

# DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

September 19, 2022

## Tropical Activity

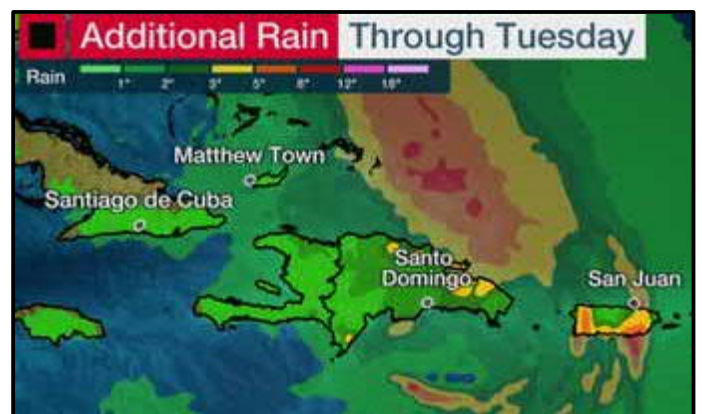
### Atlantic – Hurricane Fiona (CAT 1)

- Hurricane Fiona moved from western Puerto Rico to the eastern side of the Dominican Republic overnight, as a Category 1 storm with maximum sustained winds of 90 mph.
- The storm made landfall early Monday in the Dominican Republic and is on track to brush past the southeast Bahamas, as well as Turks and Caicos into Tuesday.



### Puerto Rico

- Hurricane Fiona struck Puerto Rico's southwest coast on Sunday as it unleashed landslides, knocked the power grid out and ripped up asphalt from roads and flung the pieces around.
- Hundreds of people were evacuated or rescued across the island as floodwaters rose swiftly. Rushing rivers of brown water enveloped cars, first floors and even an airport runway in the island's southern region.
- At least one rain gauge near Ponce, Puerto Rico, has measured just over 25 inches of rain in the 24 hours ending early Monday morning. More than two dozen rain gauges have reported over a foot of rain on the island, according to USGS data.
- Storm totals could be near 30 inches in southern portions of Puerto Rico, the National Hurricane Center said.
- "The damages that we are seeing are catastrophic," said Gov. Pedro Pierluisi.
- The storm washed away a bridge in the central mountain town of Utuado that police say was installed by the National Guard after Hurricane Maria hit in 2017. Large landslides also were reported, with water rushing down big slabs of broken asphalt and into gullies.
- Many rivers on the eastern side of the island were in moderate to major flood stages Sunday afternoon, including one southeastern river which rose over 12 feet in less than 7 hours. By Sunday night, the National Weather Service also issued flash flood warnings across southern parts of central Puerto Rico.
- LUMA Energy, the main supplier of power in Puerto Rico, warned "full power restoration could take several days," according to a statement Sunday afternoon.
- An island wide power outage knocked out service for nearly 1.5 million customers as Hurricane Fiona approached the island and eventually made landfall.
- Internet outages across the island also spiked as the power went out.



# DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

September 19, 2022

- U.S. President Joe Biden declared a state of emergency in the U.S. territory as the eye of the storm approached the island's southwest corner.
- More than 300 FEMA emergency workers were on the ground to respond to the crisis, the agency's Associate Administrator for Response and Recovery, Anne Bink, told CNN.
- Fiona hit just two days before the anniversary of Hurricane Maria, a devastating Category 4 storm that struck on Sept. 20, 2017, destroying the island's power grid and causing nearly 3,000 deaths.
- More than 3,000 homes still have only a blue tarp as a roof, and infrastructure remains weak, including the power grid.

## North Pacific – Remnants of Typhoon Merbok

- Multiple towns across western Alaska were evacuated as former Typhoon Merbok, which transitioned from a tropical cyclone to an intense, non-tropical wind and rainstorm and became one of the strongest storms to hit the state in recent history.
- The major flooding continued in the city into early Saturday morning, with photos posted by the National Weather Service (NWS) office in Fairbanks showing the community submerged in water.
- Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy declared a disaster for communities impacted by the storm.
- Strong winds with gusts of over 110 km/h caused a storm surge that flooded coastal communities, including Golovin where around 170 people evacuated their homes, and in Hooper Bay where 250 people evacuated.
- One house was destroyed in Nome. As of 18 September, no injuries or deaths were immediately reported. However, state officials said the full impact of this storm will not be known for several days.
- Ted Stevens Anchorage Airport had multiple cancellations to areas in the state impacted by the storm.
- Airports on the western coast of Alaska experienced flooding as the hurricane-force storm brought several impacts to the state.
- At Nome Airport, vehicles were flooded as the city suffered an eight-foot storm surge.
- "Western Alaska is facing one of the worst storms in recent history. My team and I are in consistent communication with local, state, and federal officials and stand ready to do what I can at the federal level to support all those who are being impacted," Alaska senator Lisa Murkowski said in a Twitter post.
- The entire community of Newtok was inundated with water and cut off from the airport. An estimated 100 feet of shoreline was lost in Newtok and at least a dozen homes flooded, according to KTUU.



A home is seen floating in the Snake River near Nome, Alaska, on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022. (AP Photo/Peggy Fagerstrom)

# DAILY DART

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES DISASTER AWARENESS REPORT

September 19, 2022

## Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

State	Event	Number of Counties for IA		Start-End
		Requested	Completed	
GA	Flooding September 4, 2022	1	1	9/8-9/8

## Pending Individual Assistance Declaration Request

State	Event	Date Submitted	Approved/Denied/ Pending	Number of Counties/Tribes
IL	Severe Storms and Flooding July 25-28, 2022	8/30/2022	Pending	1 County
VA	Flooding and Mudslides July 13-14, 2022	9/9/2022	Pending	1 County

## WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters

Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline
4665 MO	Severe Storms & Flooding	2 Counties/1 City	40	10/7/2022

## WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

