



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, January 26, 2024



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	Amy.Godsey@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	Jackson	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Office Admin/Vehicle Maintenance
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Dixie	EM Visit
Region 4: James Carter	Duval	Office Admin
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Gasparilla Planning
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Highlands	EM Visit
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 5 Coverage Provided by RRC 5
Region 8 Coverage Provided by RC 7
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

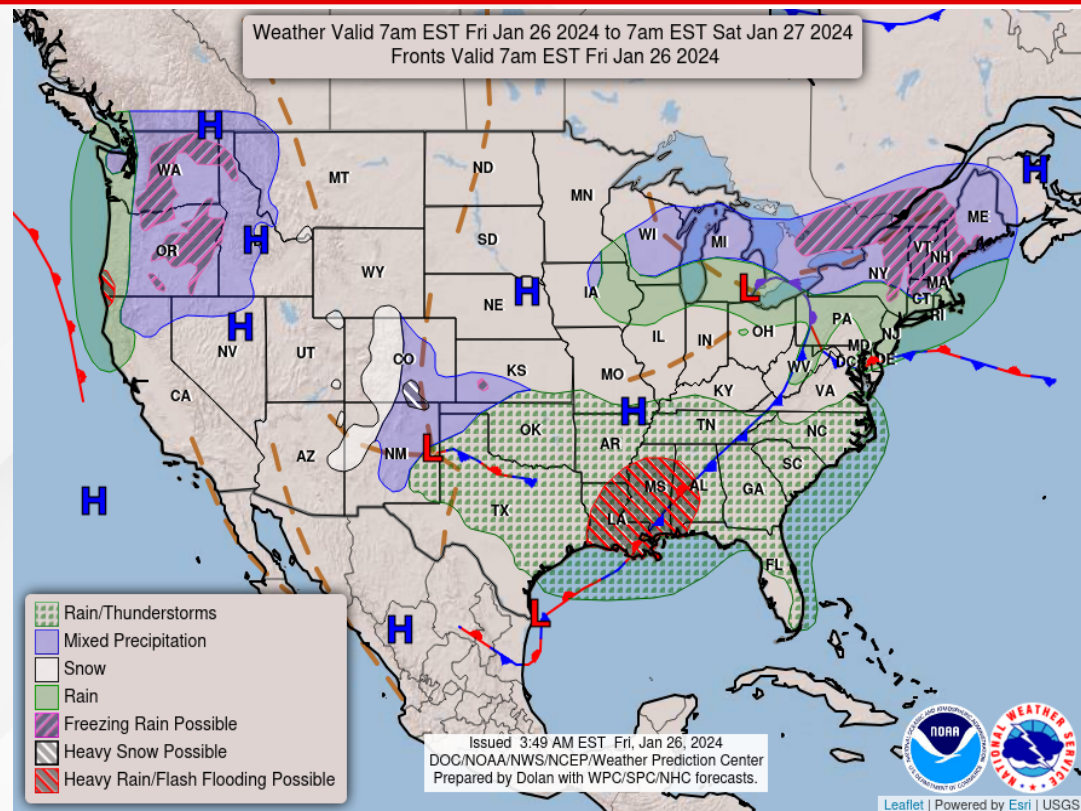
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	Administrative Duties
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	North FL Tornado Event Follow-Up/Administrative Duties
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	Administrative Duties
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Out of Region	Leave
RRCT Manager	Citrus	EM Partners Meeting
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	Okeechobee	County EM Visit
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Glades	County EM Visit
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Vehicle Maintenance

Region 5 Coverage Provided by RRC 7
Region 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 10

