



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Sunday, January 29, 2023



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

| Position | Personnel | Phone | Email |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Operations Chief | Ian Guidicelli | (850) 354-3044 | Ian.Guidicelli@em.myflorida.com |
| Watch Officer | Woody Harvey | (850) 591-7939 | Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com |
| Duty Officer | Phillip Thomas | (850) 519-6961 | Phillip.Thomas@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Day | Kelsey Walters | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Swing | Jamie-Lynne Raulerson | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Night | Cassi Farestvedt | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Meteorologist | Kennedy Tartt | (850) 567-6368 | Kennedy.Tartt@em.myflorida.com |
| Plans Chief | Kaylynn Perry | (850) 254-5657 | Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com |
| Logistics Chief | Kenneth DeCastro | (850) 567-1943 | Kenneth.DeCastro@em.myflorida.com |
| Human Services Director | Pam Hughes | (850) 528-5638 | Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com |
| Emergency Services | Rob Dietrich | (850) 727-3414 | Robert.Dietrich@em.myflorida.com |
| Infrastructure Branch Director | Christina Goetzman | (850) 519-8581 | Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com |
| ESF 8 On-Call | Hunter Stafford | (866) 786-4673 | DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov |
| Public Information Officer | Alecia Collins | (850) 591-9544 | Alecia.Collins@em.myflorida.com |
| DEM Finance and Admin | Mark Mahoney | (850) 815-7457 | Mark.Mahoney@em.myflorida.com |



Regional Coordination Team

| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Region 1: Jim Roberts | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| RC Manager | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 2: Willie Bouie | | |
| Region 3: Pam Bergstrom | St. Johns, Orange | Off & Monitoring / Travel to FEPA |
| Region 4: Paul Siddall | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 6: Vacant | N/A | N/A |
| Region 7: Claudia Baker | Miami-Dade, Orange | Off & Monitoring / Travel to FEPA |



R6 coverage provided by RC 4 / RC 7

| RC Status |
|----------------------------------|
| Normal Operations |
| In Region / Delayed Response |
| Out of Region / Delayed Response |
| Out of Service / Unavailable |



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Region 1: Elizabeth Caison | In State | Travel to Region 5 (FEPA) |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara | In State | Travel to Region 5 (FEPA) |
| Region 3: Joshua Saunders | In State | Travel to Region 5 (FEPA) |
| RRCT Manager | In State | Travel to Region 5 (FEPA) |
| Region 4: Jeremy O'Dell | In State | |
| Region 5: Shannon Hagan | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 6: Kathryn Thompson | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 7: Dana McGeehan | In State | Travel to Region 5 (FEPA) |

