

AVMA 2024 Disaster Situational Awareness Report #7 Wednesday, October 16, 2024
Multiple Events: Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton

Hurricane Helene

TC Helene – Southeast & Mid-Atlantic

Situation: Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue.

Lifelines: (TC Helene & Milton SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Oct 15)

Safety & Security:

- NC: Evacuations – Mandatory: 1 county / Voluntary: 2 counties

Food, Hydration, Shelter: (ARC Midnight Shelter Report, as of 6:54 a.m. ET, Oct 16)

- FL: 2 (+7) shelter / 334 (+317) occupants
- GA: 3 shelters / 132 (+1) occupants
- NC: 13 shelters / 570 (+4) occupants
- TN: 1 shelter / 5 occupants

Health & Medical:

- FL: 23 confirmed fatalities
- NC: 95 (+1) confirmed fatalities

Water Systems:

- FL: 16 Active Boil Water Notices affecting 14k customers (TC Helene); water infrastructure restoration continues
- GA: 197 active Boil Water Notices; restoration ongoing
- NC: 36 (-19) Active Boil Water Notices affecting 289k (-7k) customers; restoration ongoing
- TN: 11 Active Boil Water Notices affecting 102k customers; restoration ongoing

Energy: (DOE Eagle-I, as of 7:30 a.m. ET, Oct 16)


- FL: 66k (-20k) / <1% customers without power
- GA: 4k (-3k) / less than 1% customers without power
- NC: 10k (-3k) / less than 1% customers without power

Communications:

- GA: Communication is intermittent throughout the state but improving
- NC: FEMA communications resources are supporting western NC
- TN: 4% of cellular sites down across the impacted area

Transportation:

- NC: 573 (-8) roads closed: 3 Interstates, 38 US routes, 52 (-7) state routes, and 480 (-1) secondary routes
- TN: 16 local roads closed; 289 local roads are open/passable but have damage/debris or closed at bridge



Regions III & IV TC Helene/Milton Response

FEMA / Federal Response:

- FEMA RII: RRCC is Rostered; LNOs deployed to VDEM
- FEMA Region III IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA RIV: RRCC activated to Level II
 - IMAT-1 deployed to GA SEOC
 - IMAT-2 deployed to FL SEOC
- HQ: NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I

IMAT:

- N-IMAT White deployed to Raleigh, NC
- N-IMAT Blue deployed to Tallahassee, FL
- N-IMAT Gold deployed to Raleigh/Asheville, NC
- FEMA Region III IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region IV IMAT-1 deployed to Alpharetta, GA
- FEMA Region V IMAT deployed to West Columbia, SC
- FEMA Region VII IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region VIII IMAT deployed to Atlanta, GA
- FEMA Region X IMAT deployed to Nashville, TN

Logistics:

- SMT Atlanta and SMT Sterling deployed to Montgomery, AL
- SMT Tracy deployed to Selma, AL
- ISB Team Alpha deployed to Atlanta, GA
- ISB Team Charlie deployed to Charlotte, NC


US&R:

- 23 US&R Task Forces deployed
- Incident Support Team (IST) Blue deployed to NC

MERS:

- MERS assets deployed to AL, FL, GA, and NC
- Additional MERS teams on standby

NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region IV, with continued reporting twice daily in the FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m. ET / 3:00 a.m. ET) and the FEMA Daily Operations Briefing (8:30 a.m. ET).



National Watch Center

- Helene strengthened to a Category IV hurricane before making landfall in the Big Bend area of Northwest Florida Thursday evening September 26, 2024.
- It traveled through Georgia, the western parts of South Carolina and North Carolina, eastern Tennessee and Virginia.
- State response personnel in multiple states are characterizing the impacts of this storm as “catastrophic”.
- Animal related activities have moved into the recovery stage while some emergency sheltering activities are still ongoing.
- AVMA/AVMF are messaging impacted states about available resources (including grants) and are currently processing applications for the grants below.
 - [Disaster Reimbursement Grants for Medical Care of Animals](#)
 - [Disaster relief grants for veterinary professionals](#)
- Donations can be made to the [AVMF Disaster Relief Fund](#).
- AVMF is processing requests for additional organizational grants.

- Florida:
 - Death toll: 23
- Georgia:
 - Death toll: 33
 - Georgia’s hurricane Helene response website can be found [here](#). It includes an online damage reporting form along with information about animal movement, an interactive map showing housing options for

various species of animals along with other resources.

