

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Thursday, March 18, 2021

8:30 a.m. ET



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National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops:

- COVID-19
- Severe weather- Southeast to Mid-Atlantic

Hazard Monitoring:

- Severe thunderstorms possible – Ohio Valley to Southeast and Mid-Atlantic

Disaster Declaration Activity:

- None

Event Monitoring:

- None



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Severe Weather– Southeastern US (Impacts)

Current Situation

There are preliminary reports of 24 tornado touchdowns, 78 wind, and 43 hail reports for March 17 across MS, AL, LA, and MO. There is a moderate risk today for a few possibly strong (EF2+) tornadoes, hail and high winds across portions of the coastal Carolinas. Scattered severe thunderstorms are also expected from portions of eastern GA into extreme southeast VA, with isolated severe storms possible from southern OH into the Central Appalachians.

Lifeline Impacts:

Safety and Security:

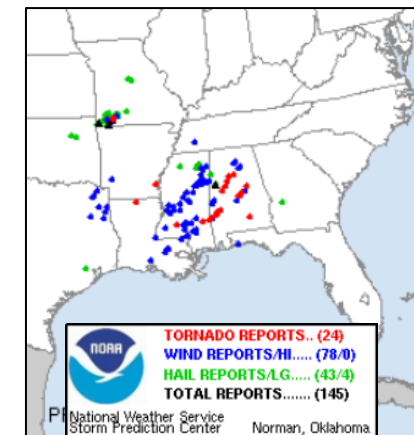
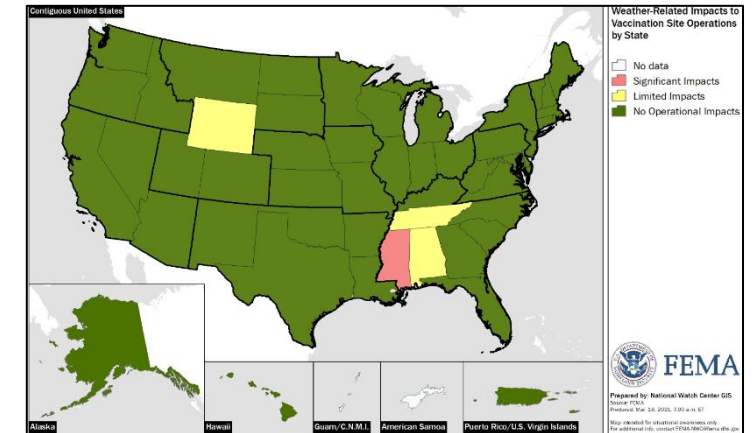
- AL: School closures in multiple counties
- LA: Schools in multiple parishes released students early
- Some structures damaged in AL, MS and MO but extent of the damage is unknown

Health & Medical:

- Some state vaccination sites were closed in AL, MS, TN, & TX
- 2 unconfirmed injuries in AL (media reports)

Energy: (DOE Eagle-I as of 6:00 a.m. ET)

- Some downed trees and powerlines but power outages are below 1% across the affected areas



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Severe Weather– Southeastern US (Response)

State / Local Response:

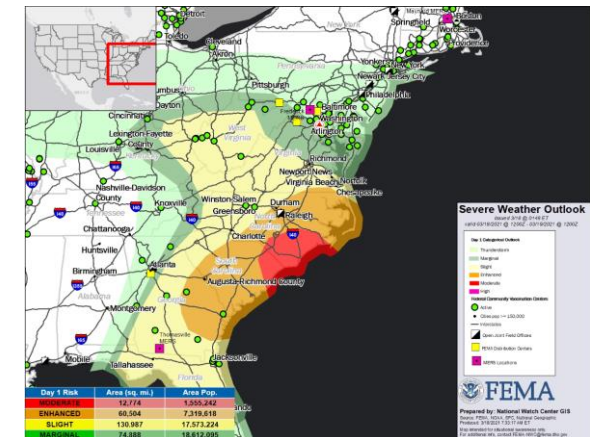
- AL: Partial Activation (COVID-19 & severe weather); Governor declared a state of emergency
- KY: Monitoring (COVID-19 & severe weather)
- MS: Partial Activation (COVID-19)
- TN: Partial Activation (COVID-19)
- LA: Partial Activation (COVID-19; TC Laura, Delta, Zeta); Crisis Action Team (CAT) is activated
- MO: Partial Activation (COVID-19)

FEMA / Federal Response:

- Region IV RWC at Enhanced Watch (7:00 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.)
 - RRCC at Level III (COVID-19)
 - IMAT-1 is available; IMAT-2 deployed (COVID-19) – available for response if required
- Region VI RWC was at Enhanced Watch, returned to monitoring
 - RRCC at Level III (COVID-19)
 - IMAT-1 deployed to NM, OK, and TX (COVID-19 and Southwest Border Operations); IMAT-2 deployed to TX (COVID-19)
 - JFO/LIRO in LA released all FEMA employees early; will return to normal operations this morning
- Region VII RWC is monitoring; IMAT is available
- NWC continues to monitor and coordinate impacted regions; NRCC at Level I (COVID-19)
- National IMATs:
 - White deployed in support of HHS (Southwest Border Operations)
 - Blue deployed to NY (COVID-19)
 - Red deployed to TX (Southwest Border Operations)
 - Gold deployed for COVID support
 - Silver is on alert for response
- No unmet needs or requests for FEMA assistance

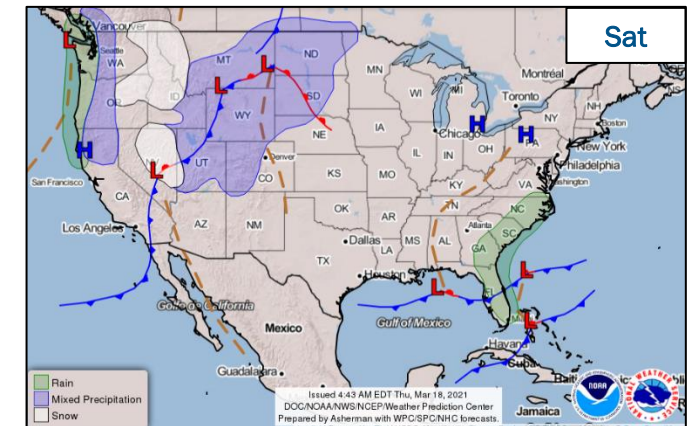
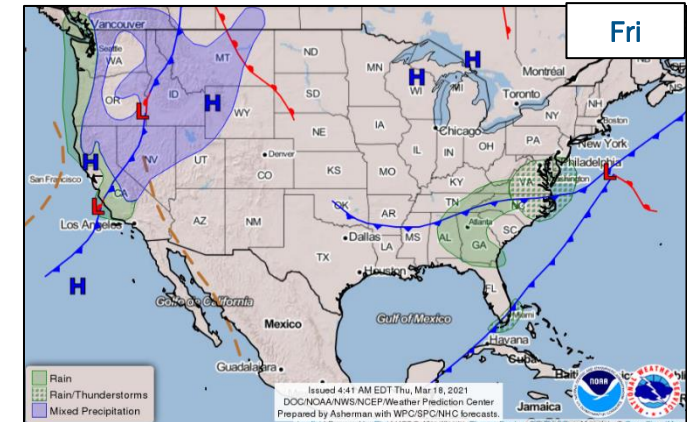
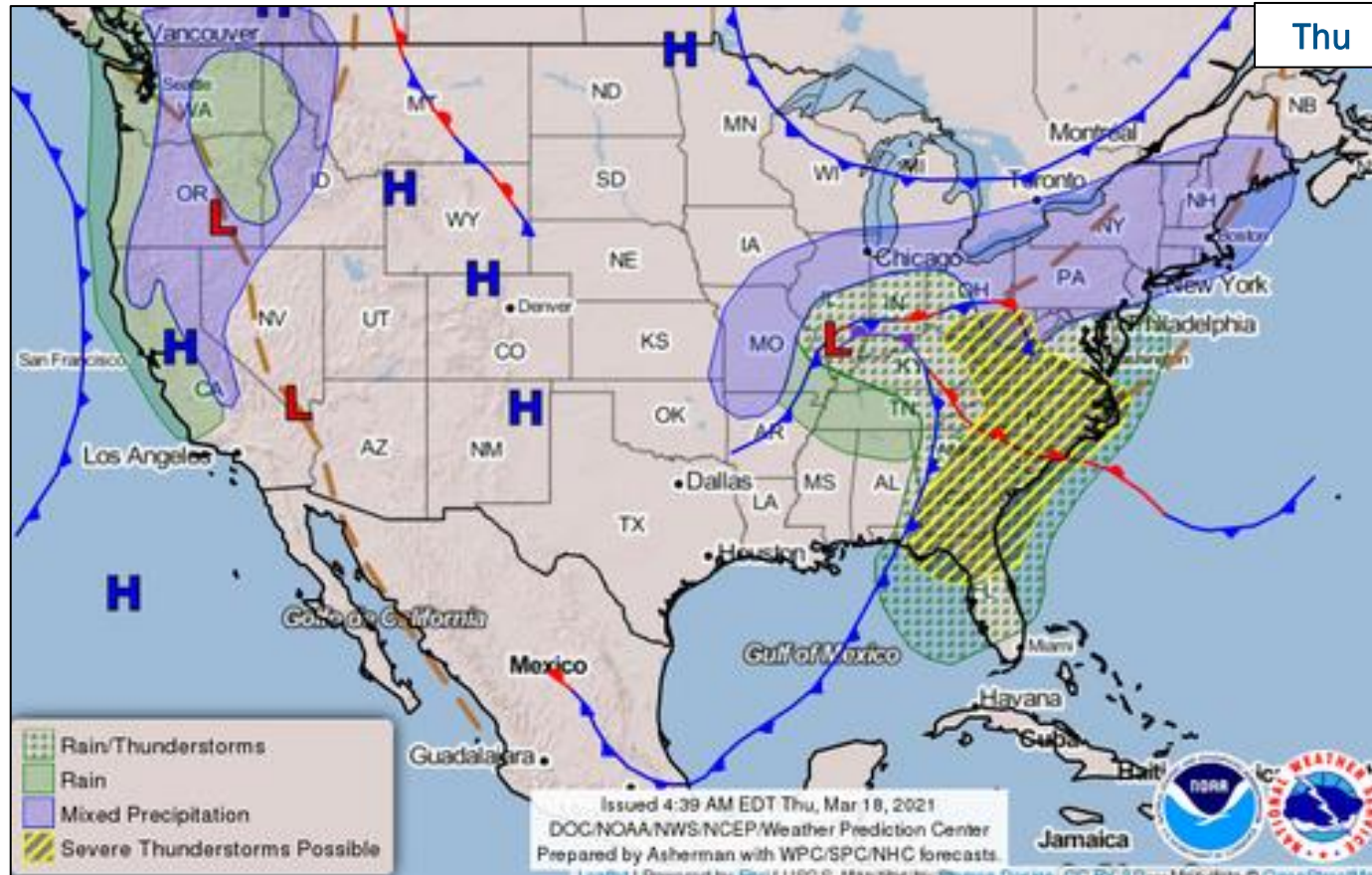


