

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Friday, August 21, 2026

8:30 a.m. ET



FEMA

National Current Operations / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Operations

- No new significant incidents / operations

Disaster Declaration Activity

- Request: Expedited Major Disaster Declaration – IN
- Request: Major Disaster Declaration – MN
- Amendment No. 1 to FEMA-4922-DR-MS

Hazard Monitoring

- Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding – Southeast, Mid-Atlantic
- Severe Thunderstorms – Central / Northern Plains, Great Lakes, Southeast, Mid-Atlantic
- Fire Weather – Pacific Northwest to Central Great Basin
- Tropical Activity:
 - Atlantic:
 - Disturbance 1: Low (20%)
 - Disturbance 2: Low (20%)
 - Eastern and Central Pacific:
 - Hurricane Lala (CAT-2)
 - Tropical Depression Two-C
 - Disturbance 1: Medium (50%)
 - Disturbance 2: High (80%)
 - Western Pacific: Tropical Storm Soudel

Event Monitoring

- Freedom 250 Grand Prix – Washington, D.C.



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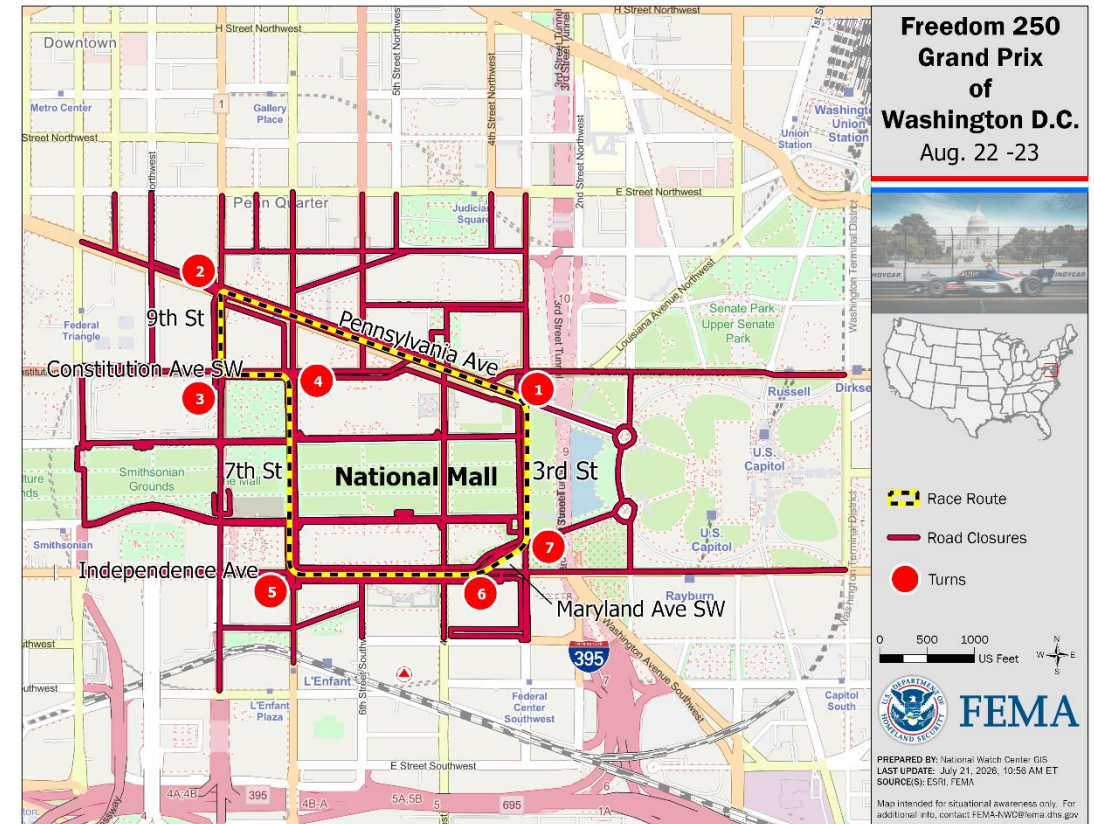
Freedom 250 Grand Prix – Washington, D.C.

Situation: The IndyCar Freedom 250 Grand Prix race is taking place in Washington, DC on August 22 and 23, 2026. Approximately 120k spectators are expected to attend the racing events on both days, and the event will be broadcasted nationally.

State / Federal Preparations:

- DC HSEMA Enhanced Watch activated (Special Events); Full Activation beginning Aug 22
- FEMA Region 3:
 - Regional Watch Center is Monitoring
 - RRCC is activated to Enhanced Monitoring
 - FEMA Incident Management (IM) personnel deployed to DC HSEMA
 - LNOs deployed to DC HSEMA and National Park Service (NPS)
- FEMA Office of National Capital Region Coordination (ONCRC) will maintain situational awareness
- NWC is Monitoring and relocated; NRCC is Rostered

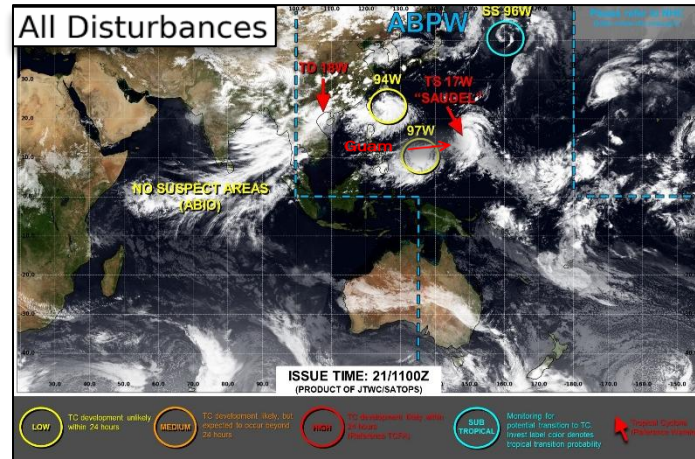
The NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region 3.



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Tropical Outlook

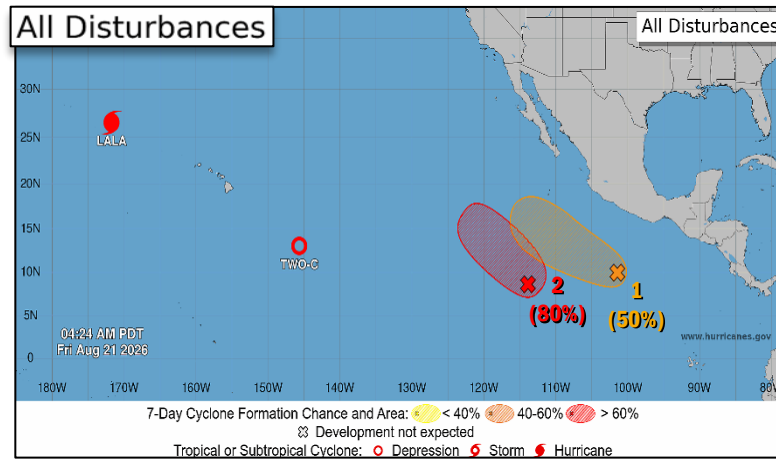
Western Pacific



Tropical Storm Soudel: (Advisory #12, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- See slide below

Eastern and Central Pacific



Hurricane Lala (CAT-2): (Advisory #36, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- See slide below

Tropical Depression Two-C: (Advisory #4, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- See slide below

