



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, January 25, 2024



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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Ben Mauro	(850) 566-4904	Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Jay Griffin	(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	Orlando Arindell	(850) 759-6967	Orlando.Arindell@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	NWS Meeting / Training / Office Admin
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Liberty	Region 2 Quarterly Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Office Admin / RC Meeting
Region 4: James Carter	Duval	JEA IPPW / First Coast Disaster Council Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Osceola	EM Meeting / RC Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough, Pasco	RC Meeting / EM Visit
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Polk	HCC Meeting
Region 8: Karen Kozac	St. Lucie	REP Hotwash / RC Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 9 Coverage Provided by RRC 9
Region 10 Coverage Provided by RRC 10

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

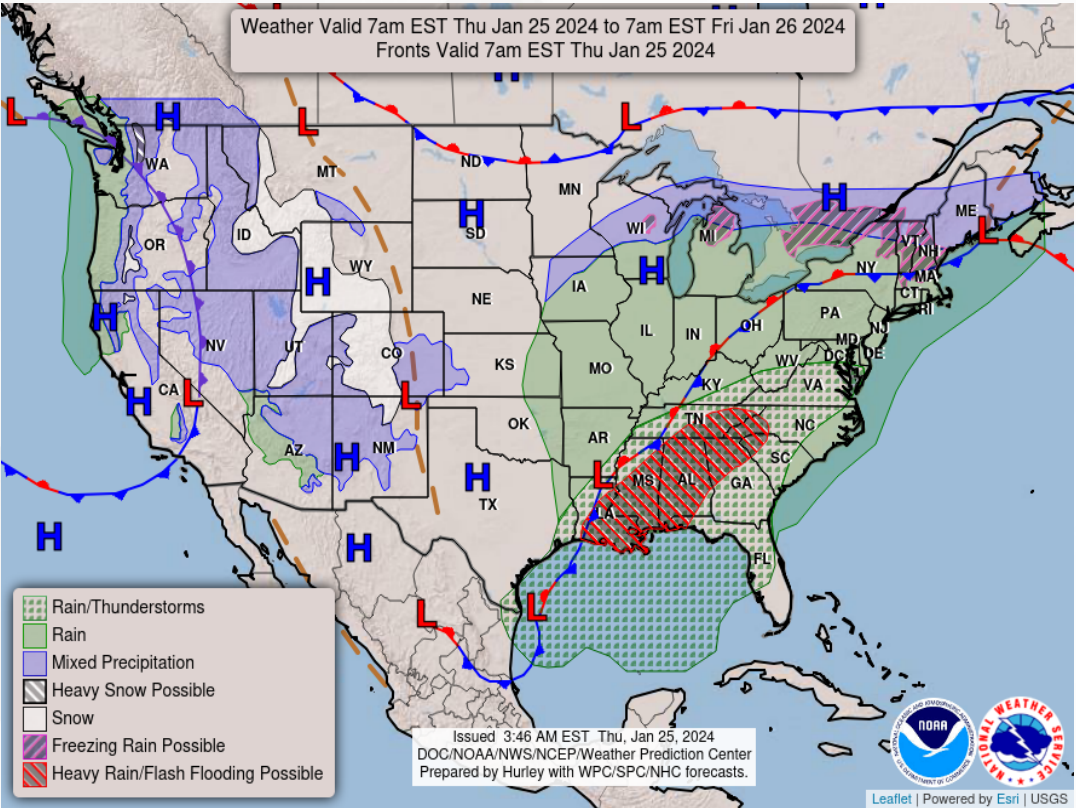
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	County EM Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Liberty	Regional Quarterly Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	Administrative Duties
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	External Stakeholder Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Osceola	EM Partners Meeting
RRCT Manager	Hernando	PA Site Inspections
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	Polk	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Hendry	County EM Meeting
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	External Stakeholder Meeting

