



## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

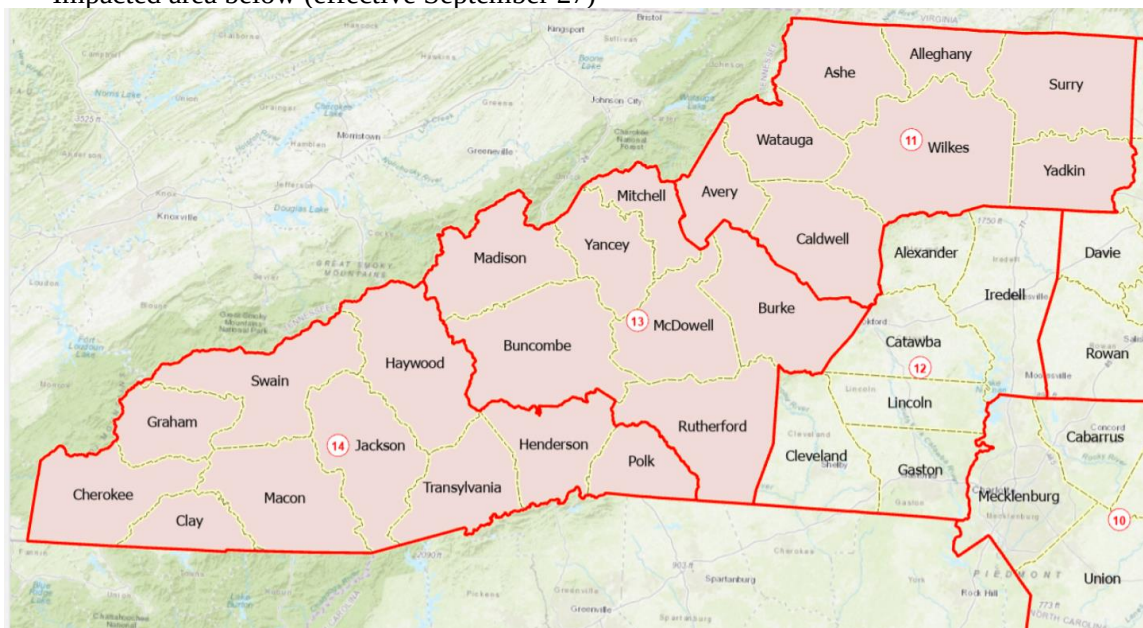
J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS  
SECRETARY

The following messages were on the DriveNC.gov Special Alert banner from 9/27/24 to 12/11/24.

### 9/27 Special Alert Message:

- HELENE AFFECTS TRAVEL IN NC
- All roads in Western North Carolina should be considered closed. Motorists should not travel in this area, should not attempt to drive through standing water, and must respect barricades and road closure signs.
- Those in Western North Carolina should seek higher ground and shelter in place.

Impacted area below (effective September 27)



### 9/28-9/29 Special Alert Message:

- DO NOT TRAVEL IN OR TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
- All roads in Western North Carolina should be considered closed and non-emergency travel is prohibited.
- I-40 is impassable in multiple locations. I-26 is closed at the Tennessee state line.
- Travel in this area for non-emergency purposes is hindering needed emergency response.

*Mailing Address:*  
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS  
MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS  
1561 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH, NC 27529

*Telephone:* (919) 814-5031  
*Customer Service:* 1-877-368-4968

*Website:* [www.ncdot.gov](http://www.ncdot.gov)