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



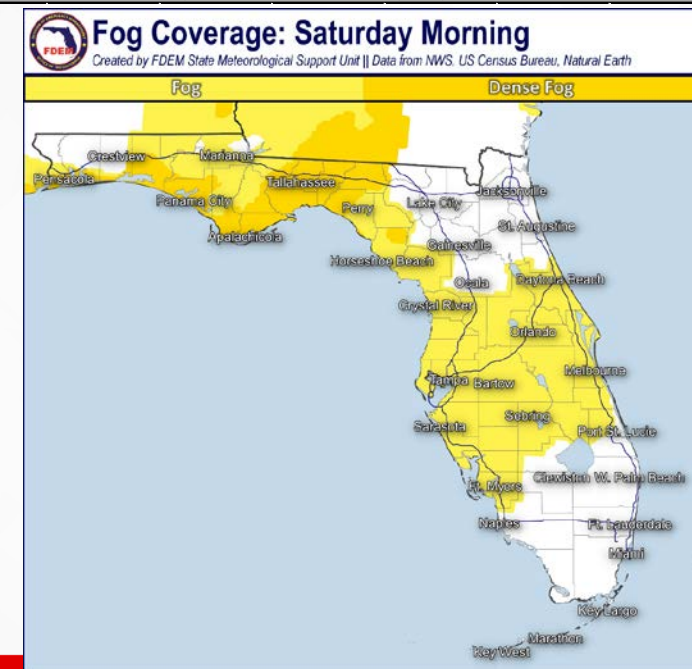
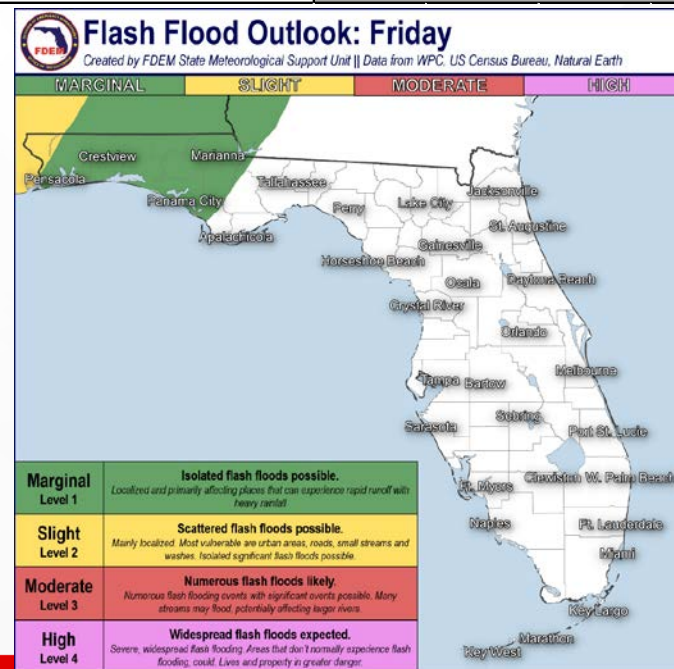
Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Locally 2-3" of Rainfall – Florida Panhandle

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	L	L	L	L					
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L								
Fog (Overnight)	H	M	H	M	M	L	L		L	
Freeze (Overnight)										
River Flooding			L							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	16.26 ft. (1.57 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	60 (+8) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





