PDC | GLOBAL



DisasterAWARE Pro®

USER GUIDE

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REVISION HISTORY

Access the latest DisasterAWARE release notes here: http://pdc.org/releasenotes

Date of Release	Version	Key Changes
August 2016	6.0	• Original Document
February 2017	6.0.1	• Addition of Offline Mode
April 2017	6.1	• Updates to Exporting Maps, Activating DisasterAWARE Alert Services, and Module 2: Administrative Functions sections • Minor text and image updates
August 2017	6.2.0.6	• Changes to User Admin panel account and password management • Expanded animation features and reorganized Layers panel
February 2018	6.3	• Updates to .csv export feature and restrictions for the Identify Reports • Addition of Symbol Libraries to Draw Tools • New time stamp functionality for Product folders
November 2018	6.4	• New "About DisasterAWARE®" section • "DisasterAWARE Alert Service" rebranded as "Smart Alert™" • Added Smart Alert option under User panel, including the option to set alert severity thresholds for each Hazard type • Included option to add Smart Alert Area to a Hazard, as well as enhanced alerting based on user-defined alert areas and Hazard exposure • Enhancements to Bookmark feature (edit mode, copy, add/edit figures and folders) • New Action Menu button design
April 2019	6.5	• New Login screen • Access Favorite and Recent layers • TV and Social Media panels removed • Hazard More Info tab and Hazard Brief now available
December 2019	6.5.3	• Discussion feature removed from Hazards and User panel
May 2020	6.6.3	• Login: Updated look and now includes Multi-language support • Smart Alert™: Has been added to the main menu and allows users to set the same severity filter for all hazards at once • Asset Tracking: Import user assets into Smart Alert for enhanced alerting and situational awareness • Media panel: Access hundreds of media reports from around the world • Layer File Import: Can save imported layers to the cloud for continued access and Bookmark for sharing with other users • Google Street View: Temporarily removed • Layers panel: Can remove layers from User Layers folder
August 2020	6.7	• Internet Explorer removed from list of supported browsers. • Offline Mode removed pending further enhancements. • Hide Layers: New option to 'Reset All Hidden Layers'. • Google Street View: Available again. • User Panel: 'System of Measurement' option removed.
March 2021	6.8	• Added section on new map printing capabilities. • Asset tracking buffer radius changes. • Help guide and resource links updates.
August 2021	6.8.4	• Added section for new Event Brief functionality. • Updated live cameras section to cover new capabilities. • Updated section about Products to include new refresh option.
November 2021	7.0	• Action menu was relocated. • Forgot password experience was enhanced. • Hazard icon symbols, color coding, and shapes were overhauled. • Reset preferences option overwrites user's custom preferences and reverts to default organizational preferences. • New default DisasterAWARE theme and other theme options.
December 2023	7.10	• Area Brief is no longer included. • Updated supported browsers. • Integrated branding for Nasa-PDC global floods and Landslides hazards.

		• Updated Hazard coverage and minimum thresholds list.
April 2024	8.0	• Added Smart Alert notifications for individual assets. • Added asset exposure reports for hazards and email notifications. • Default settings can now be set by select organization and sub-organization-level administrators to enable more focused and relevant default Smart Alert areas and filters, asset monitoring and alerting, and selection of user preferences. • Users can now verify their assigned organization and / or sub-organization in the User panel under the Account tab. • New "Draw Geographic Area Filter" added to the Hazards filter options in the Hazard panel.
June 2024	8.3	• PDC Active Hazards layer is now a folder, with separate layers within for each hazard type. These are further categorized into the following subfolders: "Natural Hazards" and "Man Made Hazards". • PDC Active Hazard layer filters can now be bookmarked.
October 2024	8.6	• Catalog option (under Import Layers) removed. • Organization and sub-organization admins may now set default bookmarks.
March 2025	8.6.1	• Receive Smart Alerts using your current location. • Smart Alert SMS option available for U.S. phone numbers. • Layer accessibility enhancements and streamlining.
April 2025	9.0	• New Smart Alert mobile notifications via the Disaster Alert app. • Enhanced data visualization and optimized loading of map features. • New and expanded background layers. • Removed the outline display option for Annotations in Drawings. • Improvements to the display of hazard clusters on the map. • New Street View functionality (e.g. animation and expanded content) • Enhanced MGRS coordinates display, including the display of Media hotspots • "User Layers" folder renamed to "My Layers"
July 2025	9.4	• Drawings: Added coordinates and a "Go to" link to the Figures list • Media: General visualization improvements to the media results list
August 2025	9.5.1	• Expanded hazard coverage (see *Hazard Type and Minimum Threshold* table)
October 2025	10.0	• A new quick link called "Brief" has been added to both the Hazard Tooltip and the Hazard panel. This new option replaces the both the "Info" and "Layers" quick links, consolidating their content and expanding it with additional information such as exposure and demographics. • Expanded management options for figures in the Drawing panel, including the ability to select all drawings in the list of Figures and move them to the trash in a single action.

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GETTING STARTED

DisasterAWARE® is the #1 award-winning early warning and risk intelligence technology trusted by disaster managers worldwide.

DisasterAWARE Pro is a specialized software solution built on PDC's core DisasterAWARE technology backbone. The system is designed for disaster management professionals as well as partner nation capacity enhancement—enabling effective decision making and disaster management independence. DisasterAWARE Pro transforms real-time hazard data into actionable insights within minutes, providing AI-augmented hazard information and advanced analytics to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to the complete spectrum of global hazards with precision, speed, and confidence. DisasterAWARE Pro supports information sharing, risk analysis, and a unified, multi-agency approach to disaster response, planning, and preparedness.

DisasterAWARE powers customized software solutions for multiple countries around the world, as well as the **free mobile app for public use, Disaster Alert™.** Learn more at: pdc.org/DisasterAWARE

Online training courses on how to leverage DisasterAWARE for operations, including an Introductory Training are available at pdc.org/help**.** You may also **download our abbreviated Quick Start Guide** at: pdc.org/quickstart

System Requirements

This section introduces you to key system requirements and features necessary to get you started in DisasterAWARE. Some of these features are described in more detail in this guide.

Supported browsers

DisasterAWARE is supported on the following browsers:



Google Chrome
version 51+



Mozilla Firefox
version 47+



Safari
version 9+

Internet or mobile connection speed

For optimal performance, we strongly recommend you have broadband internet with at least 4 Mbps connection speed, or a 4G mobile data connection to use DisasterAWARE.

Desktop monitor size

Desktop computers must have at least a 1024 x 768 resolution monitor to successfully operate the software. We recommend a 1920 x 1200 monitor to ensure the best experience.

Add pdc.org as a trusted site

Please be sure to whitelist *.pdc.org as a trusted site in your organization's firewall rules.

Configure and optimize your browser

- **Turn on cookies.** PDC uses cookies for session management so please turn on browser cookies. Cookies are typically on by default.
- **Allow PDC pop-ups.** Be sure to enable pop-up windows when using DisasterAWARE as many of the features and functions of the system are provided this way.
- **Check your browser zoom settings.** Be sure your browser zoom settings are reset to 100%. If the browser window is zoomed in or out, it may result in an optimized screen view with fewer features. Press "Ctrl + 0" keys (or "Cmd + 0" on a Mac) to reset your browser's zoom settings.

User access and logging in

Who can access DisasterAWARE?

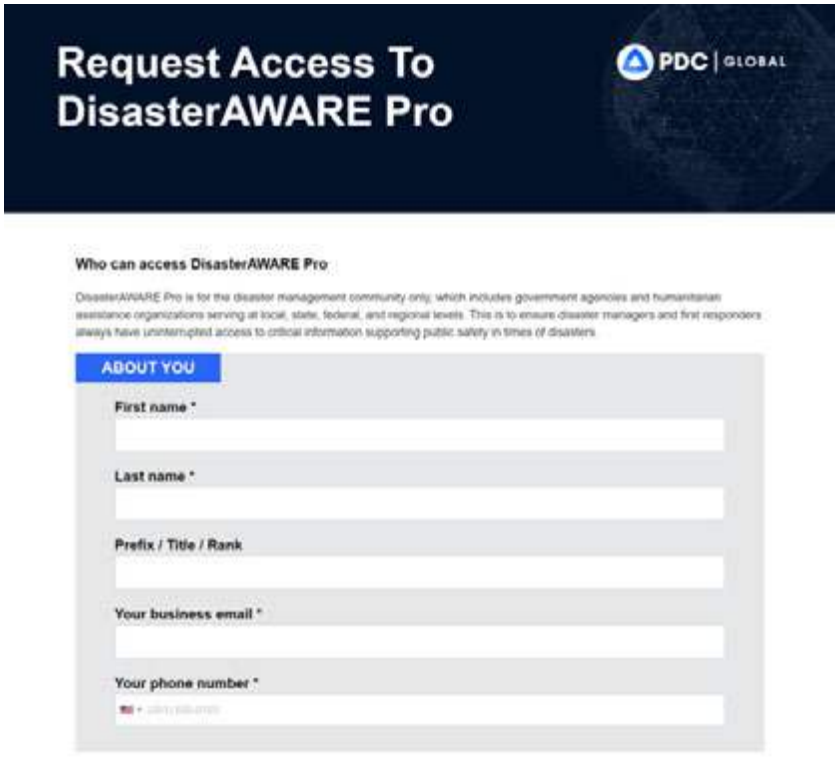
DisasterAWARE® is free for disaster management and humanitarian assistance practitioners supporting local, state, federal, regional, and international disaster management and risk reduction objectives. Access to the system is restricted to these groups to ensure uninterrupted system stability and accessibility of critical information supporting public safety in times of disaster.

A free public version of DisasterAWARE is available at disasteralert.pdc.org, or by downloading the mobile Disaster Alert app. Search “Disaster Alert” in Google Play and the iOS App Store.

How to request access

Visit disasteraware.pdc.org. Click the **Request Access** link and complete the registration form. A confirmation email will be sent to you after you submit your request. Requests are typically process within 24 hours on business days.



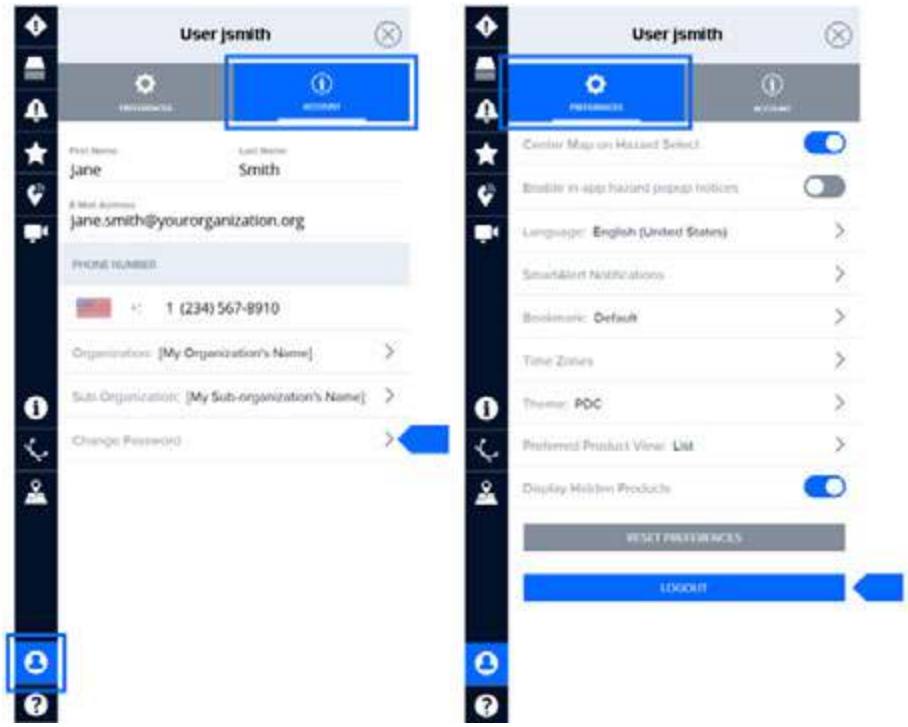


How to log into DisasterAWARE

Once access is approved, visit the link provided in your confirmation email and login with the username and temporary password assigned. Please take a moment to change your password.

Reset password

To change your password, click the **User** icon from the left toolbar and then click **Account > Change Password**. To logout, go to the **Preferences** tab in the **User** panel and click **Logout**.



Trouble logging in?

If you are having trouble logging in, visit the login page and try the "Forgot Password" link. A temporary password will be sent to the email associated with your account. If you still need assistance, contact us at: disaster@pdc.org.



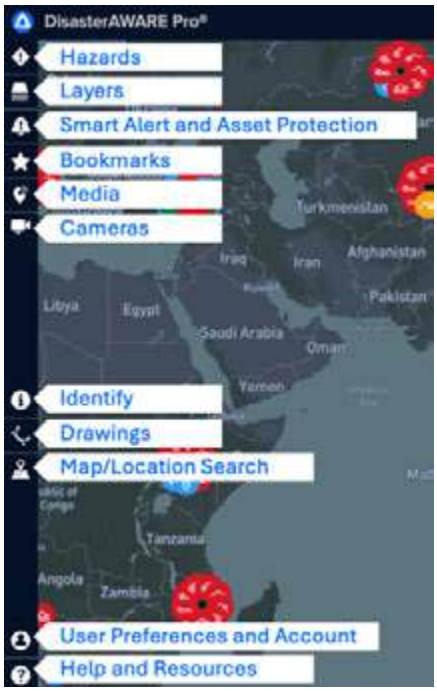
Map navigation basics

DisasterAWARE allows you to monitor hazards around the globe and to quickly assess potential threats to people, property, or critical assets at any time. Below is an illustration highlighting key elements of the system and where to find them. Please note, if you do not see the left toolbar, you may need to adjust your browser's zoom setting - see below.



Main toolbar

Along the left side of screen, is the main toolbar which provides access to the core features of DisasterAWARE.



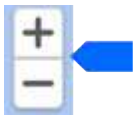
Zooming the map

Be sure your browser zoom settings are set to 100%. If the browser window is zoomed in too far, it will automatically optimize your view to function as it would on a mobile device with a smaller screen (see section below on mobile navigation). Press “Ctrl + 0” keys (or “Cmd + 0” on a Mac) to reset your browser’s zoom settings to 100%.

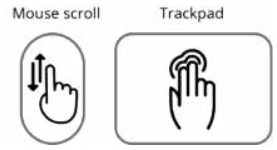
You may zoom in or out on the map using the toolbar on the right of the screen.



Click the “+” and “–” options in the right toolbar. Do not use “Ctrl +” or “Ctrl –” key commands as these will zoom your whole browser, which performs best at 100%.



You may also zoom in and out by either scrolling on your trackpad or the scroller on your mouse.



PRO TIP You can zoom to an area of interest by double clicking that location on the map.

Zoom selector: Click and drag to select a rectangular area in which to zoom.



Panning the map

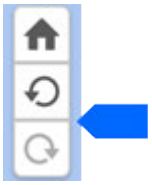
When selected, you can click + hold and drag the mouse to pan the map.



Home position: Use the home button to return to your default map and zoom position.

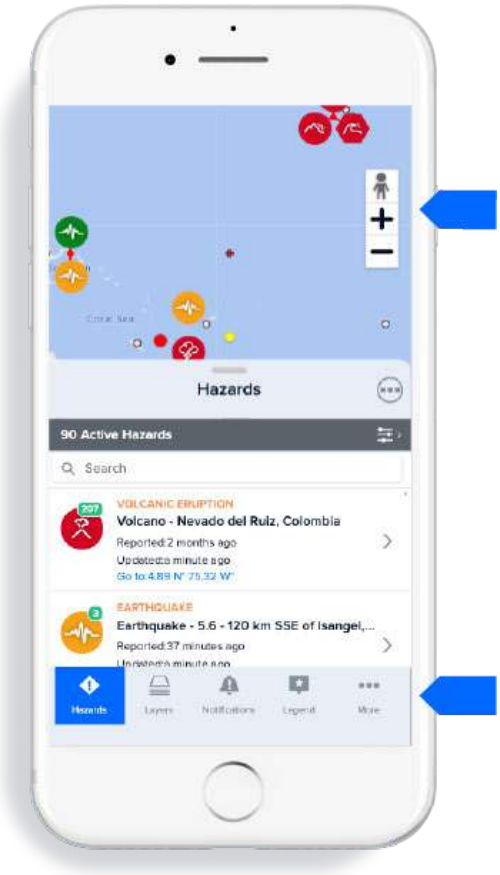


Undo or redo: to return to previous zoom positions.



Mobile navigation

On mobile devices, the toolbar menu is located at the bottom of the screen and provides access to the core features of DisasterAWARE.



Mobile scrolling / panning
While on a mobile device, swipe left or right, or up and down using your fingers to scroll / pan the map.



Mobile zooming
While on a mobile device, pinch open or pinch close to zoom in or out on the map.

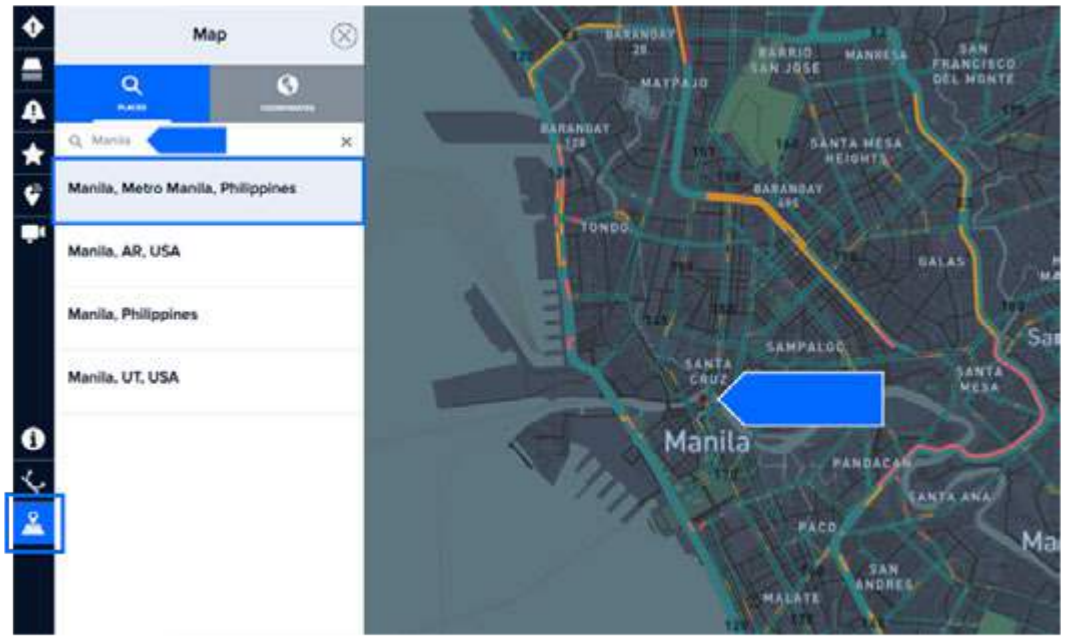


Map location search

You can search for locations on the map using the **Map location search** tool.



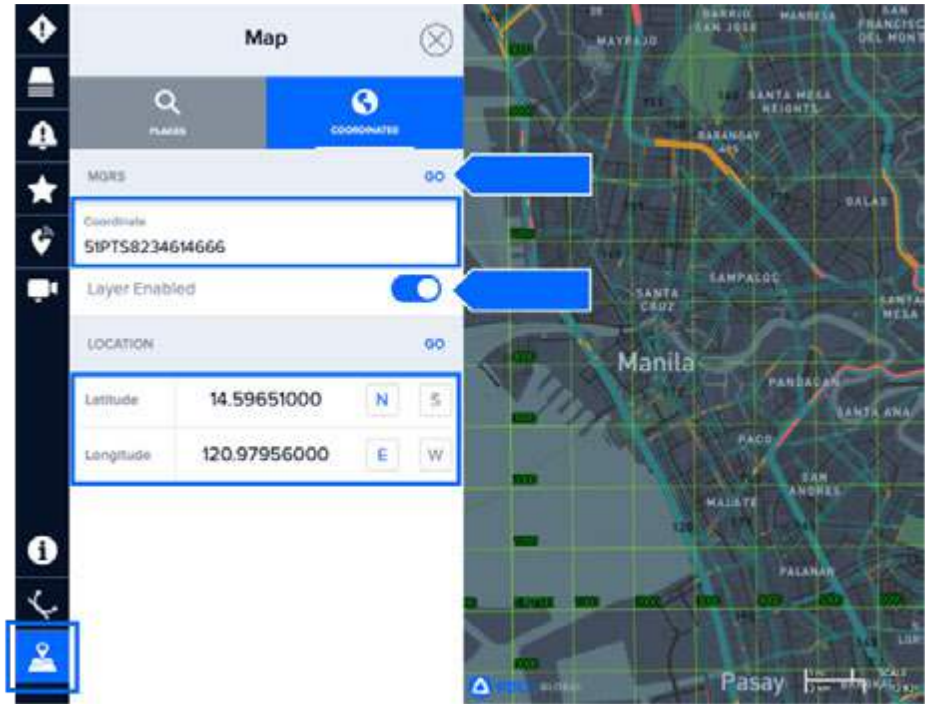
Click the **Map location search** tool from the left toolbar. Enter the name of a location into the search bar and select one of the matching results. Once selected, the map will zoom to that location.



Find locations by coordinates



While in the **Map** panel, you can also click the **Coordinates** tab find a location by either latitude and longitude, or MGRS coordinates (field is case sensitive).



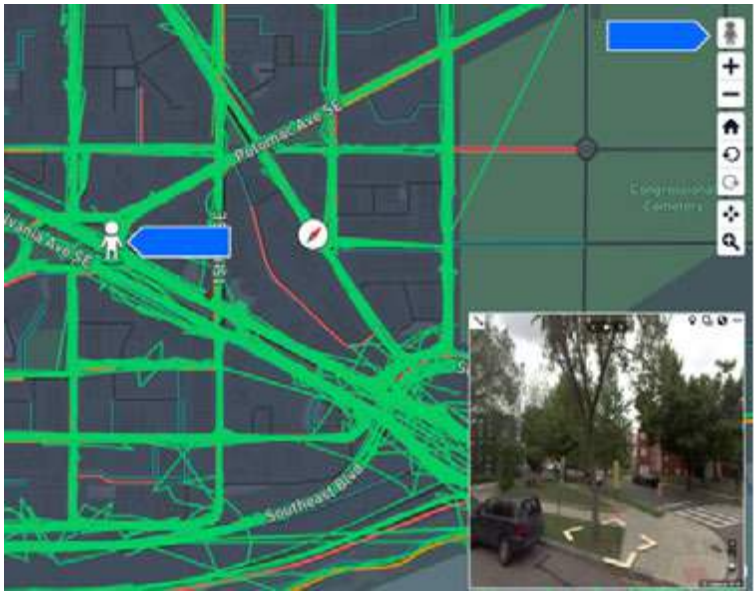
Overview Map

In the bottom of the right-hand corner is an **Overview Map** that depicts the current zoom extent in relation to the surrounding geographic region. You can minimize (hide) or maximize (expand) this feature.



Street View

Click the **Street View** icon on the top of the right toolbar and drag it to a location of interest on the map. While hovering over the map, areas where Street View is available will be highlighted in green. The circle below the street view icon will turn green when located above available street view images or video. Note: You may need to zoom the map further in towards the street level to activate Street View.



Street View will appear in the **Overview Map**, and navigation is done via directional controls available in the Overview Map.

Click the **Full Screen** button in the Overview Map to view Street View in full screen mode in the main map area.

Click the globe icon (top-right corner) to close Street View.

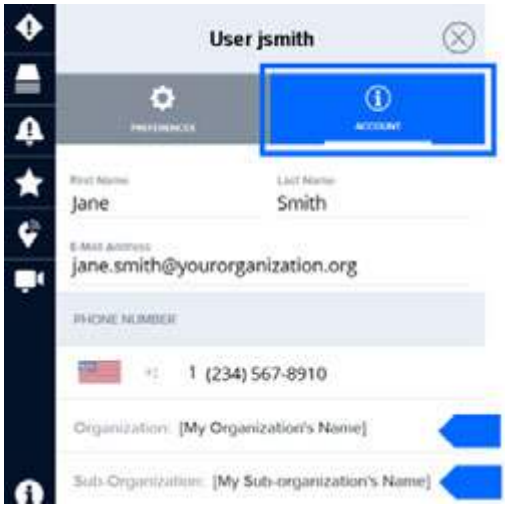


Receive early warning with Smart Alert™

Get early warning alerts for potential disasters happening anywhere around the globe and respond more quickly to hazards threatening the populations and assets in places you care about.

Note: Each user is assigned to an organization and sub-organization. This system facilitates the management of default settings and preferences tailored to each organization and sub-organization, ensuring a focused and customized user experience. However, you can change or customize those options at any time.

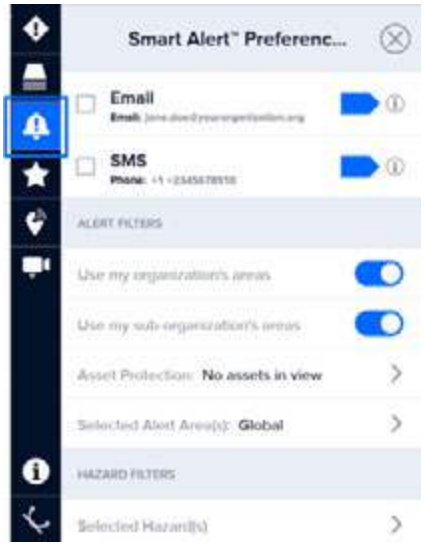
To view your organization and or sub-organization, go to **User** > **Account**.



Some organizations and sub-organization administrators may choose to set default Smart Alert preferences, such as Alert Areas and Hazard filters, for accounts associated with their organization and sub-organization.

New user accounts will automatically be assigned the default preferences defined by their organization or suborganization administrator. However, **any user account, whether new or old**, can choose to either use their organization's and or sub-organization's default settings or turn them off / customize them at any time.

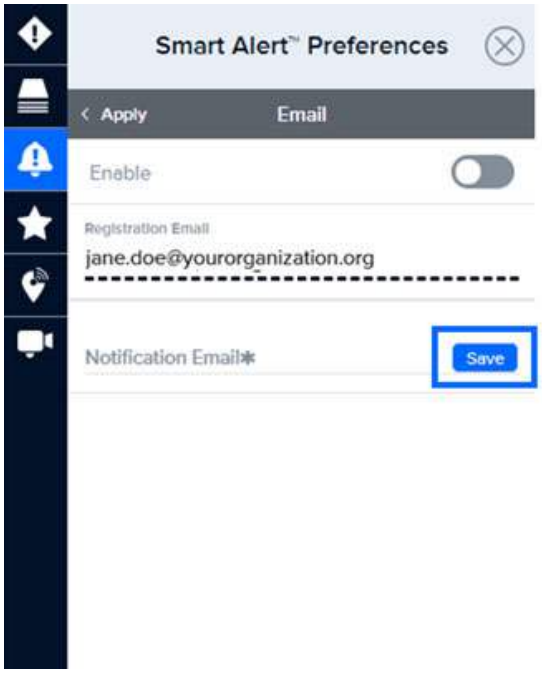
See below for further details on managing your Smart Alert settings:

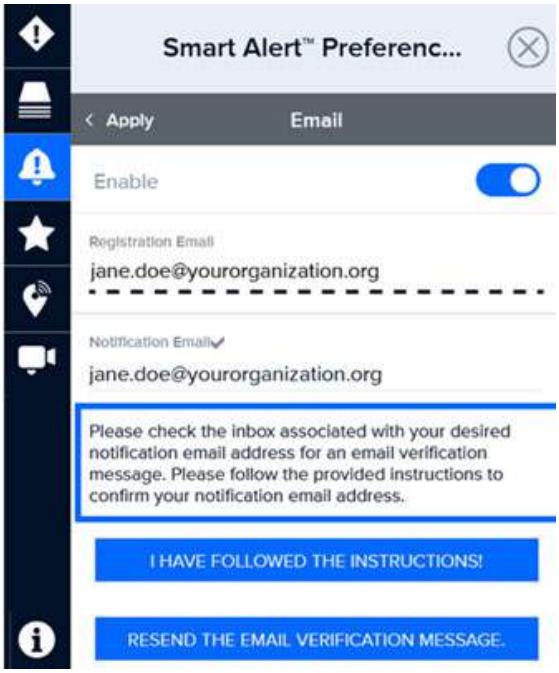


Setup email alerts

Click the **Smart Alert** icon from the left toolbar. While in the **Smart Alert Preferences** panel, check the box alongside **Email**. Then select the **info** (i) button to its right.

Under **Notification Email**, enter the email address for which you'd like to receive alerts. This can be the same or different than your account registration email. Click **Save** to save your notification email address.

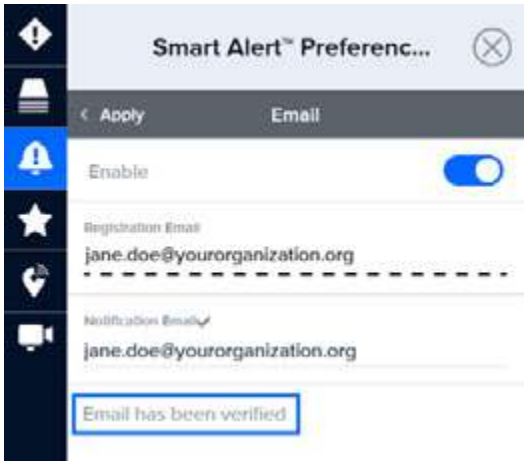




A verification email will be sent to the address you entered. Follow the instructions in the email and return to the **Smart Alert Preferences** panel. Select the '**I Have Followed the Instructions**' option.

You will now see an **Email has been verified** status as shown below.

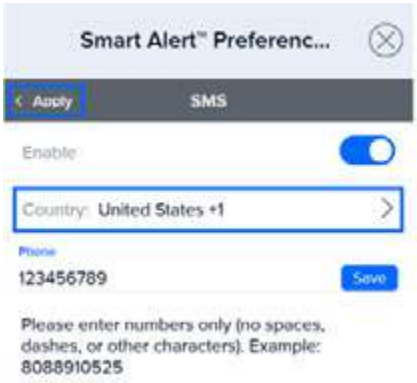
PRO TIP Have a watch office or want to alert your entire operations center? Enter your group email account in the form. Be sure to notify members of your group that they've been added to receive alerts and who to contact within your organization to be taken off the group list.



Receive SMS text message notifications (available for U.S. phone numbers only)

Note: Due to carrier limitations and related restrictions, the SMS option is only available for users with a U.S. phone number. **If you do not see the SMS option,** follow the steps in the *Get Smart Alerts on your mobile device section* of this user guide to setup Smart Alert notifications on your mobile device. You can also access the online tutorial here: **https://www.pdc.org/mobile-alerts/**

Select **Enable** and enter your phone number in the **Phone** field (no spaces, dashes, or other characters). Then, click the **Send a Test Message** button to confirm a successful SMS sign up and then select **Done**.



Get Smart Alerts on your mobile device (BETA feature)

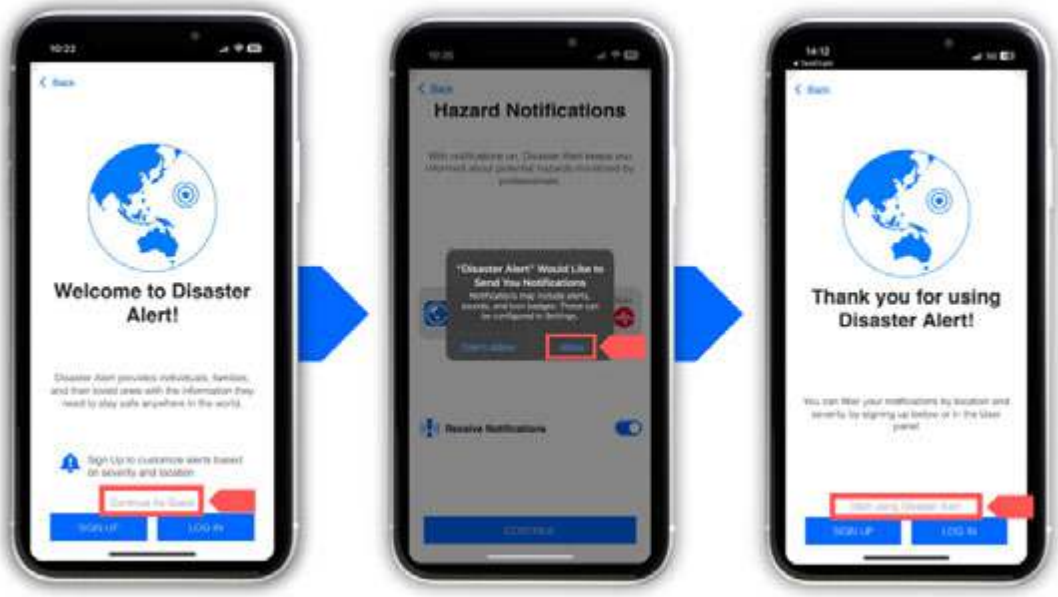
Receive hazard notifications and access the full power of DisasterAWARE on your mobile device. Users of DisasterAWARE, including all custom versions, can utilize the full suite of DisasterAWARE features on their mobile devices by downloading the Disaster Alert app.

- **Download PDC's free Disaster Alert mobile app**, available on Google Play and the iOS App Store
- **Next, watch this quick tutorial** to connect the app to your DisasterAWARE account and setup your mobile notifications: www.pdc.org/mobile-alerts

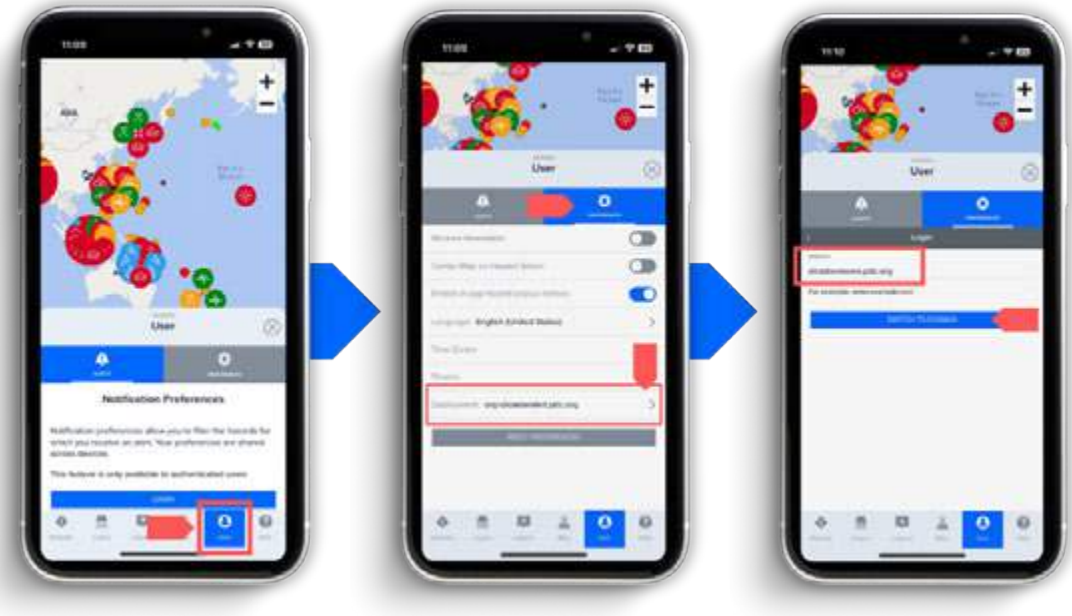
The following are key steps of particular importance that you must complete to ensure a successful setup of mobile Smart Alerts.



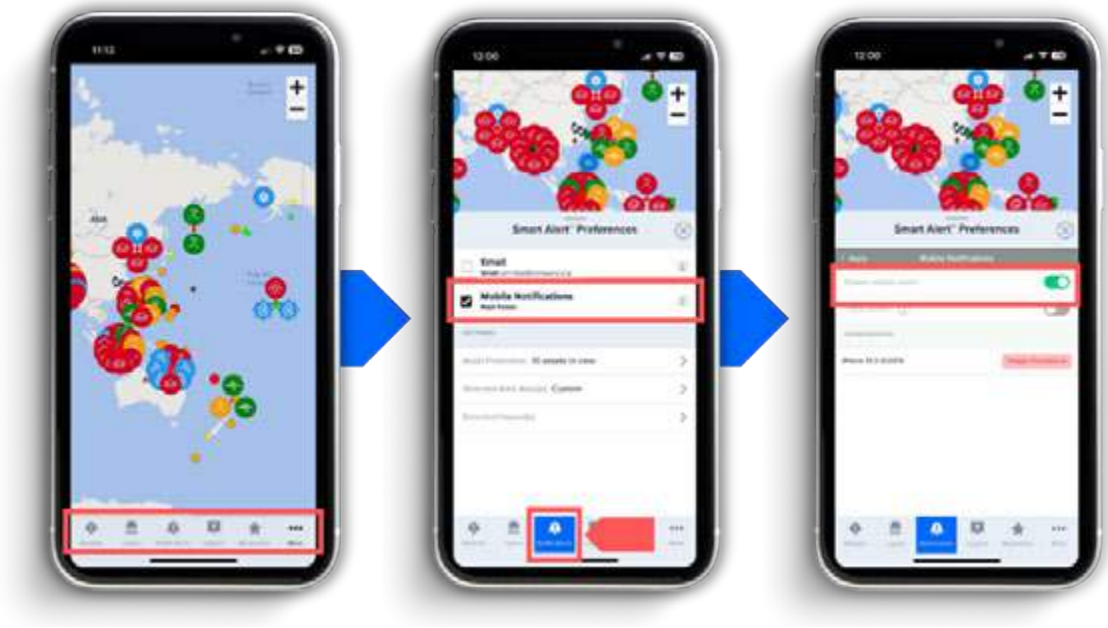
1. **Initial setup of the Disaster Alert app:**
    - **Select the Continue as Guest** option (**left image**). **DO NOT** select the Signup or Log In options **as those are** for public users of the **Disaster Alert** app.
    - **Select Allow (center image), when prompted, "Disaster Alert would like to send you notifications."** This critical step ensures that the app has the proper permissions to send you notifications via your device. Otherwise, you will not receive alerts.
    - If prompted, select the Start using Disaster Alert option (right image), to complete the initial app setup.



2. **Connect the Disaster Alert app to your DisasterAWARE account:**
    - Select the **User** feature from the bottom menu (left image).
    - Click on the **Preferences** tab and select to the "Deployment" option (center image).
    - Under **Domain**, enter the DisasterAWARE URL (disasteraware.pdc.org) and then select Switch to Domain (right image).
    - You will be redirected to the login screen for that application. Login with your DisasterAWARE credentials.



3. **Setup your Smart Alert mobile notifications:**
    - First, confirm that you successful connected the Disaster Alert mobile app to your DisasterAWARE account. You should now see the expanded DisasterAWARE toolbar at the bottom.
    - Select the **Notifications** option and enable the **Mobile Notifications** option.
    - Under the Mobile Notifications options, turn on **Enable mobile alerts** (switch to green)**.**

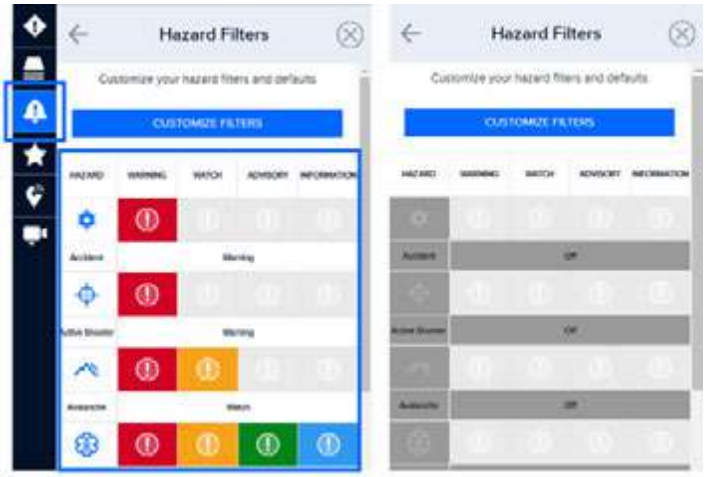


Specify hazards and severities for alerts

You can specify the types of hazards and severities you would like to receive alerts for or choose to use the default hazard and severity settings set by your organization or sub-organization.

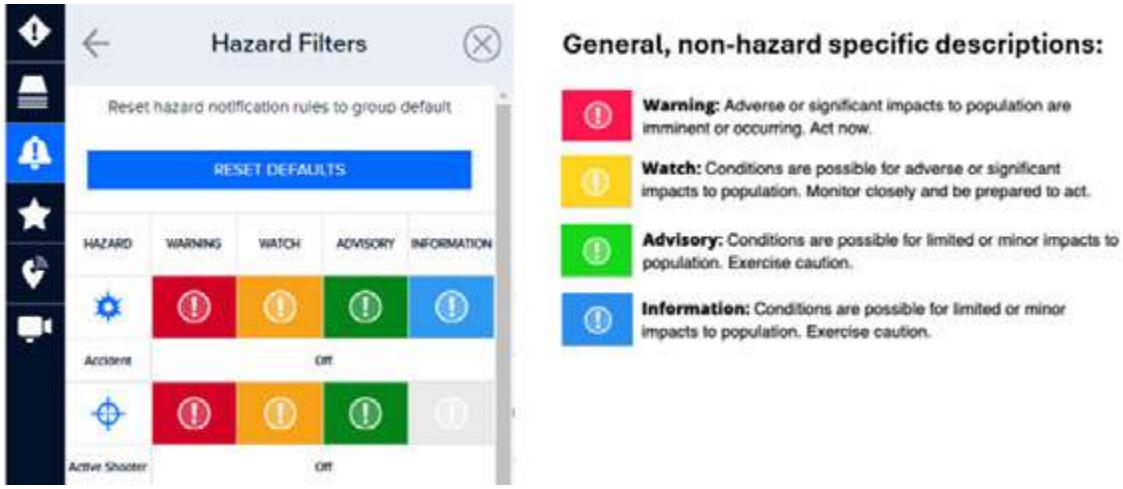
Click the **Smart Alert** icon from the left toolbar to open the **Smart Alert Preferences** panel. Click on the **Selected Hazards** link.

If your organization/sub-organization has set default hazards and severities, you will see those settings selected in the panel with under the option to **Customize Filters**, as shown below (left image). If they did not set any default settings, those options will be greyed out (right image).



To customize your **Hazard Filters,** select the **Customize Filters** button. The button will switch to say Reset Defaults.

Next, choose the severities for each type of hazard notification you'd like to receive. You will only receive alerts that meet or exceed your chosen severity for each hazard.



PRO TIP You can click on the severity heading at the top of the **Hazard Rules** panel (Warning, Watch, Advisory, or Information) to quickly select the same severity for all hazards.

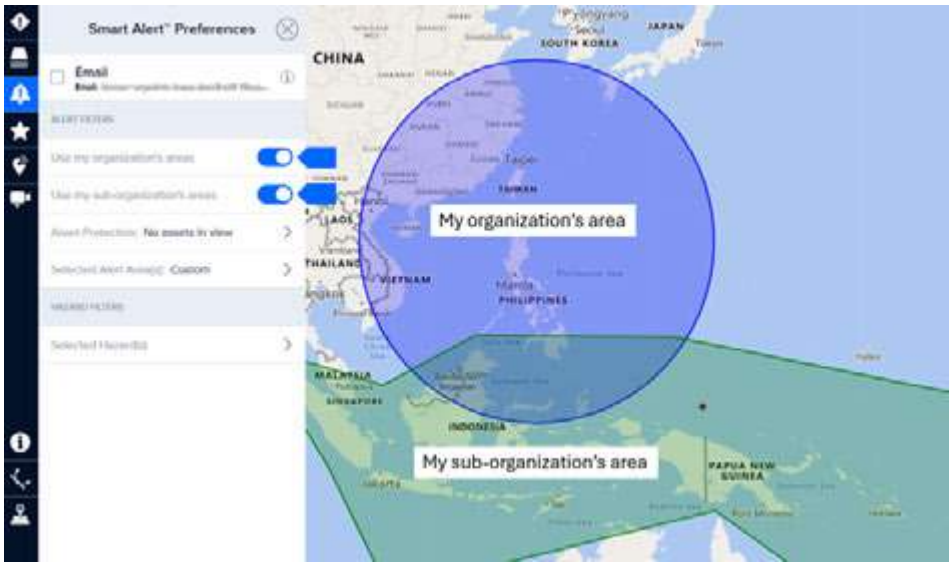
Select the **Reset Defaults** button if you wish to use your organization/sub-organization's default settings.

Select geographic areas for alerts

Smart Alert allows you to further filter and focus your alerts for specific areas on the map. Unless default Smart Alert area(s) have been set by your organization/sub-organization, the default Smart Alert Area is set to **Global.**

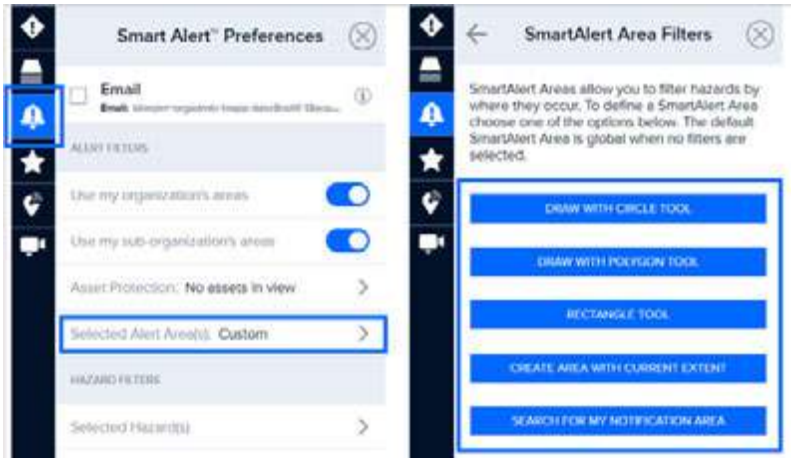
Click the **Smart Alert** icon from the left toolbar to open the **Smart Alert Preferences** panel.

If you would like to include your organization's or sub-organization's pre-defined alert areas in your **Alert Filters**, be sure to turn those options on. When on, the toggle to the right side of the panel for **User my organization's areas** and or **User my sub-organization's areas** will be to the right. Those areas will also be displayed on the map, as shown in the image below.