Wayne County, MS Reported by WJTV News:
<https://www.wjtv.com/news/storm-damage-reported-during-severe-weather-outbreak-in-mississippi/>



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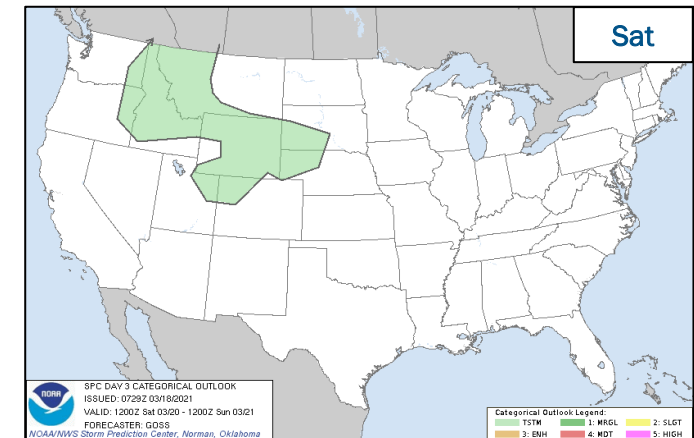
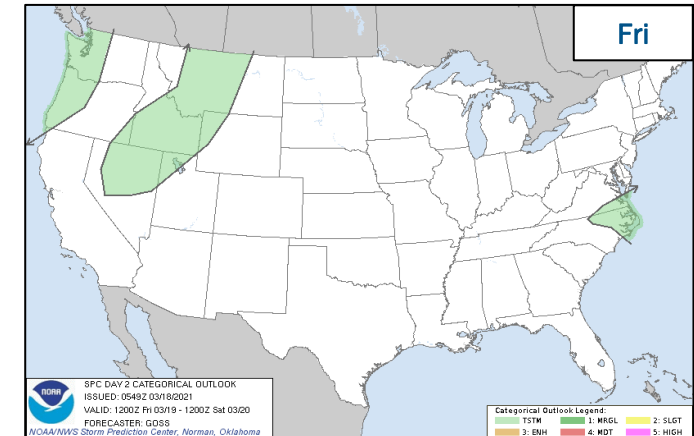
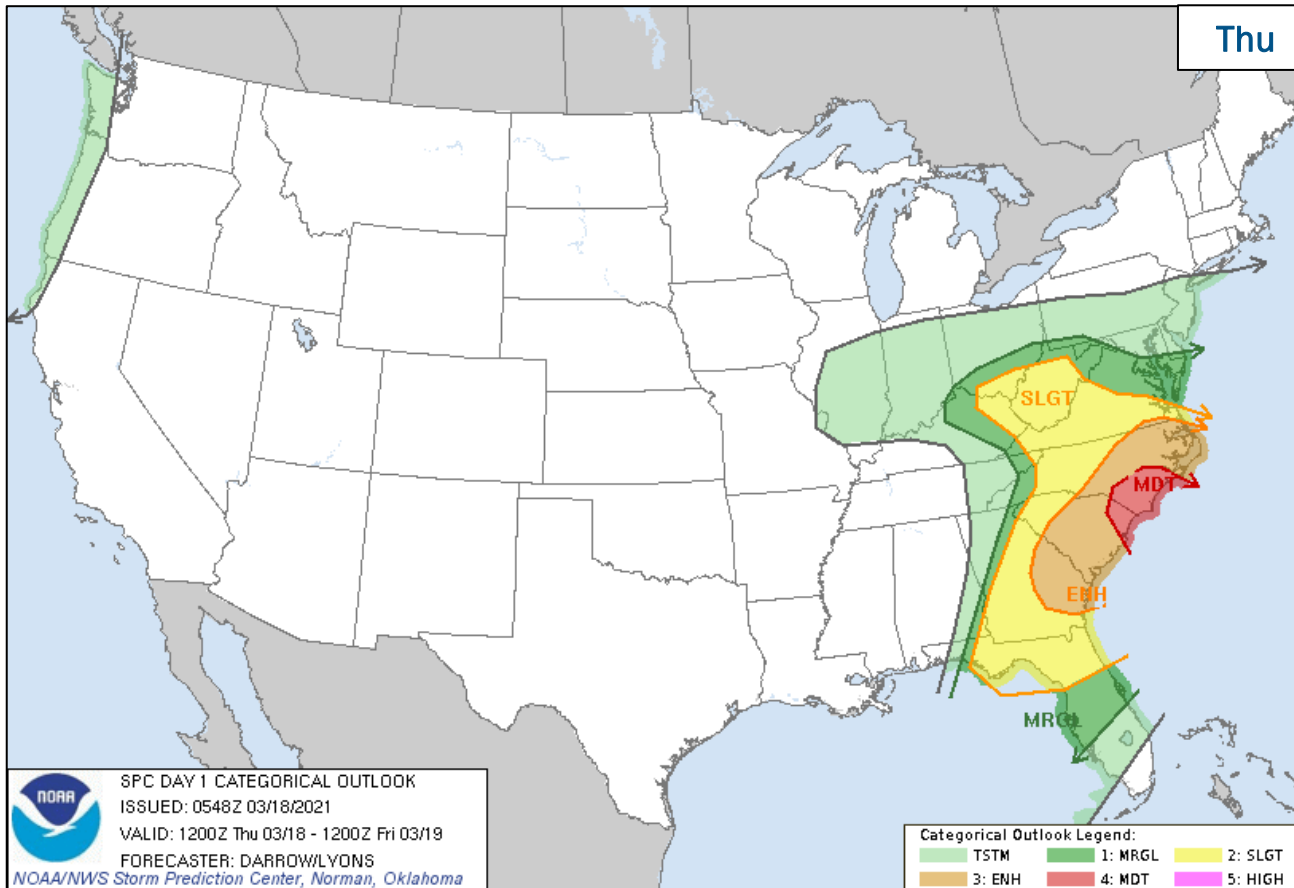
National Weather Forecast



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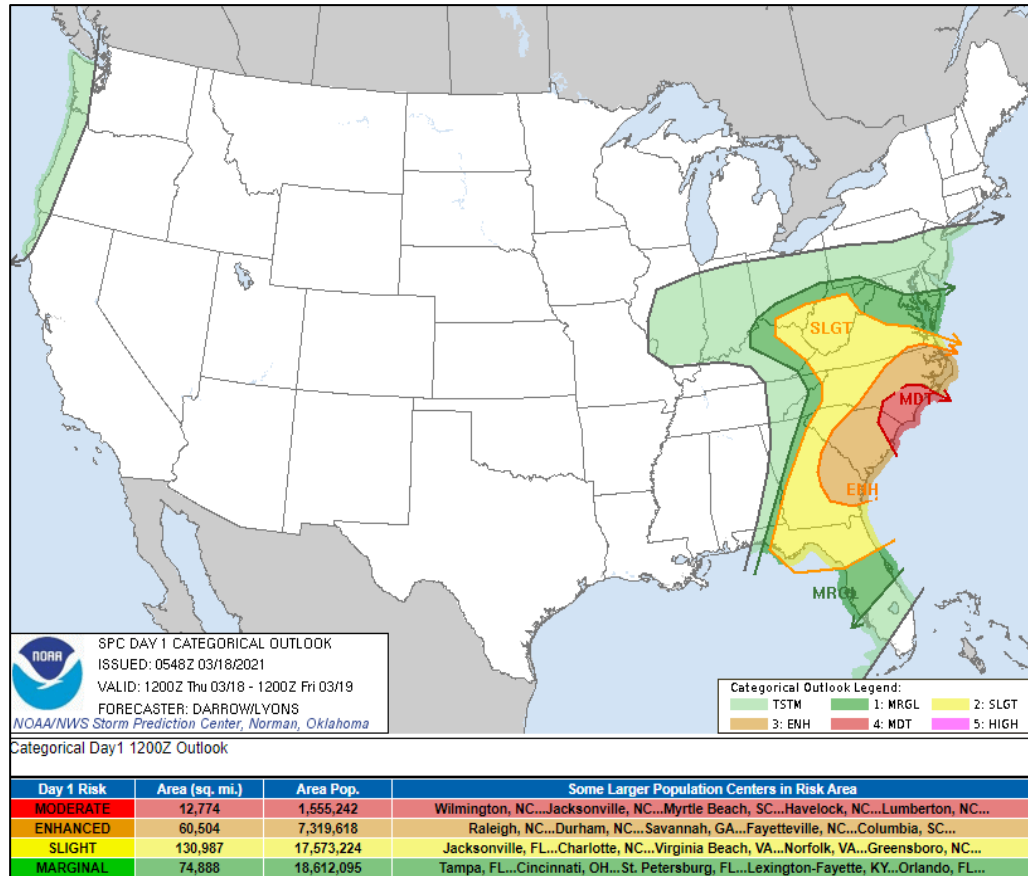
Severe Weather Outlook



