
Observations of Response and Recovery Activities: Recent Disasters

William Lee Carwile, III

Associate Administrator,

Office of Response and Recovery

Federal Emergency Management Agency



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Major Disasters in United States in 2011

- Major winter storms – millions without power
- Historic tornadoes in Southeast – thousands of homes destroyed and over 300 lives lost
- Earthquake impacted Washington, DC area
- Hurricane season – third greatest number in history
- Historic levels of flooding in US major rivers
- Record drought and accompanying fires in Southwest



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U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011



Major winter storms. The National Weather Service reported that 21 states from New Mexico to New Hampshire received at least 5 inches (13 centimeters) of snow from Jan 31-Feb 2.

U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011

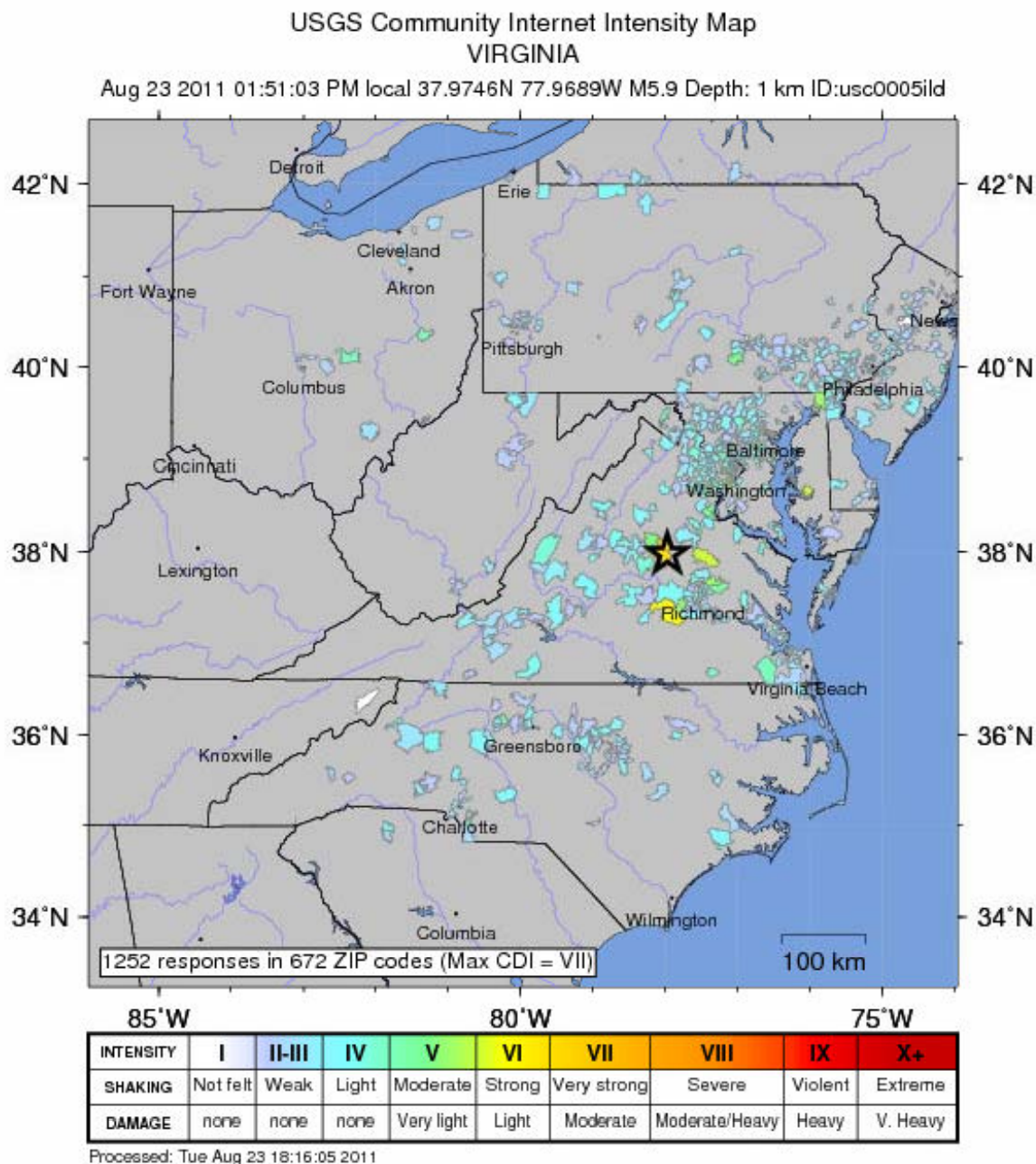


199 tornadoes touched down on April 27 alone.
67 tornadoes hit the State of Alabama this spring.

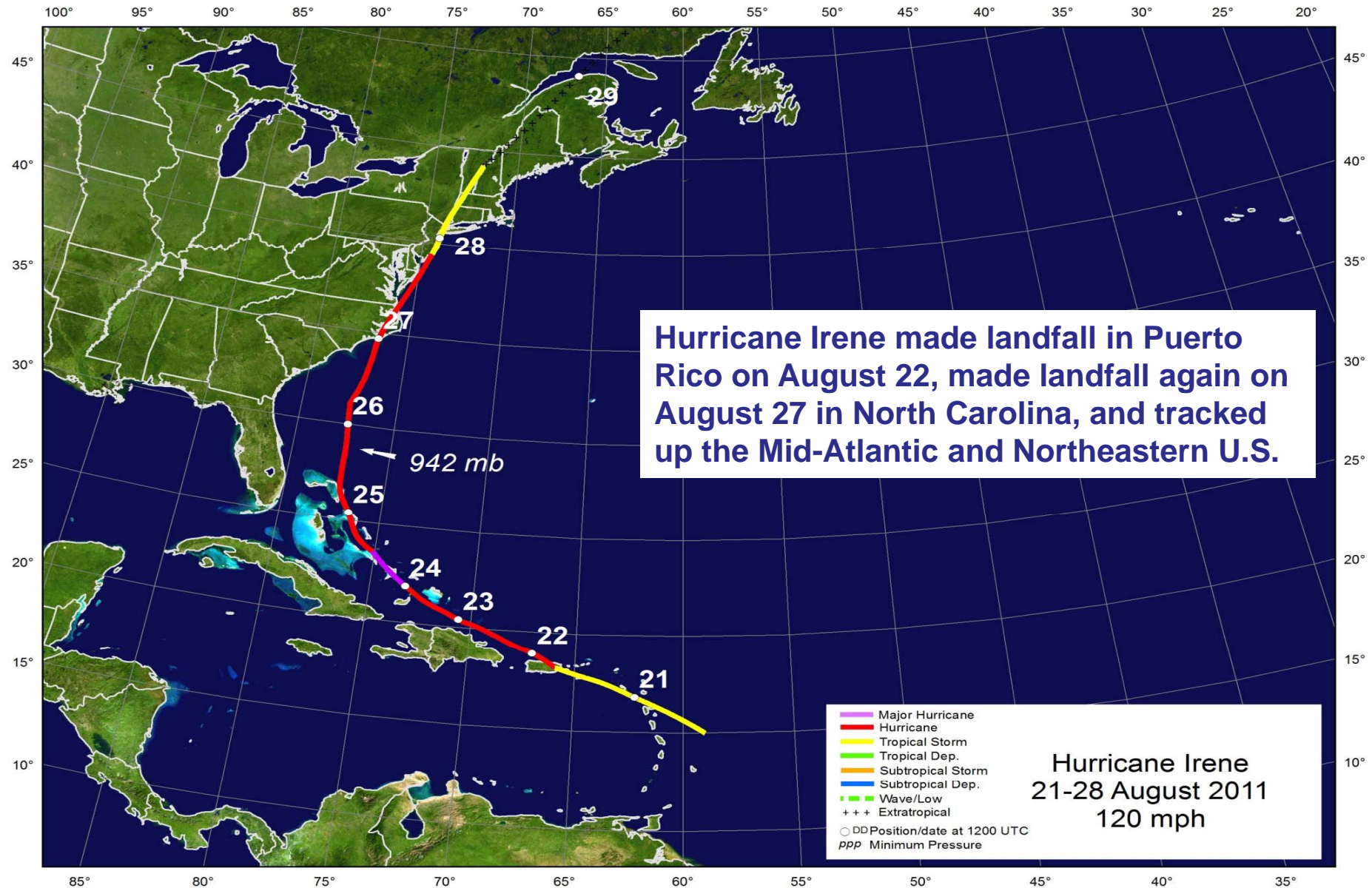
Tremors from the August 23, 2011, earthquake were felt as far south as Atlanta, Georgia; as far north as Quebec, Canada; as far west as Illinois and as far east as New Brunswick, Canada. Damage was reported as far away as New York City.