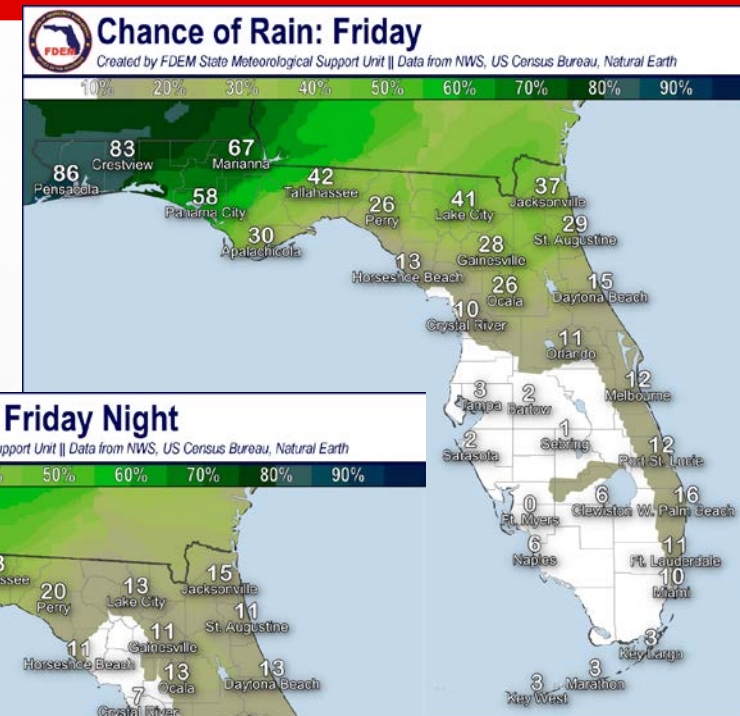
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Patchy to locally dense sea fog that has moved inland across North and West-Central Florida this morning will gradually shift back over coastal waters after sunrise where it will generally remain throughout the day. An area of low pressure is forecast to develop over Louisiana tonight, pulling a cold front across the Florida Panhandle Saturday night into Sunday morning and through the Peninsula Sunday and Sunday night. Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms will persist across the Florida Panhandle ahead of the system today and tonight (45-85% chance of rain). The Weather Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** today along the far Western Panhandle with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** across the entire Panhandle as showers and thunderstorms producing heavy downpours may give way to **localized instances of flooding** and **ponding of water**, especially over already saturated, urban, and low-lying/poor drainage areas. While there is no organized risk for severe weather, an **isolated strong to severe thunderstorm or two** cannot be ruled out in the Western Panhandle.

Warm to very warm above normal temperatures will persist across the state today with high temperatures in the low to middle 70s across the Florida Panhandle and in the upper 70s to middle 80s elsewhere. Winds will remain lighter today around 5-10 mph, gusting up to 10-20 mph at times today.

Low temperatures will remain in the 60s to low 70s statewide tonight. Some **patchy to locally dense fog** will likely move inland again overnight tonight, notably reducing visibilities across Apalachee Bay, the immediate Panhandle coast, along the I-95 corridor in Northeast Florida, and along the Gulf Coast. **Patchy to locally dense inland fog** and **low clouds** will also be possible across North Florida and the Western Peninsula. **Dense Fog Advisories** cannot be ruled out early Saturday morning.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected to persist across all Panhandle beaches with a **moderate to high risk** along East Coast beaches. A low risk for rip currents can be expected along West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