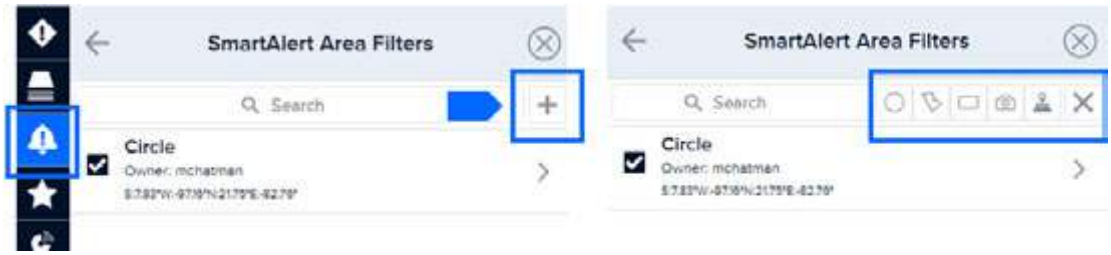


You can add your own Alert Area(s) by clicking on the **Selected Alert Area(s)** option.

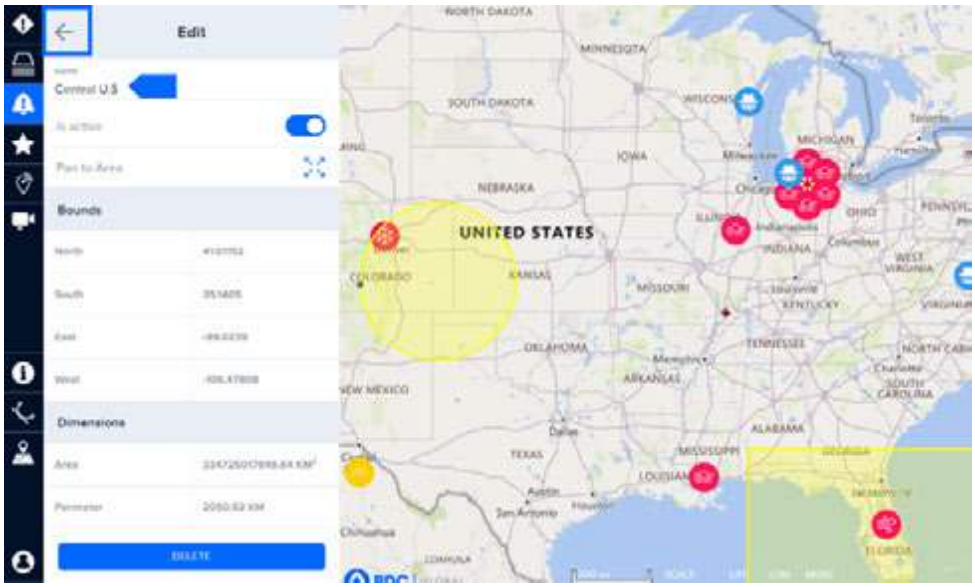
Select either the **Circle, Polygon, or Rectangle** option to draw one or more alert areas on the map. You may also define your Alert Area using your **Current Extent**, or by searching for your notification area.



If you already added a notification area or chose to include your organization or sub-organization's default area(s), you must click on the plus (+) button to access these options.

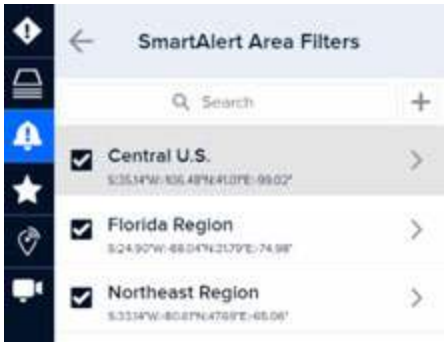


Enter a name for the area you created and click the back arrow. Names help you quickly identify a specific area when you want to make edits.

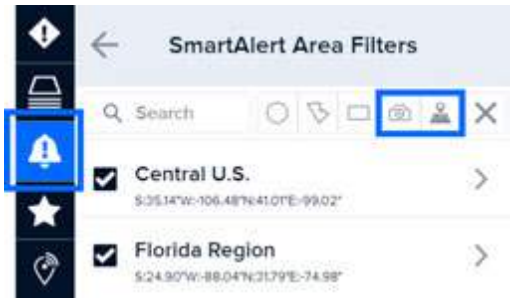


Your filtered area(s) will now appear in **Smart Alert Area Filters** panel, as well as your organization's or sub-organization's areas if you chose to include those.

You can edit or delete the alert areas you've created by clicking the arrow to the right of the item in your list.

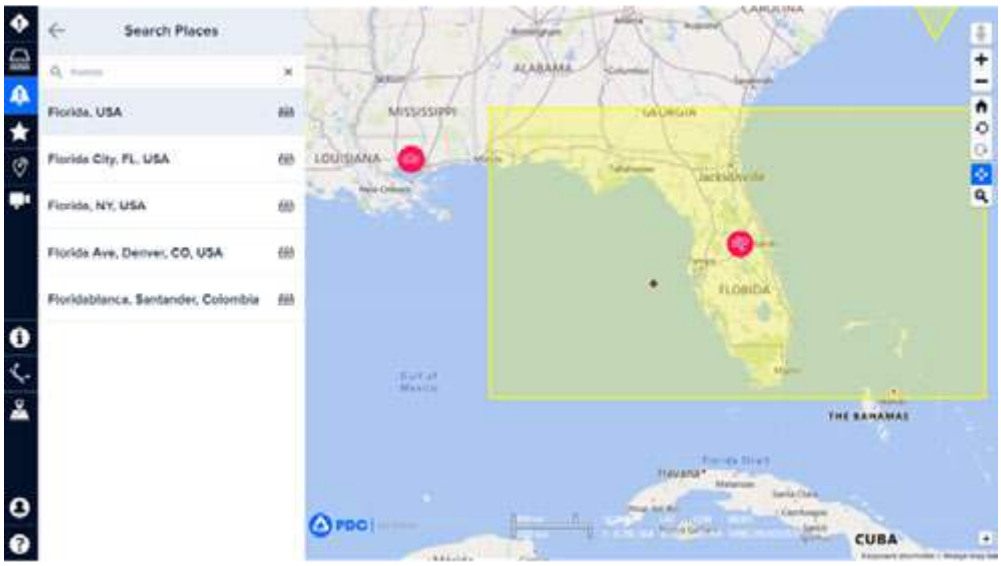


There are additional tools to help you create alert areas while in the **Smart Alert Area Filters** panel.



Click the **Camera** to create an alert area from your current zoom extent.

Click the **Map/Location** tool to help you search for a location on the map you want to outline (e.g. Florida). Learn more about this tool in the section titled *Map location search*.



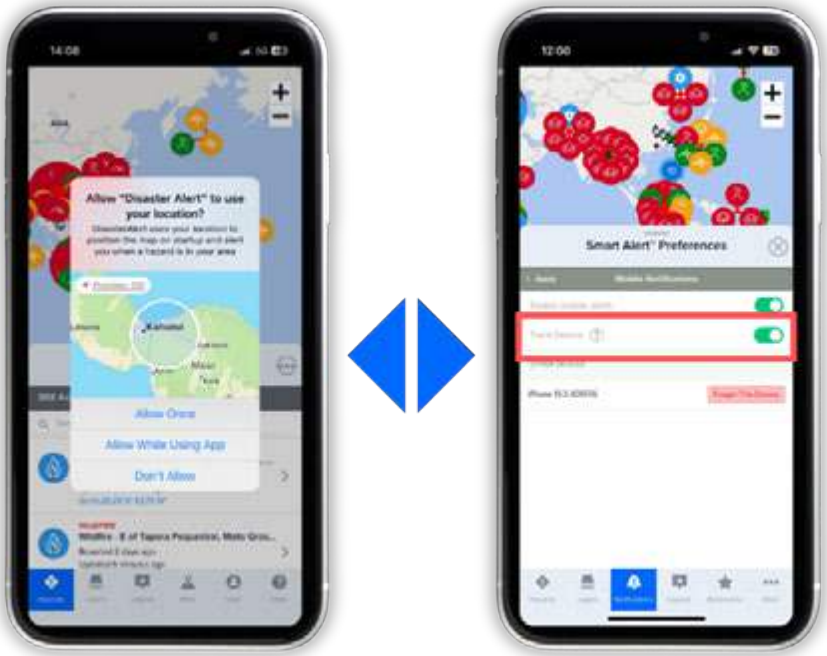
Receive notifications based on your current location (BETA feature)

DisasterAWARE users now have the option to receive Smart Alerts based on their current location. To take advantage of this enhanced alerting feature, you must download PDC's free Disaster Alert app and connect it to your DisasterAWARE account.

- Download PDC's free Disaster Alert mobile app – available on Google Play and the iOS App Store.
- Then watch this quick tutorial to setup in-app mobile notifications: www.pdc.org/mobile-alerts

Following the interactive online tutorial, you will need to complete two key steps to ensure DisasterAWARE is able to notify you of hazards threatening your current location:

1. **Allow the Disaster Alert app to use your location:** While setting up the mobile app you will be asked to allow Disaster Alert to use your location (left image).
2. **Turn on Track Device** under Smart Alert Preferences > Notifications > Mobile Notifications is active (right image).



Monitor and protect the safety of your assets with Smart Alert

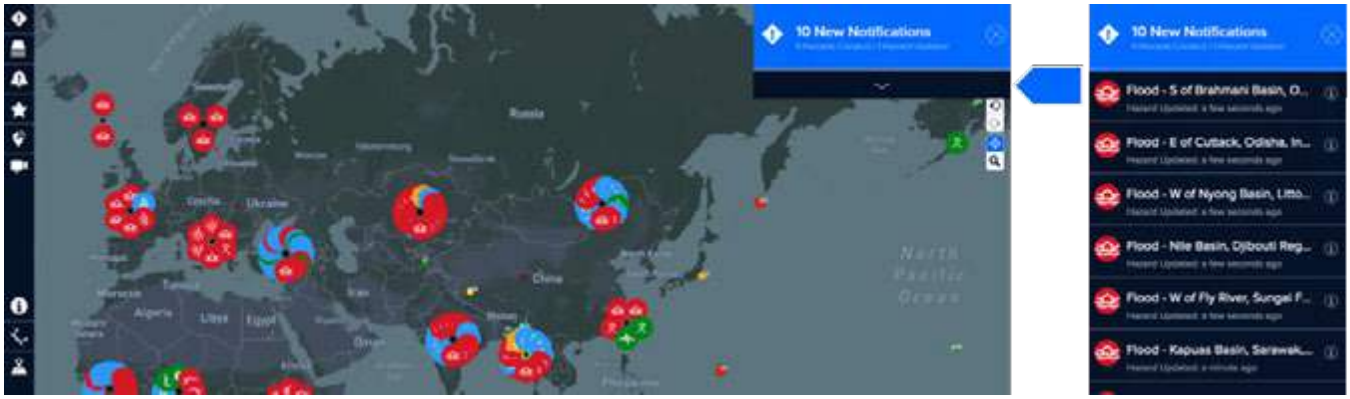
Monitor your stationary or moving assets (such as buildings, personnel, or goods in transit) and receive alerts when a hazard presents a threat. (See the section titled *Monitor and protect your assets*.)

Hazard Notifications

Once you have subscribed to alerts, you will get updates on your mobile phone and / or email according to the preferences you've selected.

While logged into DisasterAWARE, you will also receive on-screen notifications about hazards around the world. This includes new hazards as well as updates about existing hazards. These are global system notifications and are not connected to your personal Smart Alert Preferences.

To view **Hazard Notification** details, click the down arrow to expand the panel. Select a hazard from the drop-down list to view its content.

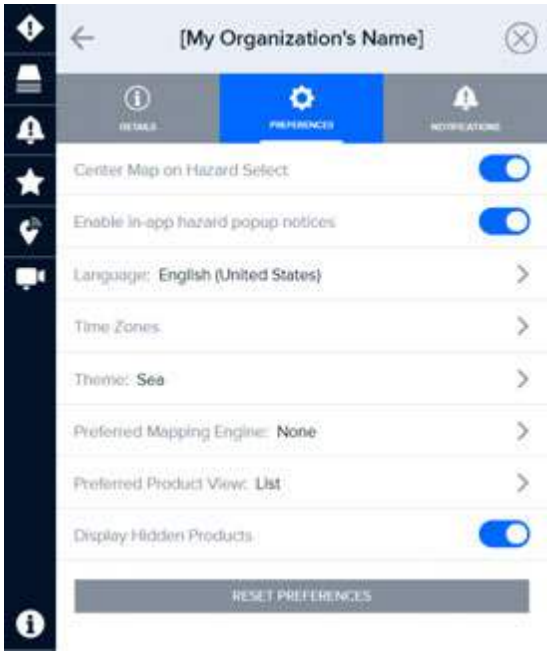


How to unsubscribe from alerts

To unsubscribe from alerts, click the **Smart Alert** icon from the left toolbar, then the simply uncheck the options for **SMS** and/or **Email**. To quickly remove alerts sent via SMS (text) messages, send a text reply with the word "STOP."

Account, language, and time zone preferences

Note: Each user is assigned to an organization and suborganization. This system facilitates the management of default settings and preferences (see image below) tailored to each organization and suborganization, ensuring a focused and customized user experience. To view your organization and or sub-organization, go to **User** > **Preferences**.



However, you can change or customize those options at any time, as well as **Reset Preferences** back to your organization or sub-organization's default settings.

Personalize language preferences

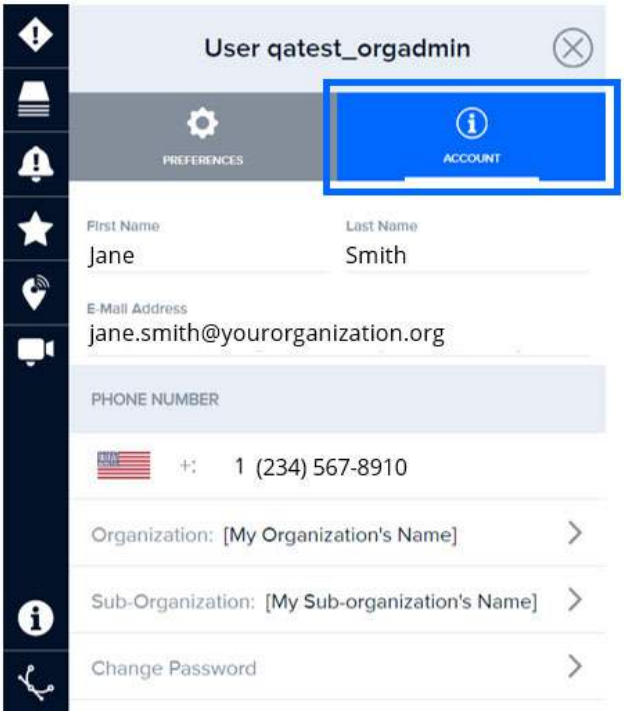
DisasterAWARE is compatible with a variety of different languages that can be selected to personalize your experience in the system. Additional languages are planned for the future.

Click the **User** icon from the left toolbar. Click the Language option under the **Preferences** tab to open the **Language** panel. Select from the available languages listed and click **Apply**.



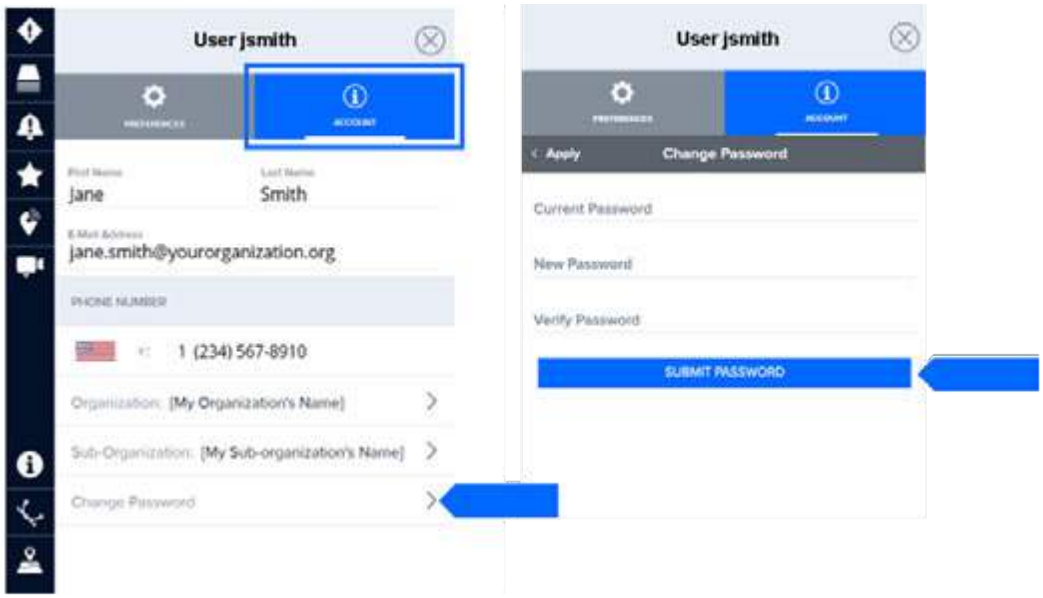
Change or update your account email and phone number

Choose **User > Account** tab to change your account information. This information is not associated with your Smart Alert notification email or SMS (text) preferences. See the section title *Receive early warning with Smart Alert™* on how to setup or change Smart Alert preferences.



Change or reset your password

Click the **User** icon from the left toolbar, followed by **Account tab > Change Password**, to change your password. Enter your current password, then enter your new password, verify your new password, and then click **Submit Password**.



View multiple time zones for areas you wish to monitor

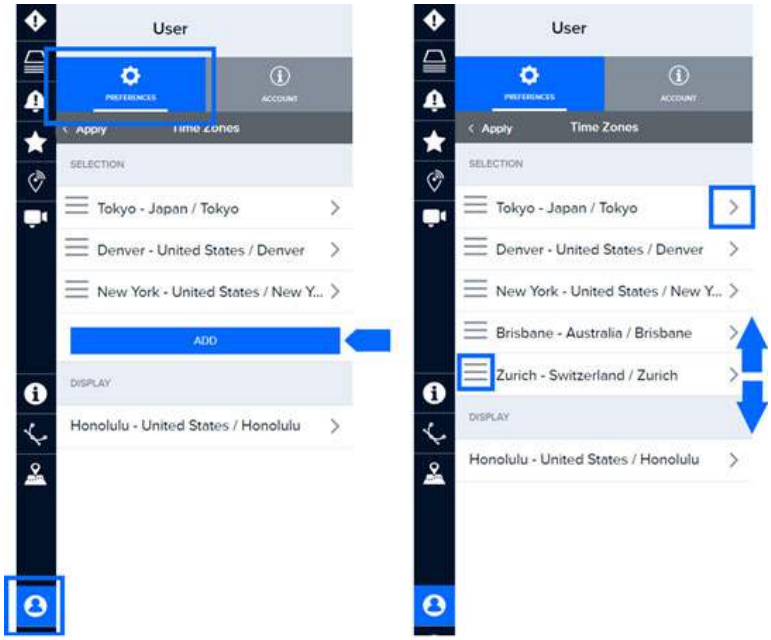
Need to monitor hazards and assets across multiple time zones? View the Time Banner at the top of the map or customize clocks to include the time zones of places you care about.



Click the **User** icon on the left toolbar, and then **Preferences > Time Zones**. You can display up to five clocks, in addition to the UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) clock. By default, Washington D.C., Honolulu, Tokyo, Sydney, and London are displayed.

To change a clock, select it from the list and click on **Location**. Select a **Country**, a **City**, then **Apply. Click and slide** the Time Zone up or down in the Time Zones list to change the order the clocks are displayed in the banner.

Should you wish to remove a clock, select it from the list and click **Delete.**



PRO TIP When adding or customizing a clock, you can rename it to represent a specific asset or location you're monitoring (e.g. Headquarters).

To see the current time at any hazard location around the world, click the hazard icon and one of its quick links (Brief, Products, and Event Brief; Edit is available for Admin). The UTC clock will automatically switch to the local time in that hazard's geographic location.



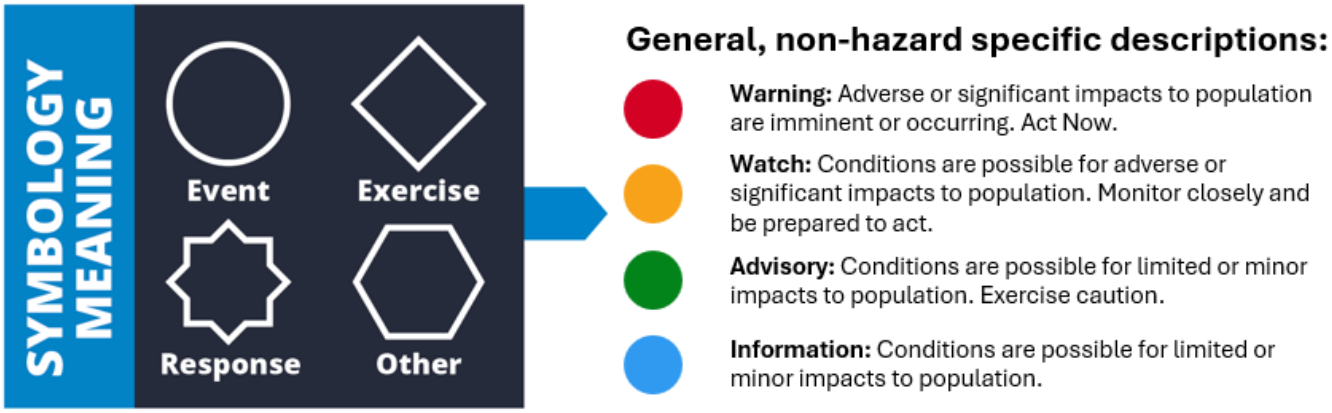
MONITOR MULTIPLE HAZARDS

Hazard types, symbology, and meaning

Below are some of the types of hazards for which users can receive early warning in DisasterAWARE. PDC continues to add new hazard types as reliable information becomes available.



Hazards are encoded with additional symbols and colors to indicate the type of occurrence and severity.

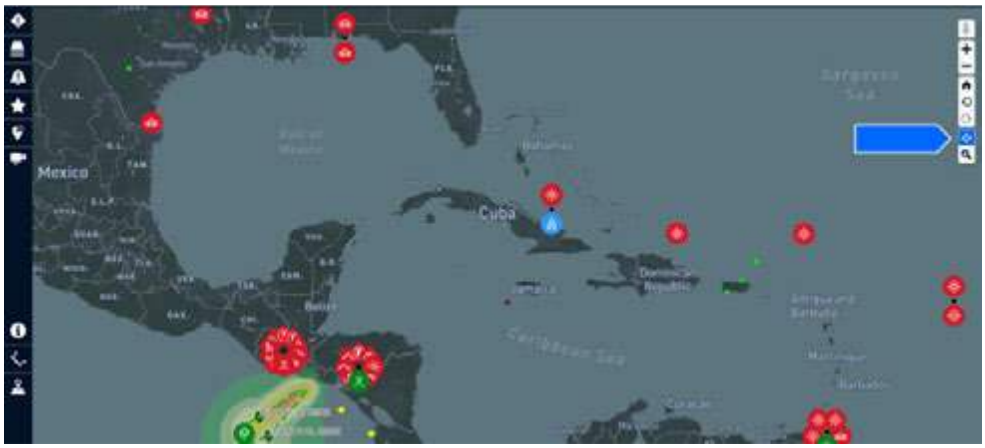


Locate hazards

There are multiple ways to locate information about hazards in DisasterAWARE and to help you assess impacts.

Pan and scroll the map to identify hazards

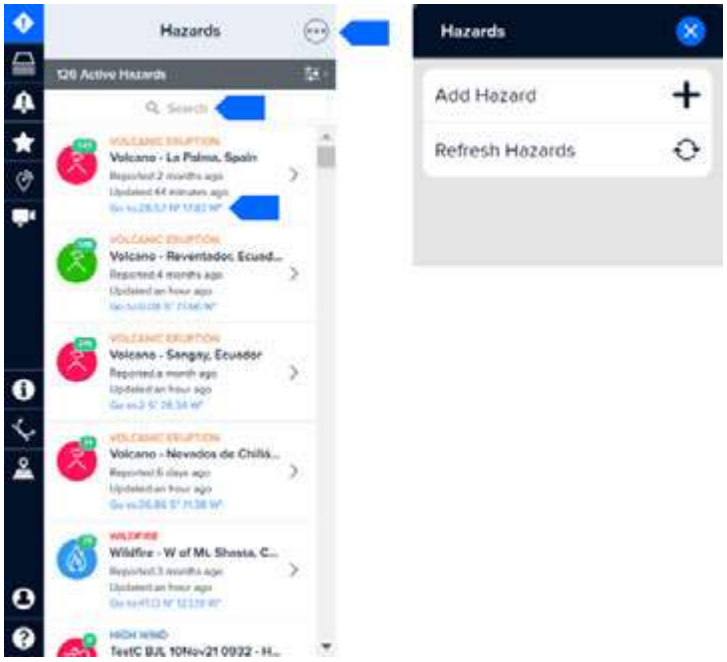
This method is commonly used and allows you to quickly locate and select a hazard directly from the map. Place your cursor over the map and then click and drag your mouse to pan the map and look for hazards. Make sure the pan tool is highlighted on the left toolbar when trying to pan the map. See the section on *Map navigation basics* for more on this.



View and search the active hazards list

Click the **Hazards** icon on the left toolbar. The **Hazards panel** will open, displaying a list of active hazards. By default, the most recently updated hazard will appear at the top of the list.

Hazards are automatically updated in the list every five minutes. You may refresh the list sooner by clicking the three dots at the top of the hazard panel and then the **Refresh Hazards** option.



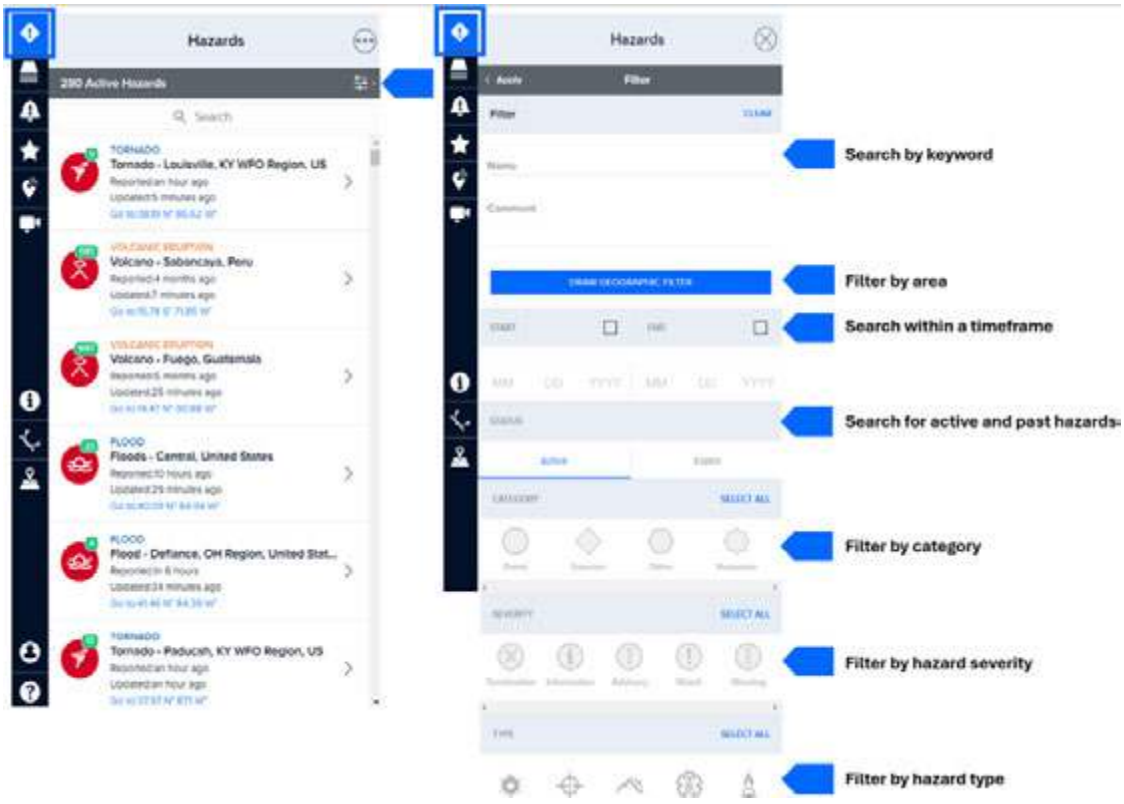
Within the **Hazard panel**, use the **Search** field to quickly filter the list by keyword. You may zoom to a hazard on the map by clicking the "Go to" coordinates in the list. To learn more about hazards, their data sources, and hazard-specific layers, see the section *Data layers to support decision making.*

Advanced hazard search

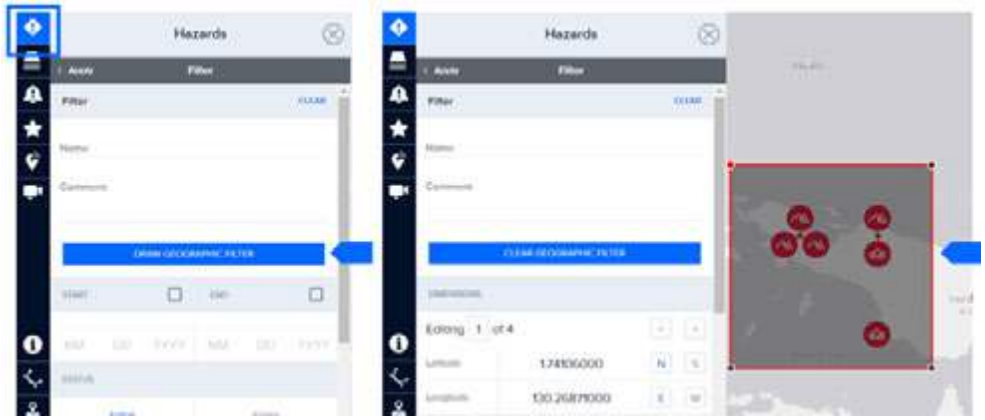
You can search for active and historical hazard information and hazard products using the **Advanced Hazard Search**. Advanced search filters include active and expired hazards, hazard types, date ranges, severities, areas, and more.

Click the **Hazard** icon on the left toolbar to open the hazards panel.

Next, click the **Filter** icon to the top right of the panel to use the **Advanced Hazard Search** feature.



To search a specific area, select the **Draw Geographic Filter** option. Then click and drag your cursor across the desired area on the map to draw a rectangle-shaped filter around the area you wish to restrict your hazard search within.



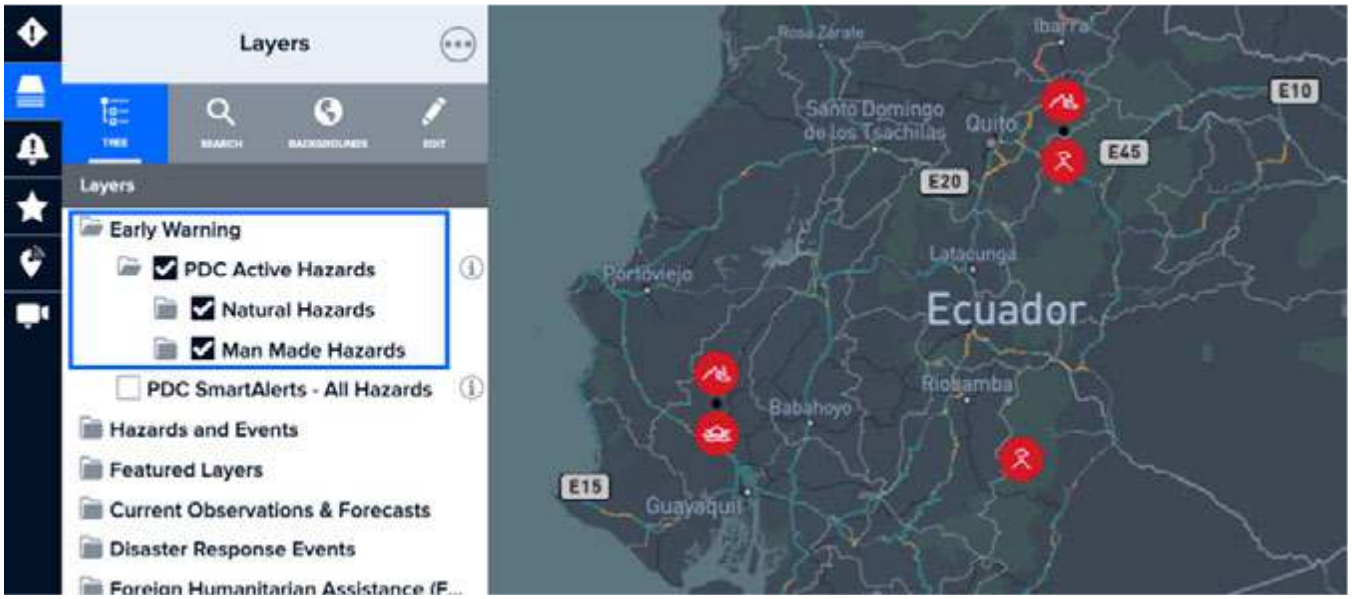
PRO TIP

Want to save your Advanced Hazard Search settings for later viewing? Simply enable the **PDC Active Hazard** layers you wish to include, as well as apply any additional filters via the Hazard panel, and create a Bookmark. Hazard filters will be saved to that Bookmark for quick access at any time.

Quickly filter hazards from the Layers panel

In addition to the Advanced Hazard Search features above, you may also adjust the types of hazards you see on the map through the Layers panel. Open the Layers panel and navigate to **Early Warning > PDC Active Hazards** folder. The **PDC Active Hazards** folder organizes layers into two subfolders: **Natural Hazards** and **Man Made Hazards**. Expand the folders and select individual layers within each subfolder you wish to have visible on the map (e.g. Earthquake, Man Made, Cyber, etc.).

You can also select and unselect the checkbox next to the folder's name to enable or disable all layers within that folder.





Quickly access key hazard information

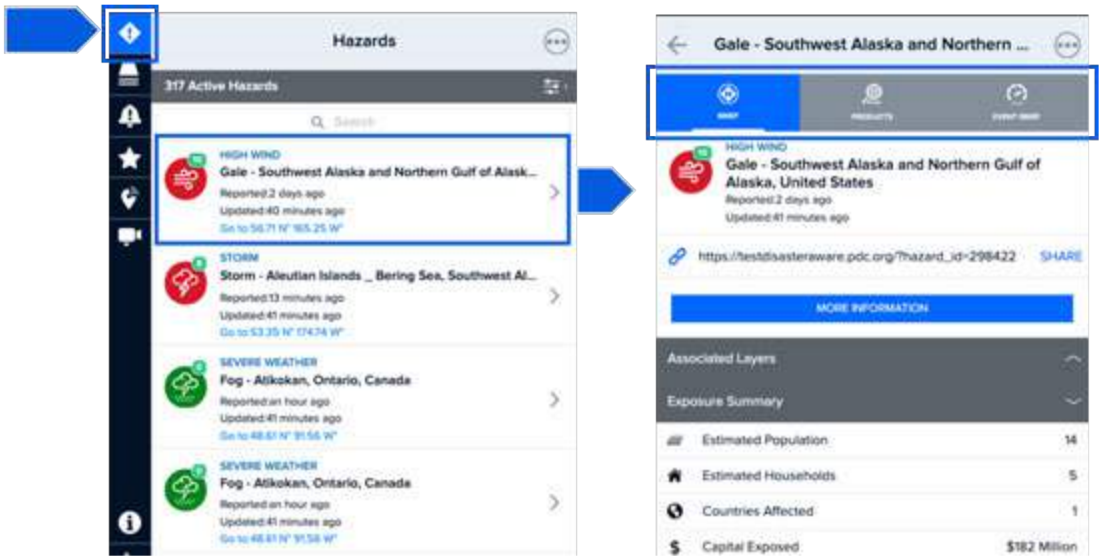
Hazard tooltip and quick links

Hazard tooltips provide quick access to information to help you rapidly assess the potential impacts of hazards. To access these "quick links," click on a hazard on the map.

The tooltip will display quick links to additional information about the selected hazard: **Brief**, **Products**, and **Event Brief**. The **Edit** quick link included below is available to Admin users.



Note: You can also access a hazard's **Brief, Products,** and **Event Brief** features by selecting the hazard from the **Hazard Panel** and clicking the corresponding tabs, as shown below.



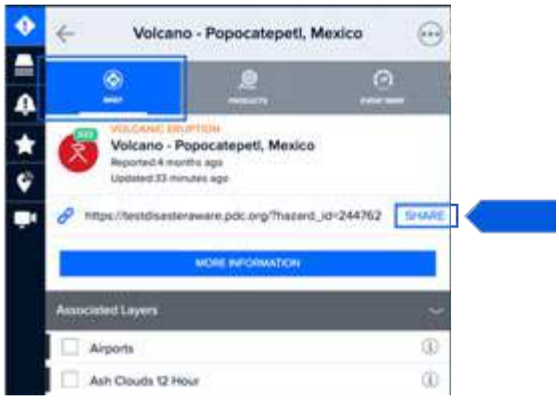
Brief quick link



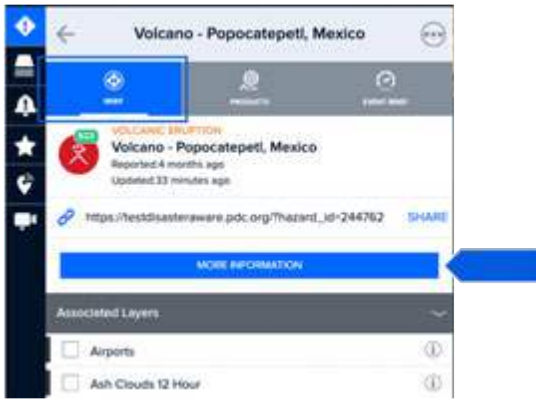
The **Brief** quick link provides access to key map layers related to the selected hazard type, including a summary of exposure—such as population, demographic breakdowns, capital, and critical infrastructure. It also includes a brief event description and a link to share the hazard directly with other users.

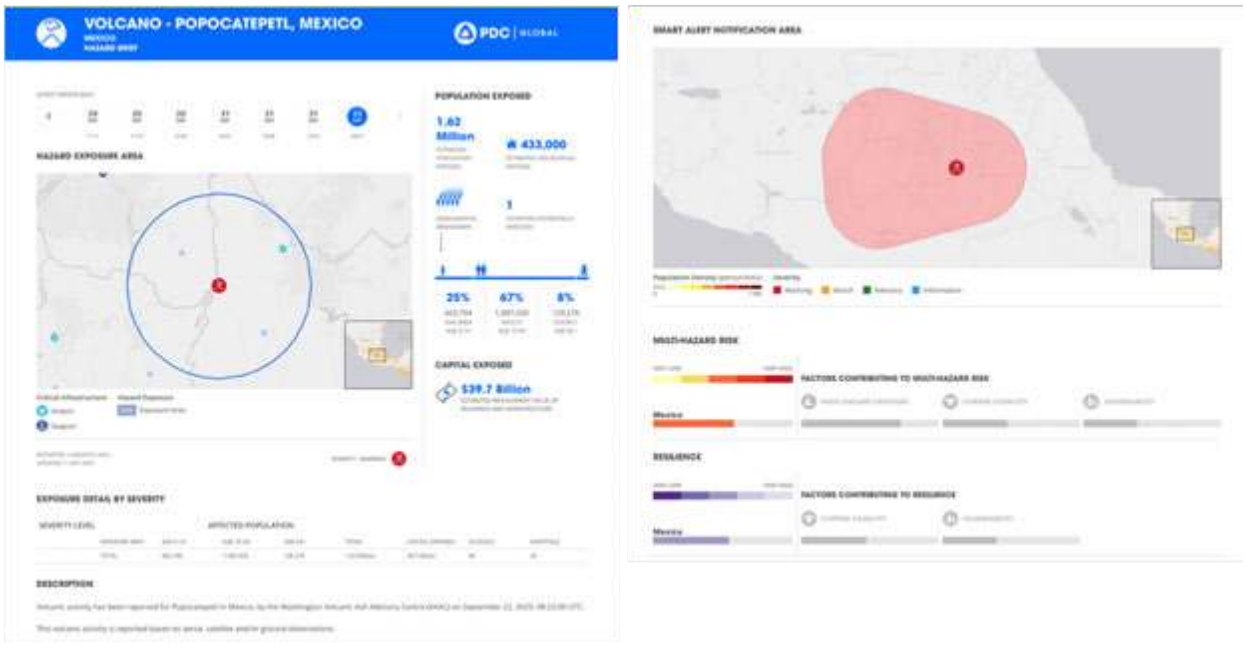
Note: At this time, exposure data in the Brief quick link are available for all hazards except tsunamis, wildfires, manmade hazard types, and manually added hazards. A 'No data available' message will display for those sections. To view exposure information for those hazard types, select either the More Information button in the Brief panel or the Event Brief quick link. This feature is actively being expanded to include exposure information for those hazard types.

Select the **Share** option next to the URL at the top of the Brief panel to quickly copy a direct link to the hazard for easy sharing with other users.

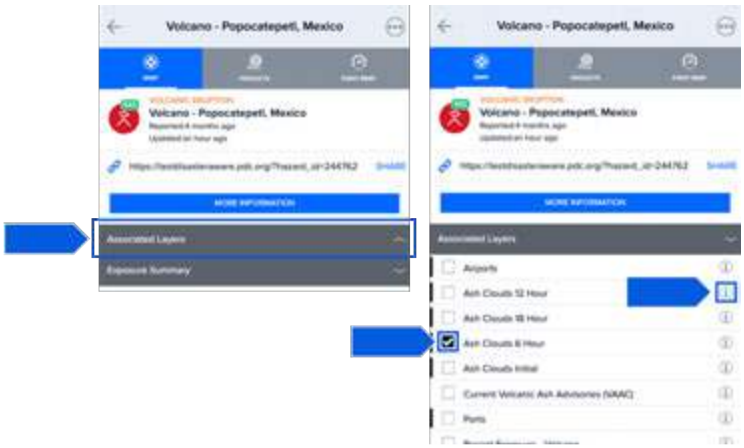


The **More Information** button opens a report-style view of the exposure and impact information from the Brief panel in a new tab. This view presents the information in a clean, printable format.





Click the **Associated Layers** heading to expand the section and access a selection of relevant data for the selected hazard type. Check the box next to a layer to display it on the map. To view more details about a layer, click the **Info** (i) button on the right.



The **Exposure Summary** provides preliminary information on the estimated number of population and households potentially exposed, including the number of countries affected and capital exposure (in US Dollars).

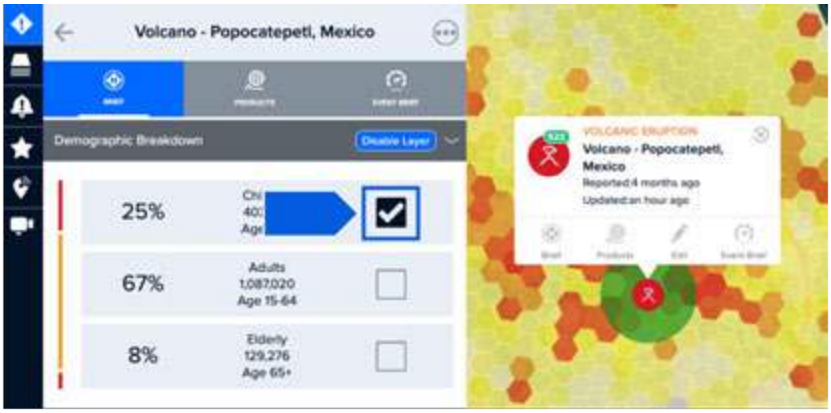


View the **Demographic Breakdown** for detailed information on the number of children, adults, and elderly potentially exposed. Click **Enable Layer** to display the population data on the map.

PRO TIP

After clicking **Enable Layer**, you can filter the population data displayed on the map by individual categories—Children, Adults, or Elderly—or by any combination of those categories (e.g., Children and Elderly). Simply check or uncheck the boxes next to each category to update the map view. The map will automatically refresh to reflect your selection.





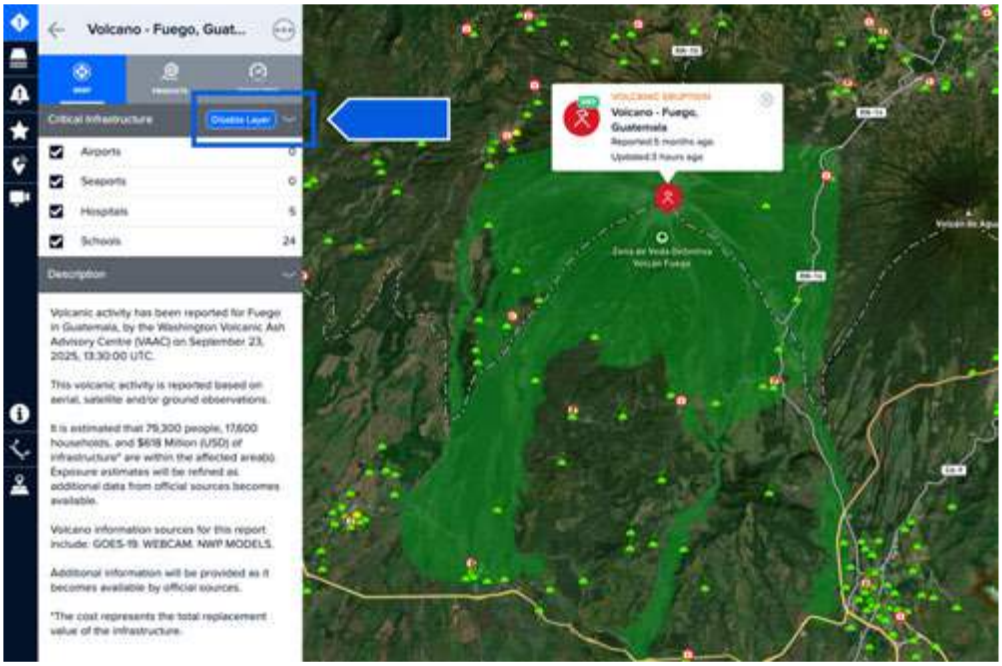
Exposure Detail by Severity provides a summary of the exposed population and capital, organized by the severity of potential impacts. It includes a breakdown of the exposed population by age group for each severity level, along with the estimated replacement value (in U.S. dollars) of exposed infrastructure and critical facilities by type (e.g., schools, hospitals, airports, seaports, etc.).

Note: The exposure layer for the selected hazard is enabled by default when the **Brief** panel opens. Select **Disable Layer** if you no longer wish to view it on the map.



Under **Critical Infrastructure**, you can view the number potentially exposed by type, as well as their locations on the map. Select **Enable Layer** to display these layers. To manage which types of critical infrastructure are visible, check or uncheck the boxes next to each category. Select the **Disable Layer** option to remove all critical infrastructure layers from your map.

Note: While all critical infrastructure locations for the enabled layer (e.g., Airports) will appear on the map, the count next to the layer name in the Critical Infrastructure section shows only those exposed to the hazard.



A **Description** of the hazard (depicted in the image above) is available near the bottom of the **Brief** panel. This AI-assisted description is generated using a combination of authoritative sources, along with PDC's advanced analytics and models.