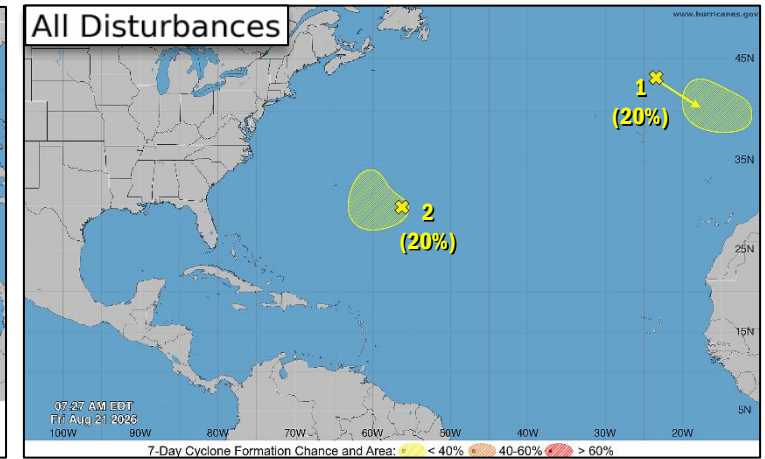
Disturbance 1: (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located a few hundred miles S of the coast of southwestern Mexico
- Could become a tropical depression this weekend or early next week
- Formation chance – 48 hours: Low (20%); 7 days: Medium (50%)

Disturbance 2 (EP91): (as of 8:00 a.m. ET)

- Located several hundred miles S of the southern tip of the Baja California Peninsula
- Tropical depression is likely to form this weekend or early next week
- Formation chance – 48 hours: Medium (60%); 7 days: High (80%)

Atlantic



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

- Located over northeastern Atlantic
- Could acquire some subtropical or tropical characteristics on Saturday or early Sunday
- Formation chance: 48-hour: Low (20%); 7-day: Low (20%)

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

- Located a few hundred miles ESE of Bermuda
- Development, if any, is expected to be slow to occur while it drifts WSW through Sunday and then turns N early next week
- Formation chance – 48 hours: Low (10%); 7 days: Low (20%)



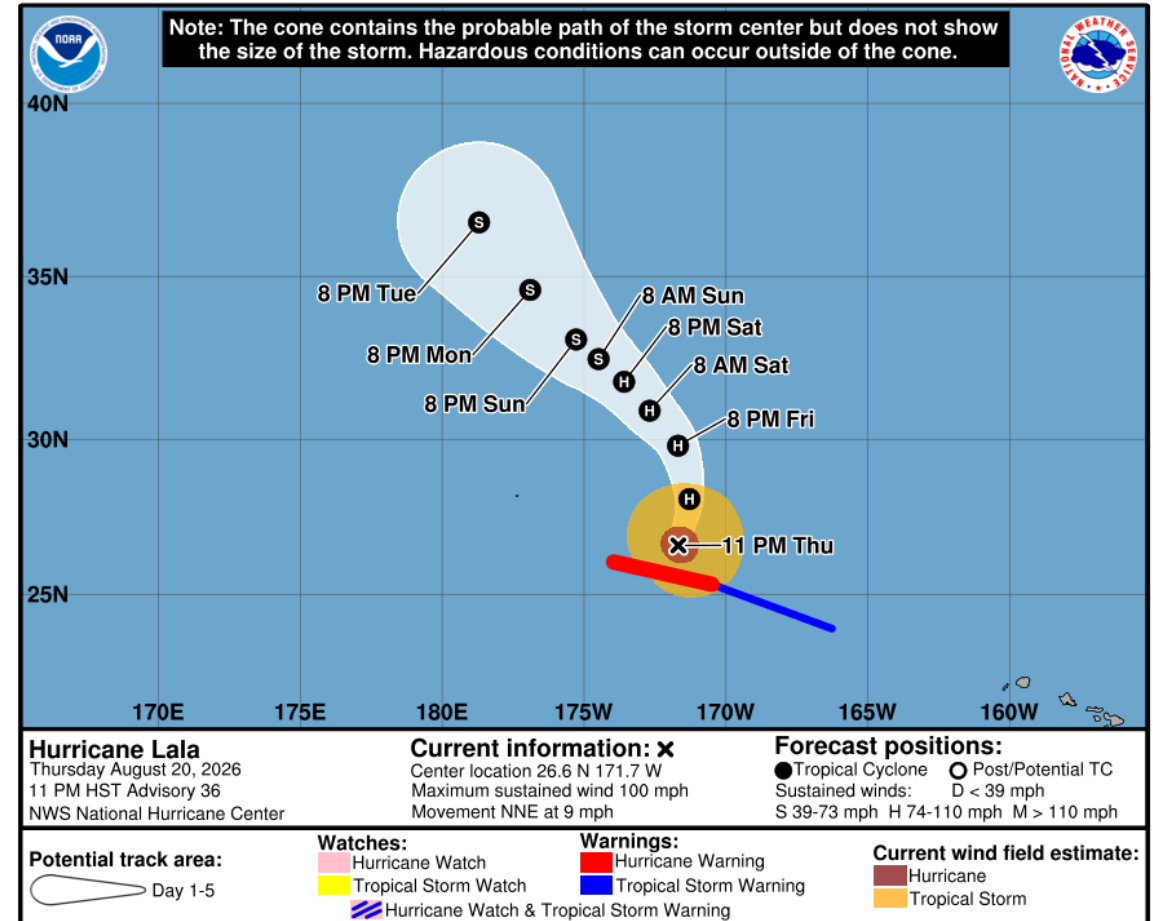
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Hurricane Lala (CAT-2) – Central Pacific

Situation: (Advisory #36, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located **115** miles **NNW** of Maro Reef
- Moving **NNE** at 9 mph
- Maximum sustained winds of **100** mph
- Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 45 miles from the center; tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to **150** miles from the center
- **Intensity fluctuations possible over the next day or so**, but overall gradual weakening is expected through early next week
- Lala is forecast to remain a hurricane through Saturday



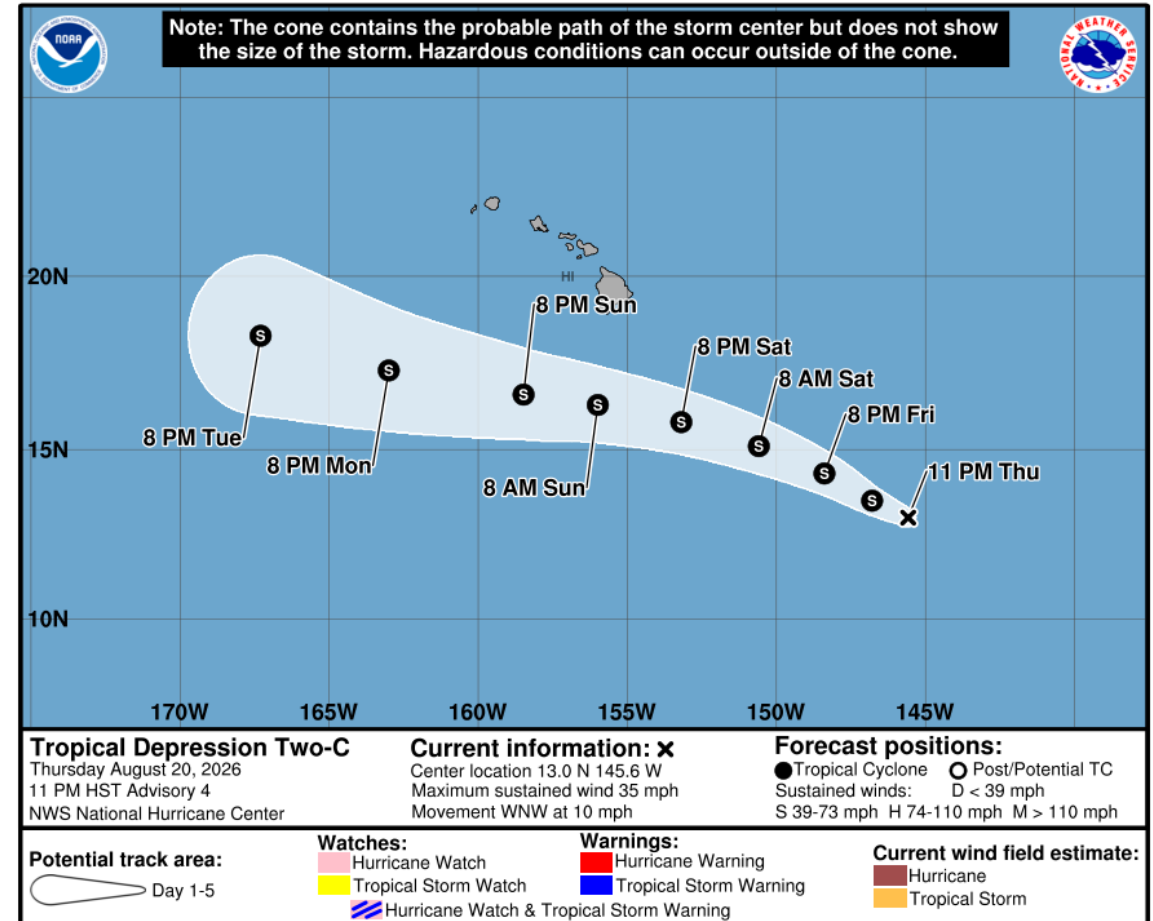
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Tropical Depression Two-C – Central Pacific