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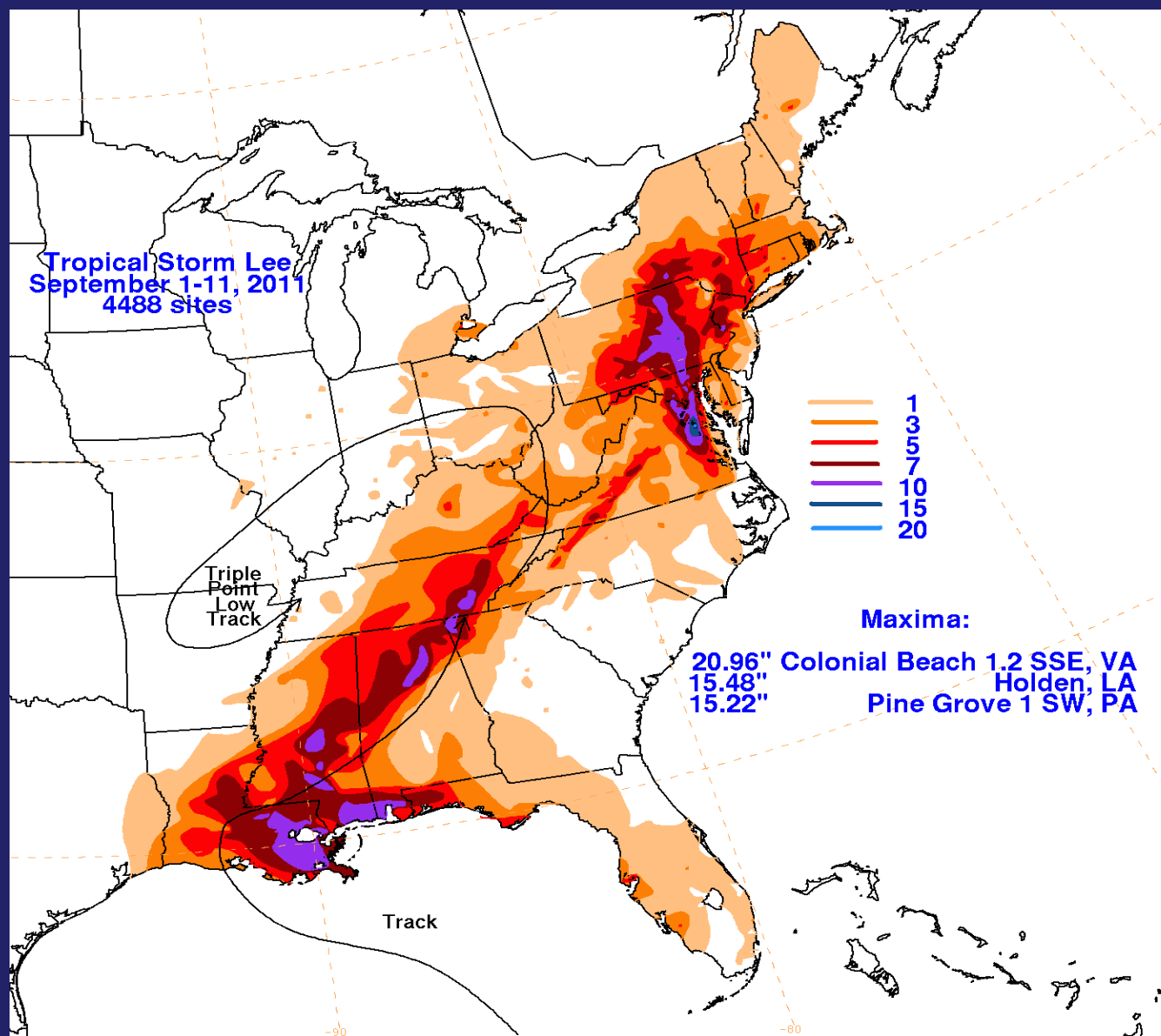