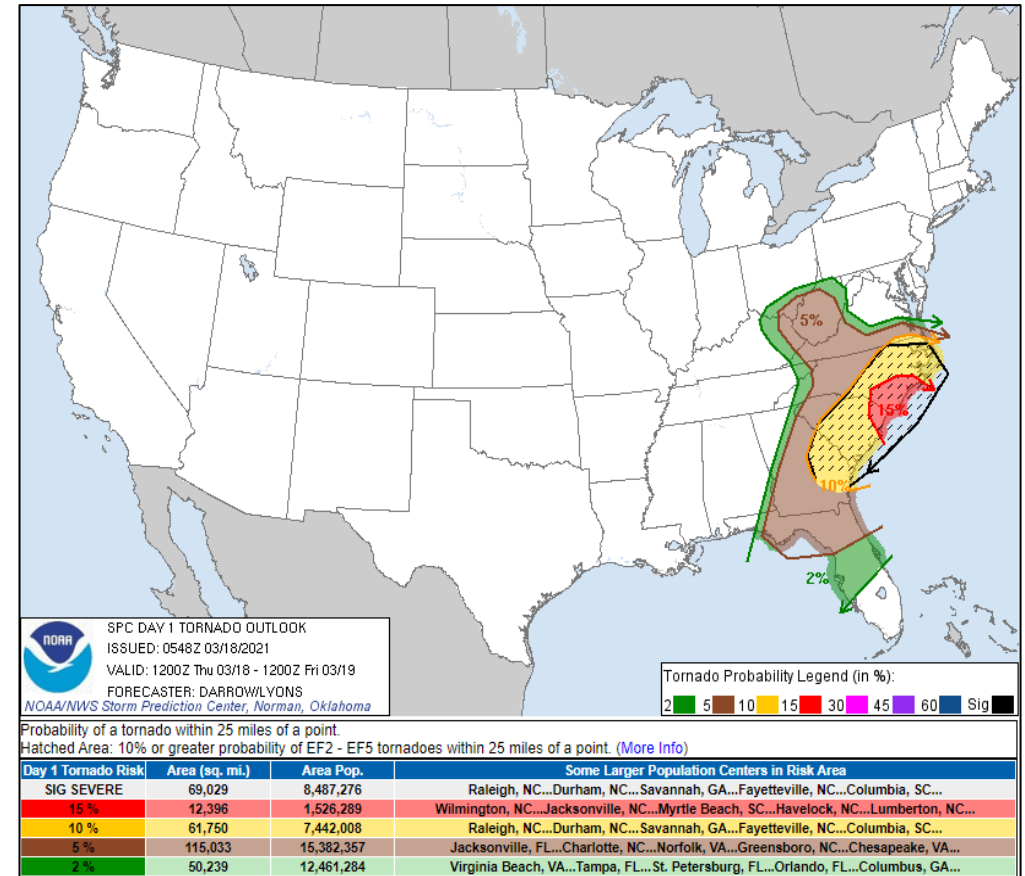
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Severe Weather Outlook Day 1



