



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, September 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	Ben Mauro	(850) 566-4904	Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Jazmin Perkins	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Matthew Peloso	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Melissa James	(850) 566-6422	Melissa.James@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	Jessica Blake	(850) 284-8070	Jessica.Blake@em.myflorida.com



Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden, Leon	Off & Monitoring
RC Manager	Leon	R4 Applications Admin / Vehicle Maintenance
Region 2: Willie Bouie		
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Office Admin
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Office Admin
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Off & Monitoring (AM) / Office Admin (PM)
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Polk	RC/RRC Meeting
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Martin	RC/RRC Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	FEMA Meet / Vehicle Maintenance
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Region 10 Quarterly Meeting



Region 4 Coverage Provided by RC 5

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



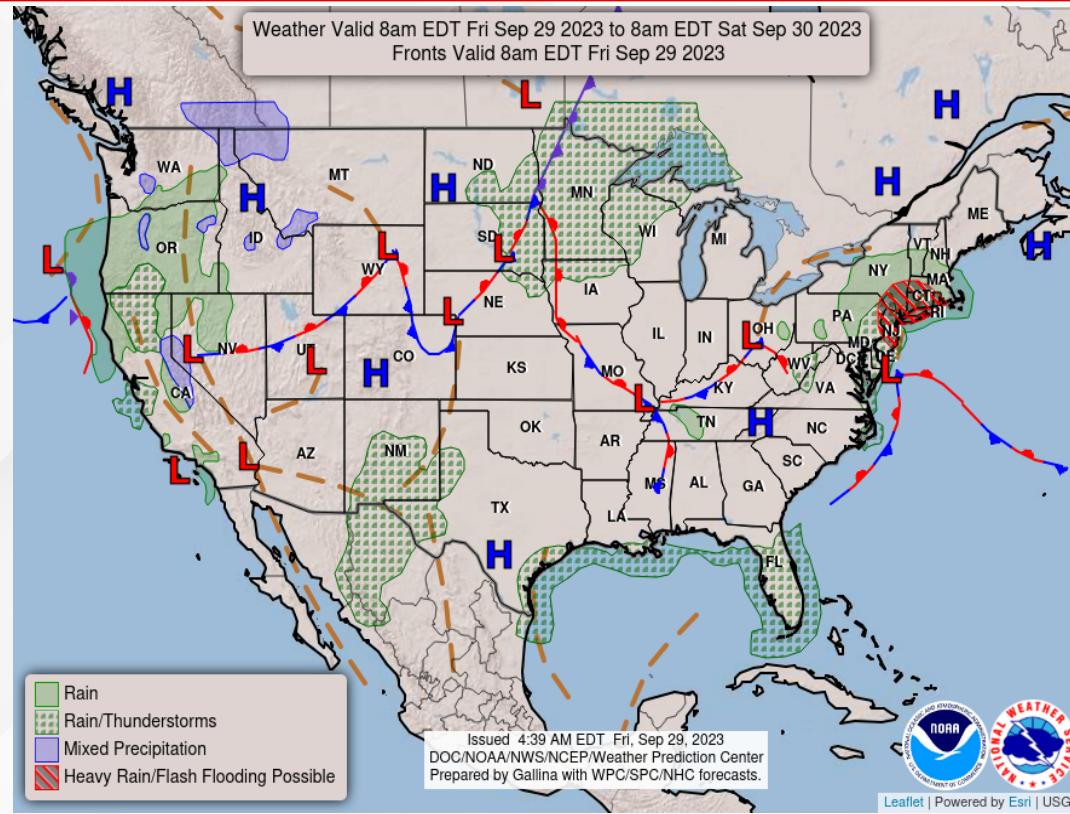
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Bay	Instructing G-300
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Administrative Duties
Region 3: Patrick James	In Region	Idalia Recovery Coordination
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Alachua	Idalia Branch Field Office
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Alachua	Idalia Branch Field Office
RRCT Manager	Alachua	Idalia Branch Field Office
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	Polk	Administrative Duties
Region 8: Camila Medina	Palm Beach	Quarterly Meeting Preparation
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Lee	L-967 Training
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Quarterly Director's Meeting

