

FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

8:30 a.m. ET



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National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

- Wildfires – Western U.S.
- Chemical Leak – La Porte, TX

Hazard Monitoring

- Severe thunderstorms and heavy rain – Upper Mississippi Valley to the Ohio Valley
- Tropical Activity:
 - Eastern Pacific:
 - Disturbance 1: Medium (60%)
 - Disturbance 2: Medium (40%)

Disaster Declaration Activity

- None

Event Monitoring

- None



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Chemical Leak – La Porte, TX

Current Situation: At approximately 8:00 p.m. ET last night a chemical leak and casualty incident occurred in the Houston area. The LyondellBasell chemical plant experienced a release of Methyl Iodide and Acetic Acid into an on-site wastewater treatment area. Two fatalities due to chemical exposure, seven injured, and 22 personnel were taken to the hospital as a precaution. The leak was contained, and the event is being handled at the local level and there is no threat to the surrounding community.

Hazardous Material:

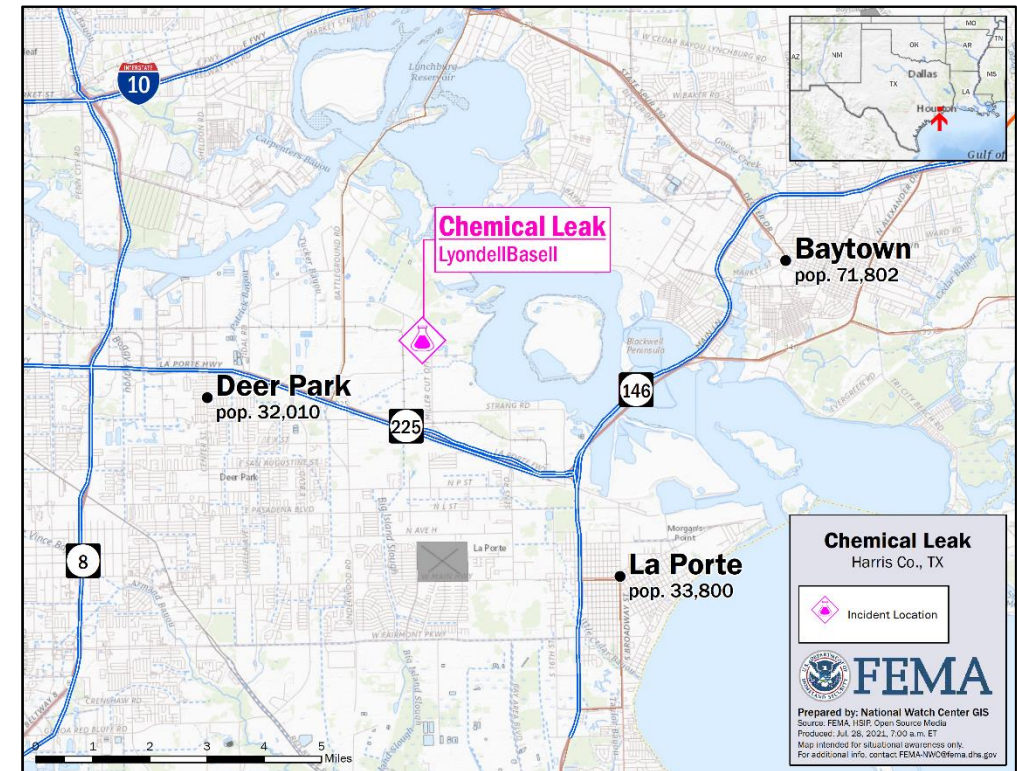
- Approximately 100 lbs. mixture of Methyl Iodide and Acetic Acid released
 - Methyl Iodide Exposure Effects: May damage lungs, spleen, liver, and eyes; Prolonged exposure can lead to convulsions, coma, and death
 - Acetic Acid Exposure Effects: Prolonged skin contact may cause tissue destruction; Inhalation exposure could irritate or damage the lungs, eyes, or skin depending on the concentration

State / Local Response:

- TX EOC is at Partial Activation (COVID-19)
- Harris County and La Porte City EOCs are monitoring

FEMA / Federal Response:

