



Federated States of Micronesia: Typhoon Sinlaku

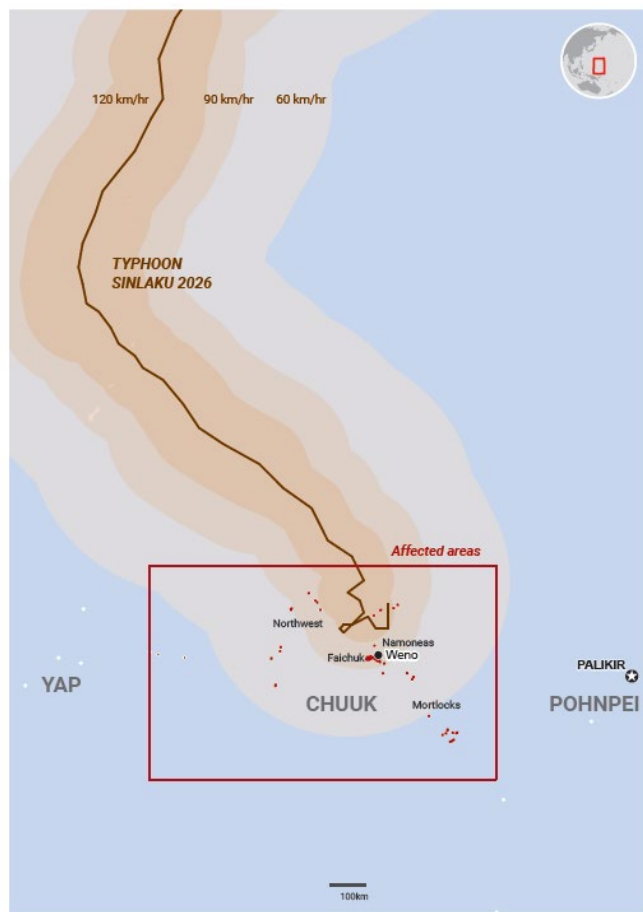
Pacific Humanitarian Team - Situation Report No. 02

As of 05 May 2026

This report is produced by the OCHA Office of the Pacific Islands in collaboration with humanitarian partners under the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT). It covers the reporting period from 28 April to 4 May 2026.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Initial damage assessment (IDA) findings indicate severe damage to housing, school infrastructure, health facilities, and agricultural crops and livestock used for household consumption.
- Of the 34,000 people affected, IDA results indicate that over 13,000 people are temporarily displaced and sheltered in schools, due to damage to homes - including water sources and sanitation facilities - and loss of livelihoods.
- A total of 52 school buildings has been affected, with damage primarily to roofs, water catchment systems, and classrooms inundated by stormwater, resulting in damage to teaching and learning materials, furniture, and equipment.
- The national government, together with the State of Chuuk, is distributing food assistance to cover a 30-day period, with the first round of distributions completed across Chuuk State.
- The Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has allocated US\$1 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to support urgent life-saving assistance.
- State and presidential emergency declarations include tax waivers on humanitarian items at both national and state levels, as well as price controls on key commodities such as fuel—an essential enabler for sea transport to ensure humanitarian assistance reaches affected outer islands.
- The UN Environmental Emergency Response team, in coordination with the Chuuk Disaster Emergency Operations Center (DEOC), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of Transport, is advancing clean-up operations of the oil spill contained within the boomed area surrounding the capsized vessels *Chief Mailo* and *Ballina*, while a parallel plan to defuel the vessels is being implemented.