U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011



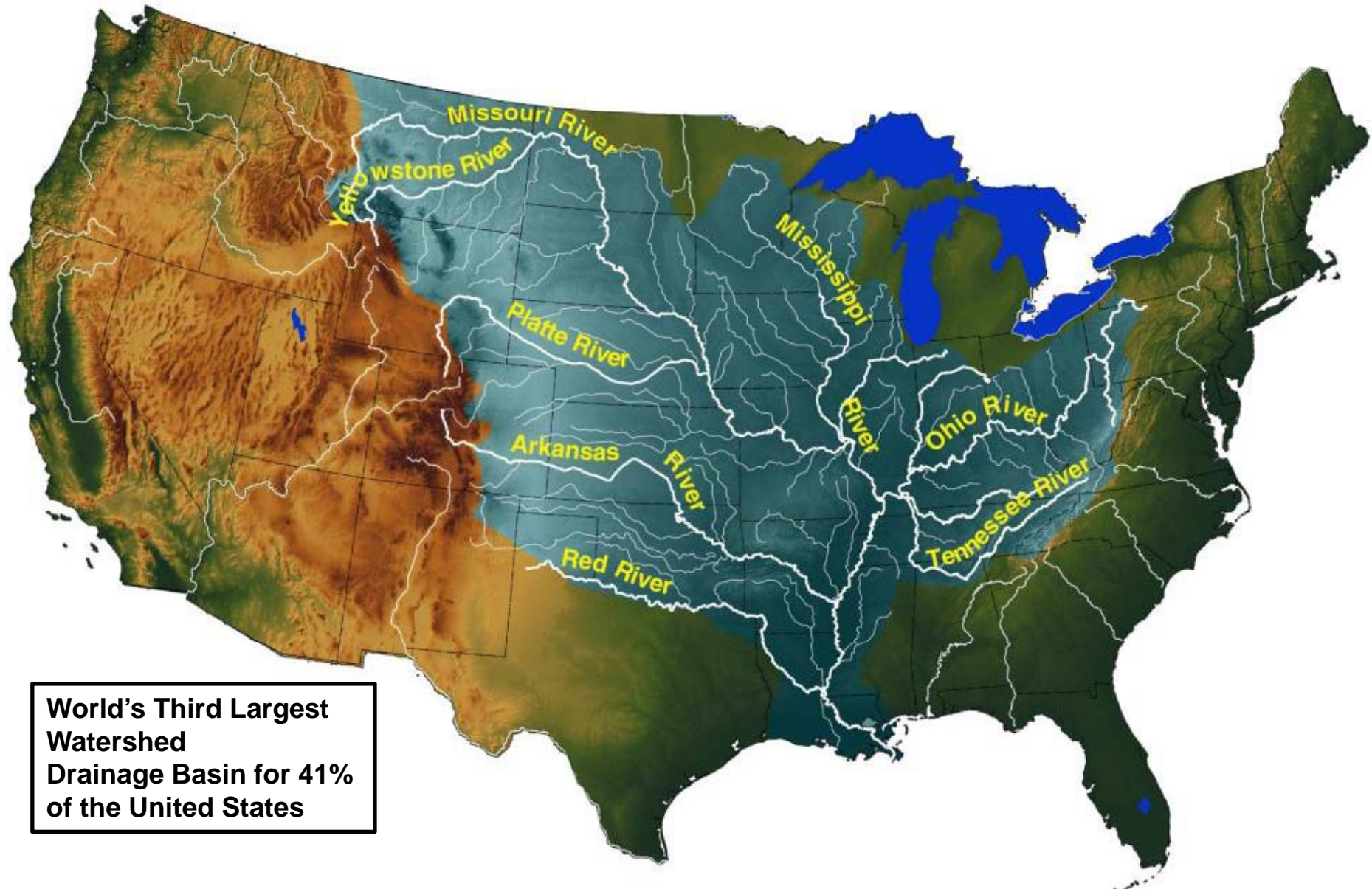
U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011

