



Department of
**Environment &
Conservation**

Hurricane Helene Recovery Efforts

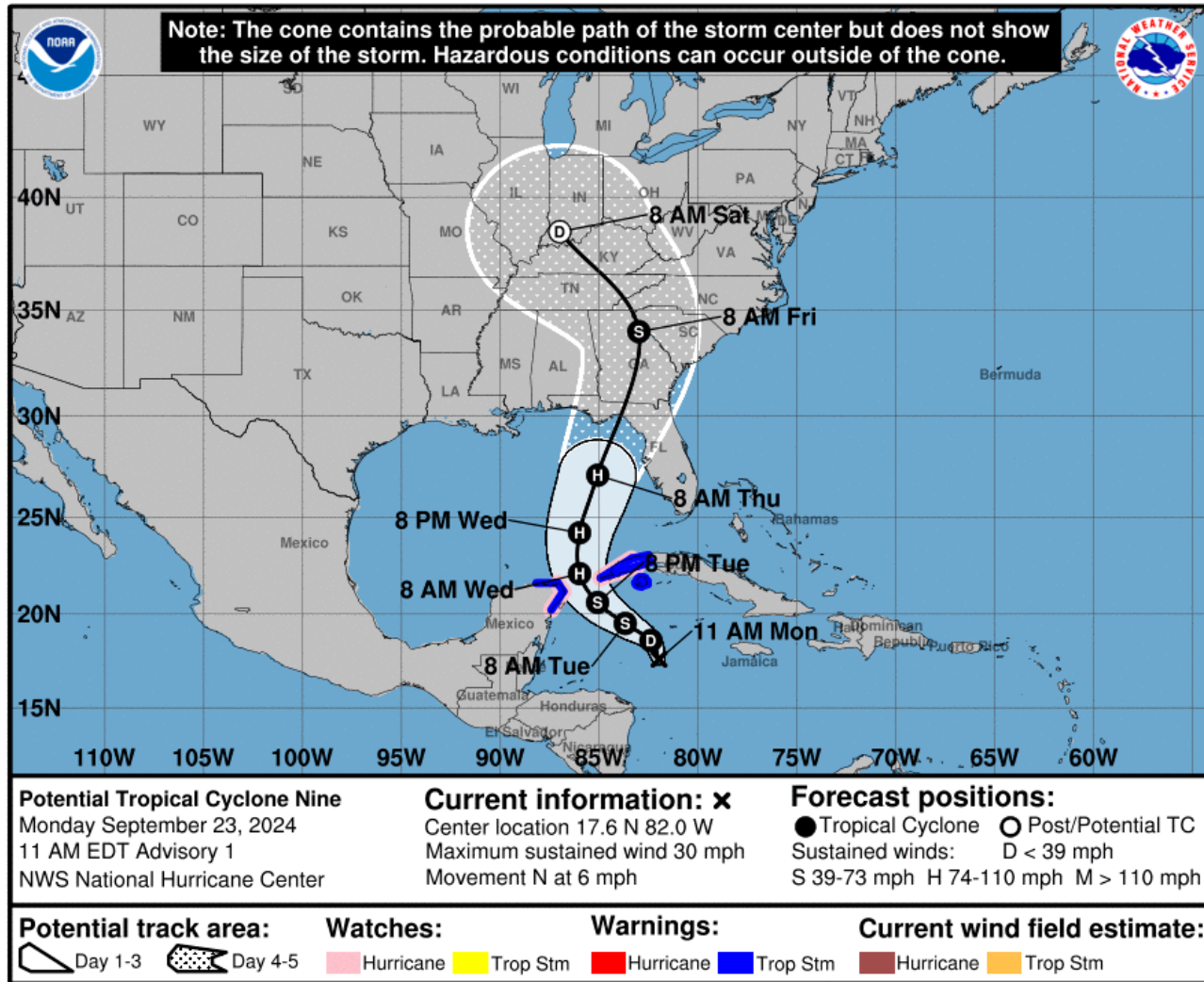
Jeremy Hooper | December 4, 2024

Hurricane Helene

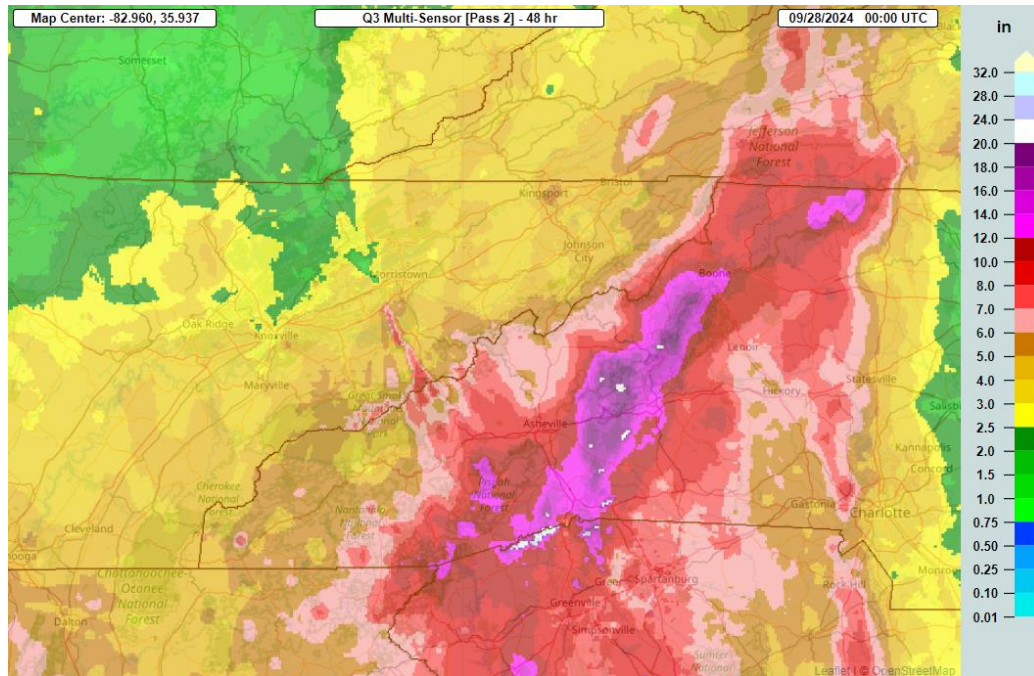
- Hit Tennessee on September 27, 2024
- Record-breaking rainfall
- 40-60 mph winds
- Historic flooding and devastation along far eastern TN mountains
- Major infrastructure damage
- Extensive and long-lasting power outages

Hurricane
Helene

Helene's Path



Historic Flooding



- 2-day rainfall estimates in range of 12 to 20 inches in large portion of western N.C.
- Many rivers west of Blue Ridge feed into East TN
- Made flooding more extreme even with lower rainfall amounts than N.C.

Historic Flooding



Flooding Impacts



Riverine Impacts

knox news.

Investigators say three people, including a woman who worked for Knox County and another for a nonprofit,

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LOCAL

Hurricane Helene completely changed the Nolichucky River. Here's why it will never be the same



