



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, March 14, 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Phillip Thomas	(850) 519-6961	Phillip.Thomas@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Jazmin Perkins	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Cassi Farestvedt	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Caleb Pitts	(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	Megan Hill	(850) 591-2496	Megan.Hill@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	Gadsden	Leave (See Coverage)
RC Manager	Leon	Preparedness/Response Mtg / Mitigate FL Mtg
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Preparedness/Response Mtg / Mitigate FL Mtg
Region 3: Pam Bergstrom	Duval	Vehicle Maintenance / Mitigate FL Mtg
Region 4: Paul Siddall	Hardee, Hillsborough	LMS / Response Mtg / CEOP City Mtg
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Orlando Int'l Airport TTX
Region 6: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 7: Claudia Baker	Indian River	REP Meeting



Region 6 coverage provided by RCT 7 and RCT 4

Region 1 coverage provided by RRC 1

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



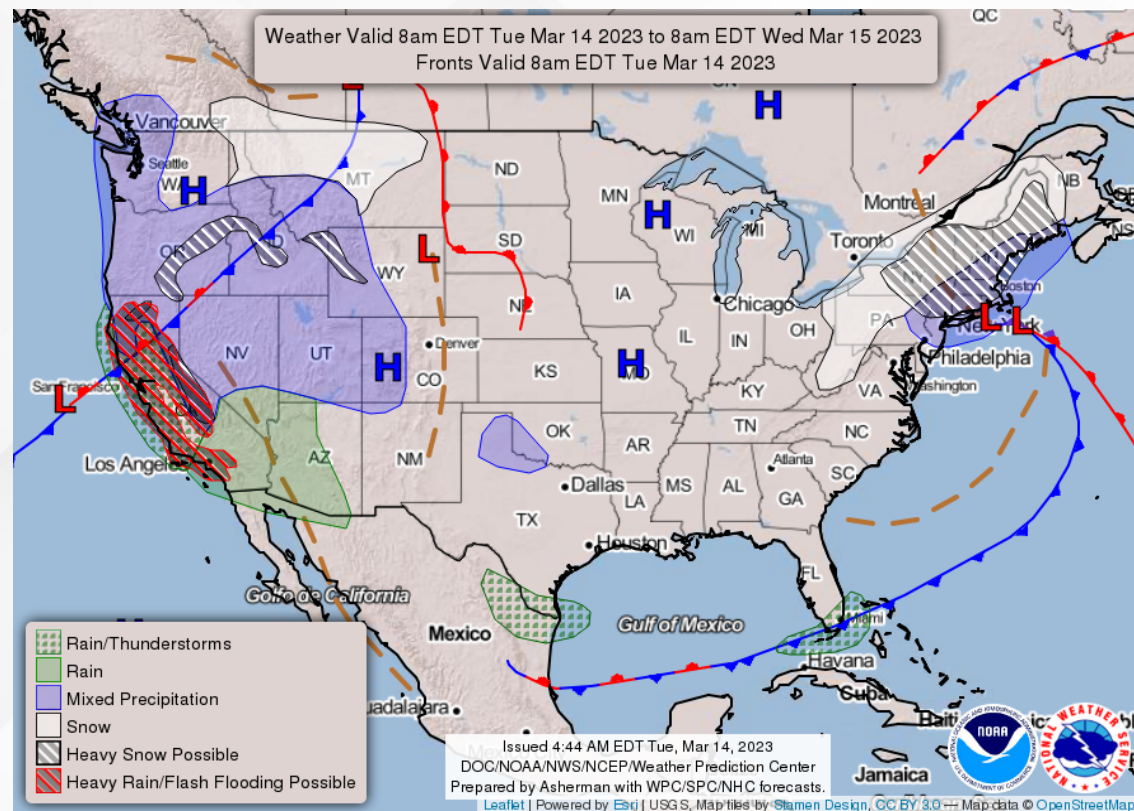
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Normal Operations
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Region	Annual Leave
Region 3: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Normal Operations
RRCT Manager	Region 5	Joint Field Office RSF Coordination
Region 4: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 5: Vacant	N/A	Not Available
Region 6: Kathryn Thompson	In Region	Normal Operations
Region 7: Dana McGeehan	In Region	Normal Operations