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



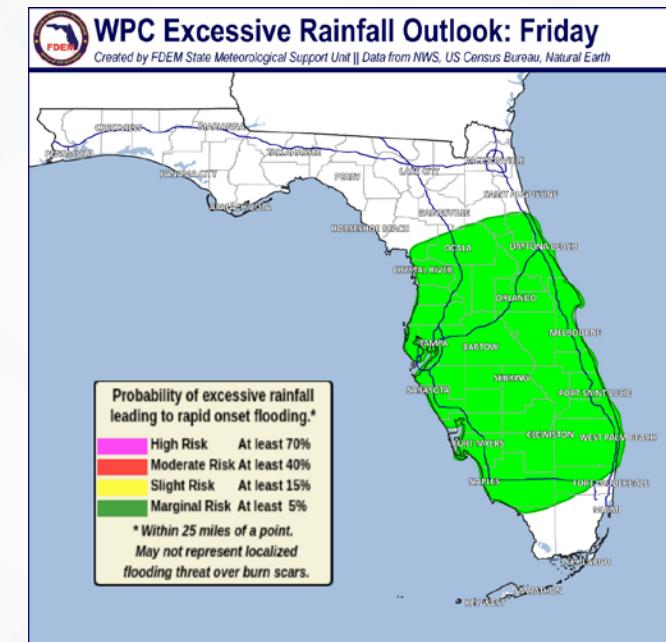
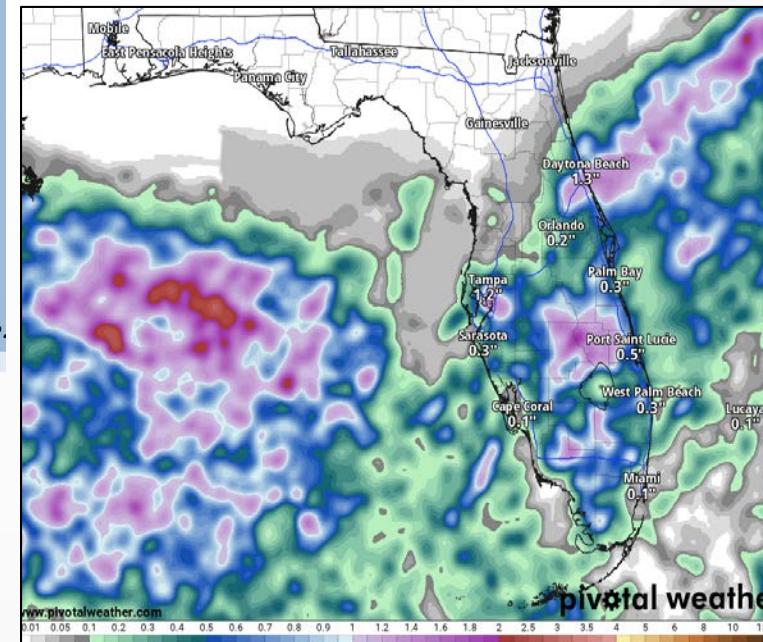
Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

24-Hour Forecast Rainfall Totals –
Locally 3-5" South & East Florida

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning			L	L	M	M	M	H	H	H
Tornado										
Damaging Wind					L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding				L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)			L	L	L			L	L	L
Excessive Heat				L	L	L	L	L	L	L
River Flood			L							
Rip Currents	H	H	M	LH	H	L	H	L	M	
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	15.65 ft. (0.82 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	175 (-9) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

