

The Great Flood of 1937: Rising Waters, Soaring Spirits (See article on page 3)

California Water and Infrastructure Report For October 10, 2024

**(With expanded coverage of all the Western States)
by Patrick Ruckert**

Published weekly since July, 2014

An archive of all these weekly reports can be found at both links below:

<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaDroughtUpdate>

A Note to Readers

A theme I have often used in these reports is how our national and some state leaders possessed the determination and vision to accomplish great projects, mobilize and inspire the American people with great missions, and accomplish what most today would think to be impossible.

We have one more example before us. That is the Biden-Harris administration response to the two hurricanes that have devastated half-a-dozen states, and Florida twice in the past two weeks.

The flooding, tornadoes, and extreme winds have killed more than 200 people, destroyed thousands of homes and businesses, wrecked infrastructure beyond what has been seen in the nation in decades.

The virtual casual response of the Biden-Harris administration is summarized by the failure to even get the U.S. Military troops on the ground for almost a full week. And now the administration of FEMA informs us that all of FEMA's funds for hurricanes for the rest of the year is exhausted.

The administration should have weeks ago called the U.S. Congress back into session to allocate more funds, especially by the moment that the second hurricane was forming more than a week ago. And probably much sooner.

In January 1937, a series of torrential rains pelted the Ohio River Valley and left a trail of disaster. The next year, 1938, the Great New England Hurricane struck on Sept. 21. The fast-moving monster storm killed at least 682 people, and injured more than 1,700.

The nation had real leaders then. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in both disasters had thousands of troops, Civilian Conservation Corps workers, Works Progress Administration workers on the ground in less than 24 hours. They rescued people, build dikes, rebuilt dams, fed people, and a thousand other

tasks.

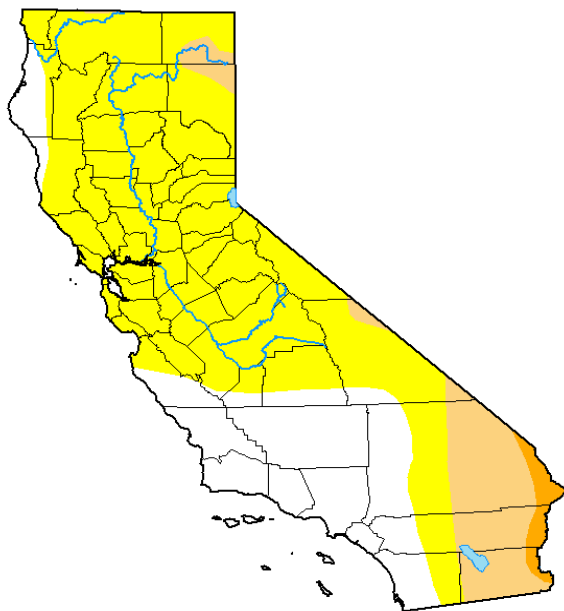
Today, it has been the residents of the region who are the drivers rescuing people and repairing infrastructure.

Three days after North Carolina was devastated, Donald Trump was on the ground there bringing in food, water, clothing and other goods. Biden and Harris did not show their faces in the area until late last week.

Since we are on the topic of hurricanes, the report this week will conclude with an article by my associate Hunter Cobb, from *Promethean Action*: “No Kamala, Hurricanes are Not Getting Worse Due to Climate Change.”

U.S. Drought Monitor California October 8, 2024

U.S. Drought Monitor USDA California Climate Hub



October 8, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	24.68	75.32	13.77	1.72	0.00	0.00
Last Week 10-01-2024	28.40	71.60	10.67	0.08	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-09-2024	80.72	19.28	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	96.65	3.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	94.01	5.99	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-10-2023	93.98	6.02	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:
 None
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:
Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	DSCI
Current	2024-10-08	24.68	75.32	13.77	1.72	0.00	0.00	91
Last Week to Current	2024-10-01	28.40	71.60	10.67	0.08	0.00	0.00	82
3 Months Ago to Current	2024-07-09	80.72	19.28	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	20
Start of Calendar Year to Current	2023-12-26	96.65	3.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3
Start of Water Year to Current	2024-10-01	28.40	71.60	10.67	0.08	0.00	0.00	82
One Year Ago to Current	2023-10-10	93.98	6.02	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	6

[Estimated Population](#) in Drought Areas: 2,449,832

Two Hurricanes, and, At Best, A Tepid Response By the Biden-Harris Administration

We have had leaders who actually mobilized within 24 hours an army in such emergencies and disasters. It took almost a week for the administration to put 1,000 soldiers from the U.S. Army on the scene. Then the administration announced that FEMA has exhausted its hurricane funds for the year. Biden has yet to call the Congress back into session to allocate more funds.

