



FACTSHEET

June 2026

Issued quarterly by the Louisiana Dept. of Transportation & Development Floodplain Management Section

Volume 26 Number 2

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The LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN
MANAGEMENT FACTSHEET
is published through assistance
provided by FEMA under the
Community Assistance Program
State Support Services Element
of the National Flood Insurance
Program (NFIP). The contents do
not necessarily reflect the views
and policies of the Federal
Government.



Louisiana Earns Proficient Rating in FEMA's 2026 Tiered State Framework Assessment

Inside this issue:

Louisiana Earns Proficient Rating in FEMA's 2026 Tiered State Framework Assessment	1-2
FEMA Releases \$1.1 Billion in Flood Mitigation Funding Opportunities	3
FEMA Resumes In-person Training for Emergency Management Professionals	4
Hurricane Planning & Response	4
2026 Annual Conference Re-Cap	5
CRS Corner	6
2026 Hurricane Info	7-8
Survey	9
Contact Information	10

Baton Rouge, LA—The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) announced today that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded Louisiana a Proficient rating in the 2026 Tiered State Framework (TSF) Assessment, the highest classification the state has ever received under this federal evaluation.

The TSF is a federally administered program through which FEMA evaluates every state's floodplain management program on a triennial basis. States are assessed across key areas including technical expertise, staff training, community assistance, and the capacity to support local officials in managing flood risk. Upon completion of the assessment, each state is assigned one of three classifications: Foundational, Proficient, or Advanced. Louisiana's advancement to the Proficient tier represents the first time the state has progressed beyond the Foundational classification.

This achievement carries meaningful implications for Louisiana residents. A stronger state floodplain management program translates to improved



Louisiana Earns Proficient Rating in FEMA's 2026 Tiered State Framework Assessment (cont.)



guidance, resources, and support for the communities, local governments, and property owners across the state who face flood risks. The program supports continued access to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), assists communities in maintaining compliance with federal flood standards, and works to reduce flood-related damage and losses statewide.

FEMA's national review validated Louisiana's self-assessment and assigned a score of 50, confirming that the state met or exceeded all established benchmarks for the Proficient tier. The review required no clarifications or corrections, reflecting documented improvements in staff training, technical assistance, program documentation, and statewide coordination.

"This rating reflects the hard work of our team and our partners across the state," said Glenn Ledet, DOTD Secretary. "It shows that Louisiana is building a stronger, more reliable, and more responsive floodplain management program. We're proud of this progress and we're committed to building on it."

With a Proficient rating, Louisiana is well-positioned for upcoming national reviews, including those conducted under the new FEMA Advisory Commission, and is better equipped to serve its communities as federal flood policy continues to evolve.





FEMA Releases \$1.1 Billion in Flood Mitigation Funding Opportunities

FEMA announced **\$1.1 billion** in new funding opportunities for states, territories and Tribal Nations to make their communities safer from flooding. The two funding opportunities – Flood Mitigation Assistance and Swift Current – will enable states to protect their communities from the devastating impact of floods while limiting future National Flood Insurance Program expenses.

Flood Mitigation Assistance— Under this program, FEMA is making available up to **\$600 million** for states, local communities, Tribal Nations, and territories to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program. The April 30 announcement reflects the amended FY 2024 funding opportunity. Applications are due by Aug. 6, 2026. Communities should contact their state mitigation office for state-specific deadlines for submission, which will be earlier.

The FMA Funding includes:

- Capability and capacity building activities subtotal: \$60 million
- Localized flood risk reduction projects subtotal: \$420 million
- Individual flood mitigation projects subtotal: \$120 million

Learn more on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

Swift Current – As a part of the FMA program, Swift Current provides funding after Presidentially declared flood disasters to expedite the delivery of mitigation awards. FEMA is making available up to **\$500 million** for individual flood mitigation projects and scoping efforts that result in submission of individual flood mitigation projects for Repetitive Loss (RL), Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL), or Substantially Damaged (SD) properties. Structures eligible for individual flood mitigation projects must have an NFIP policy (including a Group Flood Insurance Policy, or GFIP) in effect prior to the opening of the application period and the policy must be maintained throughout the life of the structure. The availability window closes Dec 30, 2026 and application submission deadlines vary depending on FEMA activation, determined by the date of the major disaster declaration for the flood related event. As with other grants, communities should contact their state mitigation office for any state deadlines.