RRC Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable

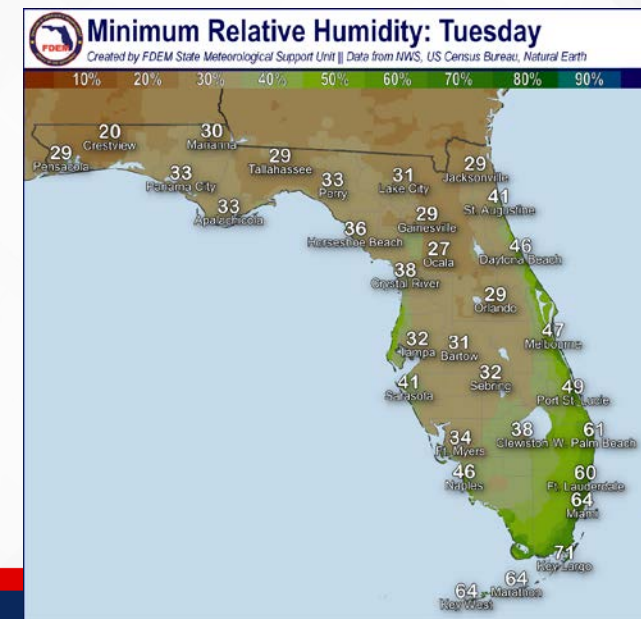
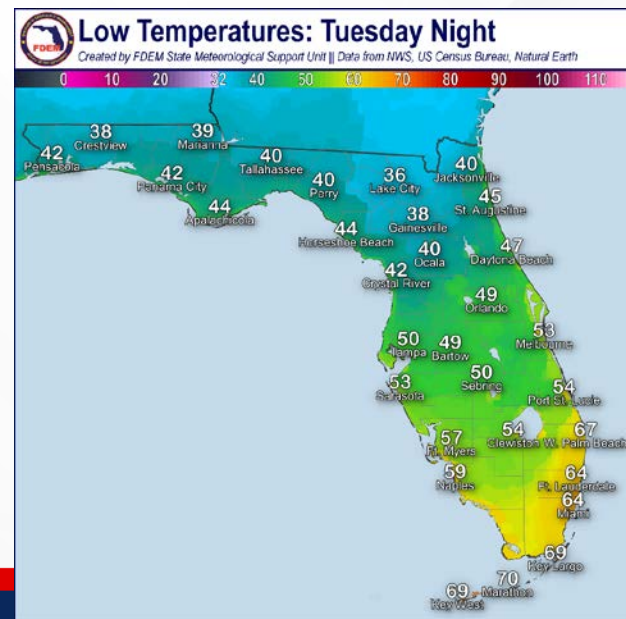


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7
Lightning							
Tornado							
Damaging Wind							
Flash Flooding							
Freeze (Overnight)			L				
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
River Flooding							
Fog (Overnight)							
Rip Currents	M	M	H	L	H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	15.11 ft. (0.65 ft. Above Normal)						
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	250 (-59) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)						