34K

affected people in Chuuk State (IDA results)

13k

people temporarily displaced (IDA results)

9

Fatalities (IDA results)

7,000

Houses damaged or destroyed (IDA results)

84

Schools and churches used as temporary shelters (IDA results)

52

School buildings damaged or destroyed (IDA results)

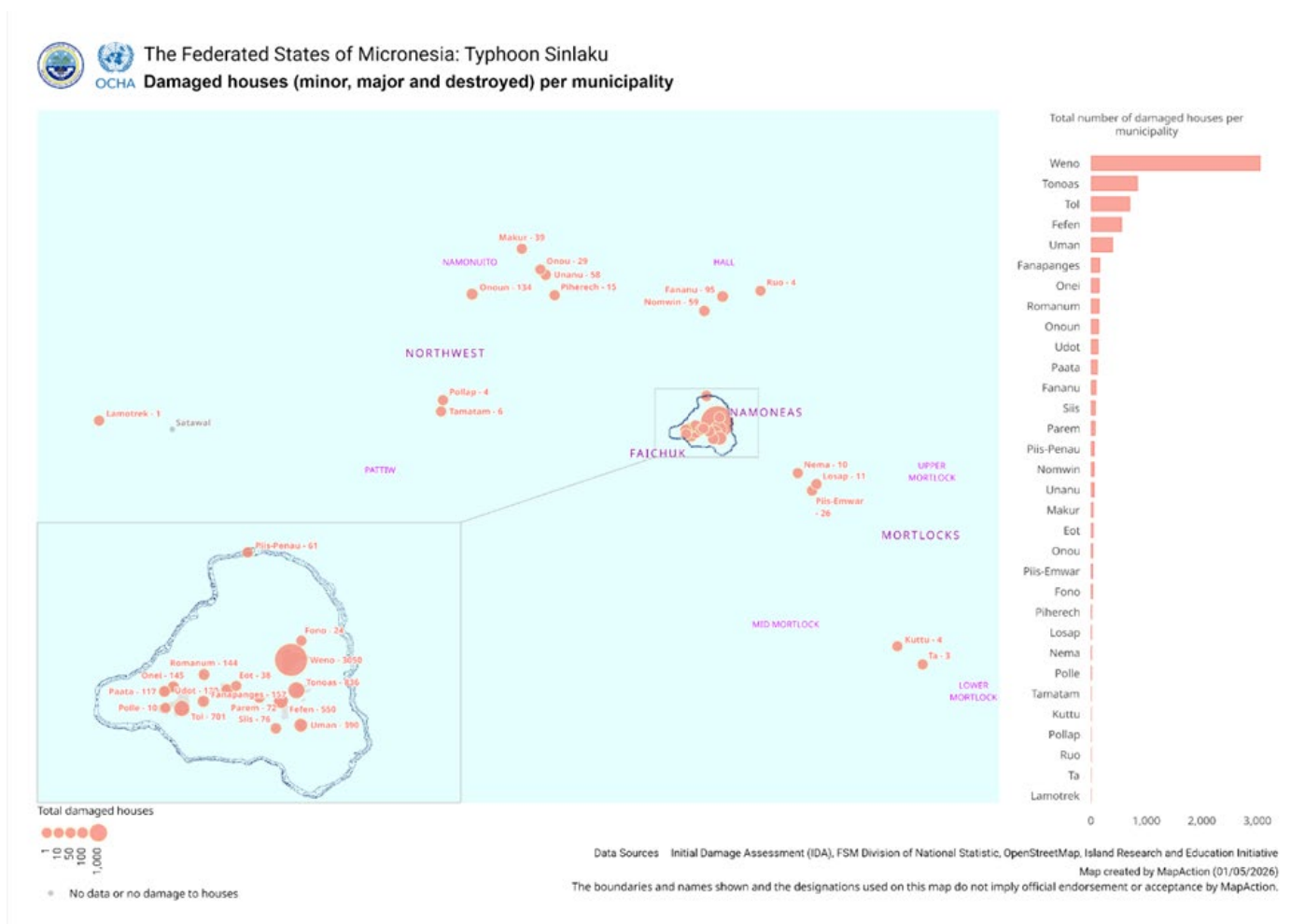
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Health dispensaries/facilities damaged or destroyed (IDA results)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

As the Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) process concludes, the impact of Typhoon Sinlaku points to extensive damage to critical infrastructure. This includes homes—along with associated solar systems, sanitation facilities, and water sources—as well as school buildings, health dispensaries, communications networks, and electricity supply systems. Agricultural losses have primarily affected crops relied upon for household consumption and livelihoods. Many displaced people remain temporarily sheltered in schools due to damage to their homes, delaying the resumption of classes and the broader return to normalcy. Acute needs for food and safe water remain the top priority, with national and state authorities focusing on food and water distributions, while sector partners support affected municipalities with other essential services.

