

# DAILY DART

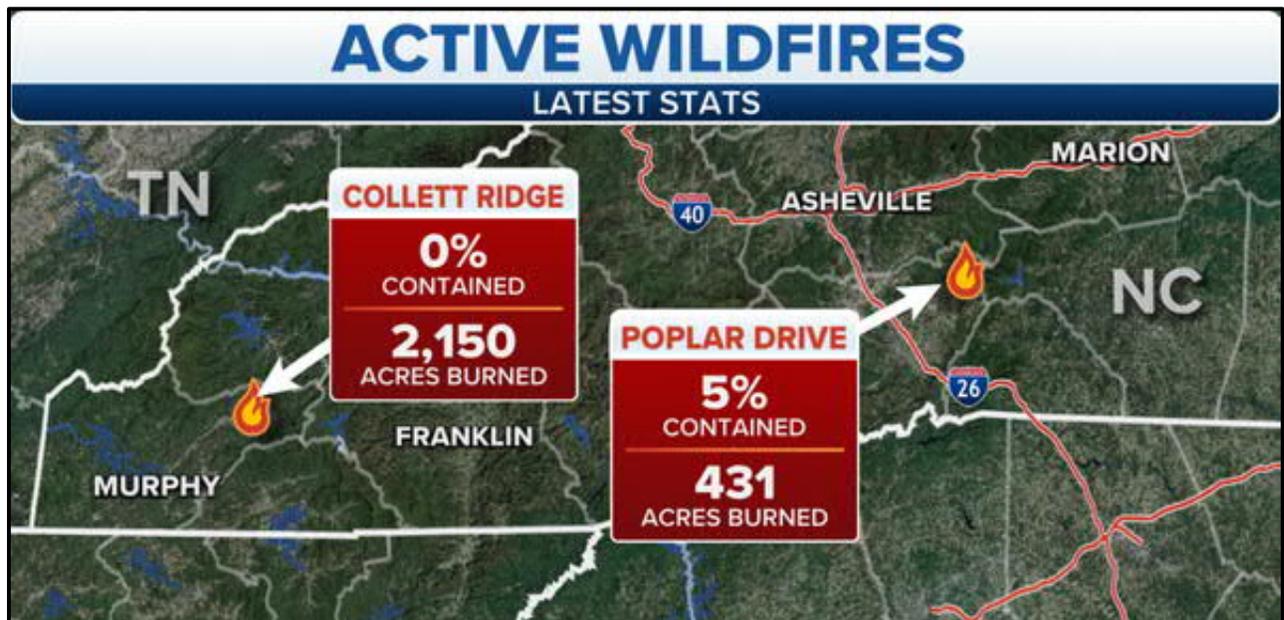
WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

November 7, 2023

## Wildfire Activity

### North Carolina

- Several wildfires continue to burn in western North Carolina, sending smoke throughout the region prompting air quality alerts and evacuations.
- A state of emergency is in place in Henderson County, where the Poplar Drive Fire has burned more than 430 acres near Edneyville and is only 5% contained. The fire destroyed at least two homes and one outbuilding, with one other home sustaining minimal damage.
- About 34 homes threatened by the Poplar Fire are under evacuation and people are still being asked to avoid the area.
- About 40 miles south of the Poplar Fire, dry conditions helped fuel a brush fire in Asheville, which the Asheville Fire Department contained on Sunday.
- Near Andrews, the Collett Ridge Fire has burned 2,150 acres and remains uncontrolled. There are no evacuations in place for the fire. However, the smoke has settled in the valley, blanketing Andrews in thick smoke.
- Code Orange and Red health alerts are in place through Monday for southwestern North Carolina due to smoke from the ongoing wildfires, according to the North Carolina Air Quality Forecast Center.
- Air quality alerts are in place for elevations above 4,000 feet in Haywood, Jackson and Swain counties through midnight Tuesday morning. A code orange air quality alert is in place for all of Henderson and Graham counties.



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## Summary of Declaration Requests in Progress

Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request				
State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied/ Pending	Number of Counties
OH	Train Derailment Feb 3-8, 2023	7/3/2023	Pending	1 County
AR*	Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds & Tornadoes June 25, 2023	8/23/2023	Pending	7 Counties
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

\*Award of task order to contractor pending

### Ohio

- On July 3, 2023, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine requested that President Joseph R. Biden issue a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration relating to the Norfolk Southern train derailment and release of hazardous chemicals that occurred in East Palestine. Governor is requesting individual and public assistance for Columbiana.
- Since the derailment in East Palestine on February 3, 2023, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency has maintained frequent contact with FEMA on numerous fronts, including the potential provision of aid through FEMA.
- FEMA has consistently advised that such assistance would likely not be granted because of no unmet needs reported to the state. The voluntary actions of Norfolk Southern have to date reimbursed citizens and state and local governments for costs associated with damage incurred due to the train derailment.

