

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

8:30 a.m. ET



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National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops:

- COVID-19
- Winter storms – Pacific Northwest; Southern Plains to Northeast
- Potential weather impacts on vaccination site operations

Hazard Monitoring:

- Heavy snow possible – Southern Plains to Central Appalachians
- Severe thunderstorms possible – Central Gulf Coast
- Freezing rain possible – Southern Plains to Mid-Atlantic

Disaster Declaration Activity:

- None

Event Monitoring:

- No significant scheduled activity



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Winter Storms – PNW & Southern Plains to Northeast

Situation: The winter storm that brought significant snow and freezing temperatures to the Southern Plains and Northeast over the last few days has moved into Canada. Snow and ice impacts will come to an end but frigid arctic air will remain over the central U.S. over the next couple of days. Another round of winter weather began overnight, again bringing heavy snow and ice from the Southern Plains to the Mississippi Valley, and moving into the Northeast by Thursday.

Northwest – Major Winter Storm

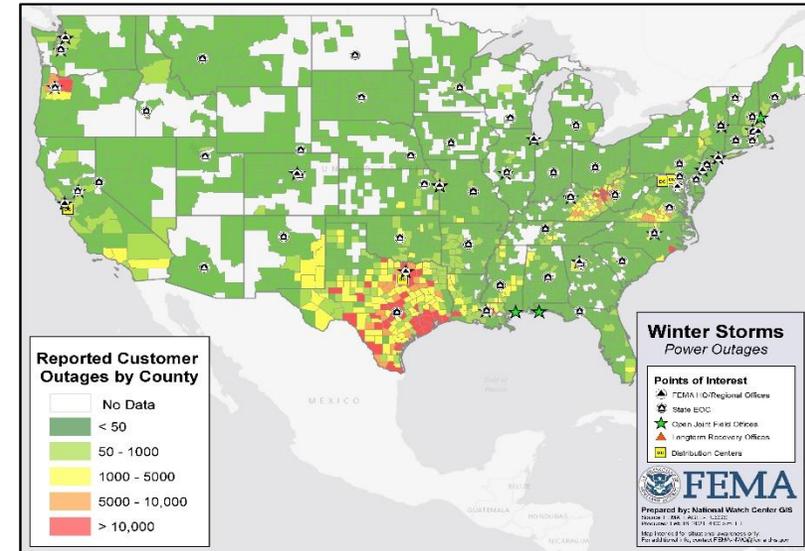
Lifeline Impacts:

- Energy: OR: 164k (-12k) customers without power (DOE Eagle-I, as of 7:15 a.m. ET)

Southern Plains to Northeast – Major Winter Storm

Lifeline Impacts:

- Safety and Security: AL & IL; many schools closed, delayed, or operating virtually
- Food, Water, and Shelter:
- Shelters: TX: 76 (+42) shelters with 1681 (-541) occupants; TN: 4 (-7) with 48 (-182) occupants; AL: 6 with 150 occupants; MS: 5 with unknown number of occupants and 6 on standby; KY: 5 with 25 occupants (source: ARC, as of 07:05 a.m. ET)
 - Water: TX: City of Abilene (pop 124k) issued boil water notice; 3 water treatment plants closed due to power outages; city of Fort Worth boil water notice for 100k customers expected to continue through Feb 17
- Health and Medical:
 - Fatalities: 9 confirmed (KY 3, NC 3, TN 3) 2 unconfirmed (KY 1, MS 1) (Region IV Update 10:04 p.m. ET)
- Transportation:
 - TX: George Bush Intercontinental/Houston Airport (IAH) re-opened
 - AL: All major highways open 15 counties with state routes impacted, 8 counties with US highways impacted (Region IV Update 10:04 p.m. ET)
 - LA: Baton Rouge Airport re-opened, I-49 closed from US-167 to LA-498, I-55 closed from LA-10 to MS State line



- Energy: (source: Eagle-I, as of 07:15 a.m. ET)
 - TX: 3.2 million (27%) customers without power (peak 4.2M),
 - 60 generators and associated equip. staged at Texas Consolidated Staging Area/Ft. Worth DC
 - Priority for generator use is hospitals and nursing homes;
 - TX natural gas production curtailed; cold temperatures have caused natural gas wellhead “freeze-offs”
 - VA: 45k (-1k); WV: 71k (-2k); KY: 98k; OK: 447 (-3k); LA: 45k(-4k); MS: 17k (-1k) customers without power