RRCT Status

Normal Operations

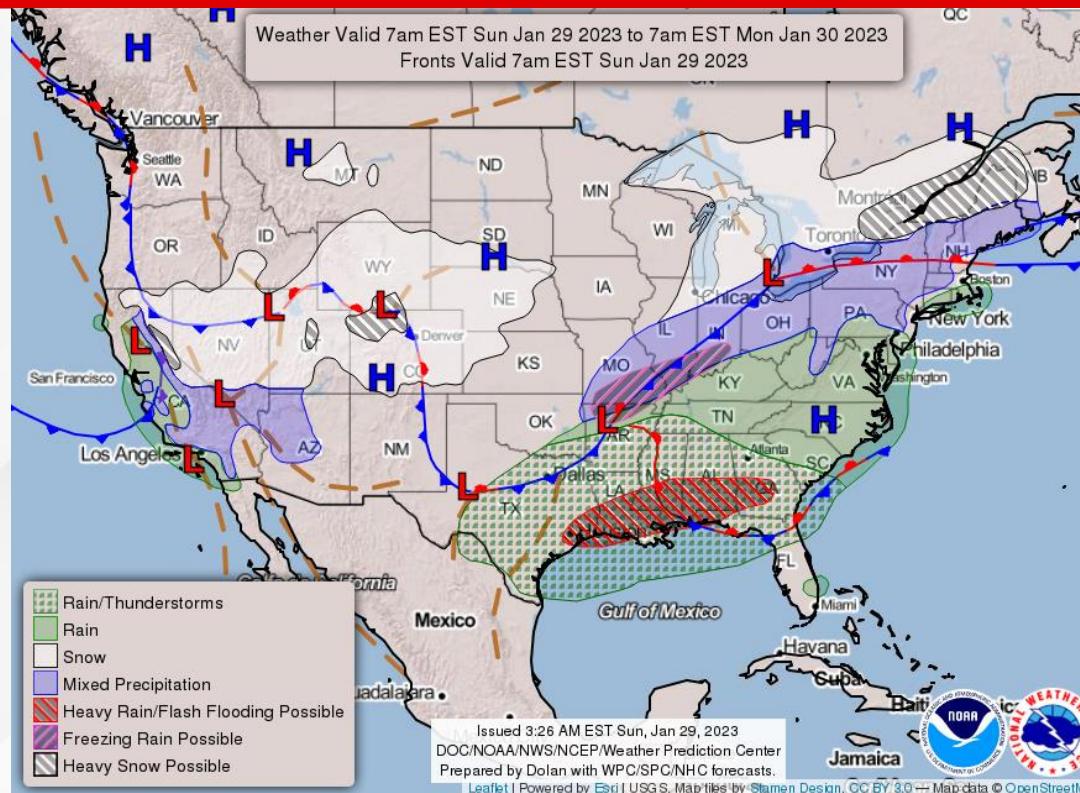
In Region / Delayed Response

Deployed / Delayed Response

Out of Service / Unavailable



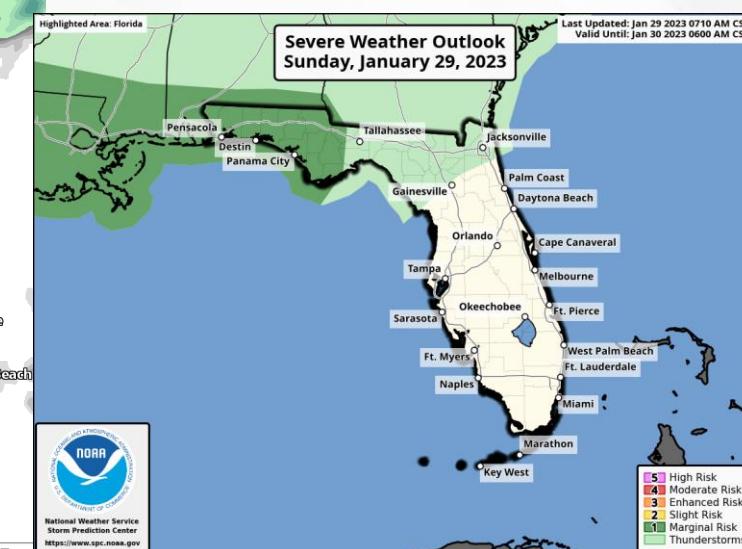
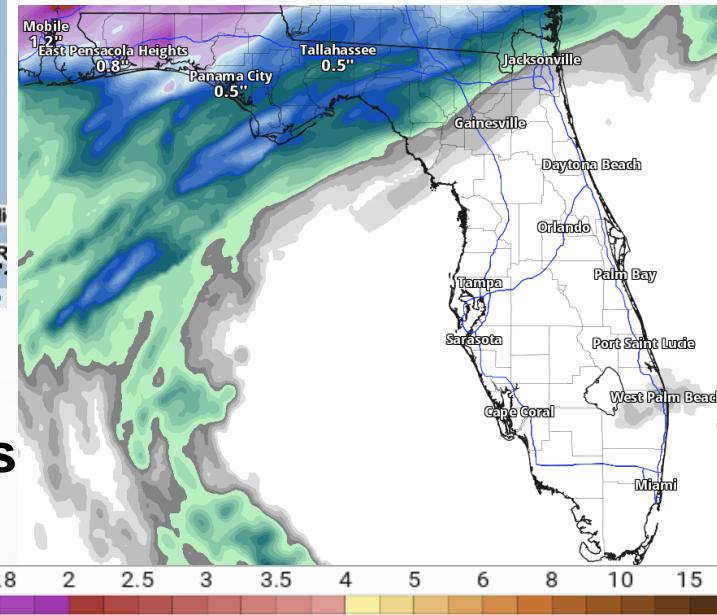
Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Forecast 24-Hour Rainfall Totals

| Threat | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 |
|------------------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Lightning | L | L | L | | | | |
| Tornado | L | | | | | | |
| Damaging Wind | L | | | | | | |
| Flash Flooding | M | L | | | | | |
| Wildfire | | | | L | L | | |
| Freeze | | | | | | | |
| River Flooding | | | | | | | |
| Fog | L | L | L | L | | | |
| Rip Currents | M | H | M | L | M | L | H |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation: | 16.03 ft. (1.36 ft. Above Normal) | | | | | | |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index: | 251 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) | | | | | | |



