



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Saturday, January 27, 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 | In Region | On-Call Status |
| Region 2: Willie Bouie | In Region | On-Call Status |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers | In Region | On-Call Status |
| Region 4: James Carter | In Region | On-Call Status |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly | Out of Service | Leave (See Coverage) |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall | Hillsborough | Gasparilla Parade |
| Region 7: Cristian Rivera | Hillsborough | Gasparilla Parade |
| 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

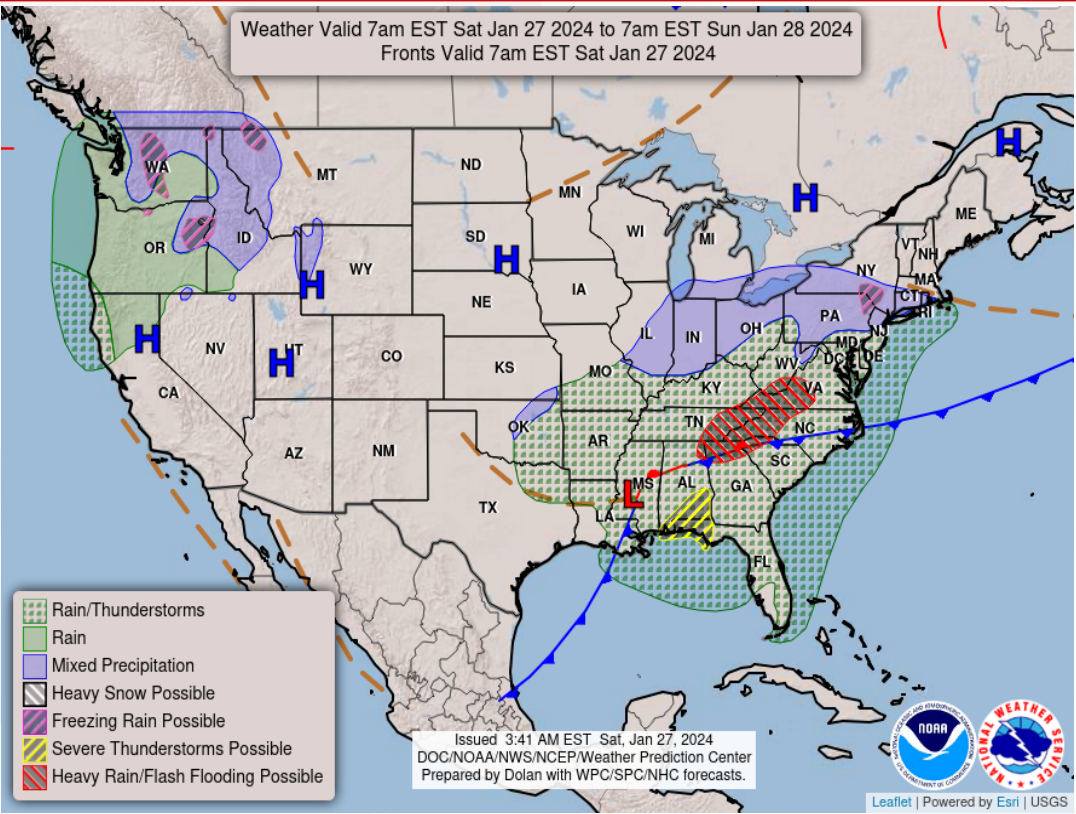
| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 3: Patrick James | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 5: Elizabeth Caison | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| RRCT Manager | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell | In Region | Off & Monitoring |
| Region 7: Grant Goodwin | In Region | On-Call Coverage for Region 7 |
| Region 8: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 9: Kathryn Thompson | In Region | On-Call Coverage for Region 9 |
| Region 10: Dana McGeehan | In Region | On-Call Coverage for Region 9 |