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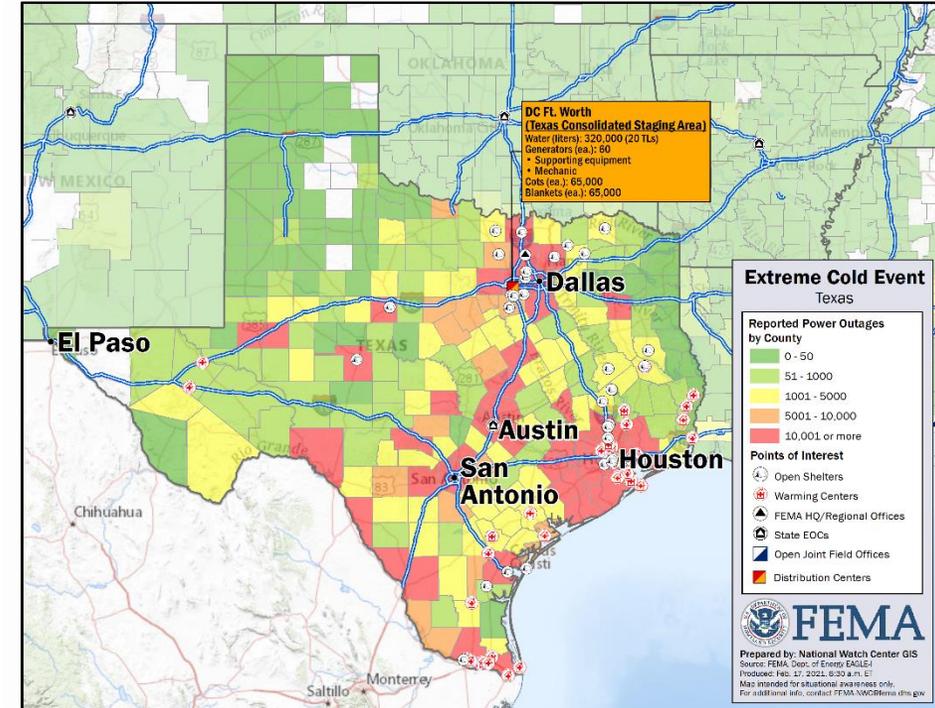
Winter Storms – PNW & Southern Plains to Northeast

State / Local Response:

- OR EOC at Full Activation (COVID)
- KY, TN, AR, TX, & OK at Partial Activation (Winter Storm & COVID)
- LA, NC, VA, & MD EOCs at Partial Activation (COVID)
- WV, OR, MS, TX, LA, OK, VA, KS, AL, IL, & TN Governors declared States of Emergency

