NORTH Dakota | Office of the Governor

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September 4, 2025
Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Katherine Fox, Regional Administrator (A)
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region VIII
Denver Federal Center
Building 710, Box 25267
Denver, CO 80225-0267

RE: REQUEST FOR A PRESIDENTIAL MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION

Dear Mr. President,

North Dakota is no stranger to extreme weather, facing a wide range of hazards throughout the year. On August 7–8, 2025, a powerful line of storms swept across the state, bringing damaging downburst winds, large hail, and numerous tornadoes. The system caused extensive damage to homes, businesses, agriculture, and electrical infrastructure, while widespread power outages and debris added to the burden on communities as they worked to respond and recover from the event. The hardships created by these severe storms pushed many emergency management offices beyond their capacity, forcing them to juggle response, recovery, and resource coordination under immense pressure.

We ask for your continued support as we recover from a series of tornado producing severe thunderstorms that caused extensive damage late in the evening of August 7th into the early morning of August 8th. Pursuant to Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR §206.36, the State of North Dakota requests a major disaster declaration for the August 7 – August 8, 2025, severe summer storms for the counties of Barnes, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, Steele and Stutsman. These counties, listed in Attachment A, *Jurisdictions Impacted by the August 7-8, 2025, Severe Summer Storms,* recorded extensive damages as severe summer weather moved across the state impacting central and northeastern portions of the state with damaging straight line and convective winds that produced thirteen confirmed tornadoes and caused significant damage to homes and infrastructure.

Weather Summary

On August 7–8, 2025, North Dakota was impacted by multiple rounds of severe thunderstorms that tracked across the state, producing destructive winds, large hail, and tornadoes. The Storm Prediction Center placed much of the region under an Enhanced Risk (Level 3 of 5), highlighting the potential for widespread severe weather. Storms began developing during the late afternoon and evening of Thursday, August 7th, and persisted into the early morning of Friday, August 8th. Initially, severe thunderstorms formed over northern and western North Dakota, with additional development occurring in the west as storms moved in from Montana. Two mesoscale convective systems evolved, one in the northwest and one in the southwest, which later merged across central North Dakota into a single large quasi-linear convective system (QLCS). This squall line intensified as it tracked eastward into south central and eastern North Dakota, producing widespread destructive winds of 70–100 mph and spawning tornadoes along its leading edge.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), "The squall line produced destructive winds of 70 to 100 mph, resulting in widespread tree damage, severe structural impacts, and power outages across south central and eastern North Dakota." North Dakota State Climatologist and Director of the ND Ag Weather Network (NDAWN), Daryl Ritchison noted, "The severe weather of August 7–8, 2025, was fueled by a strong surface low, an upper-level shortwave, and a warm frontal boundary that created instability for supercell development and straight-line embedded storms." This combination, along with high dewpoints in the 60s to low 70s, created a very unstable environment. Initially, a warm upper layer capped storm development, but as evening disturbances provided enough lift to break the cap, explosive thunderstorm development occurred. The merging of multiple storm lines across central North Dakota enhanced intensity, particularly in Kidder and Stutsman Counties, and as the squall line moved eastward into a highly unstable and sheared atmosphere, embedded tornadoes developed.

In total, the NWS confirmed thirteen tornadoes across eastern North Dakota during the early morning of August 8th. The NWS Grand Forks office reported, "Nine tornadoes were rated EF1 with peak winds of 95 to 110 mph, while four were rated EF0." The most notable included an EF1 tornado with a 4.1 mile intermittent path across the south side of Grand Forks. Peak measured wind gusts reached 83 mph near Kensal in Stutsman County and 91 mph at the Grand Forks Air Force Base, while estimated gusts reached 100 mph in several areas based on damage assessments. Damage from this event was widespread across south central and eastern North Dakota, with the highest concentration of destruction in Barnes, Cass, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, Steele, Stutsman, and Walsh Counties.

Incident Summary

Leading up to the event, the NWS Grand Forks Office issued three weather packets and held a stakeholder briefing call that preceded the severe thunderstorm watches and warnings. By 3:00 AM CDT on August 8th, the NWS issued a tornado warning for eastern Foster County and Northeastern Stutsman County as the radar indicated rotation. Shortly after, a tornado warning was issued for

Nelson, Griggs, Grand Forks, and Traill Counties. This alerting catalyzed sheltering in place and contributed to the successes of protection of life through this event.

Communities saw dark ominous clouds as the storms approached that brought quarter to half dollar sized hail and had intense downpours of rain that led to localized flooding. The Kidder County Emergency Manager, Loren Lang, reported 7 inches of rain in one hour in places with multiple instances of water over roads. The violent winds and hail created an uproar of debris. Large trees were uprooted and cast upon the landscape crashing down on roofs, driveways, community parks, and roads. Small branches were scattered across the terrain and required extensive cleanup efforts. One report from the city of Pettibone, in Kidder County, contained a photograph of an empty large grain bin that was dislodged from the foundation and rolled to the west, wrapping itself around the side of a house.

Many homeowners and community leaders sought support for debris management through public works departments, volunteers, and contractors. Debris caused significant damage to electrical infrastructure across the impact area. Through the duration of the event, the ND Watch Center documented around 16,000 sites without power including homes, businesses, hospitals, and long-term care facilities with no initial estimates on restoration times.

Emergency Dispatch Centers across the state received an uptick in calls from residents reporting damages, asking frantic questions for sheltering, and seeking support. First responders such as local fire departments triaged electrical infrastructure damages to remove imminent threats and responded to incidents despite the hazardous conditions and debris littered roadways. Local emergency managers pre-established community sheltering locations, activated plans, coordinated with first responder groups to create a state of readiness and effectively communicated with partners while maintaining a strong sense of situational awareness.

As the morning went on, damage to personal property such as homes and campers, grain bins, and most notably electrical infrastructure were unveiled. There were several machine sheds used to house agricultural equipment with their roofs ripped off or with significant damage. Following the event, Steele County Sherrif, Wayne Beckman told the Grand Forks Herald, "It's a mess," and "aside from the structural damage and downed trees, we've also got downed power lines in town.". Key impacts were concentrated into confined impact areas highlighting the magnitude of the wind in very specific areas while others had minimal impacts.

In the concentrated impact areas, transmission lines, poles, and the associated hardware sustained significant damage. Extreme winds damaged 25 large 345 KV H-frame structures which are a common type of electric transmission pole used to support conductors for the transport of electric power. Many other power poles were damaged due to collapsed and flying debris leaving residents without power for extended periods.

The hardest hit area was in Stutsman County where numerous structures sustained significant damage including Jamestown and Courtenay. There were also several reported mobile homes, campers, and semi-trailers that were significantly damaged or rolled due to the extreme winds. In Jamestown, the

most significant damage occurred in the southern part of the city, where straight-line winds up to 100 mph uprooted large trees, damaged manufactured homes, and stripped roofing from buildings in a concentrated two-mile-long, half-mile-wide path.

Within Stutsman County, there was also an apartment building collapse due to downed trees and wind damage that resulted in the displacement of three individuals that sheltered at the Jamestown Fire Department. The agricultural community remains one of the key sectors impacted by extreme weather events. Many reports of large grain bins were damaged with many dented, twisted, or collapsed under pressure. In rural Stutsman County, farmsteads suffered severe losses, including collapsed pole barns, destroyed grain bins, and a toppled grain dryer system. Grain bins were also destroyed at the Finley elevator in Steele County and Thompson elevator in Grand Forks County. A tornado near Hannaford in Griggs County destroyed a pole barn, with other tornadoes that damaged pivot irrigation systems, crops, and trees. Grain bin elevators, a key piece of economic stability and infrastructure in rural communities, also experienced significant impacts further exacerbating the long-term economic impact of the event.

A Whole of Government and Community Response

While damage was extensive, the storm moved quickly and had a confined impact area. The ND Watch Center focused on monitoring and informing local and tribal emergency managers of upcoming hazardous weather while documenting impacts as they occurred. The ND Watch Center additionally issued a Critical Information Requirement (CIR) report for the impending significant severe weather to ensure shared situational awareness and communicate potential risks. Emergency managers collaborated with local, state, federal, and nonprofit organizations to ensure a state of preparedness while implementing necessary emergency declarations to access key response resources. The North Dakota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NDDES – HSEM) activated the state emergency operations plan through executive order 2025-06 that I, Kelly Armstrong signed.

Local emergency managers worked tirelessly before, during, and after the August 7–8 severe weather event in North Dakota. They closely monitored evolving conditions, reported impacts, and disseminated critical information to partners and the public. Their proactive coordination ensured timely communication and enhanced community safety throughout the storm response and recovery. Local emergency management offices also shared information via social media. As an example, in anticipation of the forecasted severe weather, the City of Fargo's Communications and Government Affairs team coordinated a comprehensive public information campaign to ensure timely and consistent messaging. Partnering with city departments, they developed targeted messages reminding residents to check sump pumps and discharge water properly, a Fargo Police Department (FPD) video on vehicle safety during flash flooding, and the Fargo Fire Department reshared the FPD video with added guidance urging residents to stay indoors and away from windows to prevent injury from flying debris and broken glass.

The NWS provided proactive support by hosting a webinar and issuing detailed weather briefing packets. These resources highlighted key areas of concern and potential impacts, ensuring emergency managers and partners were well-prepared ahead of the storm. The NWS supported the North Dakota Watch Center by embedding staff on-site beyond their normal scheduled hours to ensure continuity of information and provide a shift brief-out. Their presence allowed for real-time updates, forecasts, and coordination during critical periods of the event. Following their on-site support, NWS staff remained immediately available on-call for any additional needs, ensuring the Watch Center could rapidly access expert guidance throughout the incident. NDDES-HSEM conducted outreach to key state agencies and emergency managers regarding forecasted severe weather and requested they report preparedness activities, potential state support needs/requirements and any storm-related impacts. Dispatchers, in coordination with local emergency management, monitored the approaching severe weather and confirmed readiness to activate warning systems if necessary.

Additionally, Stark County took proactive preparedness efforts among many others. Community gathering locations were pre-established and opened in coordination with forecasted impacts, while messaging through Everbridge and social media ensured that residents were informed and able to access the shelter, if needed. Sirens had been tested the day prior, confirming full operational status, further reinforcing the layered approach to early warning and public safety. These actions showcase just a few of the many efforts to support collaboration and coordination to ensure a safe response and recovery. First responders, including fire departments, law enforcement, and EMS personnel, worked extensively throughout the duration of the August 7-8, 2025, storm, responding to emergencies, assisting affected residents, and supporting community safety under challenging and rapidly changing conditions.

In the aftermath of the severe storm, the NWS conducted damage surveys with homeowners and validated conditions to determine the sporadic convective touchdowns. NDDES-HSEM deployed recovery staff to assess public infrastructure damages and collaborate with local emergency management offices to accurately report impacts and estimate repair costs. In response to power outages at the Anne Carlsen Center, an intermediate care facility in Jamestown, the ND Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) deployed a 100-kW generator. The American Red Cross (ARC) supported wrap around services to those that were displaced in the apartment building collapse in addition to several other homeowners that had significant damage to their homes. The ARC also conducted home damage surveys and distributed information on resources to those with damages. Electric cooperatives and utility companies across the state responded swiftly to restore power and ensure public safety.

This storm severely impacted electric cooperatives across the state, highlighting the resilience and commitment of these organizations in the face of repeated severe weather events. Minnkota Power Cooperative, which serves as a wholesale power supplier to several cooperatives in the region, faced significant damage to its transmission infrastructure. The widespread power outages across North Dakota, impacting both urban and rural communities, highlights the critical role of electric

cooperatives in storm response. With numerous poles and electrical infrastructure downed, damaged, or destroyed, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Northern Plains Electric Cooperative, Nodak Electric Cooperative, and Mountrail-Williams Electric Cooperative mobilized crews to address widespread damage, often revisiting areas that had already required previous restoration from earlier storms this year.

Basin Electric Power Cooperative supported these efforts, providing coordination and technical assistance to help restore service as quickly and safely as possible. These efforts demonstrate the resilience, dedication, and collaboration of North Dakota's electric utilities in maintaining essential energy services during repeated severe weather events. Crews worked tirelessly to restore services. Basin Electric Power Cooperative's Transmission Systems Maintenance (TSM) team assisted in repairing storm-damaged equipment, demonstrating the collaborative efforts among cooperatives to restore power. This collective effort was shared among many electrical organizations when responding to this event.

Long-term Implication of Recent Disasters

On July 21, 2025, the State of North Dakota submitted a request for a Major Disaster Declaration related to a series of severe storms, straight line winds, and tornadoes that impacted 19 counties across the state from June 20-21, 2025. Combined with the impacts of these storms on August 7-8, 2025, severe storm systems have caused compounding and catastrophic impacts across central and eastern North Dakota this summer season. Both storm systems tracked across nearly identical areas, including Barnes, Stutsman, Kidder, and Griggs Counties, leaving these jurisdictions reeling from repeated devastation within less than two months. The June event, classified as a rare derecho, produced over 20 confirmed tornadoes, hurricane-force winds, and widespread infrastructure destruction. Before recovery efforts from this disaster could progress, the August outbreak brought additional straight-line winds approaching 100 mph, coupled with 13 confirmed tornadoes, which further damaged homes, farms, utilities, and critical infrastructure. The overlapping impact zones have left residents, local governments, and rural electric cooperatives with unprecedented recovery burdens, as temporary repairs and initial stabilization efforts were undone by the second disaster.

The long-term implications for these communities are severe and far-reaching. Agricultural producers in the affected areas sustained extensive losses from both events, with the June storm destroying between 50 and 80 million bushels of grain storage capacity, while the August storm further compromised standing crops, storage systems, and farm infrastructure during a critical period leading up to harvest. Shelterbelts and mature tree coverage, essential for soil conservation and wind protection, were heavily damaged in June and suffered additional destruction in August, leaving long-term vulnerabilities to soil erosion and extreme winter weather conditions.