Region 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 5 & 10

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

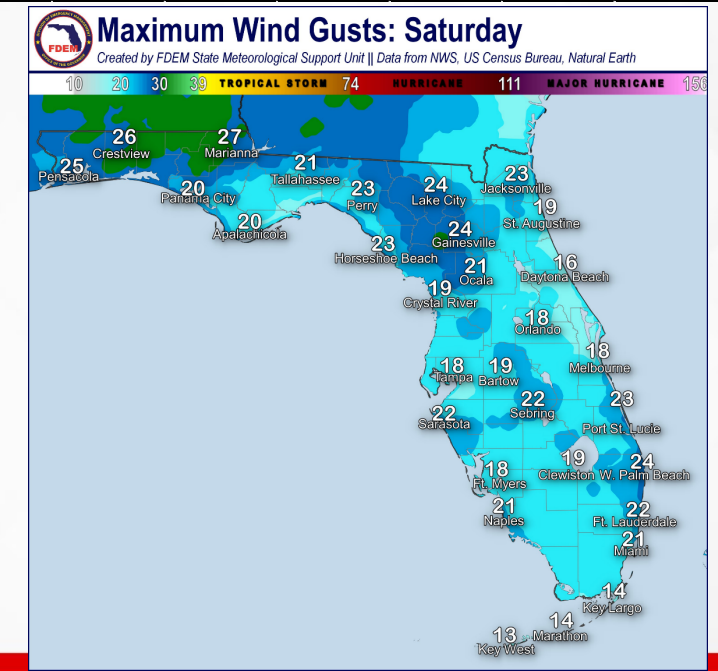
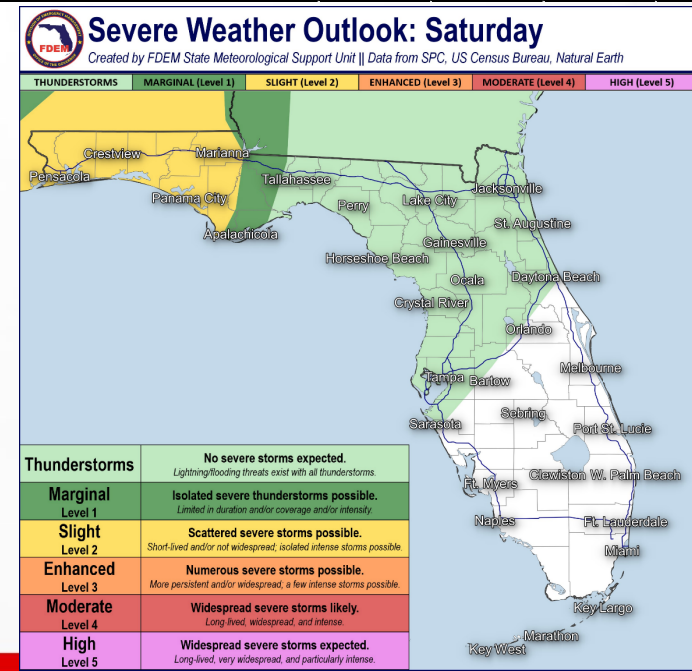


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|-----------------------------|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning | M | M | L | L | | L | | | | |
| Tornado | M | M | | | | | | | | |
| Damaging Wind | M | M | | | | | | | | |
| Hail | | | | | | | | | | |
| Flash Flooding | L | | | | | | | | | |
| Fog (Overnight) | | | L | L | L | M | M | L | M | L |
| Freeze (Overnight) | | | | | | | | | | |
| River Flooding | | | L | | | | | | | |
| Rip Currents | H | H | L | M | M | L | | M | L | H |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation: | 16.28 ft. (1.59 ft. Above Normal) | | | | | | | | | |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index: | 63 (+3) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) | | | | | | | | | |





