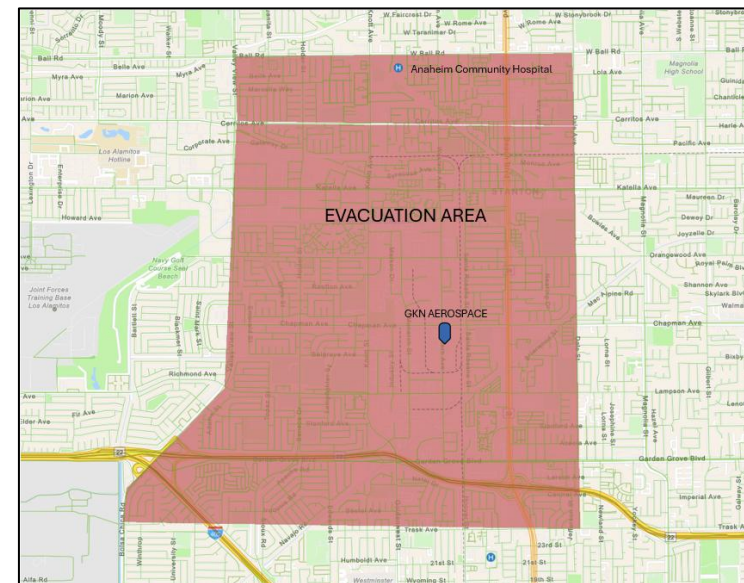
- Orange County officials report that air quality in the area remains within normal limits
- Potential remains for hazardous inhalation of highly volatile chemical vapors over a large area
- Responders are creating a dike system for potential spills

State / Local Response:

- Local fire and HAZMAT resources are on-site working to cool the tank and clean up; investigation efforts are underway
- CA SEOC is at Partial Activation (Wildfires)

FEMA / Federal Response:

- US EPA has dispatched 2 on-scene coordinators to the scene to support air monitoring
- FEMA Region 9 Watch is Monitoring
- FEMA NWC is Monitoring



[\(FEMA Region 9 Watch, as of 1:17 a.m. ET\)](#)

The NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region 9. The next update will be provided in the 5:00 p.m. ET National SITREP.

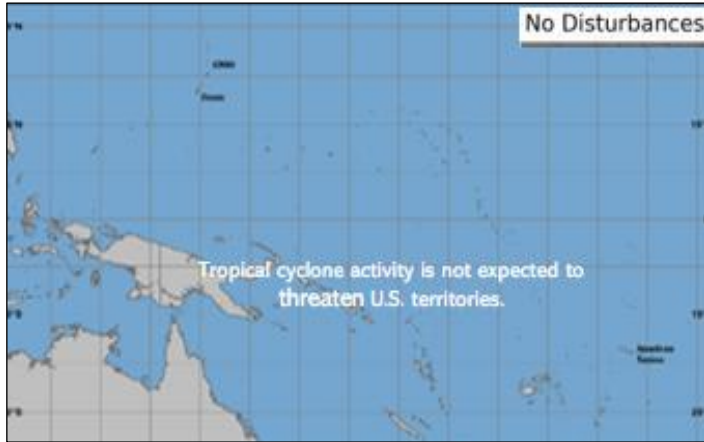


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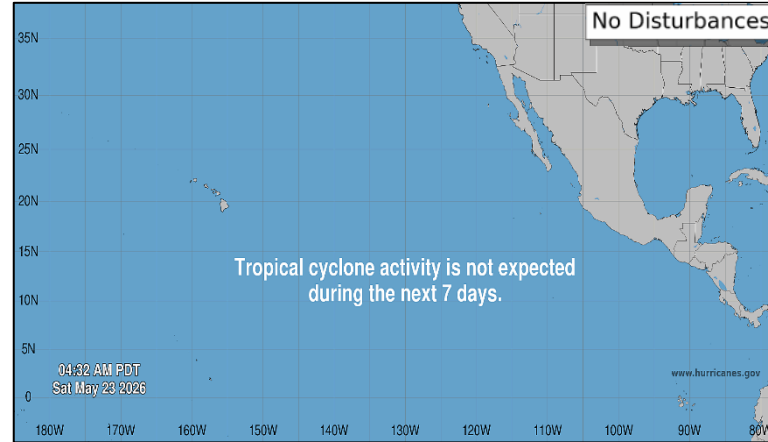
Tropical Outlook