Categorical Outlook



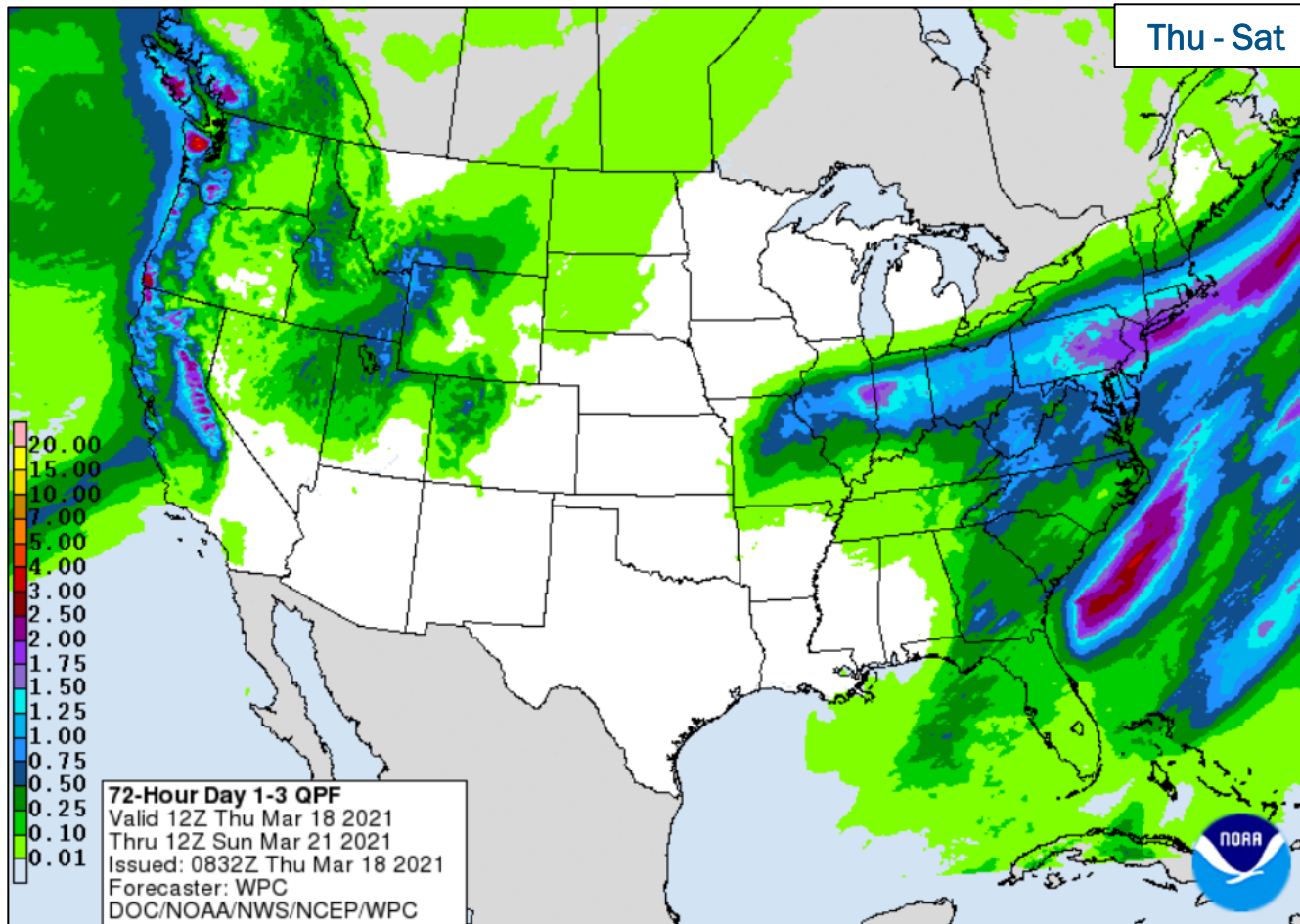
Tornado Outlook



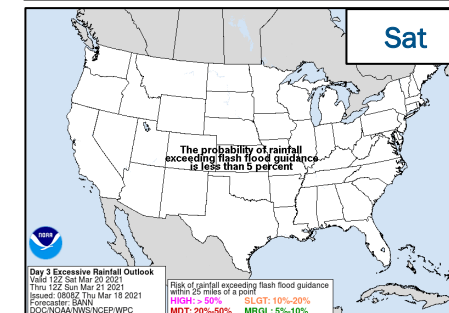
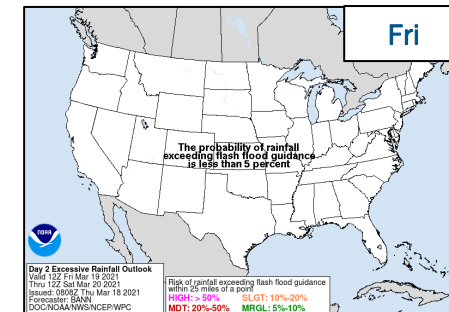
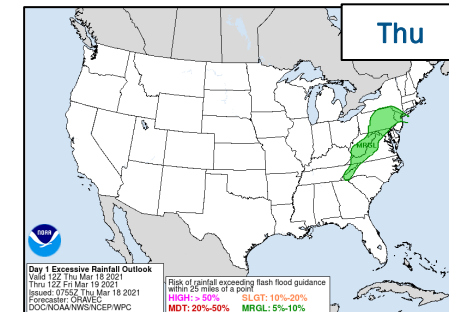
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Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