Situation: (Advisory #4, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 780 miles SE of Hilo, Hawaii
- Moving WNW at 10 mph
- Maximum sustained winds of 35 mph
- The center of the system is expected to pass south of the Big Island of Hawaii this weekend, then the smaller main Hawaiian Islands by early next week
- Gradual strengthening is forecast over the couple of days, and the depression is forecast to become a tropical storm on Friday.



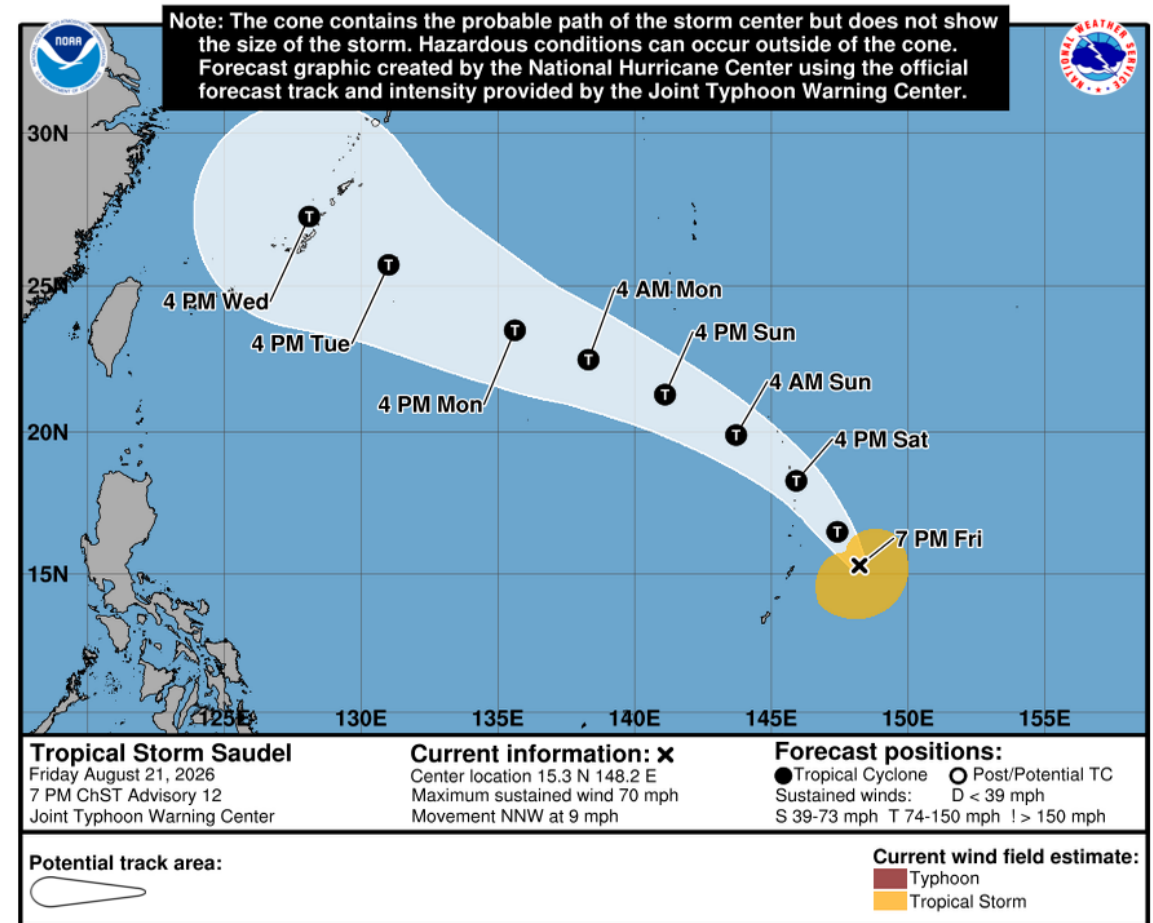
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Tropical Storm Saudel – Western Pacific