Tyler Whetstone

Knoxville News Sentinel

Published 5:02 a.m. ET Dec. 2, 2024 | Updated 9:10 a.m. ET Dec. 2, 2024



Riverine Impacts



River Debris



River Debris



Lake Debris



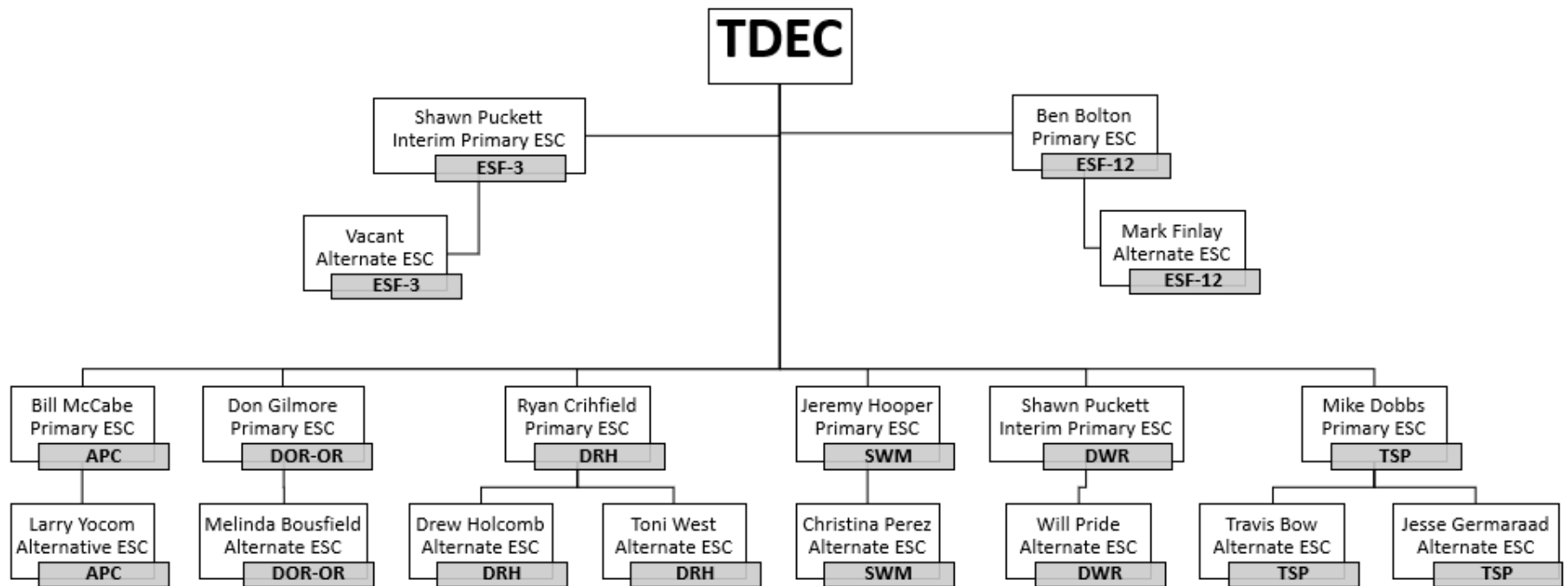
Davy Crockett Birthplace State Park



TDEC's Role

- T.C.A. 58-2-108(a) “[a]t the direction of the governor, the head of **each executive department and independent agency must select from within such department or agency a person or persons to be designated as the [emergency services coordinator] ESC or ESCs for the department or agency, in addition to one (1) or more alternate ESCs.**”
- These Primary and Alternate ESCs, appointed by the Commissioners of State Departments and the Directors of State Agencies **are responsible for providing emergency support before, during, and after emergency events in coordination with TEMA**