Products quick link



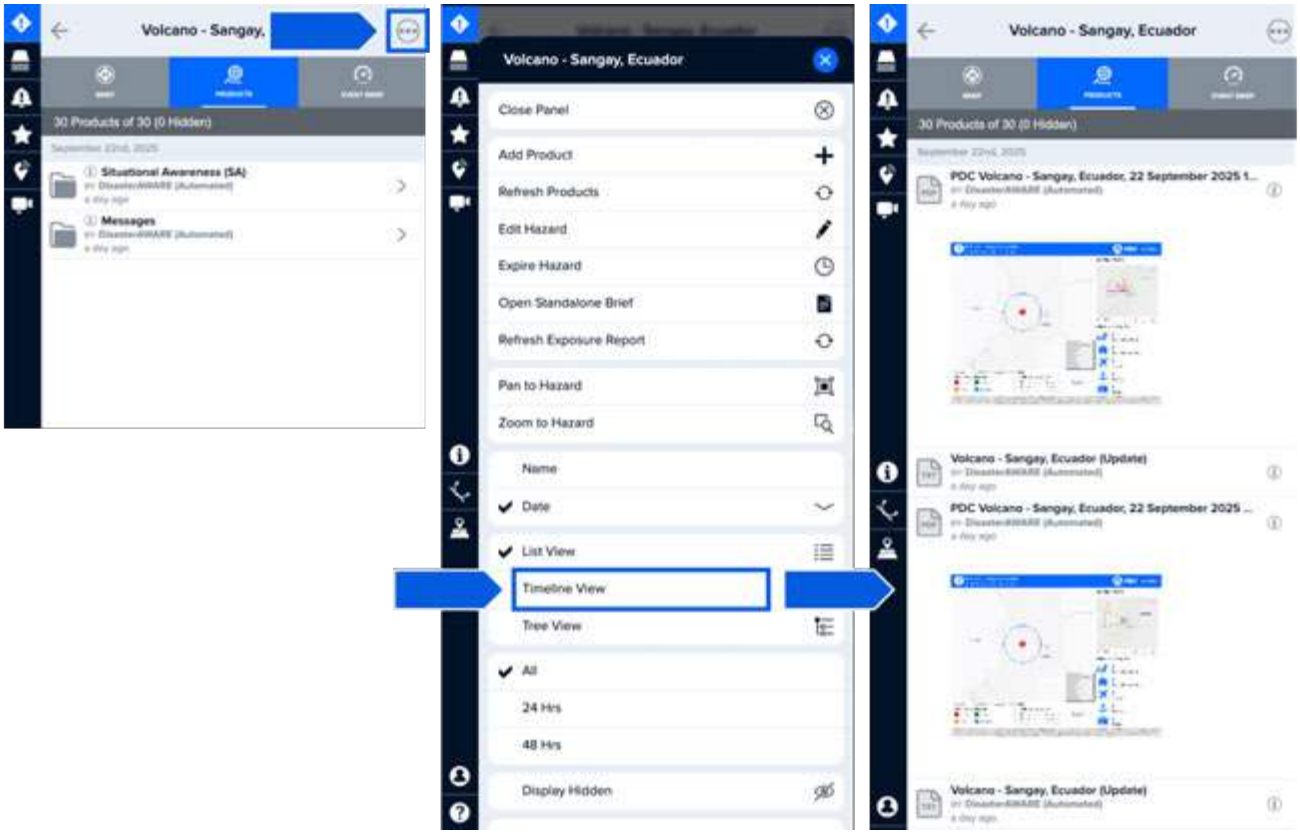
The **Products** quick link provides access to a variety of reports, custom maps, analyses, and other information shared by multiple agencies. Below is an example of product types:

- **Situational Awareness Products** (for specialized maps, analyses, and modeled impact assessments)
- **Situation Reports** (for detailed agency updates on the situation on the ground)
- **Damage and Needs Assessments** (for information related to damage and needs)
- **Reference Maps** (for response and recovery planning)

By default, products are listed and grouped by category, then organized into subfolders based on the organization that authored them.

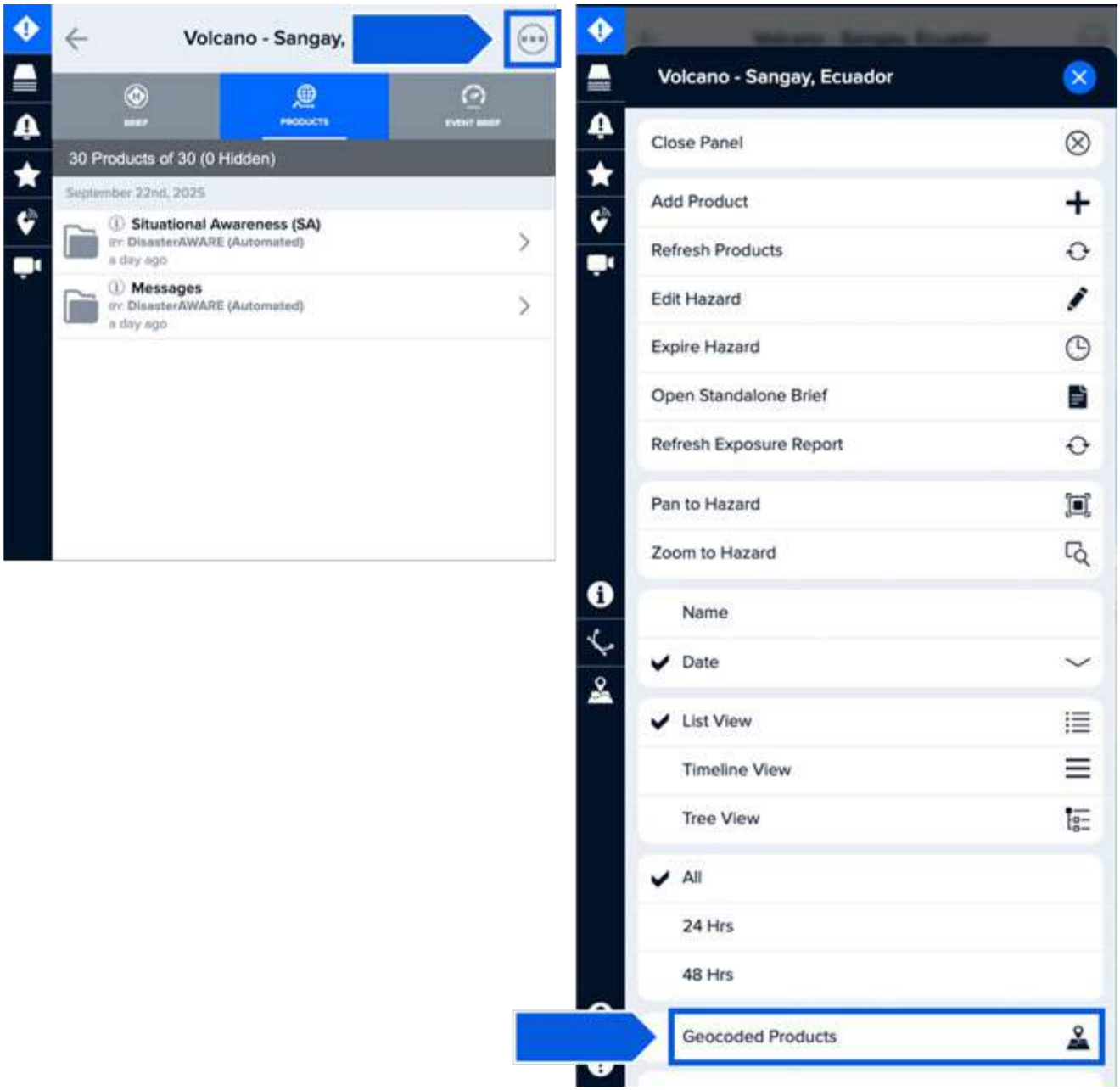
PRO TIP The Products list is set to automatically check for new products and updates every hour. However, you can manually refresh the list by selecting the **Product Settings [. . .]** at the top of the product panel and clicking **Refresh Products**.

You can also adjust how products are displayed—such as **List View**, **Timeline View**, or **Gallery View**—by clicking the **Product Settings [. . .]** icon. This provides access to several options, including sorting by Name or Date, and filtering to show all products for the hazard or only those added within the last 24 or 48 hours.



In these settings, you can also turn on **Geocoded Products** to see products tagged with specific locations—so they'll appear right on the map based on user-defined coordinates.

When products are geocoded, they automatically appear on the map, making it easy to identify them by location. To disable this feature, simply toggle off **Geocoded Products** in the **Product Settings** panel.



Event Brief quick link



Event Brief provides expanded, life-saving information to support rapid decision-making and response during major hazards with potentially devastating impacts—such as population exposure, impacts to lifelines, and mass care needs. It helps anticipate hazard impacts and answers key questions like:

- What happened?
- Where did it happen?
- How bad is it?
- What actions need to be taken?

For more information on **Event Brief**, see the *Anticipate Hazard Impacts with Event Brief* section.

Edit quick link



Edit is available to Admin Users.
Learn more in the *System administration* section.

ANTICIPATE HAZARD IMPACTS WITH EVENT BRIEF

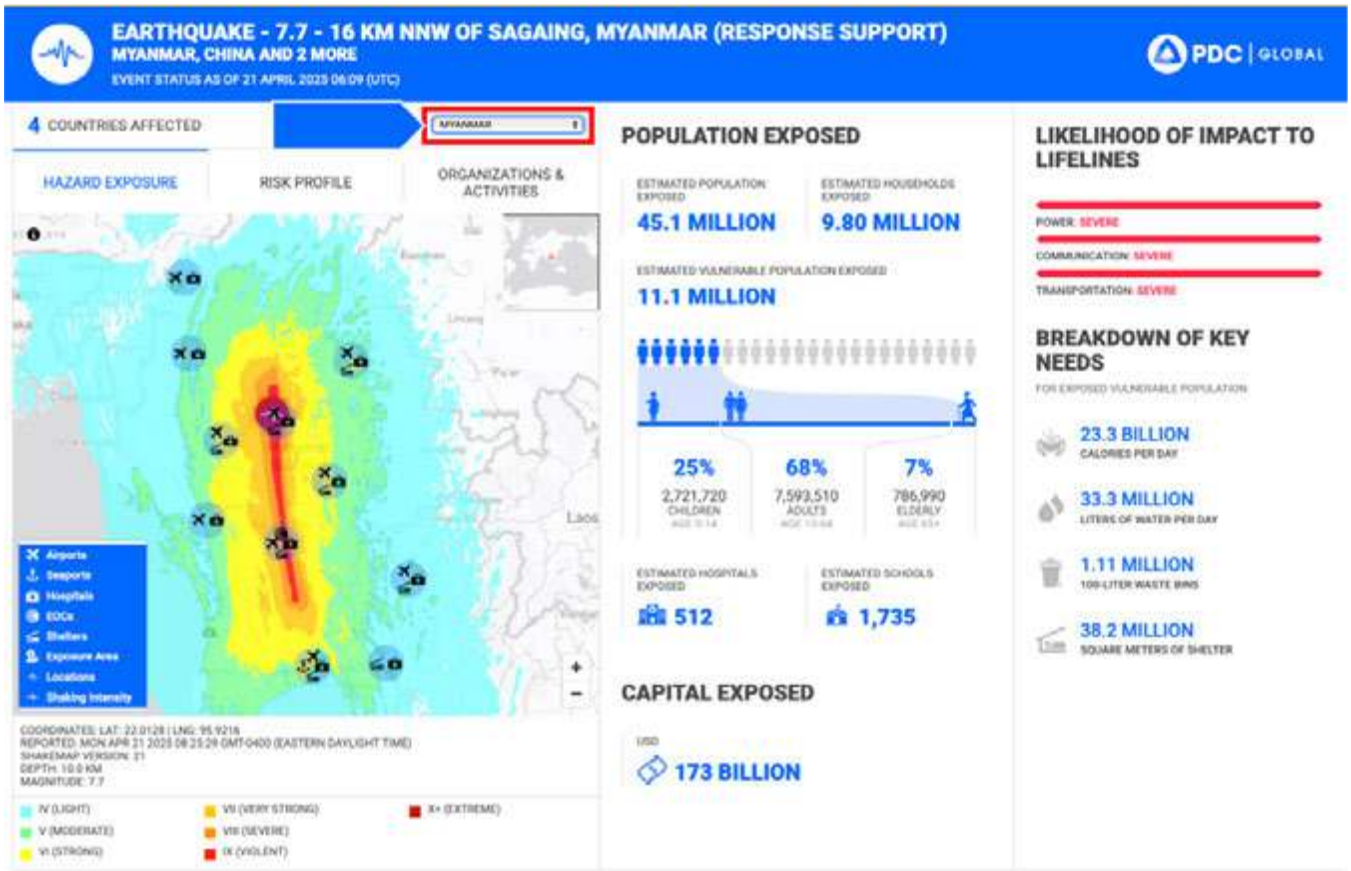
Event Brief provides expanded, life-saving information to support rapid decision-making and response during major hazards with potentially devastating impacts—such as population exposure, impacts to lifelines, and mass care needs. It helps anticipate hazard impacts and answers key questions like: What happened? Where did it happen? How bad is it? What actions need to be taken?

For hazards that meet the Event Brief threshold (see thresholds later in this section), you can gain quick and easy access to:

- Estimated population exposure, critical infrastructure, and capital exposure
- Potential impacts to lifelines
- Estimated humanitarian needs for mass care
- Risk and vulnerability information
- Live cameras (available for select locations)
- Humanitarian organizations operating in the affected area
- Current weather conditions
- Latest maps and products shared by PDC and other response organizations
- Historical event impacts for comparison
- Travel and health advisories
- Top news stories about the event

***Please note:** Certain features listed above may not be visible if data is unavailable for the hazard or area of interest. For more on hazards supported by Event Brief, see section later in this document title *Event Brief Hazard Thresholds.*

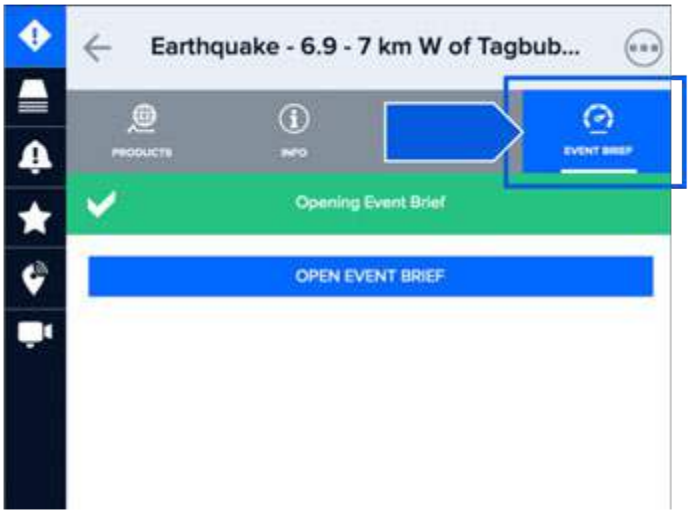
EXAMPLE EVENT BRIEF REPORT



How to access Event Brief

To access a hazard's Event Brief, either select the hazard on the map and click the Event Brief **quick link**, or open the hazard in the Hazard panel and select the Event Brief **tab** at the top.





The hazard's Event Brief should open automatically in a new tab. If it does not, first check that your browser is not blocking it from opening. If that is not the case, click the **Open Event Brief** button in the panel.

Filter results by country

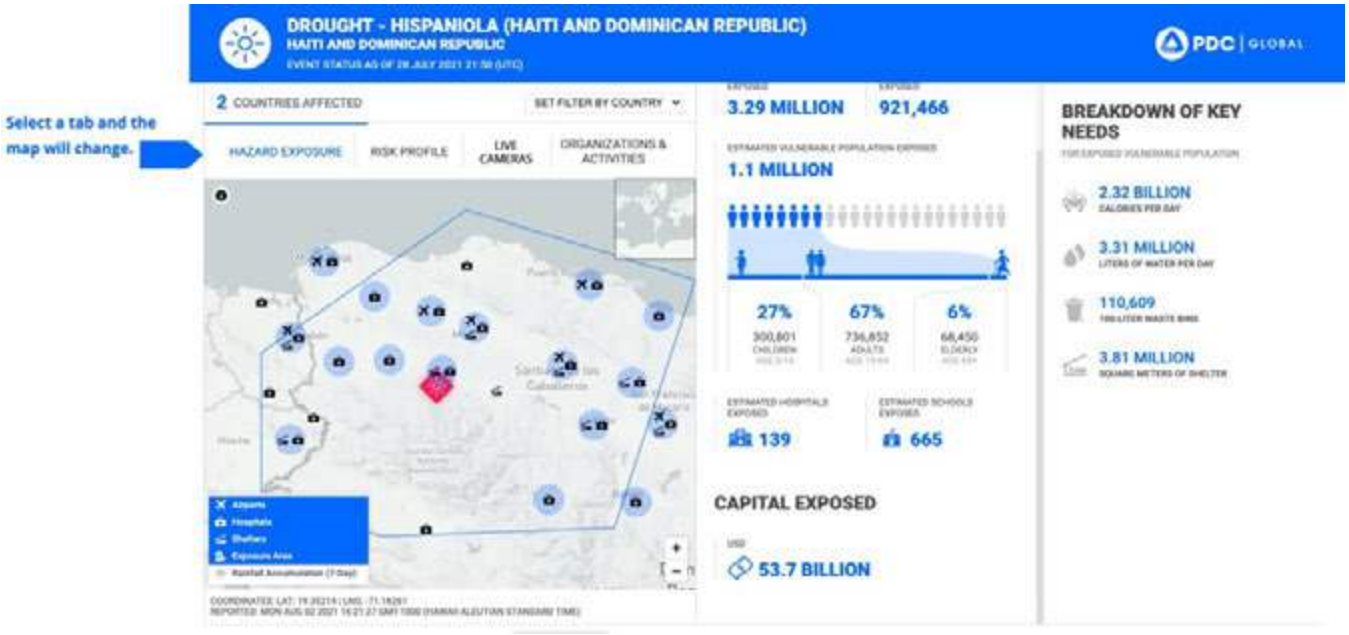
By default, Event Brief displays estimates for the entire geographic area affected by a hazard. If there is more than one country affected by a hazard, you can filter information based on single country. Click the **Set Filter by Country** dropdown.



You can remove the country filter by selecting the Set Filter by Country dropdown again.

Hazard Exposure tab

The Hazard Exposure tab is activated by default when you first load an Event Brief. When you navigate between tabs, the map and the supporting information changes to reflect the subject of the tab.



Map navigation

You can navigate the Event Brief map in the following ways:

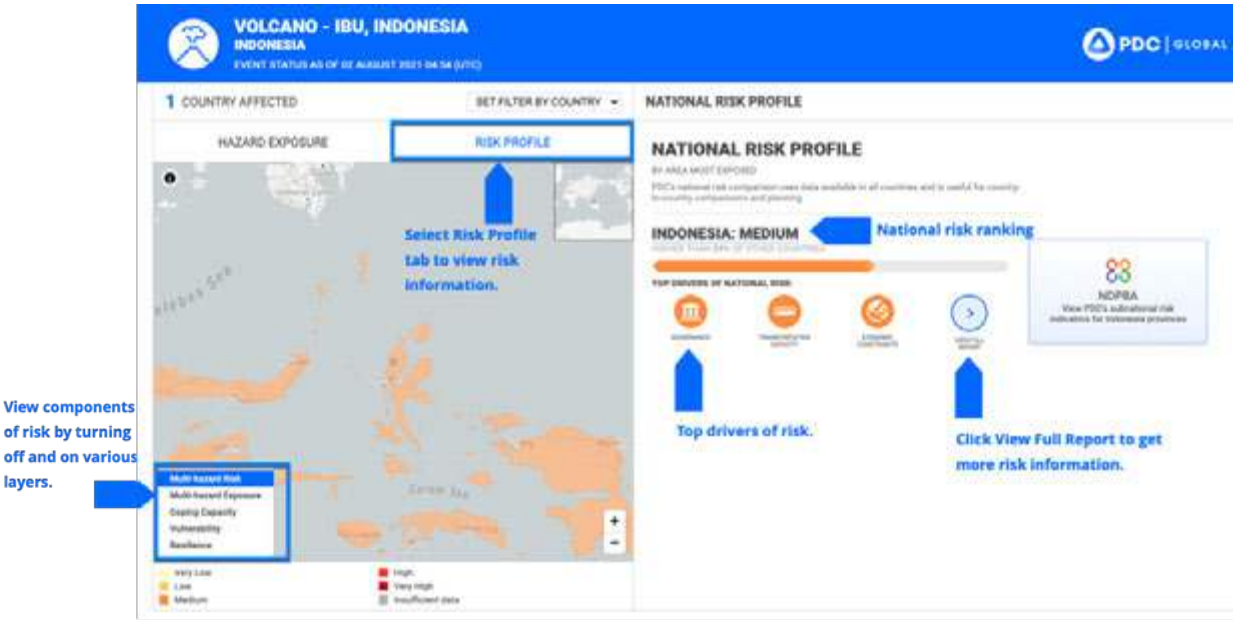
- Click the map with your mouse, then hold and drag your cursor to move the map in the desired direction.
- Select the on-screen zoom in (+) and out (-) buttons in the lower right corner of the map to change your zoom extent, or double-click on the map to zoom in.
- Add or remove visible data layers displayed on the map by selecting an item from the list on the bottom left corner of the map. A blue highlight means the data layer is visible.
- Use the zoom options described above to view individual points in a clustered dataset. Note: Clustered data is depicted by a light blue circle surrounding the clustered information.

Risk Profile tab

Event Brief provides national and subnational risk information to support strategic planning and response. Note that subnational risk information is only available for select countries.

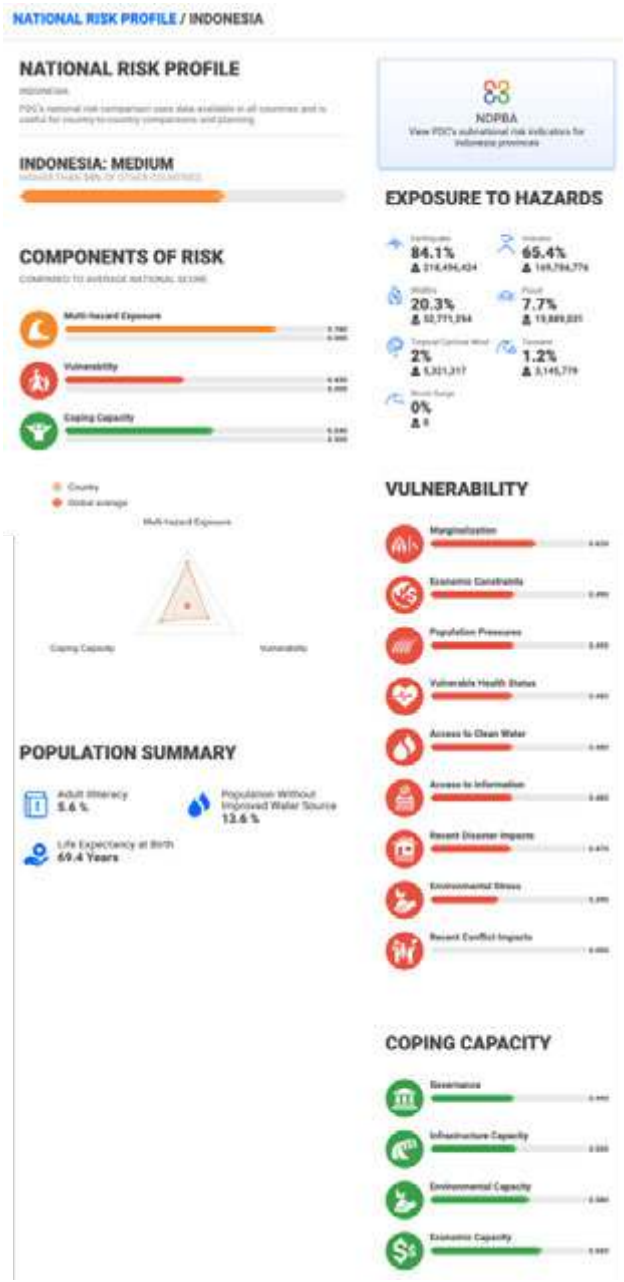
National risk information

Select the **Risk Profile** tab to view national risk rankings and top drivers of risk for impacted areas. You can filter various components of risk (vulnerability, coping capacity, multi-hazard exposure) and more by using the bottom left menu to toggle data layers off and on.



Select the **View Full Report** option to access more detail about a nation's risk ranking.

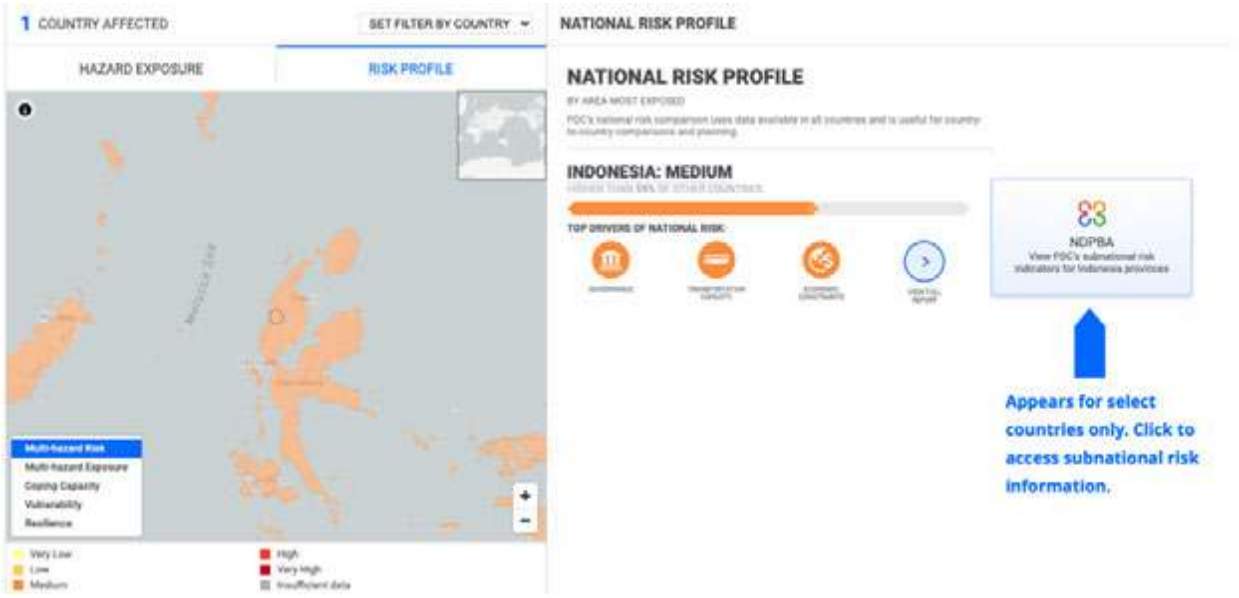
The full national risk report includes a breakdown of key risk factors as shown below.

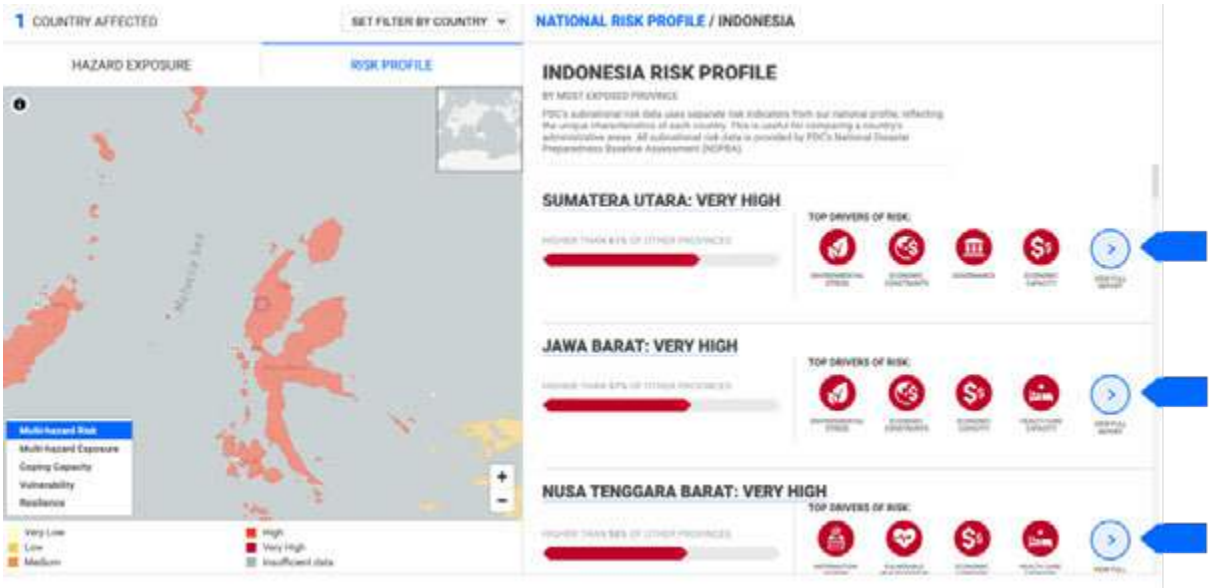


Subnational risk information

Event Brief offers subnational risk information for select countries, with subnational risk data for approximately 20% of the globe. This information is provided exclusively through PDC's National Disaster Preparedness and Baseline Assessment (NDPBA) program.

To access subnational risk information, select the **NDPBA** for a particilar country. Note: This button appears for countries in which data is available at the subnational level.



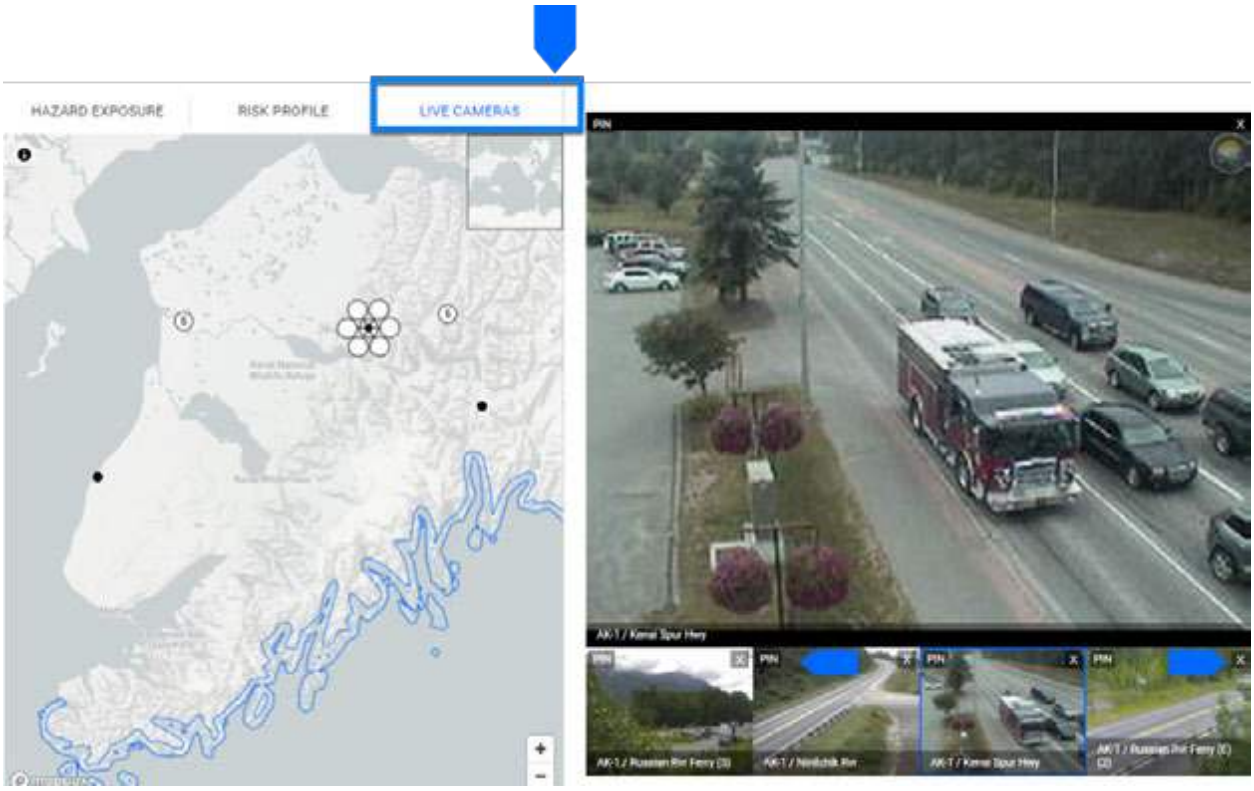


Subnational risk data appears in the map with a summary of subnational administrative breakdowns to the right. Select **View Full Report** for details on what is contributing to risk in a particular administrative area.

Live Cameras tab

To get a picture of what is happening on-the-ground, select the **Live Cameras** tab. You may see black points on the map which represent individual camera locations. Numbered points indicate clusters of cameras.

- Zoom in or click on a cluster to view individual camera locations.
- Click on an individual camera point to view it to the right of the map. You can view up to 4 cameras at once.
- Select one of the smaller camera images/videos for a larger view.
- Pin cameras to their desired position by selecting the **PIN** button
- Remove cameras by selecting the **X** button



Organizations & Activities tab

The Organizations & Activities tab allows decision makers to quickly identify humanitarian and other organizations operating in the affected area in order to facilitate greater coordination between groups.



Supplemental information (weather, news)

Latest weather updates

The Hazard Exposure tab provides the latest weather updates for the impacted area. This is especially useful for determining if inclement weather may adversely affect exposed populations and/or relief operations. Note that both imperial and metric conversions are available.



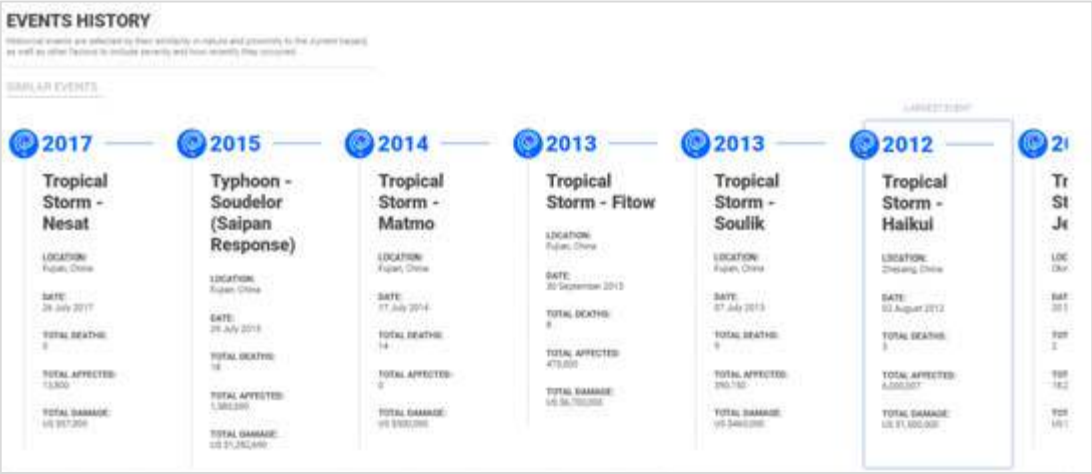
Situational awareness products

The Hazard Exposure tab provides quick access the latest situational awareness maps and products shared by PDC and other partners. Click on a product thumbnail to view or download and enlarged version.



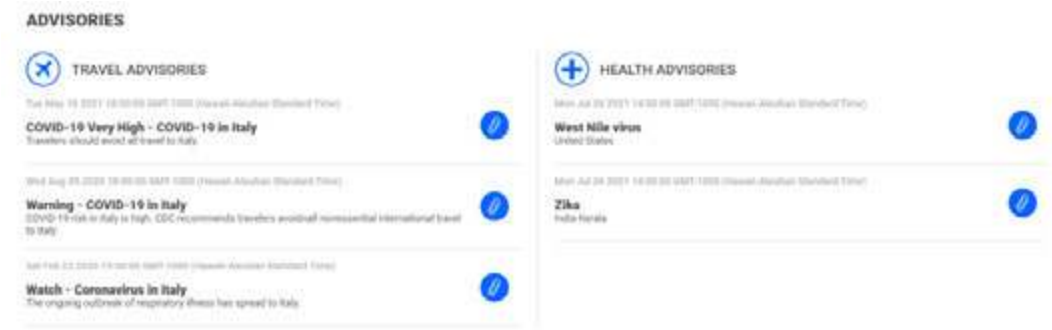
Event history

Access historical event details while on the Hazard Exposure tab to help you compare information about similar events that have impacted the same area. Note that the event with the largest 'Total Affected' population will be highlighted.



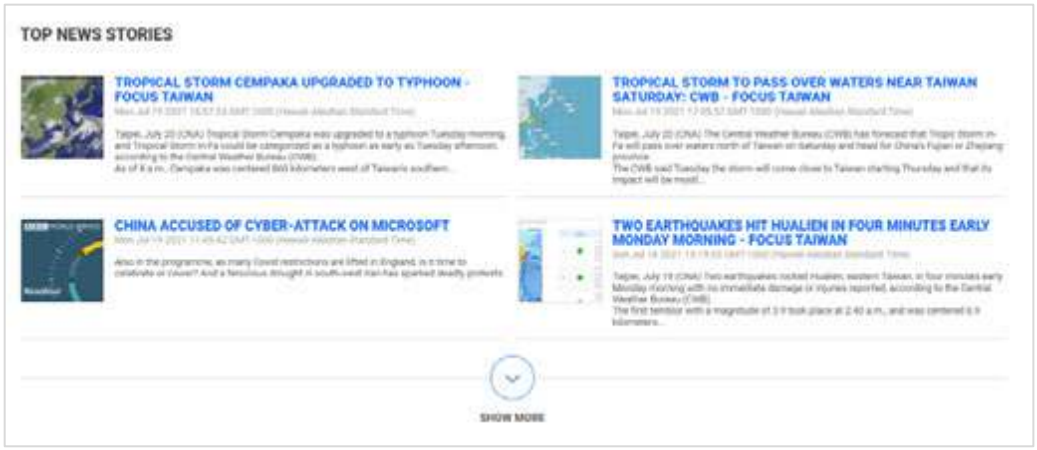
Travel and health advisories

Travel and health advisories are provided on the Hazard Exposure tab to support response and planning for the impacted area. Select the blue paperclip icon to the right to download advisory details.



Top news stories

You can read the latest news stories about an event on the Hazard Exposure tab provided by major news outlets around the globe. Click on a story to access its full content.



Event Brief Triggers

Event Brief provides automated, near-real-time hazard impact assessments for hazards impacting (or predicted to impact) population. An Event Brief will be made available (triggered) when DisasterAWARE detects that population fall within the areas listed for each hazard below.

Note: Event brief provides enhanced and expanded exposure and impact information to help you quickly answer *What happened? When and where did it happen? How bad is it?* However, **if a hazard does not meet the trigger requirements listed below to issue an Event Brief**, preliminary exposure estimates can be accessed by selecting the "More Information" button under that hazard's Information tab. Be sure to revisit the hazard to see if an Event Brief has been created and for updates.

Hazard	**Event Brief Triggers** (Population exposed to the following.)
Tropical Cyclone	Minor Damage; power out and higher - Estimated Wind Impacts
Avalanche	10km buffer (PDC)
Biomedical	General affected area (PDC))
Drought	General affected area (PDC)
Earthquake	Moderate Shaking (V) and stronger – Shaking Intensity (USGS ShakeMap Model)
Extreme Temperature	General affected area (PDC)
Flood	US – Flood Warning area (NWS) Canada – Flood Warning area (Canada Met) Hawaii – Flood hazard area (NWS) Global – Predictive Flood Warning area (NASA/PDC) or general affected area (PDC)
High Surf	Hawaii – High Surf alert area (NWS) Global – General affected area (PDC)
High Winds	Hawaii – High Winds alert area (NWS) Global – General affected area (PDC)
Landslide	Predictive Landslide hazard area (NASA/PDC) or general affected area (PDC)
Marine	General affected area (PDC)
Storm	General affected area (PDC)
Tornado	US – Warning and Watches area (NWS) Global – General affected area (PDC)
Tsunami	Coastal inland buffer refined by local tsunami zones were available (PDC)
Volcano	10km buffer refined by additional hazard data for specific volcanos were available (PDC)
Wildfire	Global – 24-hour Wildfire Activity Area (PDC) or manually defined general affected area (PDC) if not available USA – Current Wildfire Perimeter (NIFC) or 24-hour Wildfire Activity Area (PDC) if not available
Winter Storm	US – Winter Storm Warning area (NWS) Global – General affected area (PDC)

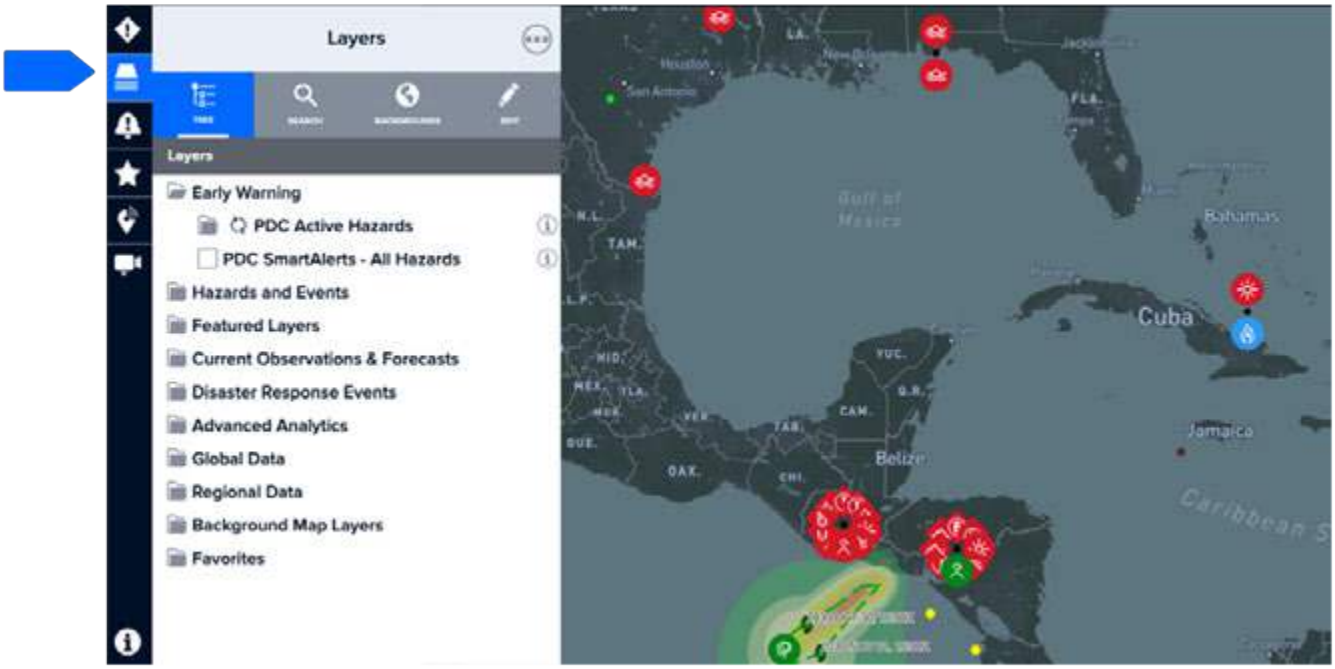
DATA LAYERS TO SUPPORT DECISION MAKING

DisasterAWARE provides access to thousands of data layers to support decision making. It offers the largest, most reliable inventory of authoritative data in a single system—including information about current and historical hazards, population and demographics, infrastructure, risk and vulnerability, and much more.

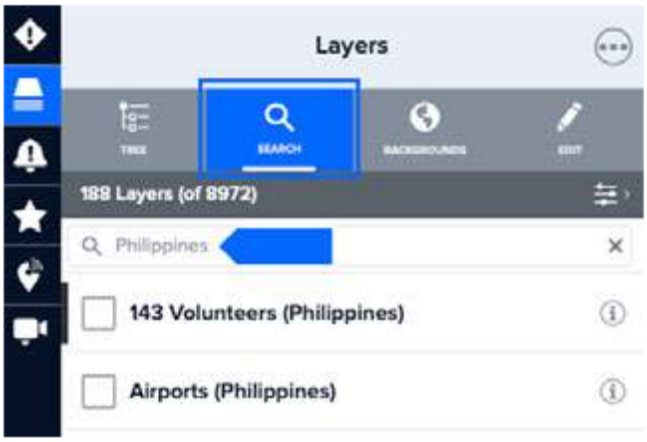
PDC has enhanced the underlying mapping technology to further improve layer display and responsiveness—resulting in better accessibility and optimal performance. Improvements include smoother map transitions when zooming and enhanced visibility of place names. For select layers, such as population density, the system now resamples data on the fly to automatically adjust resolution based on your zoom level.

Explore data layers

Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar to view a list of available data layers. Layers are grouped by category into folders. Expand each folder to view the layers associated with a category.

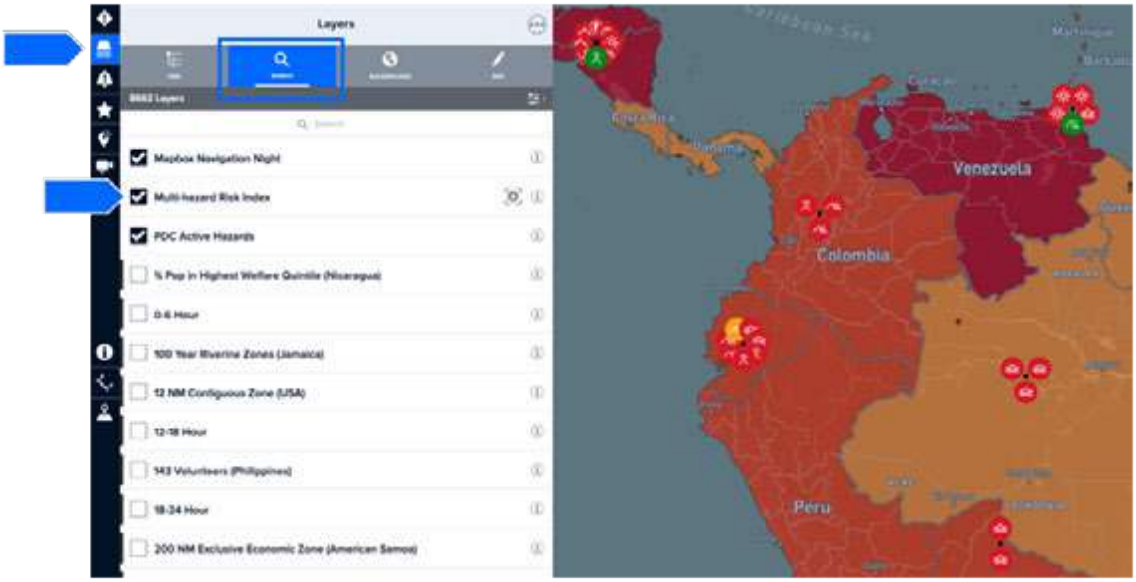


With the layers panel open, you can also use the **Search** tab to locate layers by keyword (e.g. Philippines schools). Check the box to the left to view the data on the map.