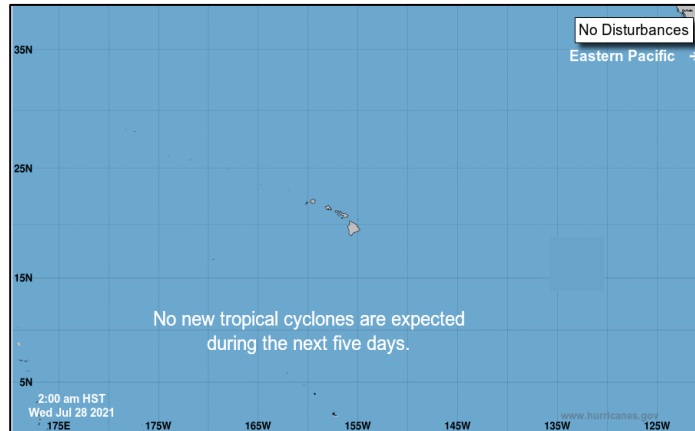
- Region VI RWC remains at steady state and monitoring; RRCC at Level III (COVID-19)
- USCG, EPA, and CISA are monitoring
- No requests for FEMA assistance



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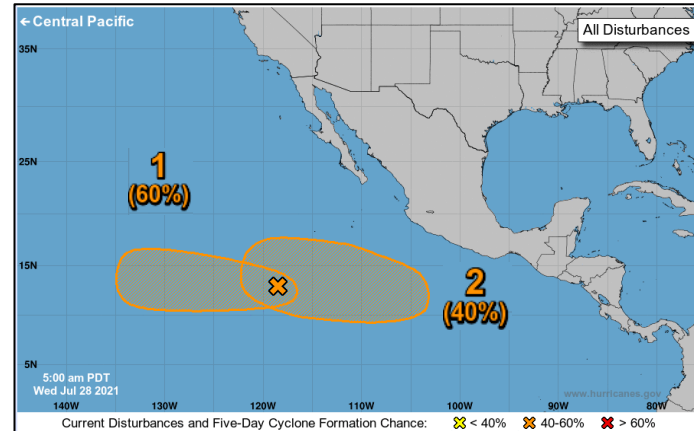
Tropical Outlook – Five Day

Central Pacific



- No significant activity

Eastern Pacific



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

- 900 miles SW of the southern tip of the Baja California
- Tropical depression could form later this week
- 48-hour formation chance: Low (30%)
- 5-day formation chance: Medium (60%)

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

- Expected to develop later this week several hundred miles offshore of the SW coast of Mexico
- Tropical Depression could form this weekend
- 48-hour formation chance: Low (near 0%)
- 5-day formation chance: Medium (40%)