Western Pacific



- No tropical cyclones threatening U.S. territories

Eastern and Central Pacific



- No tropical cyclones expected during the next 7 days

Atlantic

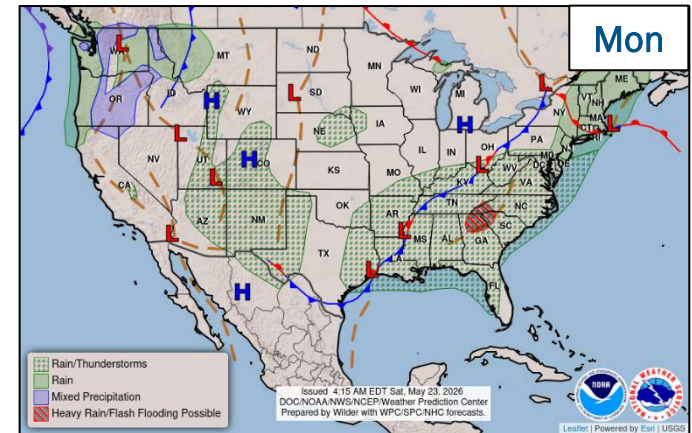
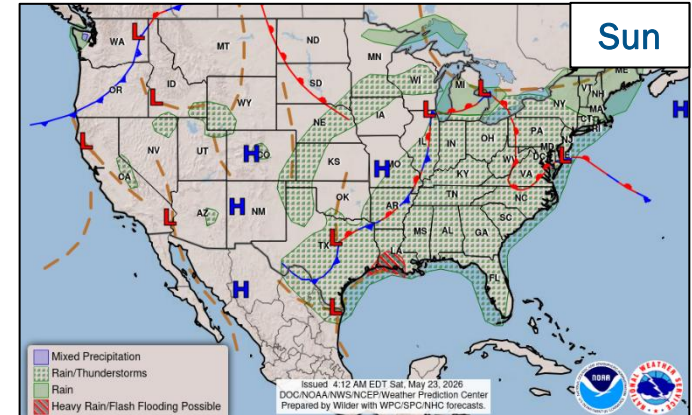
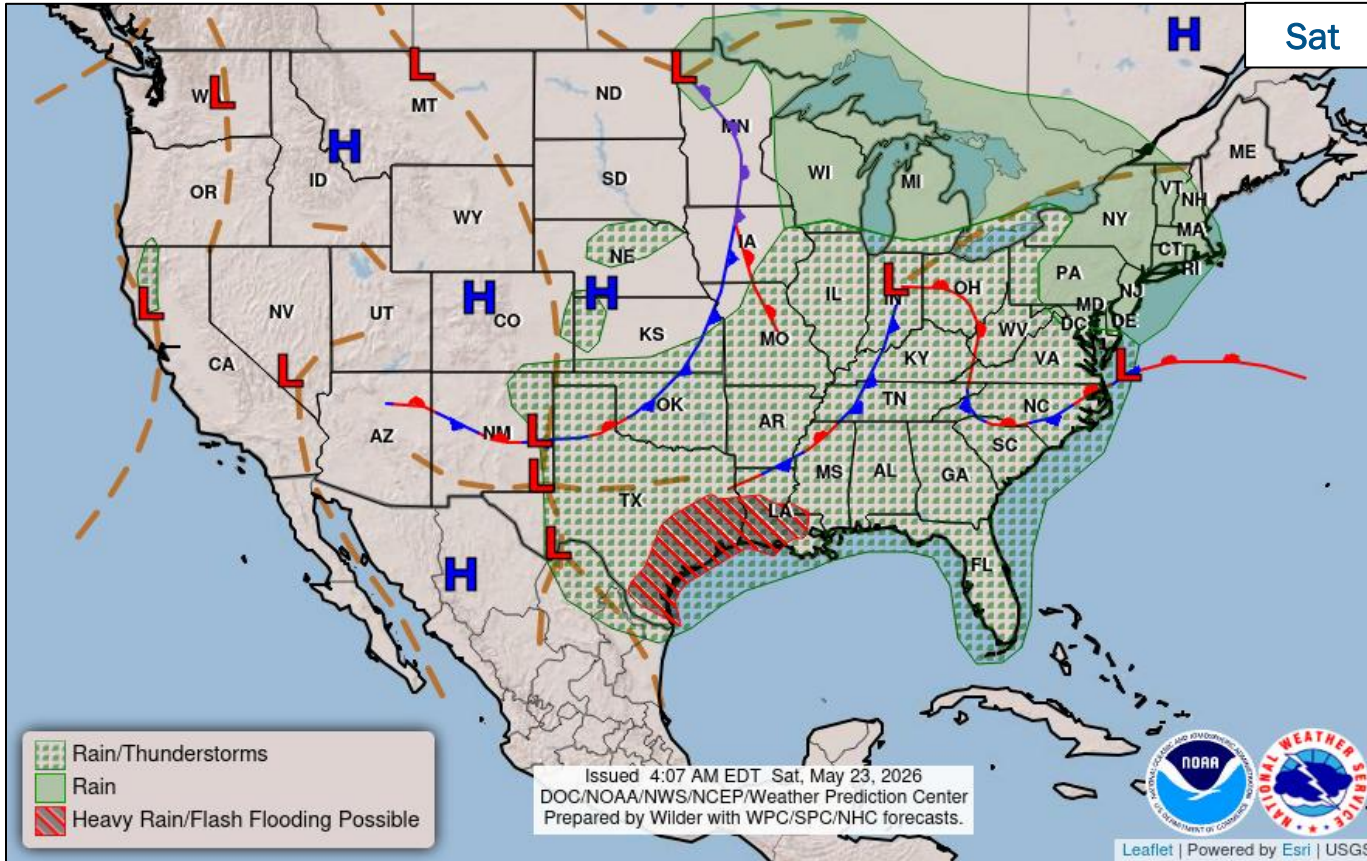