Repairing and replacing electric infrastructure is an extremely costly and time-consuming process, often requiring significant coordination between utility companies, contractors, and government agencies. Across North Dakota, electric infrastructure has been repeatedly weakened by year-round

extreme weather events, including severe storms, ice accumulations, wildfire, high winds, and flooding. Since 1953, North Dakota has received 73 federal disaster declarations, 69 of which included extreme weather episodes with most of the events significantly impacting electrical infrastructure. These events not only damaged physical components such as transmission lines, substations, and transformers but also disrupted service to thousands of residents and critical facilities. As mentioned above, the August 7^{th}-8^{th} storms damaged 25 large 345 KV H Structures used for electric transmission with an average cost of $200,000 per structure to fully replace.

According to the ND Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDaREC), North Dakota RECs are Private Non-Profit Organizations which means that to cover the costs of disaster repairs to their infrastructure, they are required to either raise their monthly rates or add storm recovery fees to their service areas because they do not generate revenue otherwise. Without raising rates or adding fees, the RECs would not be able to repair their storm damages and would likely go bankrupt. Furthermore, many of the areas serviced by RECs in North Dakota are considered frontier, meaning they contain fewer than six people per square mile, so increasing service fees to address disaster damages would fall on a significantly small, rural population. According to research conducted by the NDaREC, the average cost that would be charged to a rural resident served by an REC, in order to pay for $1 million worth of storm damages/repairs, would range between $25 to $75 per month until the costs have been recouped over time.

The cumulative effect of multiple extreme events places additional strain on repair and maintenance efforts, increases the likelihood of prolonged outages, and drives up costs for both utilities and ratepayers. Repeated damage can accelerate the aging of infrastructure, making the system more vulnerable to future weather events and complicating long-term planning for resilient and reliable electricity delivery. Rural electric cooperatives, already facing $8.4 million in estimated damages from the June 20-21 event, absorbed further losses in August, creating long-term financial stress that will ultimately be incurred by small, rural customer service areas through increased utility rates or storm recovery fees.

If North Dakota can utilize federal funding to aid in covering recovery costs for impacted electric cooperatives, it will reduce the overall financial burden on individual taxpayers and utility customers. Without federal support, cooperatives will need to recover the full cost of electrical damage from these August 7^{th} – 8^{th} storms, currently estimated at $5.5 million, by raising rates or adding fees. Using federal dollars ensures that the necessary repairs can be completed without forcing rural families already experiencing extreme recovery costs to pay more for essential electricity services. This approach supports economic stability and helps communities recover more quickly without placing extreme costs on consumers.

The State of North Dakota does have a Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) that assists with emergency operation costs and to cover the state cost share of disaster related response, recovery and mitigation activities. Costs from previous disasters are projected to reduce the state's DRF to approximately $11.5 million for the 2025-2027 biennium, without accounting for any costs from these recent storms. This storm,

coupled with the June 20-21st event, will far exceed any remaining DRF funds and leave impacted communities and utilities to bear the costs of this extreme event.

Communities restoring critical services and clearing widespread debris are now facing a renewed cycle of destruction and prolonged recovery timelines. Without federal support, these repeated severe weather events will create a disproportionate financial burden on rural property owners, jeopardize agricultural productivity for years to come, and compromise the resilience of North Dakota communities already operating at the margins of recovery.

Commitment to Resilience

NDDES – HSEM maintains and prioritizes a commitment to resilience through the lifecycle of the SEOP which includes the ND Enhanced Mitigation Mission Area Operations Plan (MAOP). This plan highlights the state's strong partnerships and broad engagement with stakeholders showcasing a whole of community and whole of government approach to mitigation. Beyond maintaining an enhanced status plan, North Dakota also participates in the Program Administered by State (PAS) pilot program with full approval for all delegated authorities. These authorities position NDDES–HSEM to play an active role in every stage of mitigation and recovery, fostering an adaptable and forward-thinking environment for carrying out both pre- and post-disaster mitigation programs.

North Dakota continues to be a leader in mitigation with great success in recent mitigation grant program applications. Since 1997, North Dakota has implemented 522 mitigation actions with a total of $320,531,698.21 spent on mitigation within the state. Pew Charitable trusts and the National Institute of Building Science identified in 2020 that the use of effective mitigation projects, such as those used in ND, can save $6.54 in long term response and recovery costs for every $1 invested. This savings brings the state into the highest category of savings in the country with a total of $2,096,277,306.29 saved.

Many of the projects completed through the ND Hazard Mitigation program are funded by the disaster-based Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). North Dakota holds an enhanced status mitigation plan, which provides 20% of the total dollar amount of the disaster to be used specifically toward completing mitigation projects. The HMGP program has funded numerous generators, storm shelters, flood protection projects, planning efforts, and early warning sirens throughout the state. In order to address the frequent damages to electric infrastructure, ND has used the HMGP to fund an Electrical Power System Mitigation Support study which has now been added as an annex to the MAOP. Federal mitigation programs are essential to the overall success of North Dakota's mitigation efforts. These programs provide the funding and structure needed to implement projects that reduce risk and build long-term resilience. Mitigation projects add value and strengthen emergency management offices for every phase of disasters by lessening impacts, expediting recovery, and supporting preparedness initiatives.

Conclusion

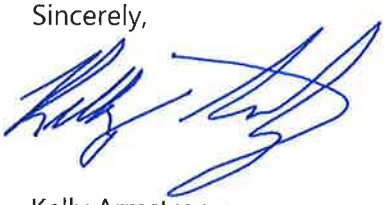
Pursuant to 44 CFR§206.36, I have determined that the severe summer storms which occurred from August 7th, 2025, to August 8th, 2025, were of such severity and magnitude that effective response and recovery are beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local jurisdictions. For the reasons described in this letter and its supporting documentation, I respectfully request that you declare a major disaster for the State of North Dakota with an incident period of August 7th, 2025, to August 8th, 2025, for Barnes, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, Steele, and Stutsman Counties. The current expected costs for this disaster event are expected to exceed $6 million total, of which $5,987,620 in damages to electrical infrastructure have already been validated by FEMA Region VIII as part of our Preliminary Damage Assessment. With our current state per capita threshold being $1,472,488, the estimated cost for this event is over 4 times our current threshold.

As in previous disasters, I am also requesting North Dakota be designated as a Public Assistance Managing State By performing State Led Public Assistance, the State of North Dakota will efficiently implement the Public Assistance program on behalf of our communities while also keeping the overall costs for managing this disaster as low as possible. Additionally, I am also requesting that the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program be implemented on a statewide basis. Since our state maintains both Enhanced Mitigation Plan Status and PAS Status, I know our state will effectively use any available mitigation dollars to increase our state's resilience against future disaster events. I certify for this major disaster that the state and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shares of costs required by the Stafford Act 93-288.

We have designated Brigadier General Mitchell Johnson and Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Darin Hanson as the State Coordinating Officers (SCOs) for this request. They will work with FEMA to coordinate damage assessments and may provide further information or justifications on my behalf.

Thank you for your consideration of my request for a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration for the State of North Dakota and for your continued support as we recover from continuous disaster conditions.

Sincerely,



Kelly Armstrong
Governor

Enclosures: Enclosure A: Request for a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration
Enclosure B: Preliminary Damage Assessment Findings

Attachment A: Jurisdictions Impacted by the August 7-8, 2025 Severe Summer Storms
Attachment B: NWS Summary of the August 7-8, 2025 Weather Event
Attachment C: State Climatologist Report of the August 7-8, 2025 Summer Storms
Attachment D: ND Presidential Declarations Map (1993 – 2025)

CC: Senator John Hoeven
Senator Kevin Cramer
Representative Julie Fedorchak
Brig. Gen. Mitchell R Johnson Director, North Dakota Department of Emergency Services
Darin Hanson, Director, North Dakota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Justin Messner, Disaster Recovery Chief, North Dakota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Federal Emergency Management Agency

REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY

OMB Control Number 1660-0009
Expires 06/30/2026

1. Request Date Sep 4, 2025

Burden Disclosure Notice

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 9 hours per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and submitting the form. This collection of information is required to obtain a benefit. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (1660-0009). **NOTE: Do not send your completed form to this address.**

Completion of this form including applicable attachments satisfies legal requirements for emergency and major disaster declaration requests under 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170 and 5191, respectively, as implemented at 44 C.F.R.. §§ 206.35 and 206.36. Failure to use this form may result in a failure to meet these requirements and/or a delay in processing the request.

2a. Name of State (as defined in Stafford Act 102, 42 U.S.C. § 5122) or Indian tribal government requesting declaration.	2b. Population (as reported by 2020 Census) or estimated population of Indian tribal government's damaged area(s).
State of North Dakota	779,094

3. Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Name	4. Designation of State or Tribal Coordinating Officer upon declaration (if available) and phone number
Governor Kelly Armstrong	BG Mitchell R. Johnson, Director, ND Dept of Emergency Services, 701-333-2300

5. Designation of Governor's Authorized Representative or Tribal Chief Executive Representative upon declaration (if available) and phone number
Darin Hanson, Director, Division of Homeland Security, 701-328-8165

6. Declaration Request For: ☒ Major Disaster (Stafford Act Sec. 401) ☐ Emergency (Stafford Act Sec. 501 (a))

7. Incident Period: Beginning Date Aug 7, 2025 End Date Aug 8, 2025 or ☐ Continuing

If requesting a "continuing" incident period, enclose an official statement from a qualified Federal Government agency acknowledged as a national authority in a specific incident field (e.g., United States Geological Survey for seismic incidents, the National Weather Service for flooding).

7b. Type of Incident (Check all that apply)

☐ Drought ☐ Earthquake ☐ Explosion ☐ Fire ☐ Flood ☐ Hurricane ☐ Landslide ☐ Mudslide
☒ Severe Storm (rain, high water, wind-driven, rain, hail, lightning) ☐ Snowstorm (Must include Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data) ☒ Straight-Line Winds
☐ Tidal Wave ☒ Tornado ☐ Tropical Depression ☐ Tropical Storm ☐ Tsunami ☐ Volcanic Eruption ☐ Winter Storm
☐ Other (please specify) _____

8. Description of damages (Short description of impacts of disaster on affected area and population). Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
The State of North Dakota requests a major disaster declaration for debris removal, emergency protective measures, electrical infrastructure damage, and public building damage caused by severe storms, straight-line winds, and tornadoes that impacted the state from August 7-8, 2025. This severe storm system blanketed the State of North Dakota with heavy rains, winds in excess of 100 MPH, and 13 confirmed tornadoes that caused significant damages and impacts to 7 ND counties that exceeded their per capita impact thresholds. Approximately $6.08 million in response costs, debris removal, electrical infrastructure damage, and public building damage were submitted during the preliminary damage assessment process, and FEMA has validated $5.98 million in damages from this event as identified in Enclosure B of this request.

9. Description of the nature and amount of State and local or Indian tribal government resources which have been or will be committed. Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
North Dakota enacted a whole of government approach with public and private partners to respond to this event. ND Health and Human Services (NDHHS) monitored and coordinated with long-term care centers and health and medical facilities that were on backup generator power, and provided a 100 kw generator to the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown. The Red Cross assisted with shelter support and resources for displaced individuals and homeowners with significant property damage. ND Department of Emergency Services (NDDES) coordinated efforts with other state agencies, the NWS, and local emergency managers to maintain inter-agency situational awareness and provides resources when requested. NDDES coordinated with impacted power companies to understand the scope of power outages, restoration estimates, and extent of damages. Electric Cooperatives and trasminssion organizations worked together to complete emergency repairs and restore power as quickly as possible.

10. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment*

☐ Individual Assistance Dates Performed **Requested** _____ **Start** _____ **End** _____

Individual Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

☒ Public Assistance Dates Performed **Requested** Aug 21, 2025 **Start** Aug 27, 2025 **End** Aug 28, 2025

Public Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

11. Programs and Areas Requested

Individual Assistance ☒ N/A ☐ Individuals and Households Program ☐ Crisis Counseling Program ☐ Disaster Unemployment Assistance

☐ All ☐ Disaster Case Management ☐ Disaster Legal Services ☐ Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)) If additional space is needed, please enclose additional documentation).

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes in the requested counties (if applicable).

Please see **Enclosure A: Supplemental Information for Individual Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*.

**Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request*

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Public Assistance ☐ N/A ☒ Debris Removal (Category A) ☒ Emergency Protective Measures (Category B) ☒ Permanent Work (Categories C-G)* (not available for Emergency Declaration Requests)

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)). If additional space is needed or your request includes different categories of work for different jurisdictions; please enclose additional documentation.
Counties that exceeded their per capita impact threshold include Barnes, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, Steele, and Stutsman

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes included in the requested counties (if applicable).
N/A

Please see **Enclosure B: Supplemental Information for Public Assistance** for additional information in support of this request*.

Indemnification for Debris Removal Activity

☐ I do not anticipate the need for debris removal.

☒ I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b & 5173, the State or Indian tribal government agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State or Indian tribal government agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

Request for Direct Federal Assistance

☒ I do not request direct Federal assistance at this time.

☐ I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property, and:

a. I request the following type(s) of assistance:

b. List of reasons why State and local or Indian tribal government cannot perform, or contract for, required work and services.

c. In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.208, the State or Indian tribal government agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work; (3) Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State or FEMA-Tribe Agreement ; and (4) Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.

Request for Snow Assistance

☒ N/A ☐ I request snow assistance.

Snow assistance for the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas).

Please see **Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data** for additional information in support of this request*.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Hazard Mitigation* ☒ Statewide **OR**

For the following specific counties, parishes, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas.

12. Mitigation Plan Information*

a. Mitigation Plan Expiration Date February 4, 2029 b. Type of Plan ☒ Enhanced ☐ Standard

13. Other Federal Agency Programs

☒ I do not anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies ☐ I do anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies

Please see **Enclosure C:** Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs for additional information in support of this request*.

14. Findings and Certifications

☒ I certify the following:

a. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local government or Indian tribal government and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary.

b. In response to this incident, I have taken appropriate action under State or tribal law and have directed the execution of the State or Tribal Emergency Plan on Sep 2, 2025 in accordance with the Stafford Act.

c. The State and local governments, or Indian tribal government will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

15. List of Enclosures and Supporting Documentation

☒ Cover Letter ☐ Enclosure A (Individual Assistance)* ☒ Enclosure B (Public Assistance)*

☐ Enclosure C (Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs) ☐ Enclosure D (Historic and Current Snowfall Data)

☒ Additional Supporting Documentation A: Jurisdictions Impacted, B: NWS Analysis, C: State Climatologist Report, D: ND Declarations

Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Signature

9/4/2025
Date

If anyone except the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive signs this document, please provide the documentation that establishes that this individual has the legal authority to act on behalf of the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive.

Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request

FEMA

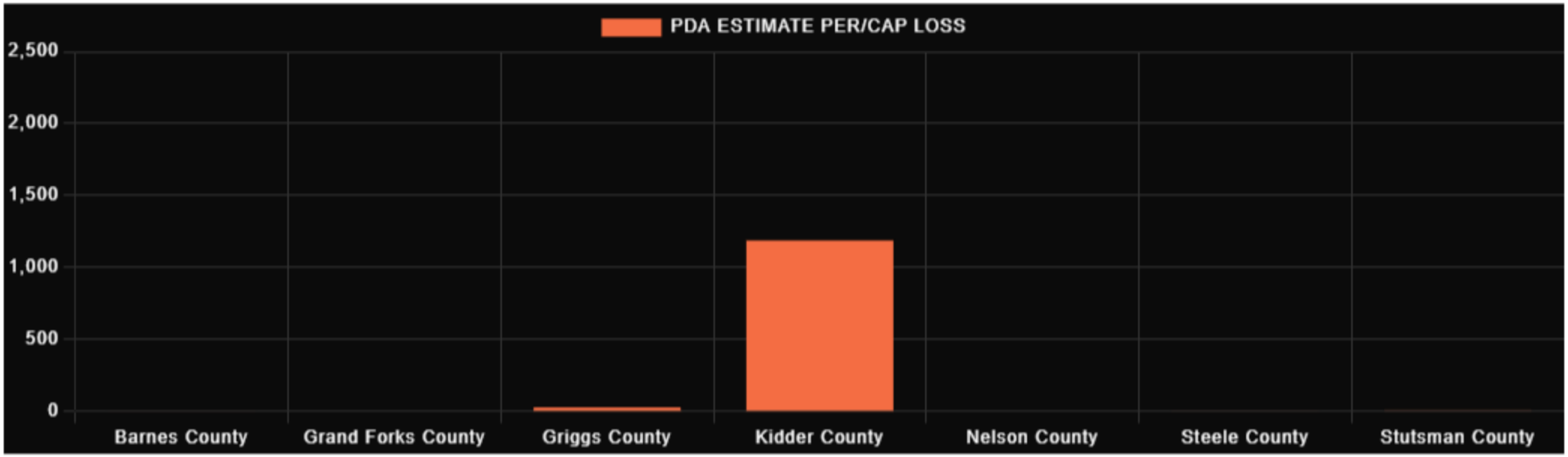
Master Summary Report

North Dakota

Search Results Summary

Query Results Date/Time:	Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 1:40:59 PM MDT
Current PA PDA Survey Version In Use:	PA Version 4.1.1
Latest PDA Data Assessment Received:	08/28/2025
States/Territories:	North Dakota
Tribes:	None
PDA IDs:	R8PD195-ND
PDA Assessment Date Range:	08/27/2025 - 08/28/2025
PDA Operations Start Date:	None Selected
Date of Damage Range:	08/07/2025 - 08/08/2025
Incident Types:	Severe Storm Straight-Line Winds/Derecho Tornado

Cost Threshold Summary

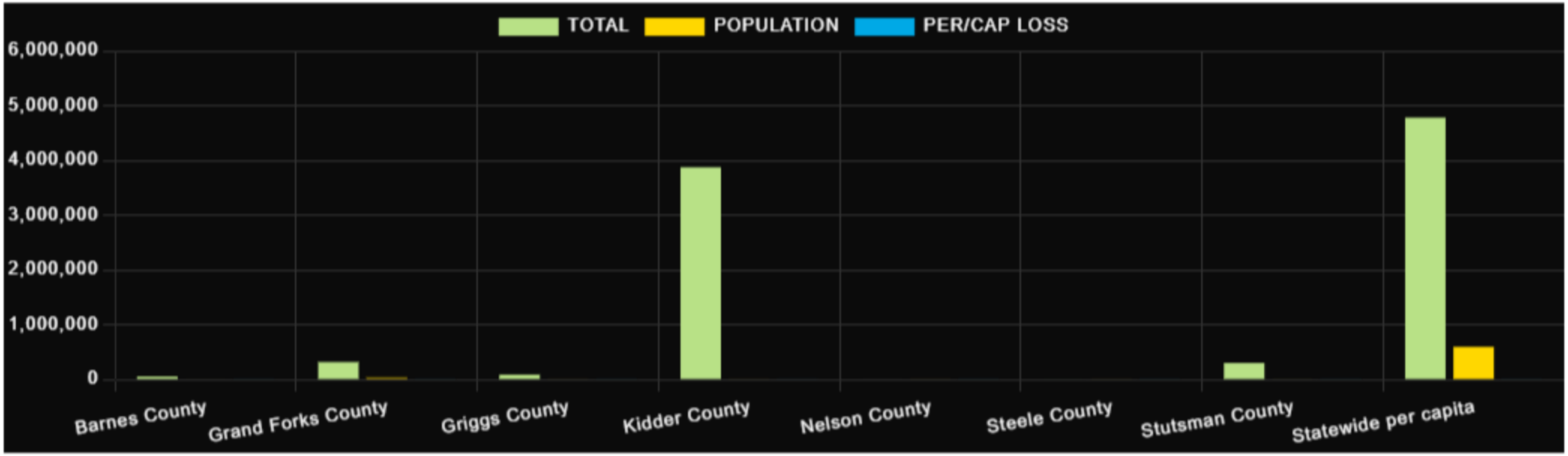


County PCI Threshold Met

<50% 50-74% 75%-99% >100%

COUNTY NAME	POPULATION	PER CAPITA IMPACT INDICATOR	COUNTY THRESHOLD	PDA ESTIMATE	PDA ESTIMATE PER/CAP LOSS
Barnes County	10,853	$4.72	$51,226.16	$103,010.00	$9.49
Grand Forks County	73,170	$4.72	$345,362.40	$431,834.00	$5.90
Griggs County	2,306	$4.72	$10,884.32	$145,629.00	$63.15
Kidder County	2,394	$4.72	$11,299.68	$4,858,774.00	$2,029.56
Nelson County	3,015	$4.72	$14,230.80	$17,496.00	$5.80
Steele County	1,798	$4.72	$8,486.56	$19,585.00	$10.89
Stutsman County	21,593	$4.72	$101,918.96	$411,292.00	$19.05
Statewide per capita	779,094	$1.89	$1,472,487.66	$5,987,620.00	$7.69

State Summary



COUNTY NAME	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POP.	PER/ CAP LOSS
Barnes County	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	10,853	$9.49
Grand Forks County	$226,921.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$13,652.00	$191,261.00	$0.00	$431,834.00	73,170	$5.90
Griggs County	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$145,629.00	$0.00	$145,629.00	2,306	$63.15
Kidder County	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	2,394	$2,029.56
Nelson County	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	3,015	$5.80
Steele County	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	1,798	$10.89
Stutsman County	$164,505.00	$4,993.00	$0.00	$0.00	$29,025.00	$202,449.00	$10,320.00	$411,292.00	21,593	$19.05
Statewide per capita	$391,426.00	$4,993.00	$0.00	$0.00	$42,677.00	$5,538,204.00	$10,320.00	$5,987,620.00	779,094	$7.69

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Barnes County	10,853	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	10,853	$9.49
TOTAL:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	$0.00	$103,010.00	10,853	$9.49

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Grand Forks County	73,170	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
CITY OF EMERADO	$15,637.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$15,637.00	73,170	$0.21
CITY OF GRAND FORKS	$159,003.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$159,003.00	73,170	$2.17
CITY OF THOMPSON	$8,733.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$13,652.00	$0.00	$0.00	$22,385.00	73,170	$0.31
GRAND FORKS PARKS DISTRICT	$43,548.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$43,548.00	73,170	$0.60
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$95,711.00	$0.00	$95,711.00	73,170	$1.31
NODAK POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$95,550.00	$0.00	$95,550.00	73,170	$1.31
TOTAL:	$226,921.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$13,652.00	$191,261.00	$0.00	$431,834.00	73,170	$5.91

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Griggs County	2,306	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$82,731.00	$0.00	$82,731.00	2,306	$35.88
NODAK POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$62,898.00	$0.00	$62,898.00	2,306	$27.28
TOTAL:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$145,629.00	$0.00	$145,629.00	2,306	$63.16

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Kidder County	2,394	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	2,394	$2,029.56
TOTAL:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	$0.00	$4,858,774.00	2,394	$2,029.56

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Nelson County	3,015	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	3,015	$5.80
TOTAL:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	$0.00	$17,496.00	3,015	$5.80

PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Steele County	1,798	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
NODAK POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	1,798	$10.89
TOTAL:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	$0.00	$19,585.00	1,798	$10.89

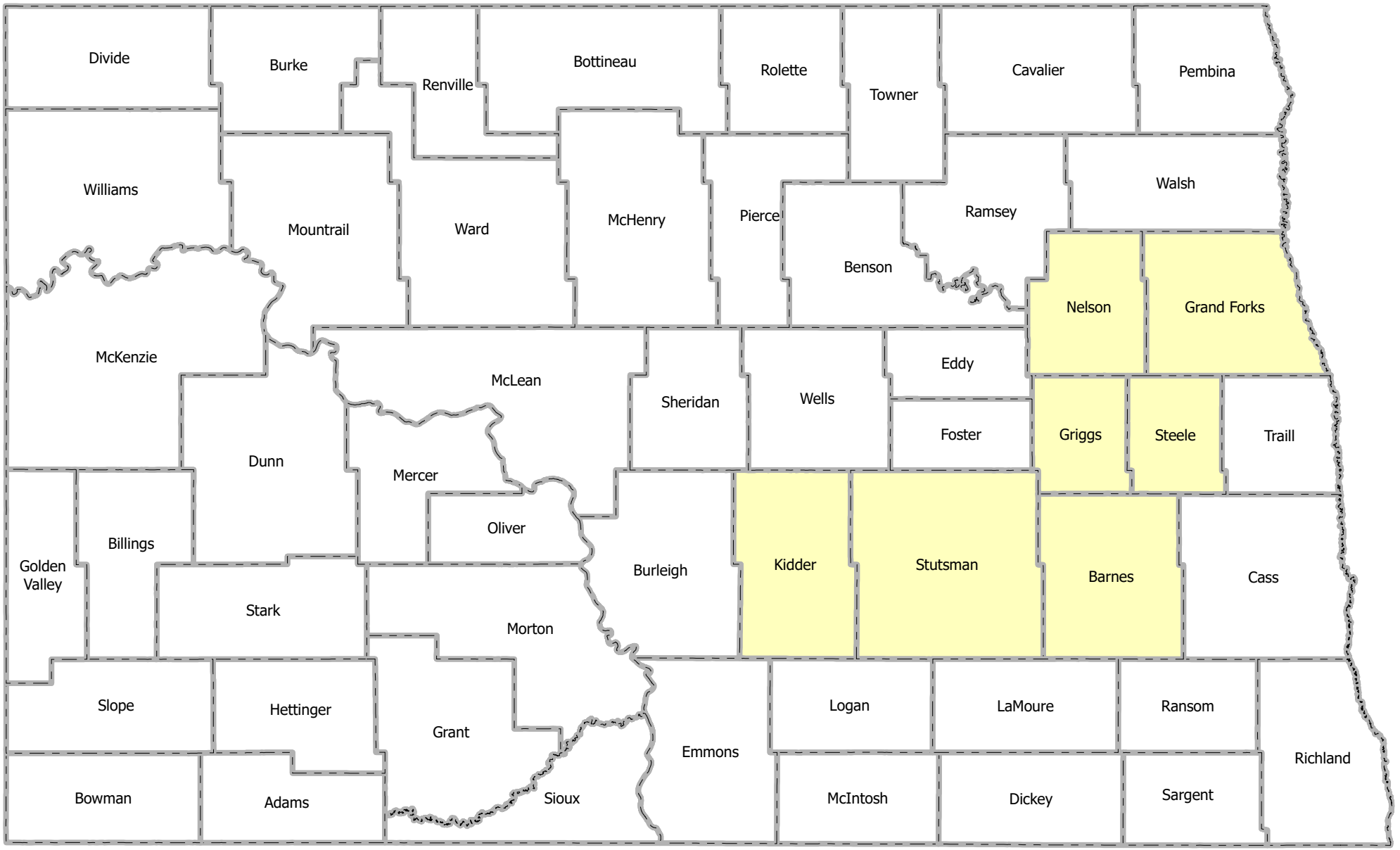
PDA Conducted	County of	County Population	State/Territory
8-27-2025 - 8-28-2025	Stutsman County	21,593	North Dakota

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
CITY OF JAMESTOWN	$94,857.00	$4,993.00	$0.00	$0.00	$29,025.00	$0.00	$0.00	$128,875.00	21,593	$5.97
JAMESTOWN PARKS AND REC	$69,648.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$10,320.00	$79,968.00	21,593	$3.70

APPLICANT	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY B	CATEGORY C	CATEGORY D	CATEGORY E	CATEGORY F	CATEGORY G	TOTAL	POPULATION	PER/CAP LOSS
MINNKOTA POWER	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$202,449.00	$0.00	$202,449.00	21,593	$9.38
TOTAL:	$164,505.00	$4,993.00	$0.00	$0.00	$29,025.00	$202,449.00	$10,320.00	$411,292.00	21,593	$19.05

Attachment A:
Jurisdictions Impacted by the
August 7-8, 2025 Severe Summer Storms

Attachment A: Jurisdictions Impacted by the August 7-8, 2025 Severe Summer Storms



Attachment B:

NWS Summary –
August 7-8, 2025 Severe Summer Storms

NOAA/National Weather Service
Bismarck and Grand Forks, North Dakota Weather Forecast Offices

NDDES Summary for Significant Severe Weather and Tornadoes

August 7 - 8, 2025

Issued: August 27, 2025 2:00 PM CDT

1. Overview

On August 7-8, 2025, a significant severe weather event impacted much of North Dakota, producing large hail, significant damaging winds, and tornadoes. Severe thunderstorms initially began over northern North Dakota the evening of August 7th, producing large hail and damaging winds, while additional thunderstorms moved into western North Dakota from Montana by late evening. These storms formed into several distinct lines, then intensified further as they moved into south central North Dakota, merging into one intense squall line. That squall line then moved through parts of south central and eastern North Dakota during the early morning hours of August 8th. The squall line produced destructive straight line wind gusts of 70 to 100 mph and embedded tornadoes that caused widespread tree damage, severe structural damage, and power outages. Peak measured wind gusts included 83 mph near Kensal in Stutsman county, and 91 mph at the Grand Forks Air Force Base near Mekinock in Grand Forks County.