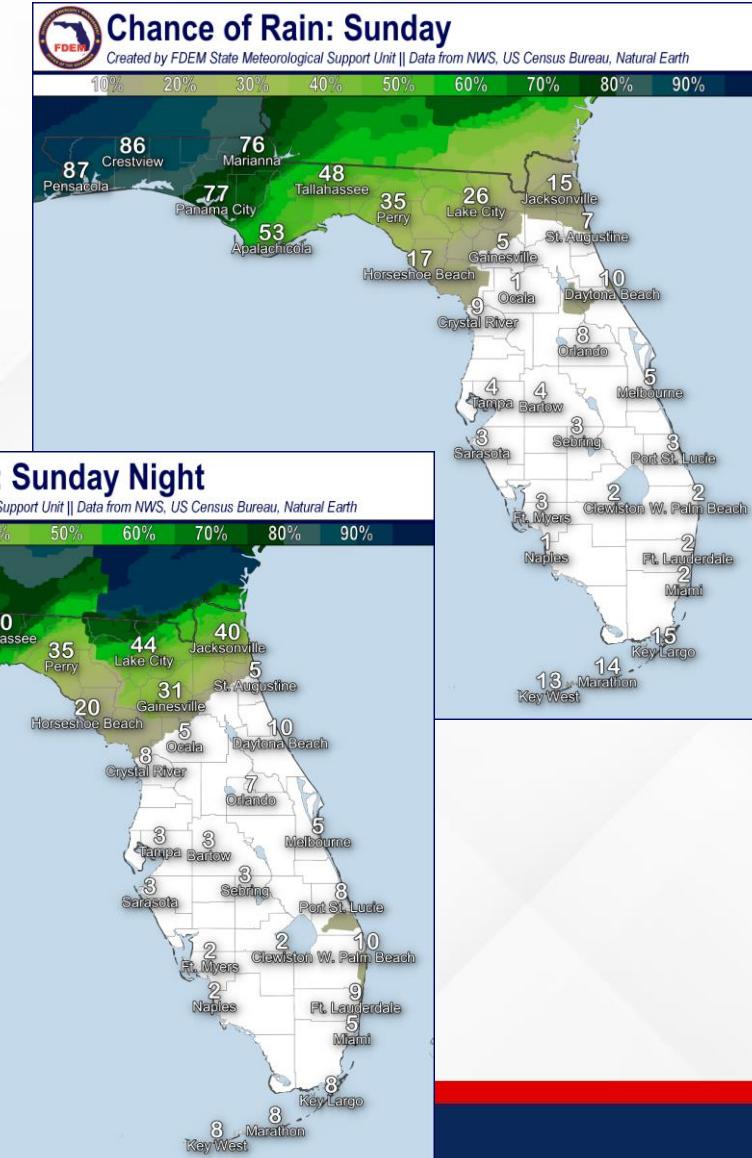


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Panhandle: We will transition to a more active weather pattern across the Panhandle and North Florida today. A coastal area of low pressure will develop today along the northern Gulf of Mexico and Gulf Coast states, bringing isolated heavy rainfall across the western Panhandle. A warm front extending off the low pressure will move through the Panhandle and North Florida allowing for abundant moisture to move inland off the Gulf of Mexico. Moisture ahead of the frontal boundary will allow for scattered showers this morning along the eastern Panhandle and Big Bend through the morning and early afternoon hours. As the low pressure system moves northeastward along the southeastern U.S. states and the warm front moves through later this afternoon and into the evening, the Panhandle will be within the "warm sector" of the frontal system. *The warm sector is the area of the frontal system that is favorable for severe weather to develop.* Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms can be expected along the Panhandle. Some of these isolated thunderstorms may become strong to severe thunderstorms are possible during the peak heating hours of the day and into the evening hours along the western Panhandle and the eastern Big Bend. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** across the western Panhandle through the overnight hours should environmental conditions remain favorable. Locally damaging winds will be possible (45-60 mph) and a brief isolated tornado or two cannot be ruled out. Heavy rain will accompany this system as it progresses across the Panhandle. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** through the Destin area, with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending through Panama City, as rainfall totals of 1-2", with locally higher amounts of 3-4" possible, are forecast along the Panhandle. Moving eastward into the Big Bend and along the I-10 corridor rainfall totals remain under 1", but a quick burst of heavy rain could lead to higher amounts. **Localized flash flooding** cannot be ruled out along urban and poor drainage/low-lying areas during times of heavy rainfall. Conditions will continue to be monitored throughout the day. The combination of cloudy skies, rainfall, and increased moisture will keep high temperatures in the upper 60s to low 70s across the Panhandle and Big Bend. Overnight temperatures will remain mild in the low to middle 60s. **Patchy to locally dense foggy** conditions will be favorable especially along the immediate Panhandle and Big Bend coastline overnight and into early Monday morning.