- No tropical cyclones expected during the next 7 days



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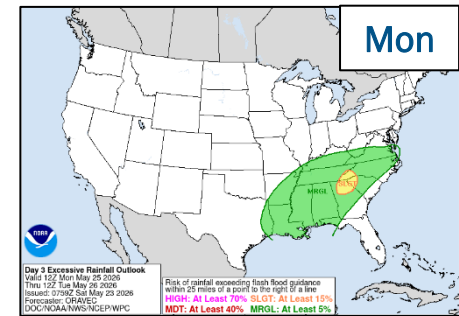
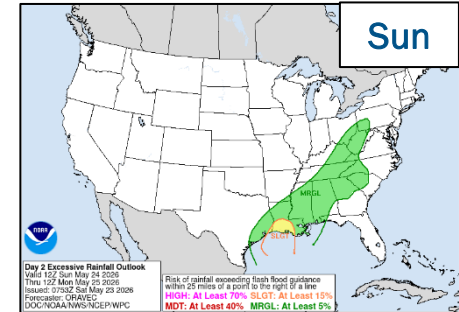
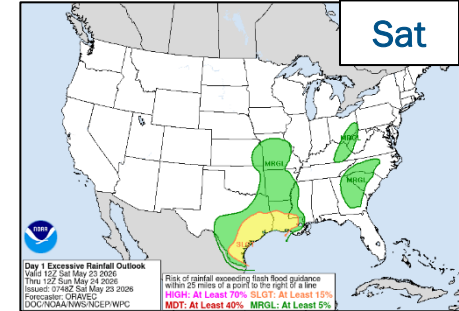
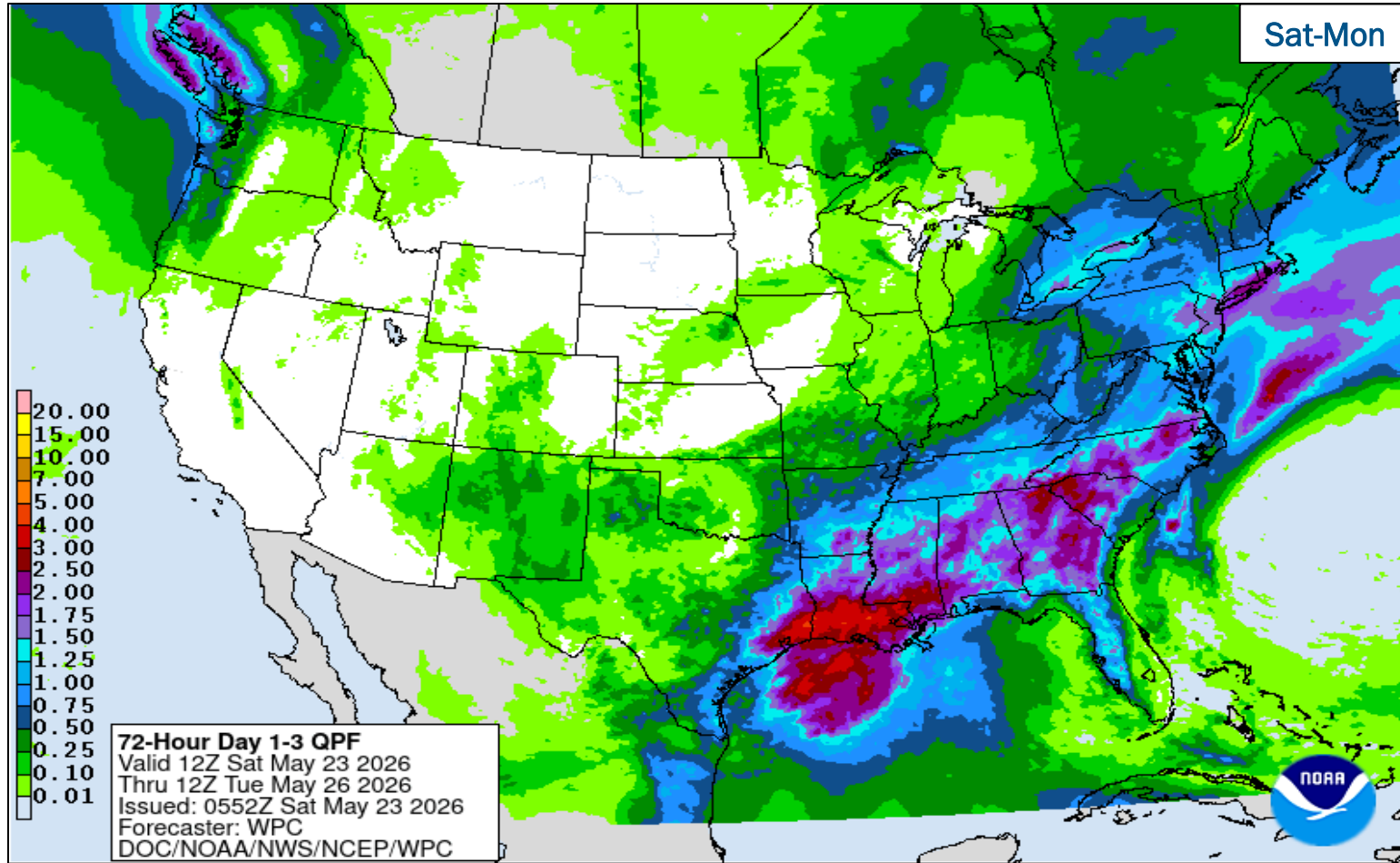
National Weather Forecast