Here is what President Franklin D. Roosevelt did in the midst of the Great Depression for two such disasters:

FDR Knew How To Respond To a Monster Storm

Reprint from Executive Intelligence Review

November 9, 2012

Among the more brilliant accomplishments of President Franklin Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration (WPA) was the creation of a mobile workforce that could be deployed on a moment's notice to battle hurricanes, floods, and fires. Where Barack Obama, like his predecessor during Hurricane Katrina, told Hurricane-devastated New Yorkers and New Jerseyans, effectively, "Don't count on your government; you're on your own," FDR's right-hand man, Harry Hopkins, was immediately on the scene, deploying his WPA army of formerly unemployed and desperate men and women, as a strike force capable of heroic action.



View of New Boston, Ohio, during the Flood of 1937. Image Credit: Snake National Collection, Digital History Lab, Clark Historical Library, Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania, Ohio.

The 1937 flood remains the flood of record for many locations along the Ohio River, leaving an estimated 350 dead and nearly 1 Million homeless. The entire river was in flood, with record flooding from Point Pleasant, WV down to the Ohio's confluence with the Mississippi at Cairo, IL.

(Image Courtesy of [Northern Kentucky Views](#))

In January 1937, a series of torrential rains pelted the Ohio River Valley and left a trail of disaster. Fifteen percent of Cincinnati was underwater; 70% of Louisville, and 100% of Paducah, Ky were inundated. Cities up and down the Ohio River were in panic and chaos. Five hundred were dead and a million were left homeless. Hopkins, who was FDR's flood relief commissioner, immediately arrived at the scene and oversaw relief, construction, flood control, and cleanup.

He deployed more than 200,000 WPA workers to build sanitary privies, nail wooden catwalks to carry foot traffic over the swamps of mud, deliver relief supplies to the stricken population, clear refuse,

remove garbage, and cook hot meals for the hungry. Hopkins even deployed the Federal Theater Project to perform over 40 plays and shows in the flood-ravaged states.

The Great New England Hurricane

*In his 2008 book, *The Enduring Legacy of the WPA: American-Made*, Nick Taylor recounts the heroic response of WPA to the catastrophic Great New England Hurricane which struck on Sept. 21, 1938. The fast-moving monster storm killed at least 682 people, and injured more than 1,700. Nine thousand homes were destroyed and 15,000 damaged. The toll to infrastructure was massive.*

According to Taylor, President Roosevelt learned at 6:30 the next morning about the extent of the destruction. By 9:00 a.m., “the WPA, along with the Coast Guard, the army, the navy, the CCC [Civilian Conservation Corps], and the Red Cross, had field agents headed to Long Island and New England. Hopkins, in California, telephoned to say he was cutting his trip short, and would take the first available plane headed east.”

The response of Hopkins and Roosevelt was impressive: Within 18 hours they had deployed 100,000 WPA workers on the scene to engage in everything from dam repairs (to prevent even more flooding), to sandbagging, evacuation of stranded victims, and cleanup. WPA workers produced new clothing for victims, staffed refugee centers, and orchestrated the cleanup efforts.

“[S]o swift and efficient was that recovery work that by late November, the storm debris had largely disappeared and much of New England was looking forward to a normal winter,” Taylor wrote. The chairman of the Red Cross credited the WPA and the other agencies for “one of the most amazing disaster recoveries this organization has ever known.”

—Stuart Rosenblatt

While On The Subject of the Hurricanes....