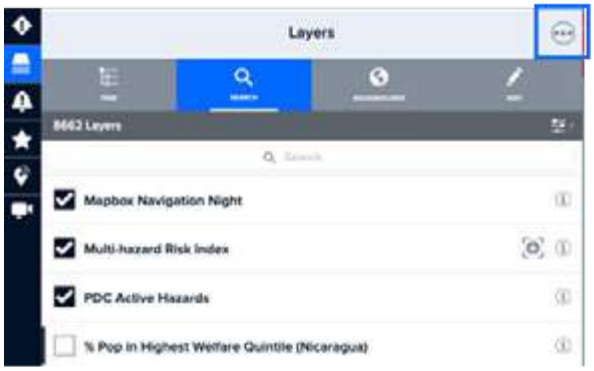
How to quickly identify which map layers are turned on

To quickly see which map layers are turned on, click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar and select the **Search** tab from the layers panel. All active layers appear at the top and are depicted by a check mark on the left. Make sure there is nothing typed into the Search bar.



How to turn layers on and off

Uncheck the box to the left of a layer to turn it off or check an empty box to turn a layer on.





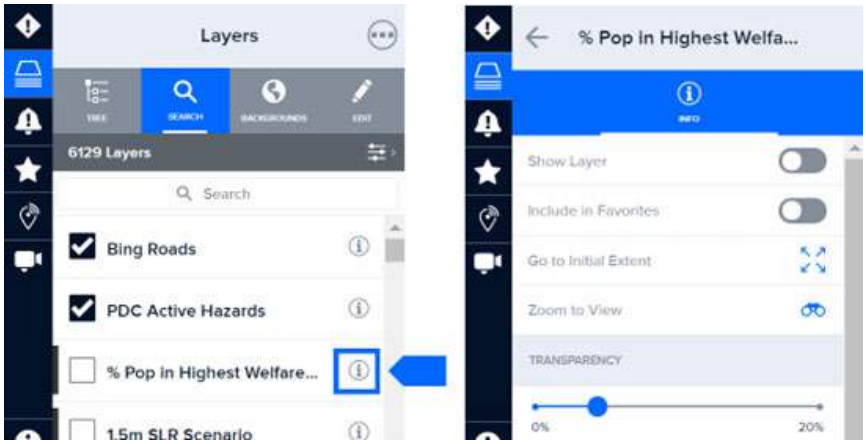
PRO TIP

Data layers provide essential information to support your assessments and decision making. However, too many layers can be overwhelming. To quickly turn all layers off at once, click the three dots at the top of the layers panel (as shown above), and choose **Unselect All Layers**.

Layer properties and data sources

Layer transparency

Click the **Info** icon to adjust the transparency of a layer to see other layers or the base map beneath it.



Data sources for layers

PDC closely vets the integrity of data layers before integrating them into DisasterAWARE. You can learn more about the data in the system that is driving your decisions such as the data source, when it was last updated, and any specific considerations.

Click the **Info** icon to the right of any layer title (as shown above) to view its data source and see when it was last updated. To see additional details about the data source, click the **View Full Metadata** button at the bottom of the info panel.



Frequency of data layer updates

Much of PDC's data is updated automatically, in real-time, as soon as information is released by an authoritative agency. This includes the majority of PDC's hazard layers, as well as its observational and forecast layers.

Other types of data in the system are updated by PDC manually as soon as information is made available. See the *Appendix* for a comprehensive list of hazards and their corresponding frequency of updates. See also section titled *View and search the active hazards list* for information on how to manually refresh the Hazard list with the latest updates.

Layer zoom



Click the zoom icon to the right of the layer name (shown below) if you are having trouble viewing the layer you've selected. The map will zoom and re-center to bring the information into view.

Note: Some layers require the map to be zoomed to a minimum extent or to a specific location in order to display the information.



Explore data layer details

Data layers may be displayed and combined to quickly produce a meaningful map. You may also click on a layer's map points and features to view associated data.

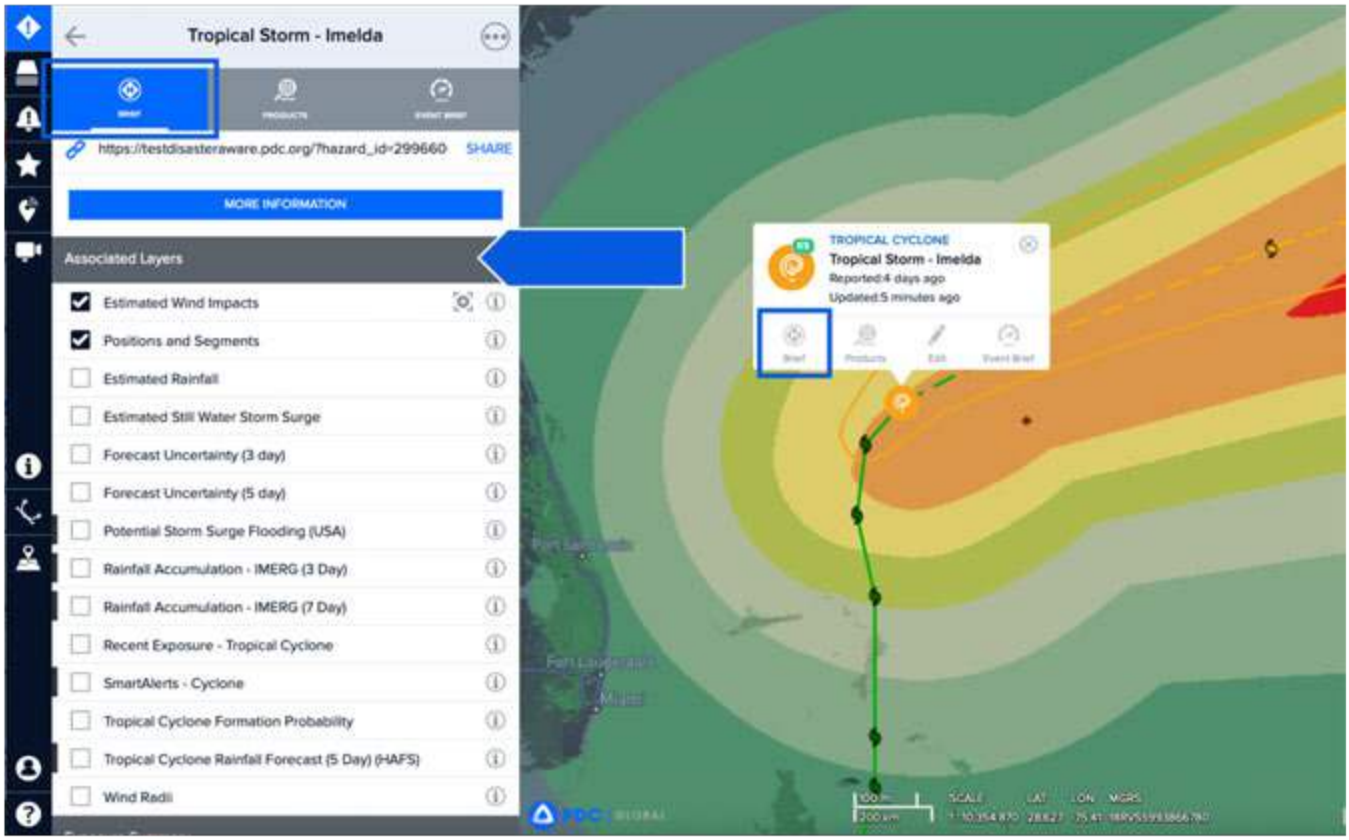
In the feature's pop-up on the map, you can access a summary of key information. To access even more details, select the Info button on the pop-up.



View hazard-specific layers

Click a hazard on the map to launch the **Hazard tooltip**. From the tooltip, click the **Brief** quick link to access key layers associated with that hazard type. You can turn these layers on to help you better understand potential impacts.

You may also access these key, hazard-specific layers by clicking the **Hazards** icon on the left toolbar, selecting a hazard, and then clicking on the **Brief** tab.



To learn more about the specific layers that are available for all hazards, click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar. Under the **Hazards and Events** folder, choose the subfolder to explore even more layers for each hazard type.

Layers to support major disaster response events

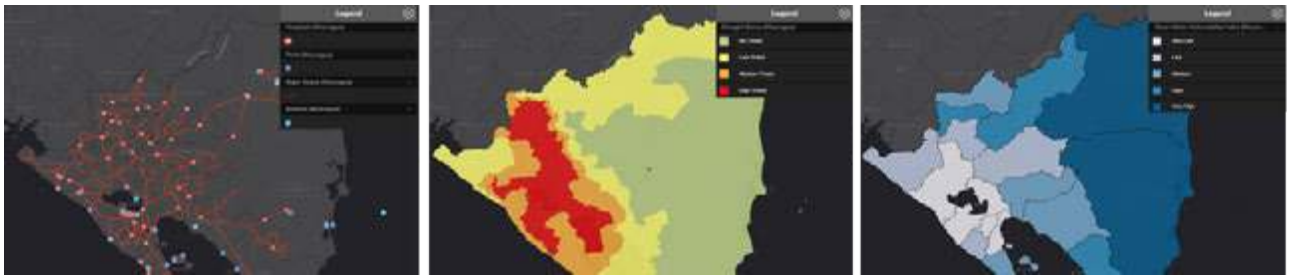
During major disaster events with widespread impacts to people's lives and livelihoods, PDC will often include data layers in support of response and recovery operations. Generally, these layers are for major events that require substantial support from PDC and the global humanitarian assistance and disaster relief community. Learn more about past major response events under the section *Historical Hazard Layers*.

Access country-specific layers

Types of country layers available in DisasterAWARE

While information varies from country to country, the common datasets offered in DisasterAWARE include: critical infrastructure, population and demographics, transportation, risk and vulnerability, and hazard zones information.

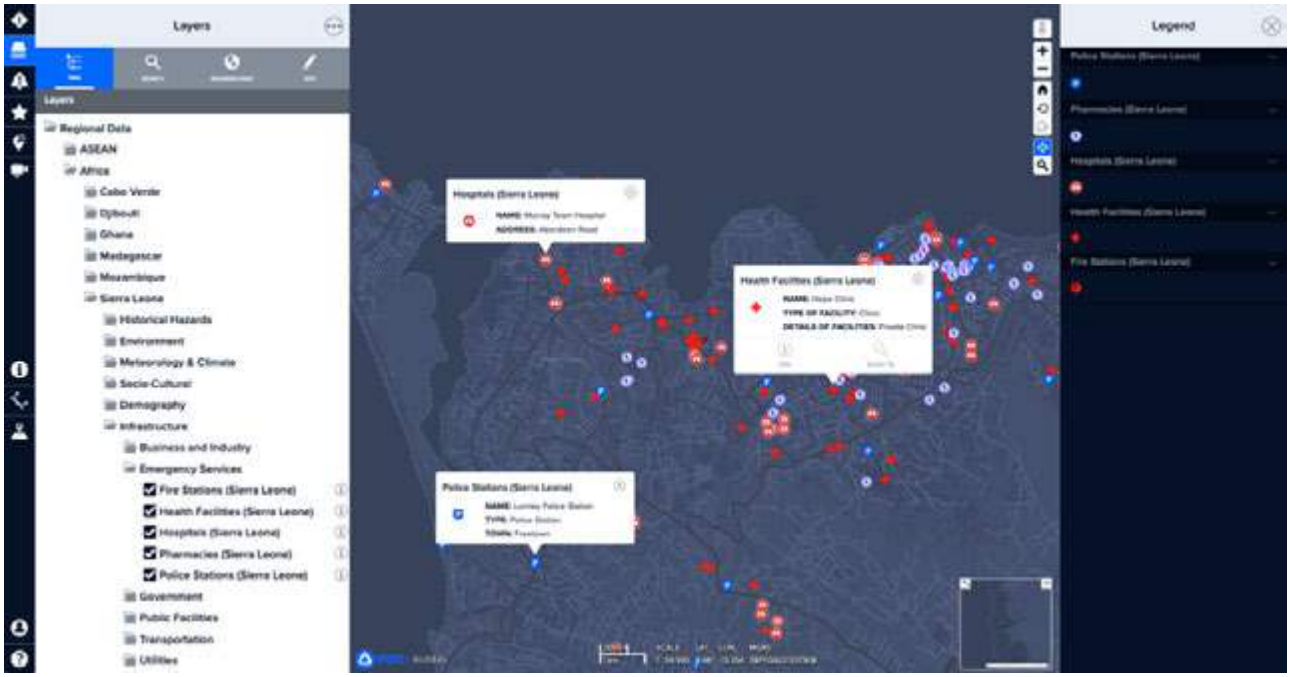
Example subset of country map layers for Nicaragua
(Infrastructure, hazard zones, clean water vulnerability index)



Explore country layers

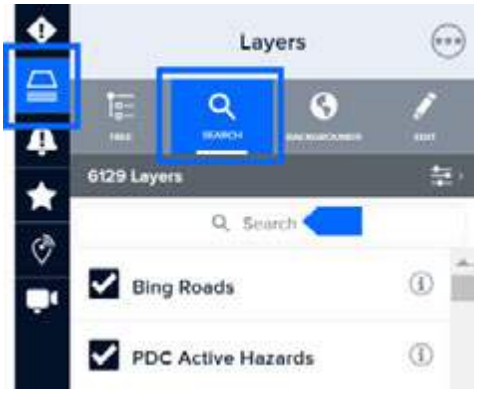
Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar to view a list of PDC's country layers. Scroll down to the **Regional Data** folder.

Open the regional folder that includes the country you are interested in.



Search for country layers

With the **Layers** panel open, click the **Search** tab to search for layers by country name or keyword.



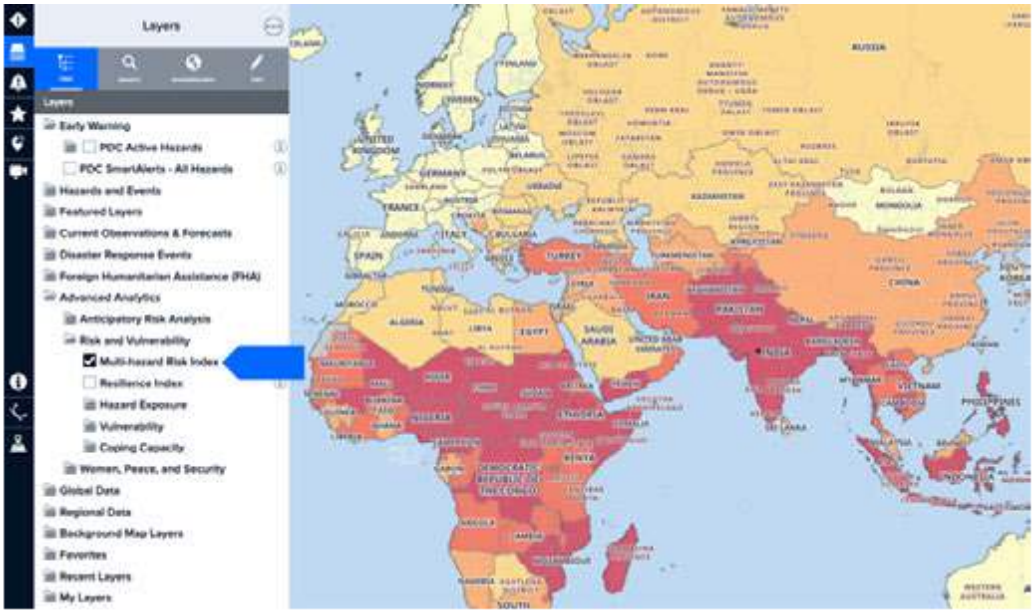
View risk and vulnerability layers

Effective decision making requires a comprehensive understanding of disaster risk in order to protect lives, livelihoods, property, critical lifelines, and social and economic vitality. DisasterAWARE provides you with access to PDC's global Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) information at the national level for over 190 countries, and subnational RVA information for select countries.

Locate global risk and vulnerability indicators

Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar.

Scroll down to the **Advanced Analytics** folder and open the **Risk and Vulnerability** folder. You can view a national comparison of overall multi-hazard risk. Expand the folder to drill deeper to inspect the national indicators of risk that contribute to the overall score.

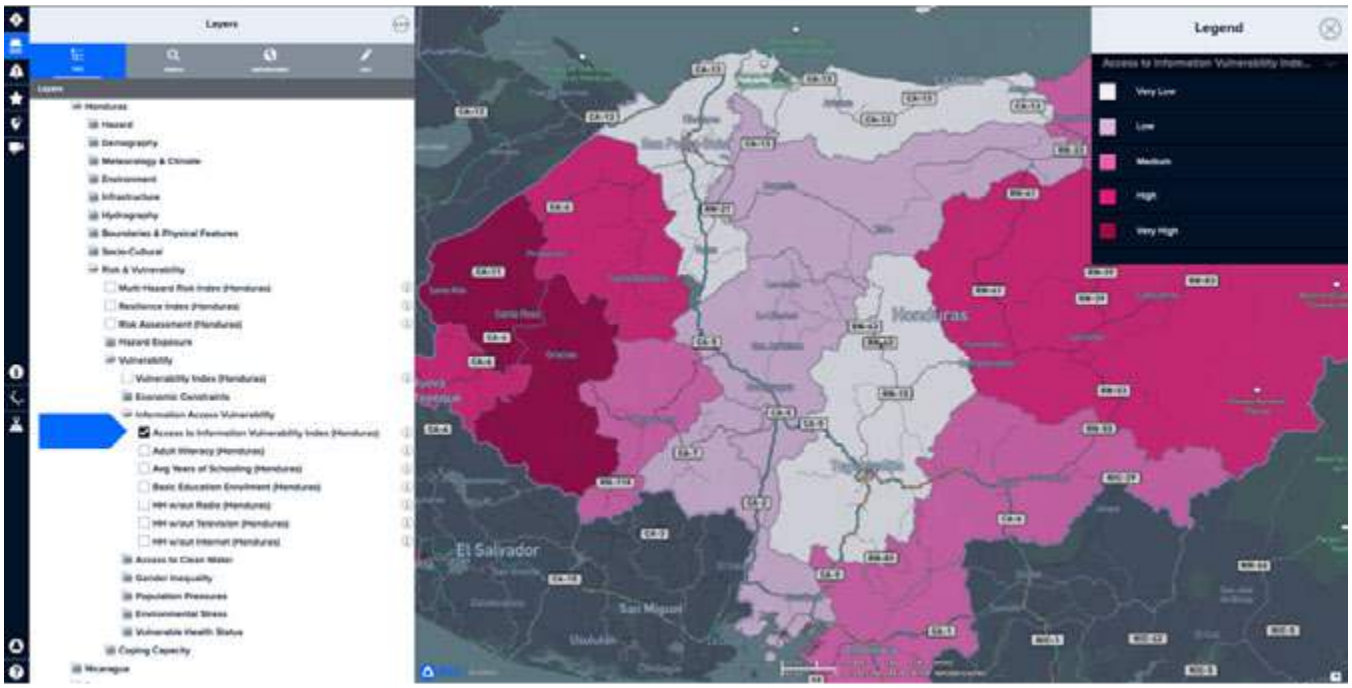


Locate subnational risk and vulnerability indicators

*Available for select countries only.

Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar. Scroll down to the **Regional Data** folder and open the regional subfolder in which the country of your interest resides.

Once in the proper regional subfolder, expand the **Country** folder > **Risk and Vulnerability** folder. You can view a comparison of overall risk and specific risk indicators at the subnational level.



View historical hazard layers

PDC provides a variety of historical hazard information within DisasterAWARE. Information about historical hazard events can provide insight about the potential for future hazard impacts, the scale and scope of impacts, and can be used to help guide disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response plans.

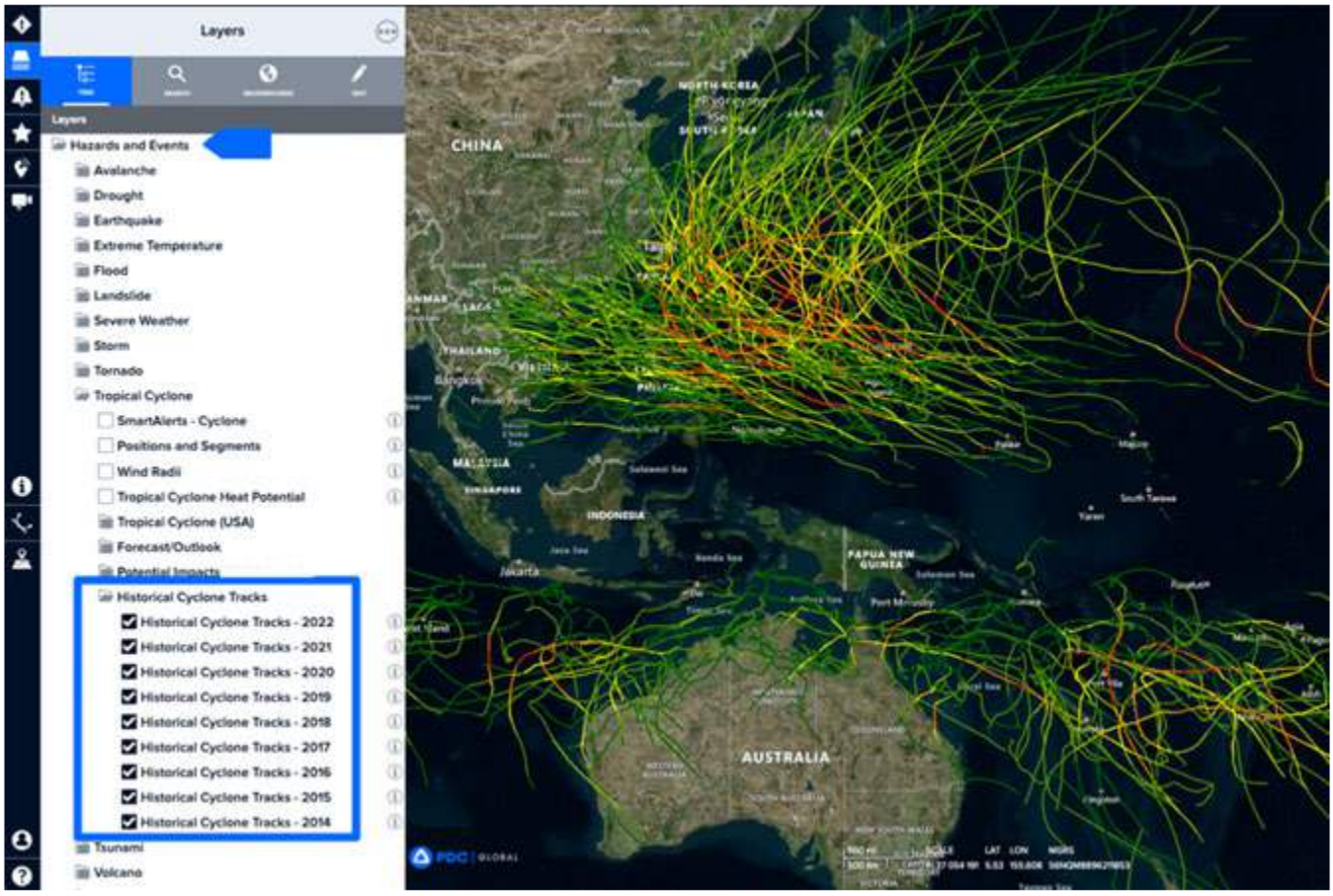
Historical hazard data are also useful for conducting realistic, evidence-based preparedness exercises and for simulating hazard scenarios based on real-world events.

Historical hazard layers

You can explore historical hazard data by selecting the type of hazard from the layers panel.

Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar. Scroll down to the **Hazards and Warnings** folder.

Expand the folder and navigate to the hazard type of your interest. Many types of hazards, although not all, have subfolders with historical information that can be viewed on the map.



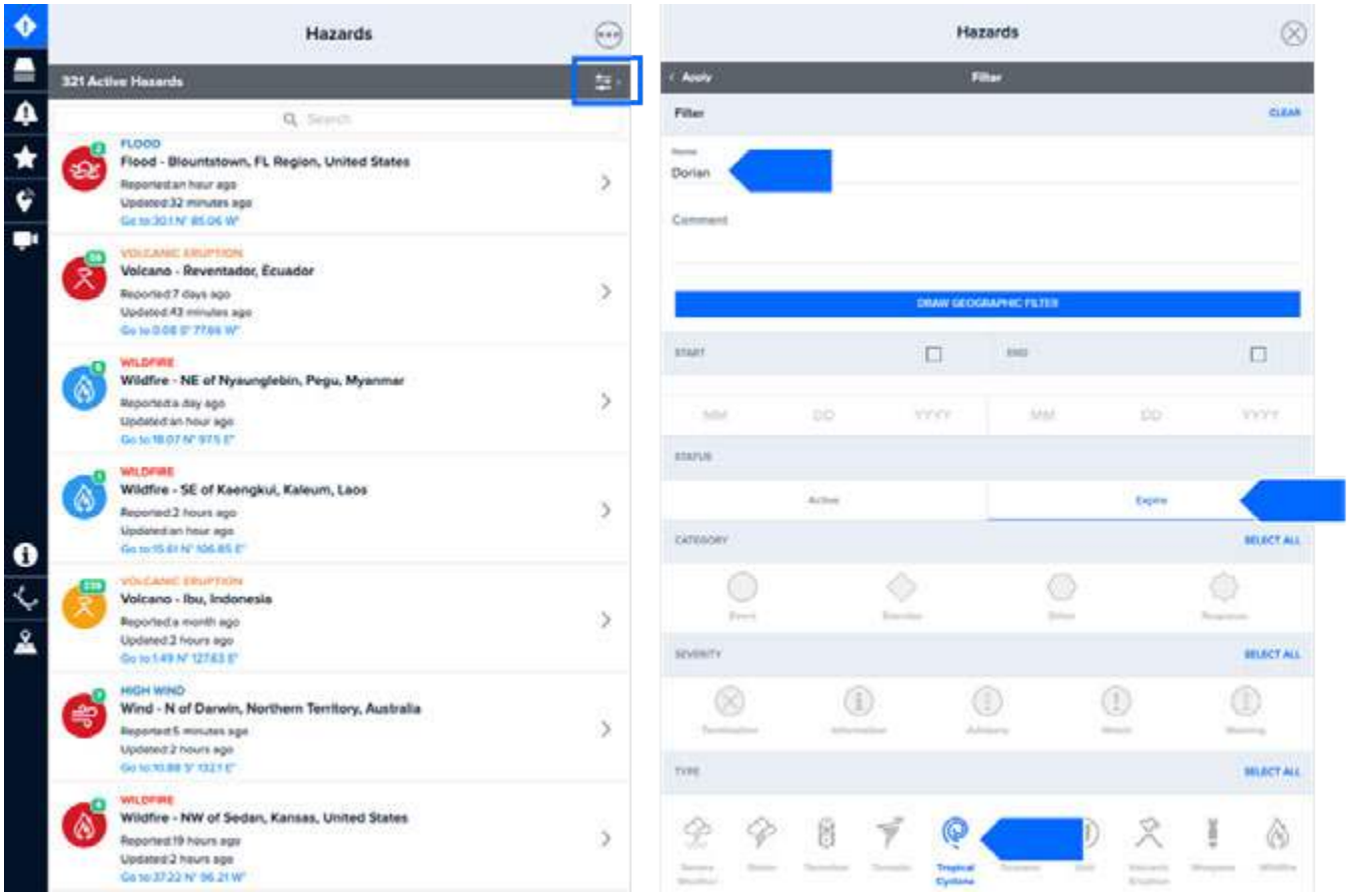
Advanced search for expired hazards

The **Advanced Hazard Search** is located under the **Hazards panel** and allows you to search active and historical DisasterAWARE Hazards. These include associated products such as custom maps, situation reports, damage assessments, and more.

Click the **Hazard** icon on the left toolbar to open the hazards panel.

Next, click the **Filter** icon on the top right of the panel to use the **Advanced Hazard Search** feature. When searching for historical hazard information, be sure to turn off the **Active** button and turn on the **Expire** button.

If applicable, insert the **Name** of the hazard, a **Date** range, and/ or **Types** of hazards you want to search.

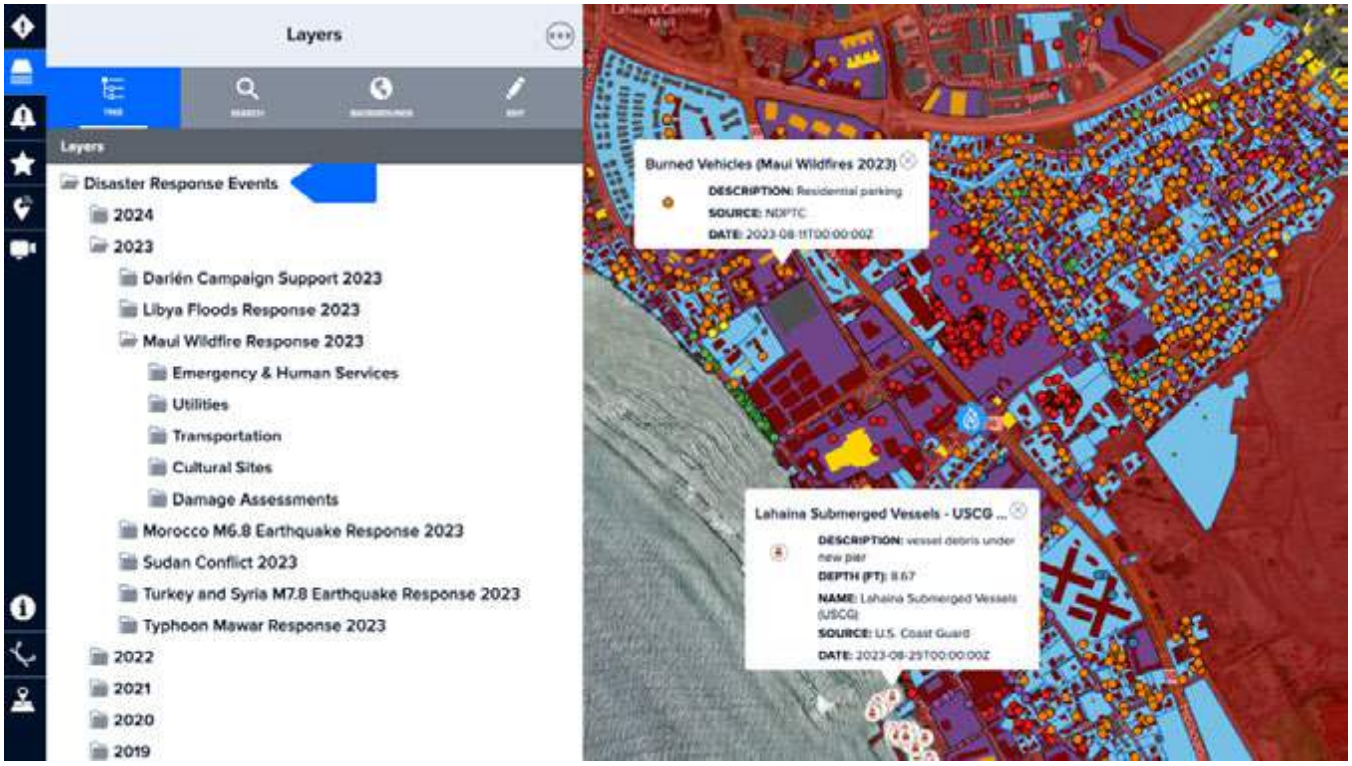


Disaster response events (current and historical)

PDC stores data layers specific to major disasters for which it is providing support in the **Disaster Response Events** folder. This folder includes active and historical response events with information about hazard zones and impacts contributed by the international response community.

Click the **Layers** panel on the left toolbar.

Open **Disaster Response Events** subfolder to view all current and historical disaster response layers.

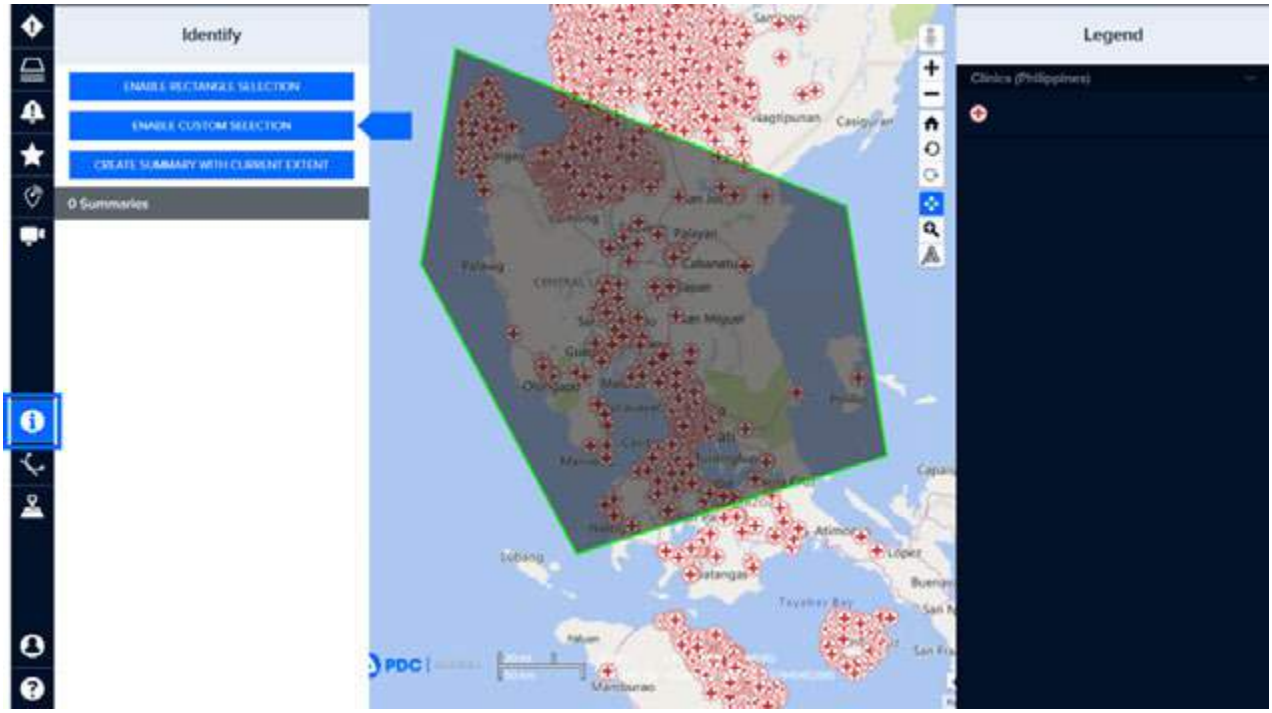


Note: Disaster Response Events layers are retained in DisasterAWARE to provide important insights about historical hazard events and their impacts, which is critical for planning for future events and preparedness exercises.

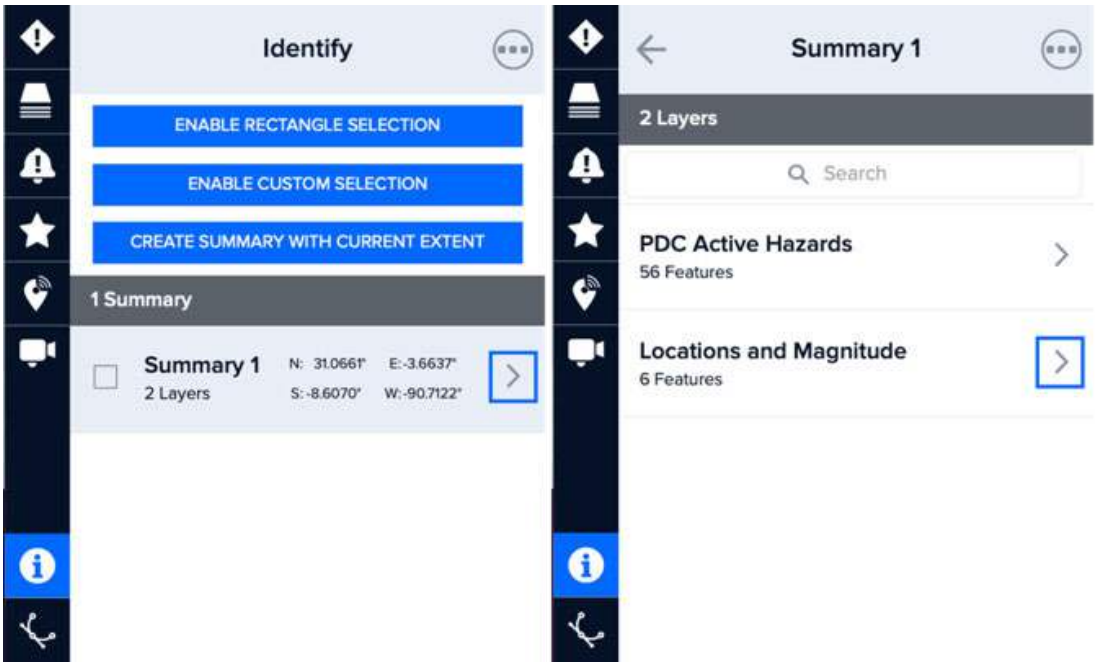
Identify tool

The **Identify tool** allows you to view the details of multiple layer features at once, rather than clicking on each individually on the map.

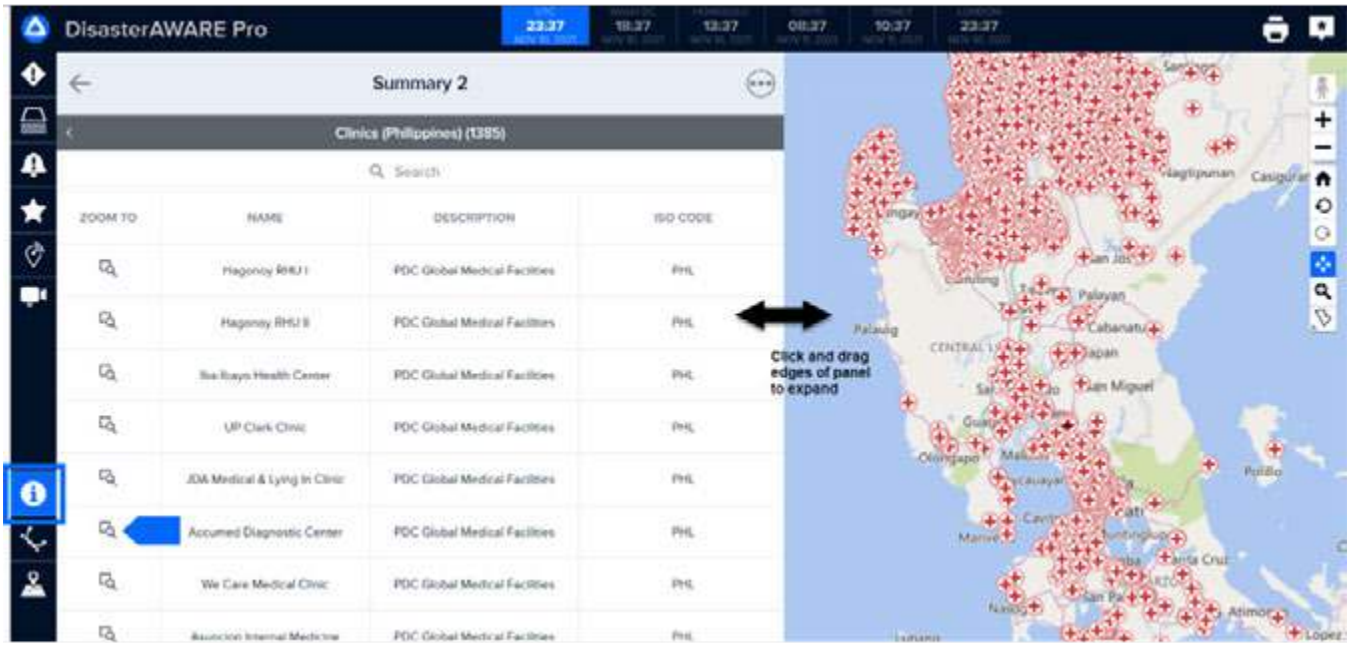
With the layers of interest displayed, click the **Identify** tool on the left toolbar. Next, choose from one of the two buttons shown below to select an area on the map.



After selecting an area on the map, you will see a **Summary** report listed in the **Identify** panel. Click the arrow located to the right of the **Summary** report to view data within the selected area. Summary reports will be automatically removed at the end of each session.



You will see the tabular data for the **Summary** report and may expand the panel to see more columns. You can also zoom the map to a record within the data table, as well as **Search** by keyword.

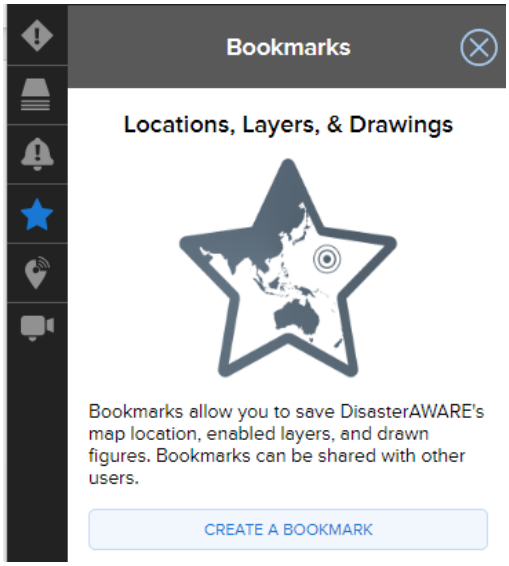


Bookmark frequently used layers

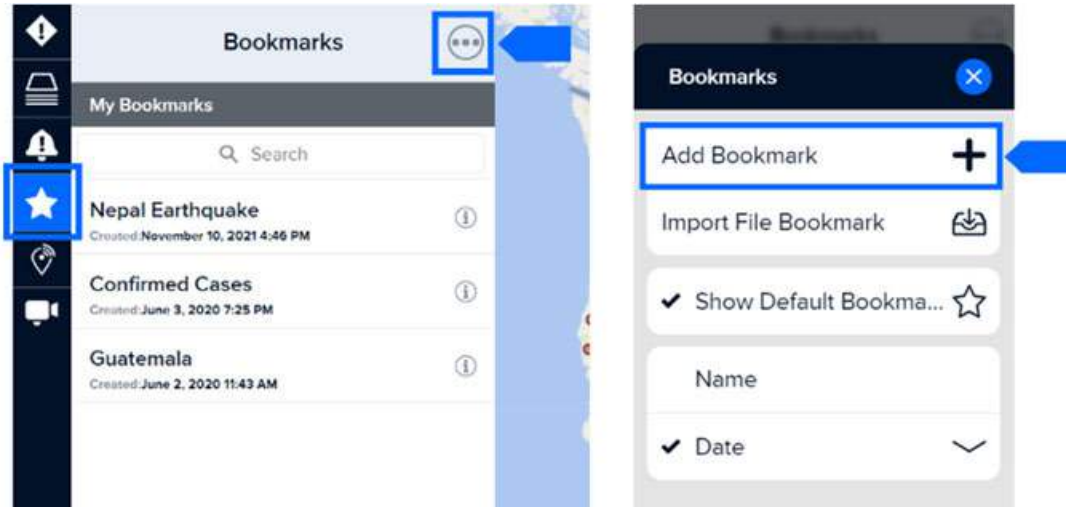
Bookmarks allow you to quickly save your map view and content, such as layers and drawings, and share it with other DisasterAWARE users to quickly convey critical information about an event for a common operating picture. Create a series of bookmarks, depicting data and places you monitor regularly, and add them to your daily checklist.

Click the **Bookmark** icon on the left toolbar to get started.

If this is your first time creating a Bookmark you will see the following view. Click on **Create a Bookmark**.

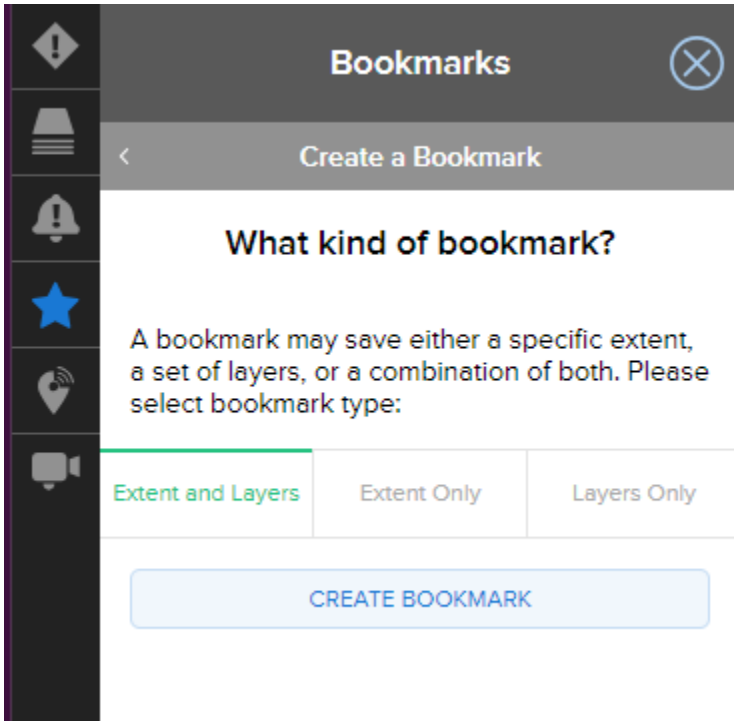


If you have created Bookmarks before, click on the three dots at the top of the Bookmark panel, followed by the **Add Bookmark +** option.

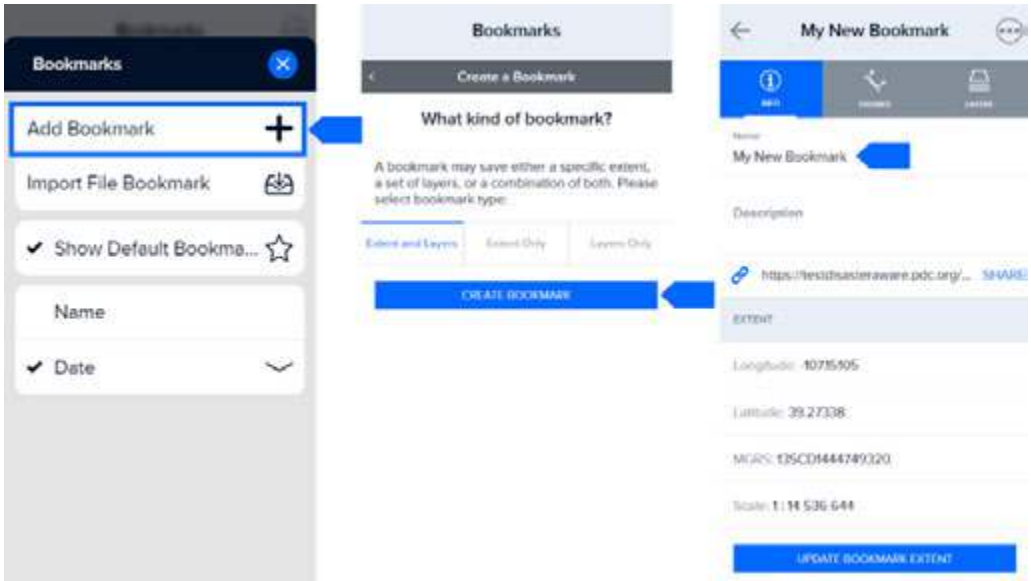


Next, select the kind of bookmark you would like to create.