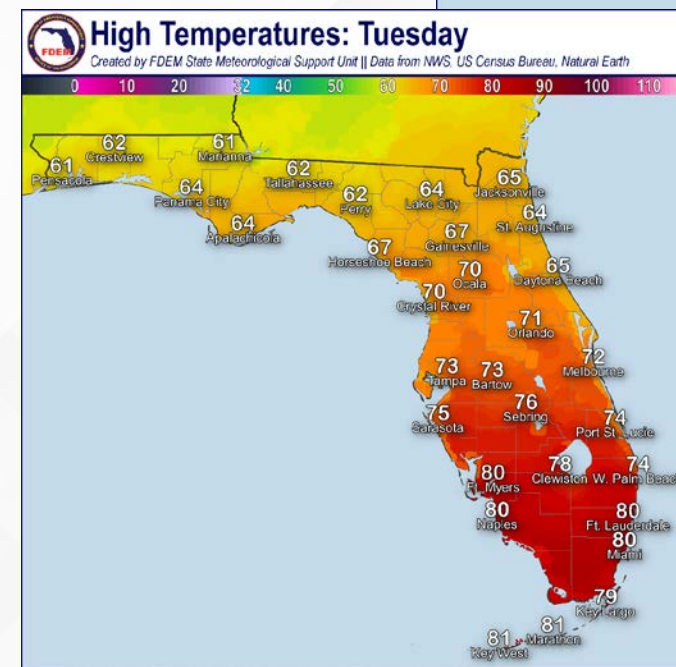
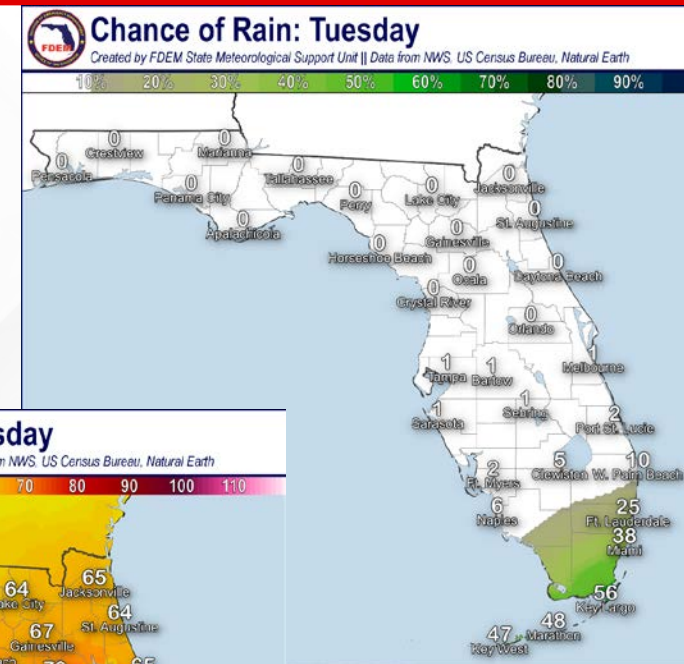
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A weakening cold front will continue to push southward across the southern Peninsula providing isolated showers across South Florida and the Florida Keys (25-55% chance of rain). A rumble of thunder cannot be ruled out this afternoon during the peak heating hours of the day. The frontal boundary will then stall over the Straits of Florida later this evening keeping a chance for showers overnight (35-40% chance of rain).

Much cooler and drier air will filter in from the north behind the passing cold front, providing some relief for areas across North and Central Florida that have seen above normal and record breaking temperatures for this time of year. Breezy northeasterly winds along the immediate east coast will allow wind gusts to reach upwards of 20-25 mph. Additional wind gusts along West-Central Florida will reach near 20 mph. Mostly sunny skies and dry conditions will be deceiving as temperatures will reach the low to middle 60s across North Florida this afternoon. Partly cloudy to mostly sunny conditions will allow temperatures to reach the low to middle 70s across Central Florida. Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy skies and rain chances across South Florida will allow temperatures to reach upper 70s and low 80s.

Mostly clear conditions and cool temperatures along the Suwannee River Valley and interior Northeast Florida will allow for low temperatures in the **middle to upper 30s**. **Patchy frost** cannot be ruled out overnight across portions of interior regions as winds overnight will remain light near 5-10 mph. Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy skies will build overnight across much of the state. Low temperatures across the Panhandle and Big Bend will drop into the upper 30s to middle 40s, as well as portions of the coastal Northeast. Central Florida can anticipate overnight low temperatures to reach the upper 40s to middle 50s. South Florida will see the warmest temperatures overnight with temperatures in the 60s and low 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Post-frontal winds of north to northeast will create a **high risk for rip currents** along all east coast beaches. Strong offshore flow will create a **moderate risk for rip currents** for Panhandle beaches. West coast beaches have returned to a low risk for rip currents. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Strong northerly to northeasterly winds will create elevated **wave heights** of 4-6' along east coast beaches. Gulf Coast beaches can expect wave heights of 2-3' with isolated breaking waves within the surf zone reaching 4' along West-Central and Southwest beaches.

