

December 22, 2023

Flash Flooding California

- Southern California continues to face a dangerous flood threat through Friday as heavy rain targets the Los Angeles and San Diego areas, before moving eastward.
- More than 20 million people from Southern California through central Arizona remain under a Flood Watch as rainfall totals surpassed 10 inches in several mountain areas, while bringing a month's worth





- The overall rainfall amounts combined with the potential for bursts of thunderstorm-triggered heavier rain, especially over recent wildfire burn-scar areas, prompted NOAA's Weather Prediction Center (WPC) to put a swath of Southern California in a Level 3 out of 4 risk zone for flash flooding.
- For many communities, the precipitation is the heaviest rainfall event since the remnants of Hurricane Hilary impacted the region in August.
- Some of the hardest hit areas included Oxnard and Santa Barbara, where water rescues were needed.
- Significant flash flooding occurred in the Oxnard area, the largest city in Ventura County, after 3.18 inches of rain fell in one hour of which 2.25 inches fell in just 30 minutes.
- About 60 homes were flooded, and even a senior living center had to be evacuated. First responders had to use high-wheeled vehicles to evacuate about 20 people.
- During the peak of the flooding, Ventura County Fire reported that they received approximately 275 calls within a span of five hours, according to public information officer Andy VanSciver.
- By the end of the week, between 5 and 8 inches of rain is forecast to fall in several areas, with some places experiencing even higher amounts, keeping an ongoing risk of flash and urban flooding.

Severe Storms & Flooding New Hampshire

- In an effort to determine the extent of damages from the storm that started December 17, the Department of Safety's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), on behalf of Governor Chris Sununu, requested the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to conduct a joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) in New Hampshire.
- On December 18, 2023, a massive storm system swept across New England, bringing rain and winds with speeds approaching Category 1 hurricane force.



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- Many places in New Hampshire recorded rainfall of 1.5 to 3 inches, with at least one community
 experiencing much as six inches. This heavy rainfall was exacerbated by unseasonably warm
 temperatures that melted snow, which increased the water level in streams and rivers.
- Although the storm was widespread, Grafton and Carroll counties were particularly hard hit, said Vanessa Palange, the Community Outreach Coordinator with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
- Yesterday, U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH), along with U.S. Representatives Annie Kuster (NH-02) and Chris Pappas (NH-01), sent a letter to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Deanne Criswell urging FEMA to work with affected counties and the state government to respond to the severe flooding and wind damage and if the state asks for a disaster declaration, to make assistance available guickly.

Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request							
State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied/ Pending	Number of Counties			
ОН	Train Derailment Feb 3-8, 2023	7/3/2023	Pending	1 County			
WA	Wildfires Aug 18-25	10/4/2023	Pending	1 County			
MI*	Severe Storms, Tornadoes & Flooding Aug 24-26	10/18/2023	Pending	9 Counties			
WV	Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides & Mudslides Aug 28-30	10/25/2023	Pending	5 Counties			
РА	Severe Storms & Flooding Sep 9-10	11/8/2023	Pending	1 County			
RI	Severe Storms, Flooding & Tornadoes Sep 10-13	11/8/2023	Pending	1 County			
MA	Severe Storms & Flooding Sep 11-13	12/11/2023	Pending	2 Counties			

^{*}Award of task order to contractor pending

WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters							
Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline			
4734 FL	Hurricane Idalia	18 Counties	112	11/29/2023			
4749 IL	Flooding	1 County	28	1/19/2024			



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WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