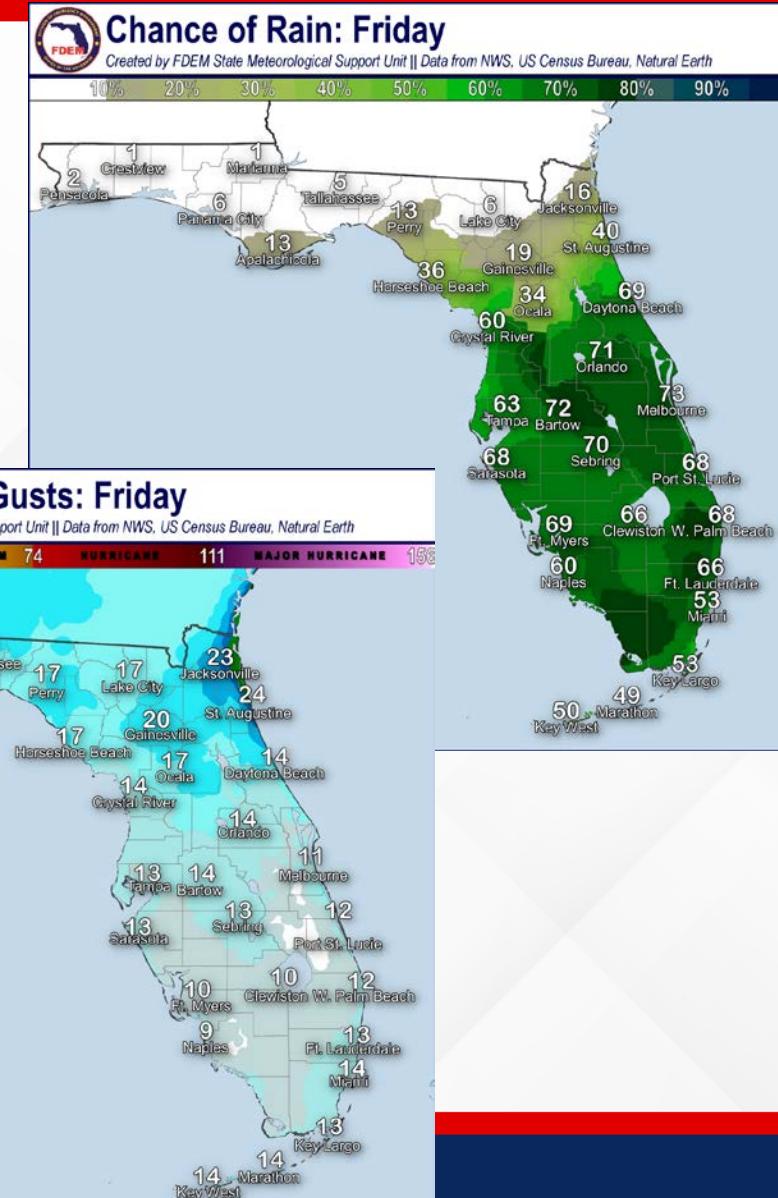
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms linger along the East and South Florida coasts this morning. **Patchy to locally dense fog** has been noted this morning along the Space and Treasure Coasts to Lake Okeechobee and will gradually dissipate after sunrise. High pressure will build in across North Florida over the next few days, bringing drier and slightly warmer conditions. The high pressure will push up against the frontal boundary stalled over Central Florida today, creating breezy conditions.

Tropical moisture continues to surge into the Peninsula as the stalled frontal boundary over Central Florida pushes further southward today, bringing another day of numerous showers and thunderstorms late this morning and continuing into the afternoon and evening hours (60-80% chance of rain). An **isolated strong to severe thunderstorm** or two capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (45-50 mph), and heavy downpours cannot be ruled out. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across Central and South Florida as tropical moisture will allow showers and thunderstorms to produce heavy and intense downpours, leading to instances of **localized flooding** across previously saturated urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. High pressure and drier air over North Florida will keep rain chances limited today, with only isolated showers along the sea breeze boundaries (near 0-40% chance of rain).

Temperatures will be slightly warmer than normal over the next few days as high-pressure builds. High temperatures will reach the low to mid-80s across North Florida this afternoon with upper 80s to low 90s across the rest of the state. Central Florida, South Florida and the Keys can expect **heat index values** in the upper 90s and low **100s** by the early-to-middle afternoon. Breezy conditions will develop across North Florida today, with sustained winds of 10-15 mph and gusts of 15-20 mph. Along the Northeastern Peninsula, **wind gusts** will reach upwards of **25-30 mph**. A **Coastal Flood Warning** remains in effect along the Northeast Florida Coast as **minor to moderate coastal flooding** is expected at or near high tide due to the astronomical tides (King Tides) and **beach erosion** will be possible. **Small Craft Advisories** and **High Surf Advisories** also remain in effect along the Northeast Coast as **seas** of 5-8' and breezy conditions with **large breaking waves** of 6-7' in the surf. **Minor coastal flooding** also cannot be ruled out along South Florida coastlines and the Keys.

Scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms will once again linger along the coasts of South and East Florida and in the Keys overnight tonight (30-50% chance of rain). Low temperatures will fall into the upper 60s across the Florida Panhandle and Northwest Florida, and low to middle 70s through North and Central Florida. South Florida and the Keys can expect low temperature in the middle to upper 70s and low 80s. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** cannot be ruled out overnight and early Saturday morning over recently saturated grounds.