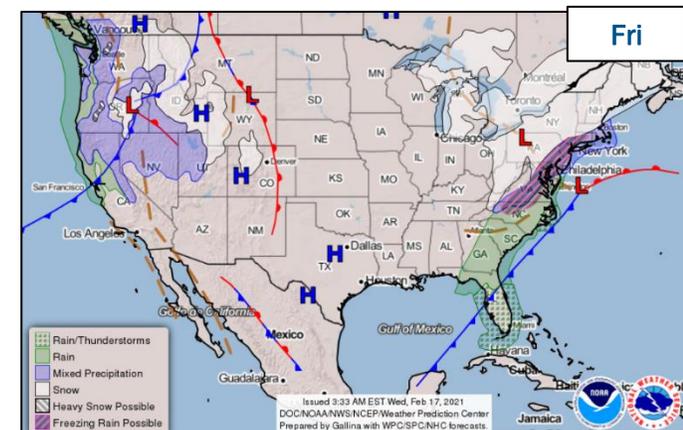
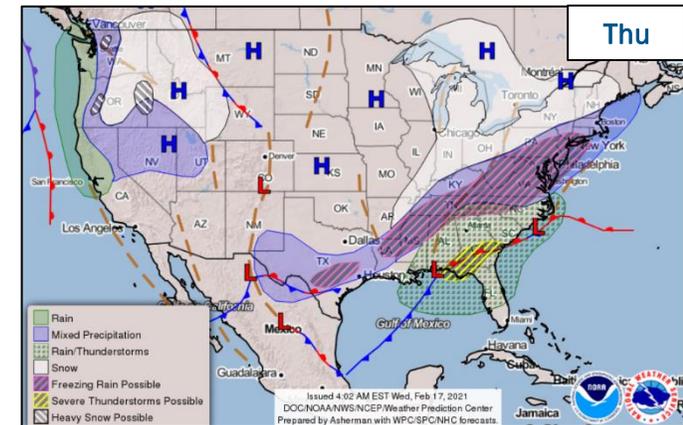
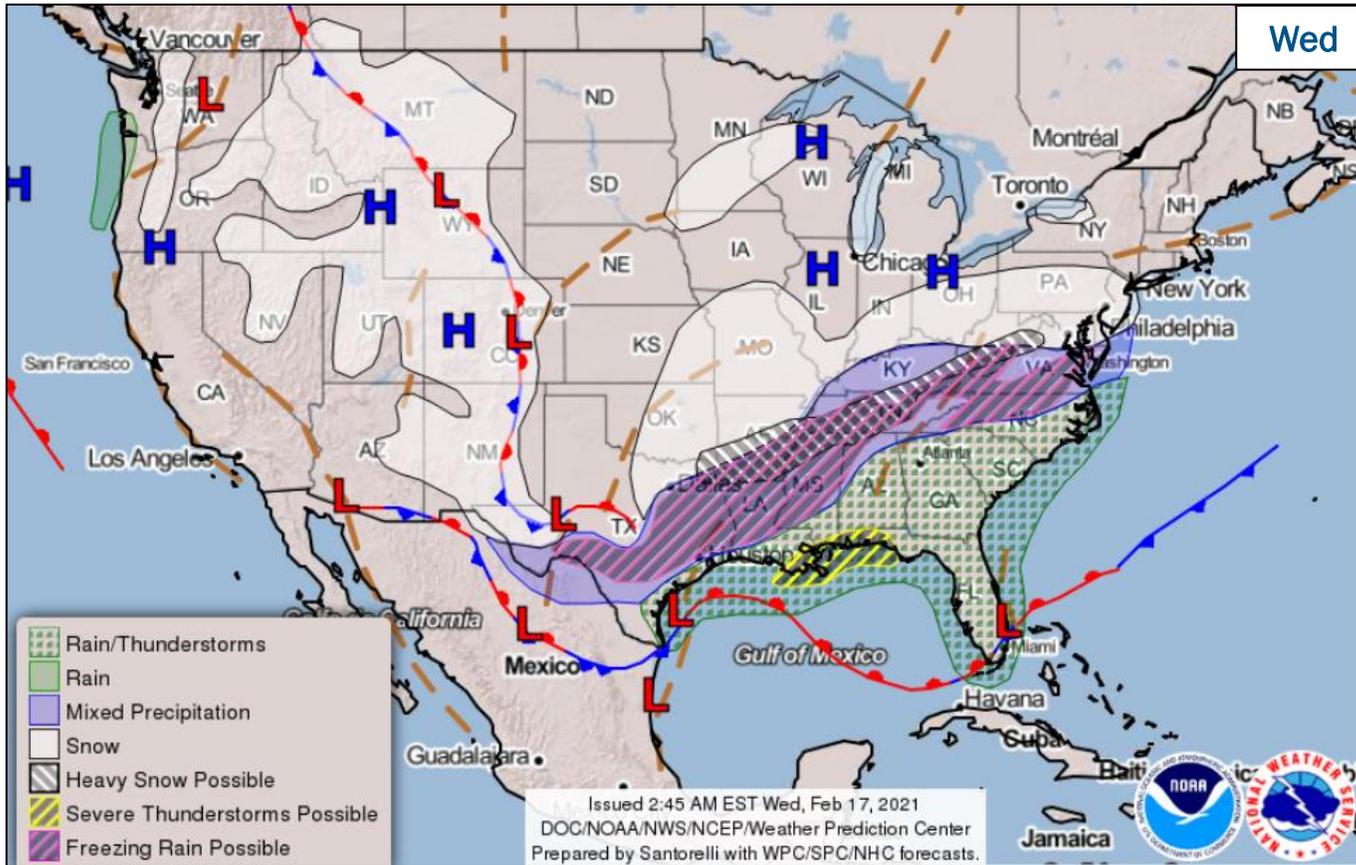
FEMA / Federal Response:

- DOE issued emergency order to authorize dispatch of additional generation units to ERCOT region
 - This allows ERCOT to dispatch units to meet electricity demand through Feb 19, even if they exceed emission limits of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury, and carbon monoxide
- Region II working from Alt Location until 7:00 p.m. ET today; due to winter storms
- Region III RWC monitoring; RRCC at Level I (COVID); IMAT deployed to RRCC (COVID)
- Region IV RWC working is monitoring; RRCC at Level III virtually; IMATs are FMC
- Region VI/Denton MOC monitoring; RRCC at Level III; IMAT-1 deployed to NM and OK; IMAT-2 deployed to TX (COVID)
- Region V RWC working from alt. location due to winter storms
- Region X/Bothell MOC monitoring; RRCC at Level III (COVID); IMAT deployed to RRCC (COVID)
- Emergency Declaration FEMA-3554-EM-TX - Approved
- NWC is monitoring; NRCC at Level I (COVID)