Peninsula: The area of high pressure from over the weekend will shift eastward over the western Atlantic waters. Cloudy skies can be expected northward of the I-4 corridor across upper portions of the Peninsula as the warm front pushes through later today. Along the I-4 corridor and south through the Peninsula, mostly sunny and dry conditions can be expected with the help of the high pressure off the coastline. Breezy easterly to southeasterly winds will keep low-level moisture in place for much of the east coast and may allow for an isolated shower or two late in the day and overnight (5-10% chance of rain). Temperatures in the upper 70s to low 80s can be expected today with the help of mostly sunny conditions and the warm front moving northward through North Florida. Overnight temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 60s across much of the Peninsula with the southeast coastline and Florida Keys seeing temperatures in the low 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Winds shifting out of the south to southeast across the state will allow for a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** along the Panhandle and East Coast. Slightly stronger winds along the southeast coastline will create a **high risk for rip currents**. West coast beaches continue to see a low risk for rip currents. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

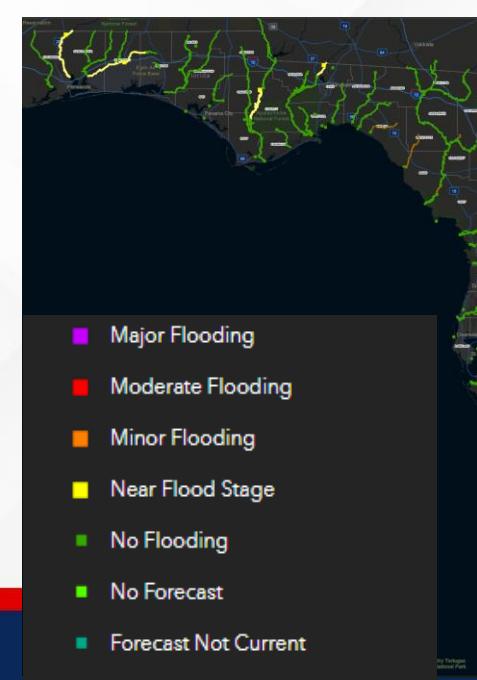
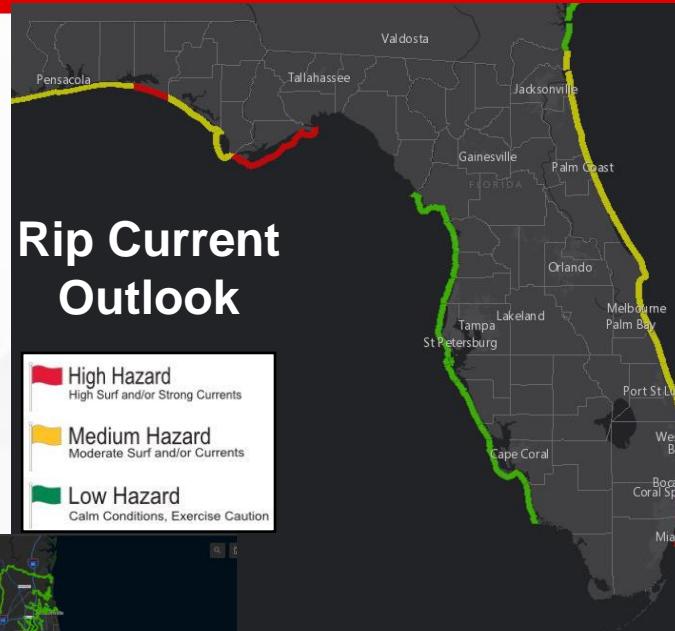
Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected along all east coast beaches and many west coast beaches. Panhandle and Big Bend beaches can anticipate wave heights of 3-4'. A few breaking waves along the Atlantic side of the Florida Keys may reach 4'. **Red Tide** has been observed above background levels along much of the Southwest Florida Coast, with **medium to high concentrations** along coastal Manatee, Lee, and Monroe Counties.