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Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



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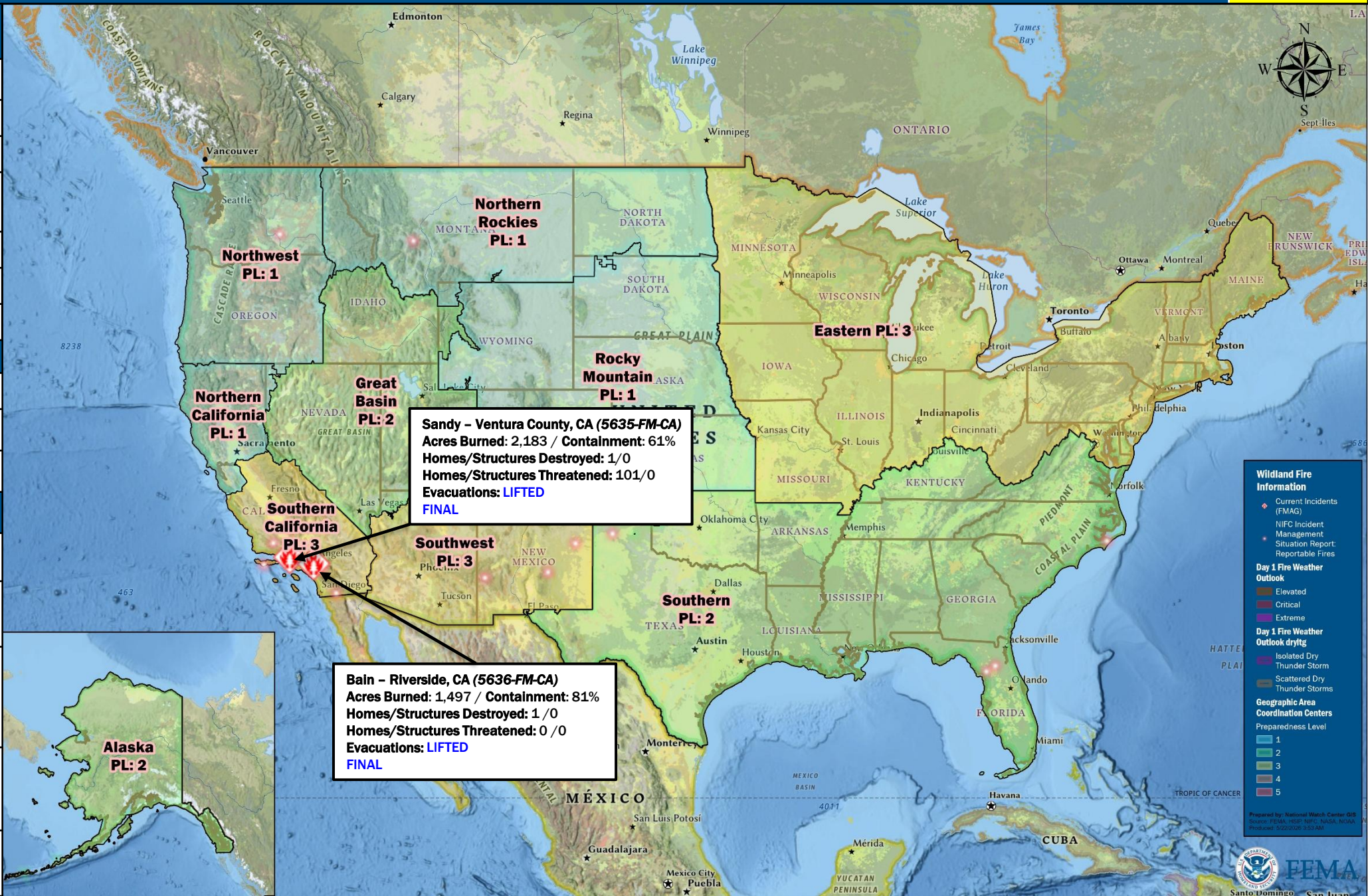
National Fire Activity – May 23, 2026

PL 2

INITIAL ATTACK ACTIVITY (24-hour period)	LIGHT (81 fires)
New Large Fires	2
Large Fires Contained	1
Uncontained Large Fires	18
Year-to-Date Acres Burned	2,349,604
Total Responders	5,267
Type 1 IMTs Deployed	0
Complex IMTs Deployed	1
FMAGS	Total
2026 (FYTD)	22
2025	75
3 Year Average	53

Preparedness Level: 2

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



Wildland Fire Information

- Current Incidents (FMAG)
- NIFC Incident Management Situation Report Reportable Fires

Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook

- Elevated
- Critical
- Extreme

Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook drytyg

- Isolated Dry Thunder Storm
- Scattered Dry Thunder Storms

Geographic Area Coordination Centers

Preparedness Level

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Produced by National Watch Center GIS Services (2024) 10:20 AM EDT, 10:20 AM EDT, NOAA, Produced: 5/20/2026 9:53 AM