Humanitarian response efforts are ongoing, led by national and state authorities with support from the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) and partners, including the United States through its Compact of Free Association (COFA) with FSM. The Government of FSM and Chuuk State have completed the first round of 30-day food distributions across the state, while emergency interventions in WASH, health, shelter, education, and protection continue to scale up despite access and logistical constraints. Environmental risks persist at Weno Port due to oil leaks from two capsized vessels, with the UN Environmental Emergency Response Team supporting mitigation and clean-up efforts. While no major disease outbreaks have been reported, disruptions to WASH services, damage to health facilities, and looming drought conditions linked to El Niño are increasing public health risks, underscoring the need for sustained life-saving assistance alongside a gradual transition towards early recovery planning.



HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs:

- Immediate access to safe drinking water is critical due to extensive damage to water catchment systems.
- Widespread contamination of community water sources is increasing the need for water treatment supplies, safe storage, and hygiene support at both household and facility levels.
- Preparedness measures are required to address worsening water scarcity linked to the anticipated El Niño-induced drought conditions.
- Risk communication materials in local languages are needed to mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases and promote water conservation practices.
- Strengthening operation and maintenance capacity for deployed reverse osmosis (RO) units remains a priority.
- Sanitation assessments are urgently required, alongside immediate support for households and public facilities currently functioning as emergency shelters, to reduce public health risks.
- Sanitation assessments remain critical for disease prevention, particularly in overcrowded shelter settings.
- Close coordination with the State Disaster Coordination Office (DCO) is essential to identify priority needs and ensure assistance reaches the most affected households.

50%

Of community wells reported damaged or non-functioning

Response Activities Planned:

- WHO is supporting the provision of Aquatabs (chlorine tablets) to cover the needs of the affected population of approximately 34,000 people.
- Continued distribution of WASH dignity kits and jerry cans is ongoing in Northern Namoneas, Southern Namoneas, Faichuuk, and the Northwest region.
- Development and translation of risk communication materials into local languages are underway to mitigate the risk of waterborne diseases and promote water conservation.
- IOM is deploying reverse osmosis (RO) units to affected areas to support access to safe drinking water.
- Temporary rainwater catchment systems are being established for affected communities in atoll islands, where rainwater is the primary water source.
- UNICEF continues the distribution of water filters to affected communities to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases.
- Provision of essential non-food items (NFIs) is ongoing to support safe water storage, basic hygiene, and household recovery.

Response Activities Completed:

- IOM has deployed one reverse osmosis (RO) unit to Fanapanges.
- IOM has also delivered 600 jerry cans to the Northwest region and 100 jerry cans to the Chuuk Public Health Department for prioritised distribution to those at immediate risk.
- In Iras Village, 30 beneficiaries received hygiene kits, kitchen sets, tarpaulins, and jerry cans from IOM.
- In Fanapanges, 91 beneficiaries received hygiene kits, kitchen sets, tarpaulins, and jerry cans from IOM.
- UNICEF has delivered 650 WASH dignity kits to the Northwest region.
- UNICEF has also distributed 151 WASH dignity kits in Fanapanges Islands and Iras Village, Weno.

Health & Nutrition

Needs:

- WHO is providing technical guidance and support to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to conduct rapid health impact assessments, currently covering approximately 17 per cent of active dispensaries and an estimated 20 per cent of the affected population in Chuuk.