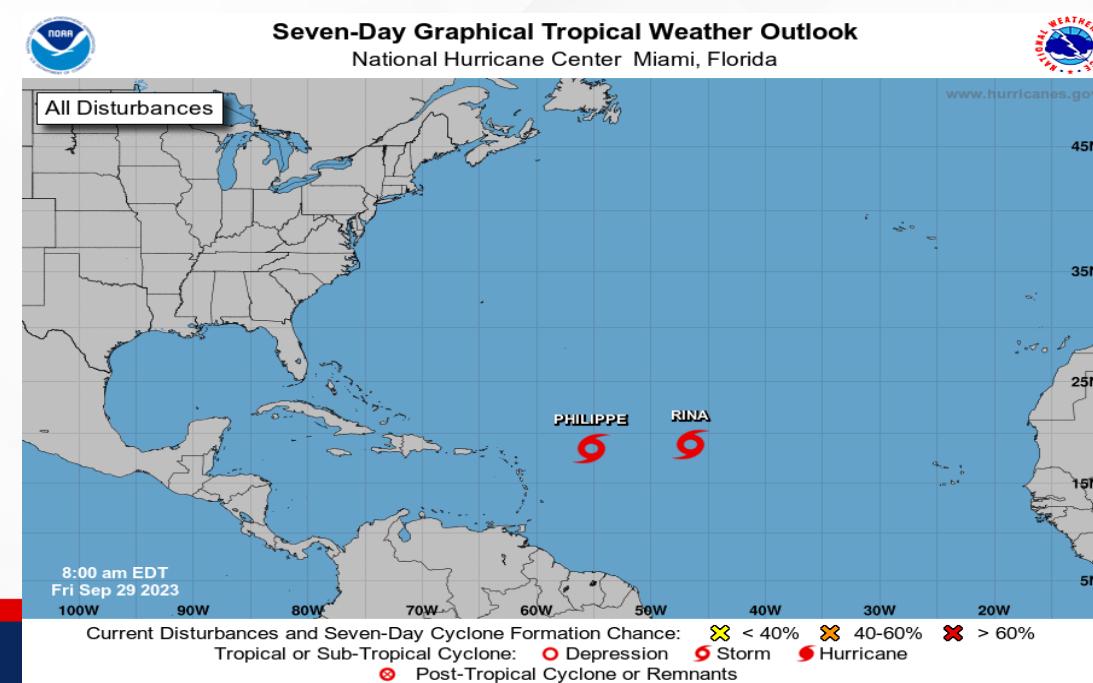
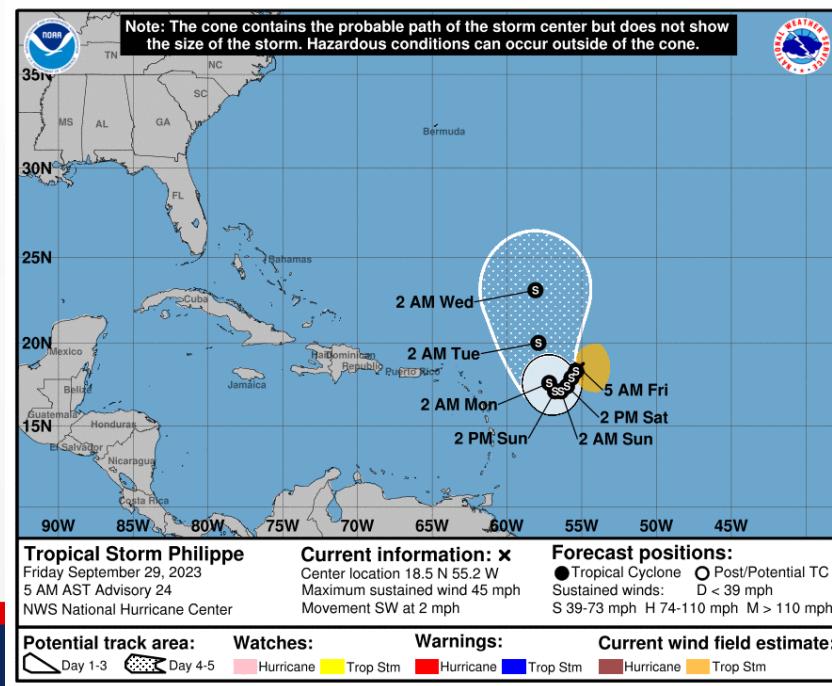


Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

Tropical Storm Philippe: As of 5:00 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Philippe was located about 520 miles east of the Northern Leeward Islands and moving southwestward at 2 mph. This general motion is expected to continue through Saturday night followed by a gradual turn toward the west and northwest Sunday and Sunday night. Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 45 mph with higher gusts. Little change in strength is forecast during the next day or so, but some strengthening is possible over the weekend. *Philippe poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days, at least.*