Wildfire Summary

Fire Name (County, ST)	FMAG #	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures (Homes / Other)			Fatalities / Injuries
					Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
Sandy Fire (Ventura, CA) FINAL	5635-FM-CA	2,183 (+42)	61% (+21)	M: LIFTED	H: 101 (-7,281)	H: 2	H: 1	0 / 0
				V: 0	0: 0	0: 0	0: 0	
Bain Fire (Riverside, CA) FINAL	5636-FM-CA	1,497	81% (+21)	M: LIFTED	H: 0 (-651)	H: 5	H: 1	0 / 0
				V: 0	0: 0 (-10)	0: 0	0: 0	

(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

FEMA HQ

● NWC ● NRCC

Incident Workforce

19,565
Assigned a Disaster Title

6,423 / 33%
Deployed

5,938 / 30%
Available
to Deploy for 30 Days

7,204 / 37%
Remaining

Surge Capacity Force
7,688 / 0 / 768
Rostered / Deployed /
Est. Available to Deploy for 30 Days

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Watch FEMA Regions RRCC

- **Region 1**
Maynard
- **Region 2**
Brooklyn
- **Region 3**
Philadelphia
- **Region 4**
Atlanta
- **Region 5**
Chicago
- **Region 6**
Denton
- **Region 7**
Kansas City
- **Region 8**
Denver
- **Region 9**
Oakland
- **Region 10**
Bothell