The highest concentration of significant damage was in parts of south central and eastern North Dakota, including Barnes, Cass, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, Stutsman, and Walsh Counties. In Stutsman County, numerous structures sustained significant damage, including in Jamestown and near Courtenay. Damage to structures was also reported across northern Kidder County near Tuttle where a camper was destroyed, and near Pettibone, where a large, empty grain bin was rolled onto a house. Straight-line winds associated with the squall line destroyed grain bins at the Finley elevator in Steele County and Thompson elevator in Grand Forks County.

The National Weather Service storm damage survey in Jamestown found that the most significant damage in that area occurred in the southern part of the city. The area with the greatest damage was generally between Foxtrot Road on the west and 10th Avenue East on the east, resulting in a path length of approximately two miles. The width of the greatest damage stretched from near 17th Street on the south end to around 11th Street on the north, approximately one-half mile. At the start of the greatest damage in the vicinity of Meidinger Park a pontoon boat was flipped, a tree was uprooted, multiple smaller trees were either snapped or had significant branches broken off, and a camper was pushed off its blocks. Towards the east near the intersection of 14th Avenue SW and 17th Street SW, a manufactured home had its roofing material uplifted, and larger spruce trees were uprooted. Further east, near the Interstate 94 Business Loop, multiple trees were uprooted. Along 17th Street SE, the metal roof panels blew off the east side of a building towards the northeast and across the road. At McElroy Park and areas surrounding it, many trees were uprooted, with some smaller to medium size trees

snapped. To the east near the intersection of 14th Street SE and 8th Avenue SE, an L-shaped building had its east side roofing panels blown off. Based on the damage, it was determined that straight line thunderstorm winds caused the damage, with speeds up to 100 mph.

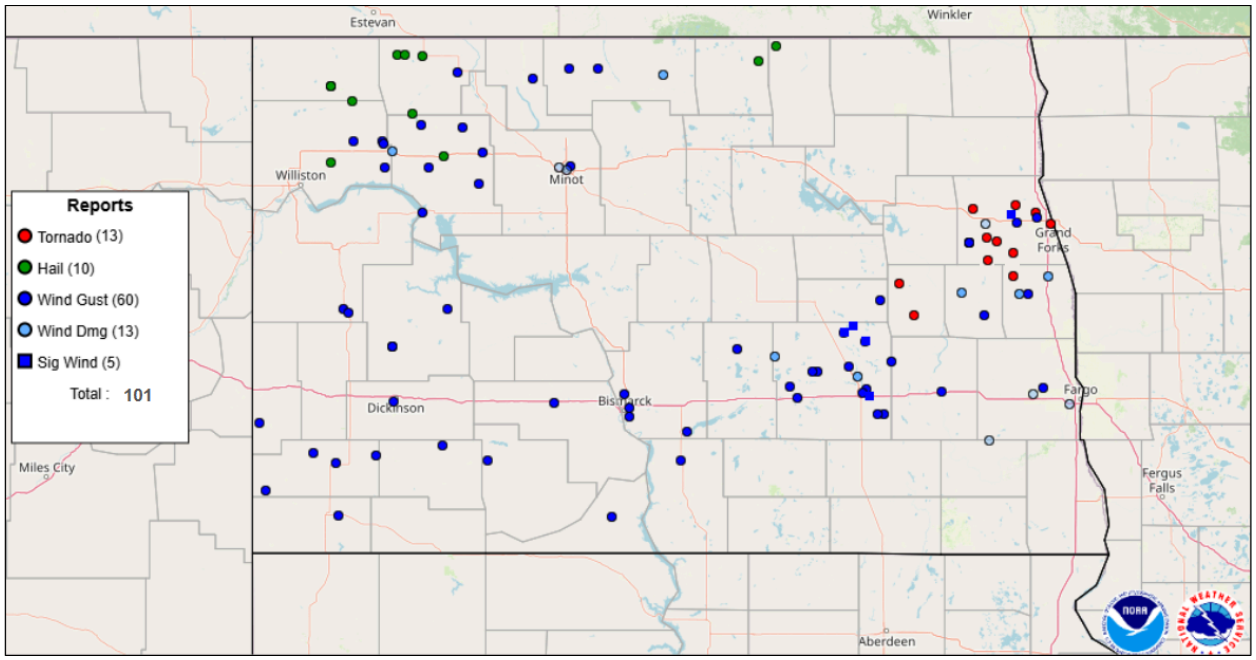
There was also significant damage to a farmstead approximately 7 miles north of Courtenay in Stutsman County. Two newer pole-barn buildings had a significant portion of the structure destroyed with collapsed walls and roofs. Another large building had multiple roof panels on its east side blown off. Multiple grain bins were damaged, one suffering very significant damage to its roofing structure. A large grain dryer was toppled when the grain leg system collapsed. Based on the damage, it was determined that straight line thunderstorm winds caused the damage, with speeds up to 100 mph.

As the squall line continued moving eastward, it began to produce tornadoes along its leading edge, in addition to continued damaging straightline winds. Thirteen tornadoes occurred in eastern North Dakota early in the morning of August 8th. Four of the tornadoes were rated as EF0, and nine of the tornadoes received damage ratings of EF1 with peak estimated winds of 95 to 110 mph. This included an EF1 rated tornado with a 4.1 mile long track and peak estimated winds of 100 mph that impacted parts of the city of Grand Forks with an intermittent path through town, and concentrated damage in the south side of the city. Another one of the tornadoes near Hannaford in Griggs County had a path length of 1.1 miles, and destroyed a pole barn. The other tornadoes damaged pivot irrigation systems, crops, and trees.

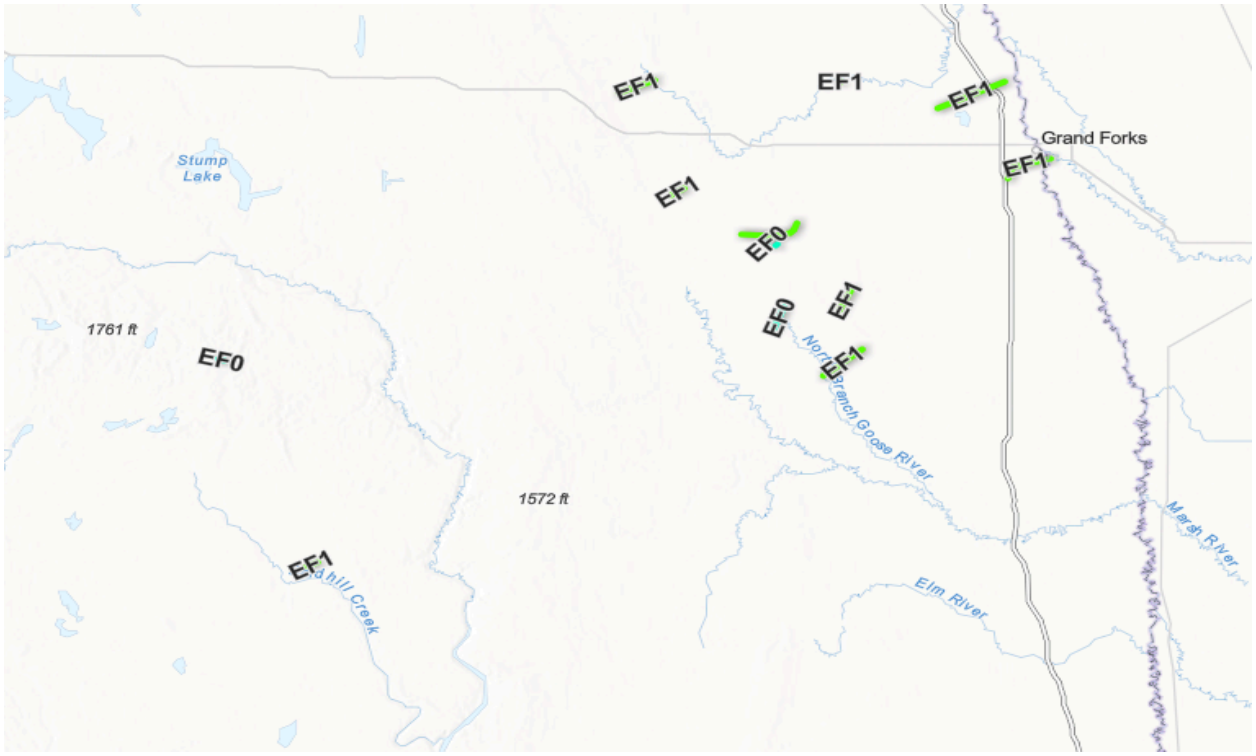
2. Weather Set-Up

A warm front moved north through North Dakota during the afternoon and evening hours of August 7th as an area of low pressure developed in eastern Montana. Dewpoints across the state were in the 60s to lower 70s, contributing to the development of an unstable air mass. Initially, a warm layer of air aloft called a “cap” prevented thunderstorm development, but that also led to further enhancement of the very unstable atmosphere. During the evening of August 7th, a disturbance in the middle and upper portions of the atmosphere provided enough “lift” to overcome the “cap”, and severe thunderstorms developed in northern and western North Dakota. As the disturbance moved eastward, what was initially three distinct lines of severe thunderstorms eventually merged into a single squall line across central North Dakota. The initial merging of the three separate lines of storms led to the intense and pronounced wind damage in parts of Kidder and Stutsman Counties. Once the storms had merged, the squall line moved through a continued very unstable atmosphere that also contained strong wind shear, which led to additional significant winds and embedded tornadoes in eastern North Dakota early in the morning of August 8th.

3. Reports



***Above**: Local storm reports across the state of North Dakota from August 7-8, 2025.*



***Above:** Tornado tracks for tornadoes with identifiable path lengths, along with associated EF rating.*

Chronological listing of tornadoes in North Dakota on August 8th, 2025. (Note that all tornadoes in this event occurred on the 8th).

Start and End Times (CDT)	***Location***	***County***	***EF-Scale Rating***	***Path Length (Miles)***
3:04 - 3:05 AM	Hannaford North	Griggs	EF1	1.1
3:06 - 3:07 AM	Red Willow	Griggs	EF0	0.6
3:47 - 3:51 AM	Southeast Northwood	Grand Forks	EF0	2.1
3:47 - 3:53 AM	East Hatton	Traill	EF1	3.9
3:48 - 3:50 AM	Larimore South	Grand Forks	EF1	1.3
3:48 - 3:51 AM	McCanna	Grand Forks	EF1	3
3:51 - 3:58 AM	Kempton East	Grand Forks	EF1	4.8
3:53 - 3:56 AM	West Holmes	Grand Forks	EF1	2
3:54 - 3:55 AM	Pleasant View #1	Grand Forks	EF0	0.2
3:57 AM	Pleasant View #2	Grand Forks	EF0	0.2
4:05 - 4:06 AM	Mekinok	Grand Forks	EF1	0.1
4:12 - 4:17 AM	North of Grand Forks	Grand Forks	EF1	5.7
4:14 - 4:19 AM	Grand Forks	Grand Forks	EF1	4.1

NOAA/National Weather Service

Bismarck and Grand Forks, North Dakota Weather Forecast Offices

Chronological listing of large hail reports in North Dakota on August 7th, 2025. (Note that all large hail episodes in this event occurred on the 7th).

Time	*Event Type*	*Magnitude*	*City/County Location*
05:16 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	Rolla, Rolette County
06:20 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	4 W Hansboro, Towner County
07:15 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	8 N Corinth, Divide County
07:16 PM	Hail	1.25 Inch	3 E Columbus, Burke County
07:36 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	1 N Lignite, Burke County
07:38 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	Wildrose, Williams County
07:45 PM	Hail	1.25 Inch	Columbus, Burke County
08:12 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	1 S Epping, Williams County
08:33 PM	Hail	1.75 Inch	Powers Lake, Burke County
09:03 PM	Hail	1.00 Inch	Stanley, Mountrail County

NOAA/National Weather Service

Bismarck and Grand Forks, North Dakota Weather Forecast Offices

Chronological listing of thunderstorm wind gusts and thunderstorm wind damage reports in North Dakota on August 7th and 8th, 2025. Note that in the remarks column “N/A” denotes “Not Applicable”, meaning there were no comments included with that local storm report.

Time (CDT)	Event Type	Magnitude	City/County Location	Remarks
07:15 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	8 NNW Corinth, Divide County	Accompanied by lots of small hail and some quarter-size hail. Crop damage.
08:15 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	59 MPH	2 ESE Tioga, Williams County	N/A
08:18 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	11 S Tioga, Williams County	N/A
08:22 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	Bowbells, Burke County	The emergency manager also reported small hail the size of pennies and lots of rain. Visibility was down to around 300ft (estimated).
08:28 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	59 MPH	6 SE Powers Lake, Mountrail County	N/A
08:41 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	59 MPH	8 SW Stanley, Mountrail County	N/A
08:56 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	69 MPH	1 E 4 Bears Lodge, McKenzie County	N/A
09:07 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	68 MPH	10 E Lostwood, Mountrail County	N/A
09:15 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	58 MPH	10 NNW Plaza, Mountrail County	N/A

09:30 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	2 ESE Blaisdell, Mountrail County	N/A
09:31 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	74 MPH	3 W Mohall, Renville County	N/A
09:55 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	71 MPH	9 NW Maxbass, Bottineau County	N/A
10:15 PM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	3 W Minot, Ward County	Large tree that fell on a camper, totaling it.
10:16 PM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	Minot, Ward County	Report of a large tree that fell onto a mobile home and caused 6 large holes in the roof. Believed to have been struck by lightning.
10:17 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	62 MPH	2 NE Minot, Ward County	N/A
10:20 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	58 MPH	2 ESE Grassy Butte, McKenzie County	N/A
10:24 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	65 MPH	2 N Grassy Butte, McKenzie County	N/A
10:25 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	4 N Ray, Williams County	N/A
10:40 PM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	4 SW White Earth, Williams County	A camper-trailer was flipped on Highway 2, at the Williams County, Mountrail County line.