Here is an article by my associate Hunter Cobb, from *Promethean Action*:

No Kamala, Hurricanes are Not Getting Worse Due to Climate Change

[Promethean Action](#)



October 10 2024 12:25 PM 2 min read

Guest Post By Hunter Cobb

<https://www.prometheanaction.com/no-kamala-hurricanes-are-not-getting-worse-due-to-climate-change/>

As Hurricane Helene devastated the Southeast and Hurricane Milton is bearing down on Florida, the media, as expected, is trying to blame climate change (in line with past claims by Kamala Harris and Tim Walz). These are simply lies. The reality is there is no evidence hurricanes are getting worse in response to the slight warming we've seen over the past couple hundred years.

Even the U.S. Government's own 2014 National Climate Assessment admitted, “there has been no

significant trend in the global number of tropical cyclones nor has any trend been identified in the number of U.S. land-falling hurricanes.” And the UN's infamous IPCC, admitted in their 2018 interim report, “[there is] only low confidence for the attribution of any detectable changes in tropical cyclone activity to anthropogenic influences.”*

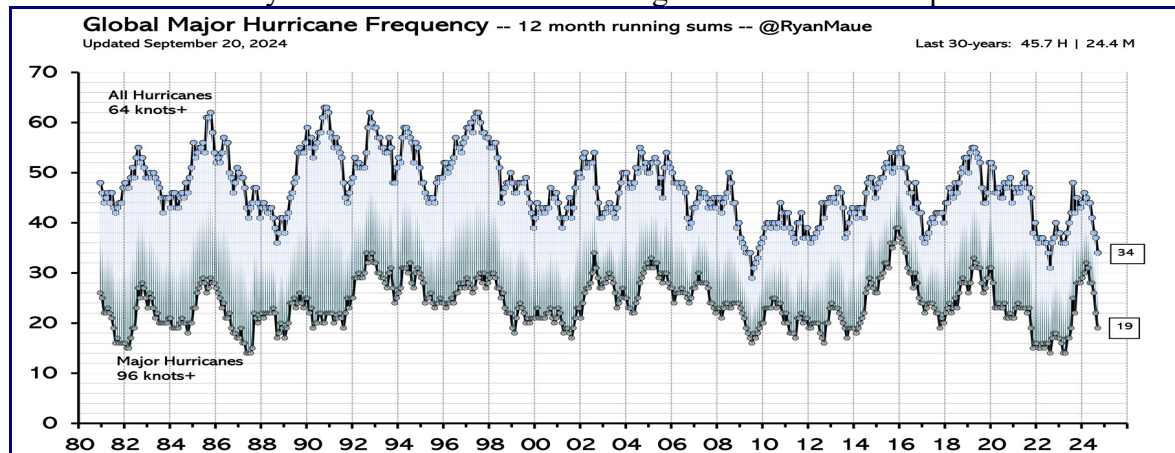
This is abundantly clear when you simply look at global counts of hurricanes and cycles each year or measurements of total energy of hurricanes and cyclones each year (using the "accumulated cyclone energy" (ACE) metric). There is absolutely no upward trend corresponding to increasing CO2 levels. The work on global tropical cyclone activity by [Dr. Ryan N. Maue](#) provides some excellent graphs showing this clearly.

[Global Tropical Cyclone Activity | Ryan Maue](#)



[Ryan Maue](#)

In the spring of this year, some meteorologists were forecasting 2024 would be a bad year for hurricanes. But, this was based on known ocean cycles which have nothing to do with climate change (specifically the Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation). This was a basic forecast, unrelated to how much CO2 your car, your lawnmower, or the local power plant puts into the atmosphere. While it's true there has been a gradual increase in the earth's temperature, human activity is only a minor factor in causing this. And there is no observational evidence for an increase in hurricanes or cyclones in response to this slight warming. It's time Americans disavow the pagan religion of “climate change” and get a bit smarter. And we may soon have leaders in Washington who will stand up to this nonsense.



Dr. Maue's graphs makes the truth abundantly clear.

*These quotes are unfortunately not representative of the final claims that get attributed to the U.S. Government's National Climate Assessment or the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In both organizations, many competent scientists contribute to the making of their assessments. However, the often complex and nuanced work of the individual scientists is edited and condensed by a selected team of scientists into an “assessment report,” which often glosses over many of the nuances and in some cases emphasizes an illegitimate bias of a writer of the assessment. The assessment reports are then taken by science reporters of the popular press, who also often have a bias which further exaggerates a message. This process is well described in the book, “Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters,” by Steven Koonin.