Region 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 5 & RRC 10

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

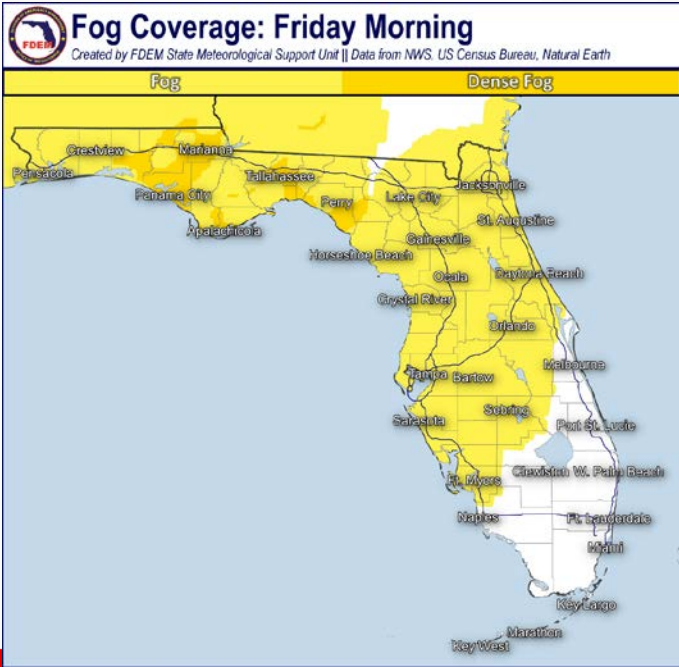
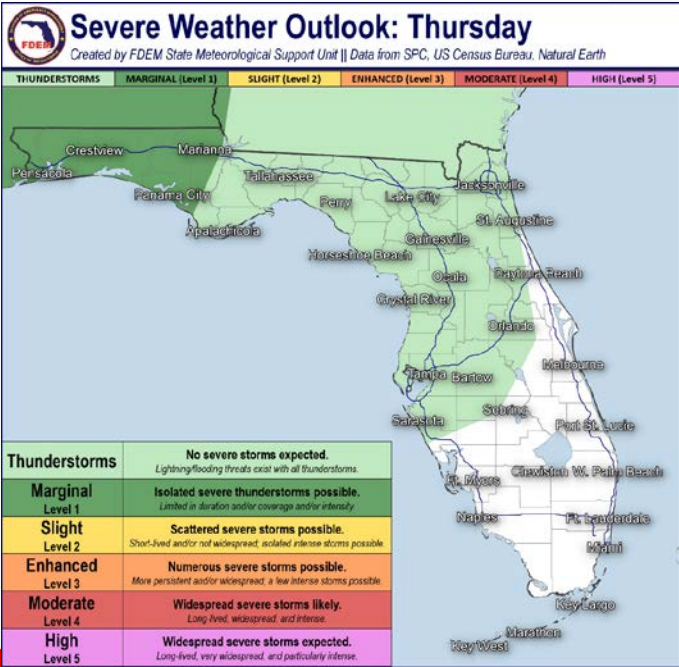


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	M	L	L	L	L	L			
Tornado	L	L								
Damaging Wind	L	L								
Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L								
Fog (Overnight)	H	H	M	M	M	L	M		L	
Freeze (Overnight)										
River Flooding			L							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	16.25 ft. (1.56 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	52 (+8) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