65%

Of assessed facilities in critical condition

- Of the facilities assessed, 67 per cent are classified as critical or high priority, with 25 per cent non-functional and 33 per cent partially functional. Key risks are driven by WASH disruptions: 42 per cent report no access to water, 75 per cent have no or insufficient sanitation facilities, and 75 per cent lack cold chain capacity.
- No disease outbreaks have been confirmed; however, early warning signals include cases of diarrhoeal disease, injuries, maternal health follow-up needs, and increased food and nutrition risks. At least 14 pregnant women have been identified.
- Priority needs include fuel to support DHS field operations; safe water and sanitation services; oral rehydration salts (ORS), zinc, and essential antibiotics; replacement medical supplies; temporary structures for damaged dispensaries; child nutrition supplements to address acute malnutrition; and maternal health support with active follow-up.
- An estimated 67 births are expected in the next month, underscoring the urgent need for essential maternal health services.

Response Activities Planned:

- WHO and UN partners will support the Department of Health Services (DHS) to prioritise assessments of remaining health facilities, particularly in the Mortlocks and Lagoon areas, and to verify early disease signals.
- WHO will continue to support disease surveillance, SitRep development, syndromic management guidance, and facility-level forecasting for essential medicines and health commodities.
- Additional support is required for fuel, WASH supplies, child nutrition commodities, prepositioning of essential medicines in high-risk dispensaries, and temporary shelter for health assistants to sustain primary healthcare services for affected populations.
- UNFPA has deployed Reproductive Health Kits (2A – clean delivery kits) to primary healthcare facilities to support the continuity of essential life-saving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.
- UNFPA is also supporting the dissemination of Chuuk Health Sector Guidelines for GBV response to frontline workers, to ensure the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for survivors is implemented.

Response Activities Completed:

- WHO has provided technical support to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to integrate rapid health impact assessments into DEOC analysis, informing facility prioritisation, WASH risk mapping, surveillance follow-up, and supply planning.
- Initial support has included the provision of safe water commodities, dengue rapid diagnostic tests, deworming medicines, and essential medical supplies to selected dispensaries. Additional consignments from WHO and UN partners are underway, including albendazole, emergency health kits, and diarrhoeal disease kits.

Education

Needs

- A total of 27 schools have been severely damaged, with 52 school buildings affected according to Government SitRep 8, impacting 2,333 children (1,191 female, 1,141 male).
- Damage to homes has resulted in schools being used as emergency shelters, disrupting teaching and learning even in locations where classrooms were not directly affected (e.g. Fanapanges and Nukuono elementary schools).
- Provision of temporary learning spaces is required to ensure continuity of education.
- Urgent needs include teaching and learning materials, as well as protection measures for children.
- The Department of Education (DoE) warehouse has sustained roof damage and requires repairs.
- Debris clearance and removal of fallen trees are needed to restore access to school premises.
- Schools in atoll islands with damaged rainwater catchment systems require temporary water supply solutions.
- Disruptions to classes continue due to the use of schools as shelters.
- Approximately nine schools have reported damage to sanitation facilities.

2333

children impacted

Response Activities Planned:

- Provision of Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) is underway in six schools.

- Provision of solar fans, drinking water filters, tarpaulins, cleaning and debris removal equipment, and teaching and learning materials is being implemented based on assessed needs.
- Coordination and support between the Chuuk Disaster Emergency Operations Center (CDEOC), the State Department of Education (DoE), UNICEF, and UN partners is ongoing.
- Assessments for repairs to the DoE supplies warehouse have commenced.
- The Department of Education (DoE) is deploying teams to the Northwest region to conduct school assessments and distribute cleaning equipment, water filters, hygiene kits, and tents.
- Child safeguarding measures, including peer support activities, will be implemented in affected schools, particularly those currently being used as emergency shelters.

Response Activities Completed:

- Two Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs), equipped with solar fans and drinking water filters, have been established at Chukuram Elementary School and Fason High School. Equipment for clearing fallen trees and debris from affected school premises has also been provided to the Chuuk State Department of Education (DoE).
- Tarpaulins and cleaning equipment have been distributed to Penia and Peniesene Elementary School, as well as West Fefen Elementary School.
- Protection needs assessments are underway, with the integration of safeguarding measures into the ongoing response.