Situation: (Advisory #12, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

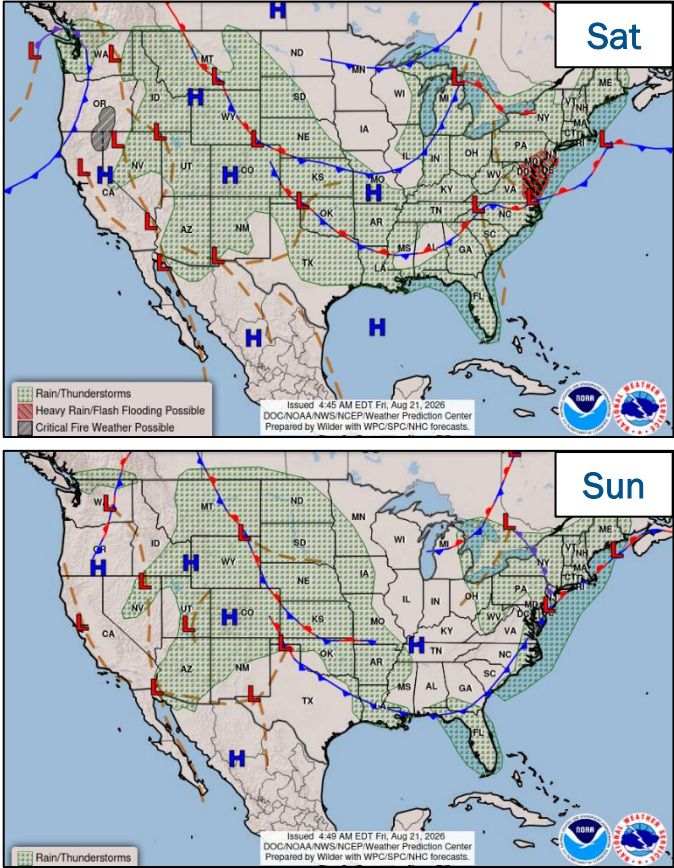
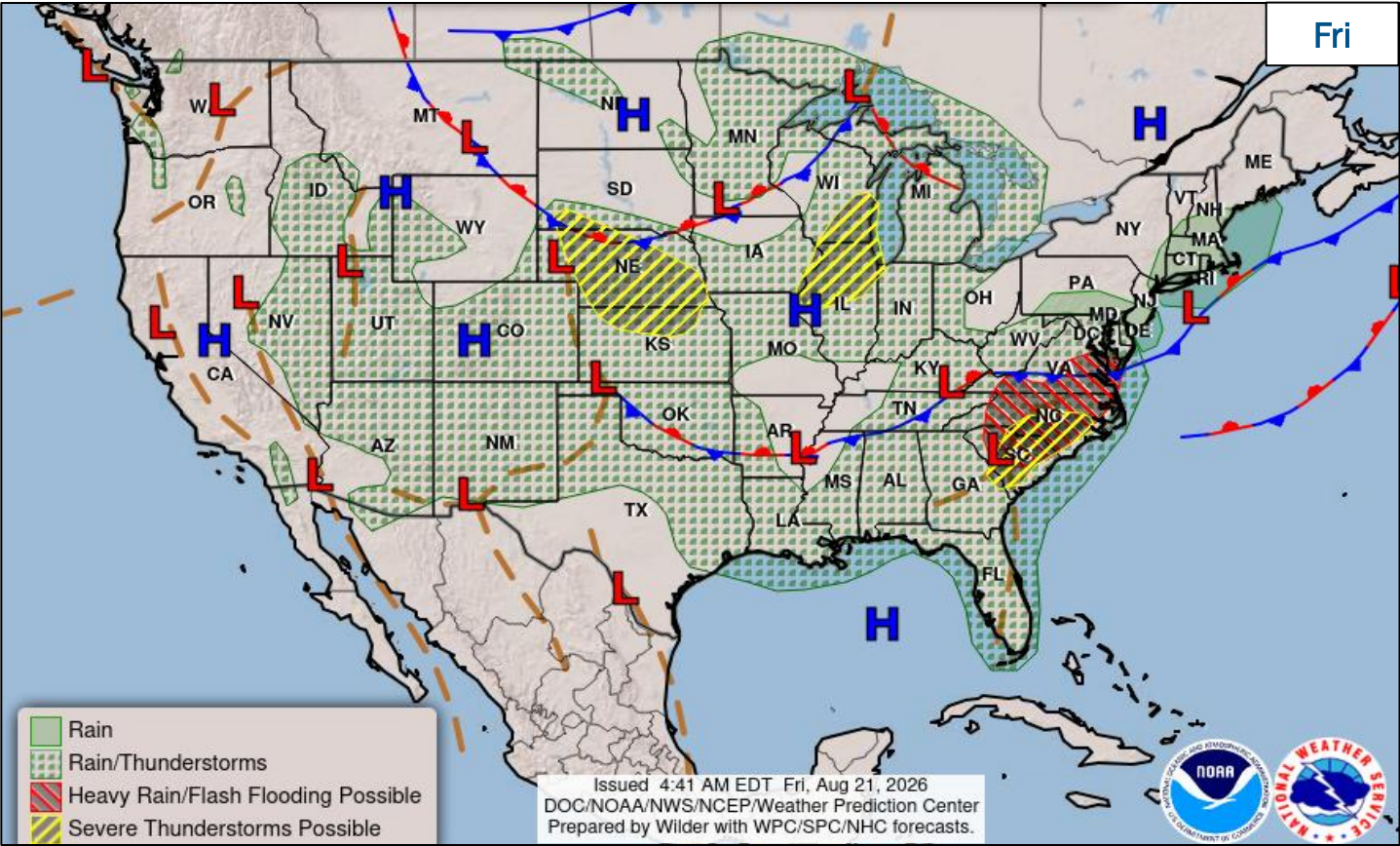
- Located **165 mi E of Saipan**
- Moving NW at **9 mph**
- Maximum sustained surface winds of **70 mph**
- Saudel is forecast to intensify through tonight possibly becoming a typhoon; will pass through far Northern Mariana Islands tomorrow as a CAT-3 typhoon
- **Early model guidance estimates suggest 4-8" of rainfall falling Sunday night through Thursday across Guam and Rota, and 3-7" across Saipan and Tinian. Locally higher amounts will be possible.**



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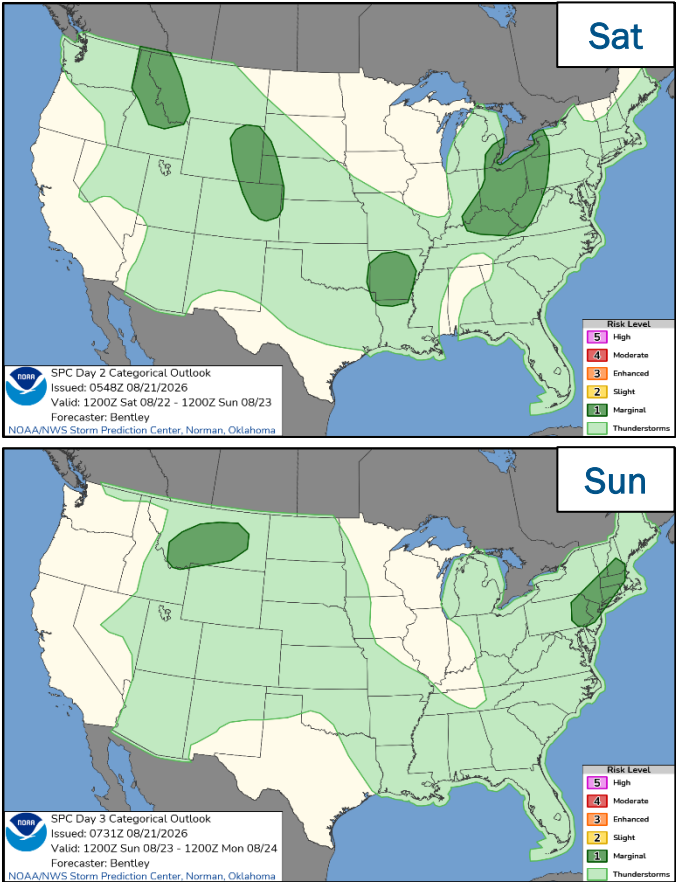
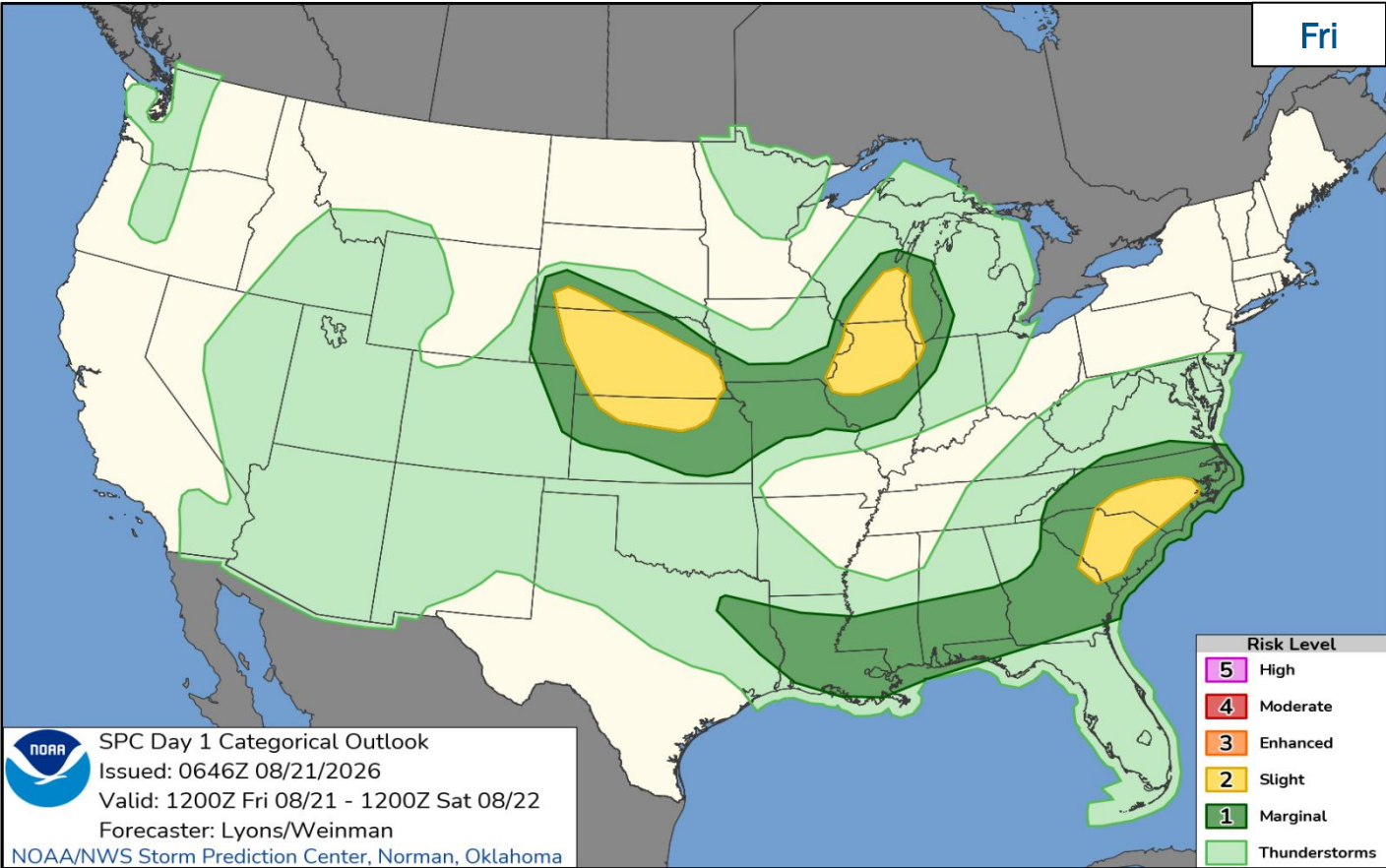
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National Weather Forecast