10:55 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	72 MPH	2 NNW Marmarth, Slope County	N/A
11:04 PM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	3 S Bottineau, Bottineau County	Power poles down.
11:14 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	58 MPH	Golva, Golden Valley County	N/A
11:15 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	64 MPH	10 WNW Amidon, Slope County	N/A
11:25 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	1 NNE Amidon, Slope County	N/A
11:30 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	62 MPH	6 S Westhope, Bottineau County	N/A
11:39 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	63 MPH	3 W Buffalo Springs, Bowman County	N/A
11:43 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	5 W New England, Slope County	N/A
11:51 PM	Tstm Wnd Gst	62 MPH	2 SW Dickinson, Stark County	N/A
12:10 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	61 MPH	10 SE Lefor, Hettinger County	N/A
12:11 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	62 MPH	4 N Halliday, Dunn County	N/A

12:34 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	9 NNW New Leipzig, Grant County	N/A
12:55 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	New Salem, Morton County	Estimated wind gust speed.
01:09 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	63 MPH	6 N Bismarck, Burleigh County	N/A
01:15 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	62 MPH	2 W Lincoln, Burleigh County	N/A
01:16 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	2 S Bismarck, Burleigh County	A 5-inch diameter cottonwood tree was snapped at the base from last night's storms.
01:18 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	68 MPH	2 NE Bismarck, Burleigh County	N/A
01:34 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	8 N Selfridge, Sioux County	N/A
01:40 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	60 MPH	1 NNW Hazelton, Emmons County	N/A
01:40 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	3 E Moffit, Burleigh County	N/A
01:50 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	61 MPH	2 NNW Robinson, Kidder County	N/A
02:10 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	63 MPH	4 NNW Medina, Stutsman County	N/A

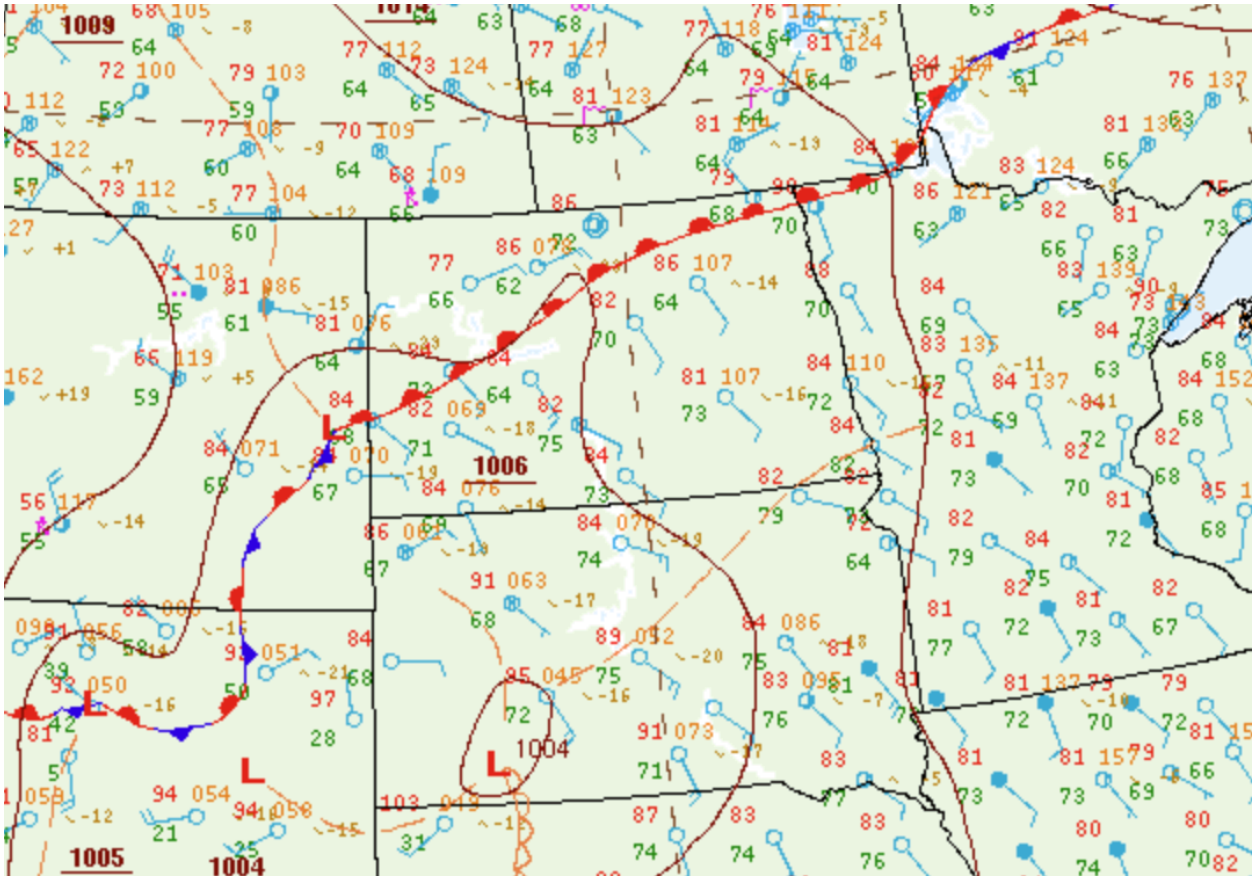
02:11 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	67 MPH	1 SE Medina, Stutsman County	N/A
02:15 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	10 N Cleveland, Stutsman County	N/A
02:17 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	68 MPH	Buchanan, Stutsman County	N/A
02:20 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	67 MPH	10 N Cleveland, Stutsman County	N/A
02:29 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	64 MPH	5 ENE Edmunds, Stutsman County	N/A
02:34 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	100 MPH	Jamestown, Stutsman County	NWS Storm Damage Survey found significant damage and determined that speeds up to 100 mph occurred. See Overview section of this report for details on the damage.
02:35 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	79 MPH	5 ENE Edmunds, Stutsman County	N/A
02:36 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	73 MPH	Jamestown, Stutsman County	N/A
02:37 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	83 MPH	3 WNW Kensal, Stutsman County	N/A
02:38 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	5 SE Buchanan, Stutsman County	Multiple power lines down in the yard and part of the shop roof off.

02:40 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	58 MPH	Ypsilanti, Stutsman County	N/A
02:40 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	57 MPH	5 NNE Jud, LaMoure County	N/A
02:41 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	69 MPH	3 NE Jamestown, Stutsman County	N/A
02:44 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	100 MPH	7 N Courtenay, Stutsman County	NWS Storm Damage Survey found significant damage and determined that speeds up to 100 mph occurred. See Overview section of this report for details on the damage.
02:45 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	77 MPH	5 W Courtenay, Stutsman County	N/A
02:45 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	78 MPH	3 ESE Jamestown, Stutsman County	N/A
02:50 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	69 MPH	2 ESE Ypsilanti, Stutsman County	N/A
02:51 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	66 MPH	5 S Wimbledon, Barnes County	N/A
02:55 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	51 MPH	11 SSW Hamar, Eddy County	N/A
02:55 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	63 MPH	1 ENE Glenfield, Foster County	N/A

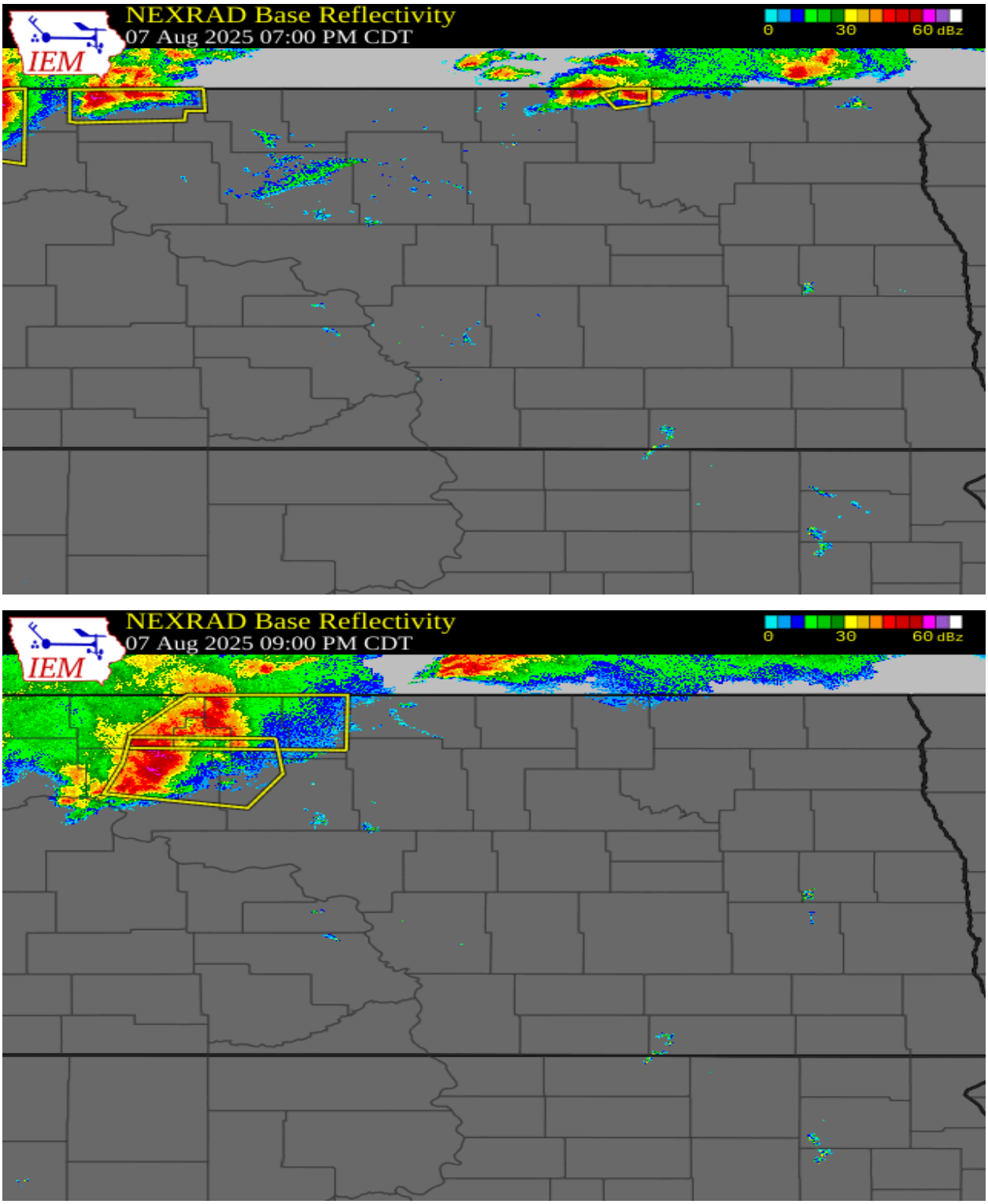
03:09 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	74 MPH	Valley City, Barnes County	N/A
03:15 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	53 MPH	2 W Cooperstown, Griggs County	N/A
03:20 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	53 MPH	5 NNE Kathryn, Barnes County	N/A
03:33 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	Finley, Steele County	Damage to a shop from strong winds.
03:36 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	63 MPH	5 NE Hope, Steele County	N/A
03:40 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	Enderlin, Ransom County	Tree damage around town, also report of a damaged play shed.
03:50 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	Casselton, Cass County	Tree damage around town.
03:50 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	58 MPH	2 E Logan Center, Grand Forks County	N/A
03:51 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	61 MPH	2 E Logan Center, Grand Forks County	N/A
03:55 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	Larimore, Grand Forks County	Tree damage around town.
03:55 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	61 MPH	3 E Mayville, Traill County	N/A

03:56 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	67 MPH	2 E Logan Center, Grand Forks County	N/A
04:00 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	75 MPH	Mayville, Traill County	Report of a power line down. Winds estimated at 75 mph.
04:03 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	1 E Buxton, Traill County	At I-29 near Buxton, a semi was reported blown over by the public.
04:12 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	59 MPH	6 WNW Grand Forks, Grand Forks County	N/A
04:12 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	91 MPH	4 SSW Mekinock, Grand Forks County	N/A
04:15 AM	Tstm Wnd Dmg	N/A	3 S West Fargo, Cass County	A tree 4-5 inches in diameter and ~ 10 ft tall was reported down.
04:20 AM	Tstm Wnd Gst	74 MPH	Emerado, Grand Forks County	N/A