Protection

Needs:

- Sensitisation on child safeguarding is being conducted for task forces, assessment teams, and response personnel in direct contact with affected communities.
- There is a need for detailed data on persons with disabilities, including types of impairments and specific needs, to inform targeted assistance.
- Agencies are undertaking community feedback mechanisms and are coordinating to ensure feedback is systematically addressed.
- Protection risks are elevated, although protection-specific incident data remains limited.
- Displacement, damaged housing, school closures, the use of schools as shelters, water shortages, communication gaps, and the isolation of remote communities are increasing risks for children, women, older persons, persons with disabilities, and households with limited mobility or social support.
- These factors are placing additional pressure on response operations, particularly during the distribution of essential commodities in high-demand settings.
- Access to outer islands requiring police escort remains constrained due to sensitivities linked to political considerations.

GBV

Services disrupted

Response Activities Planned:

- UNICEF is partnering with the Chuuk State Government to strengthen child protection, safeguarding and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), psychological first aid (PFA) and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), as well as risk communication and community engagement (RCCE):
- **Child Protection in Emergencies**
 - Identification and monitoring of child protection risks in shelters (schools and churches), host communities, and affected municipalities.
 - Strengthening referral pathways for vulnerable children, including separated and unaccompanied children.
 - Integration of child protection considerations into multisectoral response activities.
- **Safeguarding and PSEA**
 - Delivery of safeguarding and PSEA orientations for frontline responders, assessment teams, and partners.
 - Dissemination of accessible reporting pathways through trusted community channels.
 - Reinforcement of survivor-centred and confidential referral mechanisms.
- **Psychological First Aid (PFA) and MHPSS**

- Training of government staff, volunteers, and partners on PFA.
- Implementation of community-based psychosocial support activities for children and adolescents.
- Provision of caregiver support on positive parenting and stress management during emergencies.
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)**
 - Strengthening community engagement approaches to ensure inclusive communication and effective feedback mechanisms.
- Dissemination of child protection and psychosocial well-being messages through radio, information, education and communication (IEC) materials, and community outreach.
- Integration of child protection (CP) and MHPSS messaging into health, WASH, and education activities. UNFPA is distributing 200 dignity kits and will conduct orientation sessions for partners responsible for their distribution.
- UNFPA will support the Chuuk Women's Council (CWC) in:
- Restoring a temporary roof for the CWC centre to enable the immediate continuation of GBV in emergencies (GBViE) coordination and frontline counselling services.
- Undertaking technical repairs to the GBV hotline and supporting counselling and case management services.
- UNFPA will conduct GBV safety audits in evacuation centres and health facilities to identify infrastructure-related protection risks, with recommendations and mitigation measures to reduce risks.
- GBV risk mitigation will be promoted across sectors, including WASH and shelter.
- Provision of technical support to ensure all humanitarian actors activate and adhere to organisational policies on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).

Response Activities Completed:

- Ongoing assessments are informing the development of response plans with partners, including the integration of child protection into UNICEF's ongoing education and WASH interventions.
- A UNICEF Child Protection Specialist accompanied Department of Education (DoE) colleagues on visits to six schools, supporting the introduction and application of safeguarding measures.
- UNFPA has supported the Chuuk Women's Council (CWC) with temporary restoration of its centre.
- UNFPA will complete GBV safety audits in evacuation centres and health facilities.

Displacement and Evacuation Center Management

Needs:

- Approximately 13,000 people are temporarily displaced due to damage or destruction of homes.
- Schools and churches (84 facilities) continue to be used as temporary shelters, delaying the resumption of education and community activities.
- Emergency support is required in displacement sites, including WASH services, protection, and improved basic living conditions.
- Temporary accommodation solutions are needed for families whose homes remain uninhabitable.

13,000

People temporarily displaced
(IDA results)

Response Activities Planned:

- The use of schools and churches as temporary shelter facilities has enabled the immediate accommodation of displaced populations.
- Distribution of shelter and non-food items (NFIs) by humanitarian partners, including IOM and MRCS, has supported displaced households residing in host communities and temporary shelters.

