

DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

February 26, 2025

2025 Hurricane Season

- A tropical weather product originally unveiled to the public in 2017 is receiving a major upgrade in 2025 that the National Hurricane Center believes will help communities prepare for impacts.
- Meteorologists will now have the ability to issue forecasts for potential tropical cyclones up to 72 hours before impacts begin.
- The potential tropical cyclone designation allows the NHC and other governments to issue tropical weather watches and warnings when a disturbance isn't quite at the strength of a tropical storm or hurricane but could reach that status within 36 hours.
- Dr. Michael Brennan, director of the NHC, spoke with FOX Weather about the changes and said the advancements will help communities in the direct path of a cyclone.
- "Back in 2017, we implemented what we call these potential tropical cyclone advisories that let us get watches and warnings out as much as 48 hours in advance of the onset of impacts and land areas for systems that weren't yet even a depression or storm," said Brennan.
- Brennan also discussed the agency's improvements in forecast intensifications, a key factor in determining who needs to evacuate.
- The director credited 2024's forecast accuracy to storms being stronger and originating in the deep tropics - features that make the steering flow more predictable than sudden pop-up events along the coast.
- Despite what amounts to mini-educational campaigns, confusion continues to surround the National Hurricane Center's use of "potential tropical cyclone" forecasts, leaving many members of the public and some in the weather enterprise lost by the tropical terminology.
- Bryan Norcross, FOX Weather's hurricane specialist, talked about the issue ahead of the season and believes the term "cyclone" is what causes the misunderstanding.
- "I like 'potential tropical threat.' And that's kind of what we describe it as. But they just want to raise the flag a little bit sooner." Norcross stated.
- Another product that continuously invokes confusion is the NHC's cone of uncertainty, which has been a point of contention in recent years.
- Many people mistakenly focus solely on where the center of the hurricane is projected to make landfall, ignoring the broader area of impacts, which include storm surge, heavy rains, damaging winds and tornadoes.
- The NHC has campaigned on emphasizing that impacts occur well outside of the cone of uncertainty, though many in the public continue to fixate on it.

ATLANTIC STORM NAMES		
2025 HURRICANE SEASON		
ANDREA	HUMBERTO	OLGA
BARRY	IMELDA	PABLO
CHANTAL	JERRY	REBEKAH
DEXTER	KAREN	SEBASTIEN
ERIN	LORENZO	TANYA
FERNAND	MELISSA	VAN
GABRIELLE	NESTOR	WENDY



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Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request

State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied/ Pending	Number of Counties/Tribes
OK	Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	12/20/2024	Pending	6 Counties
VA*	Severe Storms, Tornadoes & Flooding	2/16/2025	Pending	3 Counties
WV*	Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	2/17/2025	Pending	13 Counties

*Award of task order to contractor pending

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

State	Event	Number of Counties for IA		Start-End
		Requested	Completed	
VA	Flooding, Severe Storms, Tornadoes, and Winter Storms Feb 10 and continuing	12	3	2/18-TBD
WV	Flooding, Landslides, Mudslides, Severe Storms, and Straight-line Winds Feb 15 and continuing	13	2	2/19-TBD

WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters

Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
4827 NC	Tropical Storm Helene	25 Counties	148	3/08/2025
4829 SC	Hurricane Helene	13 Counties	147	1/28/2025
4830 GA	Hurricane Helene	41 Counties	147	2/07/2025
4834 FL	Hurricane Milton	34 Counties	136	1/07/2025
4860 KY	Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides	11 Counties	0	4/25/2025

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WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