Coastal Flooding: There is no threat of coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: Heavy rain of 1-2", with higher amounts of 3-4" possible locally, can be expected across the western Panhandle today and into early Monday morning. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Flash Flooding** across the western Panhandle through Destin. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** through Panama City. **Localized flash flooding** cannot be ruled out along urban and poor drainage/low-lying areas across the western Panhandle.

Riverine Flooding: Rivers have been on the rise across the Panhandle following recent heavy rains, with portions of the Apalachicola and Ochlocknee Rivers in Action Stage (*bank-full*). Forecast rainfall today and tonight across the western Panhandle, and several southeastern states, will allow water to flow into our rivers through the week. At this time, these rivers are not forecast to rise into flood stage, but elevated water levels may allow for rivers to rise into Action Stage (*bank-full*). Elsewhere, all Florida rivers, waterways, and tributaries are forecast to remain below flood stage. For more details on specific river levels, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 16.03 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.36 feet above normal for this time of year.



**Current & Forecast
River Levels**

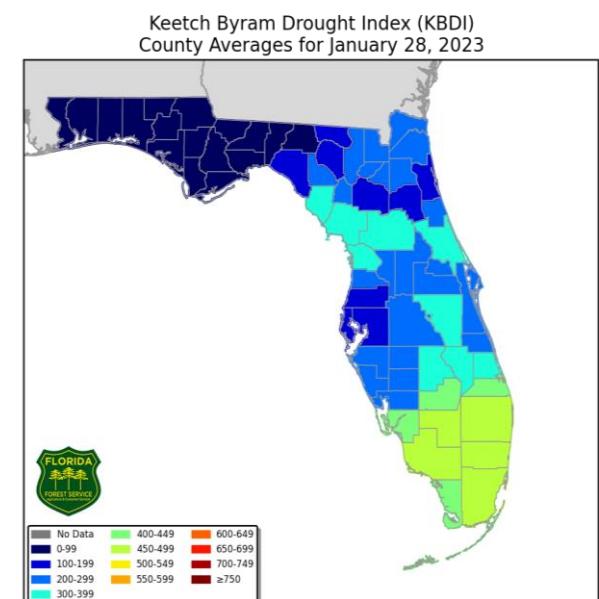
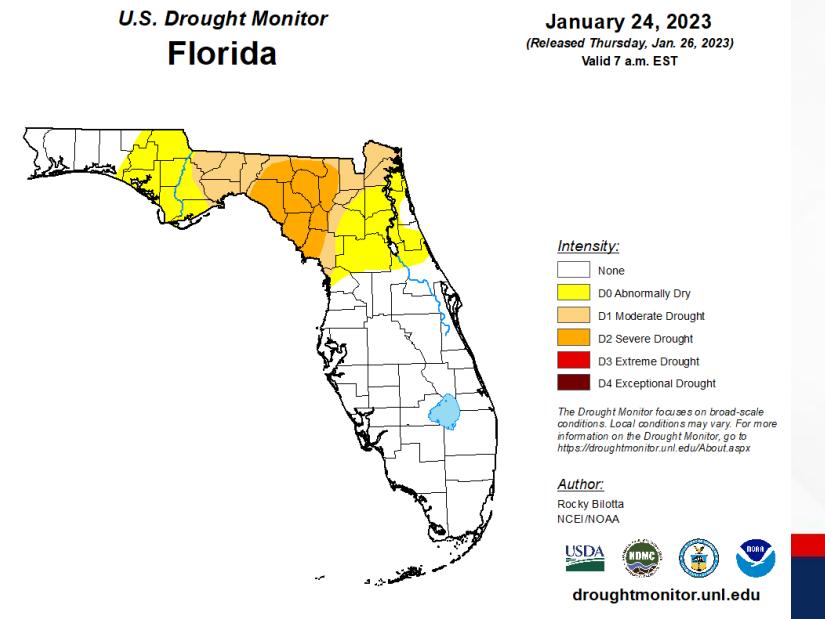
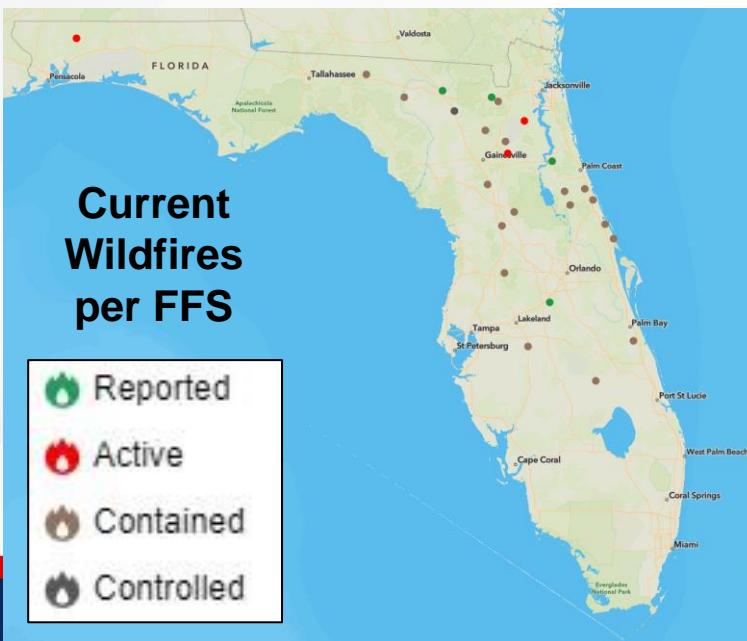