Tropical Storm Rina: As of 5:00 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Rina was located about 1080 miles east of the Northern Leeward Islands and moving north-northwestward at 5 mph. A northwestward to west-northwestward motion with a slight increase in forward speed is expected for the next few days. Maximum sustained winds have increased to near 45 mph with higher gusts. Slight strengthening is forecast later today, followed by little change in intensity through Saturday. Gradual weakening is forecast to begin Sunday. *Rina poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days, at least.*





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy easterly to northeasterly winds will create a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** along all Panhandle and East Coast beaches. West Coast beaches can expect a low risk for rip currents. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

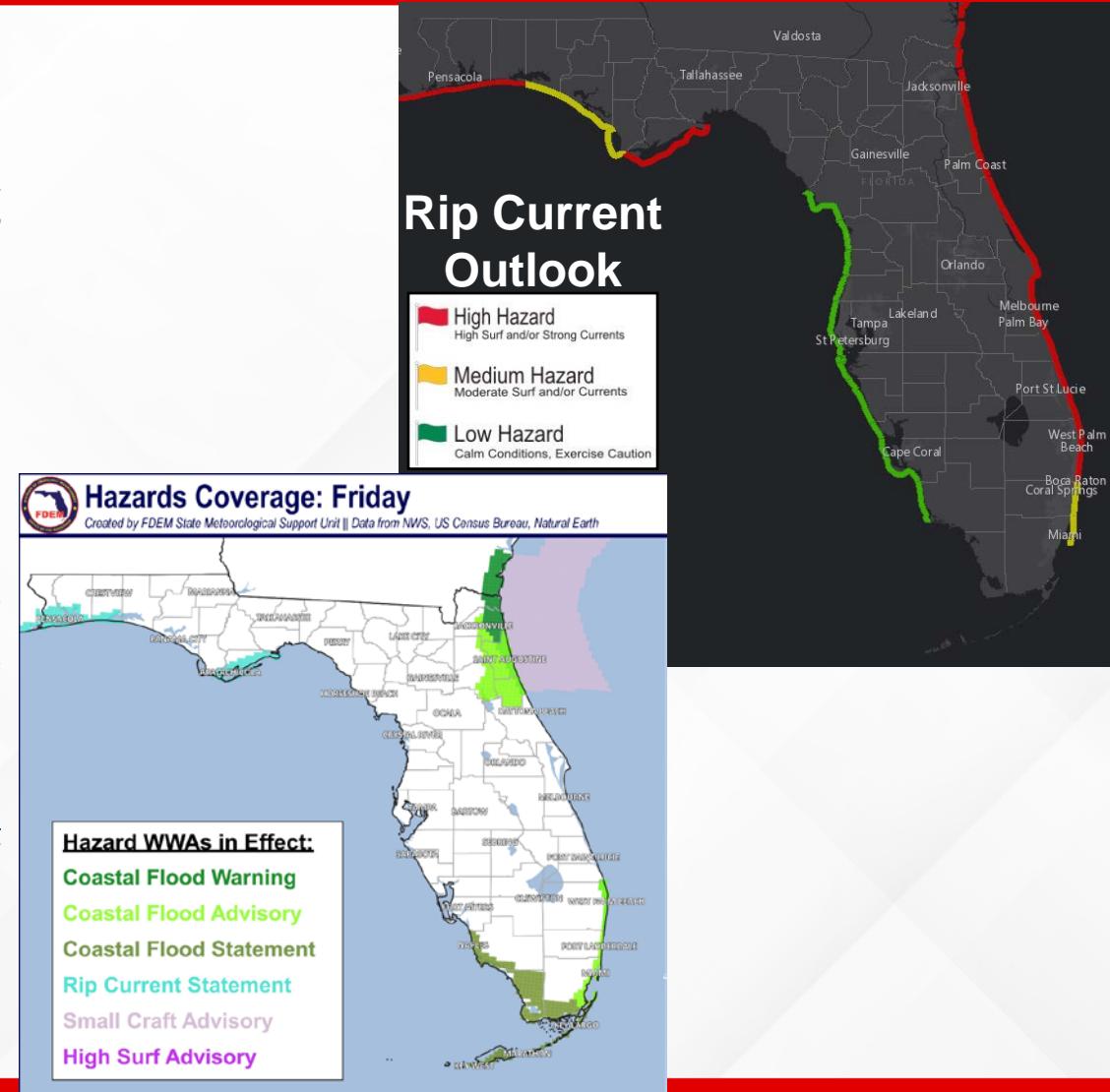
Marine Hazards: Swells from northeasterly to easterly winds will begin to subside today, but hazardous beach and boating conditions will persist. **Small Craft Advisories** and **High Surf Advisories** remain in place along the Northeast Coast as **seas** of 5-8' and breezy conditions are expected with **large breaking waves** of 6-7' in the surf. All other beaches can expect wave heights of 1-3' in the surf. *Shower and thunderstorm activity developing across South Florida could bring locally choppy surf and rough beach conditions.* **Red Tide** has not been observed along any Florida coastline.