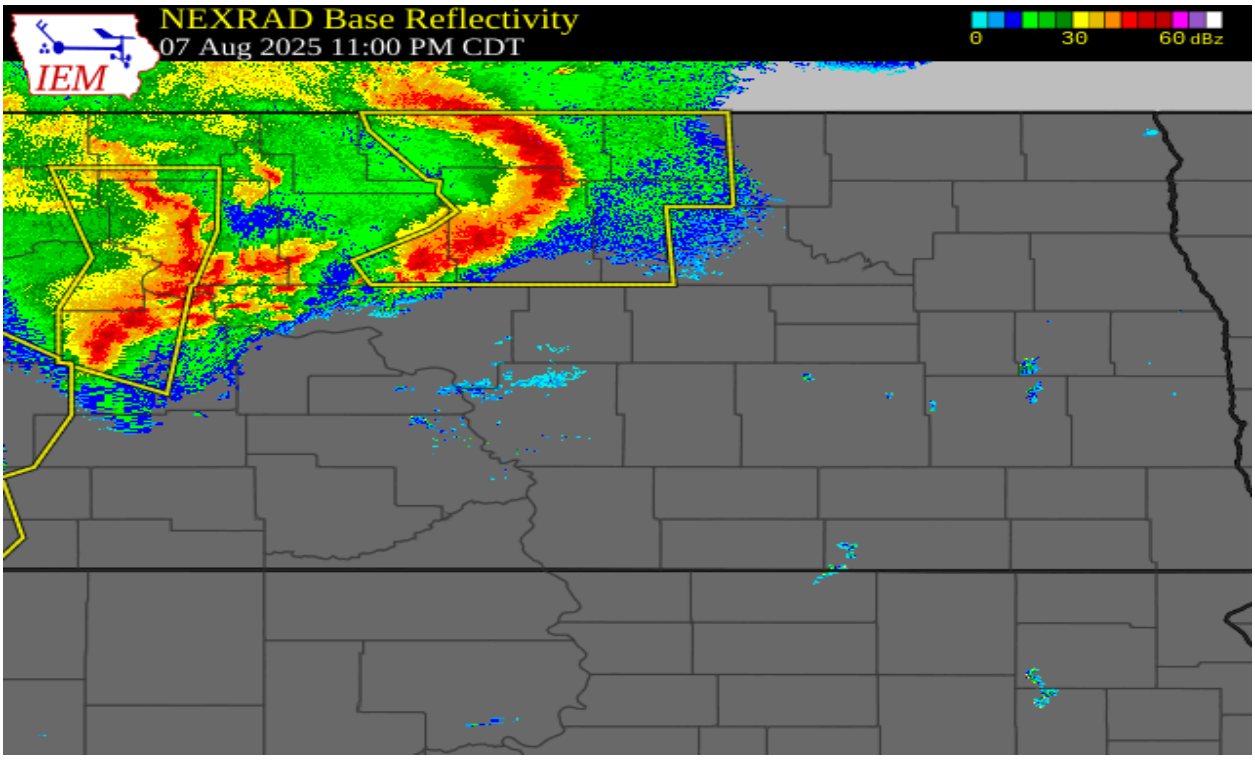
4. Supporting Data

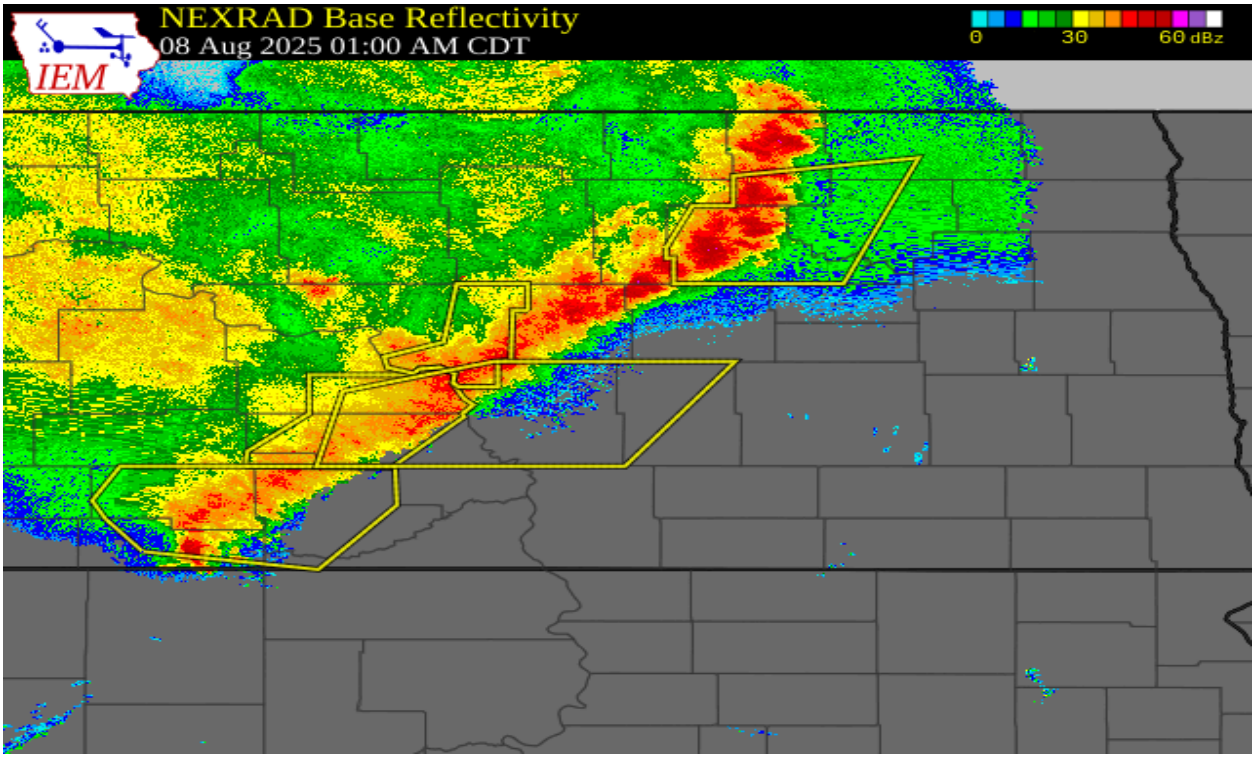


Surface weather observations and analysis valid Thursday evening, August 7th, showing the warm front extending across North Dakota and an area of low pressure in eastern Montana.

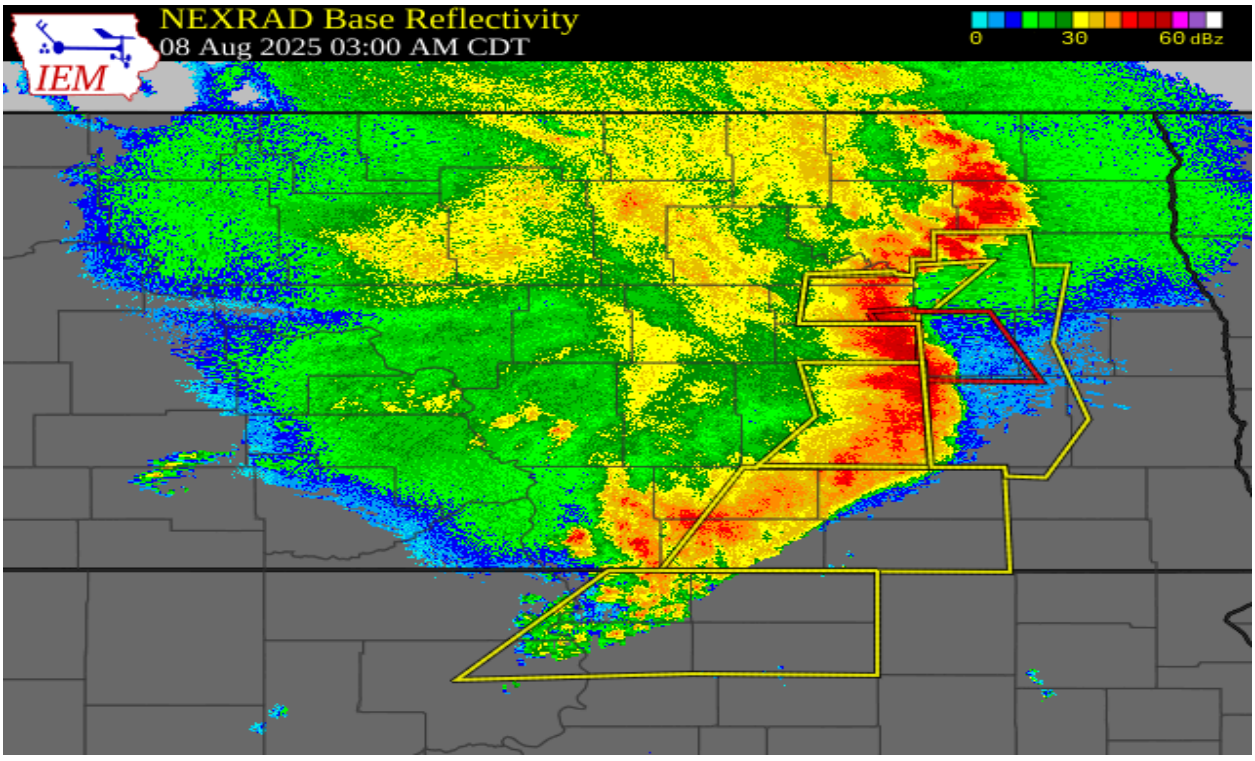


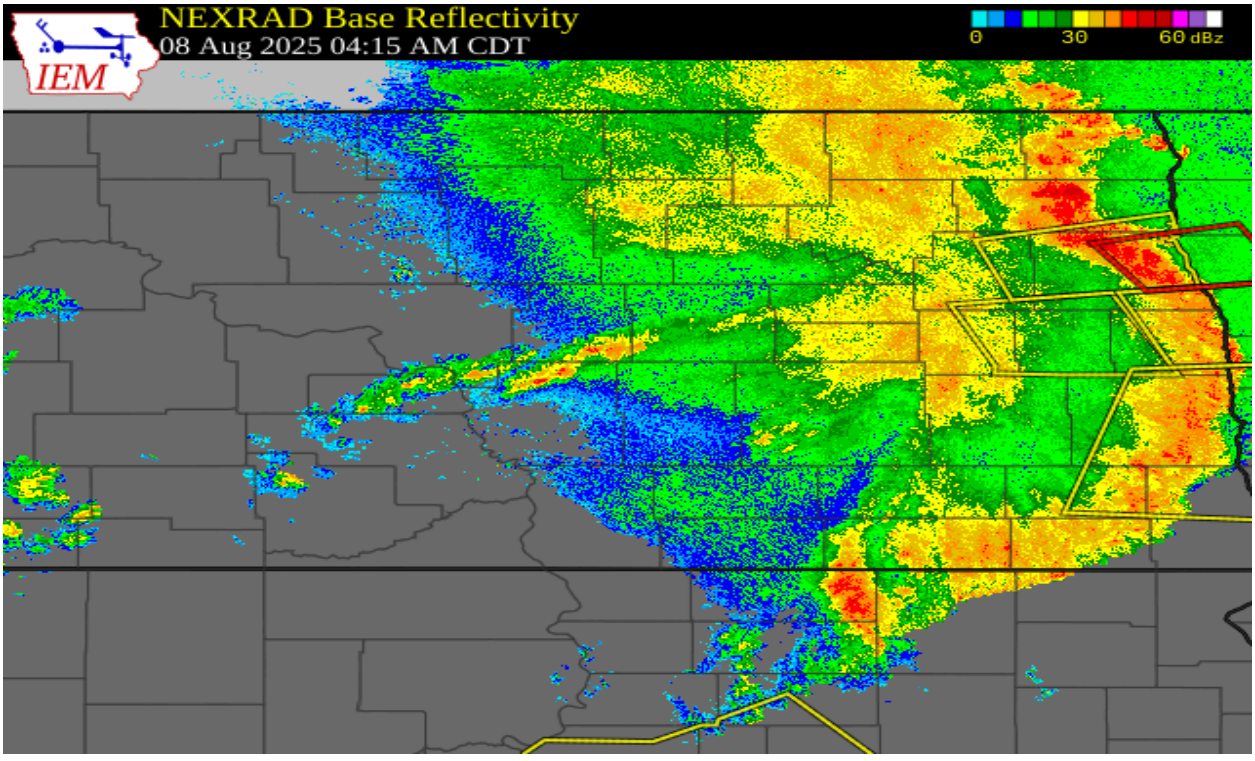
Radar and warnings (yellow = Severe Thunderstorm Warning; Red = Tornado Warning) valid at 7:00 pm CDT (top) and 9:00 pm CDT (bottom) on August 7th, 2025.



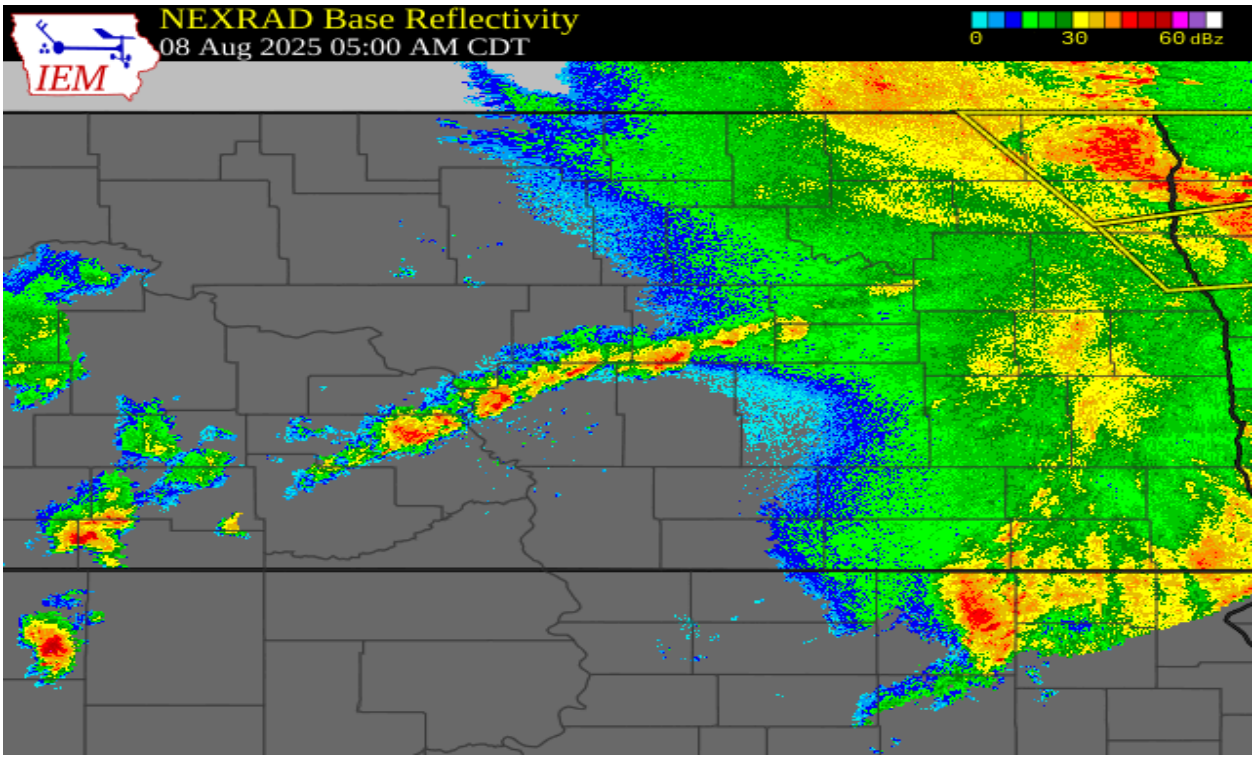


Radar and warnings (yellow = Severe Thunderstorm Warning; Red = Tornado Warning) valid at 11:00 pm CDT on August 7th, 2025 (top) and 1:00 am CDT on August 8th, 2025 (bottom).