Meteorology Summary

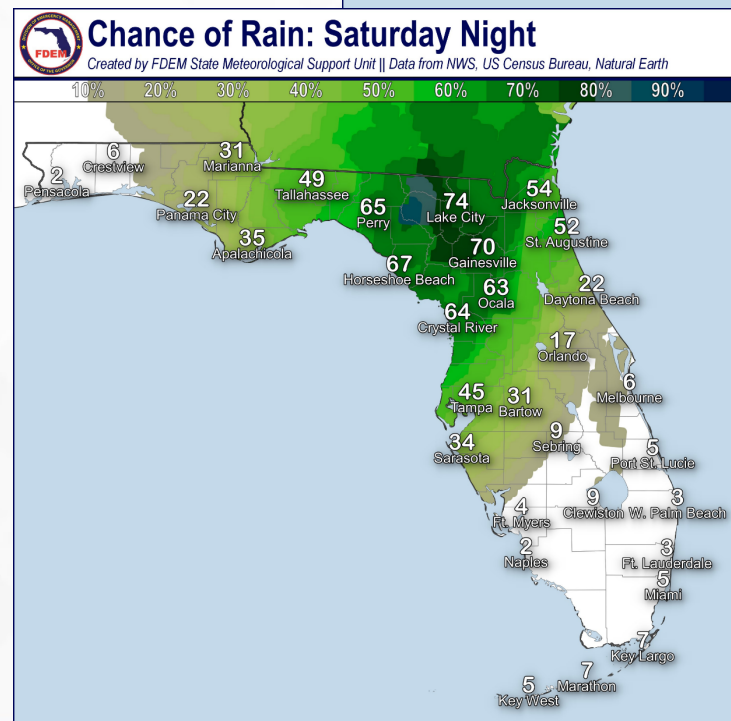
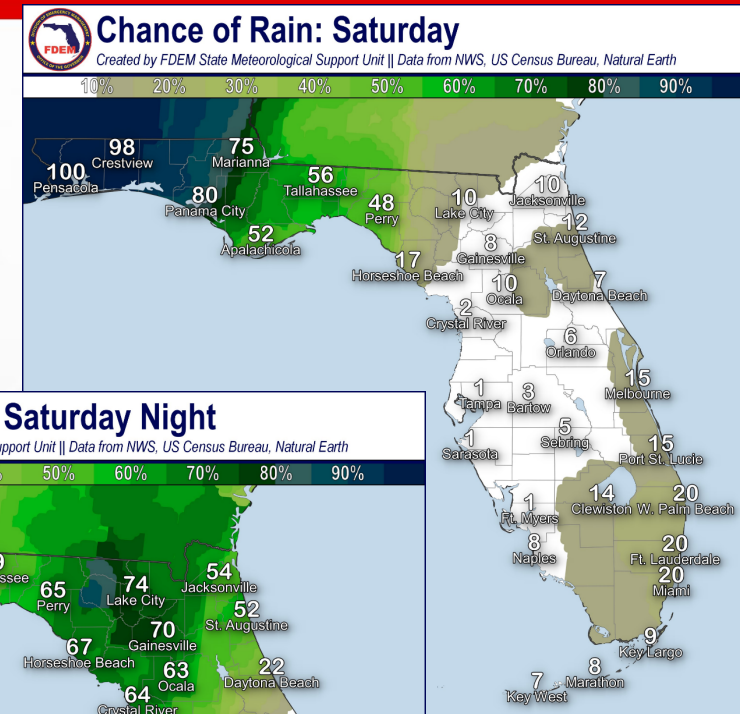
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog Advisories are in effect this morning across portions of the Northern Peninsula and Big Bend as fog lingering over coastal waters moved inland overnight and has **reduced visibility to less than 1 mile** in some areas, creating hazardous driving conditions. I-10 from the Western Big Bend to Jacksonville, I-95 north of Jacksonville, and I-75 from the Florida-Georgia line to just south of Gainesville are included under these **Dense Fog Advisories**. **Areas of fog** will gradually decrease through the mid-morning hours, lingering along the coastline and coastal Gulf waters through the afternoon.

