

DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

January 6, 2023

Severe Weather & Flooding Activity California

- California is facing threats of more flooding rain, debris flows, high winds and heavy Sierra snow as its stormy pattern persists and is potentially punctuated by a major system early next week.
- "After a couple of weak storms [relatively speaking] this weekend, a bigger storm will arrive early next week and then another big storm the following week," AccuWeather Lead Long-Range Meteorologist Paul Pastelok said.
- The impacts from these upcoming big storms will be to unleash new rounds of torrential rain, flash flooding and mudslides, as well as tremendous, road-clogging snow and avalanche danger over the Sierra Nevada.
- Surging water levels on area streams and rivers are likely to lead to flooding in unprotected areas. Rising waters will test levee systems and dam spillway capabilities.
- The storm from Sunday night to Tuesday has the potential to be the biggest of the bunch in terms of the amount of rain that could be focused on central portions of California.
- "Along with the ongoing risk of life-threatening incidents from flash flooding and mudslides for each storm, the potential for a catastrophic flood event will increase as the stormy pattern continues," AccuWeather Chief Meteorologist Jon Porter said.
- At least two people died in the bomb cyclone that struck the West Coast Wednesday into Thursday -- the second massive storm to hit the coast in less than a week.
- California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency on Wednesday ahead of the storm, authorizing the mobilization of the California National Guard to support disaster response.
- Evacuation orders and advisories were issued in parts of northern California, including around San Francisco and Sacramento. Seaside homes were evacuated in the Bay Area County of Santa Cruz under the threat of landslides as the storm ushered in a combination of towering waves, drenching downpours and fierce winds.
- According to reports from Wednesday and Thursday, a 132-mph gust was recorded at Alpine Meadows, California, in Placer County, northeast of Sacramento. Farther east, a gust of 119 mph was recorded in Kirkwood, California, as well as in Palisades Tahoe, California.
- Of the recorded wind gusts from the storm, the strongest were recorded in Northern and Interior California.
- There are currently 59K customers without power statewide.
- By Wednesday, Downtown San Francisco measured its wettest stretch of 10 days since 1871, according to the National Weather Service. The site received 10.33 inches from Dec. 26, through Jan. 4. The all-time 10-day record was 14.37 inches in January 1862.



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- While most homeowner insurance policies include rain and wind damage, they generally do not cover floods, mudslides or debris flows.
- Some places hardest hit by the storms have been in Santa Cruz and Sonoma counties, which have been primed for mudflows in recent years by massive wildfires that burned up hundreds of thousands of acres of vegetation that helped hold the soil together.
- In those areas, homeowners dealing with mudslides might be eligible for coverage regardless of what type of insurance they own.
- That's because the state started requiring insurers to cover slides caused by wildfires following a devastating 2018 mudslide in a wildfire burn scar near Santa Barbara that killed 23 people and left more than \$421 million in damage.
- Brian Ferguson, a spokesperson with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, said it's unlikely President Joe Biden would declare a federal emergency, given the relatively limited damage so far.
- "Several thousand homes would need to be damaged," said Ferguson, adding that a total estimate likely won't be available until the storms pass.



Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request

State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied /Pending	Number of Counties/Tribes
CA	Heat Dome and Wildfires Aug 29 & continuing	10/26/2022	Pending	6 Counties

WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters

Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
4671 PR	Hurricane Fiona	78 Municipalities	105	11/21/2022
4673 FL	Hurricane Ian	26 Counties	96	1/12/2023
4677 SC	Hurricane Ian	3 Counties	42	1/23/2023

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WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