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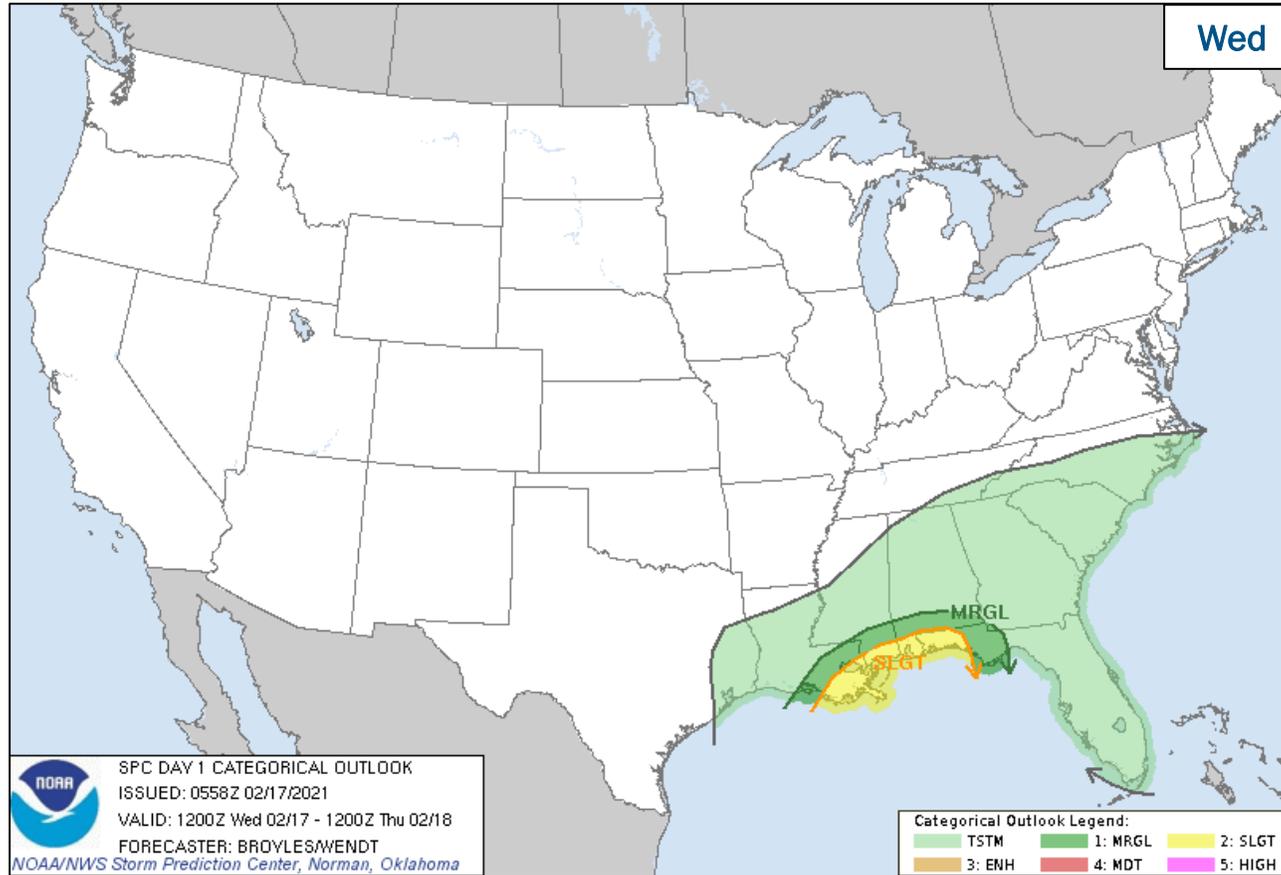
National Weather Forecast