TDEC Emergency Service Coordinators



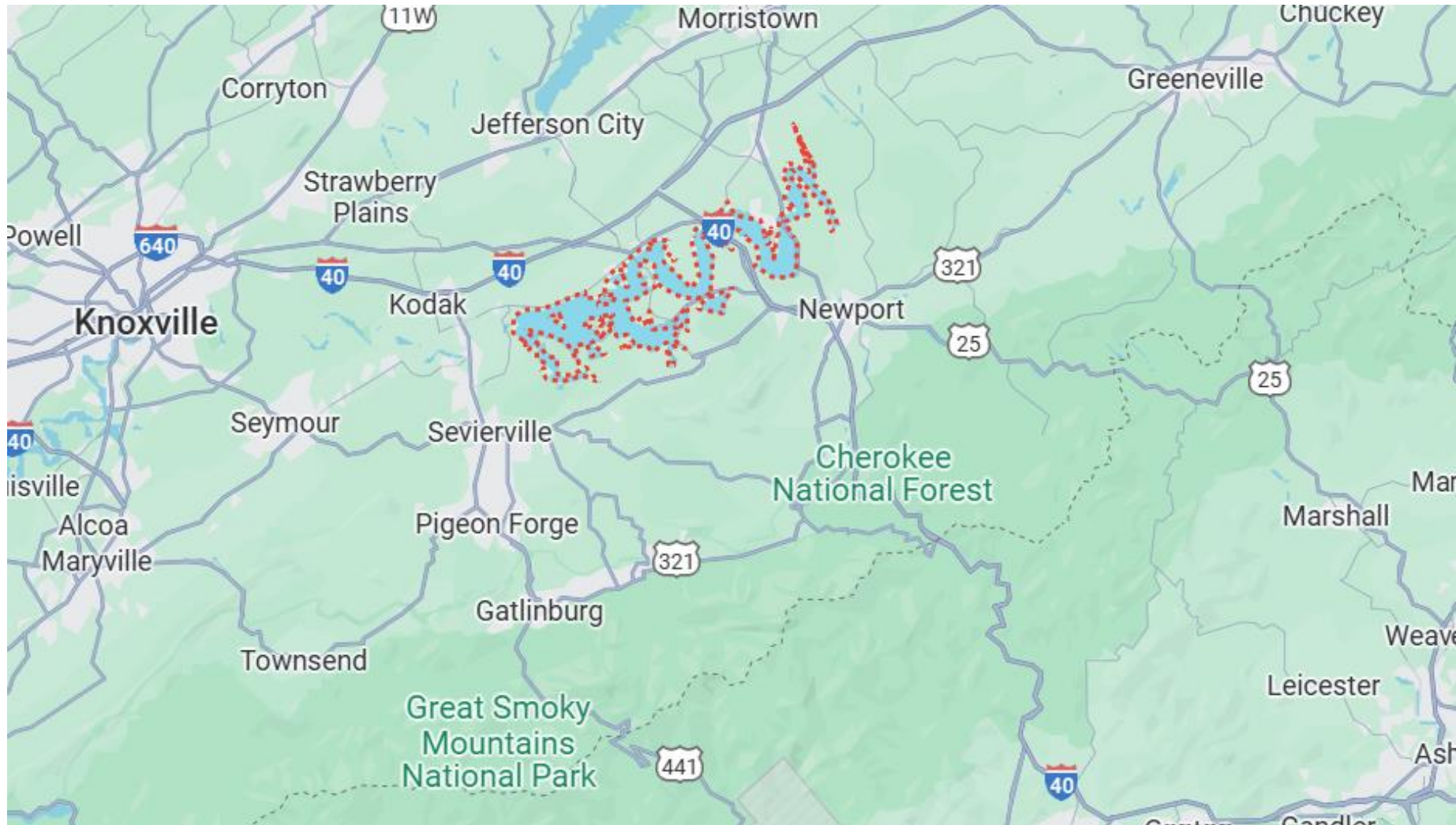
State Emergency Operations Center



DSWM ESCs Hurricane Helene Work

- Coordinate and ensure local government's, TDOT, and other partners debris management needs are met
- 19 temporary debris sites approved
 - 14 local gov't
 - 5 TDOT
- Ensure landfills were not overwhelmed and capacity was sufficient
- Identify, monitor, and report on waterway debris
 - Request debris flyovers from partners
- Manage and support major storm debris projects