Notes

- Watches/RRCCs:**
- NWC: Staffing
 - R1 Watch: Staffing
 - R2 Watch: Equipment
 - R5 Watch: Staffing (Day Only)
 - R9 Watch: Staffing
 - R10 Watch: Staffing
 - R7 RRCC: Staffing
 - R9 RRCC: Staffing
 - R10 RRCC: Staffing
- State EOCs:**
- DC: Freedom 250
 - FL: Previous Incidents
 - CA/GA/KS: Wildfires
 - AL/HI/KY/MS/TX: Severe Weather
 - GU/MP: TC Sinlaku
 - AK: River Ice Monitoring

- IMATs:**
- NIMAT-Red: TC Sinlaku
 - NIMAT-White: Staffing
 - NIMAT-Blue: Staffing
 - R1 IMAT: Staffing
 - R3 IMAT: Staffing
 - R4 IMAT-1/2: Staffing
 - R6 IMAT-1/2: Staffing
 - R10 IMAT: Staffing

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

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



Alaska

GNMI
DR-4910-MP
• N-IMAT Red
• R9 IMAT-2
• SMT Tracy/Hawaii

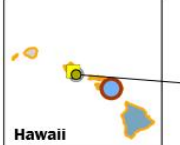


Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

Guam
EM-3644-GU
• ISB Delta
• SMT Tracy/Hawaii



Guam

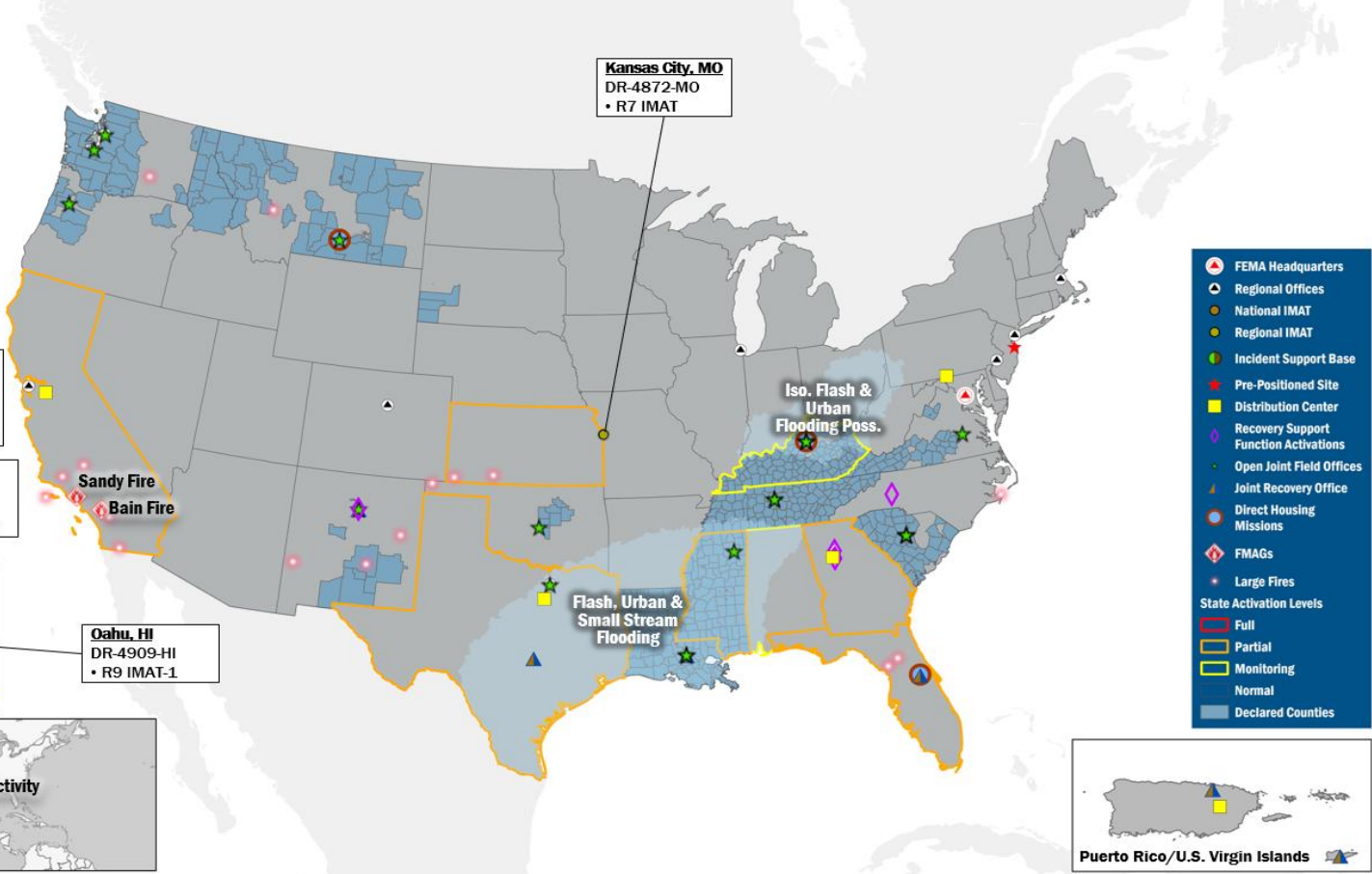


Hawaii

Sandy Fire
Bain Fire

Oahu, HI
DR-4909-HI
• R9 IMAT-1

Kansas City, MO
DR-4872-MO
• R7 IMAT



- FEMA Headquarters
- Regional Offices
- National IMAT
- Regional IMAT
- Incident Support Base
- Pre-Positioned Site
- Distribution Center
- Recovery Support Function Activations
- Open Joint Field Offices
- Joint Recovery Office
- Direct Housing Missions
- FMAGs
- Large Fires
- State Activation Levels
- Full
- Partial
- Monitoring
- Normal
- Declared Counties

National IMAT

- MP Red
- White
- Blue
- Gold
- HS

Regional IMAT

- Region 1
- Region 2
- 2 Region 3
- 3 Region 4
- Region 5
- 1 Region 6