*Location:*  
1636 GOLD STAR DRIVE  
RALEIGH, NC 27607

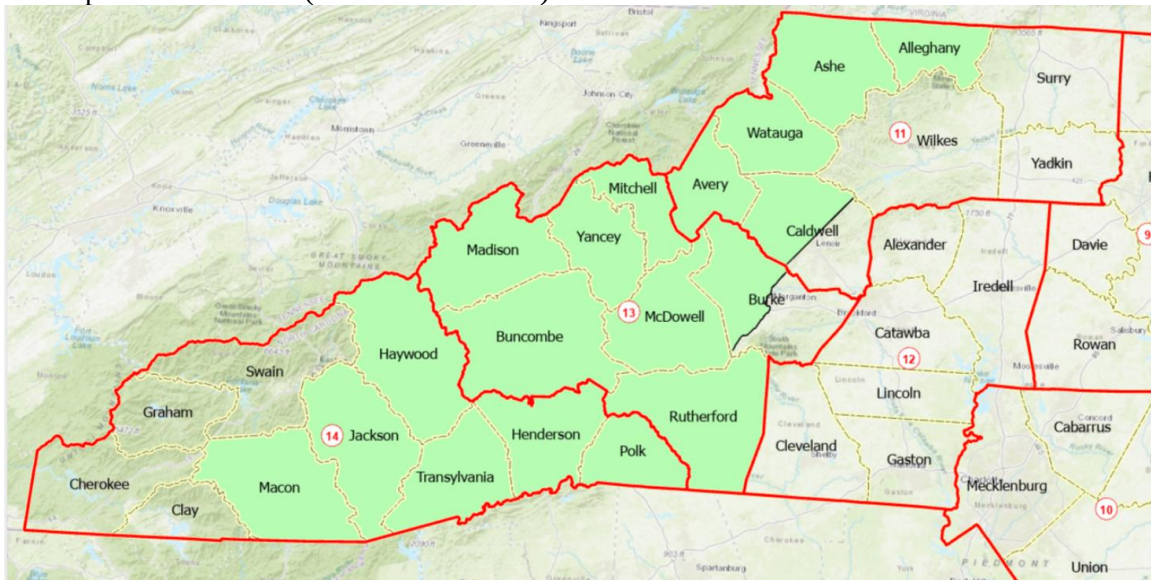
**9/30 Special Alert Message:**

- DO NOT TRAVEL IN OR TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
- I-40 is impassable in multiple locations. I-26 is closed at the Tennessee state line.
- There may be closed roads not listed on DriveNC.gov as many areas are not able to report at this time.
- All roads in Western North Carolina should be considered closed and non-emergency travel is prohibited.
- People evacuating the Asheville area can use I-40 east or I-26 east.

**10/1-10/3 Special Alert Message:**

- DANGEROUS CONDITIONS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
- There are shortages of water, food, gas, power and communications in western NC.
- Access is limited to local and hurricane response traffic.
- You cannot get from North Carolina to TN via I-40 or I-26.
- There may be closed roads not listed on DriveNC.gov as many areas are not able to report at this time.
- People evacuating the Asheville area can use I-40 east or I-26 east.

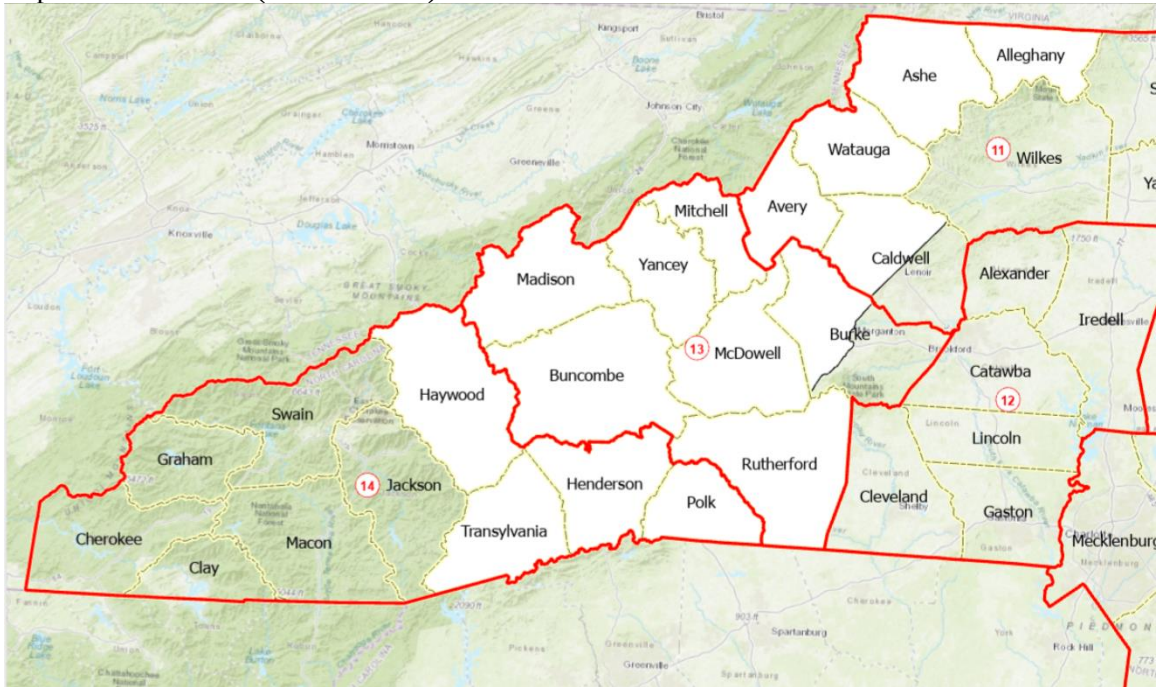
Impacted area below (effective October 2)