Douglas Lake



Douglas Lake Debris Patch

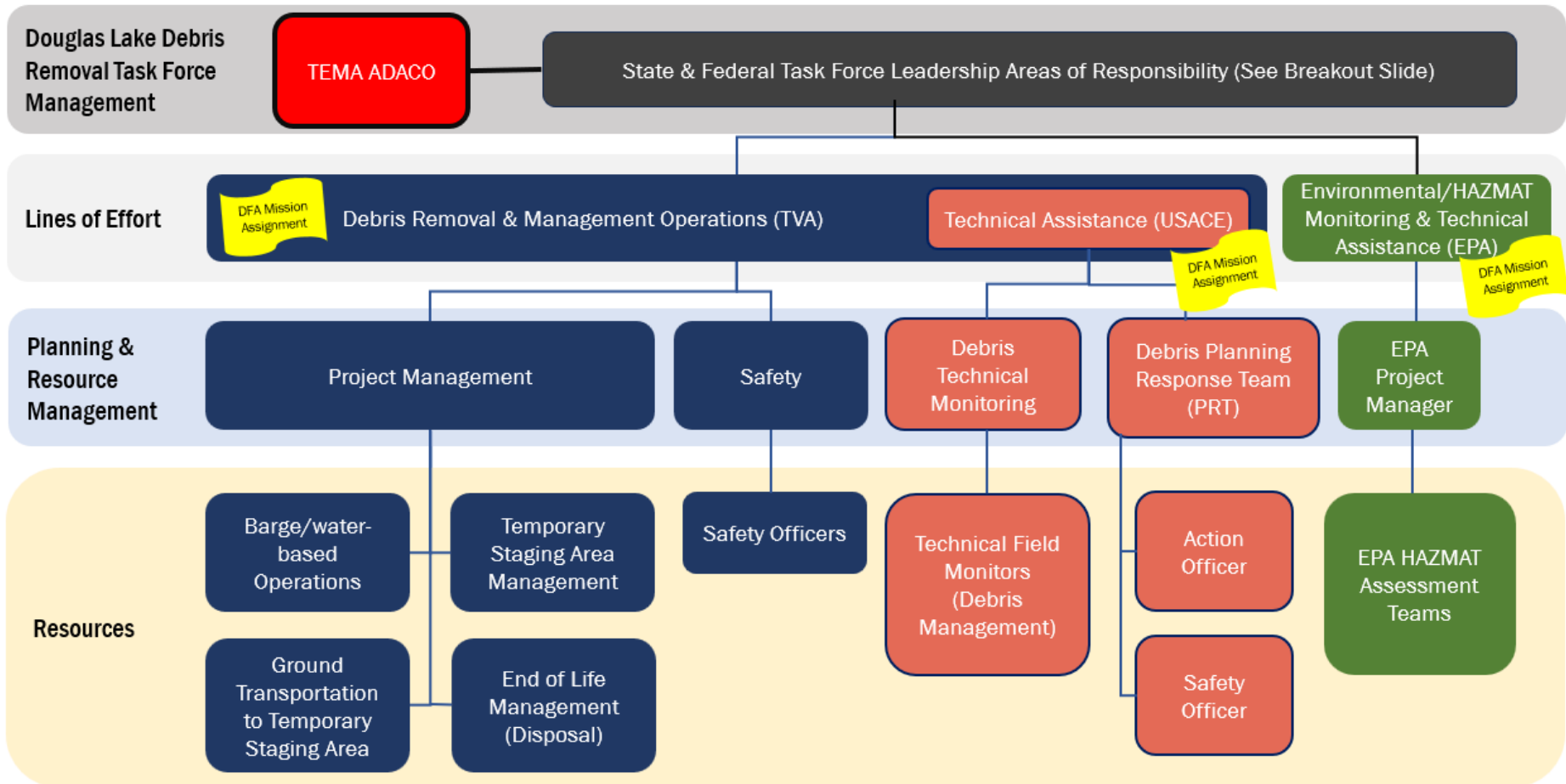


Addressing Douglas Lake Debris



State Request Federal Support

- Oct. 10, 2024 – State of Tennessee officially requests support from FEMA to address Douglas Lake debris




Douglas Lake Removal Zones

Douglas Lake Debris Removal Zones



These are the zones that will be used to track progress and communicate with the public. Property owners will be notified in advance of the work being performed on or near their property.

TEMA Douglas Lake Debris Webpage

Go to TN.gov

[Home](#) [Current Status](#) [Prepare](#) [Recover](#) [Emergency Managers](#) [The Agency](#) [Get Involved](#) [News](#) [Print](#)

HURRICANE HELENE

Hurricane Helene


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[Helene Resources](#)

[Federal Assistance](#)

[Douglas Lake Debris](#)

Douglas Lake Debris



The map shows Douglas Lake with a yellow boom marked by an arrow. Nearby locations include Dandridge and Highway 48. Road markers for 28W, 139, and 48 are visible.

<https://www.tn.gov/tema/updates/hurricane-helene/douglas-lake-debris.html>

Big Shout Out to TDEC Staff!

- Christina Perez
- Roger Donovan
- Lisa, Beverly, Craig, Rob A.
- Chris Lamb and Johnson City staff
- Revendra Awasthi and Knoxville staff
- Shawn Puckett
- Will Pride
- Larry Yocom
- Bill McCabe
- Jennifer Jones
- Savannah Motl
- Stephanie Bullock
- Tina Robinson
- Jan Compton
- John LeCroy
- Other Division Field Office staff
- TDEC Leadership and many others!!

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