Coastal Flooding: A **Coastal Flood Warning** remains in effect along the Northeast Florida Coast as **minor to moderate coastal flooding** is expected at or near high tide due to the astronomical tides (King Tides) and **beach erosion** will be possible. **Coastal Flood Advisories** are in place along Northeast and Southeast Florida with **Coastal Flood Statements** in Southwest Florida and the Keys as **minor coastal flooding** cannot be ruled out. Additional rainfall over these areas may lead to instances of localized flooding as rainfall struggles to runoff along coastal areas.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across South and Central Florida as tropical moisture will once again give way to heavy and intense downpours within shower and thunderstorm activity. An additional 1-3" will be possible across the Peninsula, with **locally higher totals** of 3-5" possible along portions of South and East Florida. Saturated grounds and soils may exacerbate **localized flooding** across portions of the Peninsula during additional heavy rainfall today. Heavy and intense downpours may lead to **localized flash flooding** and ponding of water across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas.

Riverine Flooding: Tidal portions of several rivers, streams, creeks, and waterways along Northeast Florida have seen water level rises are expected to meet and exceed **minor flood stage** at or near times of high tide today as elevated wave heights and breezy conditions cause water to back up. A **River Flood Warning** is in effect along the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) as water has backed up in the river, raising water levels into **minor flood stage**. These elevated water levels are likely to continue into early next week. The [Peace River at Arcadia](#) has fallen below minor flood stage and remains within Action Stage (bank-full) but could see water levels rise back into **minor flood stage** in response to recent rainfall. Additional rainfall today will likely create local rises in rivers, creeks, and waters in the Peninsula; however, riverine flooding is not anticipated at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 15.65 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.82 feet above normal for this time of year.