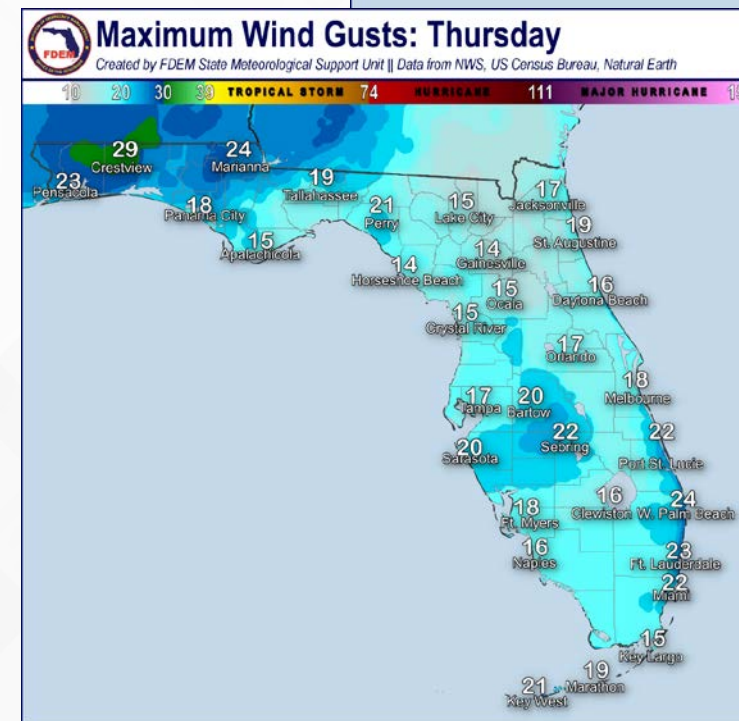
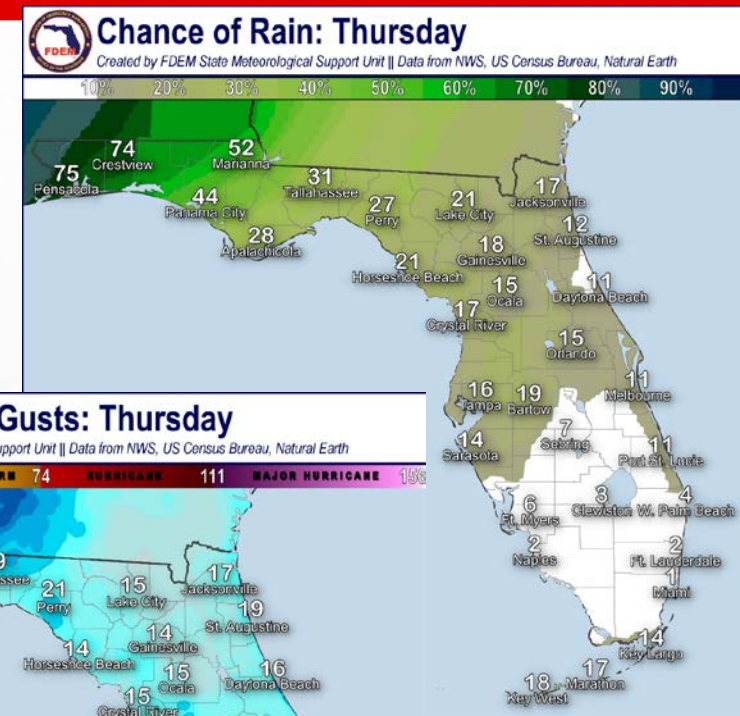
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A warm and moist air mass will continue to push into the state and over winter-chilled Gulf waters, bringing an increased potential for **sea fog** over the next few days. **Dense Fog Advisories** are in effect over nearshore and coastal waters along the Panhandle, Northeast Coast, and West-Central Florida until Friday morning as **dense sea fog** reduces visibilities to **less than 1 NM** over the water and immediate coastlines.

A cold front entering the Southeast U.S. will drift eastward along the northern Gulf Coast today, continuing to push a line of showers and thunderstorms into the Panhandle and Western Big Bend today (45-75% chance of rain) and tonight (45-70% chance of rain). The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Severe Weather** along the Panhandle and Western Big Bend today as **a few strong to severe thunderstorms** producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (45-65 mph), a brief tornado or two, and heavy downpours will be possible. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** in the Western Panhandle with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** along the Eastern Panhandle as training showers and thunderstorms producing heavy downpours may give way to **localized instances of flooding** and **ponding of water**, especially over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. The rest of the state will remain on the periphery of an area of high pressure over the western Atlantic, allowing for isolated to widely scattered showers throughout the day and overnight (5-30% chance of rain).

Breezy **wind gusts of around 15-25 mph** can continue to be expected across much of the state today with **higher gusts of up to 30 mph** along the Panhandle. Warm to very warm high temperatures will persist this afternoon with middle to upper 70s along the Florida Panhandle and upper 70s to middle 80s elsewhere across the state.