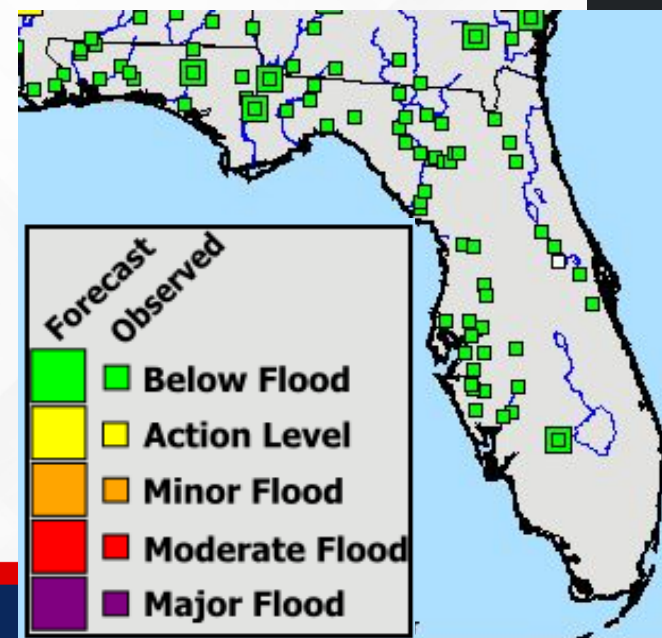
Red Tide been observed above background levels along much of Southwest Florida Coast, with **medium to high concentrations** along Pasco, Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Monroe counties.

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding.

Riverine Flooding: Despite multiple rounds of heavy rainfall, no riverine flooding is anticipated. All Florida rivers, waterways, and tributaries are running below and are forecast to remain below flood stage. For more details, please visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 15.11 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.65 feet above normal for this time of year.



**Current & Forecast
River Levels**

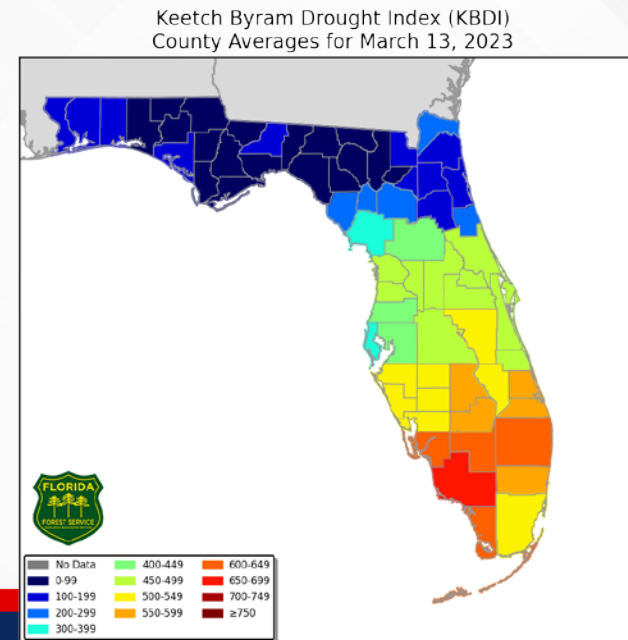
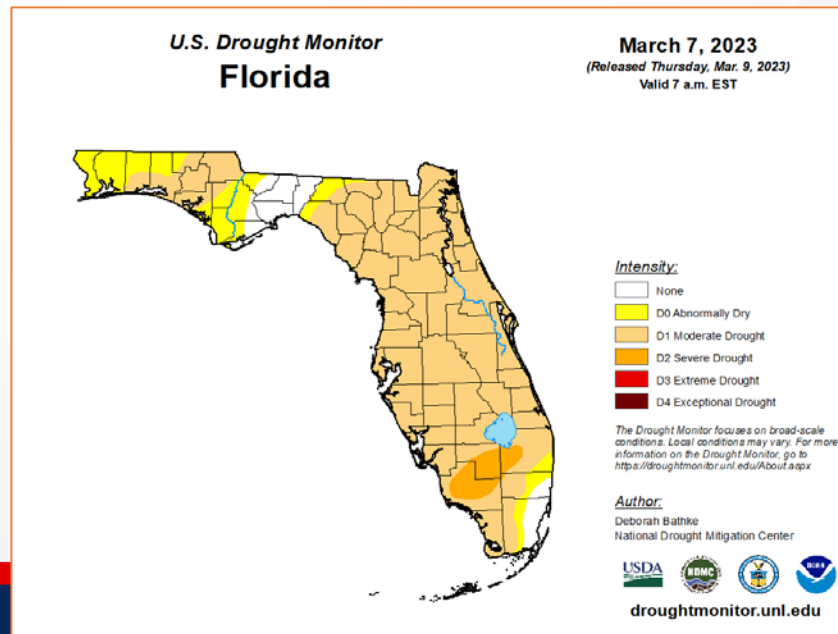
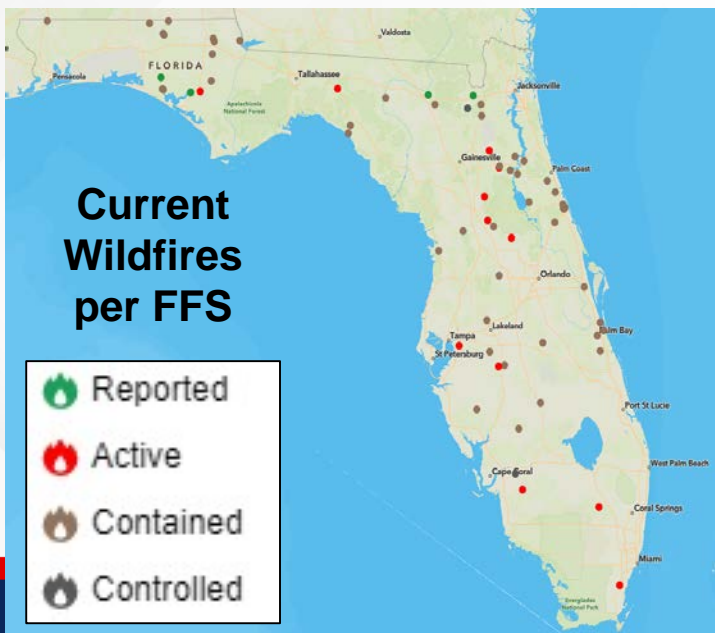