[Learn more on Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

(Taken from [flood.org](https://www.flood.org), May 1, 2026)

FEMA Resumes In-person Training for Emergency Management Professionals

After a 76-day lapse in appropriations, FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness, National Disaster & Emergency Management University and the National Fire Academy are resuming training and engagement for emergency management professionals across the country.



This year, the United States will host the FIFA World Cup 2026™, the largest and most-complex sporting event in the world, while also commemorating its 250th birthday with the Freedom 250 celebration. FEMA is committed to empowering state, local, tribal and territorial partners with world-class training. Our goal is to equip emergency managers to lead, protect and prepare their communities for every challenge ahead.

Previously scheduled meetings, workshops and events will proceed unless you are notified otherwise. FEMA will reschedule postponed engagements as necessary.

Students ready for instructor-led, in-person training can enroll in available courses, with sessions expected to begin soon.

For updates and registration details, please visit the schoolhouse websites below:

[Center for Domestic Preparedness](#)

[National Disaster and Emergency Management University](#)

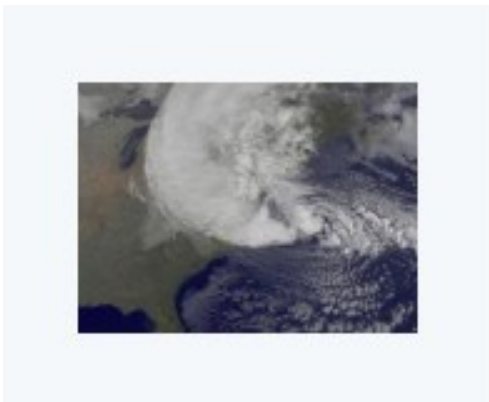
[National Fire Academy](#)

FEMA is proud to support America's emergency management workforce as we rise to meet today's challenges and seize tomorrow's opportunities.

(Taken from fema.gov, FEMA Bulletin, May 26, 2026)



Hurricane Planning and Response



The National Hurricane Program provides data, resources and technical assistance for hurricane evacuation planning and response for state, local, tribal, territorial and federal government partners. Hurricane evacuation and response planning efforts span from steady-state deliberate planning to operational decision support and crisis planning when hurricanes threaten the United States.

(Taken from fema.gov, May 19, 2026)

2026 Annual Conference ReCap – Milwaukee, WI



ASFPM Menomonee River Bike Tour



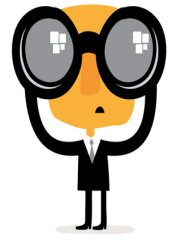
LFMA Luncheon at Doc's Smokehouse

Thank you to everyone who participated in another successful ASFPM Conference. We appreciate the opportunity to connect with floodplain management professionals, share knowledge, attend educational sessions, network, and enjoy the beautiful cities. Here are a couple of photos from Wisconsin.

Disaster Response Team

Storm season is here, so we are gathering information on people who may be interested in volunteering for the DRT or communities who would like volunteer support from the DRT. Please click the [link here](#), or scan the QR code, to share your insight or sign up to volunteer to help neighboring communities if a disaster hits. Thank you to all who have volunteered with the DRT on past events and continuing education.

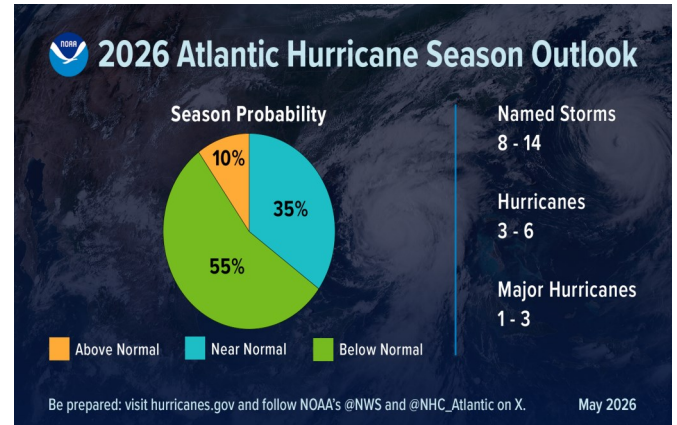
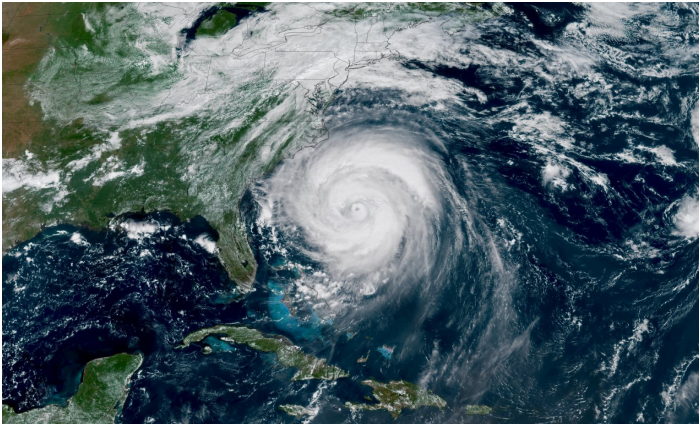