Response Activities Completed:

- Continued planning is underway to support shelter solutions that enable the safe return or relocation of displaced families from temporary shelters as housing repairs progress.
- Additional humanitarian support to displacement sites is required, including integrated shelter and WASH assistance, subject to access and logistical constraints.

Shelter

Needs:

- Significant damage to housing has been reported across affected municipalities, with many families residing in partially damaged or unsafe structures.
- Insufficient availability of shelter materials is limiting the ability of households to undertake repairs and reinforce damaged homes while recovery and reconstruction planning progresses.
- Shortages of shelter kits and tarpaulins are increasing exposure of affected households to adverse weather conditions.
- Limited logistical capacity, particularly for maritime transport to outer islands, continues to constrain the delivery of bulky shelter materials.

7000

Houses damaged or destroyed (IDA results)

Response Activities Planned:

- The Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) plans to distribute 20 tarpaulins, 17 cooking sets, 17 hygiene kits, and 10 shelter tool kits to address remaining shelter gaps.

Response Activities Completed:

- IOM has distributed 153 kitchen sets, 20 dignity kits, 150 tarpaulins, and 121 jerry cans across Weno, Fanapanges, Piispaneu, and Parem.
- The Micronesia Red Cross Society (MRCS) has distributed 327 tarpaulins, 320 kitchen sets, and 130 shelter tool kits in the Northwest region.

Emergency Telecommunications

Needs:

- The FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) reports that approximately 65 per cent of mobile voice and data network services have been restored.
- On Fanapanges Island, there is no permanent power supply or telecommunications infrastructure. Communities rely on HF and VHF radio communications, powered by generators and solar systems, to maintain connectivity.
- Continued support is required for the deployment of satellite communication capabilities to enable assessments and response operations in areas with limited or no network coverage.

65%

mobile voice and data networks restored

Response Activities Planned:

- WFP will continue assessments in the coming week, including planned missions to Chuuk Lagoon.

Response Activities Completed:

- A WFP Senior Telecommunications Specialist arrived in-country on 28 April and has been working with the Chuuk Disaster Coordination Office (DCO) and the Department of Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Management (DECCEM) to conduct initial damage assessments of VHF and HF radio networks.
- Assessments have been completed to date on Fanapanges Island and Weno Island.
- WFP has provided Starlink terminals to the DCO to support assessments and response operations in areas where communications networks remain disrupted.

COORDINATION

- The integrated OCHA/UNDAC team, together with standby partners iMMAP and MapAction, has provided coordinated support to assessments led by DECCEM, the Chuuk Disaster Coordination Office (DCO), and IOM. Analysis of the Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) results has been completed and will be presented to DECCEM partners on Tuesday, 5 May 2026.

- OCHA/UNDAC support to DECEM and the Chuuk DCO continued this week, including drafting the Situation Report, planning the presentation of IDA findings, and supporting coordination of task force meetings.
- The Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) continues to support sectoral response efforts: IOM is supporting the Government of FSM in the Joint Damage Assessment with the United States; WHO is supporting the State Department of Health Services (DHS); UNICEF is supporting the Department of Education; UNFPA is working with the Chuuk Women’s Council; and the Micronesia Red Cross Society and Catholic Relief Services are supporting the Chuuk DCO with assessments and the distribution of food and non-food items (NFIs) to shelters.
- The UN Environmental Emergency Response (EER) Team is supporting efforts to address marine pollution caused by Typhoon Sinlaku, focusing on oil leaks from the capsized vessels *Chief Mailo* and *Ballina* at Weno Port. In coordination with the Department of Transport and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the team has conducted joint assessments, advised on oil containment measures using booms and sorbents, and provided technical guidance on safe vessel management. Due to structural risks, on-site scrapping has been recommended over righting operations. The team has also supported hazardous waste management protocols and emphasized the need for continued monitoring, enforcement of fishing exclusion zones, and further inspections to enable safe defueling. Overall, the UN EER team is providing critical technical support to mitigate environmental and public health risks associated with maritime oil pollution.

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