Atlantic

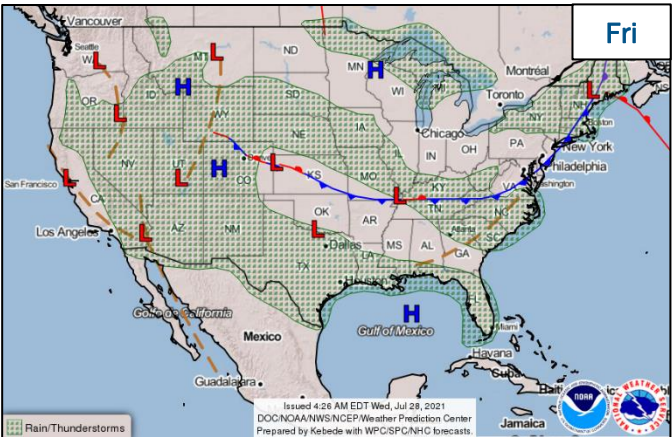
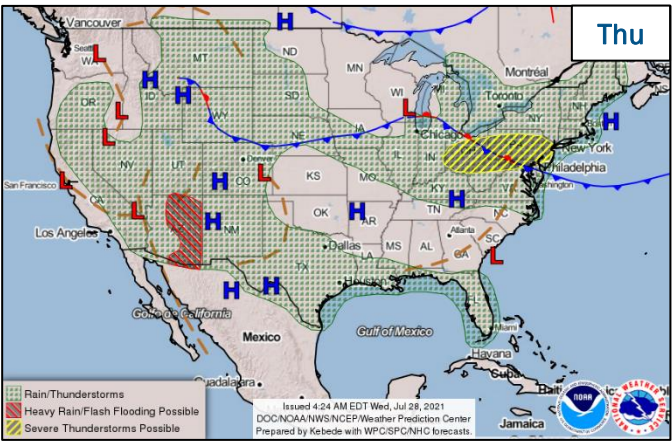
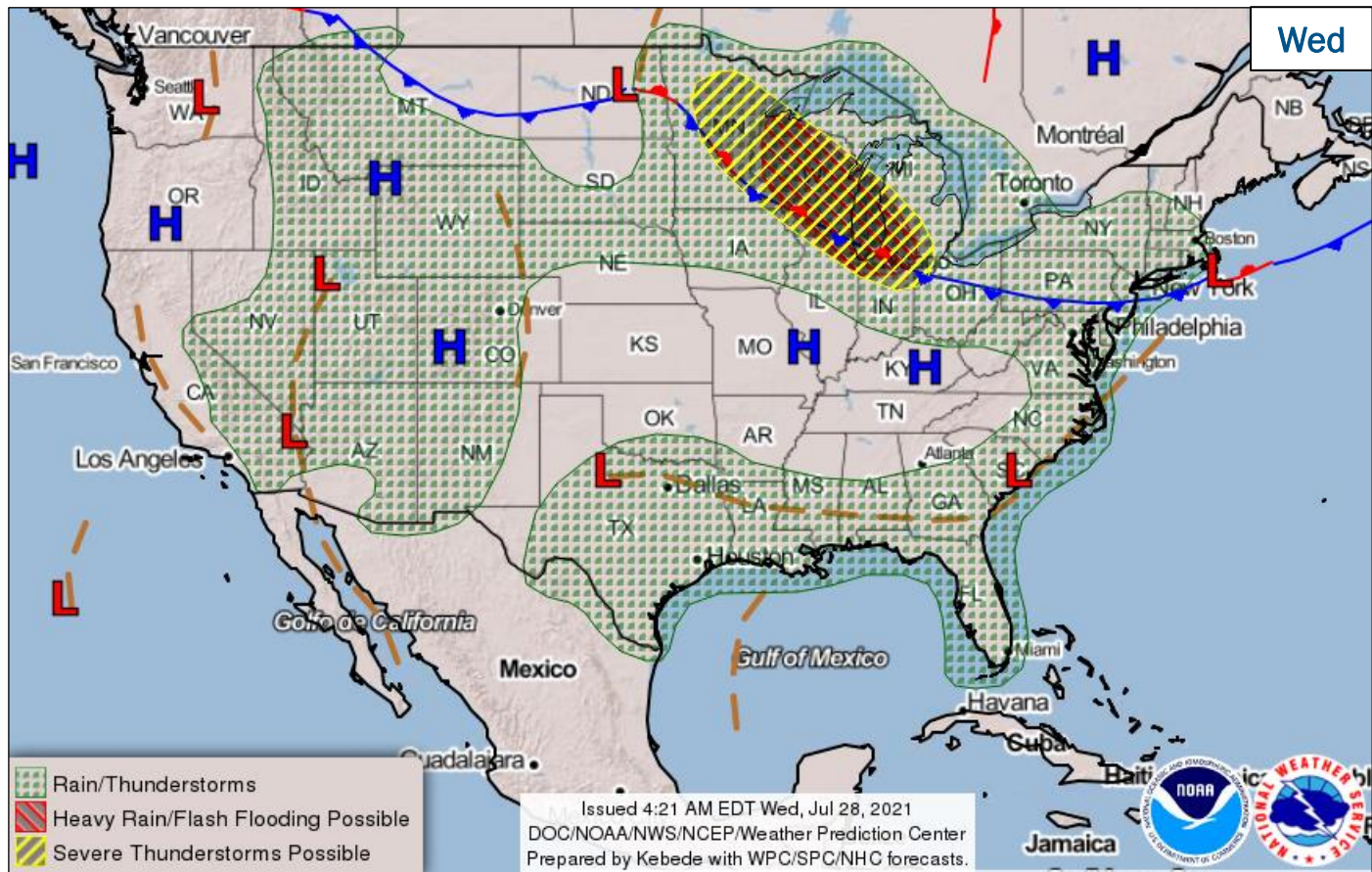


- No significant activity



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National Weather Forecast



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Derecho Potential – MN/WI

Current Situation: A severe weather system capable of widespread damaging wind gusts, very large hail, and several tornadoes is forecast across portions of Minnesota and Wisconsin late this afternoon into tonight.