- MC Region 7
- Region 8
- HI ● MP Region 9
- Region 10

Commodities & Equipment

CONUS	Distribution Centers			Housing	MHU	TTU
	Water	Meals	Gen.			
	DC Tracy, CA			THSS Selma, AL	66%	200%
	DC Atlanta, GA	36%	59%	THSS Cumberland, MD		
	DC Fort Worth, TX		96%			
	DC Greencastle, PA					
OCONUS	DC Guam	96%	134%	0%	Systems Laptops Winchester, VA (DISC) 83%	
	DC Hawaii	62%	119%	44%	Stockage levels are based on catastrophic planning factors by location.	
	DC Caribbean	86%	76%	78%		

Logistics Staffing

CONUS	Distribution Centers		Staff	Housing	Staff
	DC Tracy, CA	70%	THSS Selma, AL	65%	
	DC Atlanta, GA	80%	THSS Cumberland, MD	73%	
	DC Fort Worth, TX	54%			
	DC Greencastle, PA	89%			
OCONUS	DC Guam	85%	Systems Staff Winchester, VA (DISC) 81%		
	DC Hawaii	70%			
	DC Caribbean	92%			

SMT

Operational	6
Requires Augmentation	3
Deployed	2

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

FEMA Support Staff 24% out of 38	
Assigned	28
State-Deployed	0
FEMA-Deployed	0
Not Mission Capable	0
Available	28

FCO

Assigned	35
Not Mission Capable	2
Deployed	20 (13 FCO)
Available	13

Legend

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

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
R5	MI	Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding Apr 10	IA	44	13	5/12 - TBD
			PA	0	0	N/A
R7	KS	Severe Storms Apr 26-27	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	5	0	TBD - TBD
	MO	Severe Storms May 16-29	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	11	0	5/27 - TBD



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Declaration Request – Wisconsin