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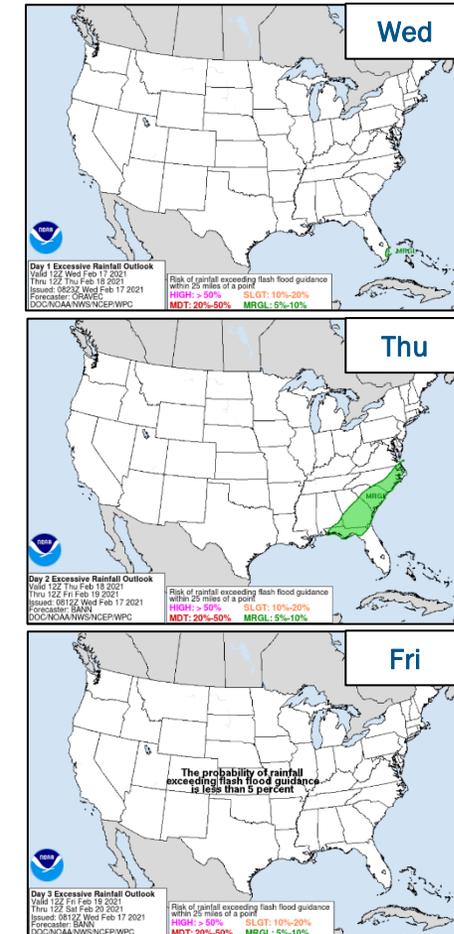
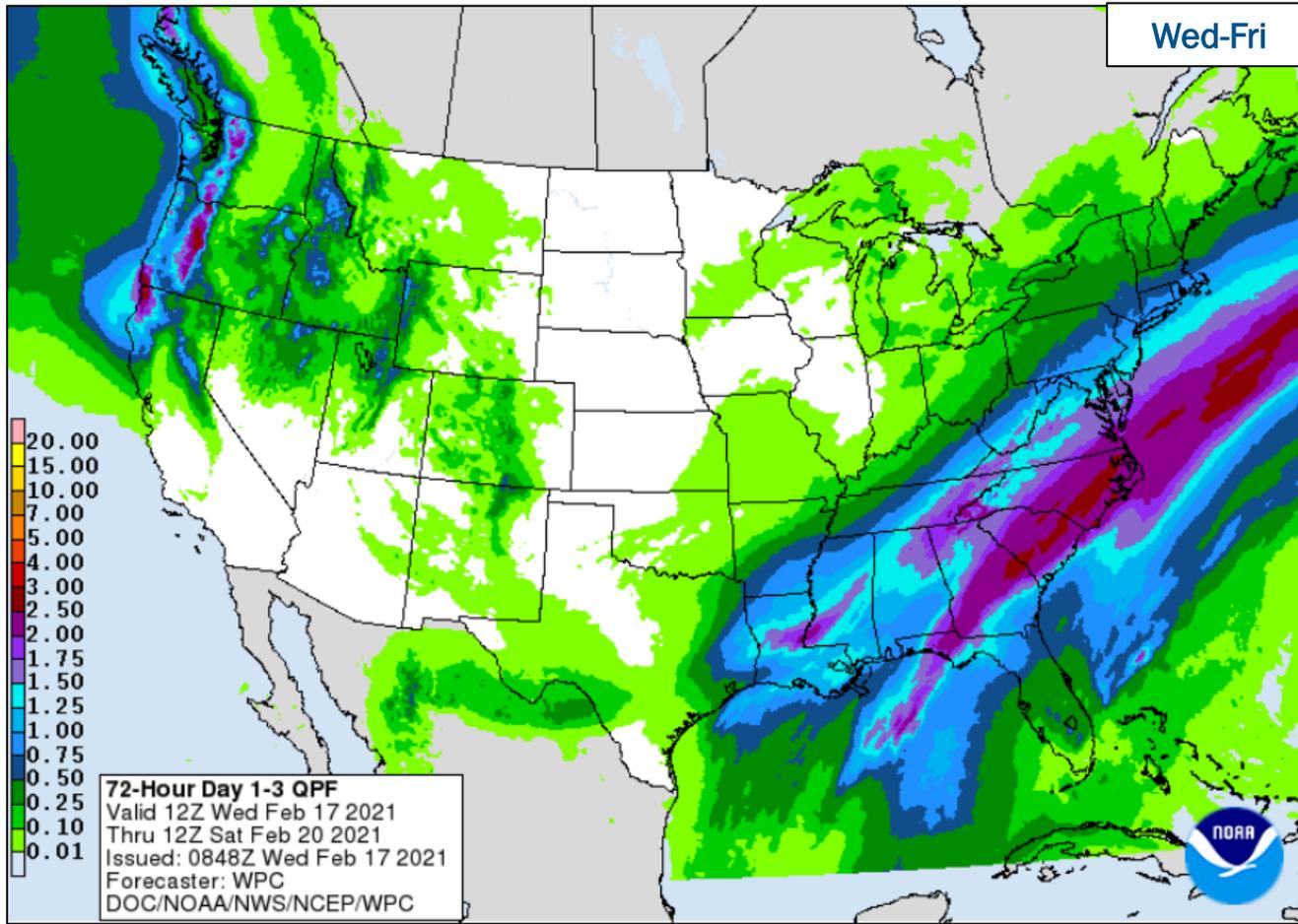
Severe Weather Outlook