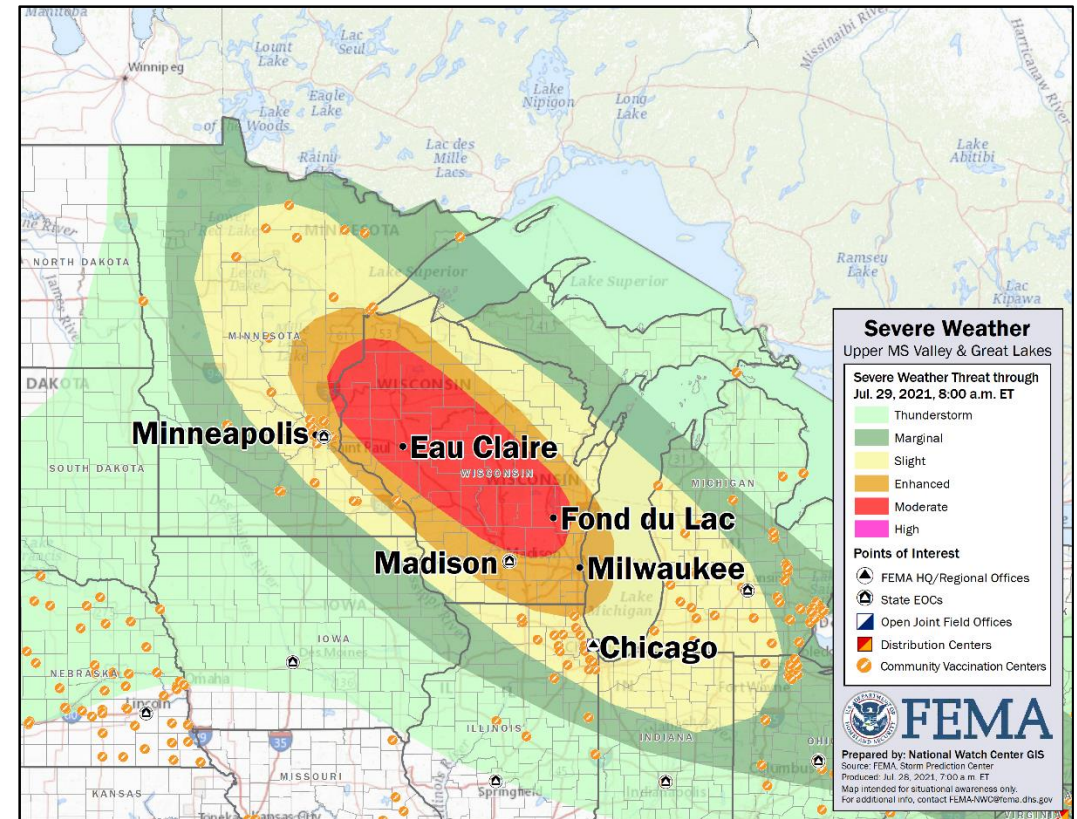
- Moderate Risk of intense severe thunderstorms and possible derecho development
- Very large hail greater than 2 inches in diameter possible
- Damaging wind gusts expected, reaching up to 75 mph
- 10% chance of tornado development within the risk area

State / Local Response:

- MN & WI EOCs are at Normal Operations

FEMA Response:

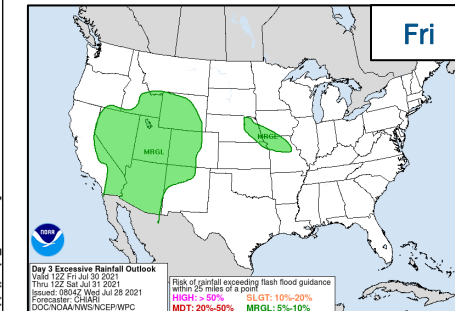
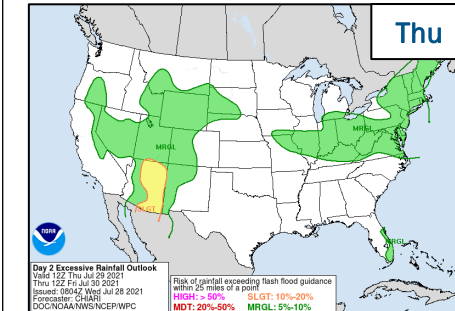
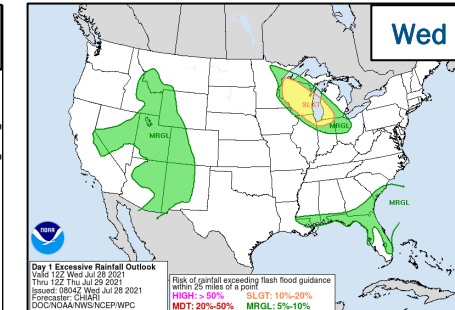
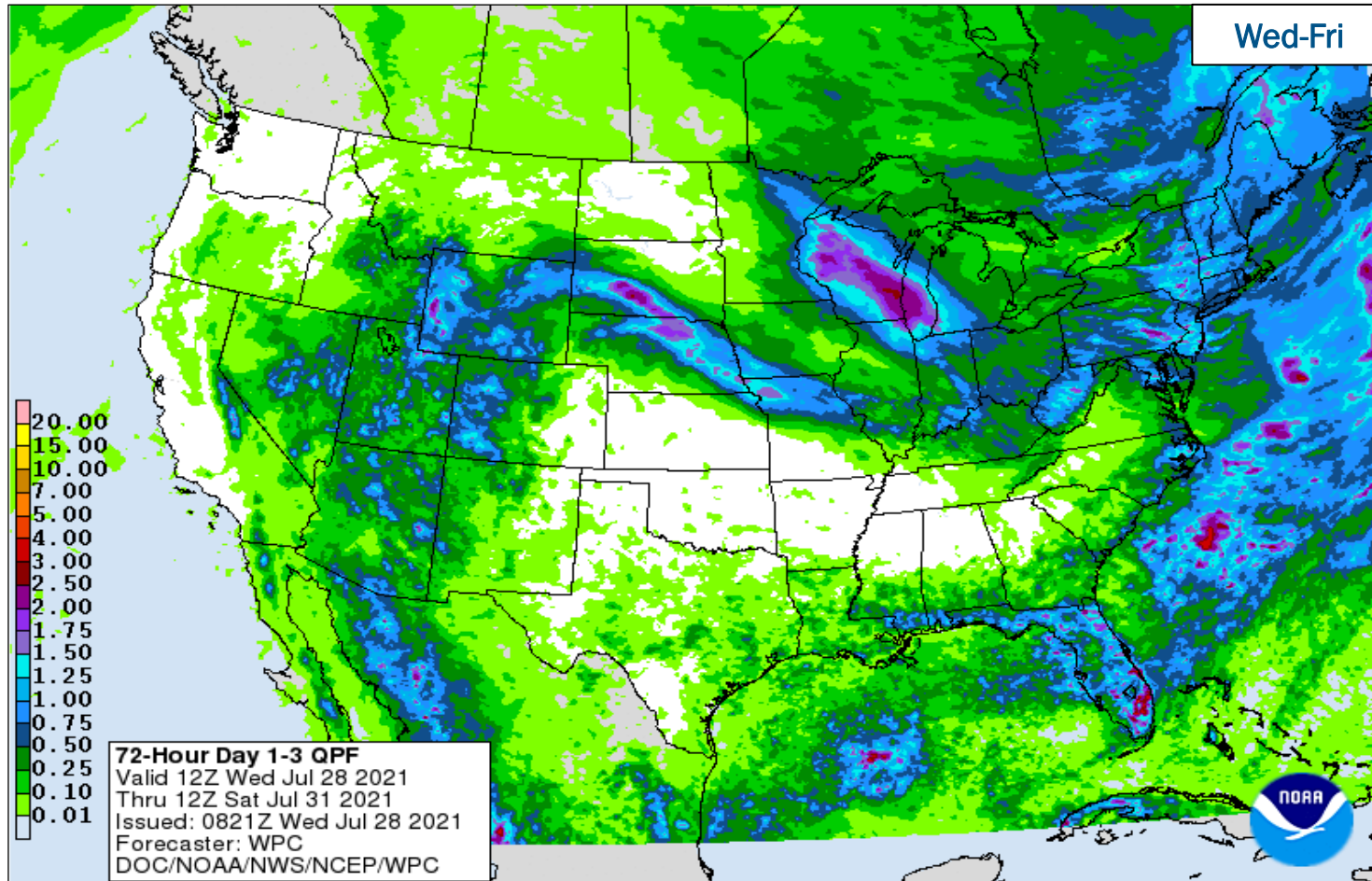
- Region V RWC is monitoring; RRCC at Level III (COVID-19)
- No requests for FEMA assistance