Thu - Sat

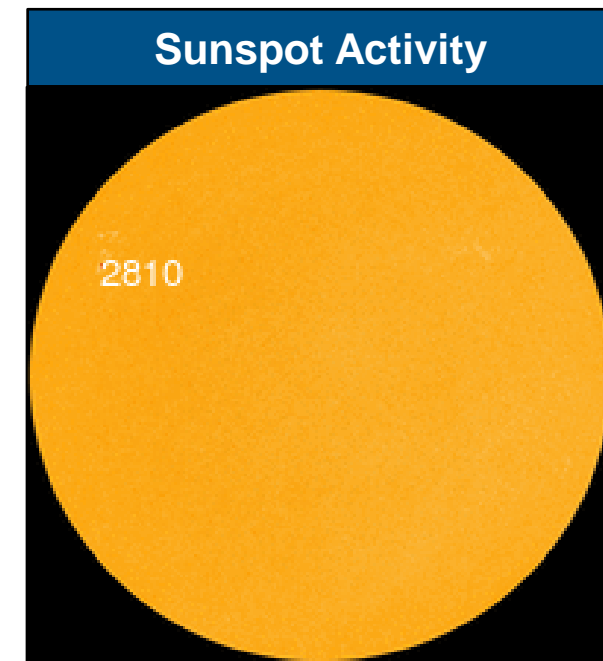
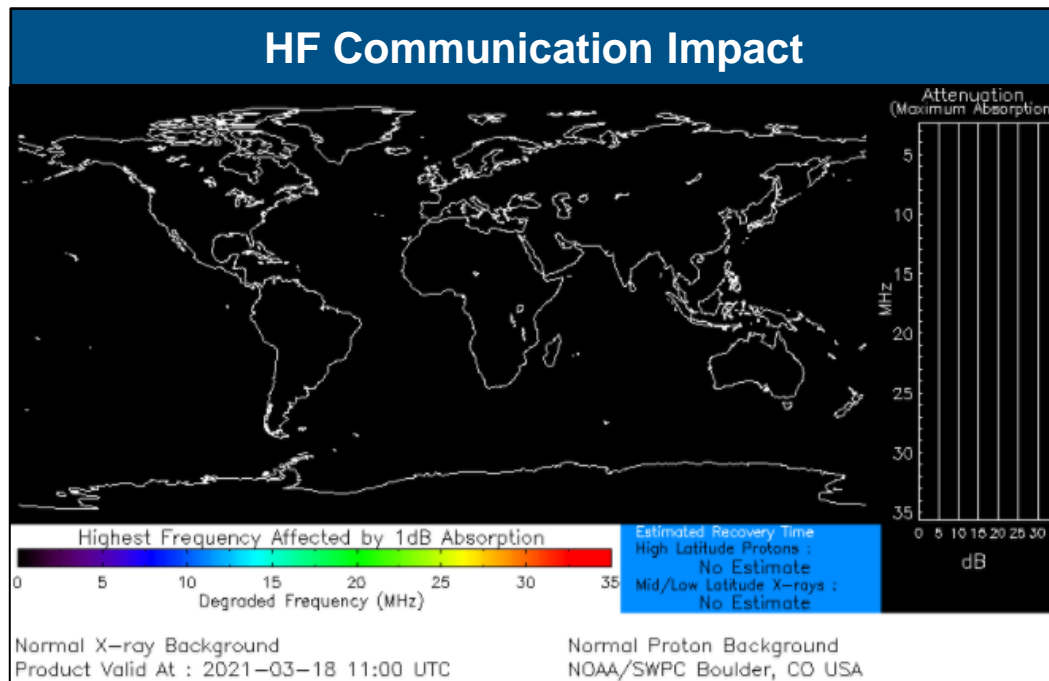


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Space Weather Outlook

	Space Weather Activity	Geomagnetic Storms	Solar Radiation	Radio Blackouts
Past 24 Hours	Minor	None	None	None
Next 24 Hours	None	None	None	None
For further information on NOAA Space Weather Scales refer to: http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/noaa-scales-explanation For further information on Sunspot Activity refer to: https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/phenomena/sunspotssolar-cycle				