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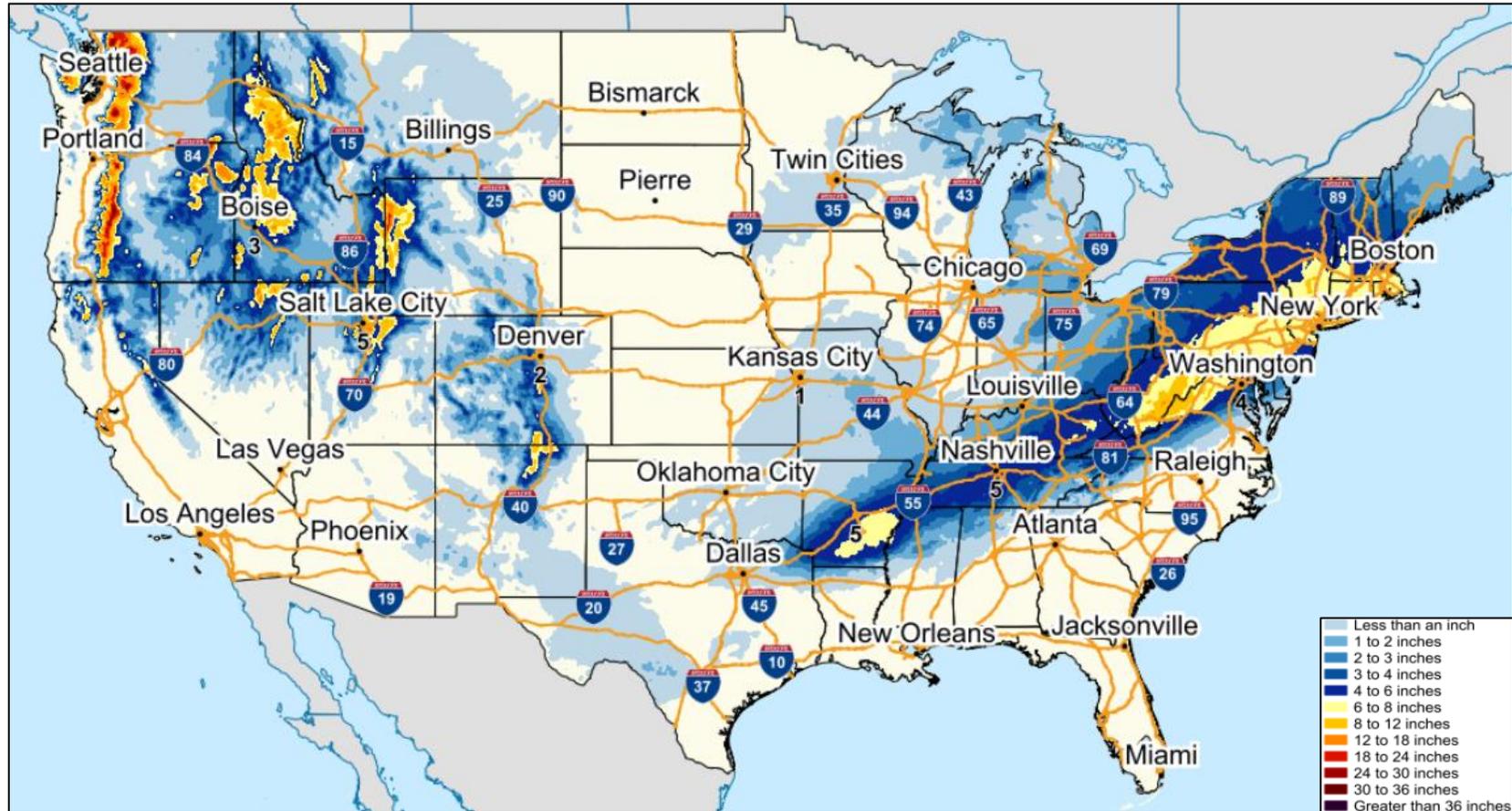
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Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



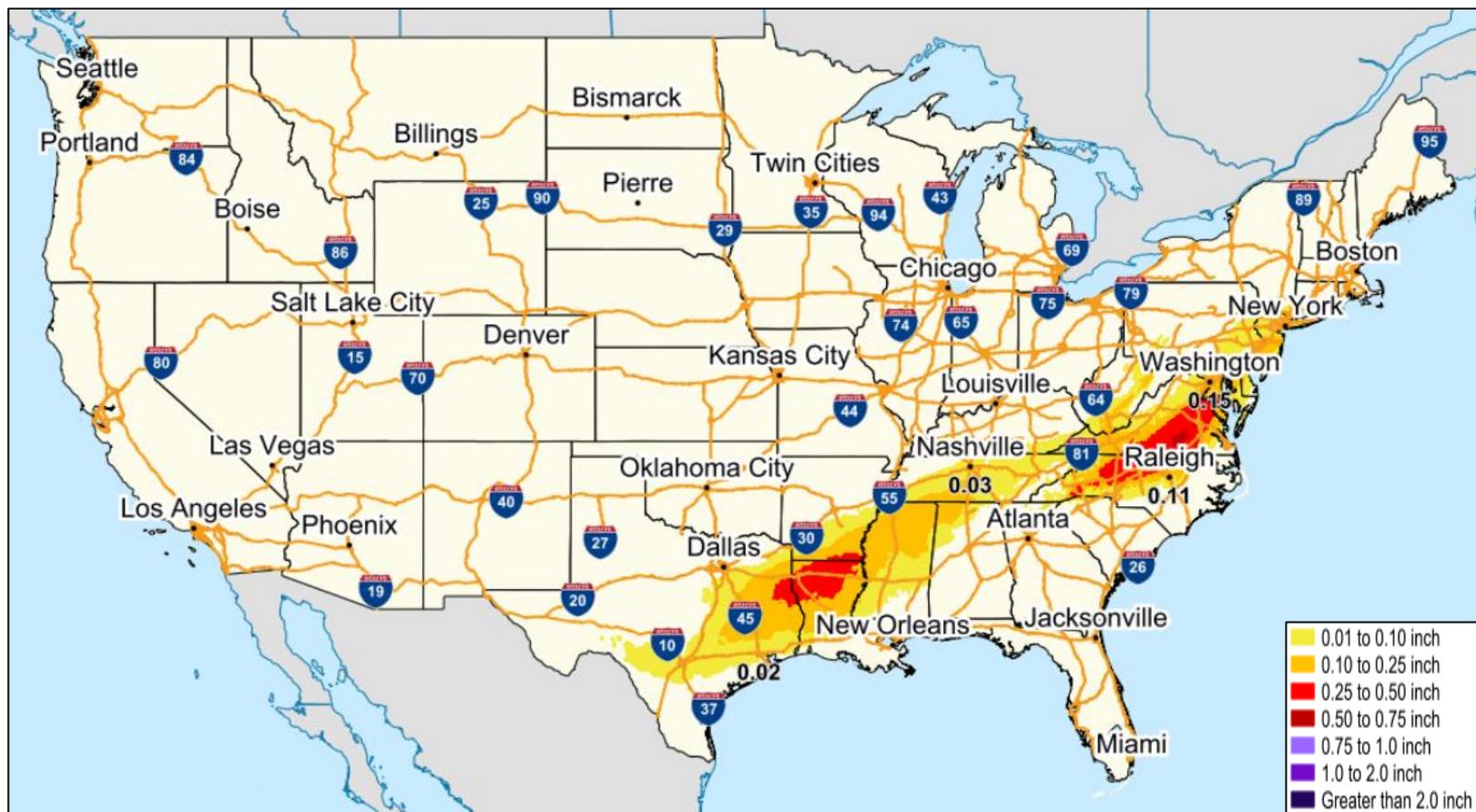
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Forecast Snowfall