Radar and warnings (yellow = Severe Thunderstorm Warning; Red = Tornado Warning) valid at 3:00 am CDT (top) and 4:15 am CDT (bottom) on August 8th, 2025.



Radar and warnings (yellow = Severe Thunderstorm Warning; Red = Tornado Warning) valid at 5:00 am CDT on August 8th, 2025.

5. Additional Information

Weather event summaries from NWS Bismarck and Grand Forks can be found at:
NWS Bismarck Event Summary
NWS Grand Forks Event Summary

6. Summary

On August 7-8, 2025, North Dakota experienced a significant severe weather event. The initial storms on August 7th produced large hail and damaging winds in northern and western parts of the state. These storms merged into an intense squall line as they moved eastward, resulting in widespread destructive straight-line winds (70-100 mph) and thirteen embedded tornadoes on August 8th. Peak measured wind gusts included 83 mph near Kensal and 91 mph at Grand Forks Air Force Base.

The highest concentration of damage was in south central and eastern North Dakota, particularly in Stutsman, Barnes, Cass, Grand Forks, Griggs, Kidder, Nelson, and Walsh Counties. This included significant structural damage in Jamestown and near Courtenay, destroyed campers and grain bins, widespread tree damage, and power outages. One notable tornado had a 4.1-mile intermittent path through the city of Grand Forks.

The weather setup involved a warm front, low pressure, and an unstable air mass with high dewpoints. An initial "cap" was overcome by an upper-level disturbance, leading to thunderstorm development and the merging of storm lines into the damaging squall line, which then moved through an environment with strong wind shear, contributing to the destructive straight-line winds and embedded tornadoes.

Prepared For: North Dakota Department of Emergency Services
Prepared On: August 27th, 2025
Prepared By: National Weather Service, Bismarck and Grand Forks, ND, and Central Region Headquarters, Regional Operations Center, Kansas City, MO
Contact: Jeff Savadel (NWS Bismarck) (701) 250-4224 jeffrey.savadel@noaa.gov
Mindy Beerends (NWS Grand Forks) (701) 772-0720 melinda.beerends@noaa.gov
Regional Operations Center (816) 200-1140 crhroc@noaa.gov

Attachment C:
State Climatologist Report – August 7-8, 2025 Severe Summer Storms

Strong Wind/ Hail / Tornados August 7-8, 2025

Issued August 27, 2025

Executive Summary

On August 7-8, 2025, North Dakota experienced significant severe weather characterized by multiple lines of severe thunderstorms that moved across the state. The Storm Prediction Center had issued a Level 3 out of 5 (Enhanced Risk) outlook for much of North Dakota, highlighting the potential for destructive weather, including damaging winds, large hail, and tornadoes. That forecast verified as severe storms, driven by a warm front moving north through the state, combined with a potent upper-level shortwave and strong surface low, created favorable conditions for severe thunderstorm development.

Key impacts that night included:

- **Damaging Wind:** Widespread gusts of 60-80 mph were reported, with peaks up to 91 mph at Grand Forks Air Force Base. Notable destruction included a city shop and vehicles in Finley, structure collapse in Jamestown (creating traffic hazards), downed trees in Grand Forks, and significant tree and building damage in Mekinock/Merrifield with additional such events in other locations. In addition, numerous power outages were reported.

- **Tornados:** At least 11 known tornadoes struck Grand Forks County and surrounding areas in the early hours of August 8, with peak wind estimated at 95-110 mph

- **Hail:** Large hail, at least to the size of golf balls, was recorded. The hail caused significant crop damage in and around Powers Lake, North Dakota. Other areas were also hit with large hail that caused additional damage to roofs, siding and vehicles.

Meteorological Overview

The severe weather of August 7-8, 2025 was fueled by a strong surface low, an upper-level shortwave, and a warm frontal boundary that created instability for supercell development and straight-line embedded storms (Figure 1).

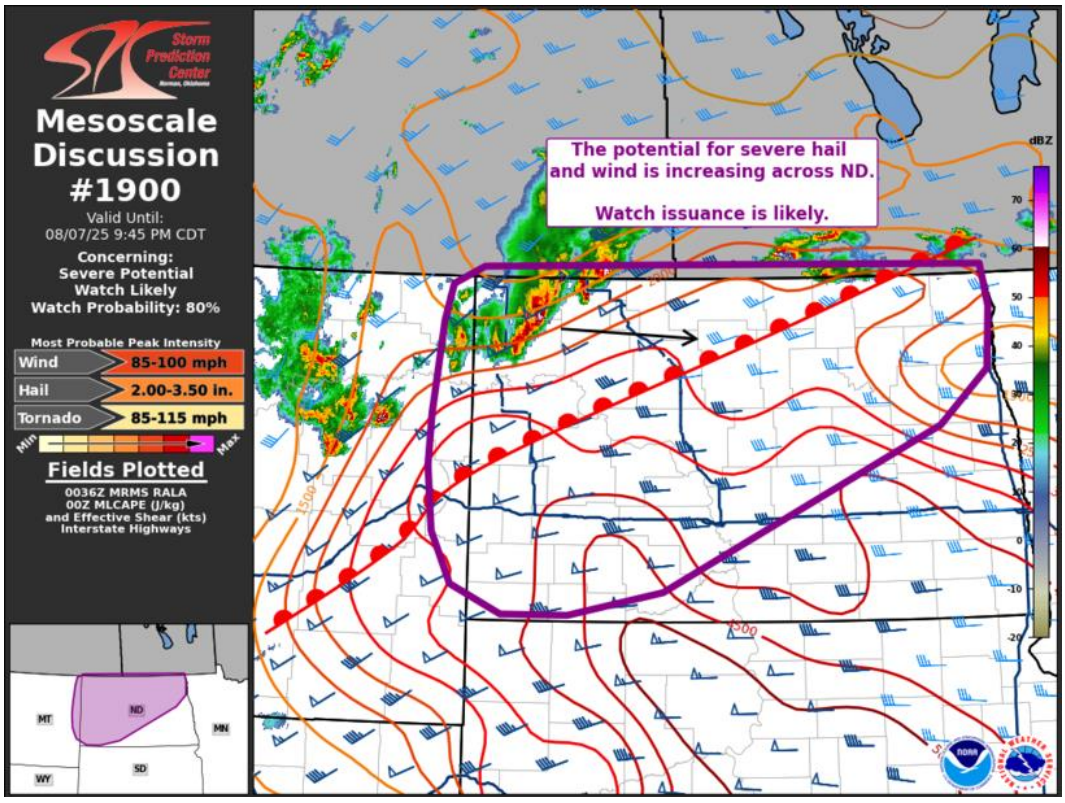


Figure 1: Weather Map with Risk Assessment Issued During the Evening of August 7, 2025 (image from NWS Bismarck)

Initial thunderstorms formed in North Central North Dakota around 4:00 PM on August 7 and moved quickly in Canada. The severe thunderstorms that impacted North Dakota either formed in Montana and moved into the state, or formed in western North Dakota and moved eastward. There were three lines of severe weather before merging into a squall line with embedded circulations (tornados) that swept eastward (Figure 2).

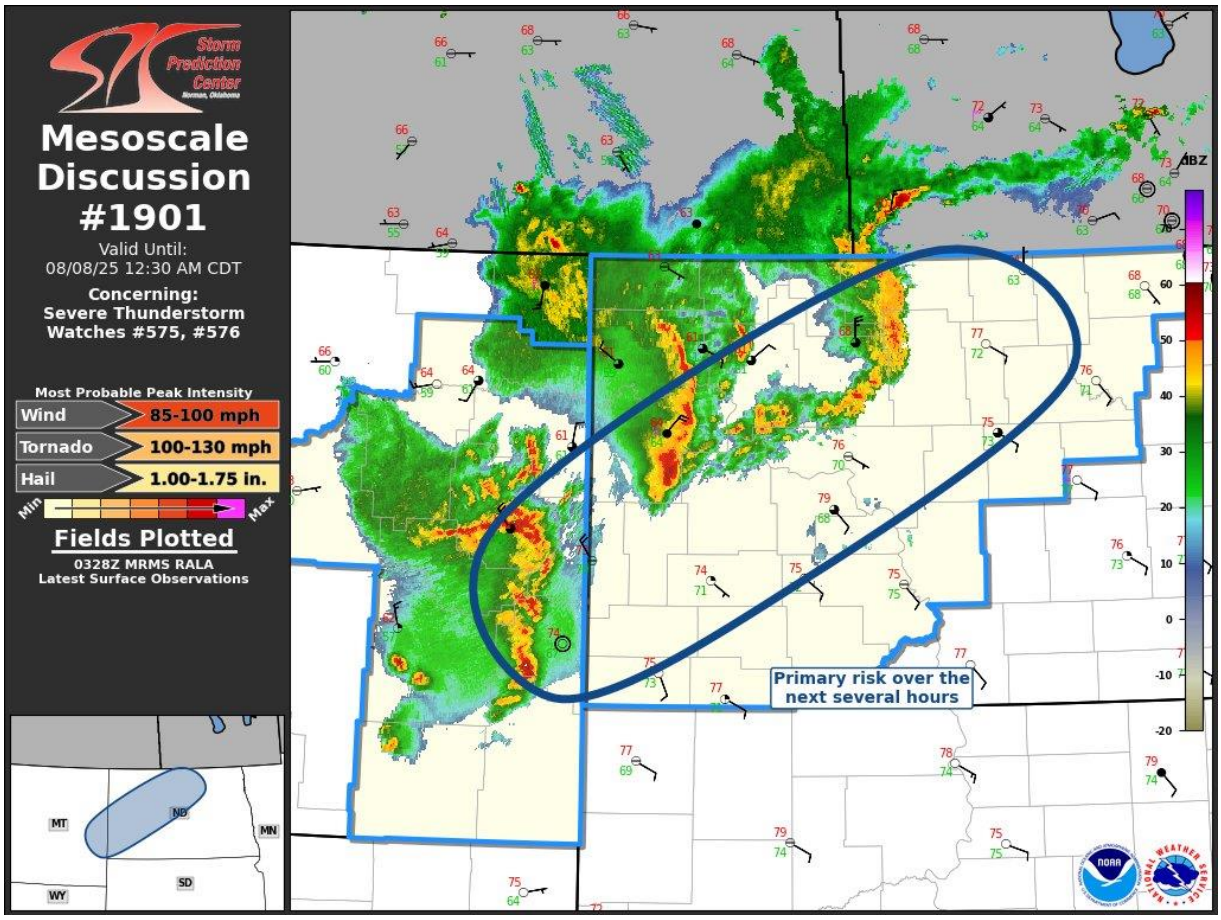


Figure 2: Three Separate Lines of Thunderstorms at 10:28 PM CDT That Turned into A Single Line (Coming up in Figure 4)
(image courtesy of the NWS Bismarck)

As the storms moved through northwestern North Dakota, a supercell (a rotating thunderstorm) dropped large hail in and around Powers Lake. That hail, measuring at least to the size of golf balls devastated the surrounding crops with many fields completely destroyed. In many instances that large hail fell as the wind was exceeding 60 mph, increasing the amount of damage. The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) stations in that area recorded wind gust to nearly 70 mph. At the same time, additional storms were moving through southwestern North Dakota creating gusts also to near or slightly above 70 mph (Figure 3).

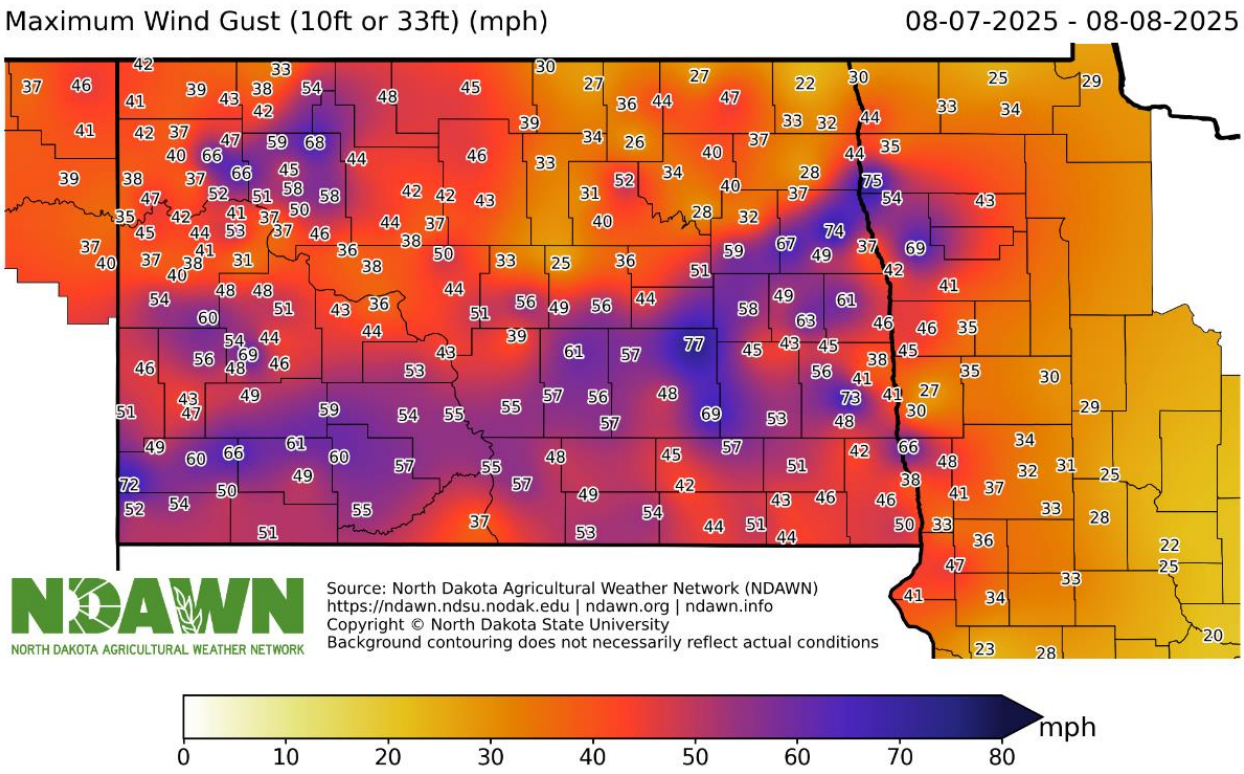


Figure 3: Maximum Wind Gust at 33 ft or 10 ft at NDAWN Stations on the Evening and Overnight of August 7-8, 2025.
(Image Courtesy of North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN))

As the storms continued to move into eastern North Dakota a long linear line of thunderstorms developed as the storms in western North Dakota merged together (Figure 4). This line of severe weather created surface wind in excess of 50 mph with localized wind gusts above 70 mph. This strong wind in many instances moved over the same areas that were impacted by strong wind during the June 20-21, 2025 storm. It is unknown, but possible, that the weakening of some trees, buildings and other infrastructure from that previous event increased the likelihood of damage from this storm.