An area of low pressure that has developed over Louisiana will pull a cold front across the Florida Panhandle tonight and through the Peninsula Sunday. Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms will persist across the Florida Panhandle today as the cold front approaches (50-100% chance of rain), shifting into the Northern Peninsula with the cold front tonight (45-75% chance of rain). The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather** along the Panhandle today with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** along the Western Big Bend as **a few strong to severe thunderstorms** producing damaging winds gusts (45-65 mph), a brief tornado or two, heavy downpours, and frequent lightning may be possible. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the far Northwestern Panhandle as additional rainfall over already saturated grounds in the Panhandle could give way to isolated instances of **localized flooding** and **ponding of water**. High pressure maintaining a weak hold over the Peninsula will continue to promote relatively dry conditions across the rest of the state this afternoon and overnight (5-30% chance of rain). The Panhandle will begin to dry out overnight as a seasonably cool and dry air mass moves in behind the front (5-30% chance of rain).

Warm to very warm above normal temperatures will persist for one more day across the state with high temperatures in the low to middle 70s across the Florida Panhandle and in the upper 70s to middle 80s elsewhere. **Breezy conditions** will begin to develop along and behind the cold front in the Panhandle and Northwestern Peninsula today with **wind gusts of 20-30 mph**. The Peninsula can expect slightly weaker **wind gusts** of around 15-25 mph to develop ahead of the cold front today.

Low temperatures will fall into the middle 40s to low 50s across the Florida Panhandle tonight with low to middle 60s in the Northern Peninsula, middle 60s across Central Florida, and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys. Some **patchy to locally dense fog** will likely move inland again overnight tonight across Apalachee Bay, the immediate Panhandle coast, along the I-95 corridor in Northeast Florida, and along West-Central Florida. **Areas of fog** that develop along the Panhandle and Northwestern Peninsula overnight will likely be short-lived as the cold front will bring in drier air and breezy winds overnight.





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.

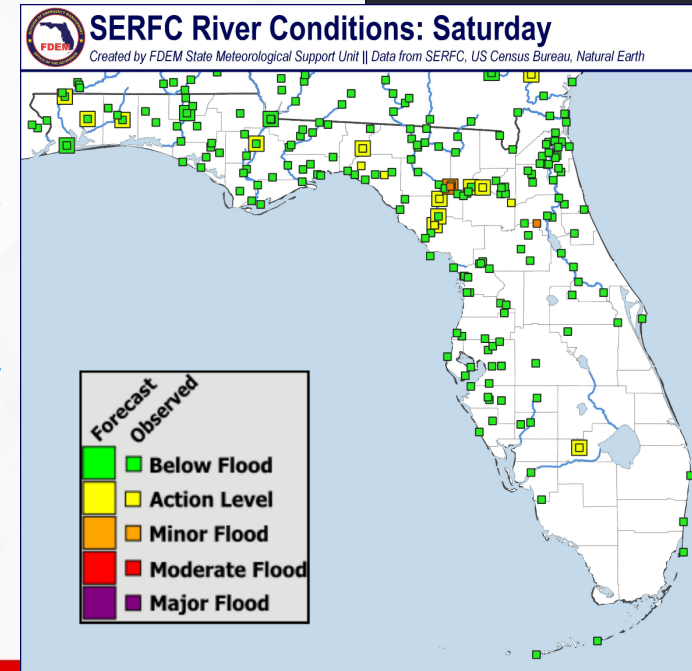
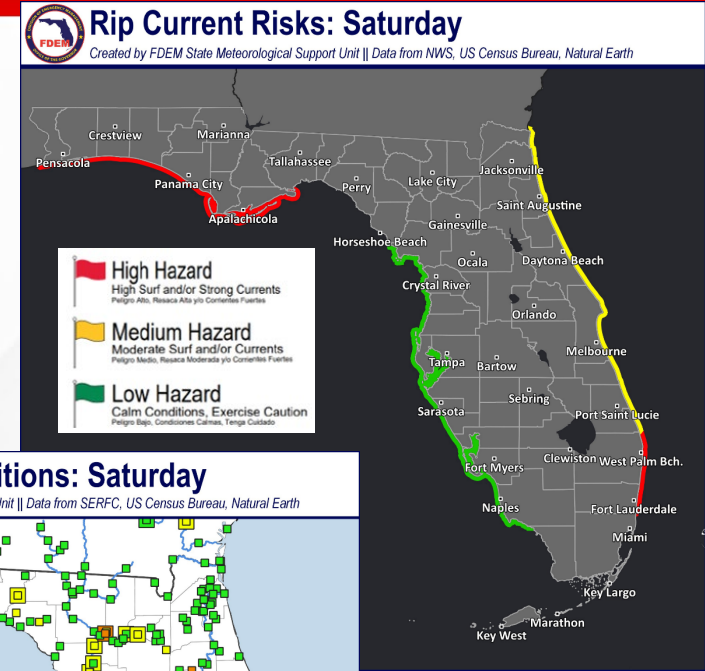
Marine Hazards: **Wave heights** of around 3-5' can be expected along Panhandle and Atlantic Coast beaches this afternoon as breezy winds begin to develop. Wave heights will remain near 1-2' elsewhere with locally 3' waves possible along the Atlantic-facing Keys. **Red Tide** has been observed at background concentrations in one sample from Pinellas County over the past week.