CRS Program Status Update

At this time, we are awaiting further direction from FEMA regarding the future status and administration of the Community Rating System (CRS) Program. Once additional information becomes available and guidance is provided, we will share updates accordingly. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we await further direction.

Thank You.



NOAA predicts below-normal 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season

Forecasters with NOAA's National Weather Service are predicting a below-normal hurricane season for the Atlantic basin this year. NOAA's outlook for the 2026 Atlantic hurricane season, which runs June 1 to November 30, predicts a 35% chance of a near-normal season, a 10% chance of an above-normal season, and a 55% chance of a below-normal season.

The agency is forecasting a total of 8-14 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, 3-6 are forecast to become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 1-3 major hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5 with winds of 111 mph or higher). NOAA has a 70% confidence in these ranges. An average season has 14 named storms with seven hurricanes, including three major hurricanes.

"With the most advanced forecast modeling and hurricane tracking technologies, NOAA and the National Weather Service are prepared to deliver real-time storm forecasts and warnings," said Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick. "Our experts are integrating cutting-edge tools to ensure communities in the path of storms receive the earliest, most accurate information possible."

"NOAA's rapid integration of advanced technology, including AI-based weather models, drones, and next-generation satellite data will deliver actionable science to safeguard the lives and livelihoods of the American people," said NOAA Administrator Neil Jacobs, Ph.D. "These new capabilities, combined with the unmatched expertise of our National Weather Service forecasters, will produce the most accurate forecasts possible to protect communities in harm's way."

Key factors driving NOAA's forecast

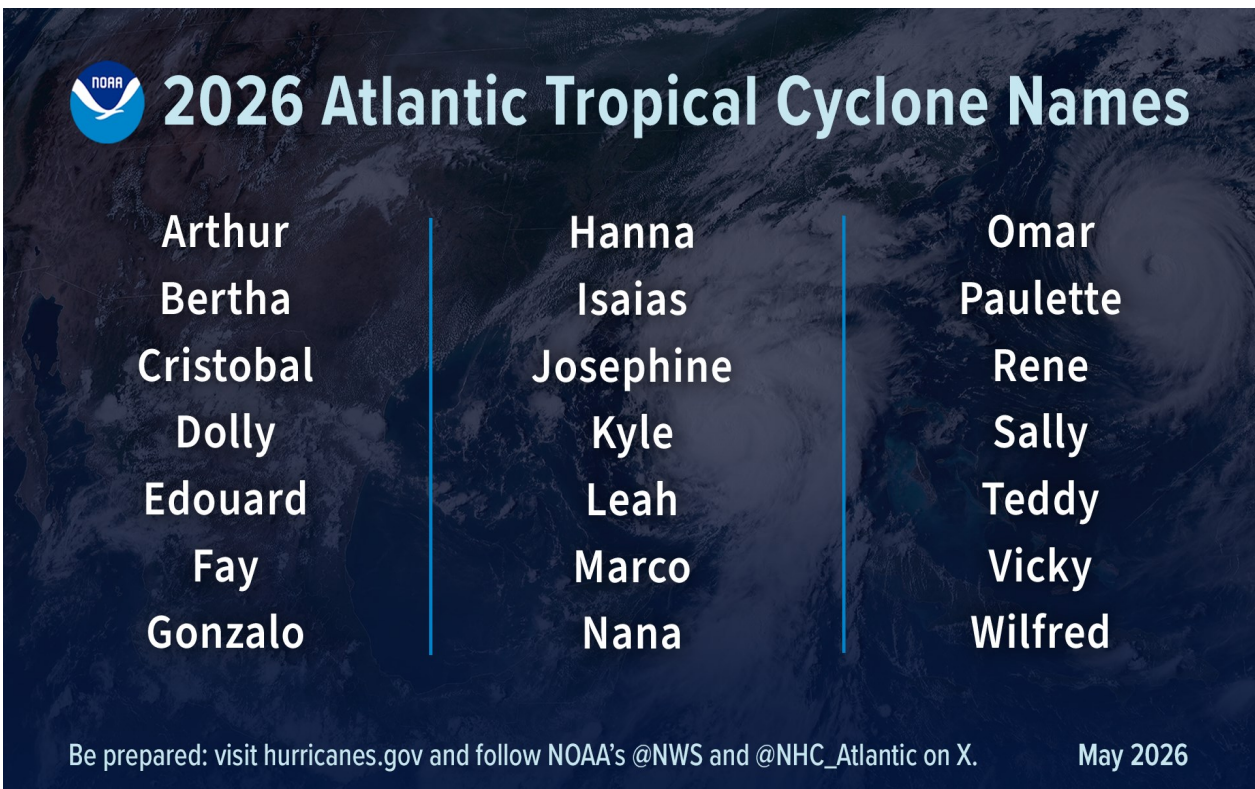
The Atlantic season is expected to be below-normal due to competing factors. El Niño is expected to develop and intensify during the hurricane season, while ocean temperatures in the Atlantic are expected to be slightly warmer than normal and trade winds are likely weaker than average. El Niño conditions tend to support less tropical storms and hurricanes, while warmer ocean temperatures and low winds support a more active year.