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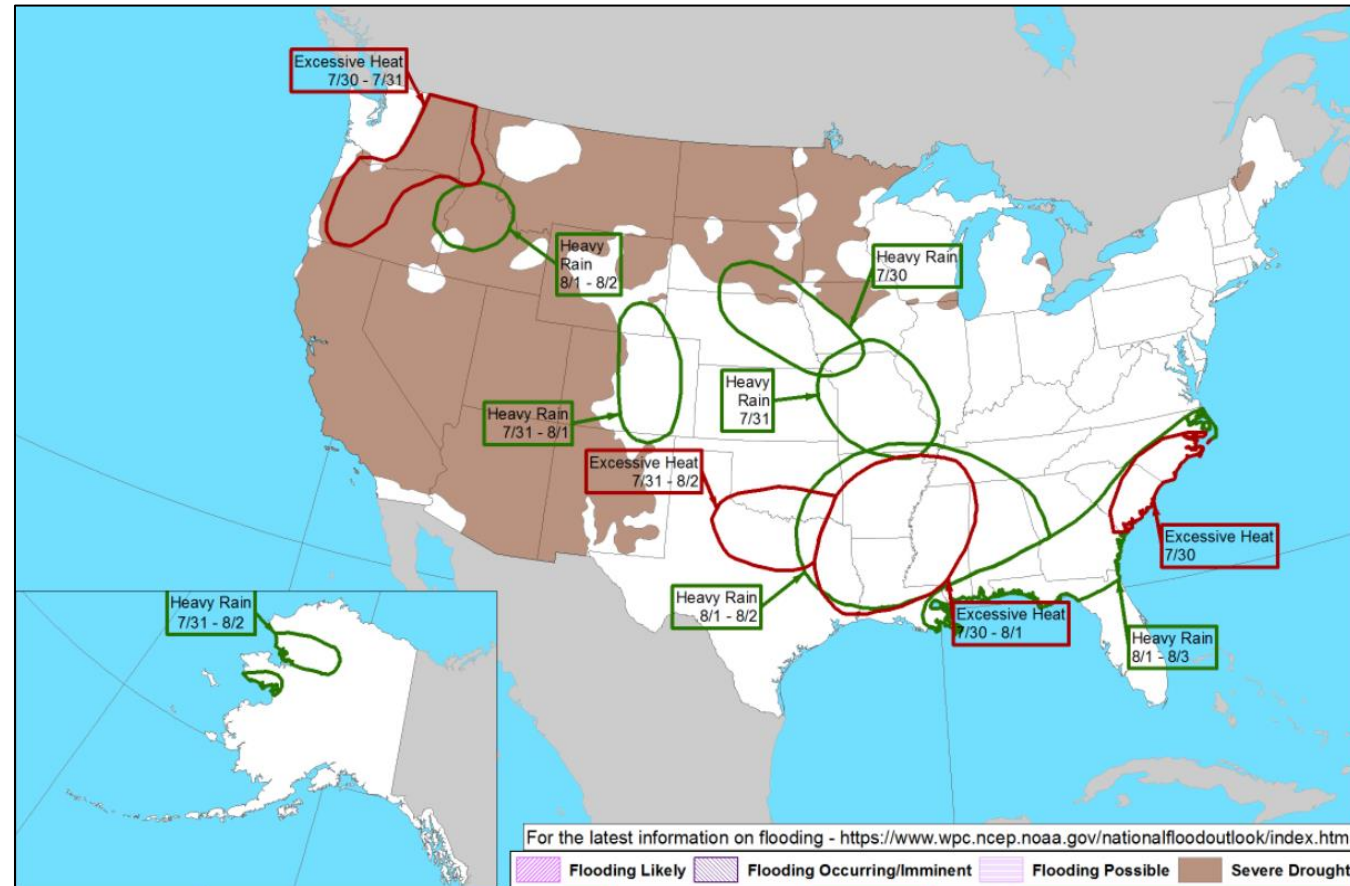
Precipitation & Excessive Rainfall



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Hazards Outlook – Jul 30–Aug 3