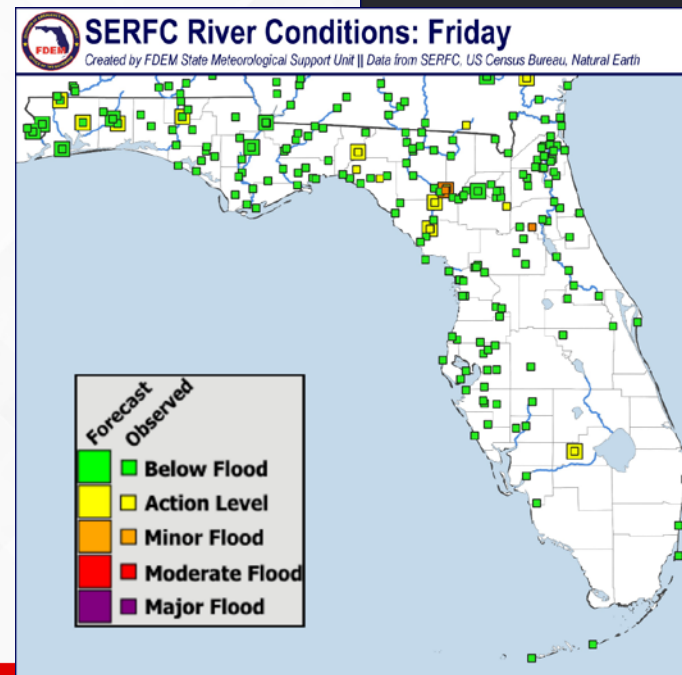
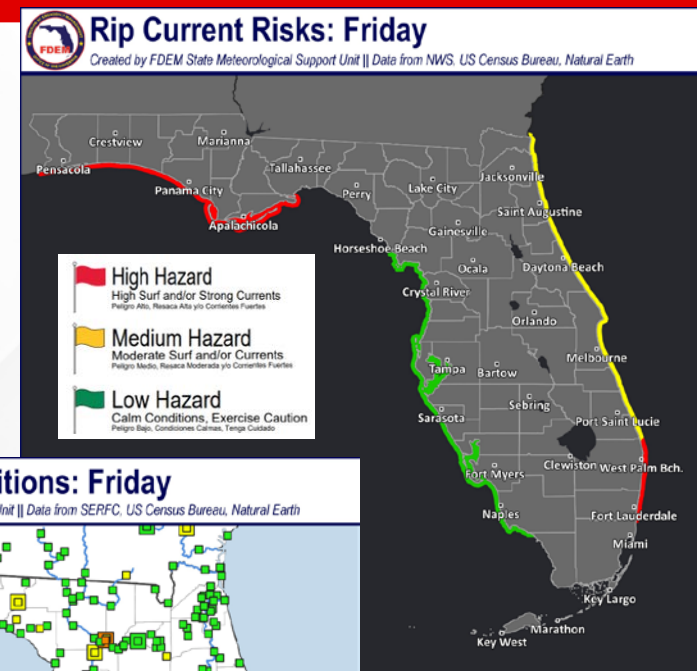
Marine Hazards: Wave heights of around 2-3' can be expected along Panhandle and Florida Atlantic Coast beaches this afternoon with locally higher 4' waves possible along the East Coast. Wave heights will remain near 1-2' elsewhere. [Red Tide](#) has not been observed above background levels over the 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 far Western Panhandle with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending across the 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" are expected within heavy showers, and **locally higher totals** of 2-3" possible. 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: A **River Flood Warning** remains in effect for the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) as the river remains within **minor flood stage** and is forecast to return to Action Stage (bank-full) Saturday. All other Florida rivers, creeks and waterways are below flood stage. While heavy rainfall is anticipated along the 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 16.26 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.57 feet above normal for this time of year.