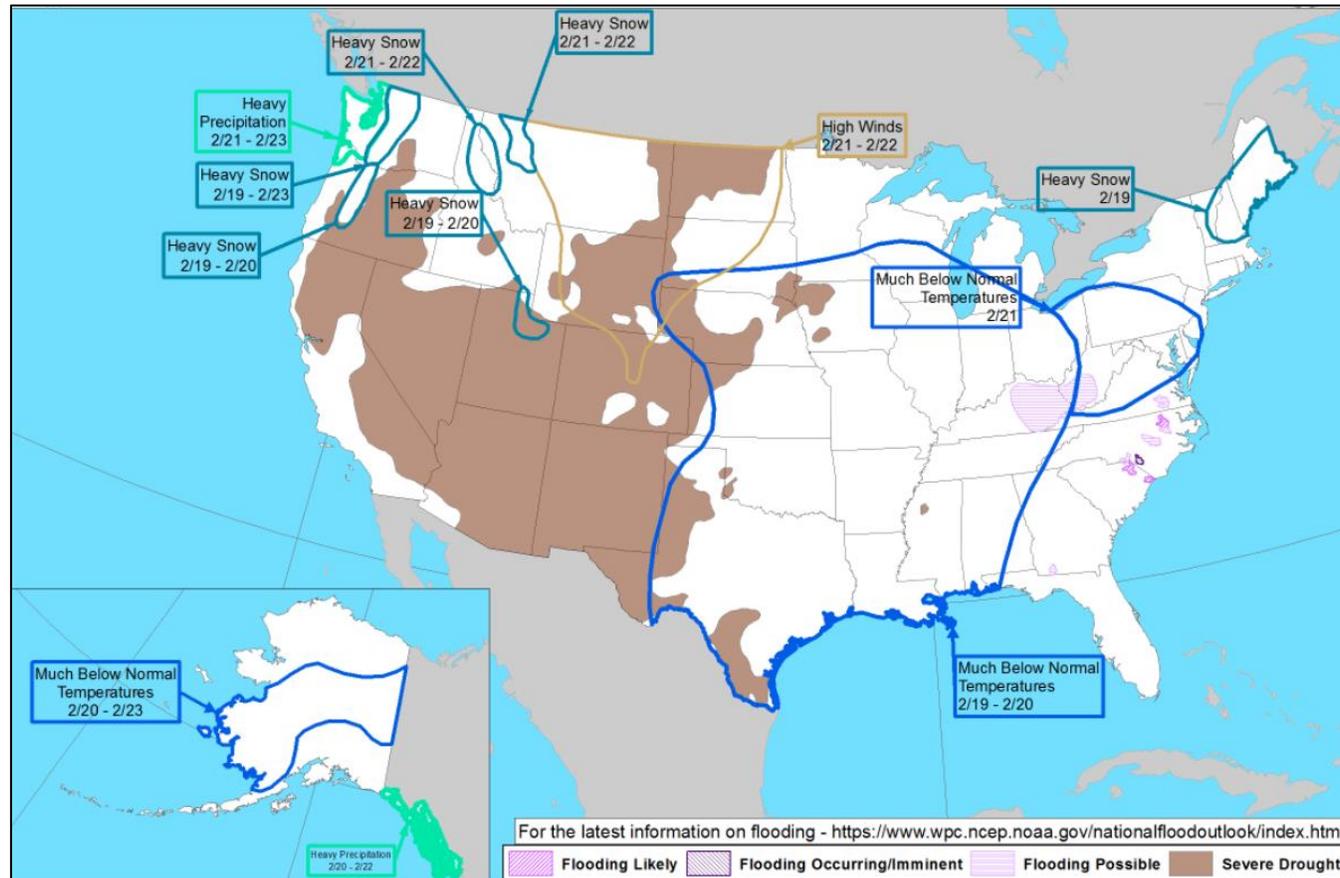
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Ice Accumulation Forecast