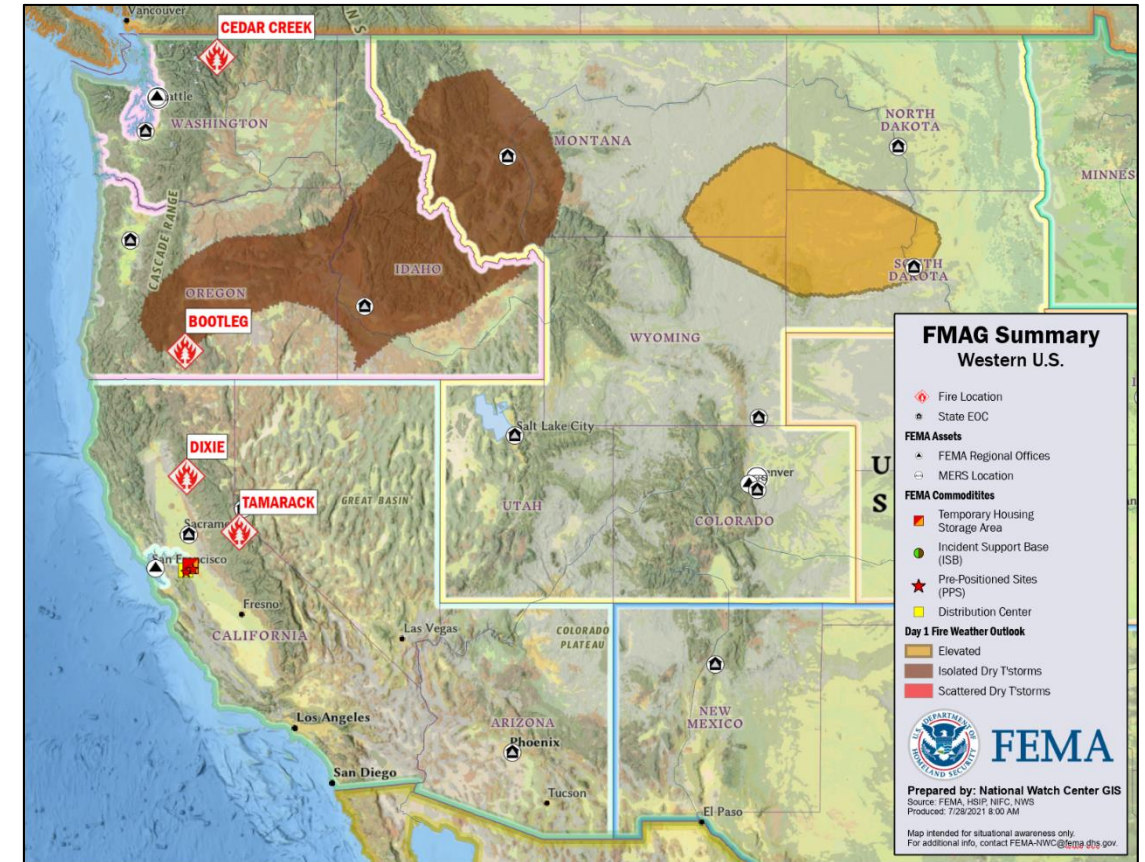
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National Fire Activity *(as of Jul 28)*

National Preparedness Level		PL 5
Initial Attack Activity (24-hour period)	Light (147 fires)	
New large fires:	6	
Large fires contained:	4	
Uncontained large fires:	66	
Cumulative Acres Burned	3,392,053	
Total Responders (2021 Fire Season)	21,522 of 23k	
Type 1 IMTs deployed	9 of 16	
Type 2 IMTs deployed	19 of 33	
Preparedness Levels Legend		
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 county; 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 nations wildland firefighting resources committed	
PL 5	Extremely high levels of fire activity; 80% of nations firefighting resources committed	

Wildfire Summary

Fire Name (County, ST)	FMAG #	Acres Burned	Percent Contained	Evacuations	Structures (Homes / Other)			Fatalities / Injuries
					Threatened	Damaged	Destroyed	
Bootleg (Klamath, OR)	5396-FM OR	413,400 (+2,669)	53%	M: 137 (-2,279)	H: 137 (-1,929)	H: 16	H: 161	0 / 5
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 15	O: 247	
Cedar Creek (Okanogan, WA)	5401-FM WA	33,462 (+8,815)	13% (+2%)	M: 250	H: 533	H: 0	H: 0	0 / 6
				V: 0	O: 0	O: 0	O: 2 (+2)	
Dixie (Plumas, CA)	5400-FM CA	212,799 (+14,778)	23% (+1%)	M: 16,588	H: 10,601	H: 5	H: 34 (+12)	0 / 0
				V: 0	O: 120	O: 2	O: 19 (+5)	
Tamarack (Douglas, NV)	5402-FM NV	68,327 (+224)	59% (+5%)	M: 30 (-270)	H: 15 (-290)	H: 2	H: 9	0 / 3
				V: 0	O: 30 (-195)	O: 0	O: 6	



(Evacuations: M = Mandatory / V = Voluntary; Structures: H = Homes and Mixed Commercial/Residential / O = Non-residential Commercial/Other Minor Structures)