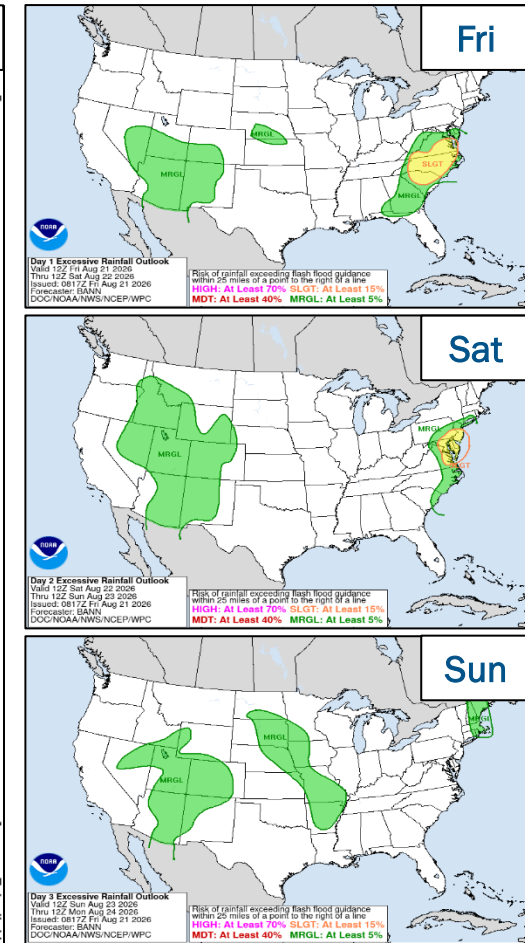
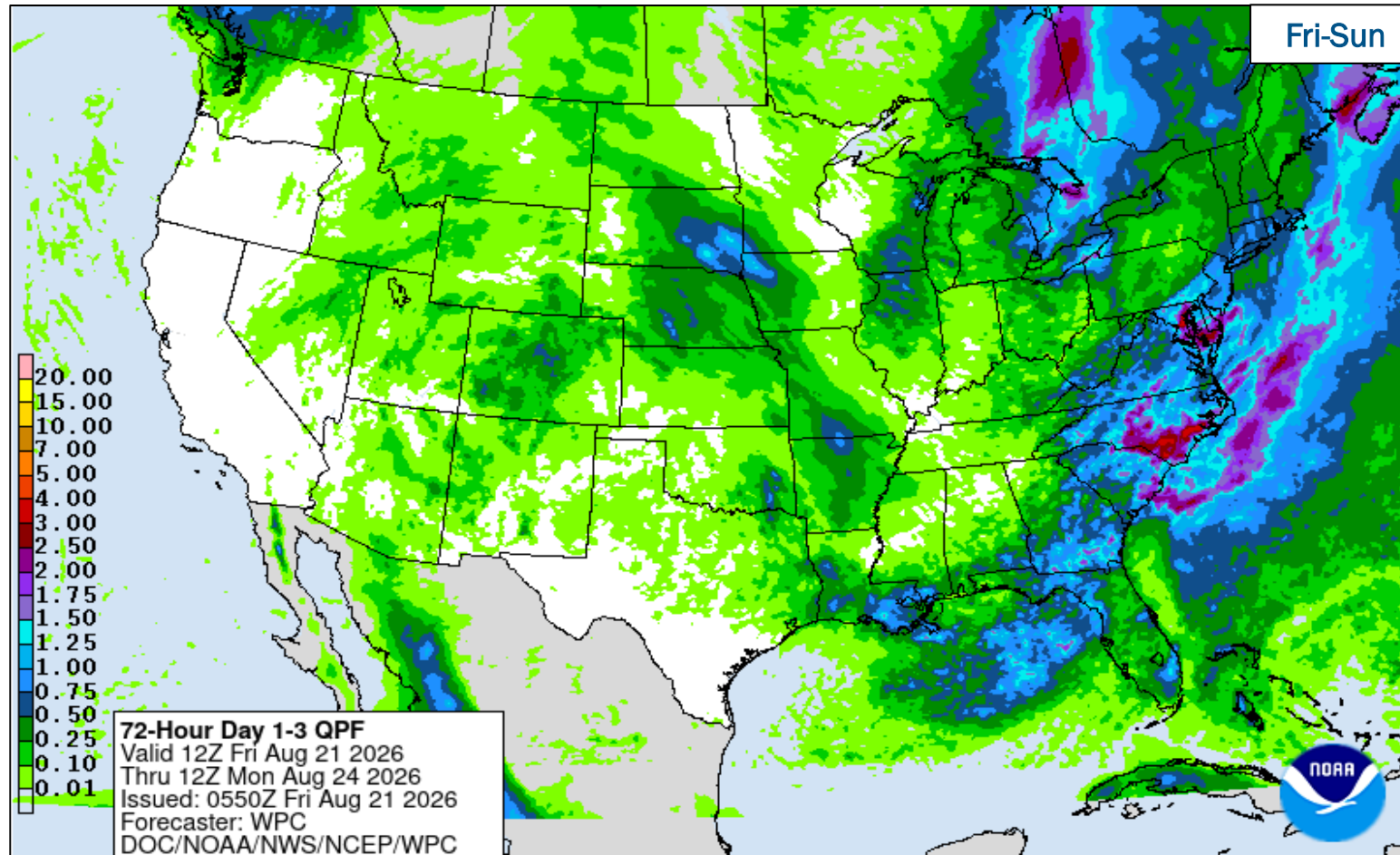
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Severe Weather Outlook