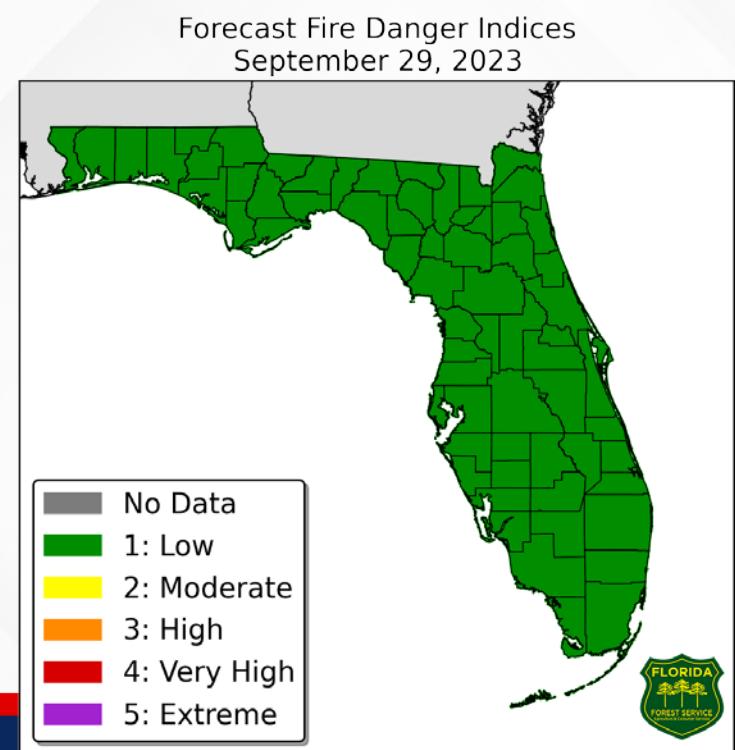
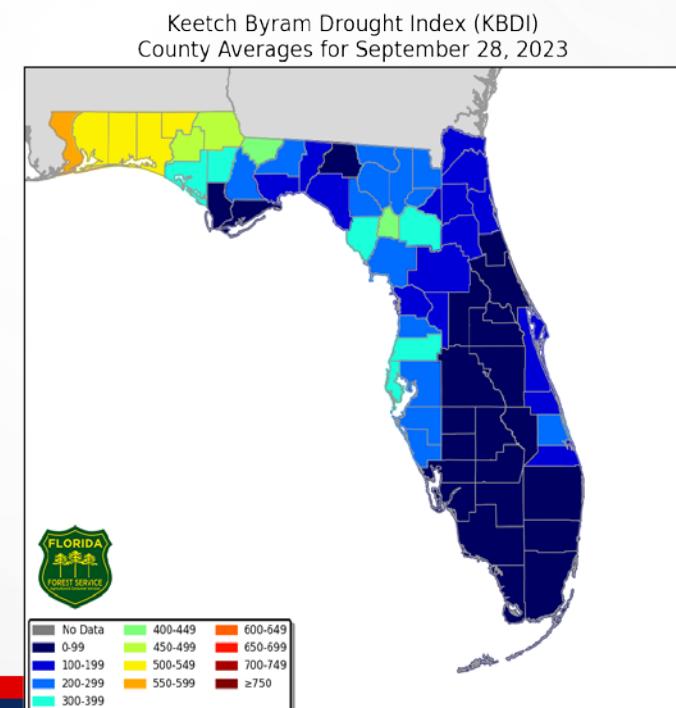
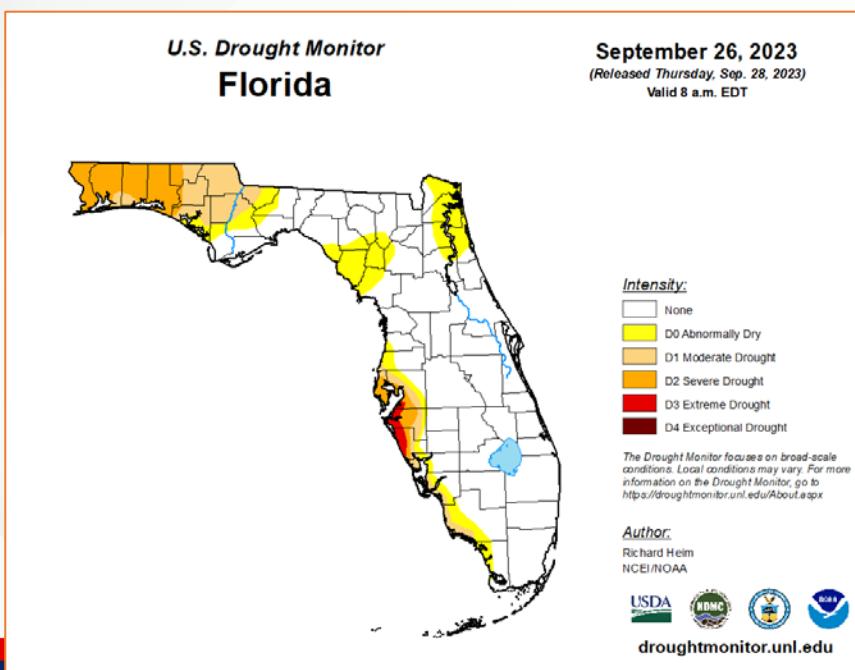


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Tropical moisture continues to surge into the Peninsula bringing another day of numerous showers and thunderstorms and keeping relative humidity values well above critical thresholds across the Peninsula and Big Bend. The Panhandle will see relative humidity values dip into the 30s and 40s at times as high pressure and drier air build in. Breezy conditions can be expected across North Florida today as high pressure to the North pushes up against the frontal boundary over Central Florida. Sustained winds of 10-15 mph with gusts of 15-20 mph can be expected. Along the Northeastern Peninsula, **wind gusts** may reach upwards of **25-30 mph**. *Thunderstorms may be capable of producing frequent lightning and gusty winds.*