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

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the far Northwestern Panhandle. Additional rainfall from scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms over already saturated grounds in the Panhandle could give way to isolated instances of **localized flooding** and **ponding of water**. Widespread rainfall totals of around 1-2" are expected along the Florida Panhandle. **Locally higher totals** of up to 2-3" cannot be ruled out in the event of training showers and thunderstorms.

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) today. 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 16.28 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.59 feet above normal for this time of year.



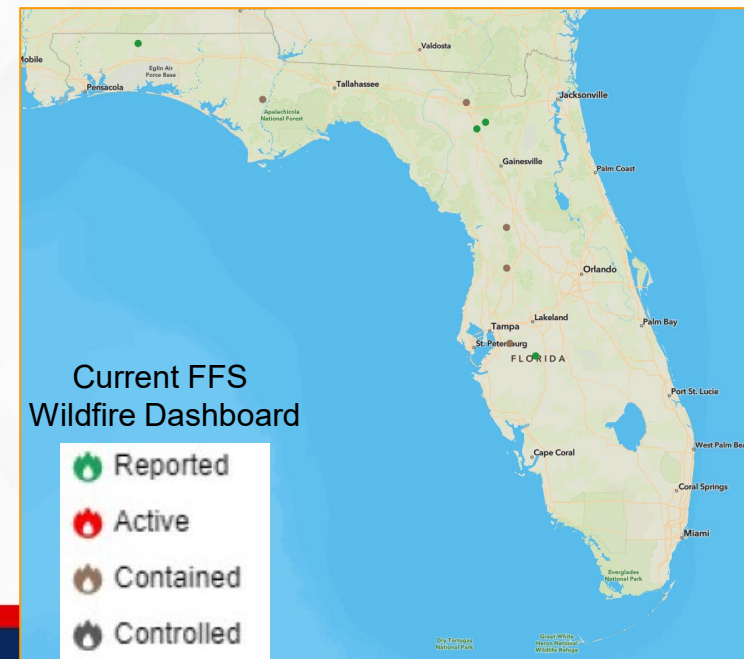
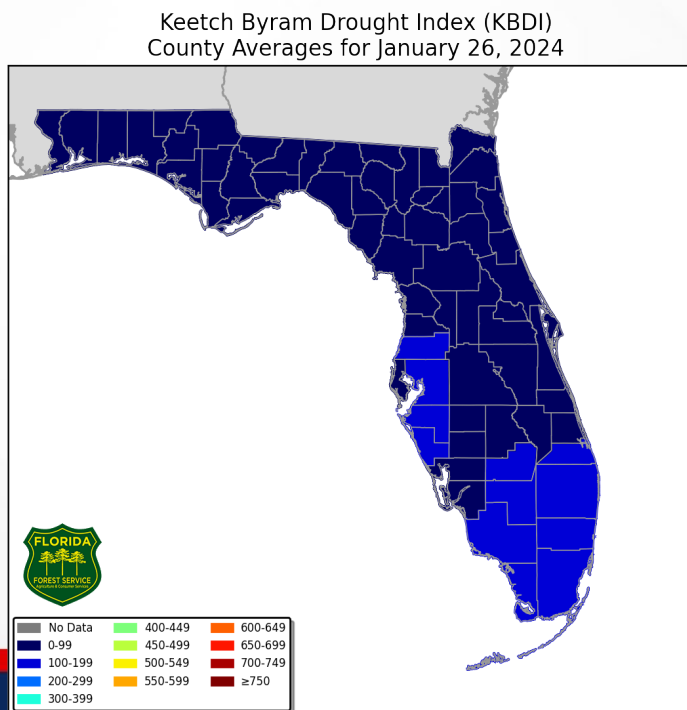
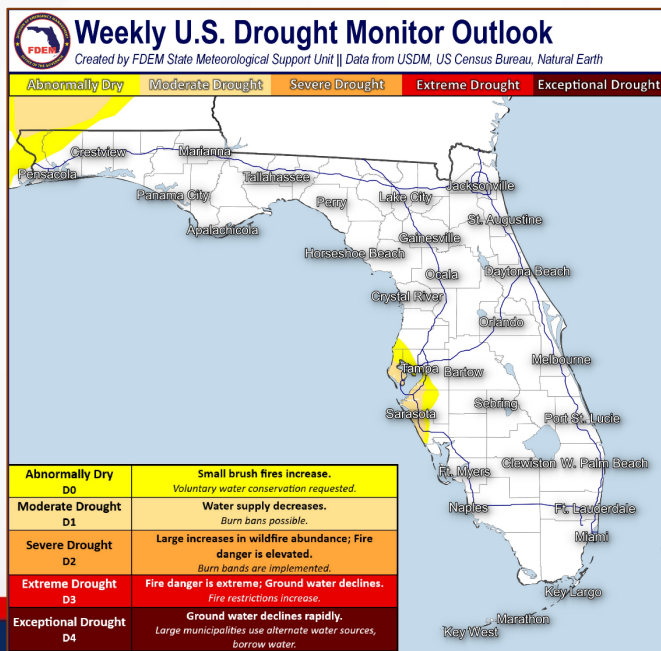