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: We will transition to a more active weather pattern today across the Panhandle as a coastal low pressure system moves north along the northern Gulf of Mexico bringing several rounds of heavy rain. Winds along the Gulf Coast will shift out of the southeast and south allow for moisture to flow onshore. High pressure along the western Atlantic will keep the Peninsula dry through the early week. Patchy fog overnight is possible along the Big Bend, which may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 26 active wildfires across the state, burning approximately 143 acres.

Drought: The recent active weather pattern brought 2-5" of rainfall across the Florida Panhandle and Big Bend over the past 14 days, with localized areas exceeding 6". These rainfall totals have brought an excess of precipitation across portions of North Florida, with rainfall totals 1-3" (local 5") above normal. Improvements across all drought categories have been noted on this week's [Drought Monitor](#) update, with **severe drought** only continuing over the Big Bend and Suwannee River Valley. **Moderate drought** has now been reduced over the Panhandle, with only areas east of the Apalachicola River experiencing drought conditions.

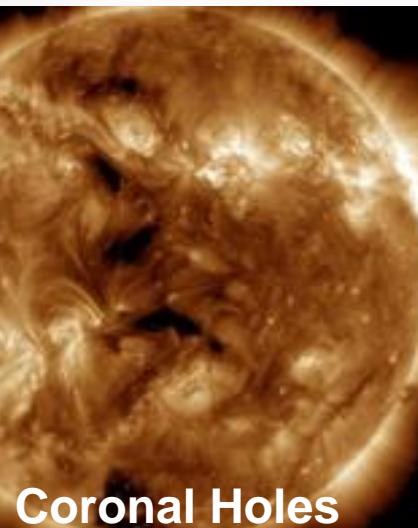
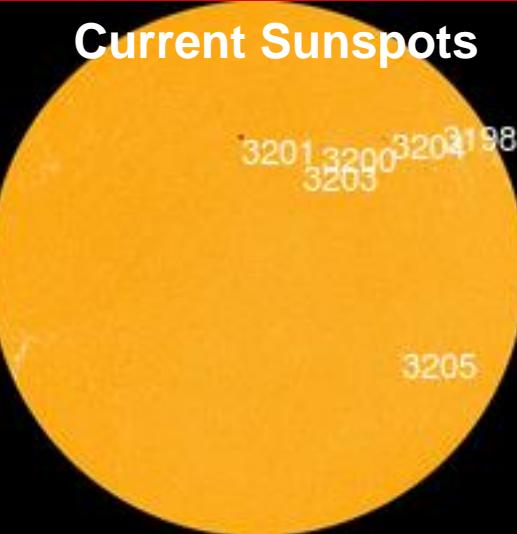
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **251 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **0** counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger); however, localized areas over the southern Peninsula are at or exceeding 500. Southern Peninsula counties (Miami-Dade, Hendry, Collier, and Broward Counties) are nearing 500.