Some **patchy to dense fog** will likely move inland at times, especially tonight and early Friday morning, notably reducing visibilities across Apalachee Bay, the immediate Florida Panhandle coast, along the I-95 corridor in Northeast Florida, and along the Gulf Coast. **Patchy to locally dense inland fog** will also be possible across North Florida and the Western Peninsula. Low temperatures will remain in the low to middle 60s across North and Central Florida and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected across all Panhandle and East Coast beaches due to onshore winds and elevated wave heights. A low risk for rip currents can be expected along West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

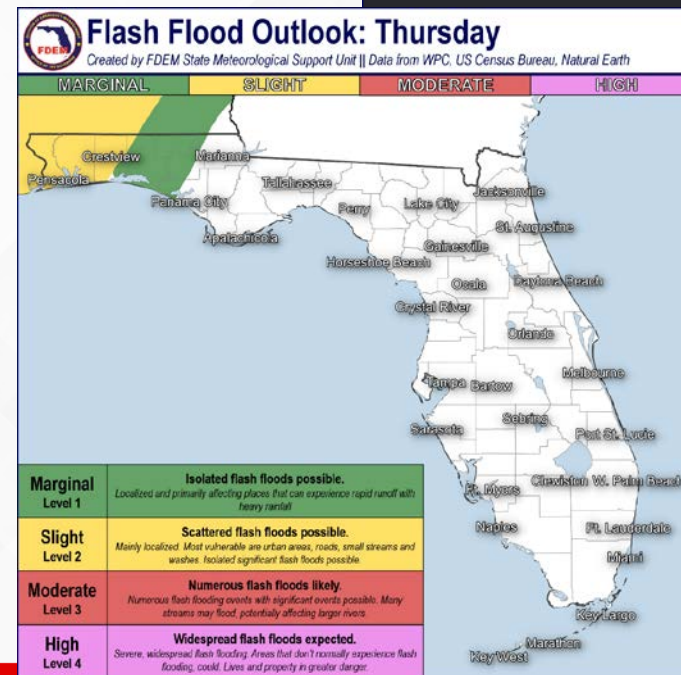
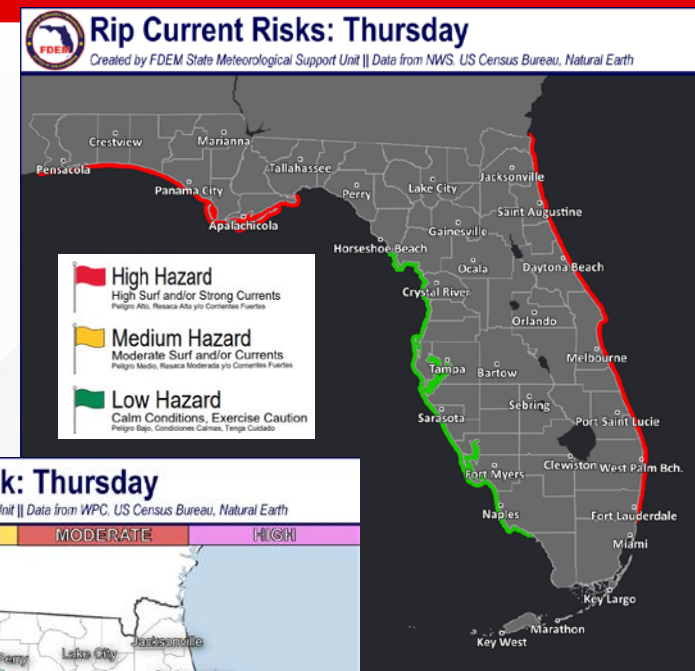
Marine Hazards: While there are no longer high surf advisories in effect along the Panhandle, **wave heights** of 3-5' can still be expected this afternoon. Big Bend and West Coast beaches can expect wave heights near 1-3' throughout the day. Along the East Coast and Keys, onshore winds will allow for **wave heights** of 3-5' along the coastline. **Red Tide** has not been observed above background levels over the past week.