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Relative humidity values will continue to remain well above critical thresholds this afternoon as a warm and moist air mass remains in place this afternoon. A more active weather pattern will continue across the Panhandle with scattered to numerous showers and a few thunderstorms this afternoon, shifting eastward into the Northern Peninsula tonight. Sustained winds near 10-15 mph can be expected throughout the daytime hours with **wind gusts up to 20-25 mph** in the Peninsula and **up to 30 mph** along the Florida Panhandle and Northwestern Peninsula. Areas of **patchy to dense fog** and **low clouds** have developed this morning and are expected to develop again overnight and early Sunday morning along the Western Peninsula, with areas of **dense fog** along the coastlines and over nearshore waters. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 9 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 376 acres.

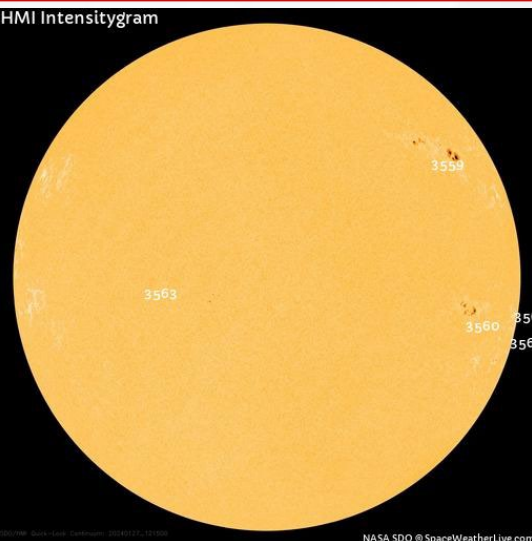
Drought: Little to no changes have been made on this week's drought monitor update due to only isolated showers in southern and eastern Florida over the past week. Temperatures were below normal for all areas outside of South Florida, helping to prevent an increase in drought conditions. Abnormally dry 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 **63 (+3)** 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).