NOAA predicts below-normal 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season (cont...)

“Although El Niño’s impact in the Atlantic Basin can often suppress hurricane development, there is still uncertainty in how each season will unfold,” said NOAA’s National Weather Service Director Ken Graham. “That is why it’s essential to review your hurricane preparedness plan now. It only takes one storm to make for a very bad season.”

NOAA’s outlook is for overall seasonal activity based on large-scale weather and climate patterns. It does not indicate where or when any storms may affect land as that is determined by short-term and variable weather patterns. The outlook is not a landfall forecast.

“Preparing now for hurricane season — and not waiting for a storm to threaten — is essential for staying ahead of any storm. Visit [weather.gov/safety](https://www.weather.gov/safety) and [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) for important preparedness information,” added Graham.

A graphic titled "2026 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names" featuring the NOAA logo and a satellite image of a hurricane. The names are organized into three columns separated by vertical lines. At the bottom, there is a preparedness message and the date May 2026.

Arthur	Hanna	Omar
Bertha	Isaias	Paulette
Cristobal	Josephine	Rene
Dolly	Kyle	Sally
Edouard	Leah	Teddy
Fay	Marco	Vicky
Gonzalo	Nana	Wilfred

Be prepared: visit hurricanes.gov and follow NOAA's @NWS and @NHC_Atlantic on X. May 2026

(Taken from noaa.gov, May 21, 2026)



As the State Coordination Office between the DHS/FEMA Regional Office and the communities of Louisiana that belong to the National Flood Insurance Program [NFIP], it is our job to provide any guidance or assistance needed to our Louisiana communities in order to assure the NFIP regulations are carried out and violations prevented. In order to better serve you, please take a moment to tell us how we're doing and how we could improve.

Thank you, Pam Lightfoot, CFM — Tatanisha White — Angela Gil, CFM — Michelle Brumfield.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

Have you had contact with our office within the last 6 months? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please check one: Email ☐ Phone ☐ Meeting ☐

(Please circle a number)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Staff was friendly and courteous	5	4	3	2	1
I was treated with respect	5	4	3	2	1
Staff was knowledgeable	5	4	3	2	1
My questions & concerns were addressed in a timely manner	5	4	3	2	1
The staff provided me with useful information	5	4	3	2	1
I had an overall positive experience dealing with the staff of Floodplain Management	5	4	3	2	1

How could we improve our services?

PLEASE MAIL completed survey to:

LADOTD Floodplain Management - Section 79
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

OR EMAIL to: pam.lightfoot@la.gov



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

If you or someone you know would like to receive future copies of this newsletter please contact our office:

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From: Pam, Tatanisha, Angela &
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