#### 10/4 Special Alert Message:

- DANGEROUS CONDITIONS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
- There are shortages of water, food, gas, power and communications in western NC.
- Essential travel only to and in western North Carolina. Non-essential traffic on the few routes into the affected area from TN are hindering relief efforts.
- You cannot get from North Carolina to TN via I-40 or I-26.
- Some areas still have roads that are closed that are not shown on DriveNC.gov. These will be added as access to these areas becomes available.

Impacted area below (effective 10/5)



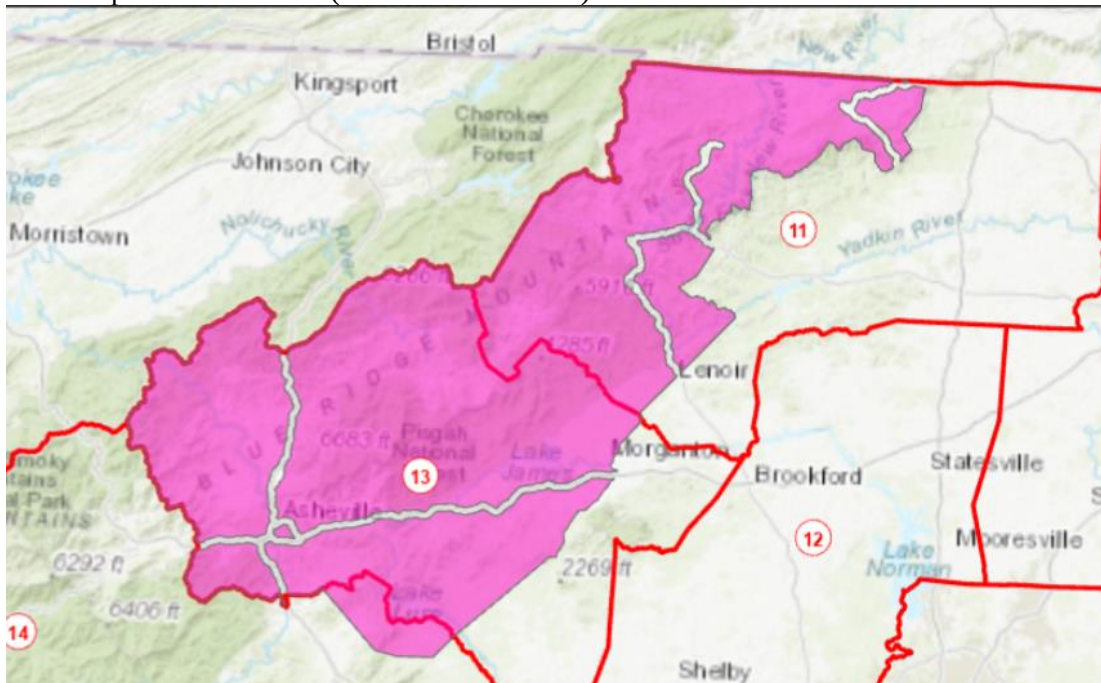
#### 10/8 Special Alert Message:

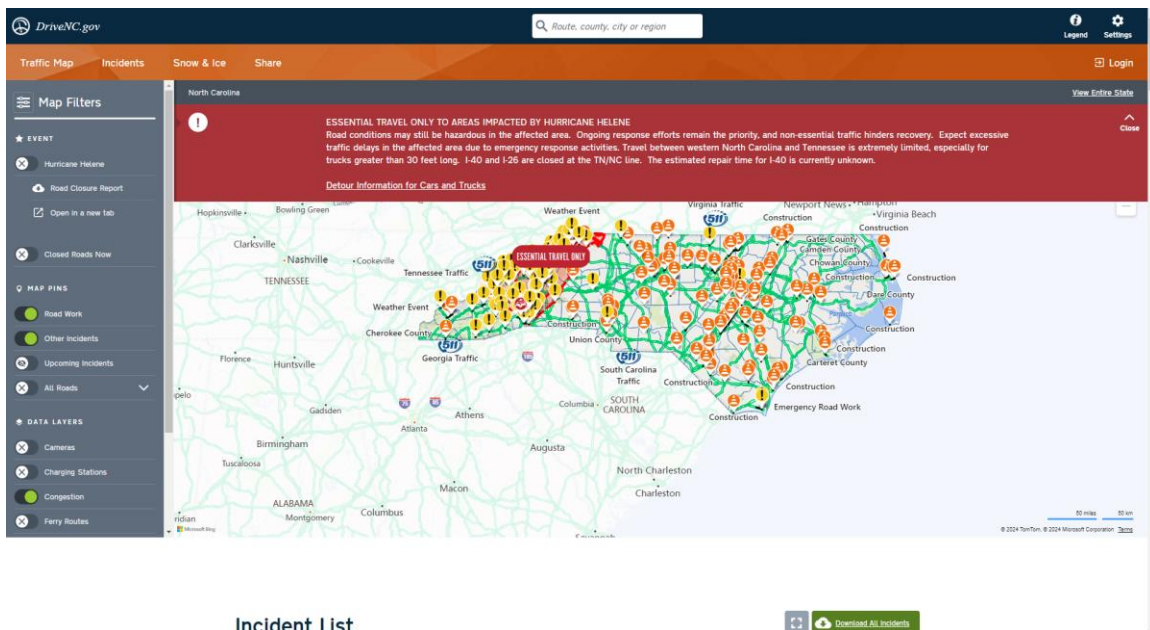
- ESSENTIAL TRAVEL ONLY TO AREAS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE HELENE
- Road conditions are becoming clearer in the affected area, however, travel between western North Carolina and Tennessee is extremely limited, especially for trucks.
- I-40 and I-26 are closed at the TN/NC line.
- The estimated repair time for I-40 is unknown at this time.

**10/10 Special Alert Message:**

- ESSENTIAL TRAVEL ONLY TO AREAS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE HELENE
- Road conditions may still be hazardous in the affected area.
- Ongoing response efforts remain the priority, and non-essential traffic hinders recovery.
- Expect excessive traffic delays in the affected area due to emergency response activities.
- Travel between western North Carolina and Tennessee is extremely limited, especially for trucks greater than 30 feet long.
- I-40 and I-26 are closed at the TN/NC line.
- The estimated repair time for I-40 is currently unknown.

Impacted area below (effective October 10)





#### 10/18 Special Alert Message:

- POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HELENE
- I-40 is closed at the TN/NC line.
- The estimated re-opening time is unknown.
- I-26 is closed in Tennessee, near the TN/NC line.
- Commercial and through traffic are prohibited.
- Travel between western North Carolina and Tennessee is limited, especially for trucks greater than 30 feet long.
- Detour Information for Cars and Trucks
- Although access to some communities has improved, hazards remain.
- The affected area has limited supplies and traffic delays are possible due to recovery activities.
- Obey all signs and barricades.

#### 10/22 Special Alert Message:

- LIMITED TRUCK ROUTES AND POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HELENE
- I-40 and I-26 are closed near the Tennessee border.
- Travel between western North Carolina and Tennessee is limited, especially for trucks greater than 30 feet long.
- Hazards, limited supplies and traffic delays remain in the affected areas.
- Obey all signs and barricades.

#### 10/30 Special Alert Message:

- LIMITED TRUCK ROUTES AND POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HELENE
- I-40 is closed near the Tennessee border.
- Vehicles under 30 feet may use roads marked with “Truck Closures” on the map.
- Toggle these closures on using Map Filters.

- Trucks over 30 feet should NOT use roads marked as “Truck Closures” and follow Routing for Trucks over 30 feet.
- Hazards, limited supplies and traffic delays remain in the affected areas
- Obey all signs and barricades

**12/11 Special Alert Message:**

- LIMITED TRUCK ROUTES IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HELENE
- I-40 is closed near the Tennessee border.
- Vehicles under 30 feet may use roads marked with “Truck Closures” on the map.
- Trucks over 30 feet should NOT use roads marked as “Truck Closures”.

**12/11 Special Alert Message 2:**

- HELENE ROAD CLOSURES REMAIN AND LIMITED TRUCK ROUTES IN AREAS IMPACTED BY HELENE
- I-40 is closed near the Tennessee border.
- Vehicles under 30 feet may use roads marked with “Truck Closures” on the map.
- Trucks over 30 feet should NOT use roads marked as “Truck Closures”.