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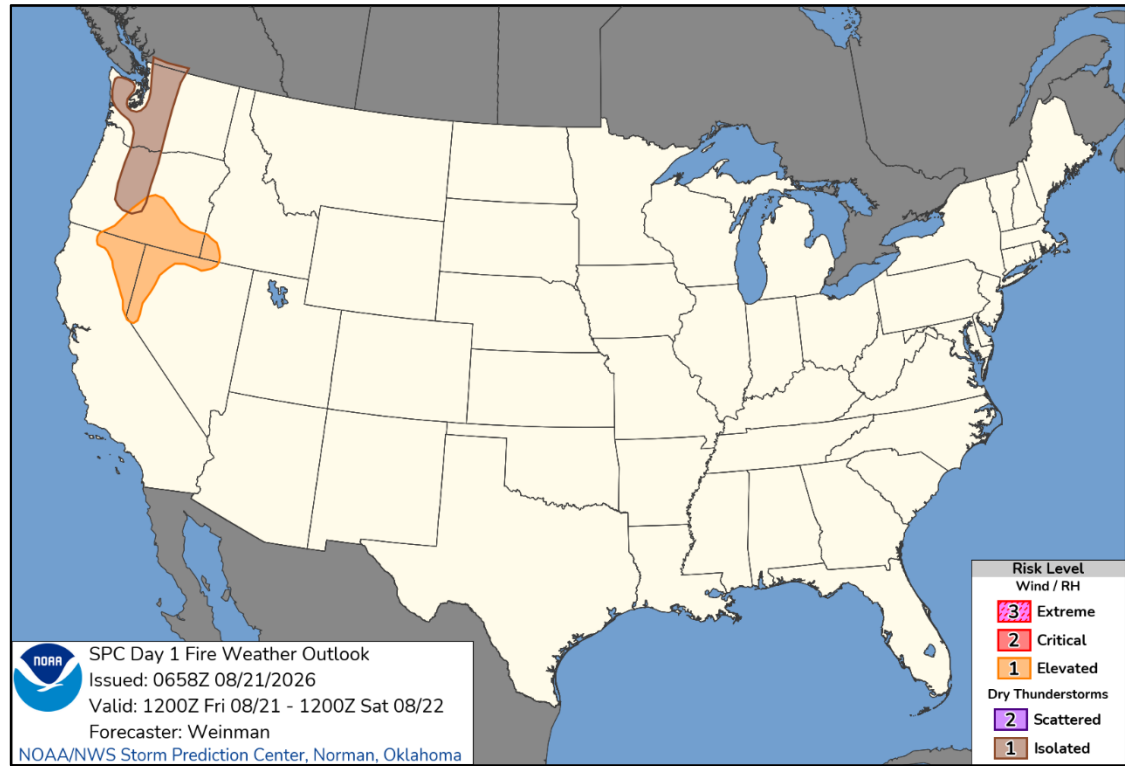
Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



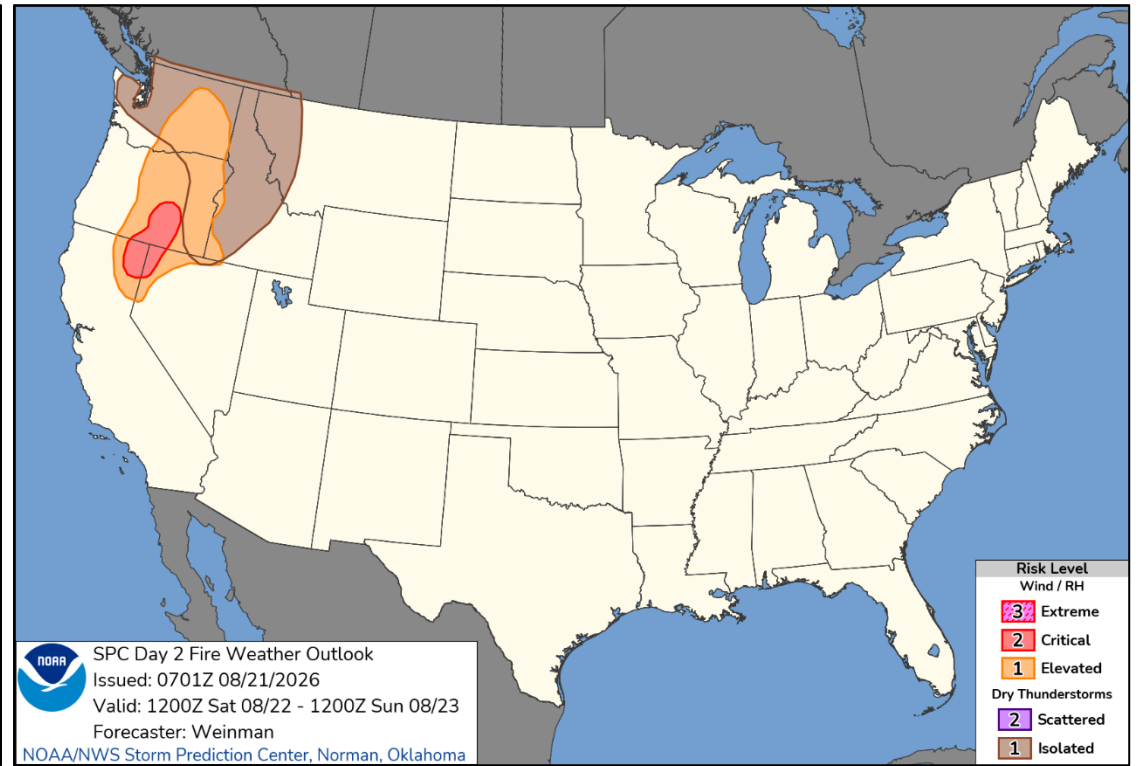
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Fire Weather Outlook



Today



Tomorrow



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National Fire Activity – August 21, 2026

PL 5

INITIAL ATTACK ACTIVITY (24-hour period)	Light (117 fires)
New Large Fires	4
Large Fires Contained	2
Uncontained Large Fires	72
Year-to-Date Acres Burned	7,510,237
Total Responders	25,248
Type 1 IMTs Deployed	0
Complex IMTs Deployed	20
FMAGS	Total
2026 (FYTD)	58
2025	75
3 Year Average	53

Preparedness Levels:	
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

Sinlahekin Fire
Acres Burned: 154,298
Containment: 47%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/20
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/10

Grasshopper Fire
Acres Burned: 92,456
Containment: 71%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/9
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/26

Rowe Creek Complex
Acres Burned: 373,981
Containment: 89%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/9
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/24

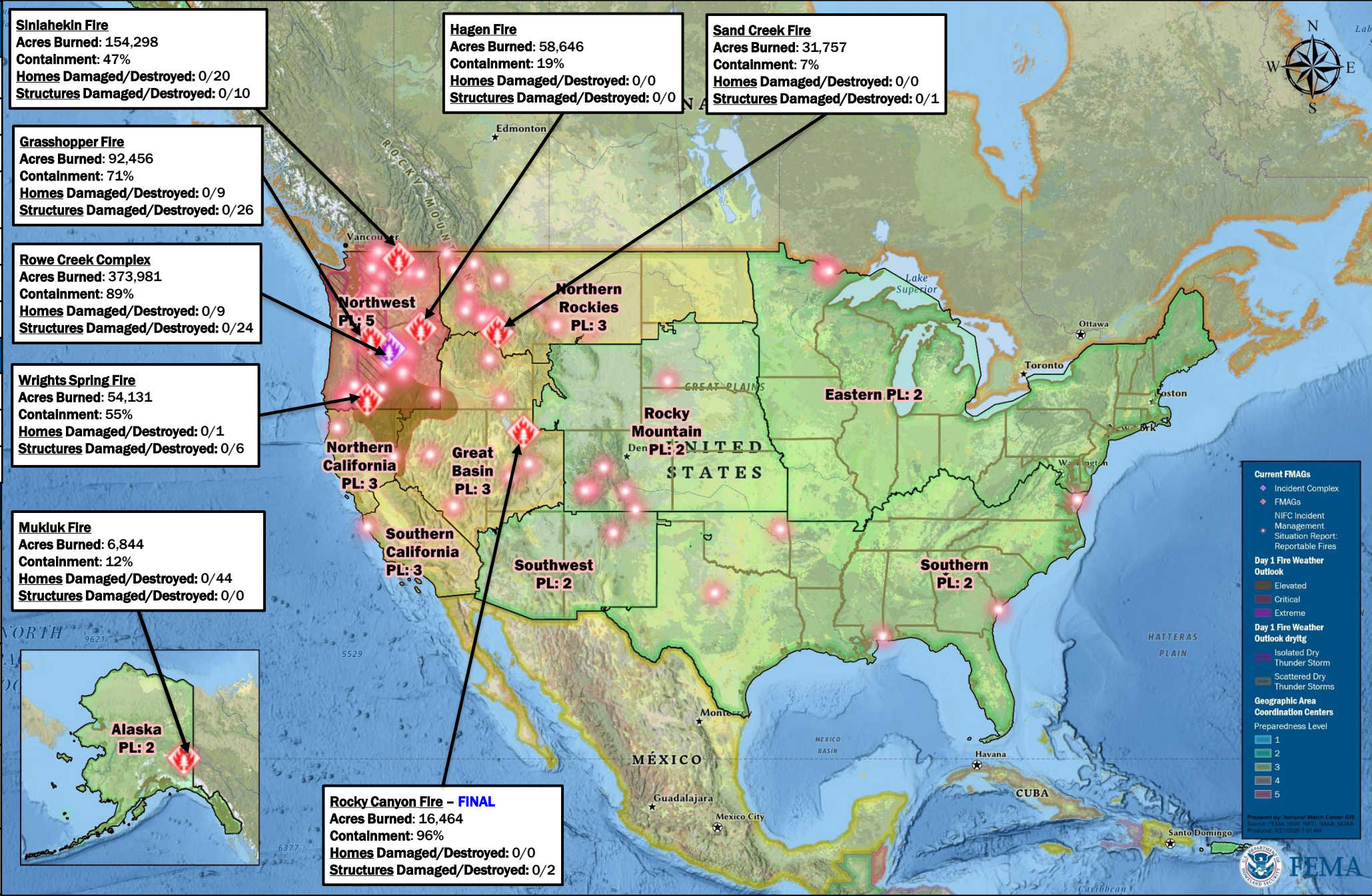
Wrights Spring Fire
Acres Burned: 54,131
Containment: 55%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/1
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/6