Declaration Type: Major Disaster – WI

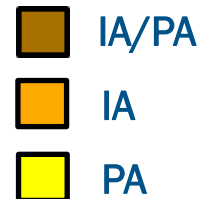
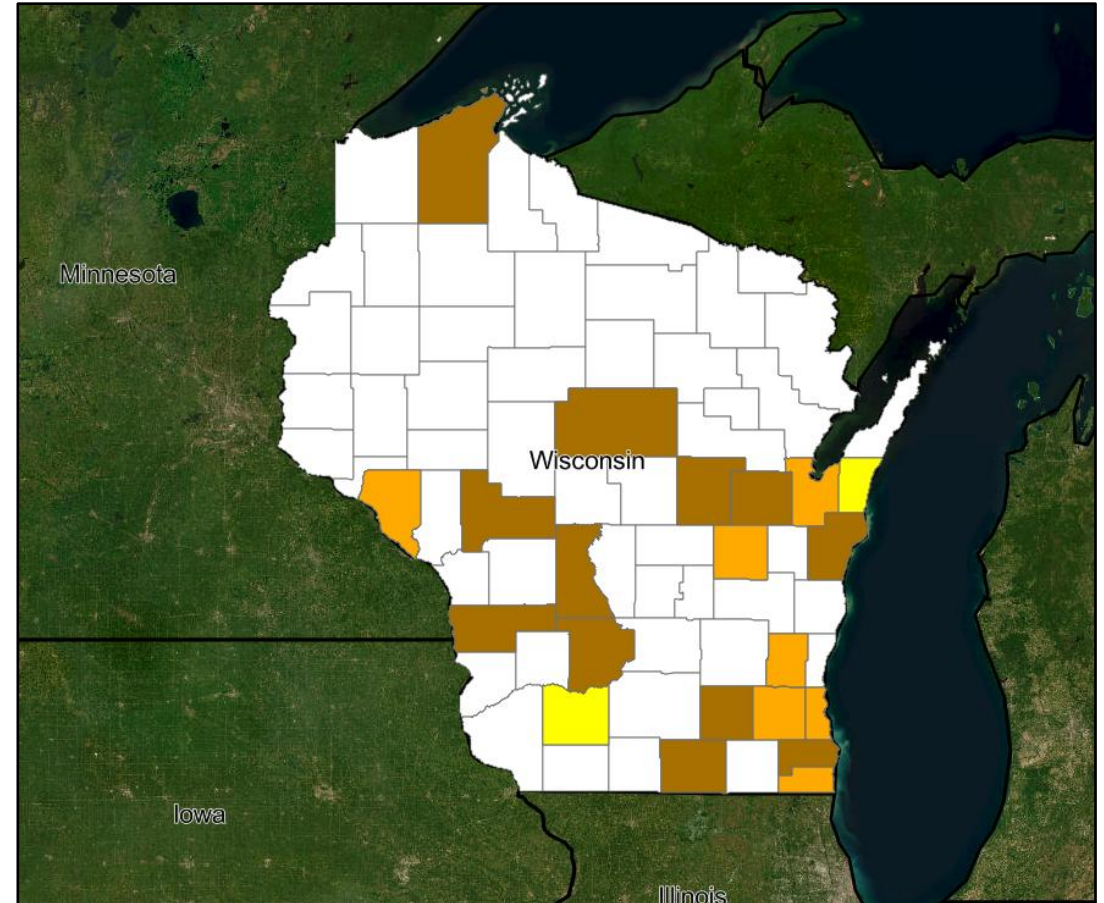
Date Requested: May 22

Incident: Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding

Incident Period: April 13-23

Requested:

- **IA/PA:** 12 counties
- **IA:** 7 counties
- **PA:** 2 counties
- **Hazard Mitigation:** Statewide



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Declaration Requests in Process – 26

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
AZ – Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Oct 24
SCA ¹ – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Nov 26
SCA ¹ – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Dec 15
NVK ² – Severe Storms, Flooding, and Remnants of Typhoon Halong	DR		X	X	Jan 11
KY – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Feb 5
FPA & ST ³ – Severe Storm and Straight-Line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 11
CTM ⁴ – Straight-Line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 12
FBIC ⁵ – Severe Storms and Straight-Line Winds	DR	X		X	Feb 13
GA – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 12
CN ⁶ – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 18
DE – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 23
NY – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Mar 25
MI – Severe Storm and Tornadoes	DR	X		X	Apr 1
HI – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	EM	X	X		Apr 7

¹San Carlos Apache Tribe / ²Native Village of Kipnuk / ³Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes / ⁴Crow Tribe of Montana / ⁵Fort Belknap Indian Community / ⁶Chickasaw Nation



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Declaration Requests in Process – 26 (cont'd)

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
NJ – Severe Winter Storm	DR		X	X	Apr 7
MA – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	Apr 7
RI – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	Apr 7
NVA ⁷ – Severe Winter Storm	DR	X	X	X	Apr 16
ID – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	Apr 14
MWT ⁸ – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR		X	X	Apr 22
PoA ⁹ – Severe Storms and Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Apr 23
LLBO ¹⁰ – Fire – Appeal	DR		X	X	Apr 24
NE – Wildfires	DR		X	X	May 8
GU – Super Typhoon Sinlaku	DR	X	X	X	May 18
MS – Severe Storm	DR	X	X	X	May 19
WI – Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	May 22

⁷Native Village of Ambler / ⁸Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe / ⁹Pueblo of Acoma / ¹⁰Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



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