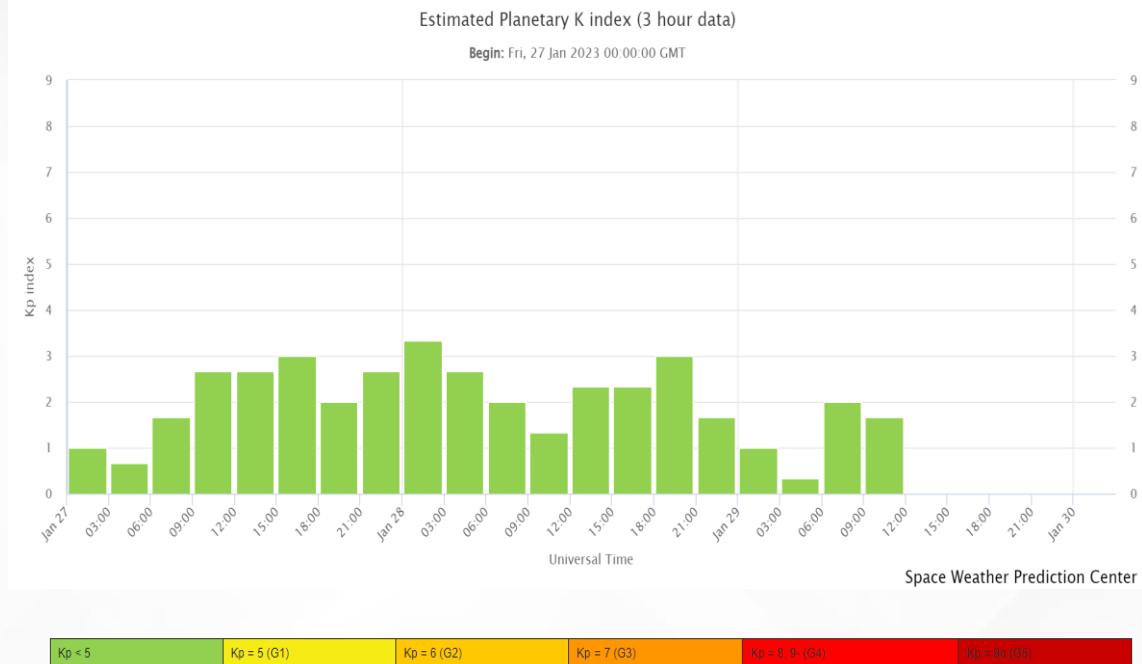


Space Weather

Current Sunspots



Coronal Holes



| Solar Flare Risk | Active Watches & Warnings | Past 24 hours |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| M-class: 25% | Geomagnetic Storm: None | C2 Solar Flare |
| X-class: 1% | Radiation Storm: None | No Radio Blackouts |

48 Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

| | |
|---|---|
| 1/29 | 1/30 |
| Max Kp= 2 (G0) | Max Kp= 2 (G0) |
| Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1% | Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1% |

Space Weather: Solar activity continues to remain low, with a chance for M-class solar flares due to solar activity near the southeastern limb. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts may accompany these solar flares throughout the day. There are no significant coronal holes on the Earthside of the sun. The space weather threat to Florida remains very low.



SWO Communications Systems & Contact Information

| Equipment | Contact | Status | Comments |
|-------------------|---|-------------|----------|
| Phone: | 800-320-0519, 850-815-4001, 850-591-0071 (Backup Cell) | Operational | |
| Backup Landline: | 850-487-3234, 850-487-3228 | Operational | |
| Fax: | 850-815-4979 | Operational | |
| Email: | SWP@em.myflorida.com | Operational | |
| SWO Tracker: | https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/ | Operational | |
| SLERS: | DEM Statewide | Operational | |
| FNARS: | WGY974 | Operational | |
| Federal NAWAS: | State Watch Office | Operational | |
| EMnet Message: | FL.000- State Watch Office | Operational | |
| EMnet Voice: | FL SWP- State Watch Office | Operational | |
| IPAWS: | LP.1 Stations via Emnet | Operational | |
| FIN: | SOFEOC | Operational | |
| Satellite Phones: | 888-890-5178 or 480-263-8838 | Operational | |
| Website: | http://www.floridadisaster.org | Operational | |

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