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4)** for **Flash Flooding** along the Western Panhandle with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into the Eastern Panhandle. Scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms will continue to develop today, bringing widespread heavy rainfall. Onshore winds will continue to pull moisture northward from the Gulf of Mexico allowing for several rounds of heavy rainfall within shower and thunderstorm activity. Rainfall totals of 1-2" will be possible within heavy showers, and **locally higher totals** upwards of 3" cannot be ruled out along the western Panhandle coastline. Multiple and training showers moving inland off the Gulf of Mexico will allow for coastal areas to see multiple rounds of rainfall, leading to **localized flooding** and ponding of water at times. Already saturated grounds, urban areas, and low-lying/poor drainage areas cannot rule out **localized flash flooding** within heavy rainfall.

Riverine Flooding: The **River Flood Warning** remains in effect for the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) as the river is forecast to remain within **minor flood stage** through the rest of the workweek. All other Florida rivers, creeks and waterways are below flood state. While heavy rainfall is anticipated along the western Panhandle, water levels should be low enough to handle anticipated rainfall but rises within local waterways may be possible. There are no additional river flood concerns today. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 16.25 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.56 feet above normal for this time of year.



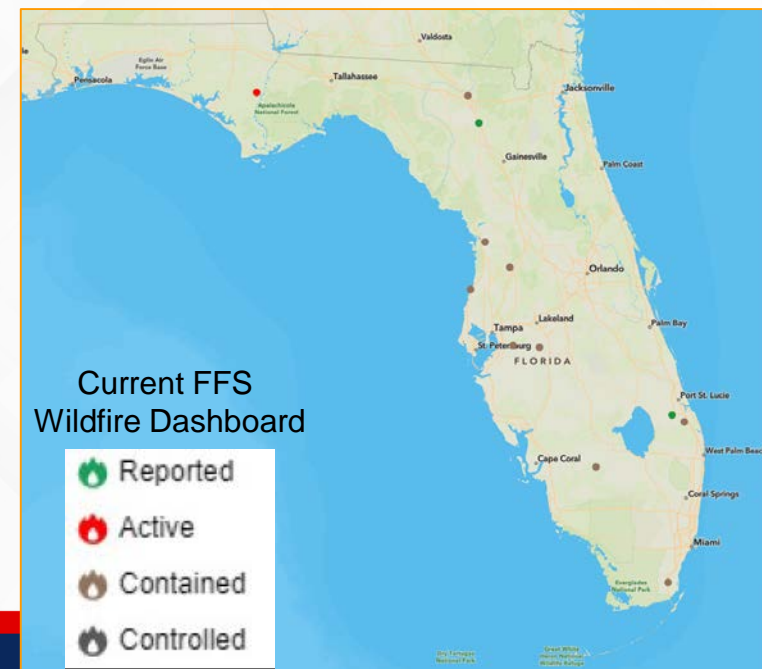
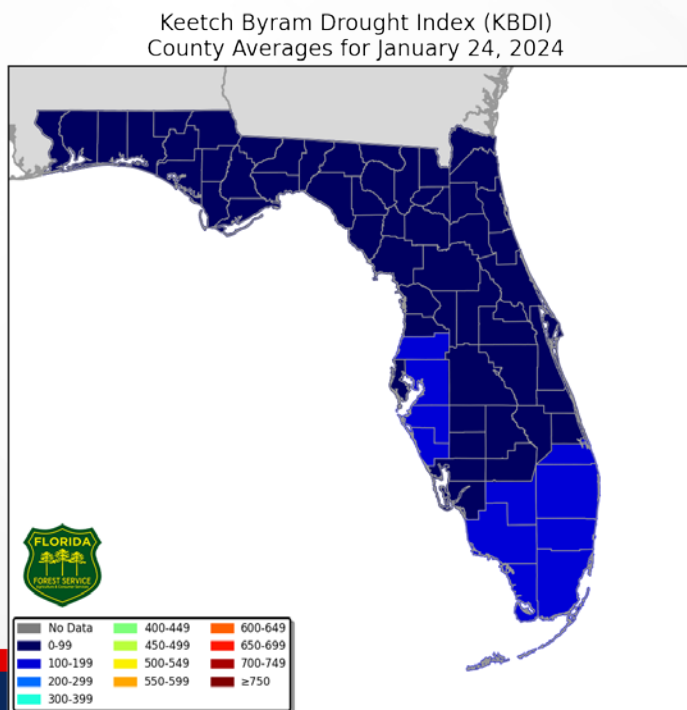
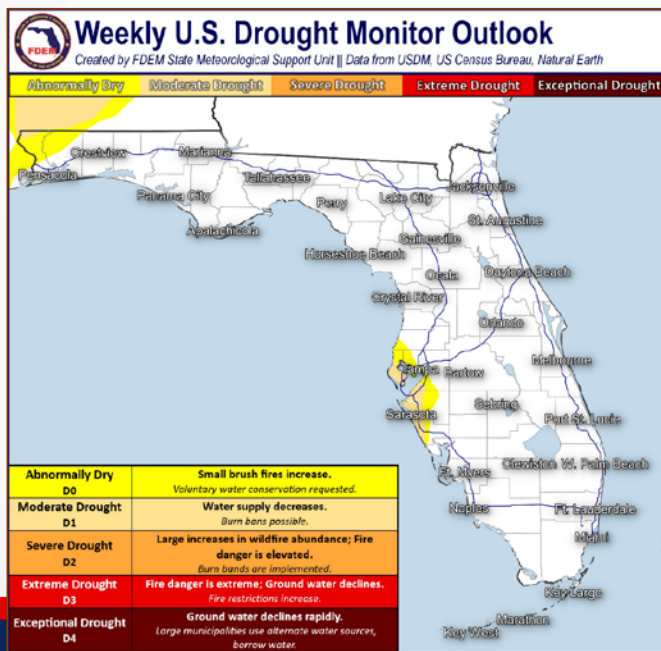