- **Extent and Layers**: **(Recommended)** The current map extent and the visible layers will be bookmarked.
- **Extent Only:** Only your current map extent will be bookmarked.
- **Layers Only:** Only your visible layers will be bookmarked.



Be sure to name your bookmark something meaningful so it's easy to find at a later date.



The **Share** link shown above at right allows you to copy/paste the link and share your bookmark with other DisasterAWARE users.

PRO TIP

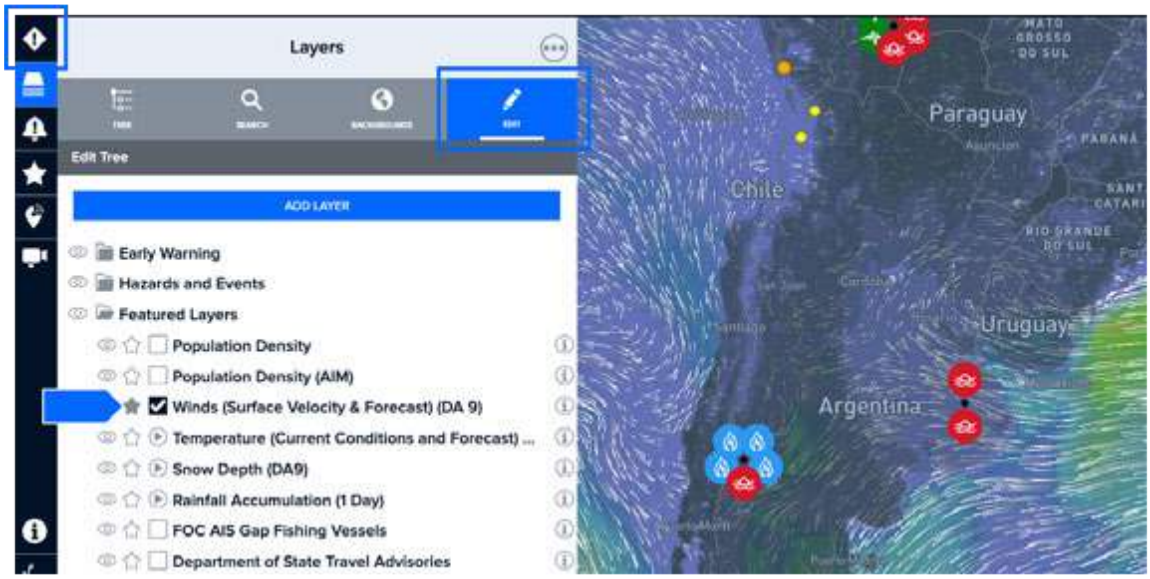
Bookmarks serve as an excellent, interactive alternative to briefing PowerPoint slides.
You can automatically set your workspace default view to display the map area, zoom, and layers you want to view every time you log in. See the section titled *Customize your workspace*.

Favorite and recent layers

You can designate any layer as a favorite for quick access at a later date. This is useful for navigating to layers you need to visit frequently or for finding deeply nested layers you want to quickly return to at a later date.

Click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar and select the **Edit** tab.

Select the star icon to the left of the layer you wish to favorite. Filled/dark stars represent your current selection of favorite layers.



Show or hide layers: You can also show or hide folders and layers you don't want to see by clicking the **Eye** icon.

To view your favorite layers, open the layers panel and scroll down to the **Favorites** folder as shown below. Above the Favorites folder is the Recent folder which allows you to view and return to the last ten layers you accessed from your account.



CREATE CUSTOM MAPS

There are several options for creating customized maps in DisasterAWARE, including the ability to:

- Customize your background base map
- Import and display your own data layers
- Combine multiple layers into one map
- Add drawings, images, and text to your map

You can also upload and share content from outside sources including PDF map products, situation reports (SitReps), and other critical data to support informed decision making during a major disaster response event. Contact response@pdc.org for assistance with uploading files or refer to the section on *System Administration*.

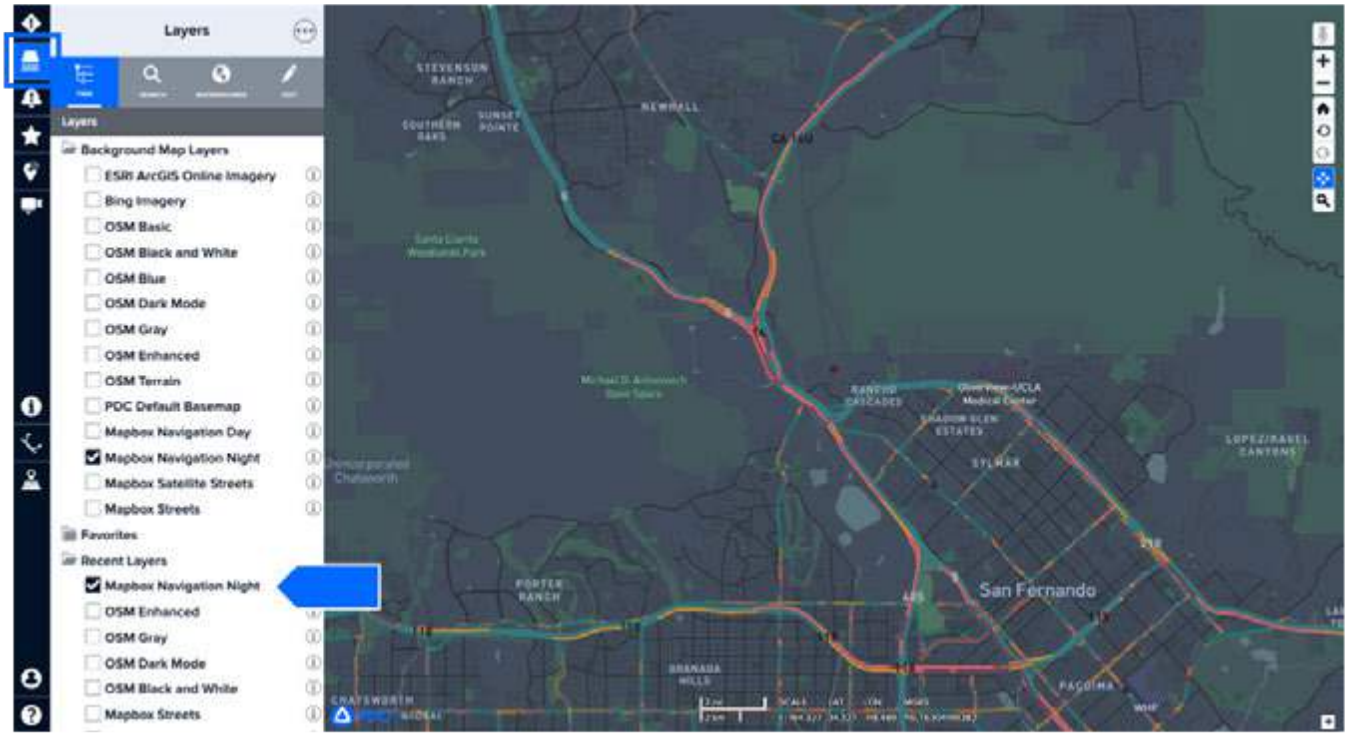
Change your default background map

DisasterAWARE comes with a variety of background maps that you can choose from. Below are just a few examples.





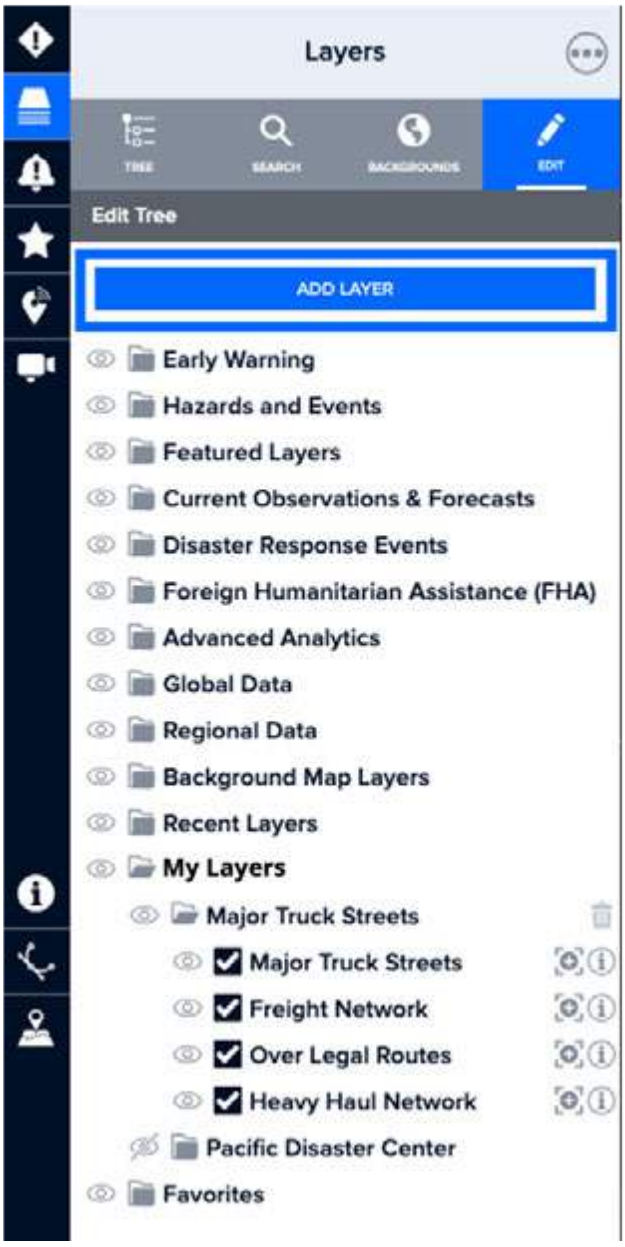
Click the **Layers** panel on the left toolbar and open the **Background Map Layers** folder. Check the option for the map theme you'd like to have displayed as your background map.

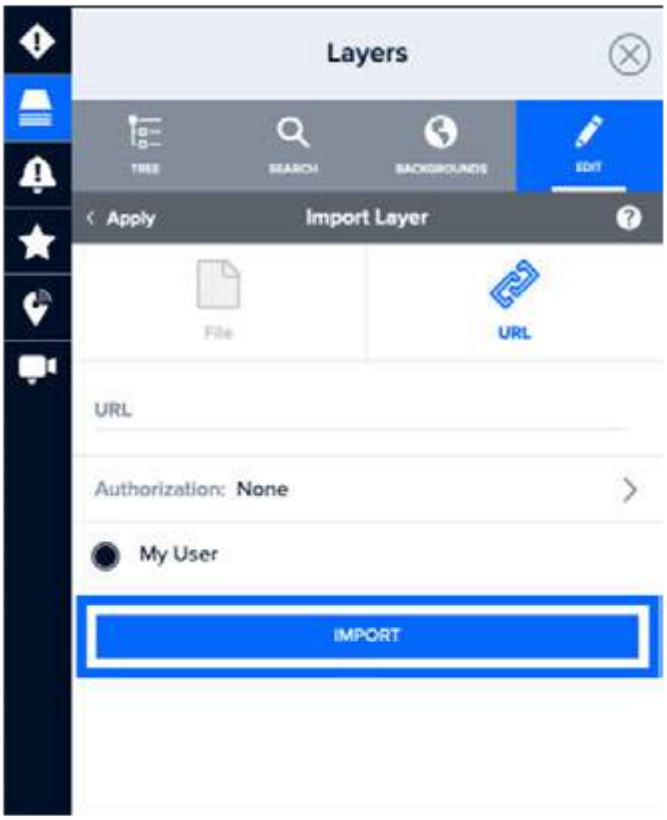


Import and share your own data layers

How to import data files

Want to import your own layers, such as a KML or Shapefile? Click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar and navigate to the **Edit** tab and then the **Add Layer** button.





Click the **File** option to import a KML or shapefile. Select the **Please choose the file** option and navigate to the external data file on your device. Then select **Import** and the data will now appear under the **My Layers** folder in the **Layers** panel. Note: Shapefiles must be zipped prior to import. Do not change the default name of the zipped file.

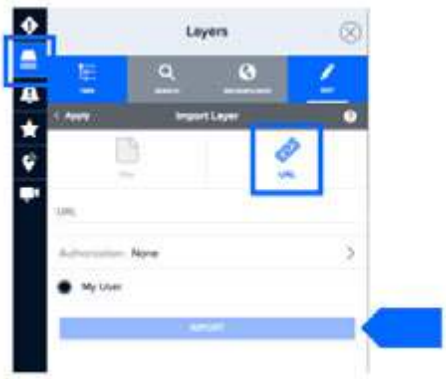
If you want to access your imported data in future sessions, be sure to select the **Save file to cloud** option. If you want to share it in a bookmark, be sure to also select the **Shareable via bookmark** option. Unless shared, imported KMLs and shapefiles are only viewable by you.



How to import data from an external map service

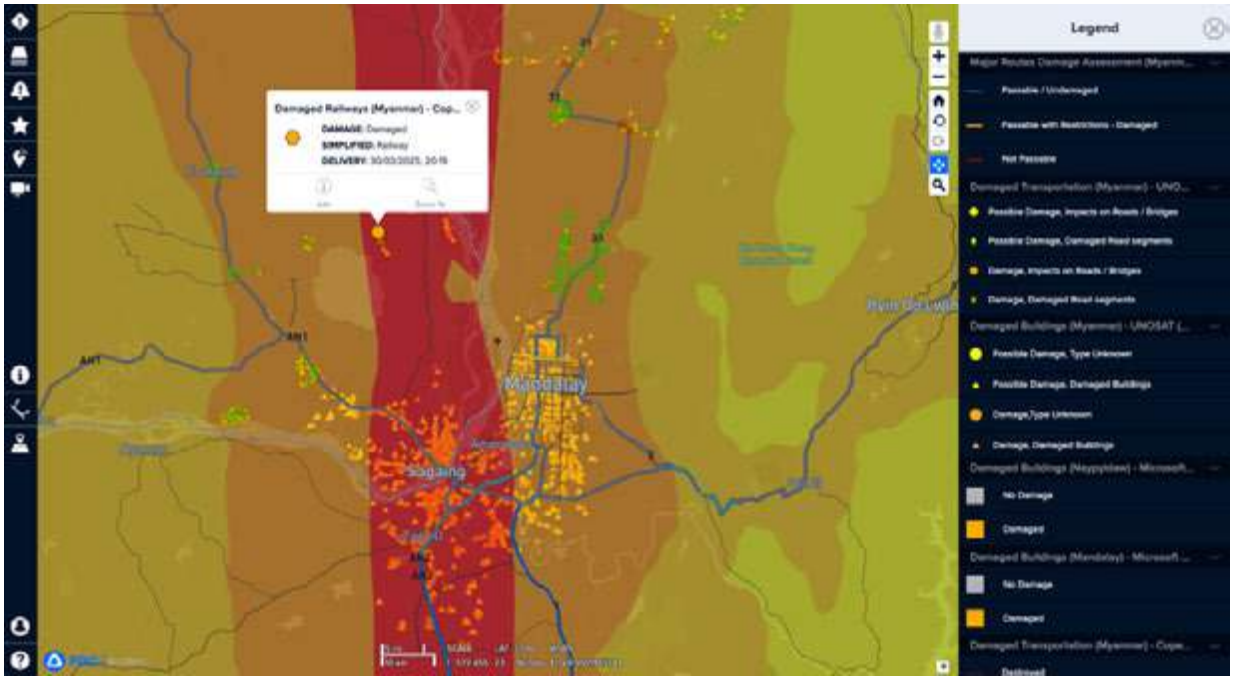
You can also import external map services. Click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar and navigate to the **Edit** tab and then the **Add Layer** button.

Click the **URL** icon to add public or authenticated map services from ArcGIS.com. If you need to include authentication, click the **Authorization** link shown below. You must then click the **Edit** icon and the "**+**" icon to add the web service link and authentication credentials. Imported map services will only be accessible by you.



Combine layers for more informed decision making

For example, you can display multiple layers at once to create a better understanding of potential exposure and impacts from a hazard, such as earthquake severity and the location of critical infrastructure. The example below shows that all schools in the impacted area have been exposed to severe ground shaking. These types of data combinations are critical for not only identifying key assets and population impacted, but also to show which areas may need to be prioritized for assistance and further assessment.



Add drawings, text, and images to maps

Need to add your own information to the map, but are not a data or mapping expert? **Drawing** tools allow you to quickly add your own content such as preliminary damage and needs assessments, identification of staging areas, staffing and resources, areas and distances, and more. This section will equip you to do this, as well as walk you through how to export your custom drawings and share via Bookmarks.



PRO TIP You can quickly access drawing tools from the right toolbar under the pan and zoom tools while the **Drawing** panel is open. Click and hold the button shown above to easily switch between tools.

Add objects and shapes to the map

Click the **Drawing** icon on the left toolbar to view a list of different objects and shapes you can add to the map. Select a tool, then click on the map where to place it.

If using the Circle or Rectangle tool, click and drag to expand it. Other tools, such as Line and Polygon require a double-click on the map to complete the drawing. The Free Line and Free Polygon tools require you to click+ hold while moving your cursor to draw, releasing upon completion.

Your drawings will be listed under the **Figures** tab and will be automatically removed after your session has ended, unless bookmarked.



PRO TIP

You can create objects in outside programs like PowerPoint (such as the legend shown above) and import them with the **Image** tool. Under the imported images **Style** tab, select **Scale with Map** Zoom if you wish for the image to maintain its size in respect to the application screen. This is useful for imported icons, so they do not shrink or expand in size as you zoom out.

Edit shape or object attributes

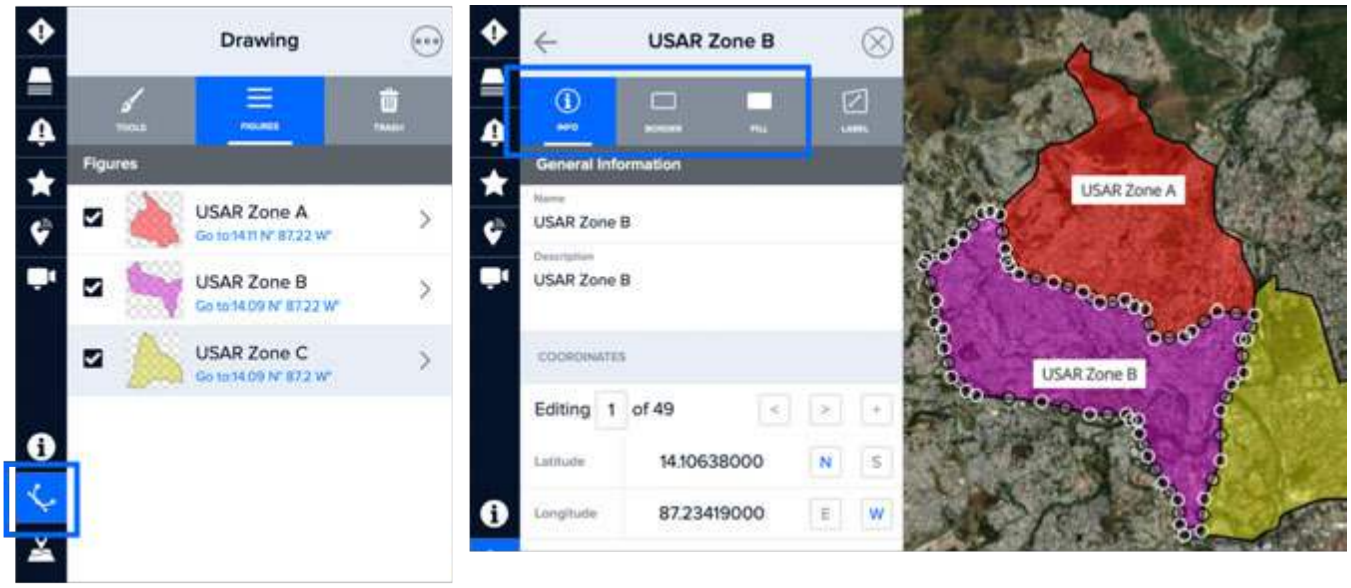
All tools include a set of attributes which can be accessed once a shape or object has been added to the map.

Click the **Figures** tab in the **Drawing** panel then select the shape you want to edit or click an object you've added to the map to view its attributes in the drawing panel.

Click the **Go to** coordinates below a drawing to zoom the map to that feature.

Info allows users to label drawings, which helps you to quickly identify it in the **Figures** list. It also allows you to add critical details describing the drawings (e.g. damage classification, facility contact, field team status, etc.).

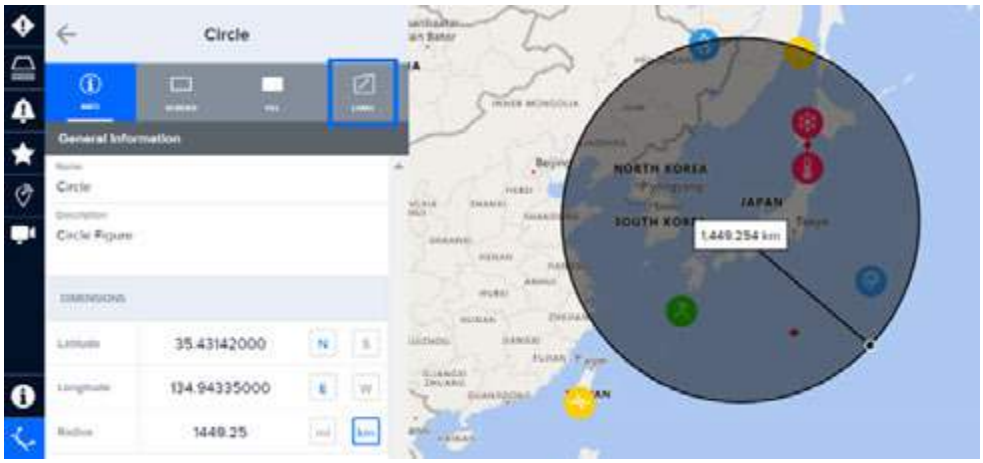
Border and **Fill** allow you to assign a color, as well as adjust transparency.



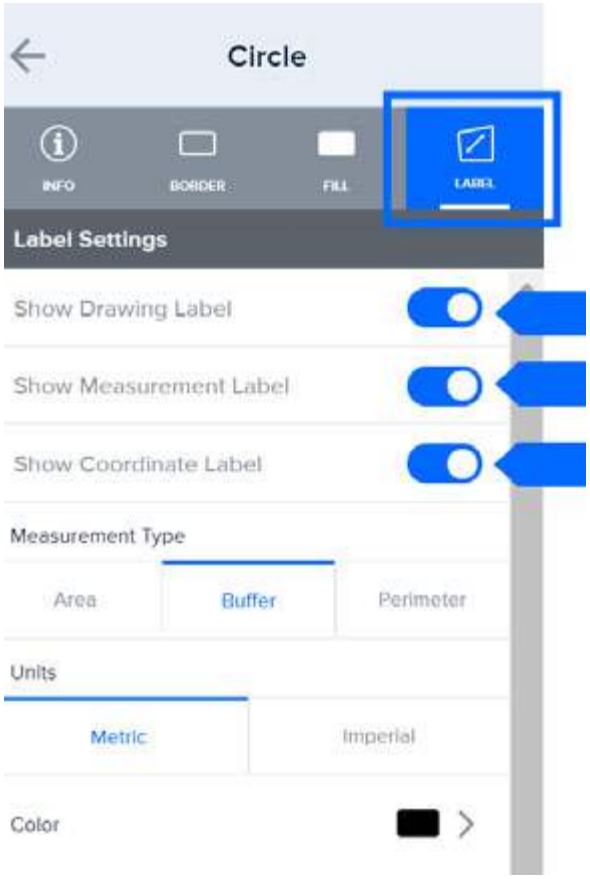
Measure distance and area with shapes

Label allows you to display the drawings label (added under Info). For circles, polygons, rectangles and lines, this option also allows you to measure length and area.

Add a **circle, polygon, rectangle** or **line** to the map. Click to edit object and then choose the **Label** tab in the drawing panel.



Toggle the attributes below to show the shape measurement and label, or to adjust other preferences like unit of measure, colors, and more.



PRO TIP

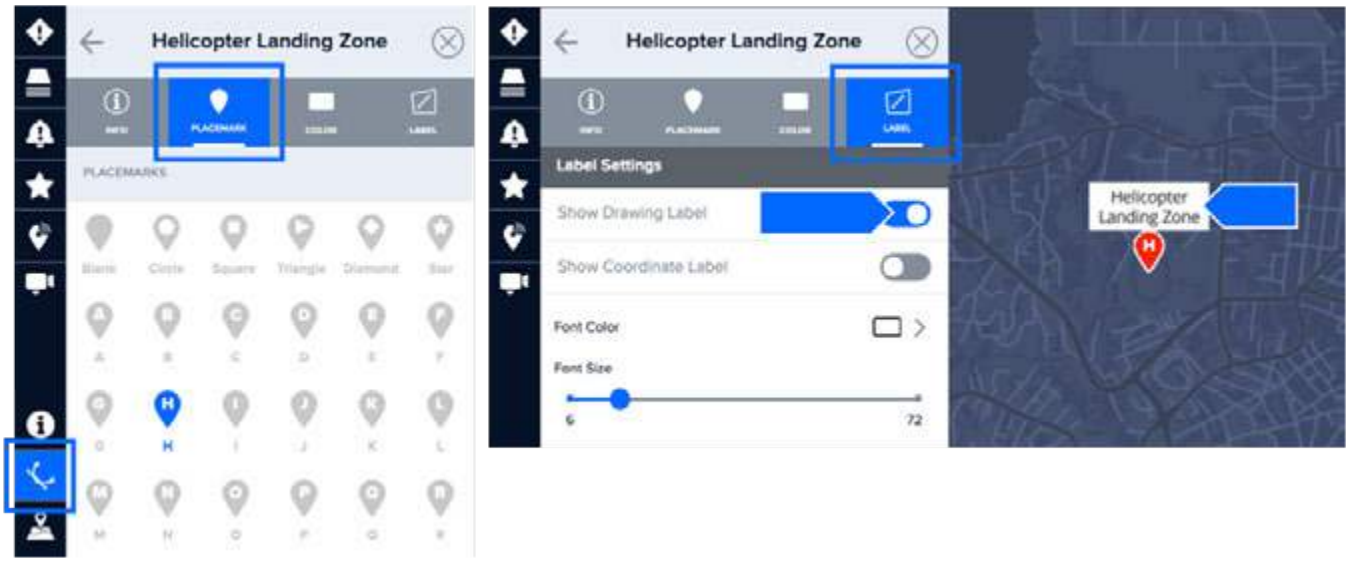
The **Measurement Label** feature is very useful for measuring the length of a runway in support of relief operations, as well as measuring open space (e.g. an open field) in support of mass care.

Add place markers to the map

With the **Drawing** panel open, click the **Placemark** tool and then click on the map to add.

Under the **Placemark** tab, choose from one of many different styles of place markers. Click the **Info** and **Color** tabs to adjust the name and color of the placemark.

You can also display the placemark's name (Drawing Label) and coordinates on the map by enabling those options under the **Label** tab.

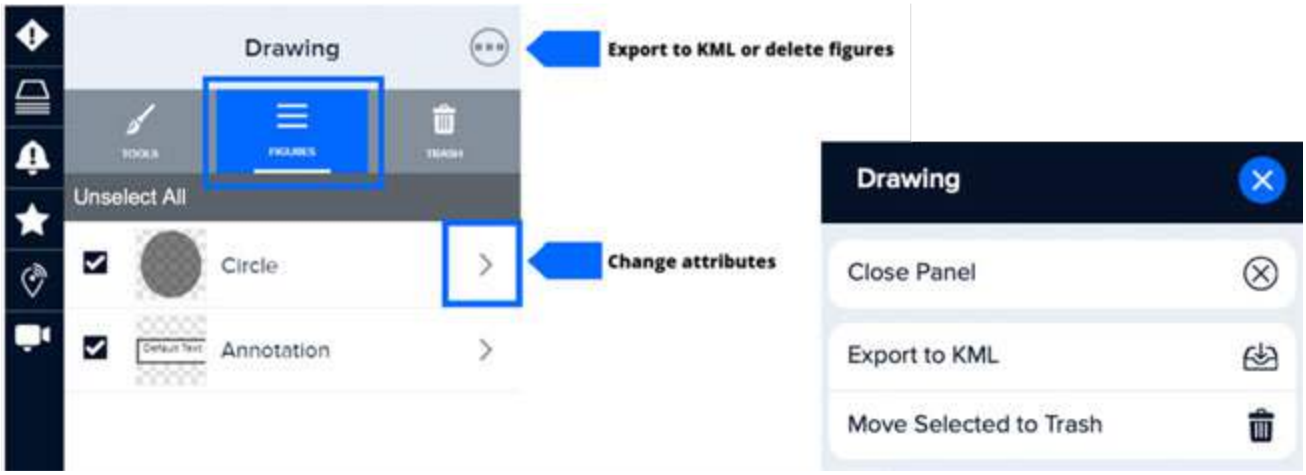


Export or delete map drawings

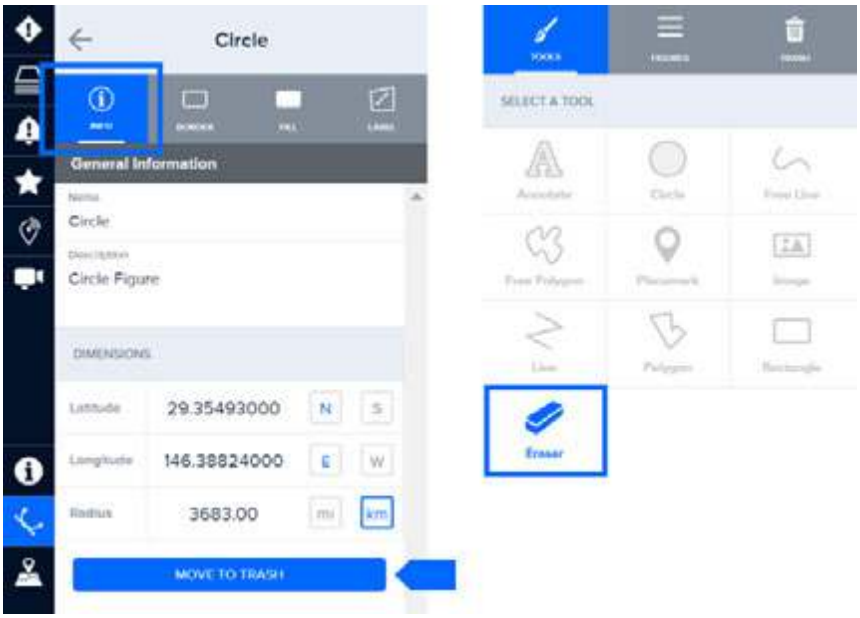
Click the **Drawing** icon from the left toolbar and then the **Figures** tab to change the attributes of a figure you've created or export your figures as a KML data file.

To **export figures** you've created, check the box next to the figures you wish to export and then the three dots at the top of the panel, followed by **Export to KML**. You can also **delete figures** by clicking the three dots and then **Move Selected to Trash.**

Note: For easier bulk management of figures, you have the option to either "Unselect All" or "Select All" at the top of the figures list. All figures will be selected by default.

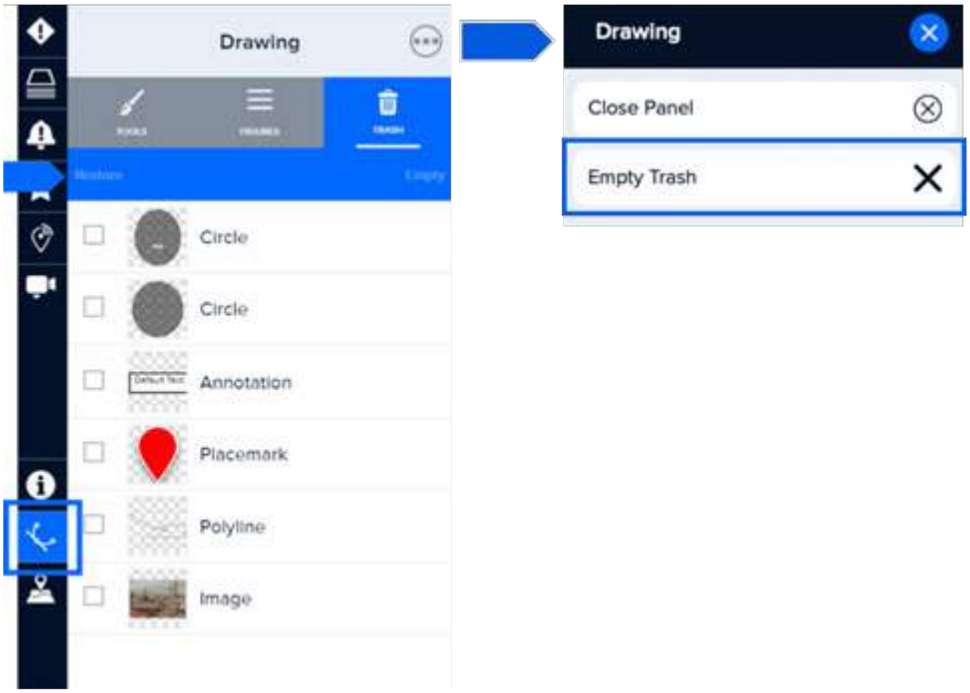


You can also remove drawings from the map by clicking the drawing with the **Drawing** panel open and selecting the **Info** tab, then the **Move to Trash** button. Alternately, click the **Eraser** tool located in the **Drawing** panel and then click an object on the map to erase it.



Restore erased shapes and objects

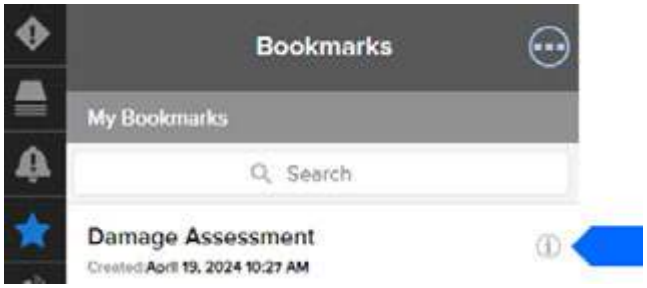
While in the **Drawing** panel, click the **Trash** tab. You will see a list of figures you've deleted. Check the item you wish to restore and then the restore link. You can also empty the trash bin of figures you wish to permanently delete by selecting the panel options [...] button at the top-right, followed by the **Empty Trash** option.



Copy figures

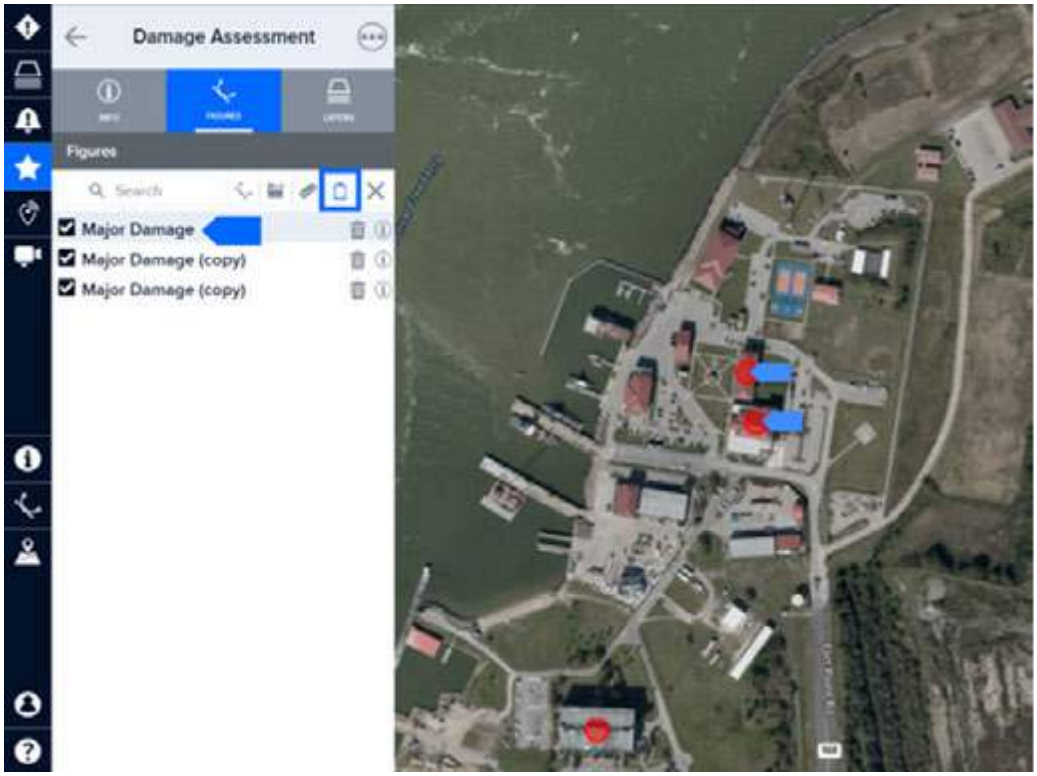
The **Copy** option is available for Bookmarks that include drawings and very useful when you need to recreate the same drawing multiple times, such as adding the same color dot to multiple structures on the imagery basemap, representing the same level of assessed damage.

First, open the **Bookmarks** panel and locate your bookmark that includes drawings. Then, select the information button to the right of that bookmark and click on the **Features** tab.



To copy, enable **Edit** mode and then click on the figure in the list you wish to copy. Click on the map to add a copy of that figure.

Additional copies of that figure will appear on the map with each consecutive click until you deselect the **Copy** option.



Print maps

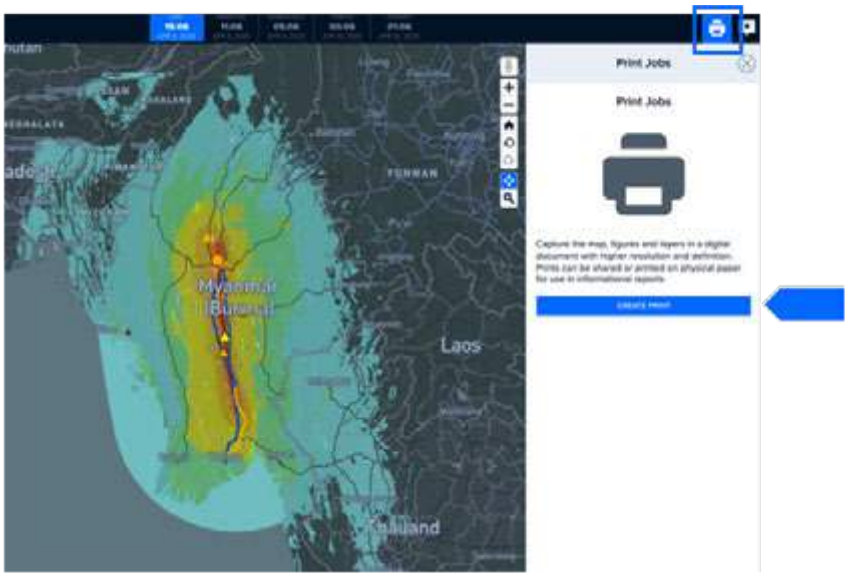
DisasterAWARE not only provides quick and easy ways to create custom maps, without having to be a GIS expert, it also provides a stylized, professional map template and multiple export options (e.g. PDF, PNG, and JPEG).

Create a printable map



To get started, select the **Print** feature next to the Legend icon at the top right of corner of the application.

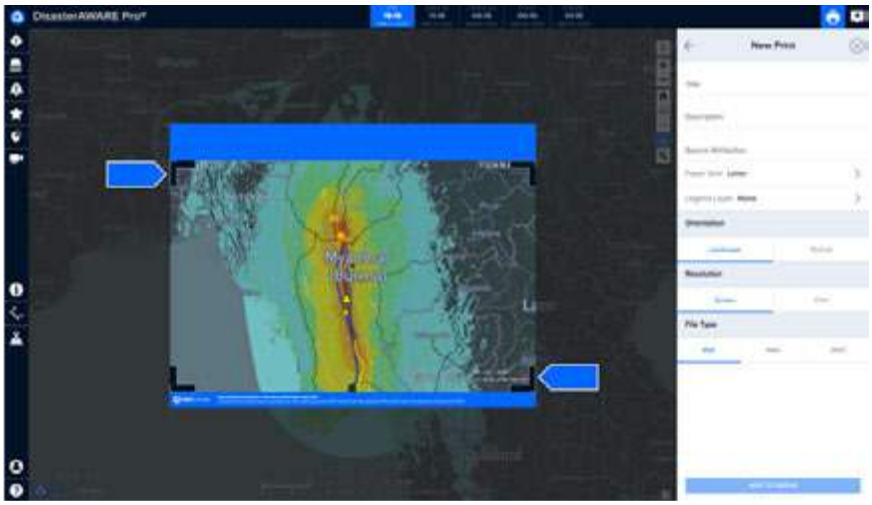
Next, select the **Create Print** option in the **Print Jobs** panel.



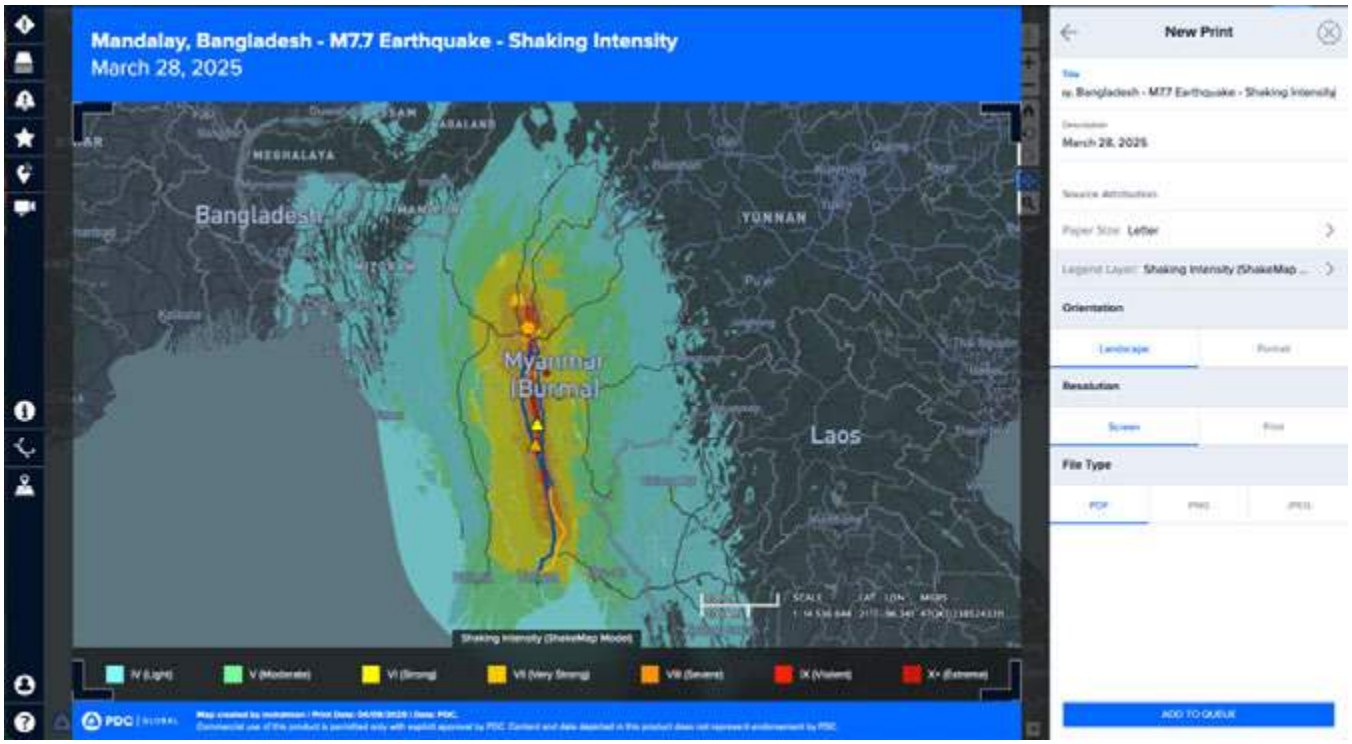
Define your print preferences

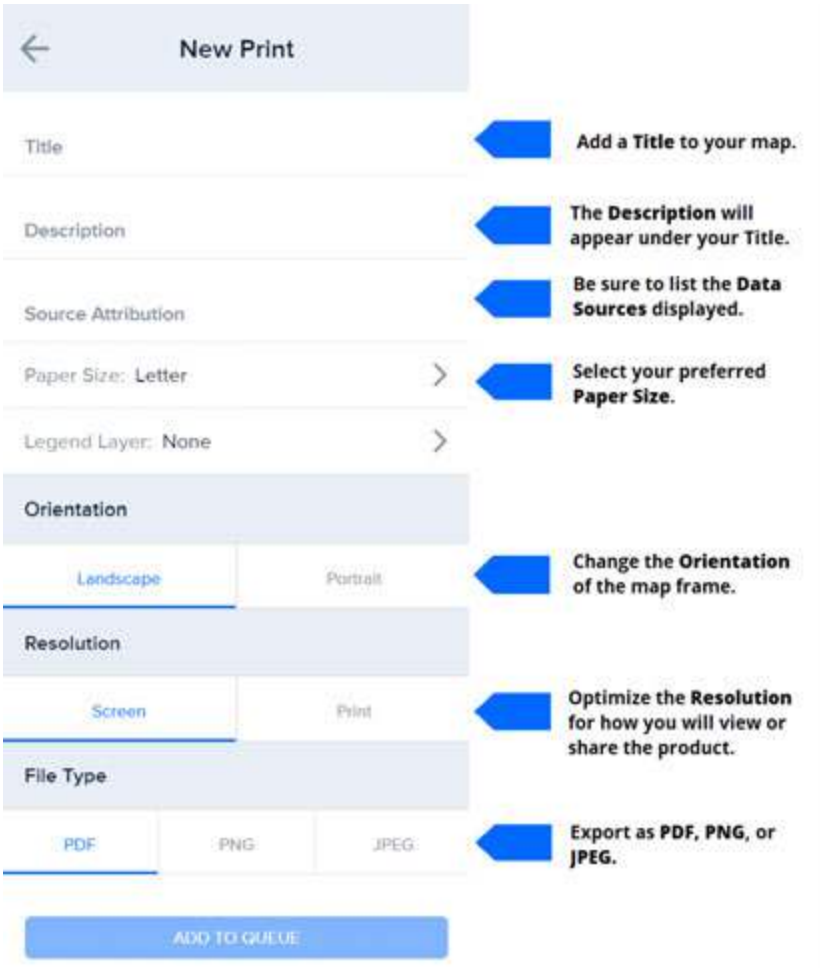
The Print feature provides multiple settings that allow you to customize the output of your print. These include a resizable map frame, customizable title and description, a selection of standard paper sizes, optimized resolution for on-screen viewing or printing, and file type to be output.