The remnants of Tropical Storm Lee impacted most of the Eastern U.S., causing the most significant rainfall in Pennsylvania.



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U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011



U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011

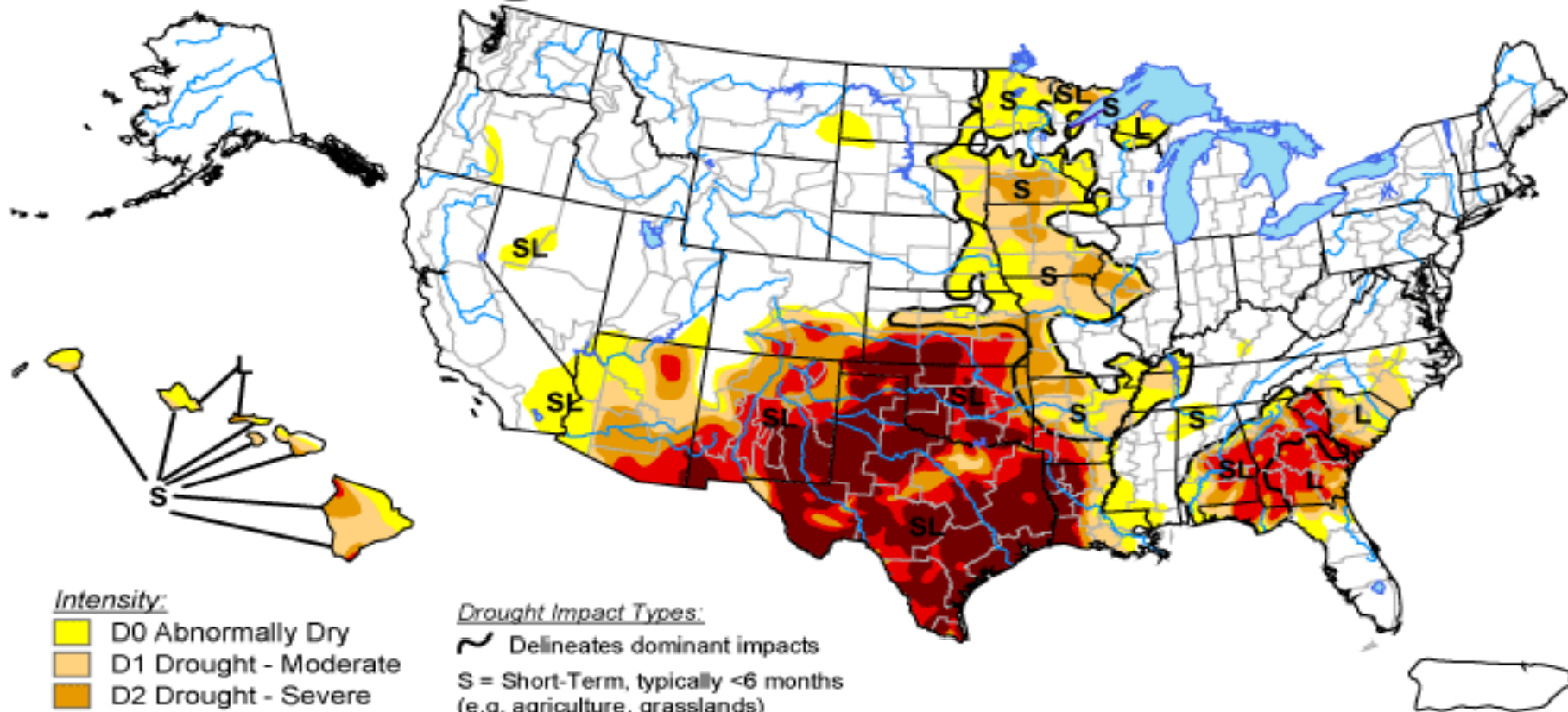


Historic flooding in Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri River Valleys – related to winter storms and record snowfall

U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 25, 2011
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- Yellow: D0 Abnormally Dry
- Light Orange: D1 Drought - Moderate
- Medium Orange: D2 Drought - Severe
- Red: D3 Drought - Extreme
- Dark Red: D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