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Southeasterly winds across the state will continue to provide moisture to keep relative humidity values well above critical thresholds. A more active weather pattern will continue to take shape today across the Panhandle with scattered to numerous showers and a few thunderstorms. Southeasterly winds near 10-15 mph can be expected throughout the daytime hours, with **wind gusts upwards of 15-25 mph** along the Peninsula and **up to 20-30 mph** along the Florida Panhandle. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** and **low clouds** are expected to develop overnight and early Friday morning along the Panhandle, Northeast Florida, and West-Central Florida, with areas of **dense fog** along the coastlines and over nearshore waters. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 12 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 425 acres.

Drought: Little to no changes have been made on this week's drought monitor update due to only isolated showers in southern and eastern Florida over the past week. Temperatures were below normal for all areas outside of South Florida, helping to prevent an increase in drought conditions. Abnormally dry to **moderate drought** conditions still remain along the Tampa Bay region from Pasco to Sarasota county. Abnormally dry to **moderate drought** conditions also persist along the Western Panhandle. Additional weather systems bringing multiple rounds of rainfall over the next few days will work to limit further drought expansion.

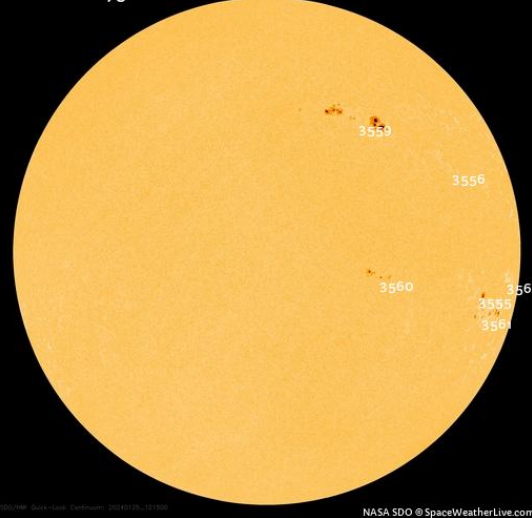
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **52 (+8)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **zero** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