First, set the size area of the map to be printed. You can adjust the print area by clicking and dragging the **frame handles** shown below.



Next, enter map details such as the title you would like to have displayed in the banner, description, and other details shown below. Click on the **Legend Layer** option to select and display the legend for one of the layers included in your Print.

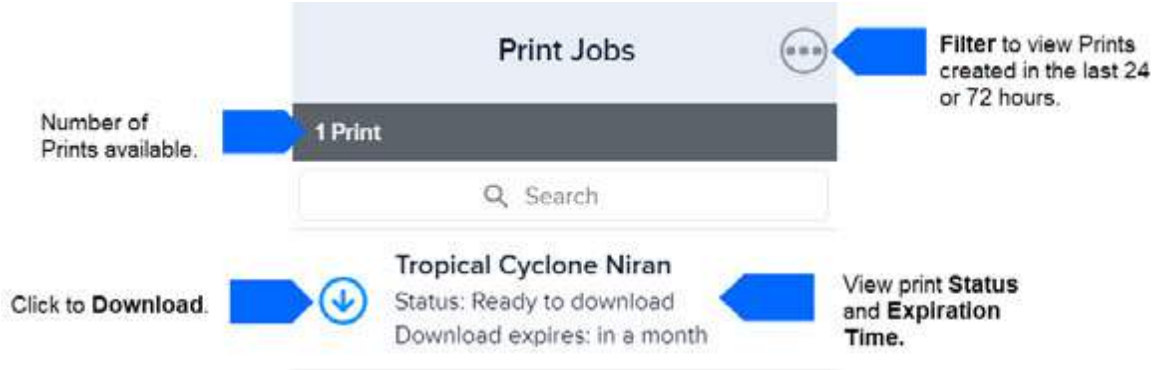




Download your map for printing

Once you have entered your print details as described above, you can now download your print. Within the same Print panel, select the **Add to Queue** button as depicted in the screenshot above.

Your print will appear in the Prints list. When it finishes processing, select the blue arrow next to the print you want to download.



PRO TIP Prints that you have created will expire from the system within 30 days. It is recommended that you download all prints to your local environment to maintain an historical record.

BOOKMARK AND SHARE INFORMATION

Bookmark and share your drawings

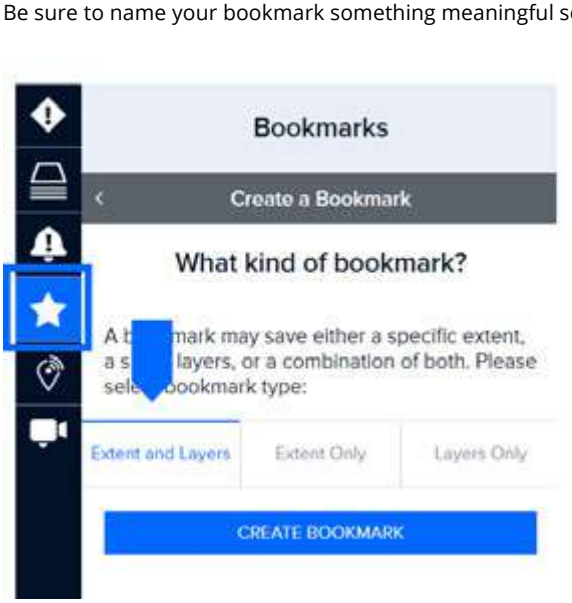
Bookmark your drawings and custom maps to save them and share with other users. This is useful for shared situational awareness and quickly communicating critical information.

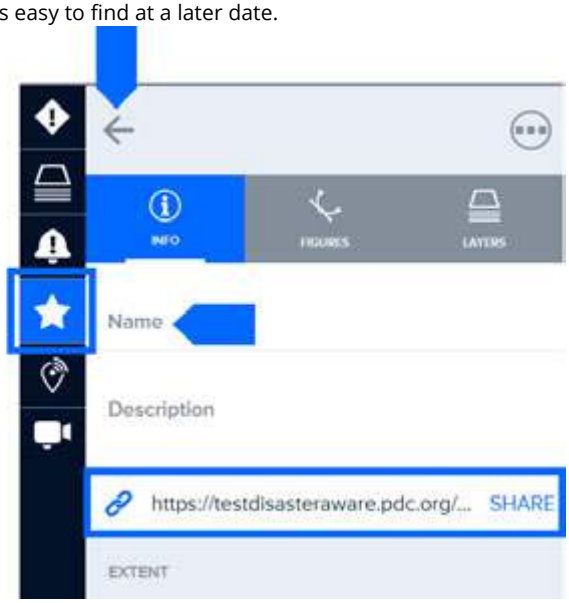
Click the **Bookmark** icon on the left toolbar and then click the three dots at the top of the bookmark panel.



After clicking the three dots shown above, select **Add Bookmark** and choose the layer preferences you'd like to save. By selecting the **Extents and Layers** option shown below, you will ensure the full frame and content of your current map is saved.

Be sure to name your bookmark something meaningful so it's easy to find at a later date.





The **Share** link shown above allows you to copy/paste the link and share your bookmark with other DisasterAWARE users.

PRO TIP

Bookmarks serve as an excellent, interactive alternative to briefing PowerPoint slides. You can automatically set your workspace default view to display the map area, zoom, and layers you want to view every time you login. See the section titled *Customize your workspace*.

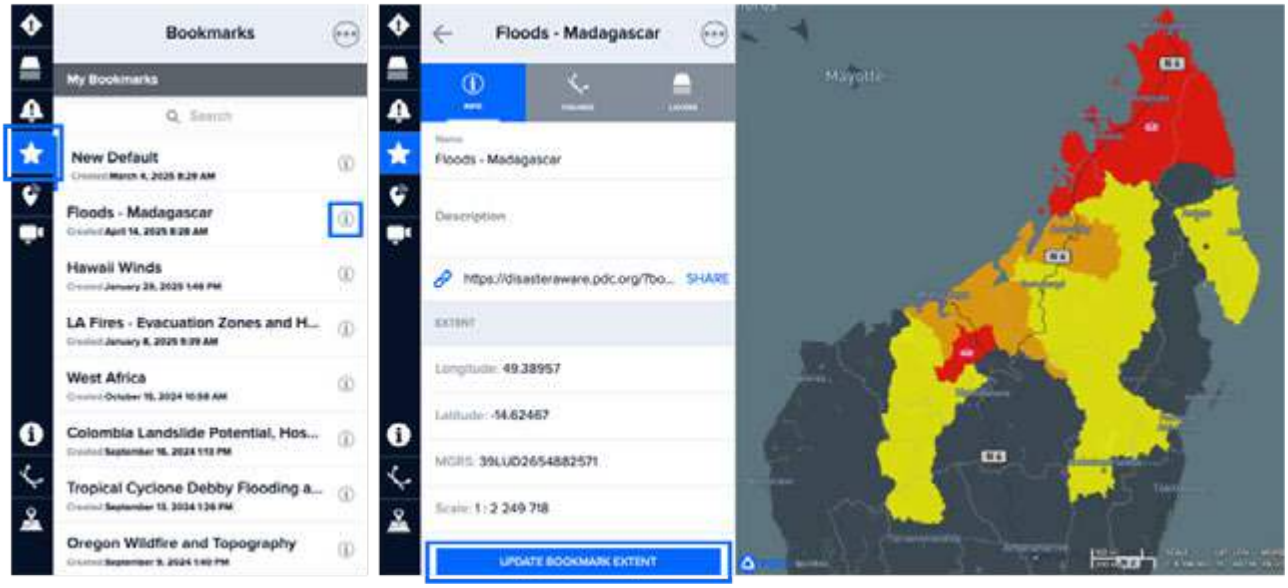
Want to save your current Hazard filters for later viewing? Simply enable the PDC Active Hazard layers you wish to include, as well as apply any additional filters via the Hazard panel's Filter tool and create a Bookmark. Those hazard filters will be saved to that Bookmark for quick access at any time.

Edit bookmarks

It's often helpful to be able to edit a bookmark you've shared with new updates from the field. For instance, you may want to add additional drawings that delineate assessed structures, or a change in status (e.g. planned assessment areas, completed assessments).

Change bookmark extent

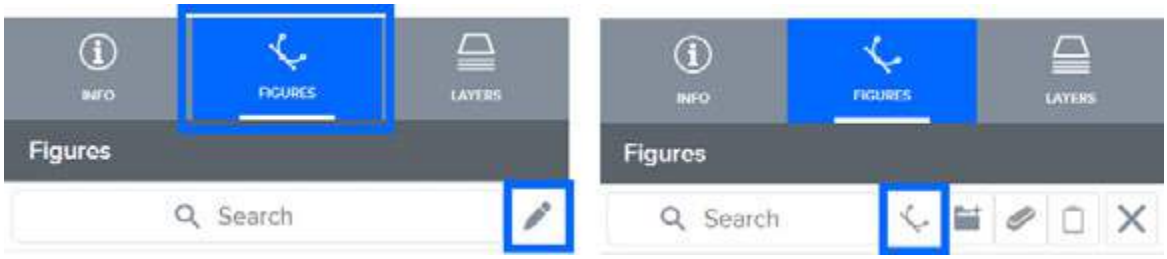
While in the **Bookmarks** panel, click the **Info** icon next to the name of a bookmark you want to update. Zoom or re-center the map and then select the **Update Bookmark Extent** button. Your bookmark will now open to the updated extent when revisited.



Add figures to an existing bookmark

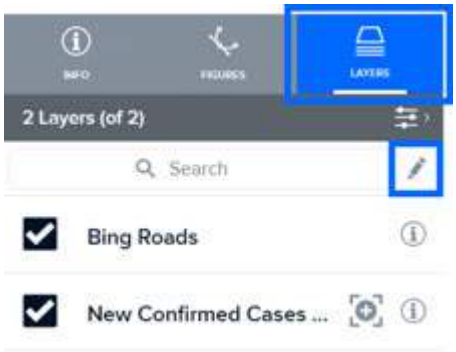
You can add drawings, photos, text annotations and other figures to a bookmark you've already created. Click the **Info** icon next to the bookmark you want to edit. While in the **Bookmarks** panel, click the **Figures** tab.

Once in the **Figures** panel, click the **Edit** icon. Next, click the **Drawing** icon to add a figure. You can organize figures into folders by clicking the folder icon, and then dragging and dropping the figures into the folder.



Add layers to an existing bookmark

You can add or change **Layers** in an existing bookmark. Click the **Info** icon next to the bookmark you want to edit. While in the **Bookmarks** panel, click the **Layers** tab and then the **Edit** icon as shown below.

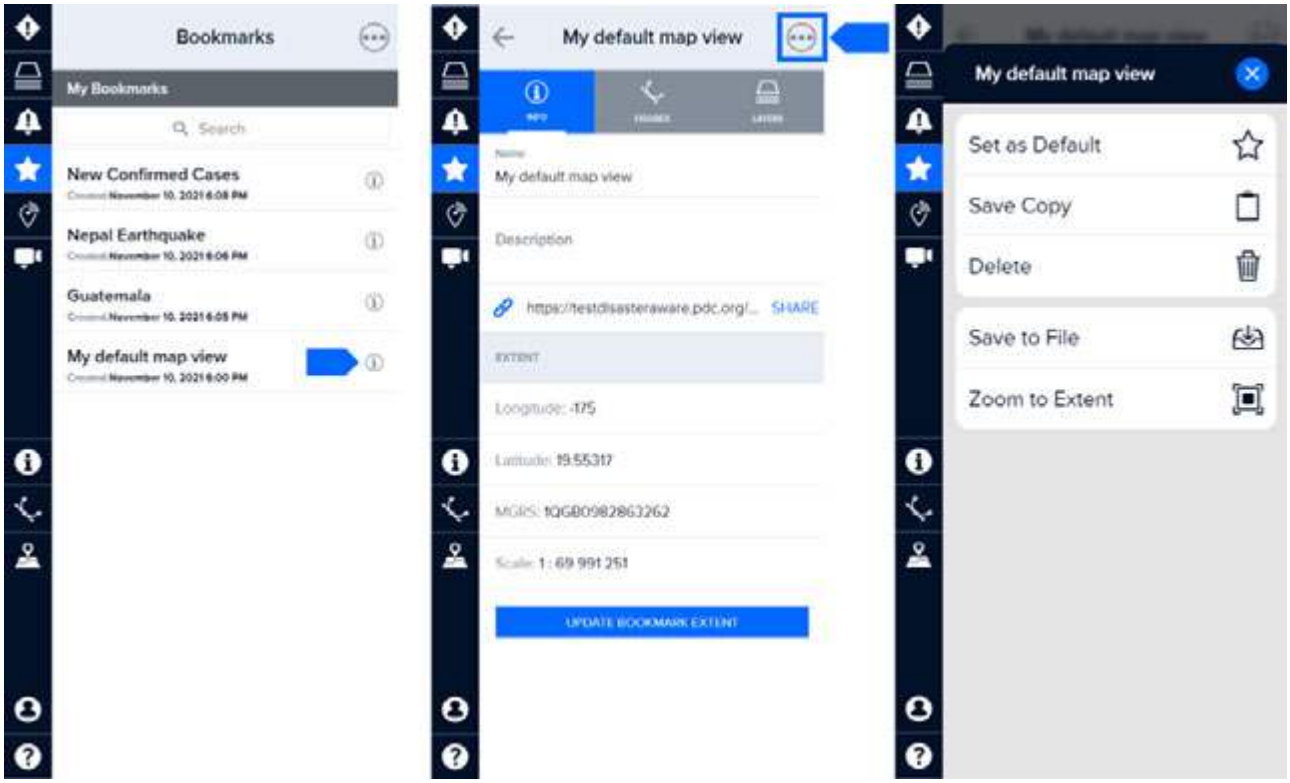


View and manage your bookmarks

To view your list of bookmarks, edit the name of a bookmark, delete or export a bookmark, or to locate the URL of a bookmark you've already created, click the **Bookmark** icon on the left toolbar to view your list of bookmarks.

Click the **Info** icon to the right of the bookmark name in your bookmarks list to copy/paste the bookmark link. This icon also provides helpful information about the map extent, and layers activated.

Follow prompts below to delete, duplicate, or share a bookmark as a JSON file that can be imported into another person's account.



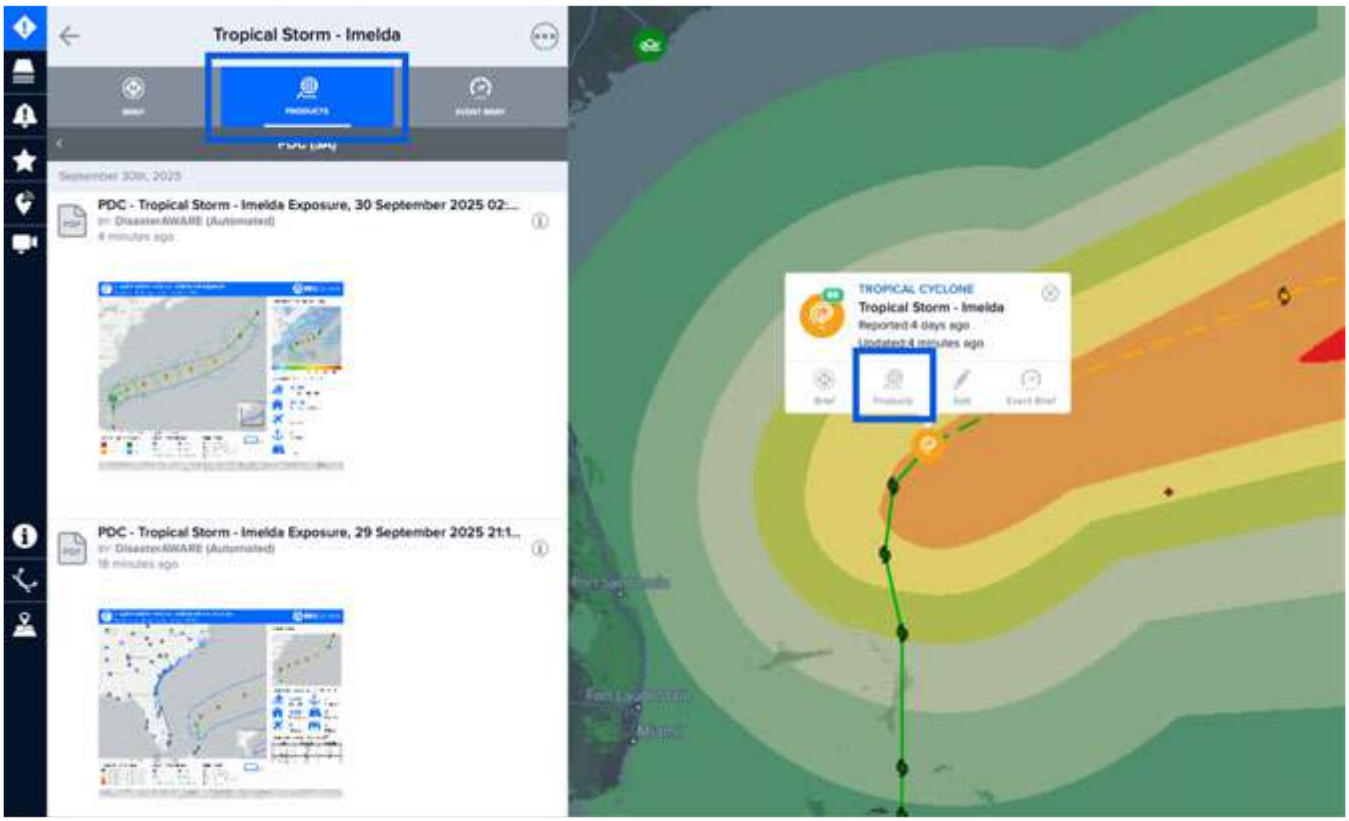
Use the **Search** option in the **Bookmarks** panel to locate bookmarks by keyword.

Share your products in DisasterAWARE

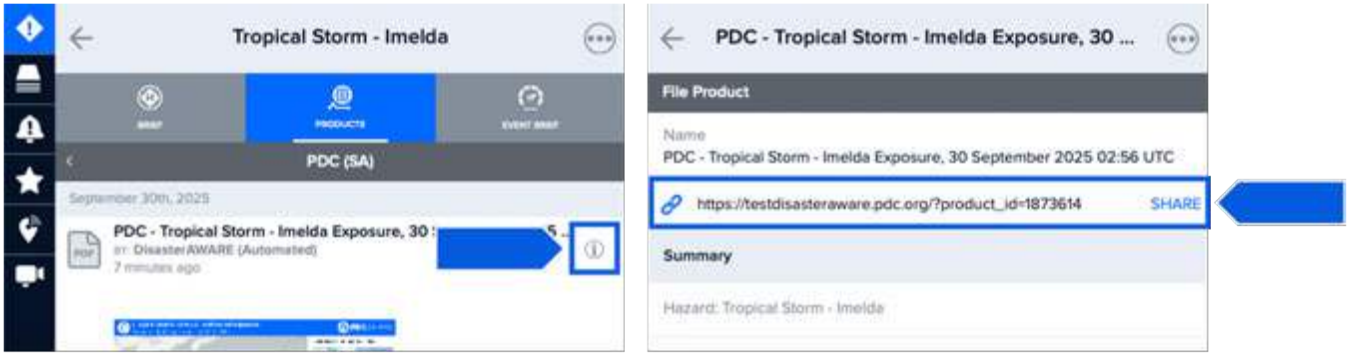
Users with administrative privileges have the ability to add and edit hazard products in DisasterAWARE, such as a File (e.g. photo, map, SitRep, report) and URLs (e.g. link to website or bookmark URL). To learn more about administrative capabilities see the section on *System Administration.* If you do not have administrator privileges, but wish to share a product, contact response@pdc.org to have your file uploaded to the system.

Sharing hazard products

You can share any product associated with a hazard in the system by clicking a **Hazard** icon on the map and then the **Products** quick link from the map tooltip. Navigate to the products folder of interest.



Once you have identified a product you wish to share, click the **Info** icon. Then copy/paste the link provided to share with other authorized users (requires log in).



CUSTOMIZE YOUR WORKSPACE

There are several options for customizing your DisasterAWARE workspace and experience:

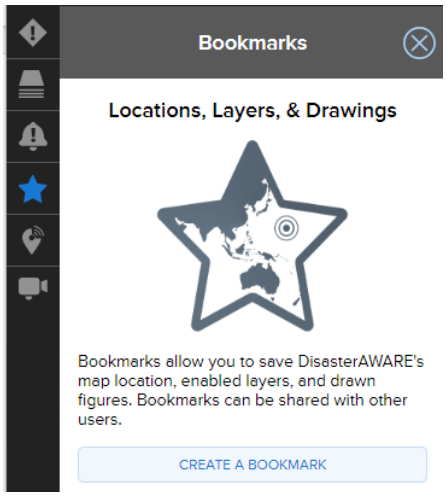
- Choose custom language preferences and time zones (see section on *Account, language, and time zone preferences*).
- Change the default background map, zoom extent, and visible layers.
- Customize your layers panel.

Customize your default map view

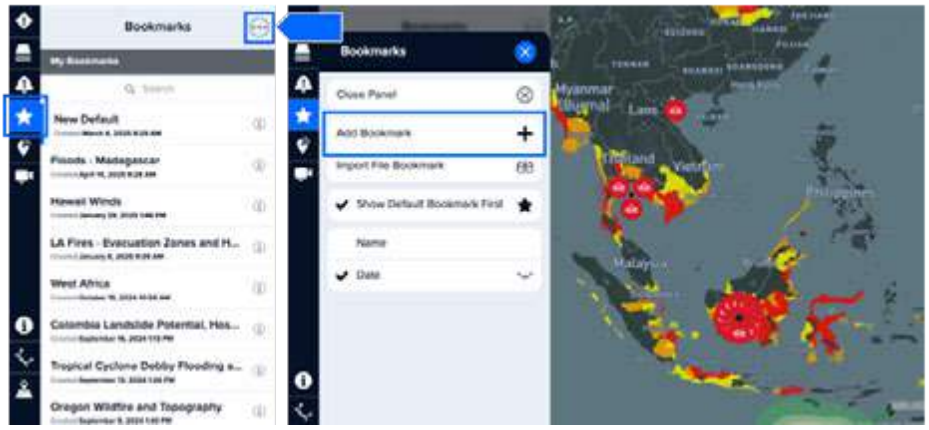
You can customize the default map view so when you login into the system it appears with the desired background map, zoom extent, and the visible layers. To learn more about customizing maps, see the section above on how to *Create custom maps.*

Once you have your map set up the way you want it to appear at each login, click the **Bookmark** icon on the left toolbar. Next, follow the steps for creating a bookmark in the section titled *Bookmark frequently used layers*.

If this is your first time creating a Bookmark you will see the following view. Click on **Create a Bookmark**.



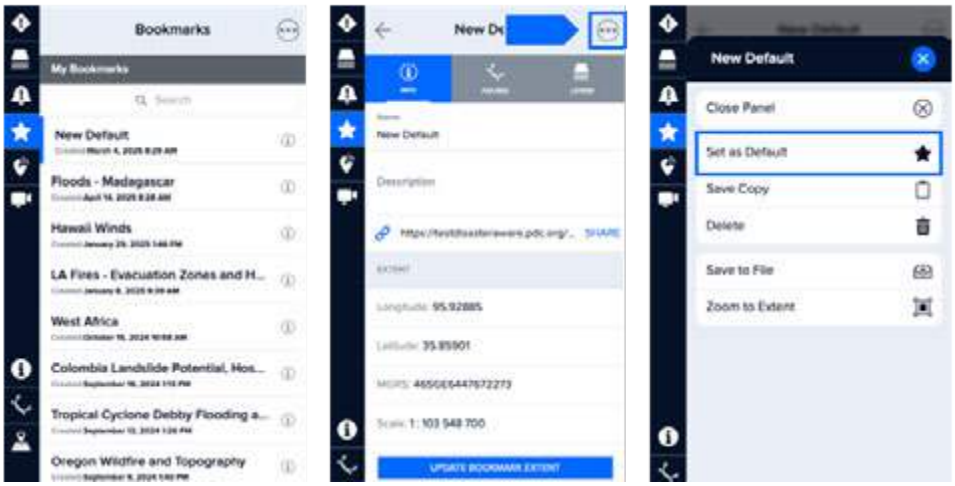
If you have created Bookmarks before, click on the three dots at the top of the Bookmark panel, followed by the **Add Bookmark +** option.



Choose the **Extents and Layers** option, **Create Bookmark** button, and give your new default bookmark an easily identifiable name like “Default map.” Learn more about creating bookmarks in the section *Bookmark and share information* above.

Once your default map bookmark has been created, you are now ready to assign the bookmark to your default map view.

Click the **Bookmark** icon from the left toolbar, and then choose the bookmark you just created. Select the three dots from the upper right panel and choose Set as Default. Your default bookmark will now be the view you see each time you login to the system.



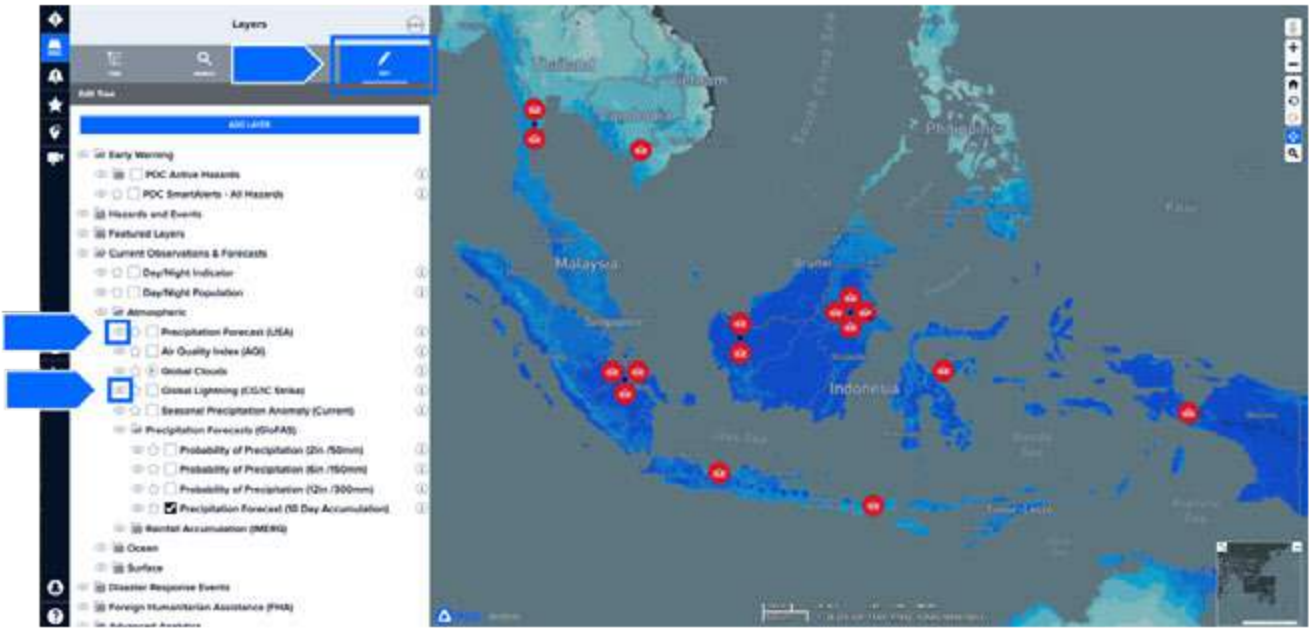
Note: You can also set the bookmark you have created by clicking the User icon from the left toolbar, selecting the Bookmark option, and then choosing a bookmark from the list.

Customize your layers list

DisasterAWARE provides you with access to thousands of layers specific to hazards and geographies around the world. If you want to narrow your list of visible folders and / or layers, you can simply hide them from the Layers list. This only hides them on your account, and they can be unhidden at any time.

Click the **Layers** icon from the left toolbar and select the **Edit** tab.

Click the **Eye** icon to show or hide folders or specific layers.



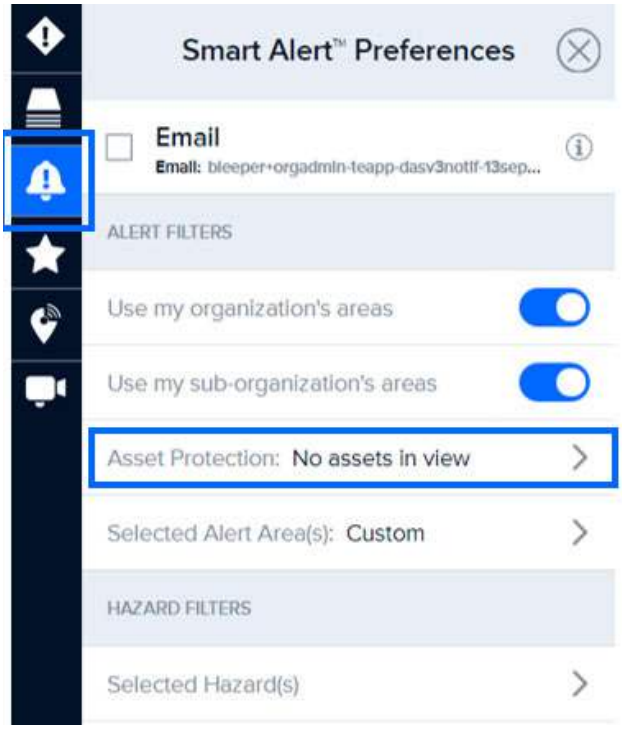
ADVANCED MONITORING TOOLS AND CAPABILITIES

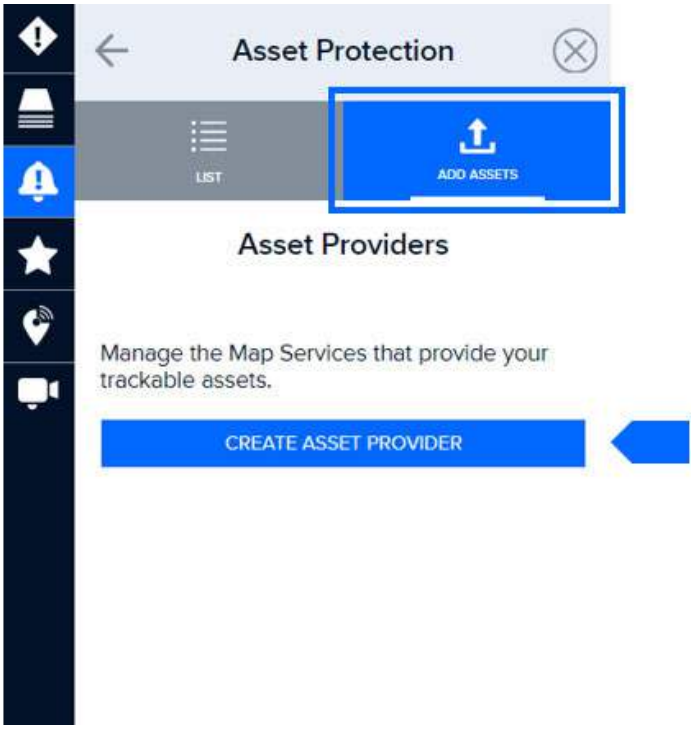
Monitor and protect the safety of your assets

Protect your stationary or moving assets (such as buildings, personnel, or goods in transit), and receive alerts when a hazard poses a threat.

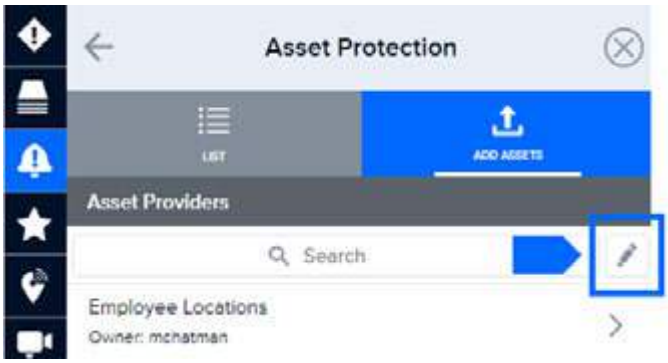
Import assets to be monitored

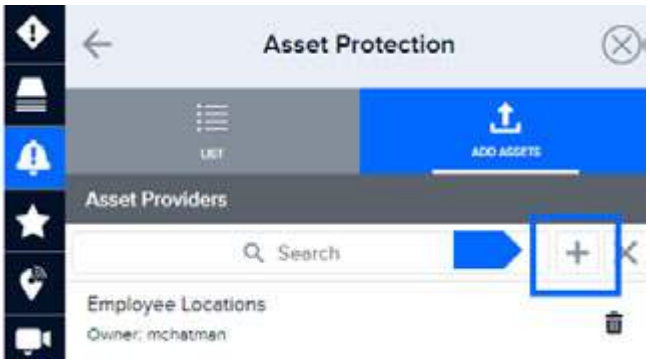
To setup asset protection, click the **Smart Alert** icon on the left toolbar and then click on **Asset Protection**. Once the **Assets** panel opens, click the **Add Assets** tab.



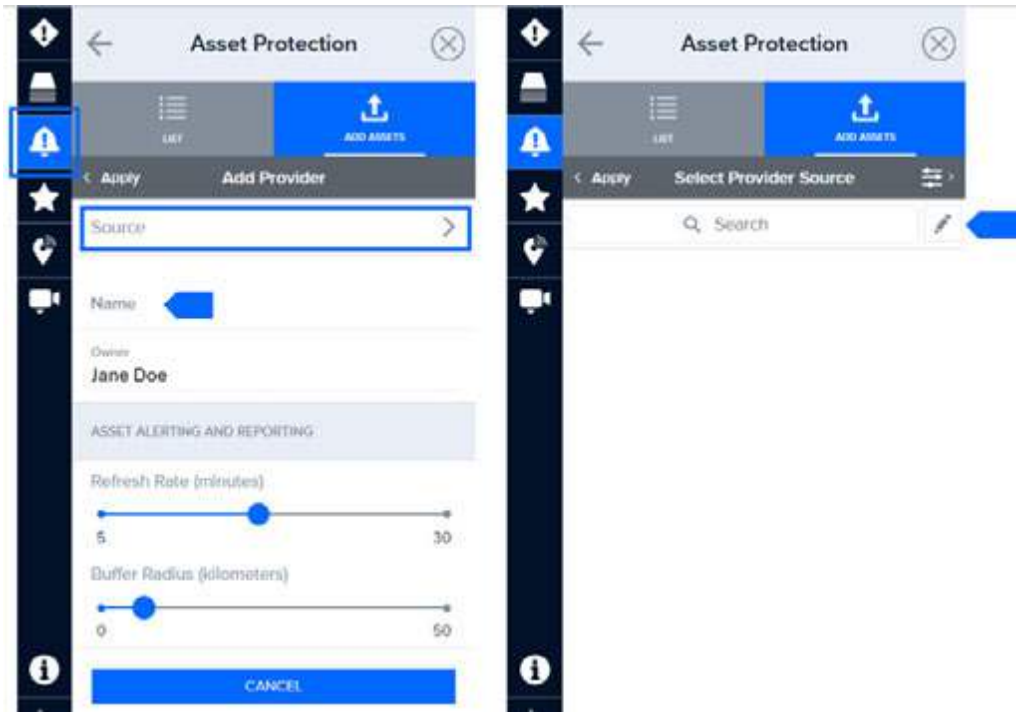


While in the **Add Assets** tab, click the **Create Asset Provider** button (see image above). You will need to add a data source for the assets you want to monitor. **Note:** The "Create Asset Provider" button disappears after you have created your first asset provider (see image below).

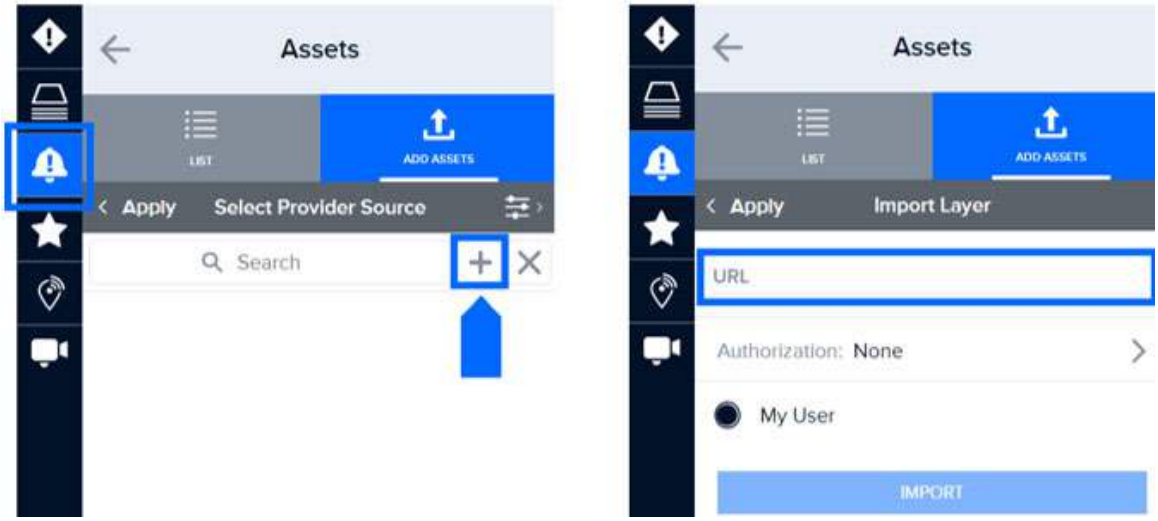




Under **Add** Provider, enter a meaningful name for the asset data layer you want to import and click the **Source** link. Next, under **Select Provider Source**, click the **Edit** button to begin the process of adding assets.

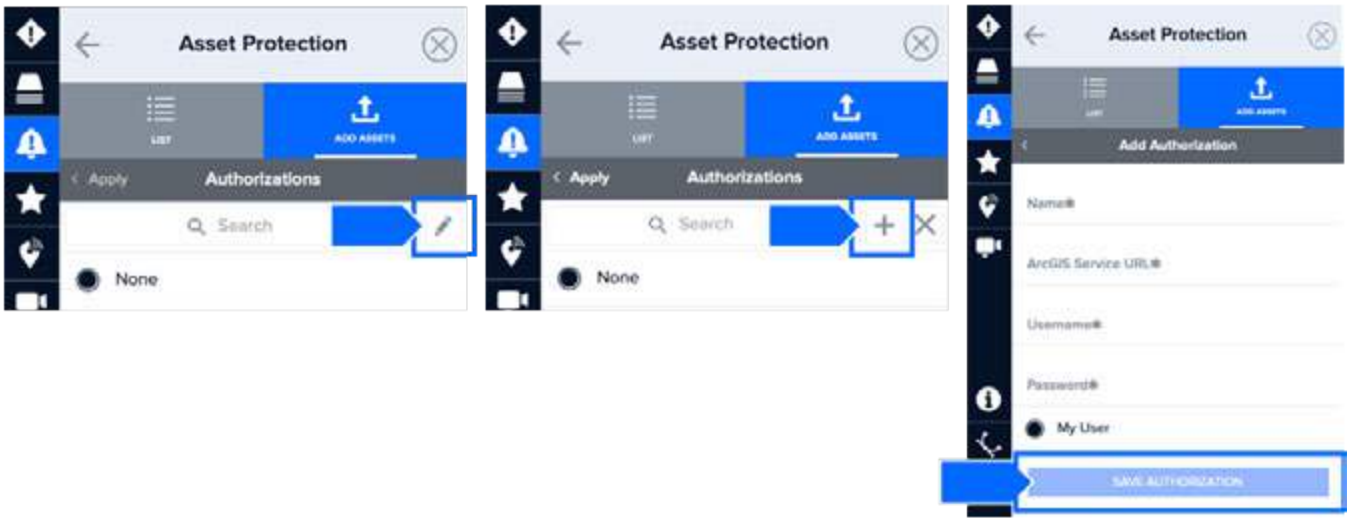


Now click the **Plus** (+) symbol and add a web service URL for the assets layer you wish to import. Add the asset provider mapservice **URL**.



If the asset layer is password protected, you can also add credentials needed to access the service by clicking the **Authorization** link and follow the guidance below. If it does not require a password, select **Import** and then **Apply** to return to the **Select Provider Source** list.

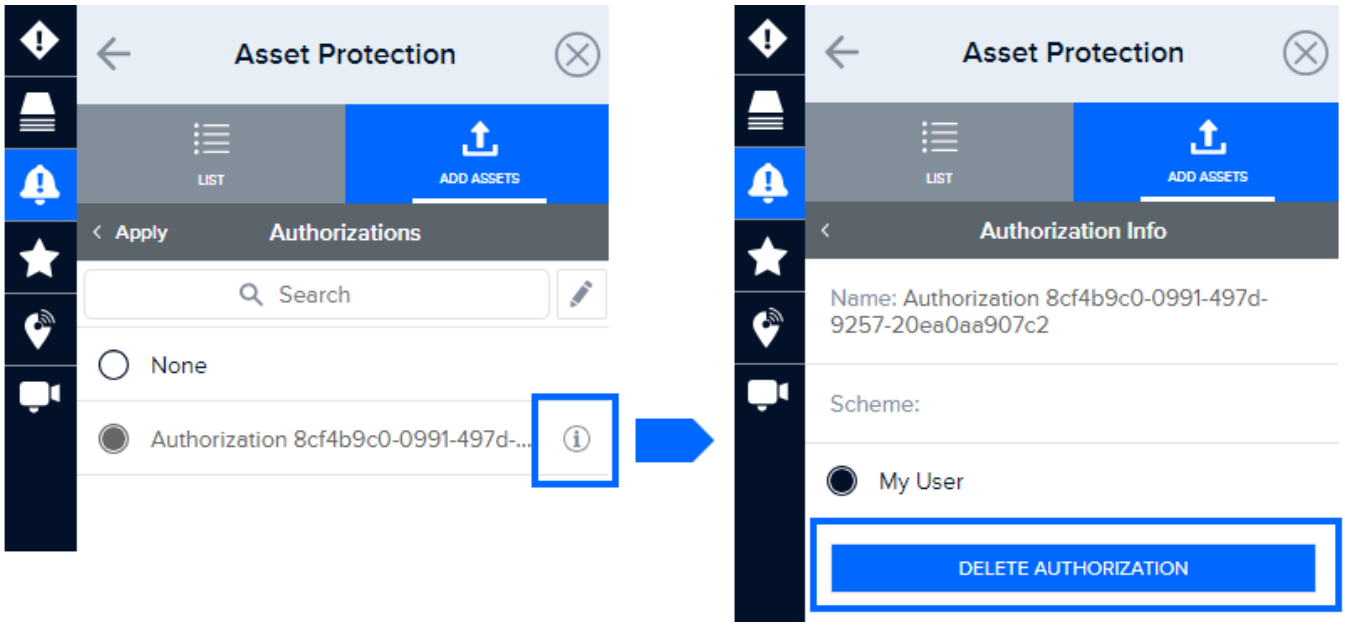
Next, click the **Edit** icon, then the **Plus** (+) symbol, and then enter the layer authorization details shown below. Be sure to select **Save Authorization** when you are done entering the required information.



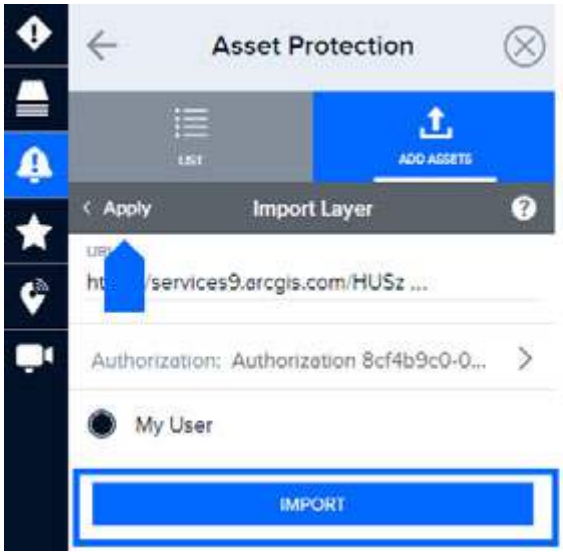
After you have applied the necessary authorization credentials (if required), select the back arrow next to **Add Authorization**. Your newly added source should now be visible in the list.

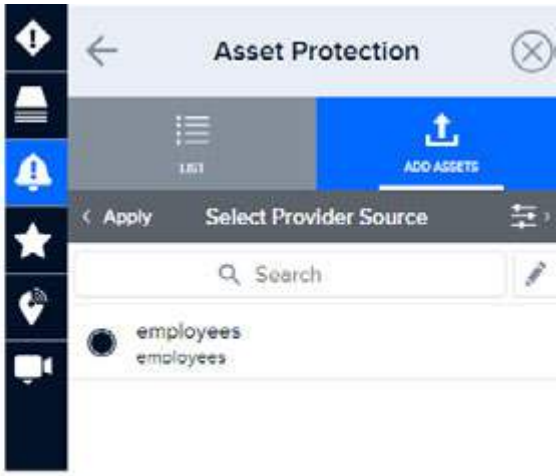
Verify that the correct authorization is selected in the **Authorizations** list (the circle to its left should be filled).

Note: You can remove an unwanted authorization by clicking on the information button to its right and then the **Delete Authorization** button.

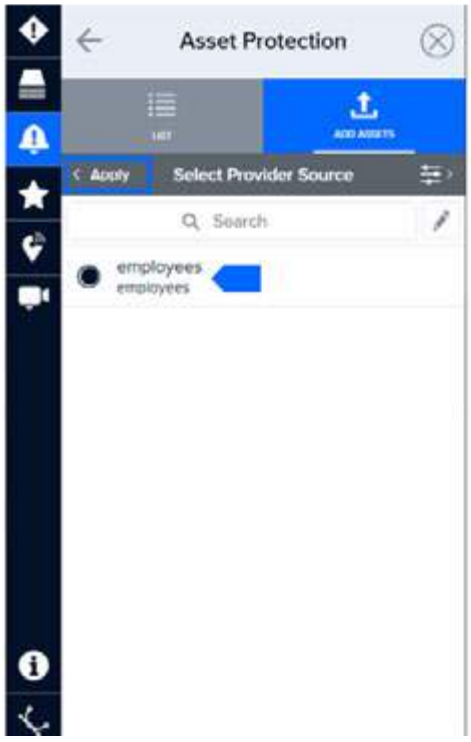


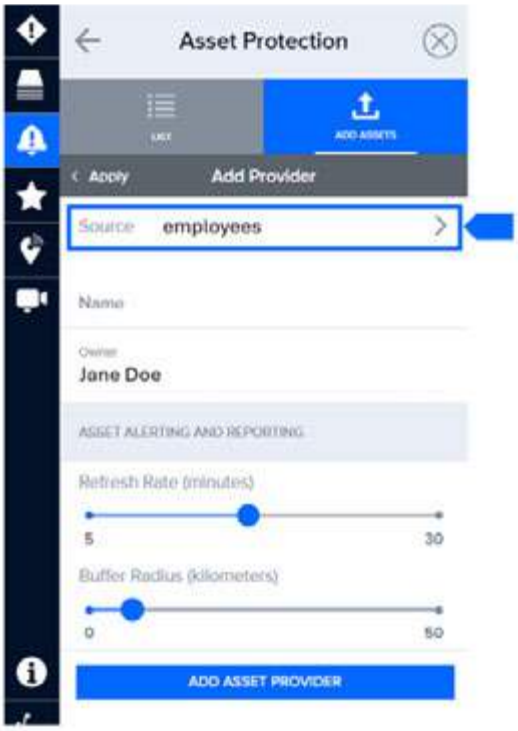
Be sure to select the **Import** button to ensure that your asset data is successfully imported. Then select the **Apply** option to return to the Select **Provider Source** list. Your newly added source should now be visible in the list.