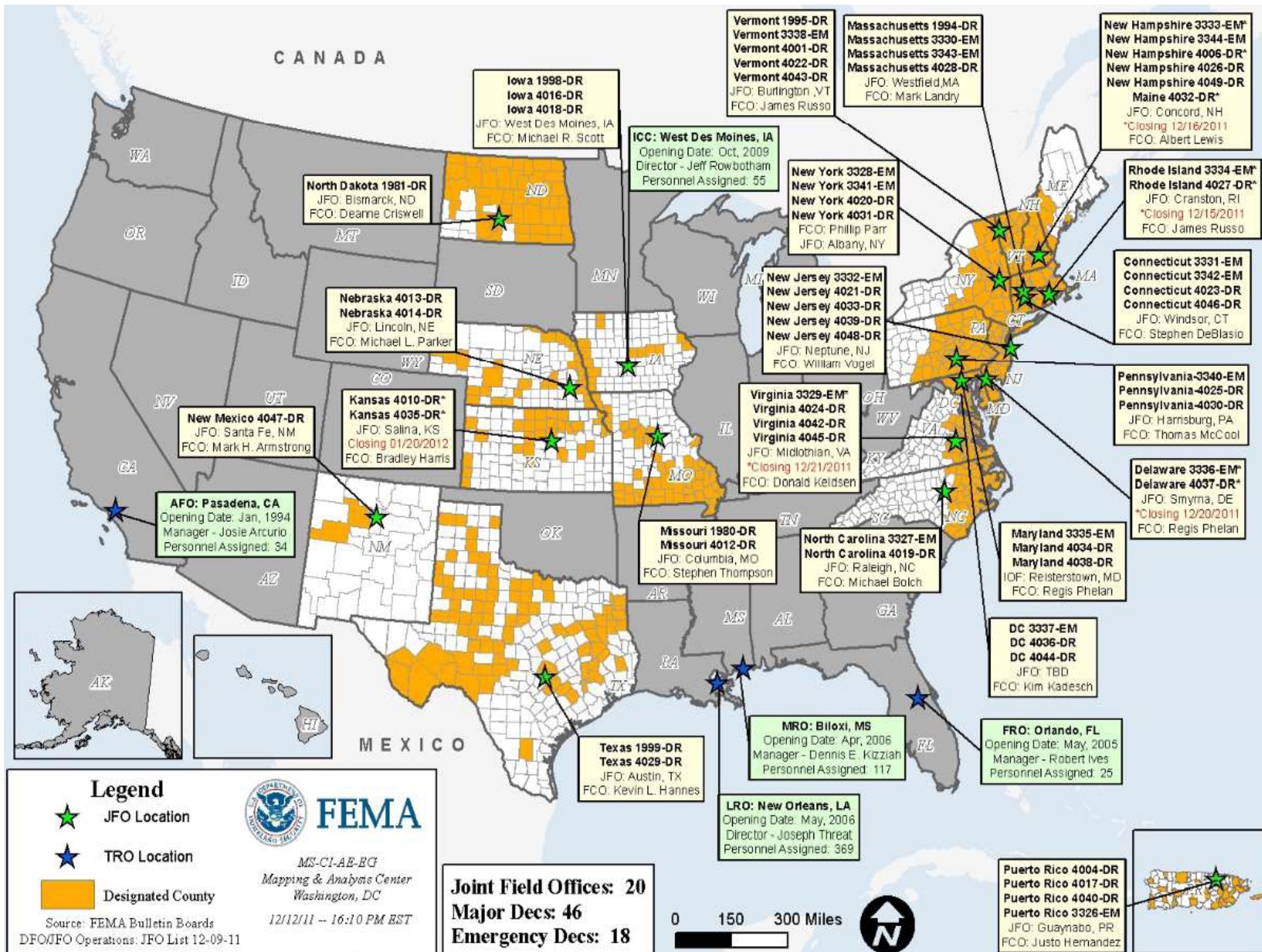
Released Thursday, October 27, 2011

Author: David Miskus, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

U.S. Major Disaster Activity in 2011



Historic drought in the southwest has led to the most destructive fire season in Texas history



Federal Response and Recovery Activities 2011



RESOURCE SUPPORT

- 24 million liters of water
- 12 million meals
- 1000 generators
- 473,000 tarps
- 55 infant/toddler kits

were transferred to affected States in support of disaster survivors



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Federal Response and Recovery Activities 2011

Support to Individuals and Households



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Over 545,000 individuals or households have applied for disaster assistance.

FEMA has awarded over \$900 million in grants to disaster survivors.

Federal Response and Recovery Activities 2011

Support to Repair or Rebuild Public Infrastructure



Over \$1,000,000,000 has been obligated to repair or rebuild eligible public infrastructure in 2011



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Response and Recovery Observations

- **Preparing for disaster response through “Maximum of maximum” planning with the “whole community”**