Mukluk Fire
Acres Burned: 6,844
Containment: 12%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/44
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/0

Hagen Fire
Acres Burned: 58,646
Containment: 19%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/0
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/0

Sand Creek Fire
Acres Burned: 31,757
Containment: 7%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/0
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/1

Rocky Canyon Fire – FINAL
Acres Burned: 16,464
Containment: 96%
Homes Damaged/Destroyed: 0/0
Structures Damaged/Destroyed: 0/2



Current FMAGS

- Incident Complex
- FMAGS
- NIFC Incident
- Management
- Situation Report
- Reportable Fires

Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook

- Elevated
- Critical
- Extreme

Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook dry/g

- Isolated Dry
- Thunder Storm
- Scattered Dry
- Thunder Storms

Geographic Area Coordination Centers

Preparedness Level

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Prepared by: National Watch Center GIS
Source: FEMA, NOAA, NCEP, NASA, NOAA
Printed: 2026-08-21 12:00 AM

Wildfire Summary

Fire Name (County, ST)	FMAG #	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures (Homes / Other)			Fatalities / Injuries
					Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
Grasshopper (Wasco, OR)	5648-FM-OR	92,456 (+48)	71% (+5)	M: 123	H: 2,963	H: 0	H: 9	0 / 13
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 26	
Rowe Creek Complex (Crook/Jefferson, OR)	5655-FM-OR	373,981	89%	M: 105	H: 452	H: 1	H: 9	0 / 24 (+1)
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 24	
Sinlahekin (Yakima, WA)	5657-FM-WA	154,298 (+48)	47%	M: 12	H: 12	H: 0	H: 20	0 / 3
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 10	
Hagen (Umatilla/Union, OR)	5664-FM-OR	58,646 (+493)	19%	M: 3,585	H: 1,434	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 6
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 0	
Rocky Canyon (Summit/Morgan, UT) FINAL	5665-FM-UT	16,464	96% (+8)	M: LIFTED*	H: 780	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 5
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 2	
Wrights Spring (Klamath, OR)	5666-FM-OR	54,131	55%	M: 104	H: 1,146	H: 0	H: 1	1 / 2
				V: 0	O: 815	O: 0	O: 6	
Sand Creek (Beaverhead, MT)	5671-FM-MT	31,757 (+90)	7%	M: LIFTED	H: 168	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 4
				V: 6	O: 0	O: 0	O: 1	
Mukluk (Southeast Fairbanks, AK)	5672-FM-AK	6,844 (+1,767)	12% (-4)	M: 1,000 (-500)	H: 250 (-200)	H: 0	H: 44	0 / 0
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 0	

*ICS-209 Box 38

(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

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Incident Workforce

18,970
Assigned a Disaster Title

6,523 / 35%
Deployed

5,907 / 31%
Available to Deploy for 30 Days

6,470 / 34%
Remaining

Surge Capacity Force
7,702 / 0 / 770
Rostered / Deployed /
Est. Available to Deploy for 30 Days

Friday
August 21, 2026
8:30 a.m. ET

National Readiness

National Watch Center



NRCC



N-IMAT Red



N-IMAT White



N-IMAT Blue



N-IMAT Gold



N-IMAT HS



National Notes

National Watch:
• NWC: Staffing

NRCC:
• Rostered

National IMATs:
• N-IMAT Red: Staffing
• N-IMAT White: Staffing
• N-IMAT Blue: Staffing

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

	JFO	DR	EM	JRO
R1	0	1	0	0
R2	0	0	0	2
R3	0	2	0	0
R4	4	13	0	1
R5	0	2	1	0
R6	4	6	3	3
R7	0	5	0	0
R8	1	5	0	0
R9	0	5	4	0
R10	4	7	1	0

Bothell, WA
EM-3650-WA
• MERS

Ephrata, WA
EM-3650-WA
• SMT Bothell/Tracy

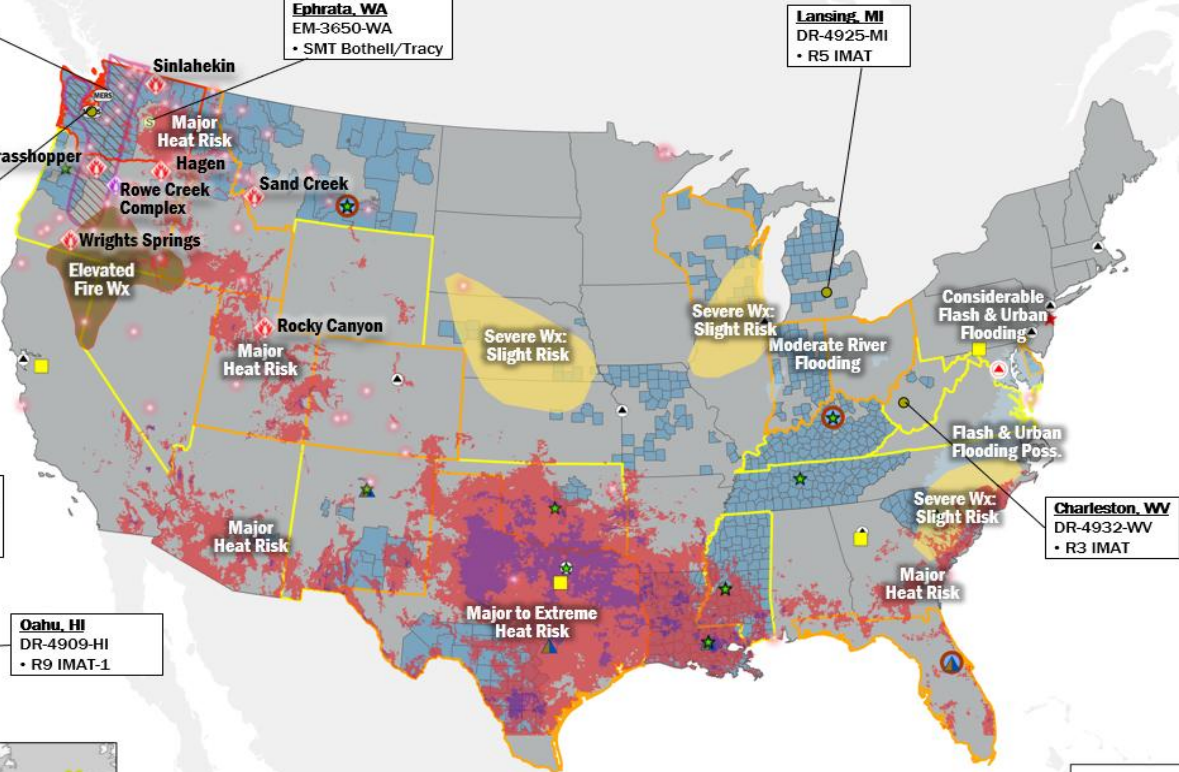
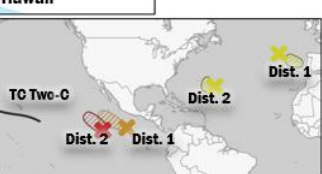
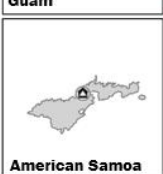
Lansing, MI
DR-4925-MI
• R5 IMAT