Select the circle next to that source in the list and then select **Apply.** You will now see the name of that **Source** listed in the **Add Provider** panel.





Be sure to **Name** your asset provider and select **Apply** to complete the **Add Assets** process.

Select the **Specify asset name field** option to specify which column/field in your dataset includes the names of your assets (e.g. building name, personnel names, resource names, etc.). This will help you distinguish between your individual assets on the map.

Asset alerting and reporting

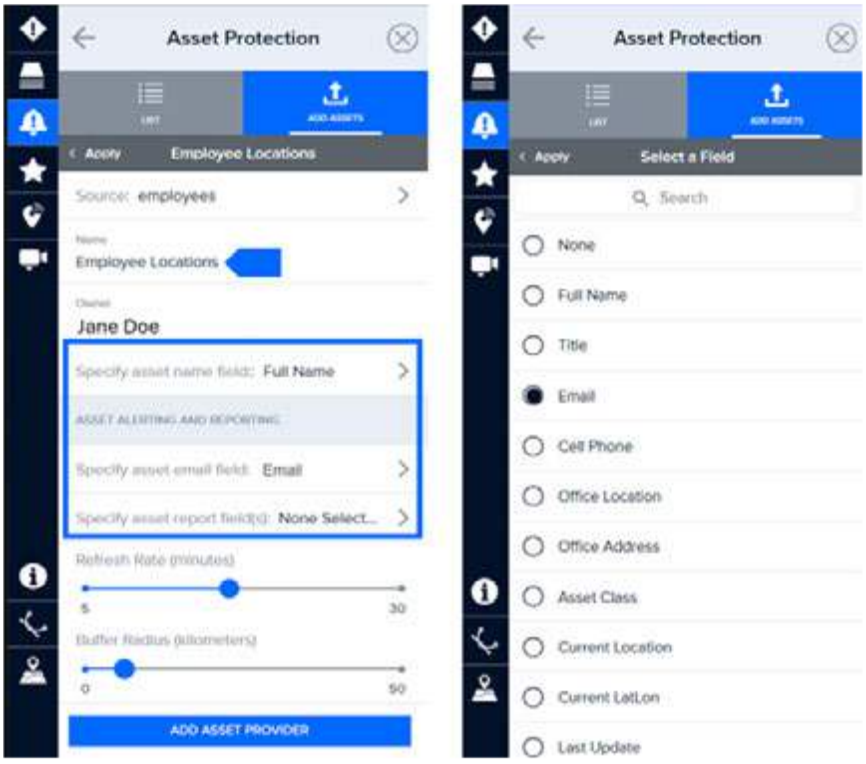
Under the **Asset Alerting and Reporting** section, you will find options for enhanced reporting and notification when assets are potentially exposed to the hazard types and severities you have specified.

If your asset mapservice includes **email addresses** for assets, select **Specify asset email field** and then select the data field that includes that information. By doing this, your assets will be sent Smart Alert notifications when potential exposed to the hazards, per your Smart Alert area and hazard filter settings. **Assets are not required to have a DisasterAWARE account to receive these notifications.**

Specify how frequently you would like DisasterAWARE to check for updates to your asset locations using the **Refresh Rate** option, as well as specify how wide of a **Buffer Radius** around each asset you wish to use for those assets. When a hazard meeting your Smart Alert settings intersects that Buffer Radius, a Smart Alert notification will be triggered.

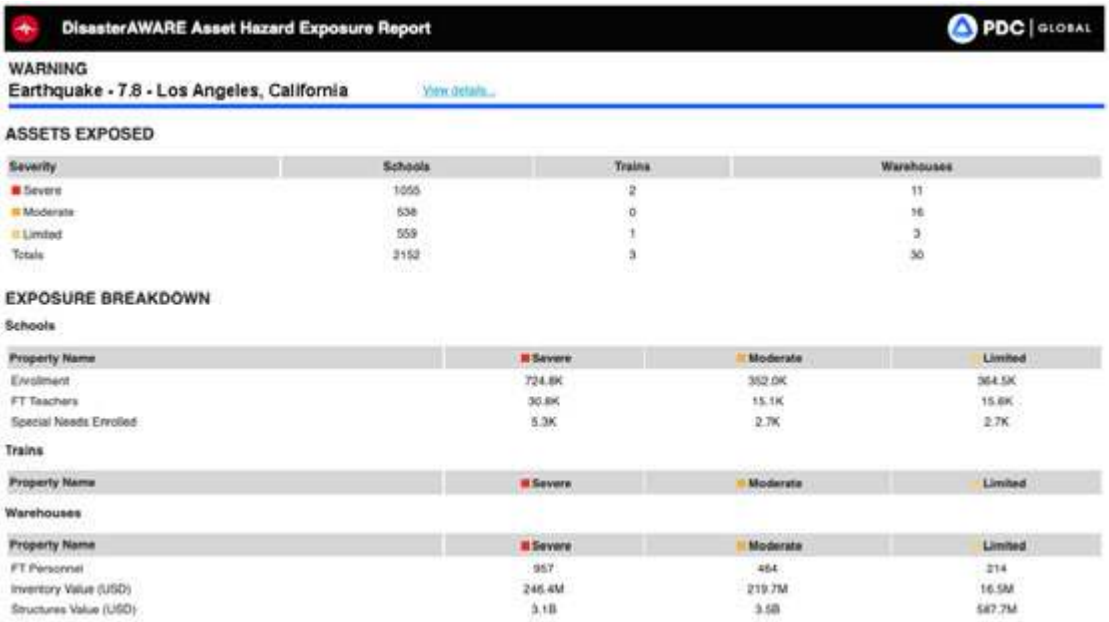
Note: If the minimum buffer radius for imported assets is set to a value of zero (0), Smart Alert notifications will only be triggered when a hazard directly impacts the specific assets tracked, as opposed to alerting on a radius outside of the assets.

Once you've applied the desired settings for that asset source, select either **Apply** or the **Add Asset Provider** button to complete the import process.



If you have signed up to receive **Smart Alert Emails**, you will also receive an email with an **Asset Report** summarizing the number of your assets potentially exposed to a hazard. To specify which data fields you would like summarized in that report, click the **Specify asset report field(s)** option (see previous image – left) and select which fields you would like to be included in the summary.

Below is an example of an **Asset Report Email.**



DisasterAWARE Asset Hazard Exposure Report

PDC | GLOBAL

WARNING

Earthquake - 7.8 - Los Angeles, California View details...

ASSETS EXPOSED

Severity	Schools	Trains	Warehouses
Severe	1055	2	11
Moderate	538	0	16
Limited	559	1	3
Totals	2152	3	30

EXPOSURE BREAKDOWN

Schools

Property Name	Severe	Moderate	Limited
Enrollment	724.8K	352.0K	364.5K
FT Teachers	30.8K	15.1K	15.6K
Special Needs Enrolled	5.3K	2.7K	2.7K

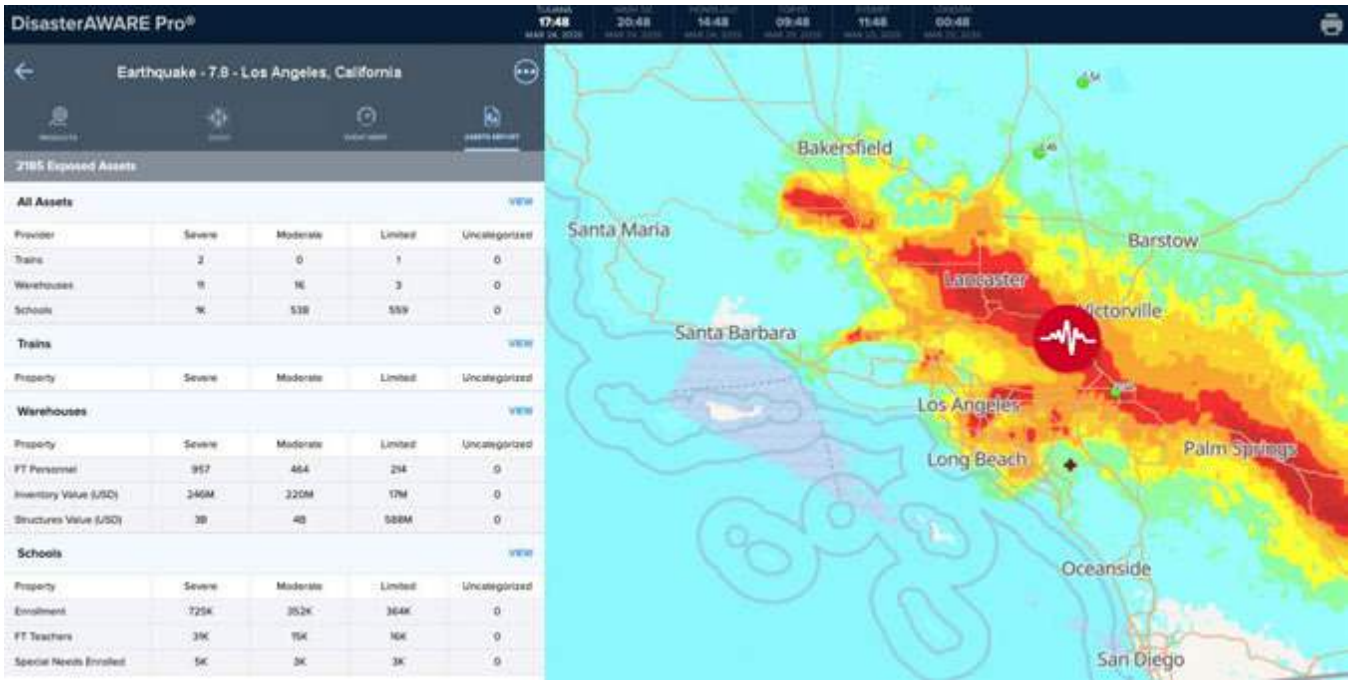
Trains

Property Name	Severe	Moderate	Limited

Warehouses

Property Name	Severe	Moderate	Limited
FT Personnel	957	464	214
Inventory Value (USD)	246.4M	219.7M	16.5M
Structures Value (USD)	3.1B	3.5B	587.7M

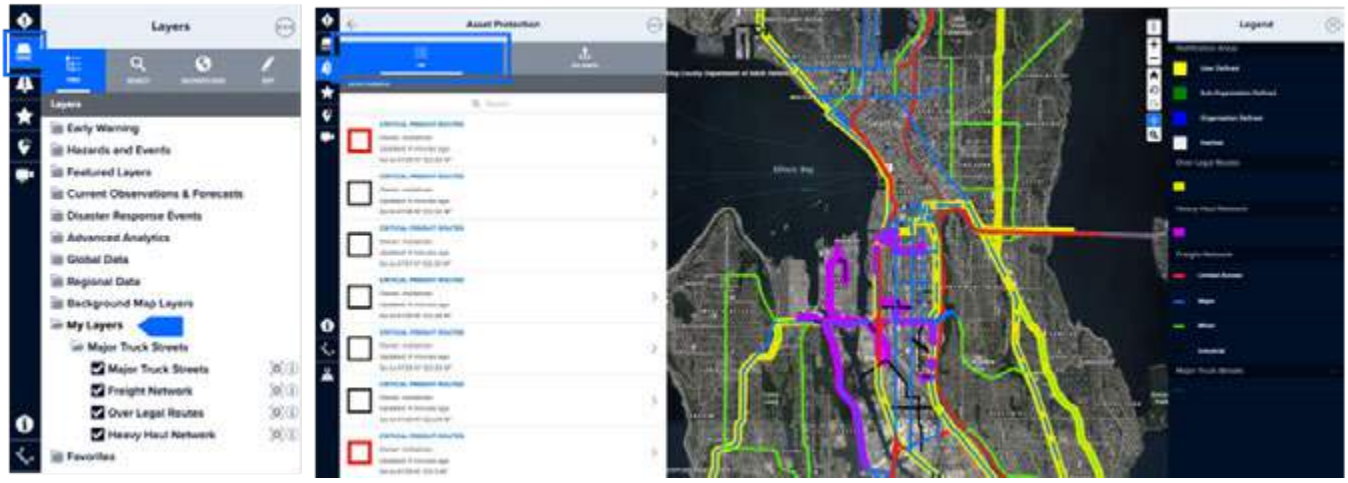
You may also access the **Asset Report** via that hazard in the Hazard panel. Open the hazard and select the **Asset Report** tab.



View imported asset layers

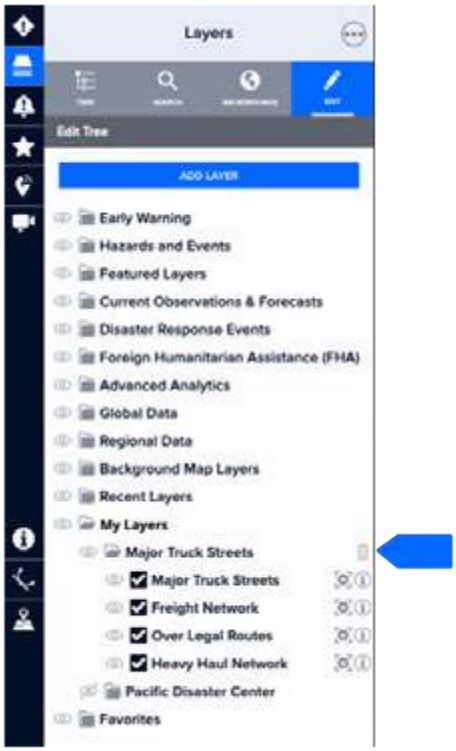
Click the **Layers** icon in the left toolbar to view your list of layers.

The asset layer(s) you've added will appear under the **My Layers** folder along with any other data layers you've previously imported.



Delete asset layers and authorization credentials

While in the Layers panel, select the **Edit** button. Expand the **My Layers** folder and select the **Delete** button shown below for the layer you wish to remove.



PRO TIP

You cannot delete authorization credentials until asset layers utilizing that authorization have been removed from your list of Asset Providers. Click the **Smart Alert** icon on the left toolbar, then **Assets > Sources** and select the credential you wish to delete. Next click the **Edit** icon and the **Delete** (x) icon.

Live camera monitoring

DisasterAWARE provides live camera monitoring and footage in select locations around the world. Live cameras help increase situational awareness of on-the-ground conditions and are a useful tool for disaster response and preparedness.

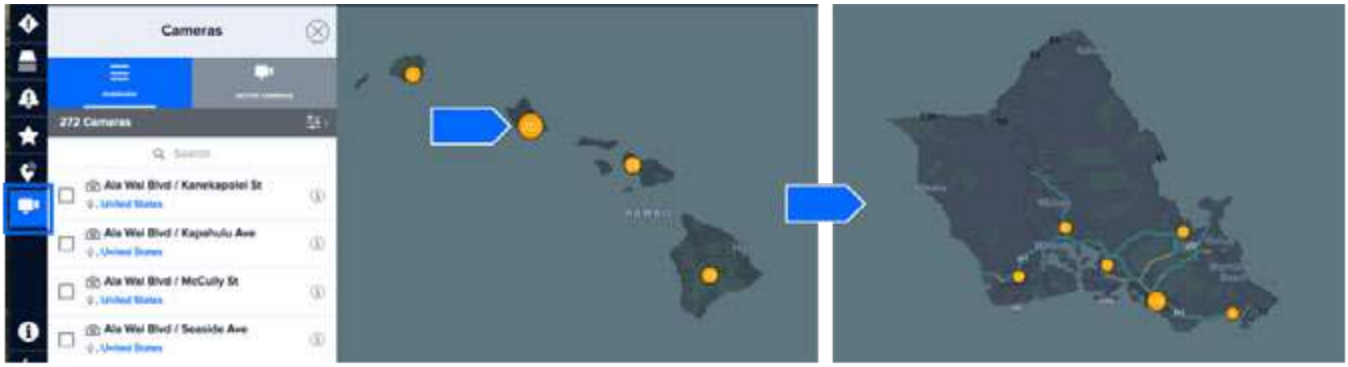
Live cameras help monitor traffic and road conditions (e.g. contraflow), coastal storm surge and wind conditions, and a host of other hazards and activity.



Zoom in closely to an area of interest and click the **Cameras** icon from the left toolbar. If cameras are available, they will be grouped on the map to depict the number available in an area if in close proximity to each other or displayed individually.



When you click a grouped camera icon, the map will zoom in closer and show the locations of individual cameras included in that grouping.





Once zoomed in enough to view individual cameras, click one of the **Camera** icons on the map to view its footage in the Cameras panel. Select **Enable Camera** to add it to your list of cameras you wish to keep monitoring under the **Active Cameras** tab. You can enable and view up to 10 livestreaming cameras at once in the **Active Cameras** tab.

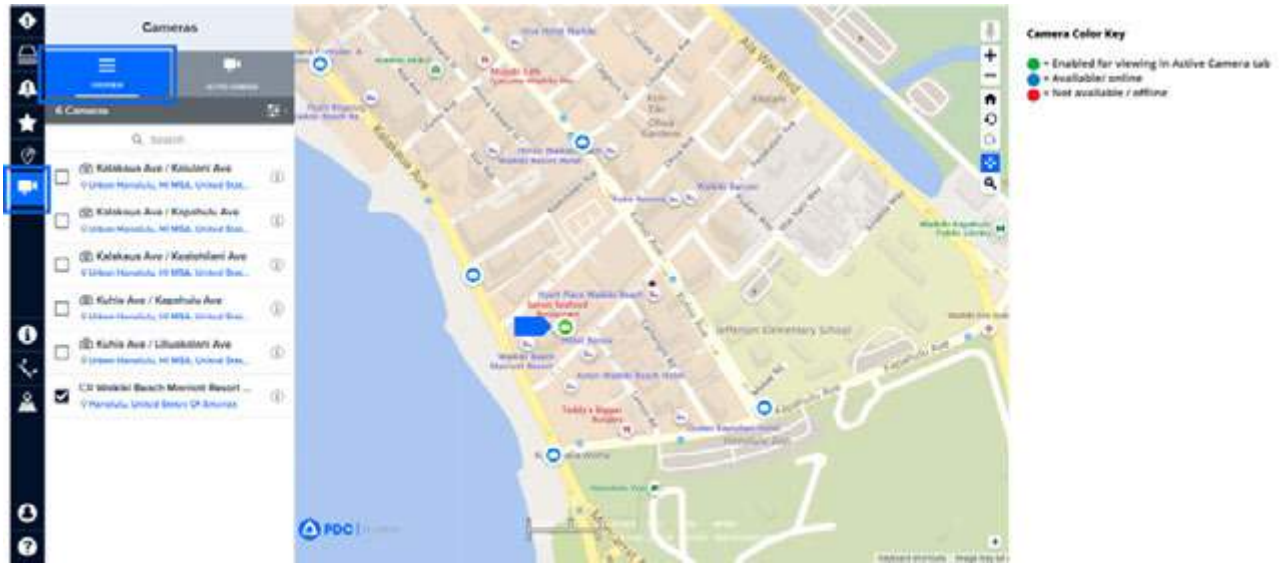


Still frame cameras (which produce still images that are updated at a source-specified interval), and live cameras are differentiated on the map by separate icons (see below).



You can also turn on cameras by selecting the **Overview** tab and checking the box next to the camera you wish to enable and view.

Note: A green camera icon signifies that the camera is enabled for viewing in the **Active Camera** tab, a blue camera icon signifies an available or online camera, and a red camera icon is a camera that is not available or is offline.



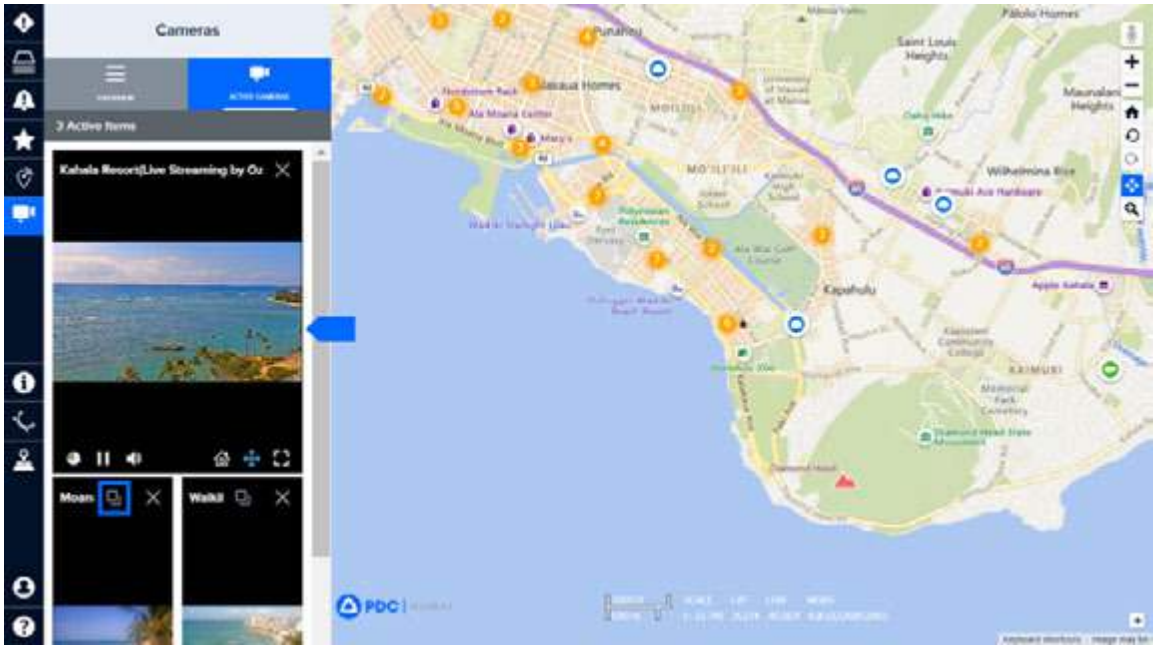
PRO TIP Click the **Settings** icon in the cameras panel to sort the list of cameras by name, city, country, etc. Cameras may sometimes experience downtime and will be colored red when offline.

You can enable multiple cameras by repeating the steps above. To view the cameras you've enabled, click the back arrow or **Active Cameras** tab.





To set the main camera in the **Active Cameras** tab, select the **Return State** button at the top of the active image or live video in.



Note: Live camera feeds update at different intervals (some update every 10 seconds and others stream live) depending on the provider and may or may not have date and time stamps.

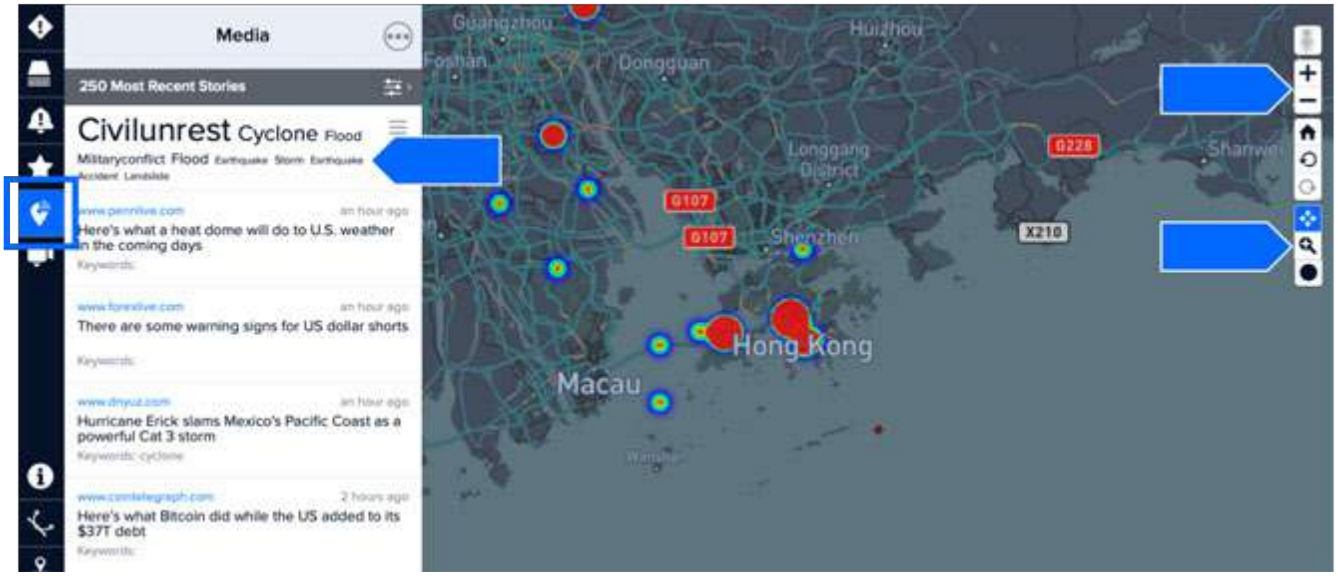
PRO TIP You can use the Google background map to visualize real-time traffic while using the **Live Camera** feature.

Media hotspots

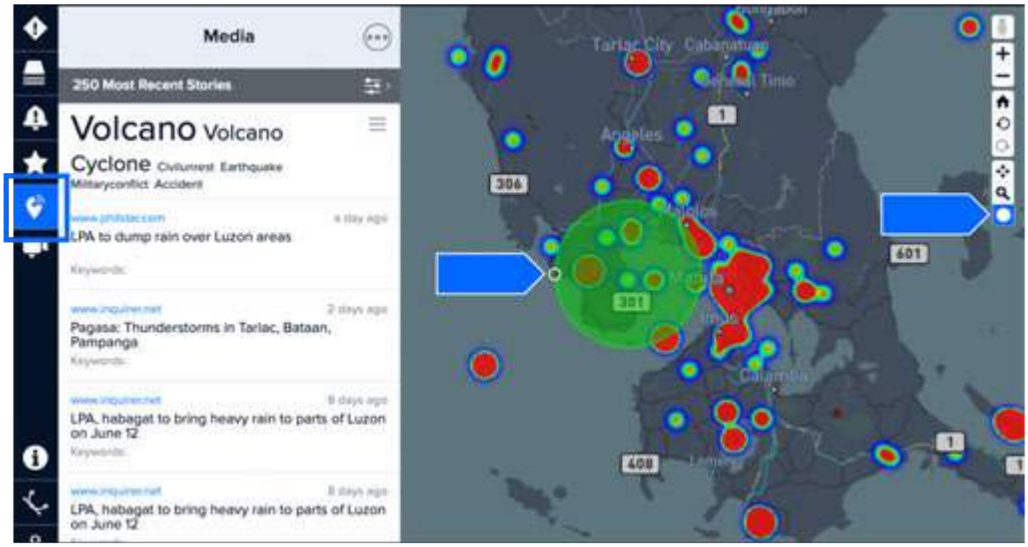
Increase your situational awareness about hazards through the latest media updates.

Click the **Media** icon from the left toolbar to see hot spots of media activity related to natural and manmade hazards happening around the world.

Zoom in closer to any hot spot to see the types of hazard articles reported within the area. You can use your mouse scroller, the "+" symbol on the right toolbar or zoom selector.

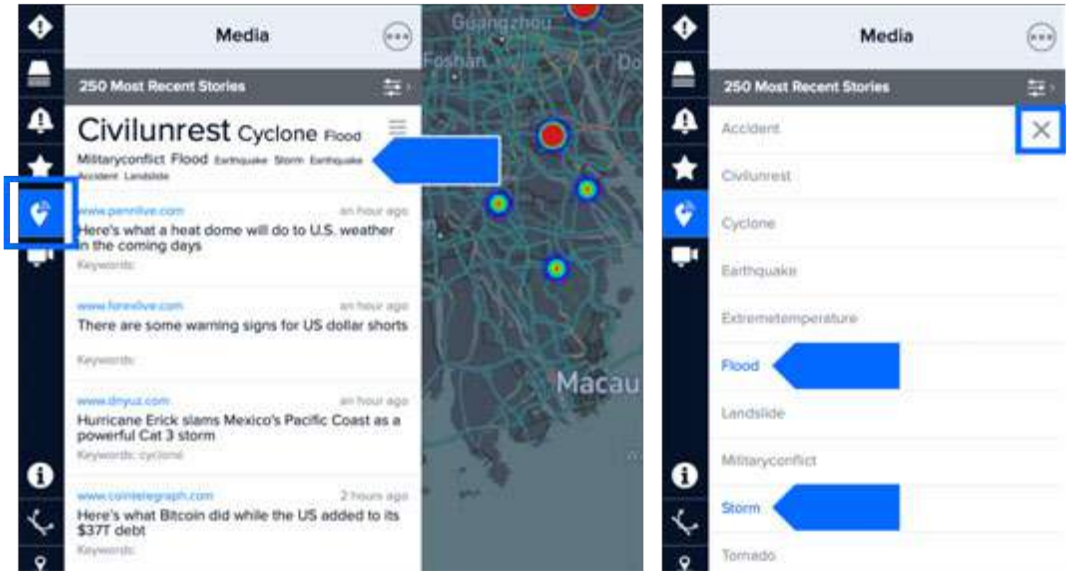


The scanner tool allows you to filter results as you drag the scanner radius over areas of the map (see below). You can resize the radius by clicking the small grey circle and dragging as shown below.

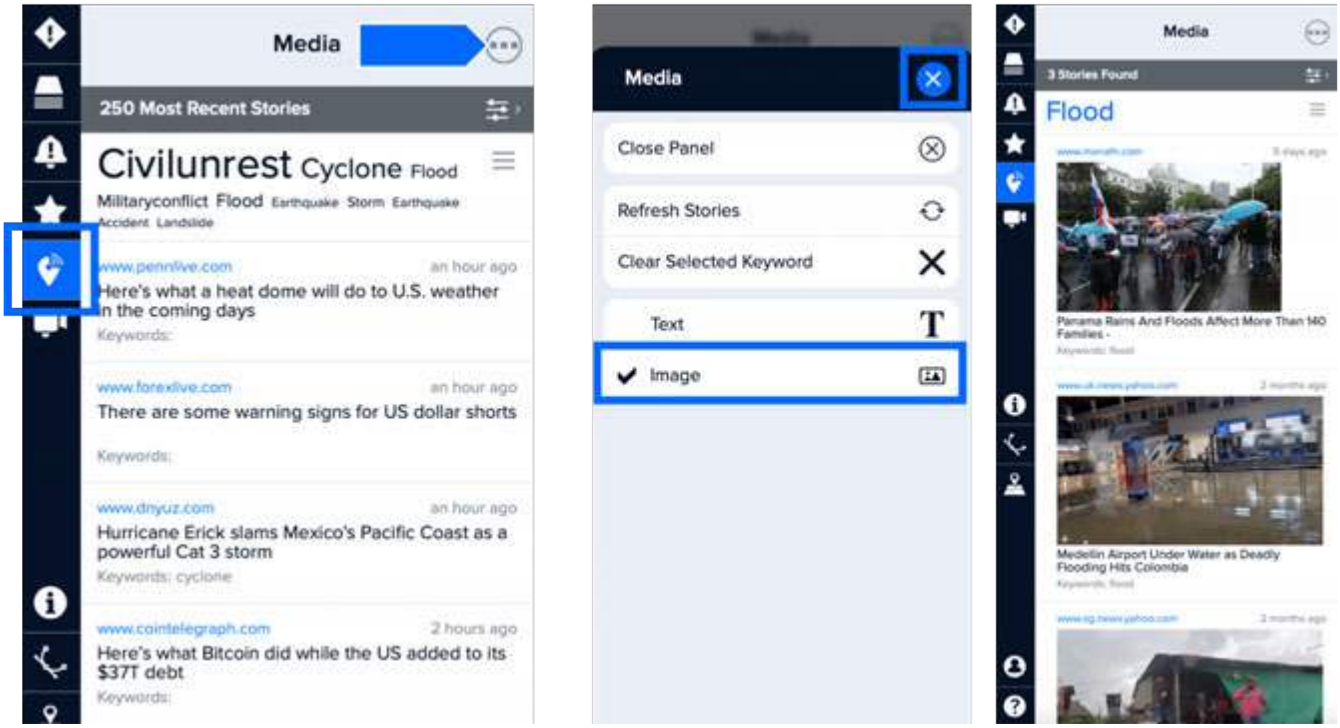


PRO TIP Although news stories are automatically refreshed every five minutes, you can click the three dots at the top of the **Media** panel and **Refresh Stories** to manually refresh at any time.

To quickly filter news articles by topic, click the **Article Tag Cloud** shown above and select the keyword categories of interest. Then close the panel to see the filtered news stories.



To apply additional filters to news stories, click the **Settings** icon (three dots) in the top right **Media** panel.



SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

DisasterAWARE greatly facilitates the ability of decision makers to access the most reliable and timely information about hazards happening anywhere around the globe. While many hazards and products are automatically created or integrated into the system, some hazards must be manually added to DisasterAWARE by trusted PDC analysts and partners. These individuals are granted special administrative access, allowing them to add and edit products and/or hazards in the system.

Administrative roles in DisasterAWARE include the ability to add and edit products added by your specific group, or to add and edit both hazards and products within your group. If you are interested in learning more about these roles, please contact info@pdc.org.

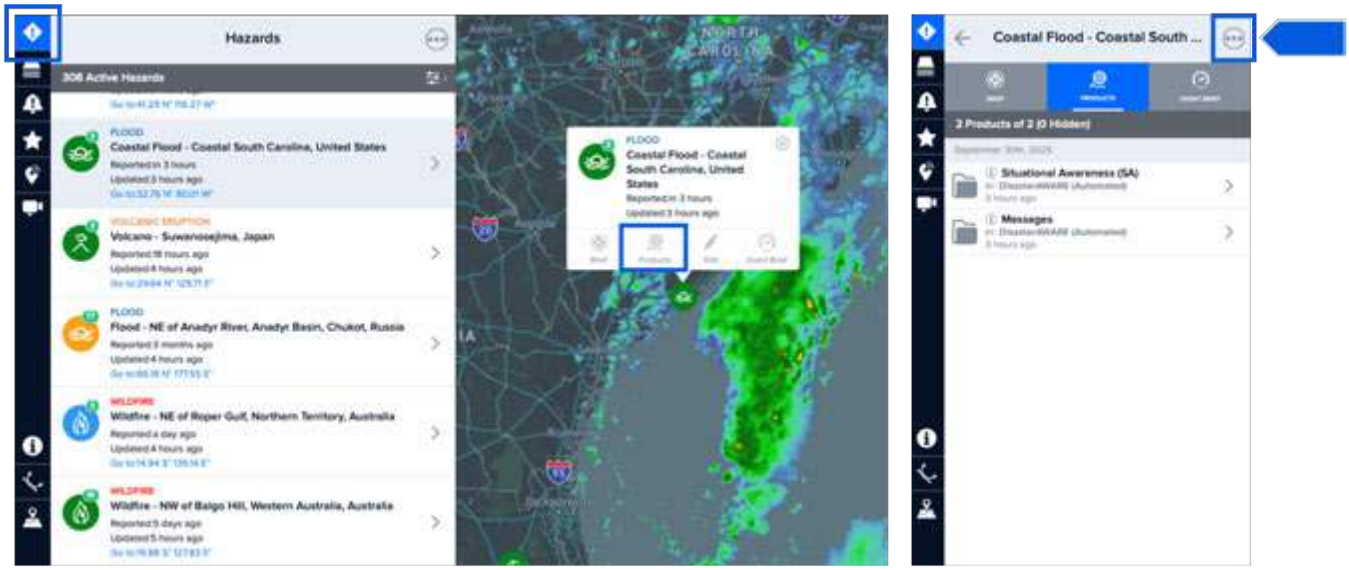
Add products to an existing hazard

DisasterAWARE users with **administrative privileges** can add products to any hazard to support collaboration and increase situational awareness across organizations during response. Products commonly uploaded include advisories and messages, Situation Reports (SitReps), maps, damage assessments, and other analytical products.

Click the **Hazards** icon on the left toolbar. With the **Hazard panel** open, use the search feature to locate the hazard for which you'd like to share a product. Alternatively, click on a hazard on the map and select the **Products** button.

You can also access a Hazard's products by clicking the hazard on the map and then selecting the **Products** quick link form the tooltip.

Next, click the three dots at the top of the panel to access the **Add Product** option.



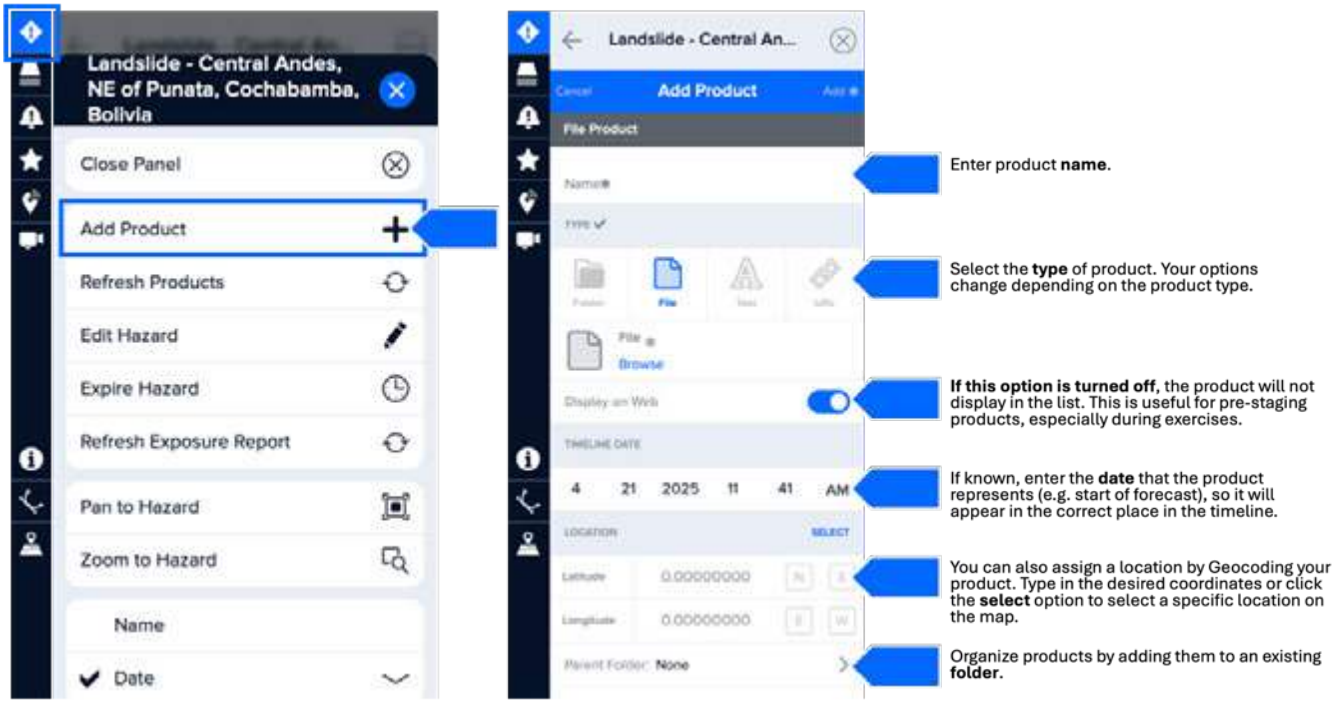
See the next section below for more information on how to create folders and organize products.

PRO TIP

When adding or editing products, changes will be visible to all users. Be sure names are clear and concise. Include date information for static products (e.g. SitReps, maps, etc.) which are not automatically updated. **[Source – Brief Product Title, Date; e.g. PDC – Preliminary Impact Assessment, 30 JUL 20]**.

After clicking the **Add Product** option, complete the form below. Whenever possible, convert URL products to PDF or JPG images and upload the file to the Hazard. This helps ensure that the product stays accessible in the future as external URLs may change and

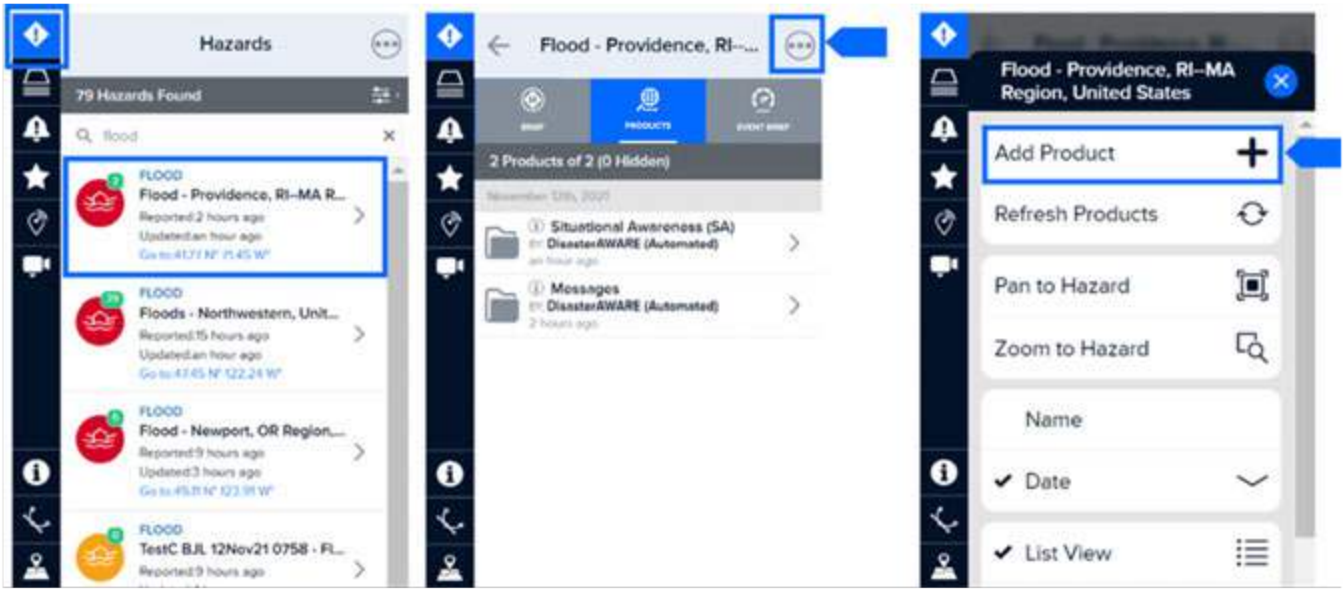
become invalid.



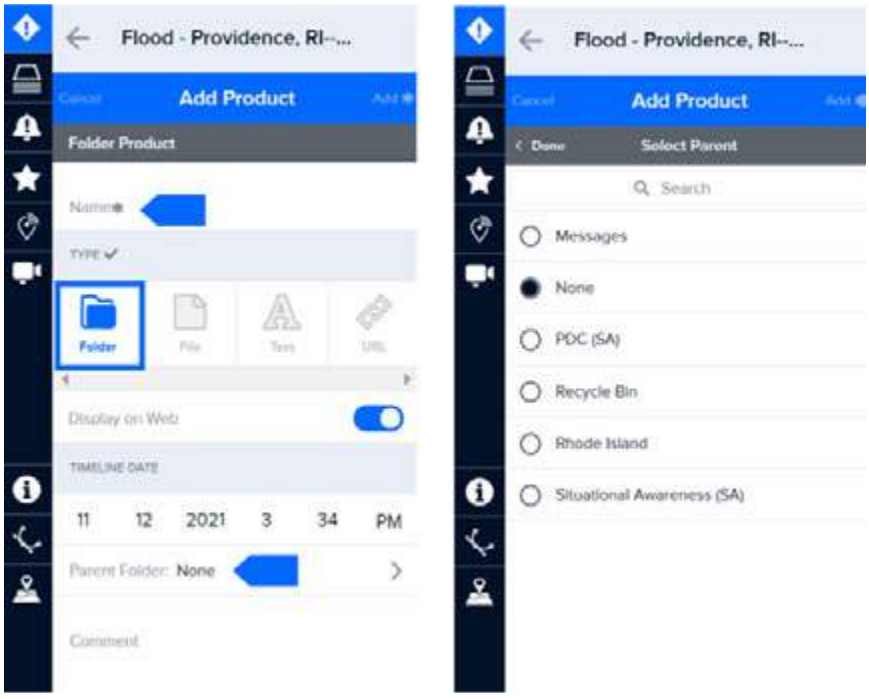
Organize products into folders

All products must be added to a folder. Organizing products into folders and subfolders makes them easier to find.

Click the **Hazard** icon from the left toolbar and select a hazard from the hazard list. Then click the three dots at the top of the **Hazard** panel and then **Add Product.**



Next, choose the **Folder** option as shown below and add a name for the folder. See folder naming practices below for tips on organizing products.



Folder naming practices

PDC organizes products into **Parent Folders** by category and **Subfolders** by organization. Below are the recommended practices for naming **Parent** and **Subfolders**. Note that both Parent and Subfolders include common tags such as (SitRep) or (SA). This provides a consistent and easy way for users to find products.