 - Identification of 13 core capabilities to stabilize situation in first 72 hours
- **Maximize utilization of Geospatial Information System (GIS) and social media technologies to achieve common operation picture and situational awareness**
- **National level earthquake exercise (Eight states and four FEMA regions, President and cabinet) assisted in real world disaster operations**
- **Focus on developing doctrine and training, and surge workforce**



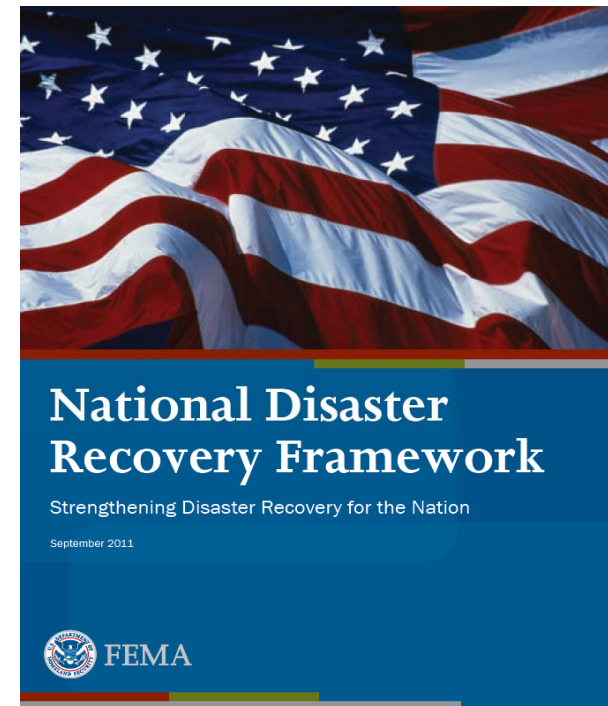
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National Disaster Recovery Framework

- Promotes the establishment of post-disaster organizations to more effectively manage and coordinate extended recovery operations
- Creates a scalable and flexible coordination structure to:
 - Streamline and simplify assistance
 - Bring all appropriate players to the table



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National Disaster Recovery Framework

Key Elements

- **Leadership**
- **Pre- and Post-Disaster Recovery Planning**
- **Recovery Support Functions**



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National Disaster Recovery Framework

www.fema.gov/recoveryframework



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