- Numerous veterinary facilities have been impacted from power outages to structural damage and flooding.
- Animal emergency sheltering activities have concluded.
- Preliminary estimate of Hurricane Helene’s economic impact on Georgia Agriculture is **\$6.46 billion**.
- In partnership with the Georgia Foundation for Agriculture (GFA), the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) and the Georgia Farm Bureau (GFB) have launched the [Weathered But Strong Hurricane Relief Fund](#) to aid farmers and ranchers. The fund aims to raise \$1 million by December to provide direct financial aid to those impacted by the storm.
- South Carolina:
 - Death toll: 49
- North Carolina
 - Death toll: 95 with close to 100 people still missing.
 - [NC VMA](#) is organizing veterinary response efforts in the state.
 - **AVMF is donating \$20K to NC VMA for veterinary response activities.**
 - At least 30 veterinary facilities are closed with dozens more only offering limited services.
 - The Texas A&M VET team has been mobilized to North Carolina to provide care for search and rescue dogs.
 - Livestock Donation Supply [website](#).
 - NC VMA is accepting donations directly at [Friends of the NCVMA](#).
- Tennessee
 - Death toll: 15 with an unknown number missing
 - Both animal shelters and veterinary facilities report being impacted to various degrees (from catastrophic to minor).
 - [TVMA Disaster Application](#) – purpose is to provide financial assistance to veterinary facilities impacted by a disaster.
 - LMU CVM is working with numerous animal shelters that have been impacted.
- Virginia
 - Death toll: 2

Milton

TC Milton – Florida



Situation: FEMA is responding in coordination with Florida emergency management; Locally executed, state managed, and federally supported operations continue.

Lifelines: (TC Helene & Milton SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Oct 15)

Safety & Security:

- Evacuations for an estimated 3.5k homes in Hernando/Pasco counties continue due to rivers cresting

Food, Hydration, Shelter: (ARC Midnight Shelter Report, as of 6:54 a.m. ET, Oct 16)

- 13 (-8) shelters / 986 (-441) occupants

Health & Medical:

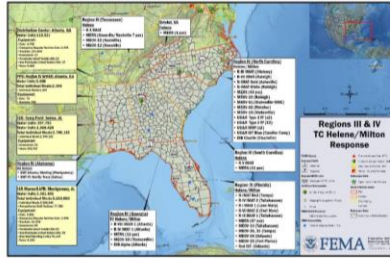
- 15 confirmed fatalities due to TC Milton; state no longer reporting fatalities as of Oct 13
- Healthcare System Assessment (HCSA) Mission is complete; 1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) remains employed; excess federal assets demobilized

Water Systems:

- 167 (+17) Boil Water notices affecting 468k (-1.3M) customers; wastewater system assessments ongoing

Energy: (DOE Eagle-I, as of 7:30 a.m. ET, Oct 16)

- 66k (-20k) / <1% customers without power
- Fuel tankers successfully offloading into Port of Tampa, improving fuel supply
 - 4 petroleum tankers delivered between 800k & 1.2M barrels of fuel



State / Tribal Response:

- SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene & TC Milton)
- FEMA-4834-DR-FL approved 10/12

FEMA / Federal Response:

- FEMA RV: RRCC activated to Level II
 - IMAT-1 deployed to GA
 - IMAT-2 deployed to FL SEOC
- NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I (TC Helene and TC Milton)

IMAT:

- NIMAT Red deployed to Tampa, FL
- Region I IMAT deployed to Orlando, FL
- Region VI IMAT-2 deployed to Ft. Myers, FL
- Region IX IMAT-1 deployed to Tallahassee, FL

US&R:

- Incident Command Post established at Orlando
- Incident Support Team (IST) Red deployed to FL
- Incident Support Team (IST) Red deployed to FL
- The following US&R resources remain:
 - 3 US&R Task Forces assigned through FL US&R
 - 1 assigned Incident Response Team
 - 2 staged Hazardous Equipment Push Packages
 - 5 Employed Mission Ready Packages (Water)

MERS:

- MERS assets deployed to FL
- Additional MERS teams on standby

NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with FEMA Region IV, with continued reporting twice daily in the FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m. ET / 3:00 a.m. ET) and the FEMA Daily Operations Briefing (8:30 a.m. ET).



National Watch Center

Electric customers without power:

- 0+ Out
- 10k+ Out
- 50k+ Out
- 100k+ Out

States and territories by customers out	Customers Out
Florida	31,197
North Carolina	8,040
California	5,964
Georgia	3,238
Alaska	3,104

Last Updated: 2024-10-16 08:16:39 PM CDT

PowerOutage.us is an ongoing project created to track, record, and aggregate power outages across the United States. Find out about us on our About page. Click on a state to see more detailed info. Data is updated site wide approximately every ten minutes.

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- Death toll: 15
- Milton made landfall as a category 3 storm south of Tampa Bay on Wednesday evening October 9th.
- As many as 38 tornadoes were reported.
- National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC) members were involved in search and rescue and sheltering activities.
- Animal search and rescue efforts have concluded.

AVMA provides disaster preparedness, response, and recovery information at <https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/disaster-preparedness> including information on grants available from AVMF for veterinarians who are either directly impacted by a disaster or who provide care to animals impacted by disasters.

Please contact Dr. Warren J. Hess at whess@avma.org with corrections or updates.