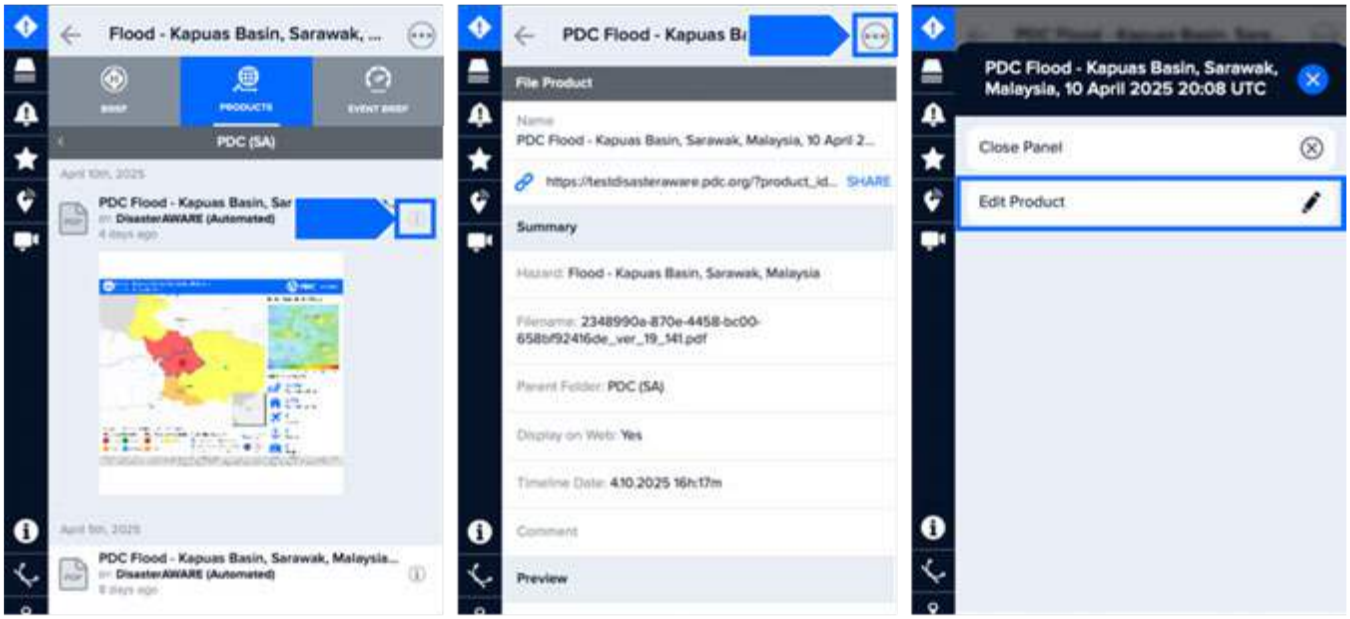
- **Situation Reports (SitRep).** Information providing an update on the event such as a SitRep, Briefing, or Press Release. Does not include maps or image products. Subfolders should include the organization name and type of parent folder: UNOCHA (SitRep)
- **Observations and Forecasts (Obs).** Current observations related to the hazard or forecast information such as hazard outlooks, forecast maps, weather observations, etc. Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: JMA (Obs)
- **Damage and Needs Assessments (DANA).** Information pertaining directly to damage and needs assessments such as reports, tables, and maps including preliminary, detailed, or sectoral. Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: AHA CENTRE (DANA)
- **Photos.** May include photos taken in the field, satellite images, and other photos obtained from vetted sources such as news agencies (e.g., AP, Reuters). Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: AHA CENTRE (Photos)
- **Advisories (Advs).** Advisories issued by official authorities such as the U.S. National Weather Service, Philippines PAGASA, Bahamas Meteorology Dept., etc. Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: PAGASA (Advs)
- **Reference (Ref).** Reference maps, such as the locations of facilities and population. Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: Map Action (Ref)
- **Situational Awareness (SA).** Maps that provide situational awareness on the hazard or relief activities including modeled impacts, location of response teams, hazard risk areas, etc. Subfolders should include the issuing agency name and type of parent folder: PDC (SA)

Edit a product

You may need to edit the name of a product, its attributes, or its folder location. Only members of the organization that added the product may edit it.

To edit a product, click the **Hazard** icon from the left toolbar.

From within the **Products** tab in the panel menu, locate the product you want to edit and click its corresponding **Info** icon. Then click the three dots at the top right of the panel and click **Edit Product** to edit product details including the name of an existing product and its URL or linked file.

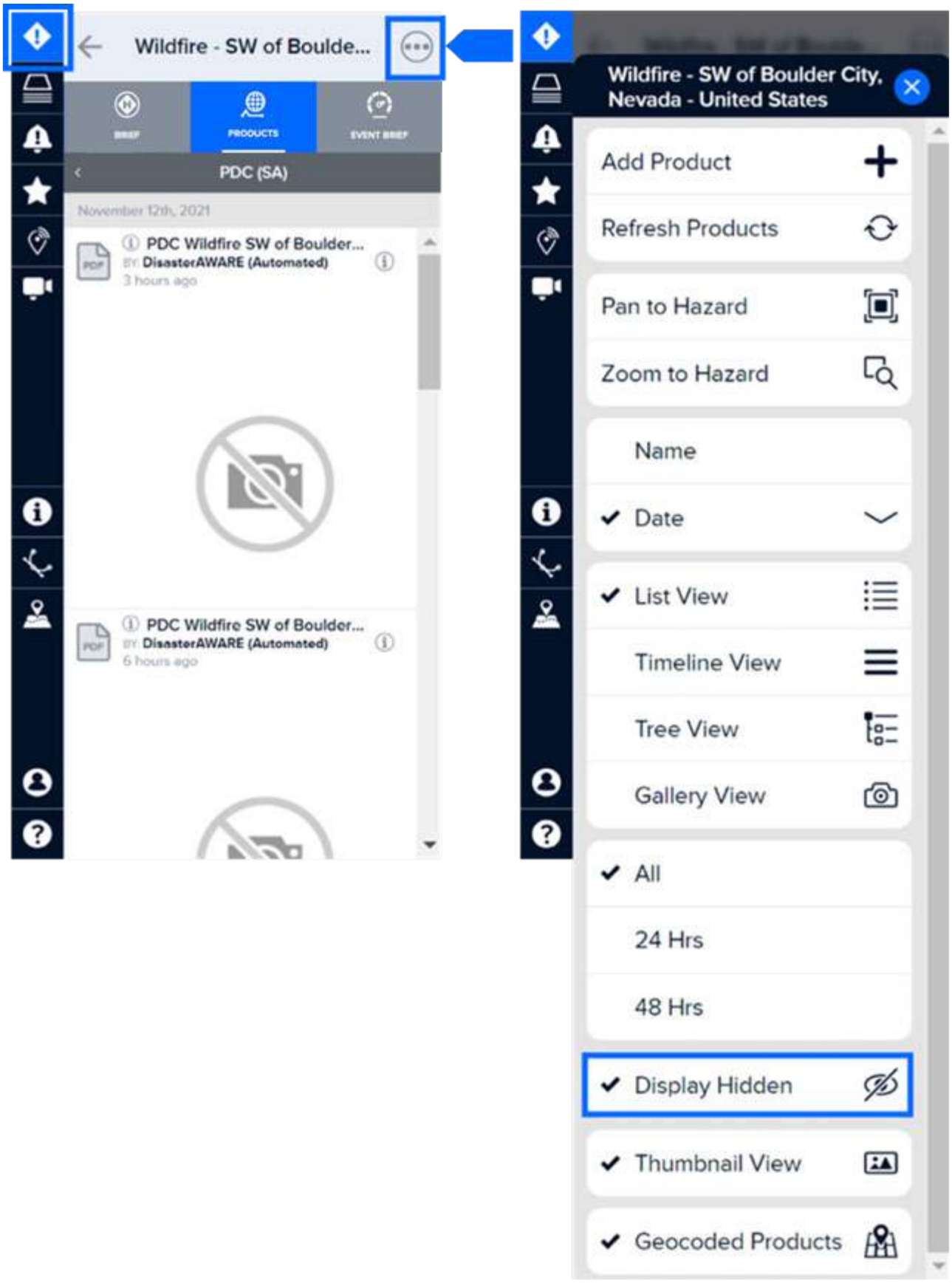


PRO TIP

DisasterAWARE currently does not include a delete option for products. However, you are able to hide a product by turning the **Display on Web** button off. It is recommended that you also move your hidden products into the **Recycle Bin** in the parent folder.

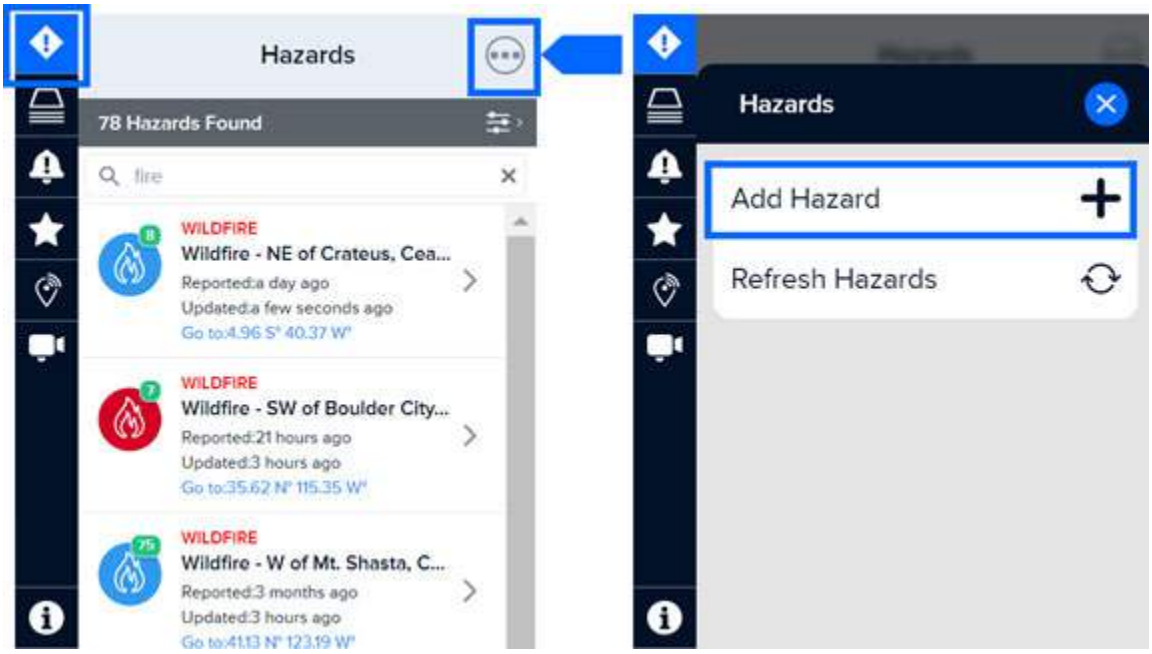
Hidden products are not visible in the products list. To view or edit a hidden product, click the **Products** tab while in the **Hazards** Panel.

While in the product list, click the **Settings** icon and toggle the **Display Hidden** button on.


Wildfire - SW of Boulde...
BRIEF
PRODUCTS
EVENT BRIEF
PDC (SA)
November 12th, 2021
PDC Wildfire SW of Boulder...
BY: DisasterAWARE (Automated)
3 hours ago
PDC Wildfire SW of Boulder...
BY: DisasterAWARE (Automated)
6 hours ago
Wildfire - SW of Boulder City, Nevada - United States
Add Product
Refresh Products
Pan to Hazard
Zoom to Hazard
Name
Date
List View
Timeline View
Tree View
Gallery View
All
24 Hrs
48 Hrs
Display Hidden
Thumbnail View
Geocoded Products

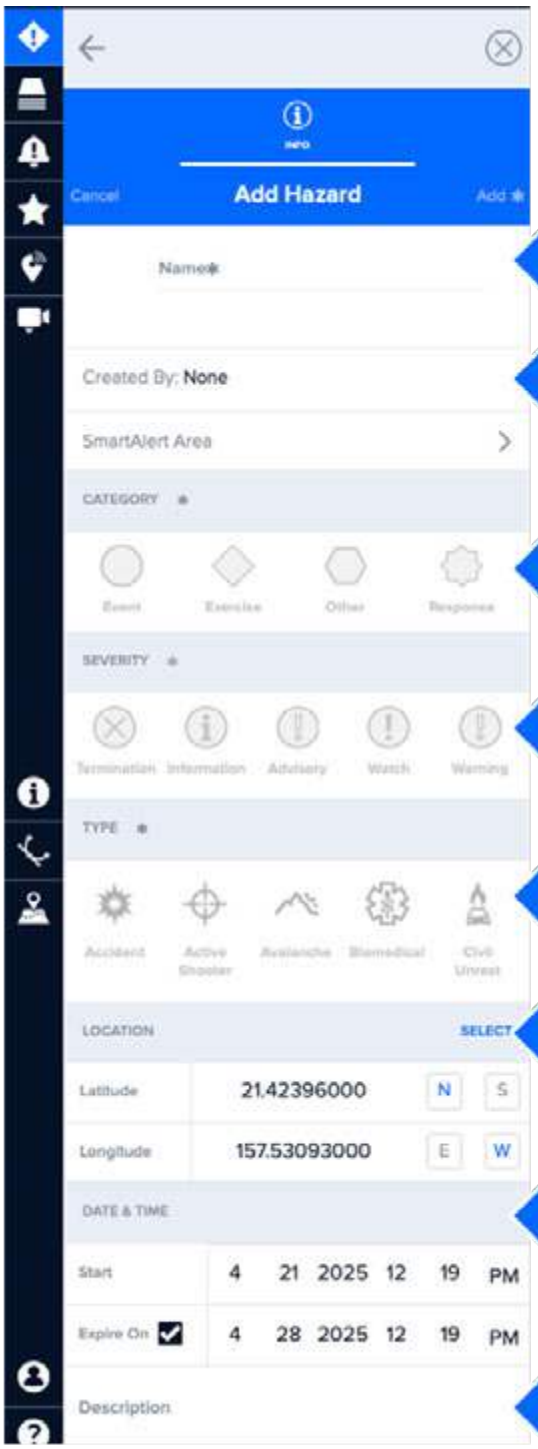
Create a hazard

To create a hazard, click the **Hazard** icon on the left toolbar. Next, click the three dots at the top of the panel, and then the **Add Hazard** option.



PRO TIP When adding or editing hazards, changes will be visible to all users. Be sure names are clear and concise. **[Hazard Type] - [Location]** (e.g. Flood - Manila, Philippines)

Next, complete the **Add Hazard** form as shown below.



Enter a name for the hazard.

Draw the area on the map to be alerted. Users will only receive alerts for the types of hazards and severity levels specified in their Smart Alert preferences.

Select a category. (e.g. **Event** represents real events, while **Exercise** is used for exercises and trainings.)

Assign **Hazard Severity** based on the latest status.

There **28 types** of hazards to choose from.

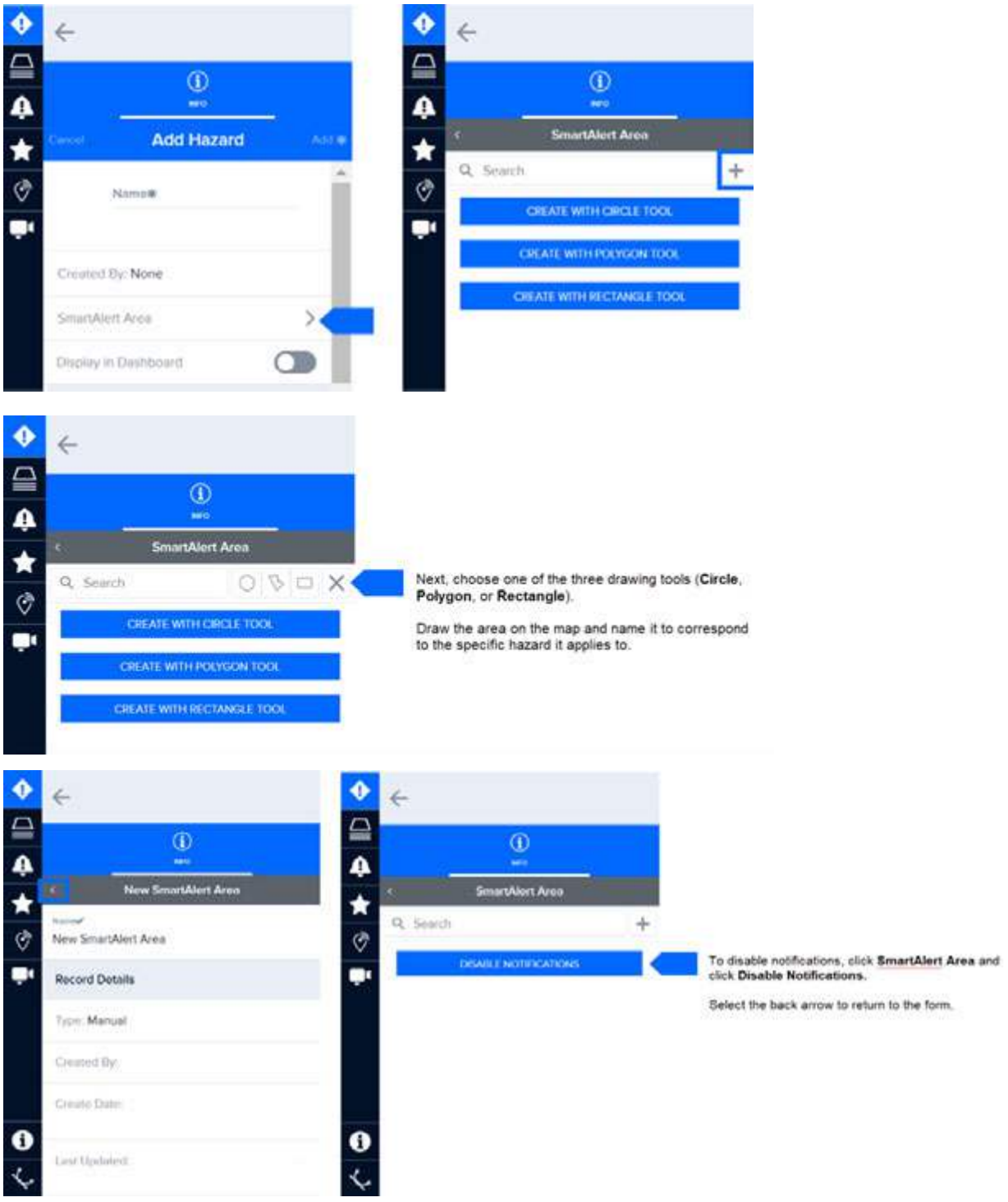
Click **select** to specify the location of the hazard using the map or enter its **coordinates.**

Specific the time the hazard **started**. If **Expire On** is included, the hazard will automatically expire at that date and time.

Enter a brief **Description** about the hazard. This will appear in that hazard's Info tab.

Define a Smart Alert area for hazards

To define an alert area for a hazard, click the smart alert icon on the left toolbar, and then select the **Smart Alert Area** as shown below. Next, click the "**+**" symbol.

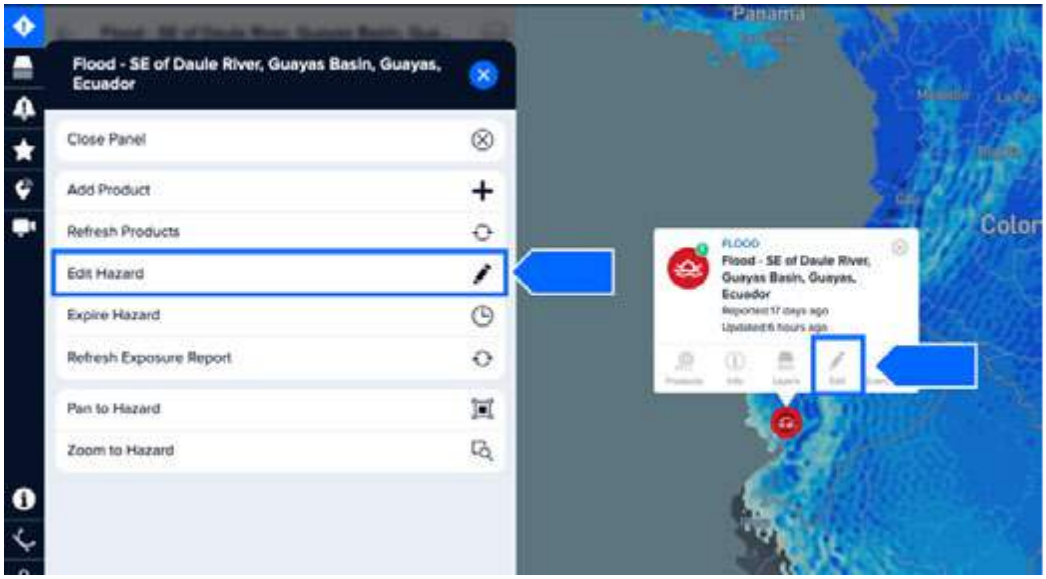


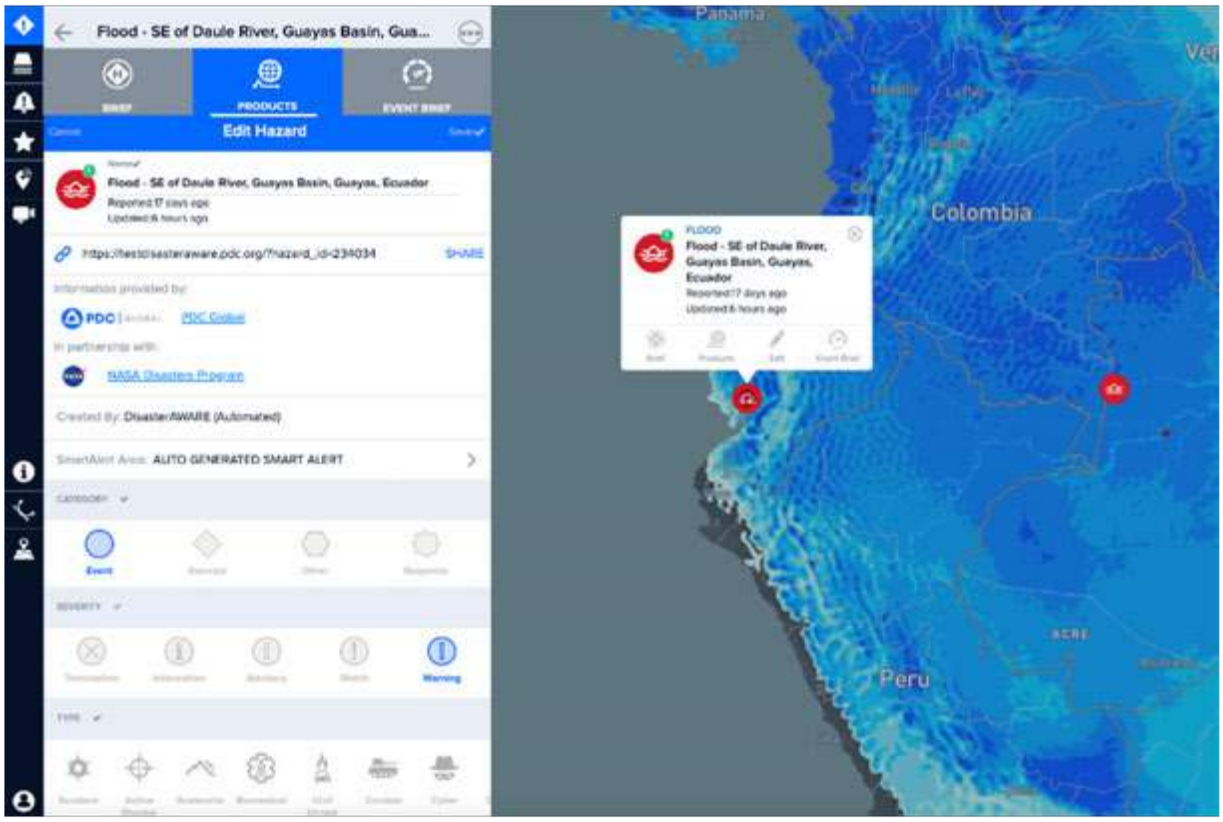
Note: You can only assign one Smart Alert area per hazard.

Edit a Hazard

It is sometimes necessary to edit Hazards in DisasterAWARE. For example, there may be a change to a Hazard Name, Severity, Location, or End Date.

To edit a hazard, click the **Hazard** from hazard list on the left toolbar. Next, click the three dots at the top right of the hazard panel, and then the **Edit Hazard** option. Fill out the **Edit Hazard** form and click **Save** as shown below.





Organization and Sub-Organization Administrator Functions

Managing your organization or sub-organization's default settings

Organization or sub-organization administration is available for select, trained users to help provide a more focused and customized experience for users associated with those groups. These administrators can manage their organization or sub-organization's **default contact information**, **user preferences (e.g. default bookmark), Smart Alert, and Asset Protection settings**. These settings serve as the default for users associated with that group**.** However, individual users can further customize their individual preferences and settings at any time.

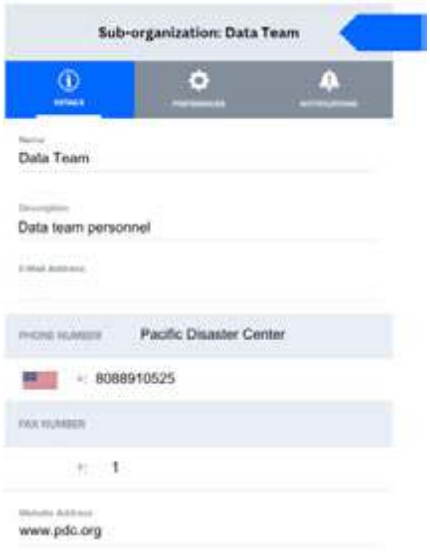
These defaults will be applied to new users as well existing users who reset their preferences.

Update the default organization or sub-organization contact information

To change your sub-organization's contact information, open your **User** panel and select the **Account** tab (your name should be visible at the top of the panel, followed by your account information). Next, **select your organization or sub-organization** option.



Once you have made a selection, you will see a list of details associated with your organization or sub-organization under the **Details** tab. You may edit its name, description, contact details, and more. Your changes will be applied automatically.



Set default organization or sub-organization user preferences

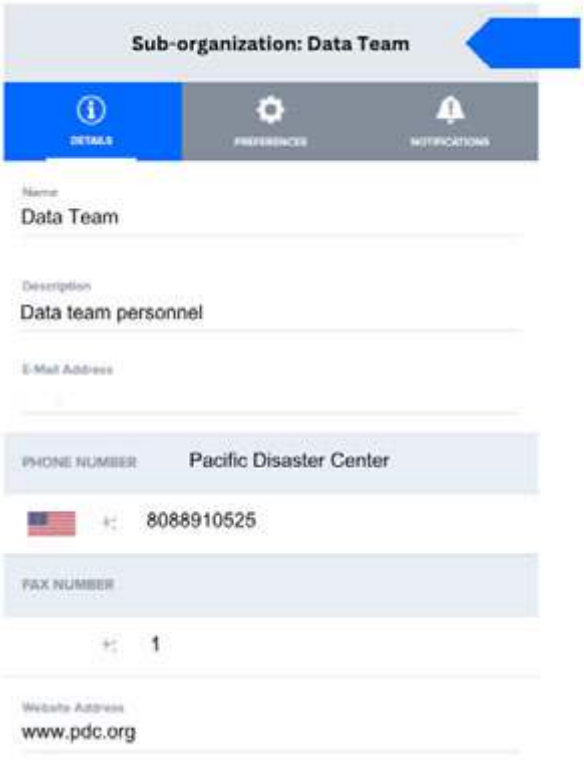
To set your organization or sub-organization default user preferences, open your **User** panel and select the **Account** tab (your name should be visible at the top of the panel, followed by your account information).

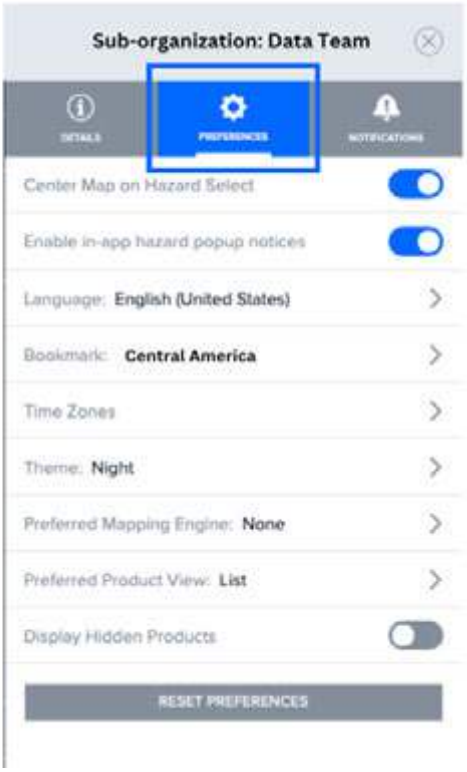
Next, click either **Organization** or **Sub-Organization** at the bottom of the panel.



Once you have made your selection, you will see a list of details associated with that organization or sub-organization.

Select the **Preferences** tab and adjust preferences as desired for all members of your organization or sub-organization. To learn about various preferences, follow the instructions in the related section of this user guide. You can update these at any time for your organization or sub-organization, depending on your admin privileges.



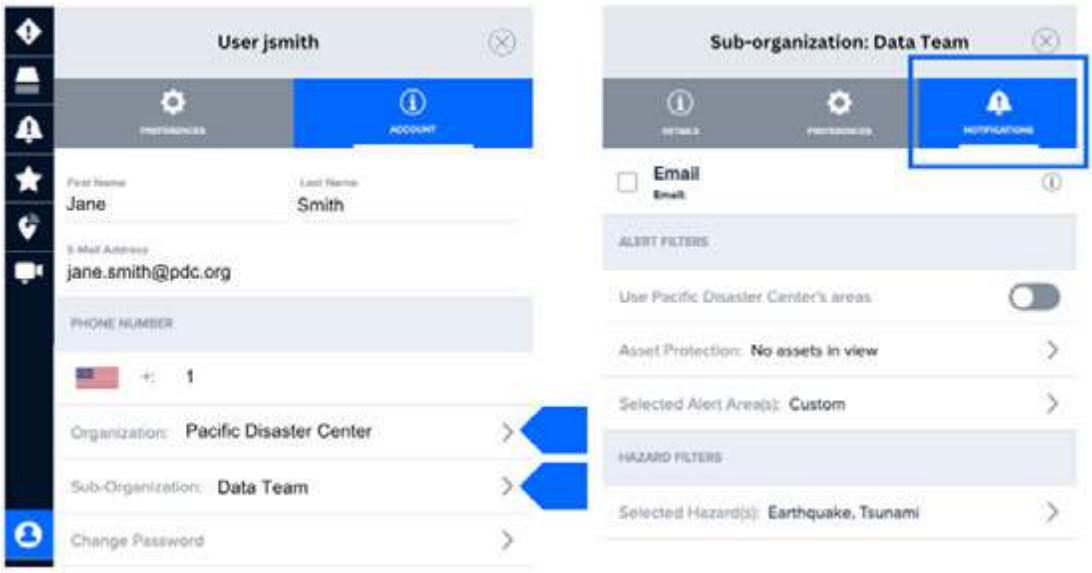


Default organization or sub-organization Smart Alert and Asset Protection settings

Organization and sub-organization administrators can also set default Smart Alert and Asset Protection settings.

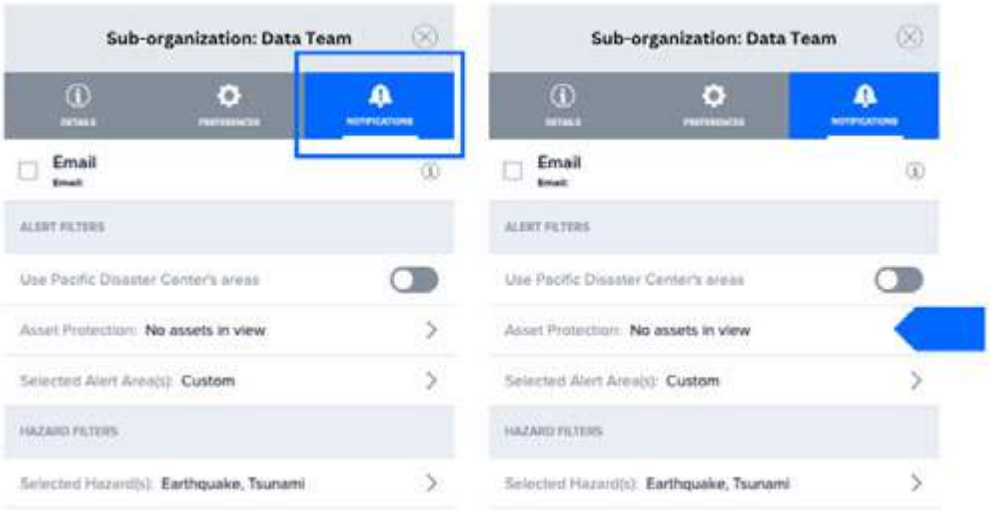
To set your organization or sub-organization's default Smart Alert settings, go to your **User** panel and click on either the Organization or Sub-organization option. Then select the **Notifications** tab as shown in the image on the right below.

Follow the steps in the **Smart Alert** section of this guide to set up the default alert delivery (e.g. email), area filters, and hazard settings you wish to apply to either your organization or sub-organization.



To set your organization or sub-organization's default Asset Protection settings, go to your **User** panel and click on either the Organization or Sub-organization option, followed by the **Notifications** tab.

Then, select the **Asset Protection** option, as show below, and follow the steps in the corresponding section of this guide to import your desired asset data and apply the appropriate default settings.



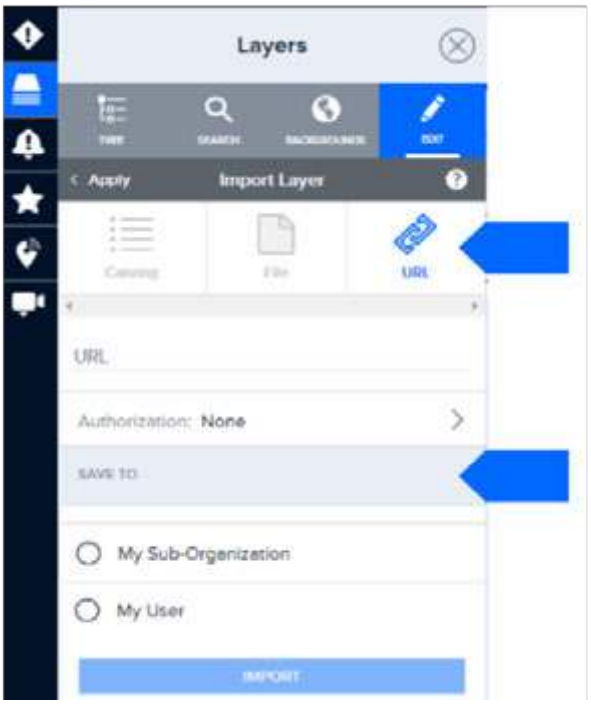
Import external map services for your organization or sub-organization

If you have sub-organization administrative privileges, you can integrate an external map service via a URL for your sub-organization.

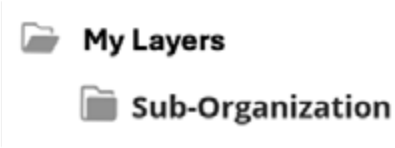
Go to **Layers** and click on the **Edit** tab.

Follow the instructions on importing **URL** layers and map services earlier in this user guide.
Before you import the map service you must select one of the following options under the **Save To** section:

- **My Sub-Organization** (The map service will only be shared with all users belonging to your sub-organization.)
- **My User** (The map services will only be imported and visible on your account.)



Once imported, that map service can be found under **Layers** > **My Layers > Your Sub-Organization's Name**.



Set a default bookmark for your organization or sub-organization

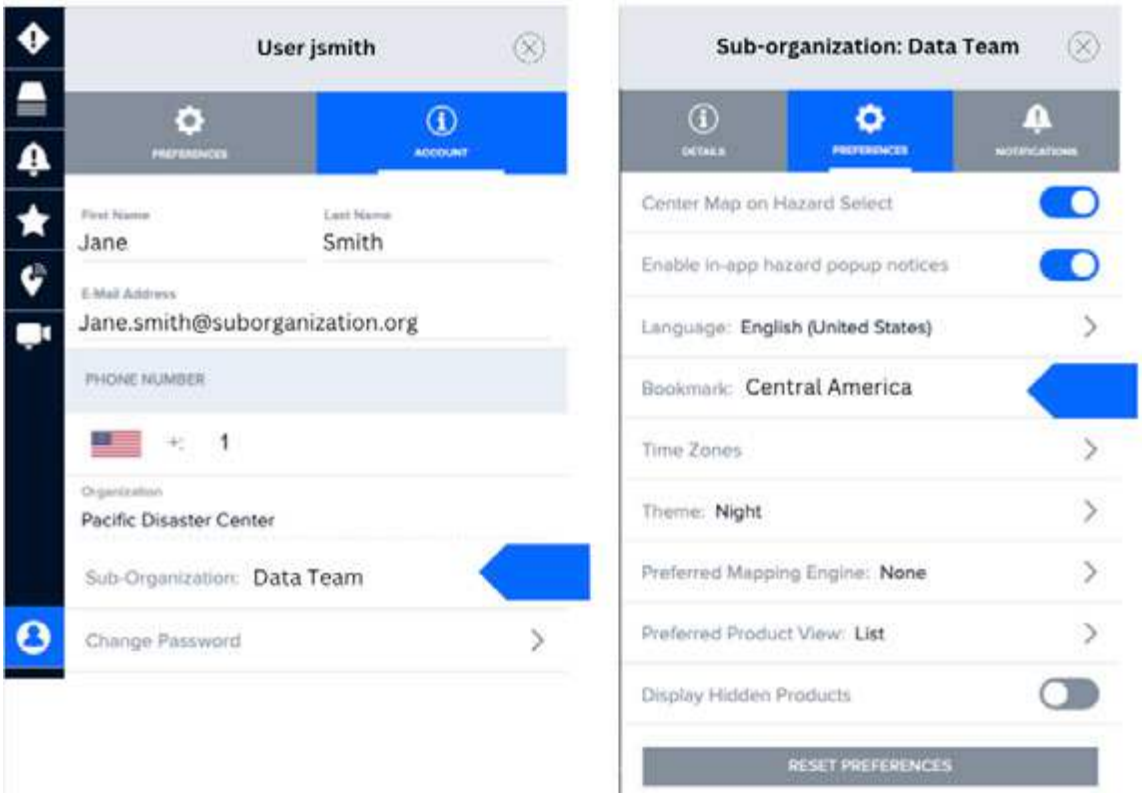
If you have organization or sub-organization administrative privileges, you may also setup a default bookmark for those users.

For example, if your sub-organization focuses on a particular region in the world, you can configure the bookmark to always display that area on the map when the application loads. You may also include specific data layers if desired.

Go to **Bookmarks** and following the instructions earlier in this user guide in the section titled ***Bookmark and share information***.

After you have setup the bookmark you want to use as the default for your **organization or sub-organization**, open your preferences in the **User** panel.

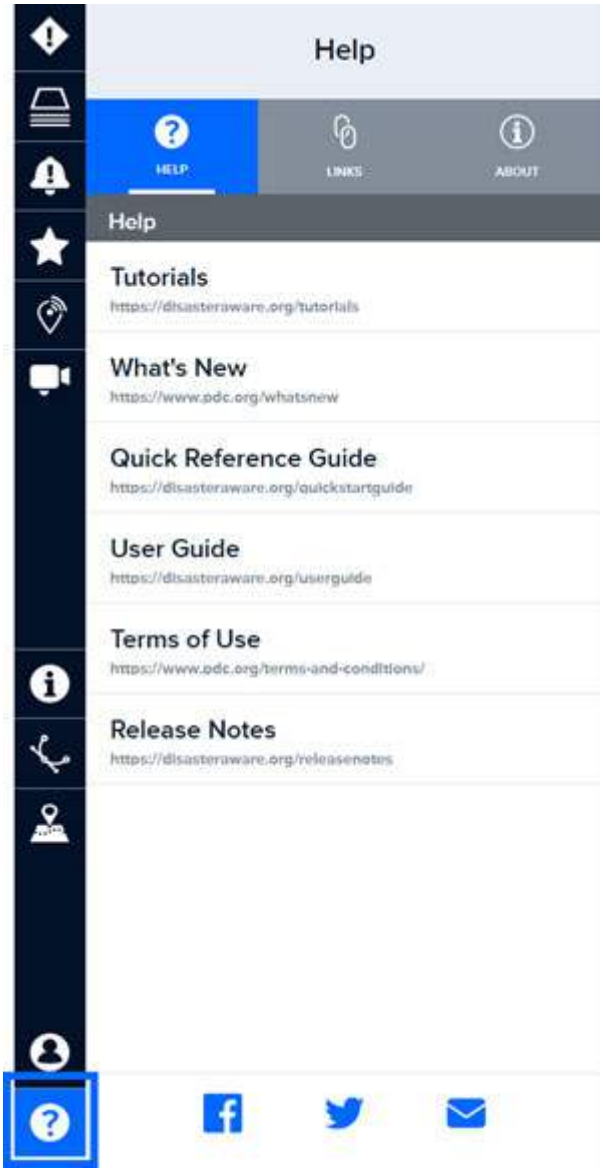
- In the **User** panel, open the **Account** tab, and select your organization or sub-organization.
- Under their **Preferences** tab, locate and click on the **Bookmark** option,
- A list of bookmarks you have created will display. **Select the bookmark you want to set as your default.**



TROUBLESHOOTING AND HELP

Accessing help documents and links

You can access a variety of resources such as videos, our Quick Start Guide, Release Notes (which contain details about known issues and/or potential bugs), and much more. While in DisasterAWARE, click the **Help** icon as shown below to view the help panel.



Troubleshooting

Access additional known and recently resolved issues here: http://pdc.org/releasenotes

Bookmarks

Copy and paste of bookmark URLs not working when I click "Share."
Some browsers support the automatic copying of hazard links and bookmark URLs to your clipboard, while some will require you to manually copy the link from the dialog box.

Cameras

Why can't I see the video feed from a camera that is listed on the map?
Individual live cameras can experience down time or may become permanently unavailable from the host/provider. The cameras are also color coded for quick reference: green indicates cameras enabled by you for viewing, blue indicates online cameras and red indicates offline.

Drawing

I am unable to add drawings to the map. The drawing tool isn't working.
If you are unable to add drawings on the map or are experiencing problems with the drawing tools, you may be zoomed in to the map too closely. Zoom out a bit and then try again.

Layers

Why isn't the layer I've selected showing up on the map?

Some layers require the map to be zoomed to a minimum extent or to a specific location in order to display the information. Click the zoom icon to the right of the layer if you are having trouble viewing the layer you've selected. The map will zoom and re-center the map to bring the information into view.

Why doesn't DisasterAWARE remember the layers I had on during my previous session?
Layers from previous sessions don't stay visible once you log out, unless they are included in your default Bookmark. To quickly access recent layers you've visited, you can open the **Layers** panel and scroll down to the **Recent** folder.

I cannot remember where to find a specific layer.
The quickest way to find a specific layer is go to the **Layers** panel and enter a keyword into the **Search** tab. The layer you are looking for might have been hidden during a previous session. To unhide layers, click the **Layers** icon on the left toolbar and then the **Edit** tab.


Unhide folders and layers you want to see by clicking the open **Eye** icon next to the layer.

Map Navigation

Why do I see a camera icon in place of my base background map?
If your base map is displaying a camera icon, this indicates that you have zoomed in beyond the viewable scale threshold of the base map image. To correct this, zoom out until the base map image becomes visible, or try selecting a different base map image.

Products

Why am I unable to open products associated with a hazard?
Products cannot be opened when an ad or pop-up blocker is running on your browser. Turn off or pause the ad blocker to access products.

Tips for better performance

If you experience an issue with the application freezing and/or not performing as expected, please conduct the following steps:

- Refresh your browser.
- If the problem persists, clear your browser's cache, then close and reopen your browser and begin a new DisasterAWARE session.
- If the issue remains, please email a detailed description of the issue to disaster@pdc.org.

Freezing of the application can occur due to:

- Outdated browsers
- A poor or slow internet connection

APPENDIX

Minimum thresholds for hazards displayed in the system

- **Warning:** Adverse or significant impacts to population are imminent or occurring. Act now.
- **Watch:** Conditions are possible for adverse or significant impacts to population. Monitor closely and be prepared to act.
- **Advisory:** Conditions are possible for limited or minor impacts to population. Exercise caution.
- **Information:** Conditions are possible for limited or minor impacts to population.

Hazard Type and Minimum Threshold	REAL-TIME PROCESSING	MANUAL PROCESSING (Updated Daily)
Avalanche: An avalanche has recently occurred with severe impact to the population or infrastructure.		Global
Biomedical: Preparatory phase. Event is being monitored by authorities. No immediate response.	Canada	Global
Drought: Drought is in effect and is negatively impacting the population.		Global
Extreme Temperature: Extreme temperatures are directly impacting population. Extreme Cold or Extreme Heat warnings as reported by official agencies/sources.	US*, Australia, Canada	Global
Earthquake: An earthquake has occurred. Major damage is not anticipated. (Magnitude 5.0-5.4)	Global	
Flood: **US* / Canada / Australia:** Significant flooding has recently occurred with severe impacts to population or infrastructure. Agencies are responding. No additional threat anticipated. **Outside U.S. / Canada / Australia:** Flooding is anticipated to occur and may impact populations and infrastructure. Monitor closely and be prepared to act if necessary.	Global	
High Surf: 8 foot full-face surf height from wave trough to crest for most shores (some locally higher thresholds).	US*, Australia	Global
High Wind: High winds have resulted in significant impacts to population or infrastructure.	US*, Australia, Canada	Global
Landslide:* A significant landslide has recently occurred with severe impacts on population or infrastructure. Agencies are responding. No additional threat is anticipated.	Global	
Manmade: Currently reserved for manmade related hazards that do not fit one of the 9 Geopolitical hazard types mentioned below.	Canada	Global

*Includes: Puerto Rico, Guam, CNMI (Rota, Tinian, Saipan), Micronesia (Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae), Marshall Islands, Palau

Hazard Type and Minimum Threshold	REAL-TIME PROCESSING	MANUAL PROCESSING (Updated Daily)
Marine: An authoritative agency has reported that hazardous marine conditions have occurred with significant impacts to population or infrastructure.	US*, Canada	Global
Severe Weather: Severe weather has recently occurred with significant impacts to population or infrastructure.	US, Australia, Canada	Global
Storm: A severe storm has recently occurred with significant impacts to population or infrastructure.	US*, Australia, Canada	Global
Tornado: A tornado has recently occurred with significant impacts to population or structures.	US*, Canada	Global
Tropical Cyclone: Tropical storm conditions or stronger are not expected, or there is no current threat to land within the next 5 days (39 mph, 63 km/h, 34 kt or stronger winds).	Global	
Tsunami: No tsunami threat anticipated, or the tsunami event is very distant with localized impacts.	Global	
Wildfire: Large/intense fire detected. No immediate threat. Stay informed for updates and additional information.	Global	
Volcano: Signs of elevated unrest with a LOW risk to nearby population, or the volcano has returned to a normal, non-eruptive state.	Global	
Winter Storm: An authoritative agency has issued a Winter Storm Warning. Conditions pose a threat to life or property.	US*, Canada	Global

* PDC has partnered with NASA to provide automated, global flood and landslide alerting and exposure via DisasterAWARE. This incorporates potential flood hazards predicted by NASA's global flood Model of Models (MoM) and the Landslide Hazard Assessment Model (LHASA). Alerts and PDC exposure reports are disseminated through DisasterAWARE.

Geopolitical Hazards:

A geopolitical event has been reported with the potential for significant disruption or adverse impacts to population and infrastructure. These include:

Global

- Accident
- Combat
- Political Conflict
- Active Shooter
- Cyber
- Terrorism
- Civil Unrest
- Occurrence
- Weapons

*Includes: Puerto Rico, Guam, CNMI (Rota, Tinian, Saipan), Micronesia (Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae), Marshall Islands, Palau