Experimental Flood Hazard Outlook (FHO)

**WHAT:** High-level graphical depiction and key messages highlighting the potential threat of inland flood hazards (flash, urban, small stream and riverine) and their associated impacts (catastrophic, considerable, and limited) for the next seven days. Available as a Geographic Information System (GIS) service and as a static image.

**WHO:** National Weather Service (NWS) stakeholders and Federal, State and Regional water partners as part of Impact-based Decision Support Services (IDSS).

**WHY:** Provide nationally consistent flood hazards information and coordinated hydrologic flood graphic.

**WHEN:** This product will be issued daily, at 2100Z (4PM CDT). During Atlantic Basin tropical cyclone events, the product is issued twice daily at 1130Z (6:30 AM CDT) and 2100Z (4:00 PM CDT) and will include a zoomed-in static image of the Atlantic Basin tropical cyclone flooding the impact area.

**WHERE:** [https://www.weather.gov/owp/operations/fho](https://www.weather.gov/owp/operations/fho)

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**Figure 1: Experimental FHO category definitions**

![Flood Hazard Outlook (FHO) Category Definitions](image)

- **Limited Impact**
  - Base flash flooding and/or minor river flooding is expected
    - Flash flooding with bases to isolated considerable IBW tours. In general, minimal or no widespread property damage, but possibly some public threat (e.g., inundation of roads). Local water rescues may occur, but are limited to evacuations of cutoff areas or isolated swift water rescues.
    - Minor to isolated moderate riverine flooding. Minor riverine flooding is defined as minimal or no property damage, but possible some public threat (e.g., inundation of roads).

- **Considerable Impact**
  - Significant flash flooding and/or moderate river flooding is expected
    - Flash flooding with numerous considerable IBW tours is possible. Impacts include widespread inundation of roads and structures, evacuations of people and property to higher elevations. Numerous swift water rescues may be possible. Moderate some inundation of structures and roads near streams, evacuations of people and transfer of property to higher elevations.
    - Widespread moderate to scattered major riverine flooding is possible. Moderate riverine flooding is defined as some inundation of structures and roads near streams, evacuations of people and transfer of property to higher elevations.
    - Messing of widespread, life threatening flooding that may occur and that urgent actions may be needed to prepare for flooding.

- **Catastrophic Impact**
  - Exceedingly rare and widespread flash flooding and/or major river flooding is expected
    - Flash flooding with considerable IBW tours is likely with multiple catastrophic IBW tours possible. Impacts include widespread inundation and loss of property and structures. Evacuations of people and loss of property to higher elevations. Local water rescues may be possible. Widespread inundation of structures and roads near streams, evacuations of people and transfer of property to higher elevations.
    - Widespread major riverine flooding, with “flooding of record” possible. Major river flooding is defined as widespread inundation of structures and roads, significant evacuations of people and transfer of property to higher elevations.
    - Messing of widespread, life threatening flooding that will likely occur and that urgent actions may be needed to prepare for flooding.

See Text: Ongoing flooding or low confidence

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The NWS is accepting comments through December 31, 2022 on the Area Hydrologic Discussion (AHD). Please provide feedback on this product at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ExpFloodHazardOutlook_2022