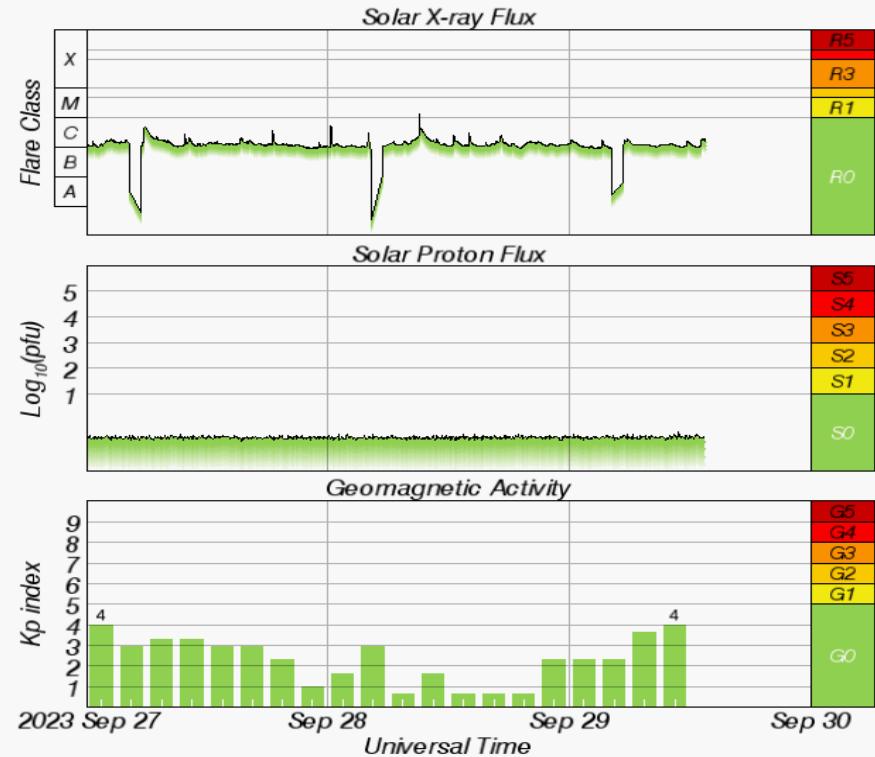
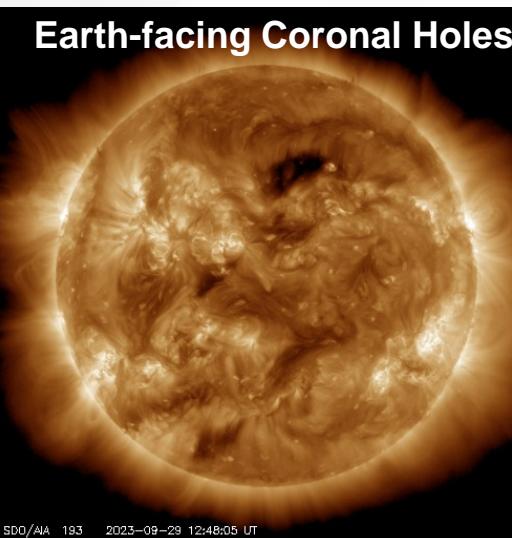
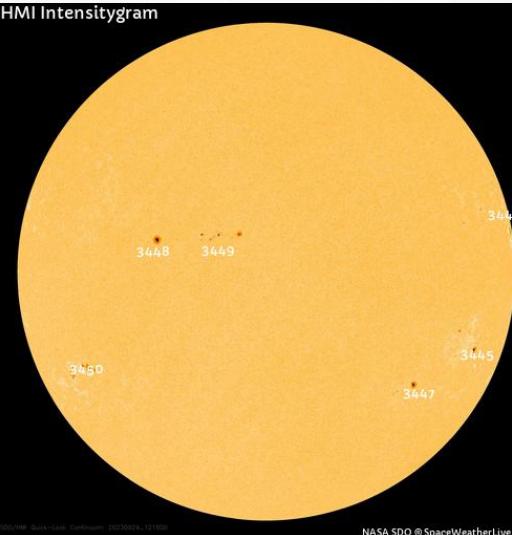
Drought: Despite widespread rainfall across portions of the state, drought conditions continue in the Florida Panhandle and Western Peninsula. **Moderate to severe drought** conditions are now noted along the Panhandle and into the western Big Bend. **Severe to extreme drought** has been maintained from Pinellas county to Charlotte county, with **Moderate drought** from Pasco county to Collier county. Abnormally Dry conditions expand further outward from these areas and have also been maintained along Northeast Florida and from the Nature Coast into the Suwannee River Valley. Recent rainfall and additional rainfall over the weekend may help to alleviate conditions.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **175 (-9)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **five** Florida counties (Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 30%	Geomagnetic Storm:	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48 Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

9/29	9/30
Max Kp= 2 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be at low levels, with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares through Sunday. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts may accompany stronger solar activity. While solar winds parameters are currently near nominal levels, an enhancement in the solar wind environment is possible Saturday due to glancing influences from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) originating from region #3445 on 9/25. Mostly quiet geomagnetic conditions are expected today. Unsettled to active levels may return Saturday due to glancing influences from the 9/25 CME, with conditions returning to quiet to unsettled levels Sunday. The overall space threat to Florida remains 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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