

# DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

May 17, 2022

## Atlantic Tropical Outlook

- AccuWeather meteorologists are continuing to closely watch areas over the waters in the western Caribbean and the south-central Gulf of Mexico for signs of tropical development and potential risk to lives and property in the region, including the United States.
- Satellite photos on Monday revealed gathering clouds over part of the region around Central America. There was some persistent thunderstorm activity over the southwestern part of the Caribbean on Monday, a continuation of weather that developed over the weekend.
- A broad area of low pressure and weak rotation is expected to develop later this week around Central America, an atmospheric feature known as the Central American gyre.
- As AccuWeather forecasters have been pointing out, this part of the Atlantic basin is a pre-season and early hurricane season trouble spot as waters are typically plenty warm this time of the year to support and fuel tropical development. And this year waters are up to a few degrees above average in some places.
- "Whether or not a tropical system forms and where it tracks initially may come down to where the center of the gyre develops," AccuWeather Meteorologist Matt Benz said.
- Benz said that with water temperatures being as warm as they are in the northwestern Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico, should a tropical system form and move over those waters, there would be ample opportunity for strengthening if it tracked northward.
- Initially, forecasters thought there was a chance for development early to midweek, but as overall conditions have changed, AccuWeather meteorologists believe development is more likely to occur sometime over the weekend or early next week.



## Wildfire Risk

- New research shows climate change will cause a steep increase in the exposure of U.S. properties to wildfire risks during the next 30 years, doubling the risk level in many areas.
- While broad trends in wildfire risks have become clear, this is the first-time probability-based wildfire risk data will be made available to property owners and prospective owners to help them make informed decisions.
- With wildfires already raging across the West, scientists have shown clear links between human-driven climate change and escalating wildfire intensity, frequency and size. In addition, the seasonal timing of wildfires is shifting in many states, with fires lasting later into the fall and beginning earlier in the spring.

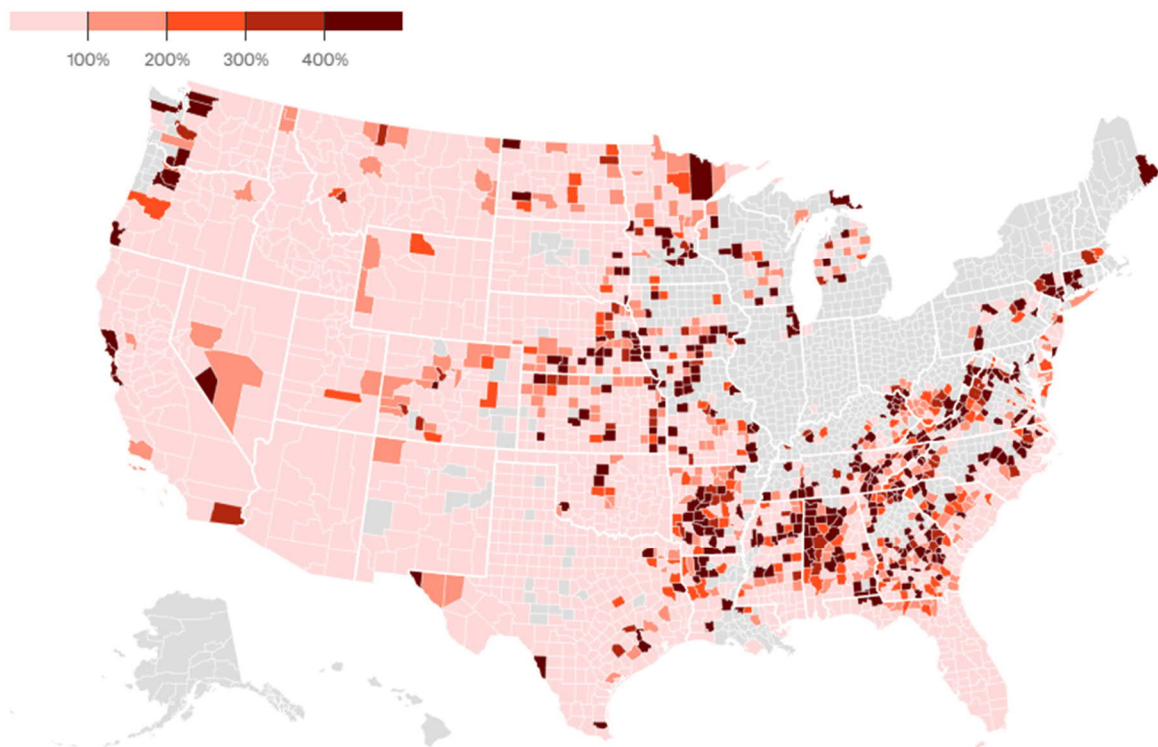
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- The new report finds that a total of about 80 million properties are at some level of wildfire risk during the next three decades.
- Of these, 20.2 million properties face "moderate" risk, which is defined as having up to a 6% chance of experiencing a wildfire during the next 30 years.
- About 6 million properties face a "major" risk, which is a 6%-14% risk of a wildfire.
- About 1.5 million properties face "extreme" risk, which is defined as a greater than 26% risk during the period.
- A total of 49.4 million properties face a cumulative burn probability of less than 1% over the next three decades, for a "minor risk."
- According to the report, the states with the largest amounts of properties at risk include: California, Texas, Florida, Arizona and Oklahoma.
- The states with the largest increase in properties with minor risk or greater during the next 30 years are Colorado, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas and Montana. Many southeastern states would also see an increase in wildfire risk.
- Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah would see the biggest increases in properties with major wildfire risk by 2052.

Increase between 2022 and 2052



Note: Moderate risk is defined as having between 1-6% chance of experiencing a wildfire during the next 30 years; Data: [First Street Foundation](#);

Chart: Erin Davis/Axios Visuals

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## Tornado & Flood Activity

### Oklahoma

- Severe weather inundated the state during the first week of May, including multiple EF1 and EF2 tornadoes, heavy rainfall, hail and flooding. Northeastern Oklahoma was most impacted by flooding, while central Oklahoma saw most of the tornadic activity.
- In the first week of May, Oklahoma saw 12 tornadoes touch down in central and eastern parts of the state.
- The tornado that struck Seminole left EF2 damage, according to the National Weather Service. That tornado was nearly a mile wide, had multiple vortexes and its path totaled 31 miles.
- In eastern Oklahoma, the weather took a different turn. Homes were flooded, and roads were closed due to high water.
- Two fire trucks were damaged during water rescues in Muskogee. Between 30 and 40 homes in Bixby were evacuated due to the flooding of Snake Creek.
- According to the Red Cross, officials have been out surveying the damage from the storm just southwest of Seminole to the Arkansas border.
- In all, they report that 12 homes were destroyed by either a tornado or a flood, while 126 have major damage.

### Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

State	Event	Number of Counties for IA		Start-End
		Requested	Completed	
MCN*	Severe Storm & Flooding May 4 <sup>th</sup> & continuing	1	0	5/16-TBD
OK	Severe Storm & Flooding May 4 <sup>th</sup> & continuing	2	0	5/16-TBD

\*MCN – Muscogee (Creek) Nation

### Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request

State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied /Pending	Number of Counties/Tribes
MS	Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds & Tornadoes March 22, 2022	4/28/2022	Pending	4 Counties
MS	Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds & Tornadoes March 30, 2022	4/29/2022	Pending	8 Counties

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## WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