Camp Murray, WA
EM-3650-WA
• R10 IMAT
• R7 IMAT
• MERS

CNMI
DR-4910-MP &
EM-3647-MP
• R9 IMAT-2

Guam
DR-4910-MP & EM-
3648-GU
• ISB Delta

Oahu, HI
DR-4909-HI
• R9 IMAT-1



- FEMA Headquarters
- Regional Offices
- National IMAT
- Regional IMAT
- MERS
- Incident Support Base
- Staging Management Team
- Pre-Positioned Site
- Distribution Center
- Open Joint Field Offices
- Joint Recovery Office
- Direct Housing Missions
- Incident Complex
- FMAgs
- Large Fires
- State Activation Levels
- Full
- Partial
- Monitoring
- Normal
- Declared Counties
- NWS HeatRisk
- Major risk
- Extreme risk



Regional Readiness

Watch RRCC IMAT

Region 1



3

Region 2



2

Region 3



WV

Region 4



1

Region 5



MI

Region 6



Region 7



WA

Region 8



Region 9



HI MP

Region 10



WA

Regional Notes

- Watches/RRCCs:
- R2 Watch: Equipment
 - R5 Watch: Staffing
- IMATs:
- R1: Staffing
 - R3: Deployed (4932-DR-WV)
 - R4-1: Staffing
 - R4-2: Staffing
 - R5: Deployed (4925-DR-MI)
 - R7: Deployed (3650-EM-WA)
 - R9-1: Deployed (4909-DR-HI)
 - R9-2: (4910-DR-MP)
 - R10: Deployed (3650-EM-WA)
- State EOCs:
- DC: Summer 2026 Events
 - FL/MS: Previous Incidents
 - AK/CO/ID/NV/NM/OK/OR/WA: Wildfires
 - DE/IN/KY/VA/UT/WY: Severe Weather
 - MP: TC Bavi
 - UT: Wildfire/Major Events/Drought/Crop Loss
 - PR/VA: Drought
 - WI: Support for 4923-DR-WI
 - HI: TC Lala
 - WY: Election Activities

Legend

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

Commodities & Equipment

	CONUS	Caribbean	Hawaii	Guam
Water				
Meals				
Generators				

SMT

Operational	11/11
Requires Augmentation	3/11
Deployed	0/11

MERS Det.

3/36 Operational	
Maynard	4/6
Frederick	6/6
Thomasville	6/6
Denton	6/6
Denver	4/6
Bothell	4/6

US&R

Task Forces	
Assigned	28
Non-FEMA Deployed	0
FEMA-Deployed	0
Not Mission Capable	0
Available	28
FEMA Support Staff	11/21

FCO

Assigned	38
Not Mission Capable	1
Deployed	31 (21 FCO)
Available	6

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start - End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
R5	WI	Severe Weather and Tornadoes Jul 27	IA	4	4	8/17 - 8/18
			PA	2	0	8/17 - TBD
R8	CO	Aspen Acres Fire Jun 29 and continuing	IA	2	0	7/28 - TBD
			PA	2	0	7/28 - TBD



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Declaration Request – Indiana

Declaration Type: Expedited Major Disaster – IN

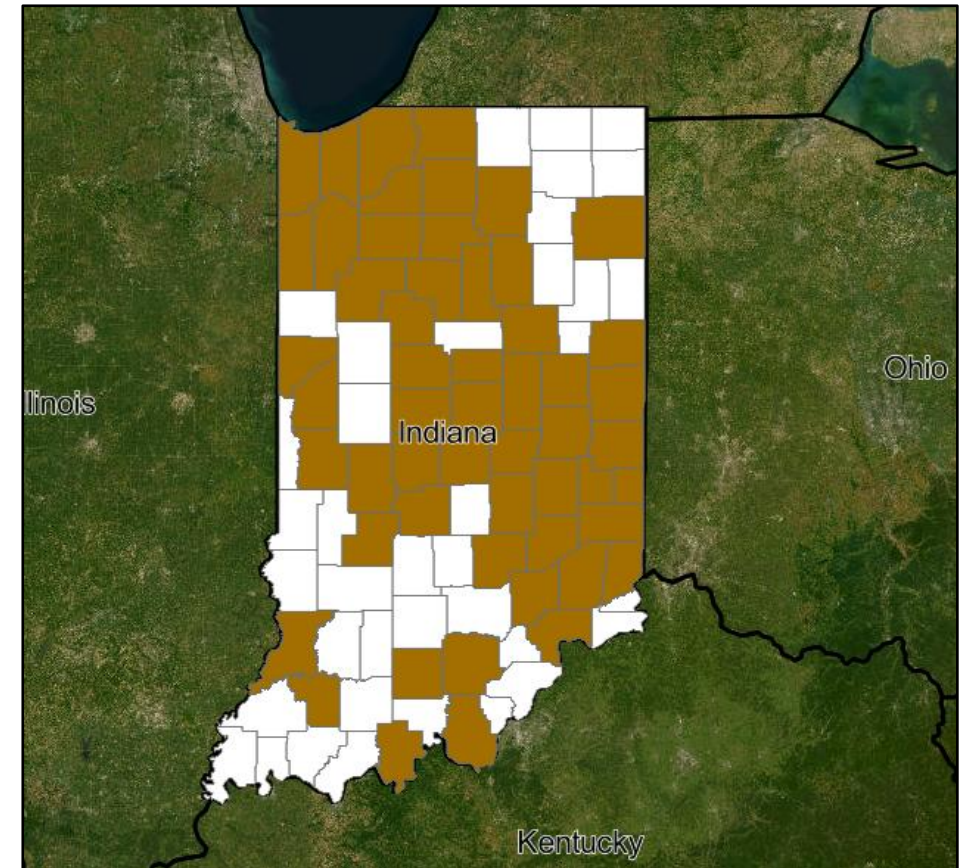
Date Requested: Aug 20

Incident: Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding

Incident Period: Aug 11 and continuing

Requested:

- **IA/PA:** 54 counties
- **Hazard Mitigation:** Statewide



 **IA/PA**



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National Watch Center

Declaration Request – Minnesota

Declaration Type: Major Disaster – MN

Date Requested: Aug 20

Incident: Severe Storms and Flooding

Incident Period: Jul 2-8

Requested:

- **IA:** 3 counties
- **Hazard Mitigation:** Statewide



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National Watch Center

Declaration Requests in Process – 20

State / Tribe / Territory – Incident Description	Type	IA	PA	HM	Requested
NY – Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, and Straight-line Winds – Appeal	DR		X	X	Mar 25
MA – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Apr 7
ND – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Tornadoes	DR		X	X	Jul 6
NH – Severe Storm and Flash Flooding – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 8
RI – Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 15
TX – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Jul 17
NJ – Severe Winter Storms and Snowstorm – Appeal	DR		X	X	Jul 20
HI – Earthquake	DR	X			Jul 21
ID – Severe Storm and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 22
KY – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	DR	X	X	X	Jul 23
SD – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 24
MO – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 28
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Jul 28
OST* – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Jul 29
IA – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR		X	X	Aug 3
IN – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Aug 6
GU – Super Typhoon Bavi	DR	X	X	X	Aug 11
KS – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		X	X	Aug 11
MN – Severe Storms and Flooding	DR	X		X	Aug 20
IN - Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR	X	X	X	Aug 20



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*Oglala Sioux Tribe

National Watch Center

Declaration Amendments

Declaration	Number	Issued	Action
FEMA-4922-DR-MS	1	Aug 20	Adds 1 county for Public Assistance



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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.



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