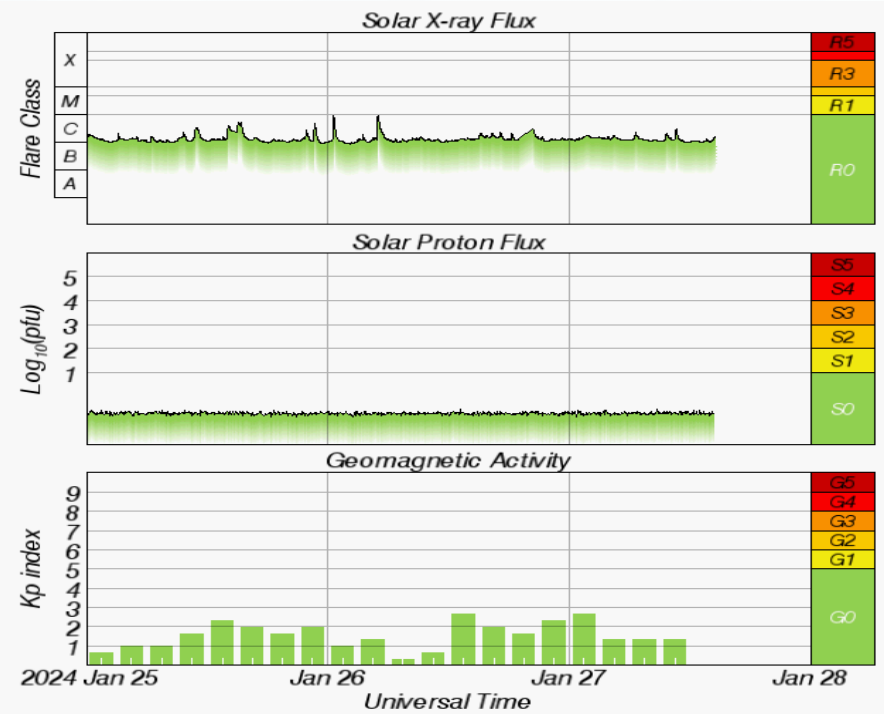
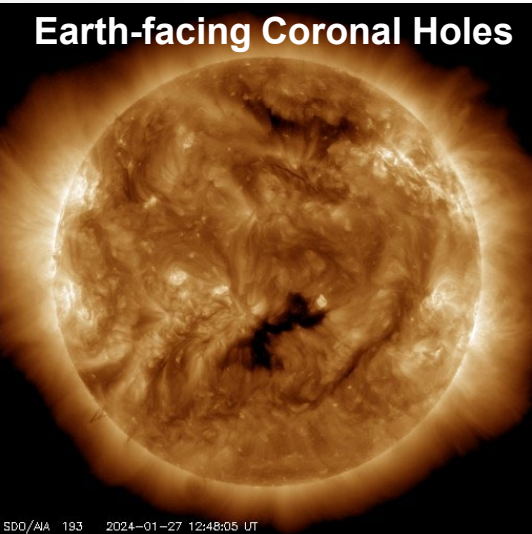




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



| Solar Flare Risk | Active Watches & Warnings | Past 24 hours |
|------------------|--|--------------------|
| M-class: 45% | Geomagnetic Storm: G1 Watch – 1/25-27 | C3 Solar Flare |
| X-class: 10% | Radiation Storm: None | No Radio Blackouts |

| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast | |
|--|---|
| 1/27 | 1/28 |
| Max Kp= 3 (G0) | Max Kp= 3 (G0) |
| Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1% | Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1% |

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be low levels with a decreasing chance for strong (M-class) solar flares over the next few days. Hyperactive sunspot #3561 is now exhausted and all current sunspots have relatively stable magnetic fields. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts still cannot be ruled out in the event of stronger flare activity today. The solar wind environment is forecast to see an enhancement beginning late Sunday through Monday in response to Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) effects. Mostly quiet geomagnetic conditions can be expected today with quiet to unsettled conditions returning over the next day or so due to possible influences from the CH HSS. The space threat to Florida is 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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