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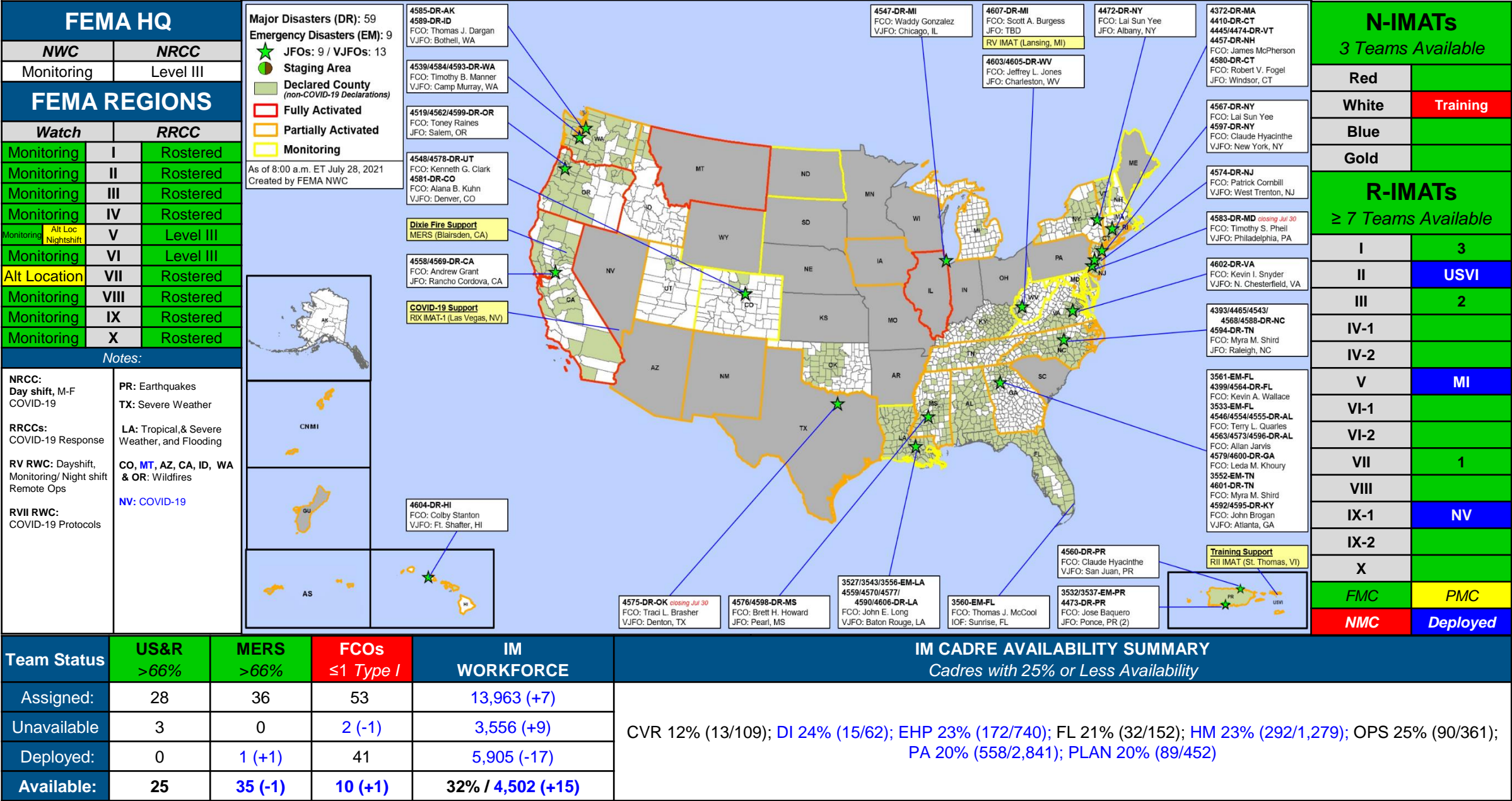
Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Region	State / Location	Event	IA	Number of Counties		Start – End
			PA	Requested	Complete	
V	MI	Severe Weather and Flooding Jun 25-26	IA	2	2	7/8 – 7/12
			PA	3	0	7/8 – TBD
VII	NE	Severe Storms Jul 9-10	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	11	0	7/27 – TBD
VIII	Fort Peck Tribes (MT)	Severe Storms Jun 8	IA	2	0	6/21 – TBD
			PA	0	0	N/A
	ND	Severe Storms Jun 8-11	IA	0	0	N/A
			PA	8	7	7/6 – TBD



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FEMA Common Operating Picture





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Helping people before, during, and after disasters.



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