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Much cooler and drier air will filter in from the north across North and Central Florida. Relative humidity values will drop into the upper 20% to middle 30% from North Florida into Central Florida and portions of Southwest Florida this afternoon creating an **elevated risk for wildfires**. Winds will be near 10-15 mph out of the north to northeast, which will help to limit red flag warning conditions. A few gusty winds along the immediate east coast will reach 20-25 mph, with additional breezy conditions along West-Central Florida. With dry soils and vegetation, low relative humidity values, and lack of significant rainfall across South Florida may allow for new or ongoing fires to spread more rapidly. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 65 active wildfires across the state, burning approximately 15,925 acres.

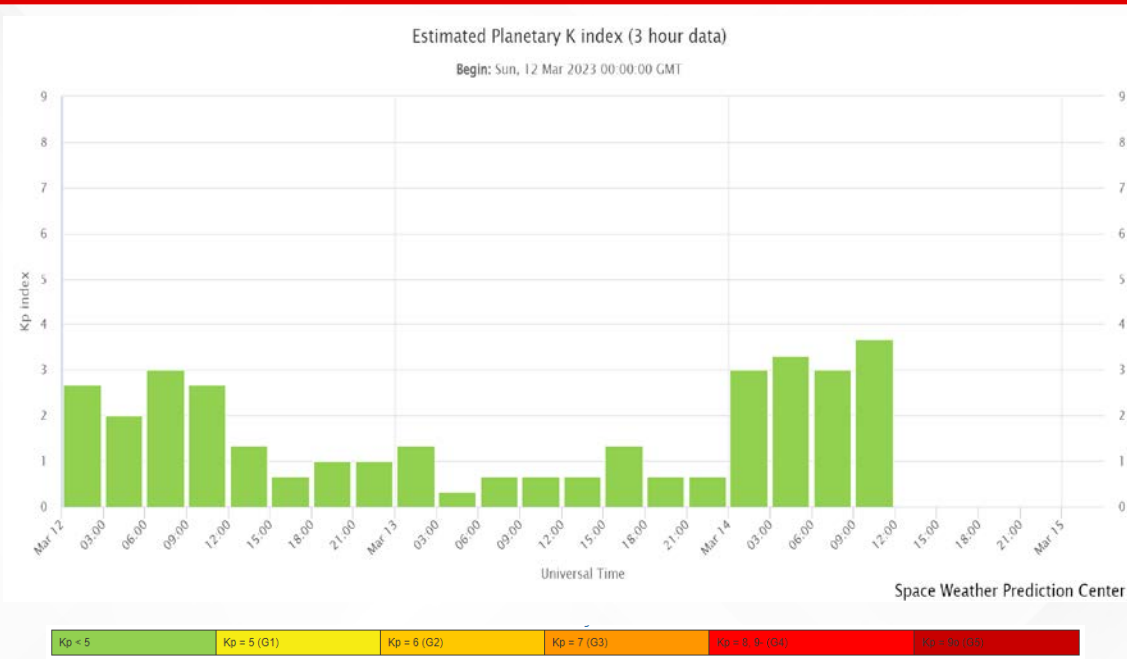
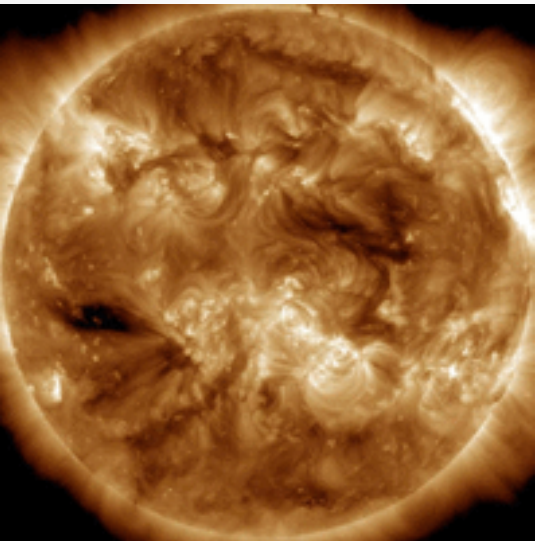
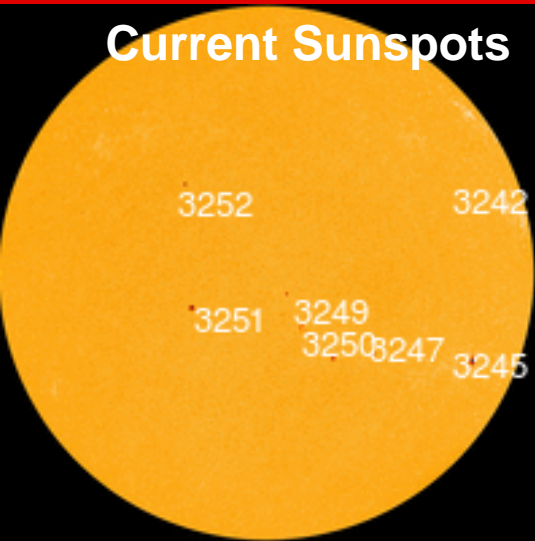
Drought: **Severe drought** has been introduced in South Florida on this week's [Drought Monitor](#) where rainfall has been less than 25% of normal, meaning rainfall deficits on the order of 4-6" below normal over the last 90 days. Streamflow values are running below normal and vegetation/soils continue to dry out. **Moderate drought** expanded across additional portions of the Peninsula and Suwannee River Valley, as well as the western Panhandle. Rainfall deficits of 3-5" continue to grow over these regions, with only the eastern Panhandle and coastal Southeast Florida remaining drought-free.

[The Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is 350 **(-59)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **eighteen** counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Osceola, Palm Beach, Sarasota, and St. Lucie.) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger). Collier, Hendry, Lee, Monroe, and Palm Beach Counties have the highest KBDI as values are over 600.





Space Weather



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 5%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts
48 Hour Geomagnetic Forecast		
3/14		3/15
Max Kp= 4 (G0)		Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%		Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 10%

Space Weather: Almost all sunspots of the Earthside of the sun are quiet and decaying. Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for C-class solar flares through Mar. 16. Minor (G1) geomagnetic storms will be possible due to several passing Coronal Mass Ejections (CME) that may glance the Earth's magnetic field. There is a chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will be possible over the next three days from Mar. 14 to 16. The overall space weather threat to Florida will remain 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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