### Arkansas

- On July 14th, Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders declared a disaster in six Arkansas counties following late June severe storms that brought significant damage to different areas of the state.
- Severe storms and straight-line winds on June 25 caused great damage to private property and public facilities in Arkansas, Faulkner, Lonoke, Poinsett, Pope, and Pulaski counties.
- A joint state and FEMA preliminary damage assessment began on July 24 and determined that the storm caused enough damage for communities to qualify for FEMA's Public Assistance Program, according to the governor's office.
- On August 23rd, Governor Sanders requested a presidential Major Disaster Declaration. The governor requested individual assistance for Arkansas, Faulkner, Lonoke, Mississippi, Poinsett, Pope and Pulaski counties.

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- On August 25th, U.S. Senators John Boozman and Tom Cotton—along with Congressmen Rick Crawford, French Hill, Steve Womack and Bruce Westerman—wrote to President Joe Biden urging him to support Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders' request for a major disaster declaration for Arkansas.
- On August 25th, WSP responded to a proposal request for this event. We are waiting for FEMA's decision award.

## Washington

- On October 4, 2023, Gov. Jay Inslee sent a letter to President Biden asking for a major disaster declaration and requesting federal assistance to help survivors recover from damages incurred by wildfires in Spokane County from August 18 to 25. During that time, the Gray and Oregon Road fires killed two people and destroyed more homes than any other fire in state history.
- Inslee asked the president to make financial assistance for wildfire survivors available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Individual Assistance program.
- 369 primary homes were destroyed and a total of 447 primary homes were damaged. Spokane County homeowners' insurance rate is estimated at 50.22 percent.
- Hundreds of individuals evacuated for more than 96 hours; and at least 227 people stayed in congregate shelters at the peak of the incident.

## Michigan

- Seven tornadoes were reported across the state on Thursday, Aug. 24, with winds peaking at 125 mph. It was the most tornadoes to cut through Michigan in a single day during the month of August, according to the National Weather Service.
- The path of the severe thunderstorms was almost exactly along I-96 from Grand Rapids to Lansing to Detroit. The storm left a trail of destruction in Kent, Ingham, Livingston, Monroe and Wayne counties.
- The most serious tornado damage occurred near the expressway, in a stretch between the city of Williamston and village of Webberville, about 15 and 20 miles east-southeast of Lansing, respectively.
- Overnight rain had turned parts of Detroit Metro Airport into an island and much of Canton was under water, with hundreds of flooded homes, along with parts of Van Buren Township, Plymouth and Novi.
- A record 3.5 inches of rainfall was measured over 24 hours at Detroit Metro Airport in Romulus, the most ever recorded on Aug. 24, according to the National Weather Service.
- Governor Gretchen Whitmer declared a state of emergency in the counties of Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Livingston, Monroe and Wayne as well as the cities of South Lyon in Oakland County and New Baltimore and Chesterfield Township in Macomb County.
- On September 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, FEMA conducted damage assessments in nine counties.
- On October 18, the Governor of Michigan requested individual assistance for the counties of Eaton, Ingham, Ionia, Kent, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland and Wayne.
- On October 21<sup>st</sup>, WSP responded to a proposal request for this event. We are waiting for FEMA's decision award.

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## West Virginia

- On October 25<sup>th</sup>, governor of West Virginia requested individual assistance for 5 counties (Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Harrison and Kanawha).
- On November 6, 2023, Representatives Carol Miller (R-WV) and Alex Mooney (R-WV) as well as Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) sent a letter to President Joe Biden and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III Administrator Maryann Tierney to approve the State of West Virginia's appeal for a disaster declaration.
- Heavy rains caused damages by flooding, landslides, and mudslides in 5 counties throughout central and southern West Virginia from August 28, 2023 to August 30, 2023.
- Persistent rains resulted in major flooding events in Boone, Calhoun, Clay, Harrison and Kanawha Counties. As the heavy downpour of rains fell, areas surrounding rivers, creeks and small streams were unable to absorb the excess precipitation causing flooding and residential damage.
- According to the most recent assessment from Kanawha County, three homes were completely destroyed, 32 homes suffered major damage, 54 had minor damage, and at least 24 more homes were affected. In addition, 22 private bridges were destroyed.

## WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters

Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
4724 HI	Wildfires	1 County	85	11/9/2023
4734 FL	Hurricane Idalia	18 Counties	67	11/29/2023
4738 GA	Hurricane Idalia	5 Counties	58	11/6/2023

## WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