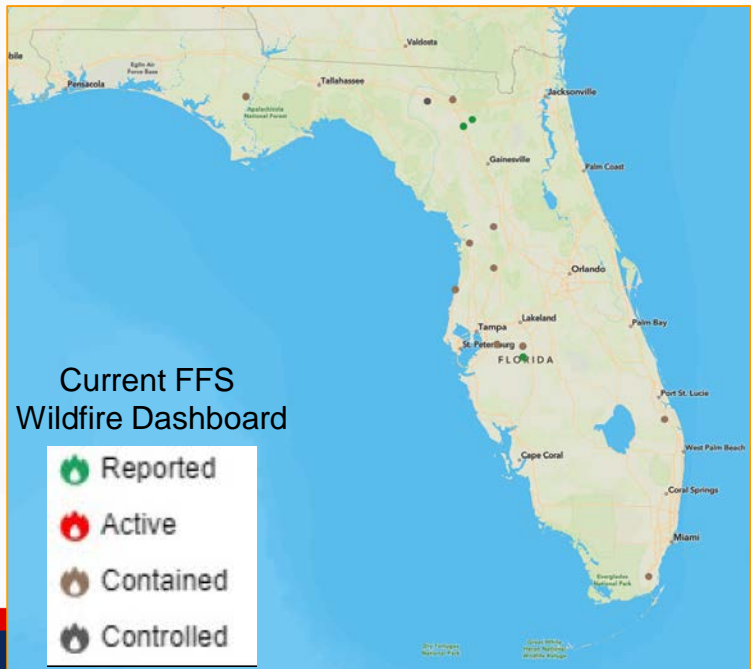
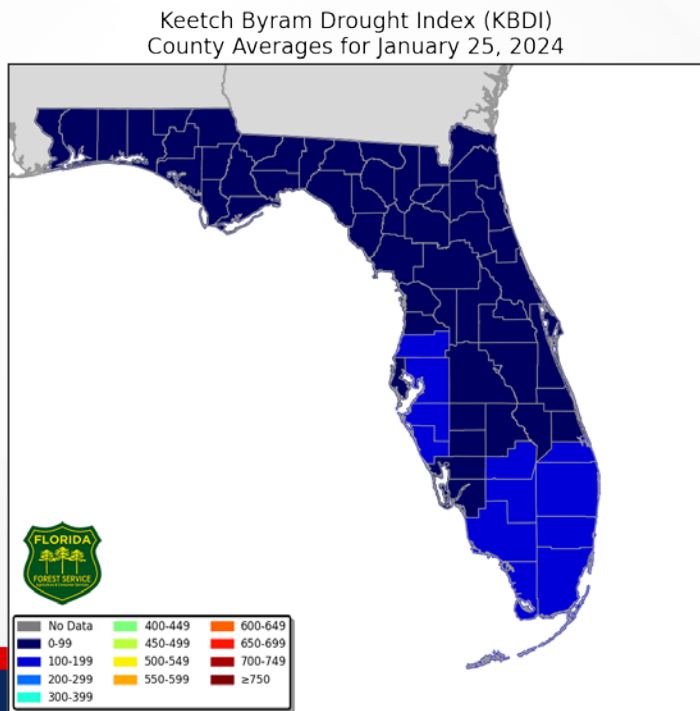
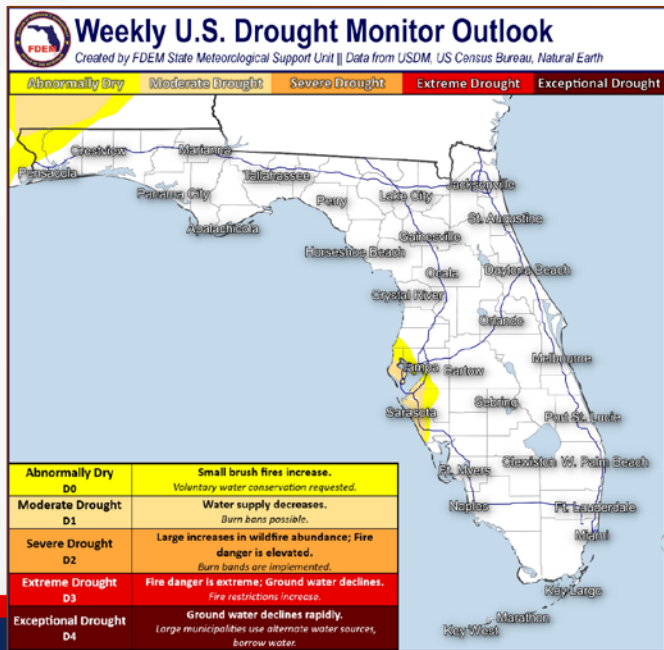


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Relative humidity values continue to remain well above critical thresholds this afternoon. A more active weather pattern will continue across the Panhandle with scattered to numerous showers and a few thunderstorms this afternoon and evening. Sustained winds near 5-10 mph can be expected throughout the daytime hours, with **wind gusts up to 10-20 mph**. Lighter winds will lead to low dispersions across portions of the state. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** and **low clouds** are expected to develop overnight and early Saturday morning along North and Central, with areas of **dense fog** along the coastlines and over nearshore waters. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 14 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 440 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.

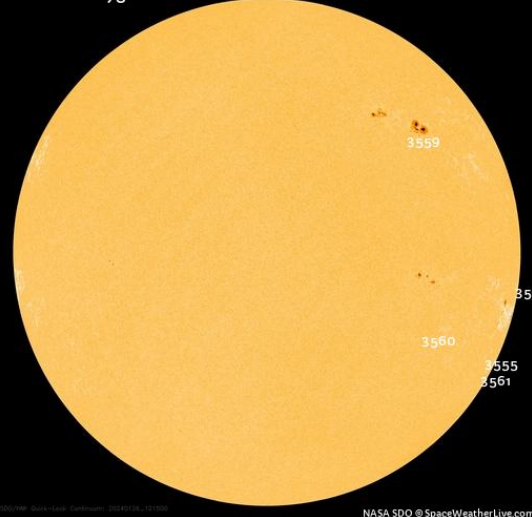
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **60 (+8)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **zero** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather

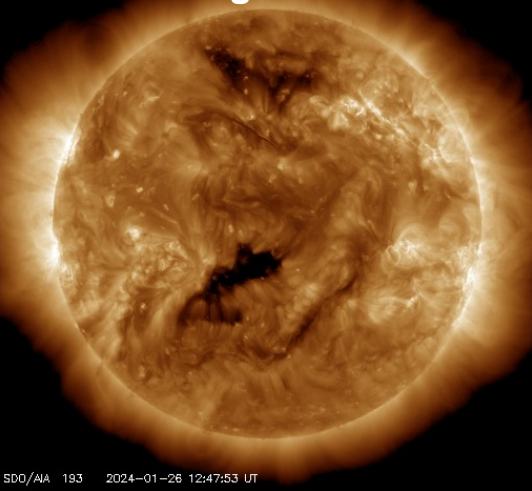
HMI Intensitygram



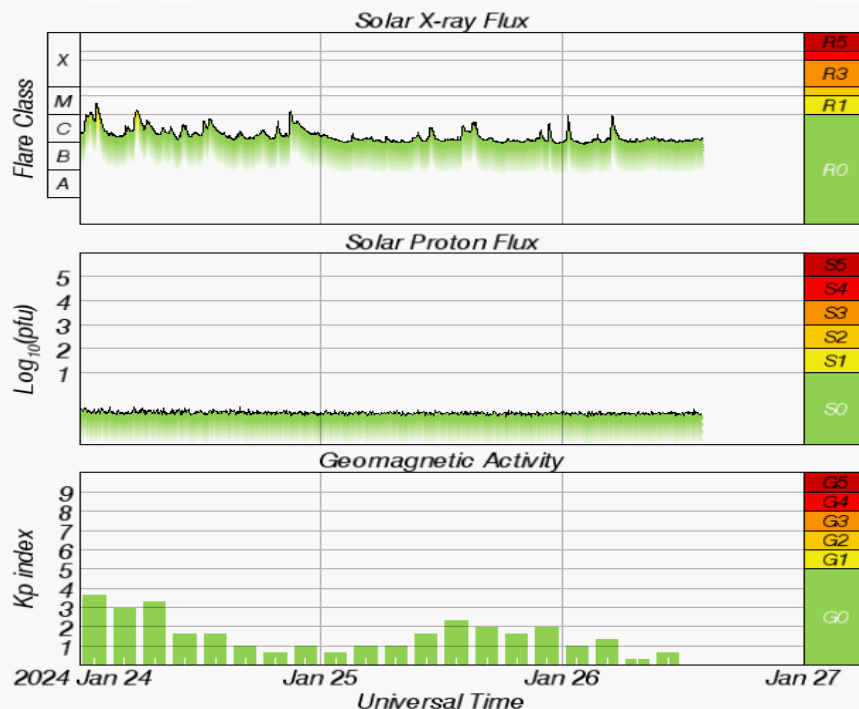
NASA SDO @ SpaceWeatherLive.com

Current Sunspots

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



SDO/AIA 193 2024-01-26 12:47:53 UT



Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be low levels with a decreasing chance for strong (M-class) solar flares and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares as active sunspots #3559 and #3561 decay and rotate westward. 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 likely see periodic enhancements through Jan. 28 due to the possibility of impacts from multiple Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) that left the Sun Jan. 22 through Jan. 23. Periods of minor (G1) geomagnetic storms are likely with a chance for isolated moderate (G2) storms through Jan. 27 due to the potential impacts of several nearby passing CMEs. A Minor (G1) Geomagnetic Storm Watch remains in place through Saturday. Active geomagnetic conditions are expected Sunday with waning CME effects. The space threat to Florida is low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 45%	Geomagnetic Storm: G1 Watch – 1/25-27	C8 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
1/26	1/27
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%



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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