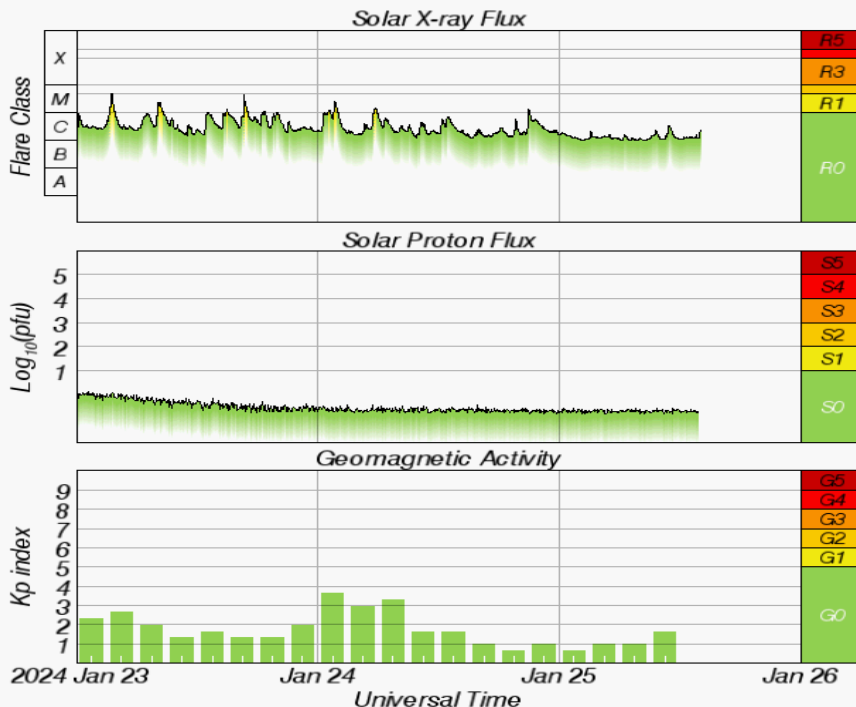
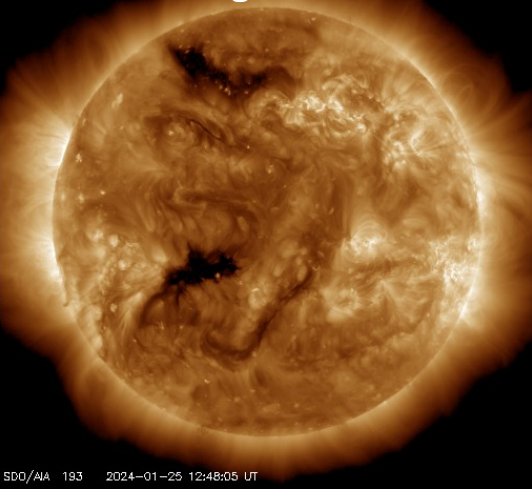
Space Weather

HMI Intensitygram



Current Sunspots

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be moderate with strong (M-class) solar flares likely and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares through Jan. 26. Elevated solar activity is due to active sunspots #3559 and #3561 and their solar flare potential. Sunspot #3561 has been a hyperactive sunspot and produced several M-class eruptions, and its continued activity could lead to minor (S1) solar radiation storms through Jan. 27. The solar wind environment will see periodic enhancements due to the possibility of multiple Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs). These CMEs are either aimed towards the Earth or will provide a glancing blow to the Earth's geomagnetic field over the next few days, with the greatest chance over Jan 25-27. Periods of minor (G1) geomagnetic storms are likely with a chance for isolated moderate (G2) storms due to the potential for several CMEs over the next couple of days. A Minor (G1) Geomagnetic Storm Watch remains in place through Saturday. The space threat to Florida is low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: G1 Watch – 1/25-27	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
1/25	1/26
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%



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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