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Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start – End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
II	NJ	Nor'easter/Winter Storm Jan 31 – Feb 2	IA	N/A	N/A	N/A
			PA	6	0	3/15-TBD
IV	MS	Severe Winter Weather Feb 11-19	IA	N/A	N/A	N/A
			PA	33 & 1 Tribe	9	3/9-TBD
	KY	Winter Storm Feb 8-19	IA	N/A	N/A	N/A
			PA	52 (+1)	0	3/8-TBD
		Severe Flooding Feb 26 and continuing	IA	9	5	3/6-TBD
			PA	N/A	N/A	N/A
X	OR	Severe Winter Storm Feb 11-22	IA	N/A	N/A	N/A
			PA	6	0	3/22-TBD



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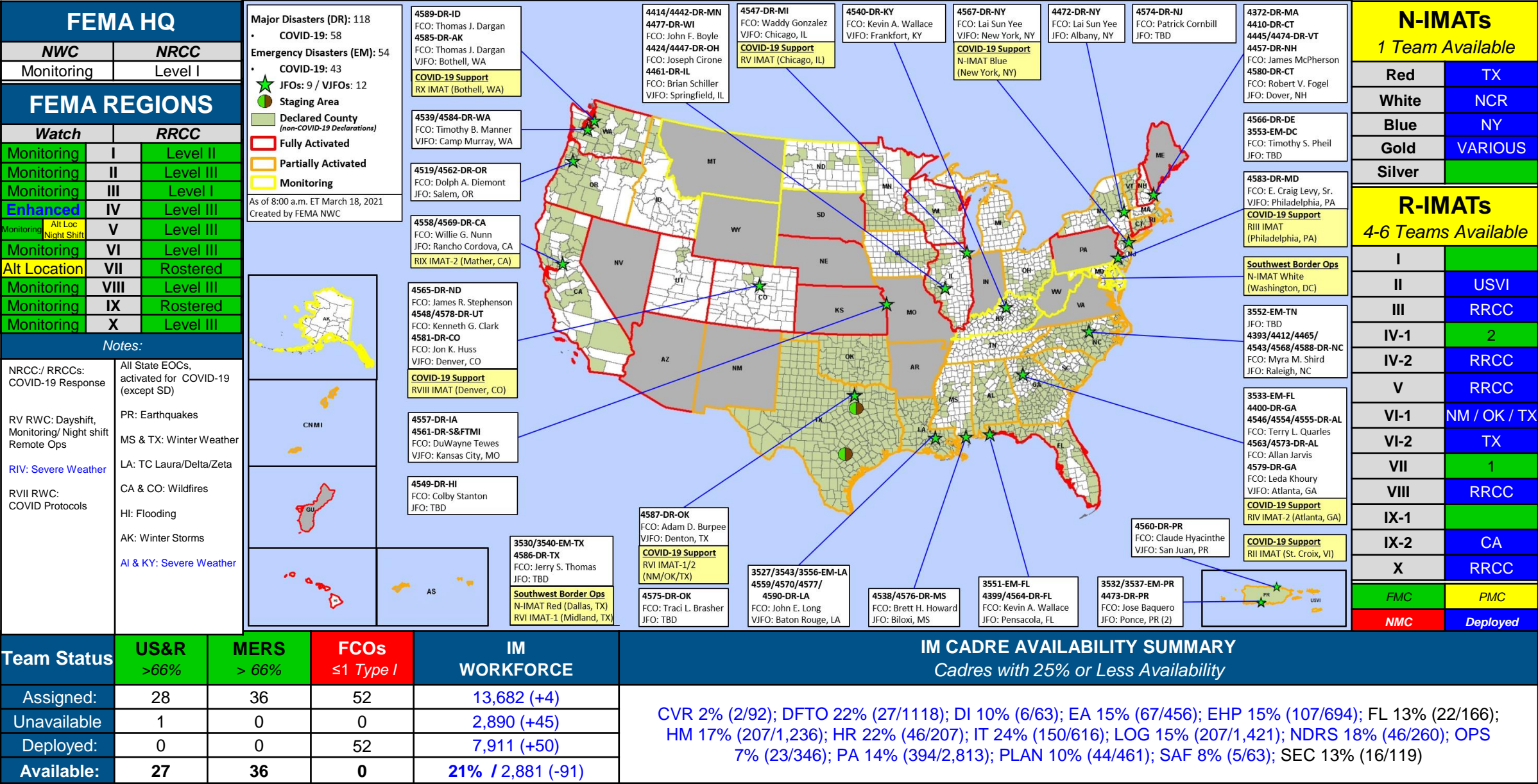
Declaration Requests in Process – 3

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
Poarch Band of Creek Indians – COVID-19 Pandemic (Appeal)	DR	X	X		3/11
VA – 59 th Presidential Inauguration (Appeal)	EM		X		2/9
AL – Tornado DENIED	DR	X		X	2/11
MD – 59 th Presidential Inauguration (Appeal) DENIED	EM		X		2/12
WA – Severe Winter Storms, Straight-Line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, & Mudslides	DR		X	X	3/10



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FEMA Common Operating Picture





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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

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