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Hazards Outlook – Feb 19 - 23



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Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
X	WA	Severe Winter Storms Dec 28, 2020 to Jan 16, 2021	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	16	0	2/11 - TBD



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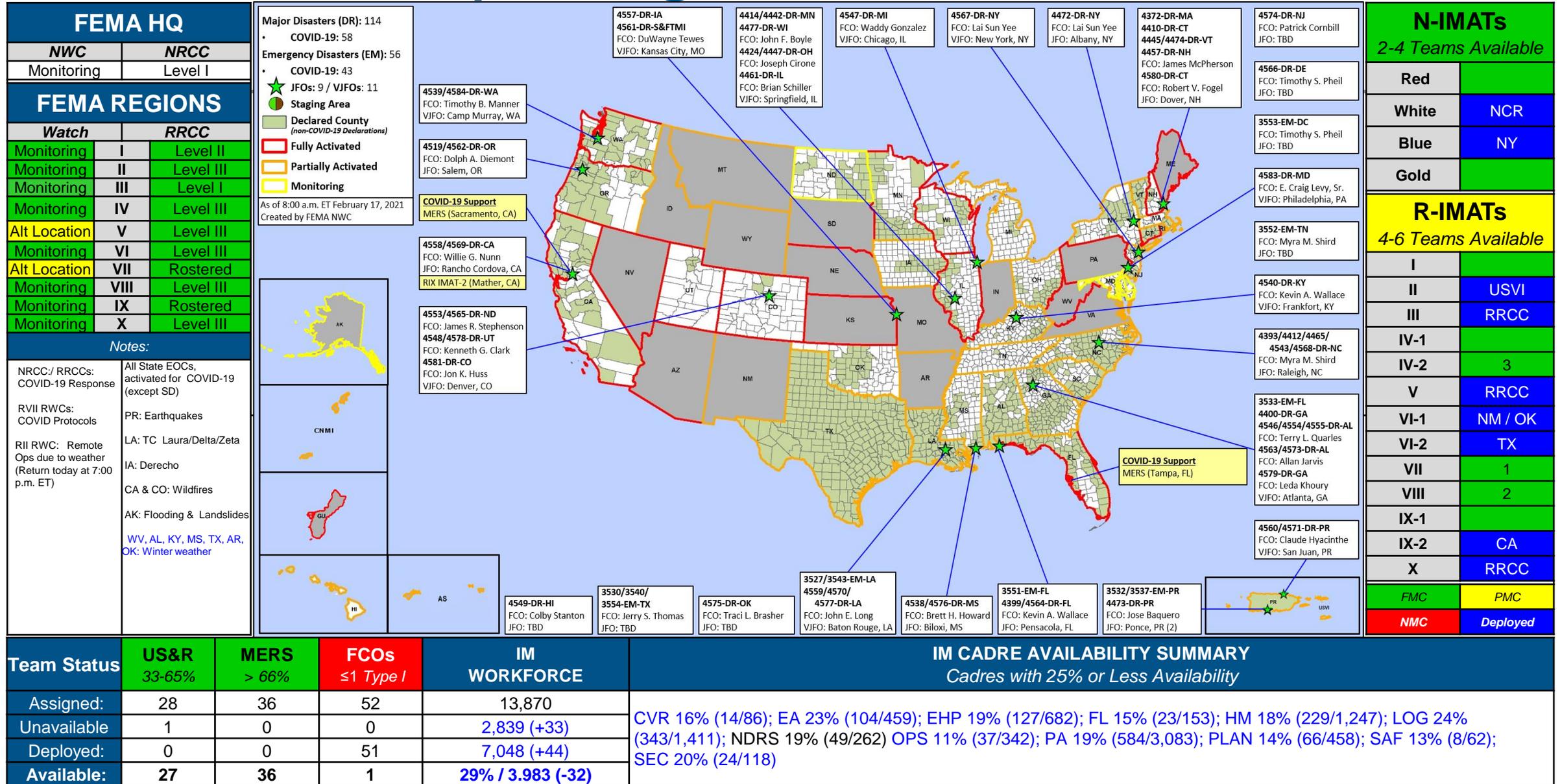
Declaration Requests in Process – 5

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
AK – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR		X	X	1/29
NC – Tropical Storm Eta	DR		X	X	2/9
VA – 59 th Presidential Inauguration (Appeal)	EM		X		2/9
AL – Tornado	DR	X		X	2/11
MD – 59 th Presidential Inauguration (Appeal)	EM		X		2/12



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FEMA Common Operating Picture





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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

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