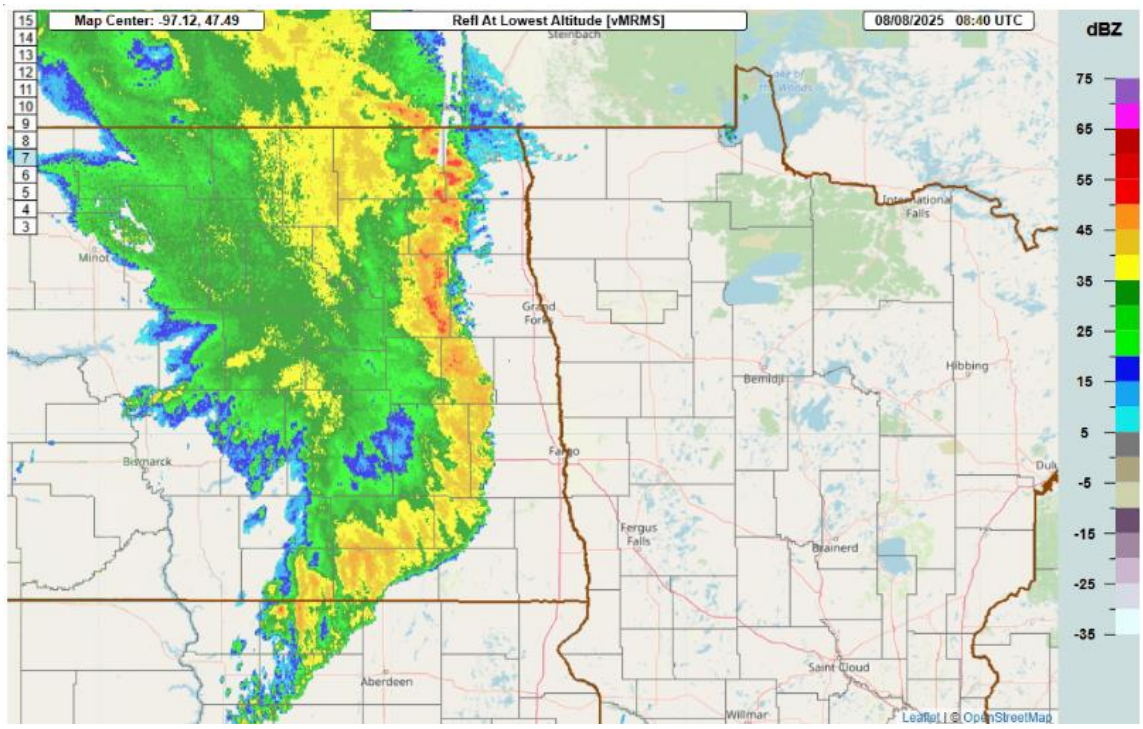


Figure 4: Radar View of the Bow Echo Moving through Eastern North Dakota. This Line also Contained Several Tornadoes in and Around Grand Forks County. (Image Courtesy of the NWS Grand Forks)

As the line moved east, not only was strong straight-line wind a concern, but tornados also entered the equation. Bow echoes, or squall lines, often associated with straight line wind events, rarely develop in a perfectly straight line. Instead, the line is considered “quasi-linear”. Because the line of thunderstorms is made up of numerous individual thunderstorms, rather than an individual super cell, these lines are often referenced as Quasi-Linear Convective Systems (QLCS). Tornados can and often do form from small “kinks” or areas of rotation within the line of storms. These kinks within the line is where inbound and outbound wind interact, creating a circulation that can intensify into a tornado. These often small, quick forming tornadoes that develop within these lines of thunderstorms are referred to as QLCS tornados. They often form at night, are usually "rain-wrapped," surrounded by heavy rain, form and dissipated rapidly making them hard to detect via radar and also hard to see visually. Because they generally form very quickly, it minimizes warning lead times. At least 11 tornadoes struck Grand Forks County and surrounding areas during the early morning of August 8, and were rated as either EF0 or EF1 (Figure 5).

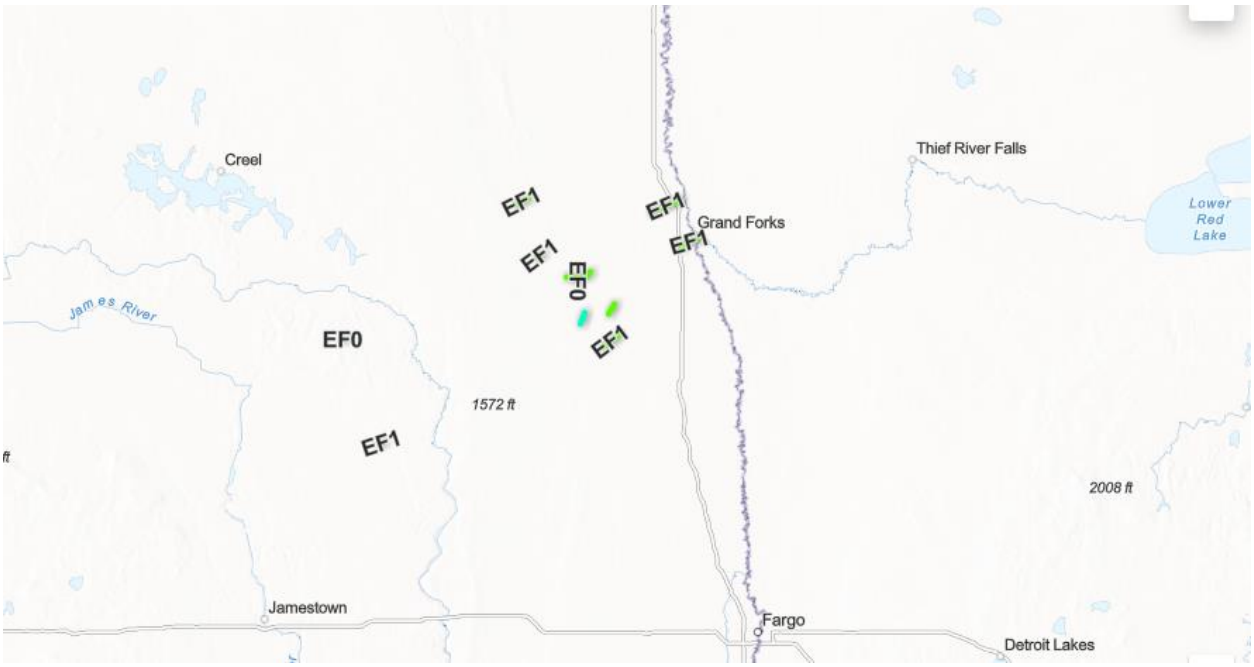


Figure 5: Locations and EF Scale of Tornados from August 8, 2025. Image from NWS Grand Forks

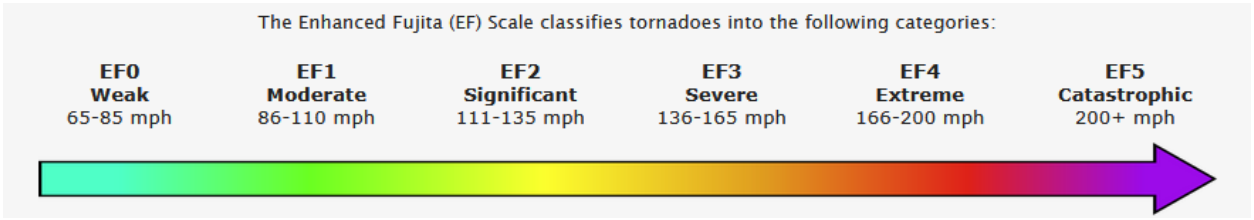


Figure 6: The EF Scale with the estimated wind speed associated with each category.

Conclusion

The severe weather outbreak on August 7-8, 2025, resulted in extensive property damage, one injury, and widespread disruptions across North Dakota, exposing the region's susceptibility to intense summer storms. It emphasizes the critical need for prompt warnings and proactive community preparedness to address future severe weather risks.

Damage Pictures

A “shelf cloud” associated with the Derecho as it Approached the Shell Lake NDAWN Station in Mountrail County, North Dakota. That Station Recorded a 58-mph Wind Gust Shortly After This Picture was Taken. (Photo Courtesy of North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN))

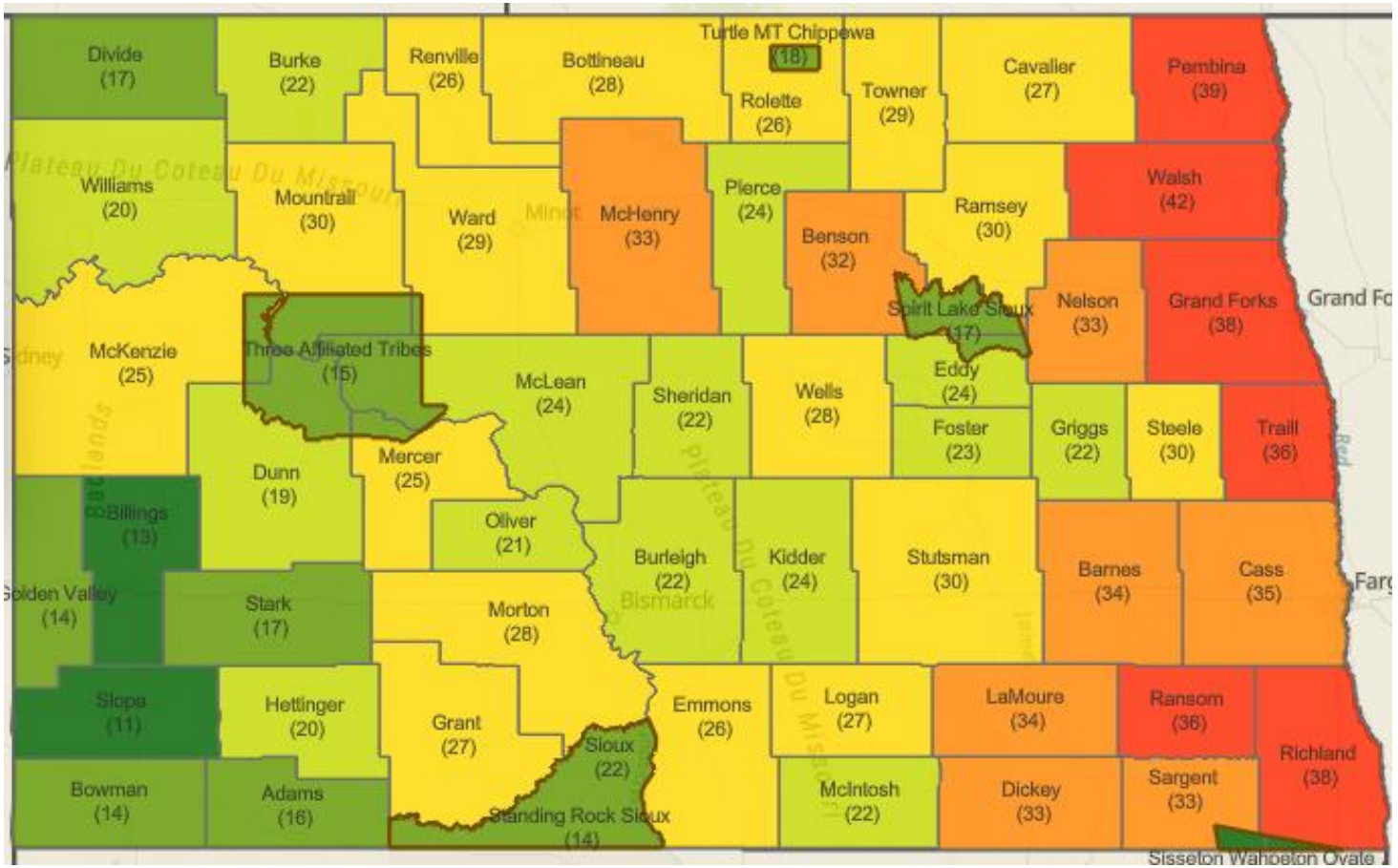
Thunderstorm damage near Pettibone, North Dakota. Large Grain Bin was Dislodged from its Foundation and Rolled to the West, Wrapping Around the Side of a House. Photo and Summary from NWS Bismarck damage survey.

Damage to a Farm Building North of Courtenay.
(NWS Bismarck Damage Survey)

Attachment D:
ND Presidential Disaster Declarations: 1957 - 2025

Attachment D: ND Presidential Disaster Declarations (1957 – 2025)

Live map is scalable and searchable online at: https://des-ndgov.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/7dfff3eebc47426a912bce303bbf3584



8-13 (3)	14-18 (9)	19-24 (15)	25-30 (17)	31-35 (8)	36-42 (6)

Numbers below county/tribe names indicate the number of federal disaster declarations for that jurisdiction.