



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Monday, March 25, 2024



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Zachary Remante	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Cassi Farestvedt	(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	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@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	Brandon Gore	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Marnie Villanueva	(850)-591-9544	Marnie.Villanueva@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	Office Admin
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Jefferson, Leon	EM Visit / Region 2 RDSTF TTX Initial Planning Mtg
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Madison	EM Visit / Region 2 RDSTF TTX Initial Planning Mtg
Region 4: James Carter	Indian River	L-101 Course
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Support Operations / Executive Director Support
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Orange	Support Operations
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Indian River	L-101 Course
Region 8: Karen Kozac	St. Lucie	Office Admin
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Office Admin



Region 7/9 Coverage Provided by RRC 9

Region 4 Coverage Provided by RRC 3

RC Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

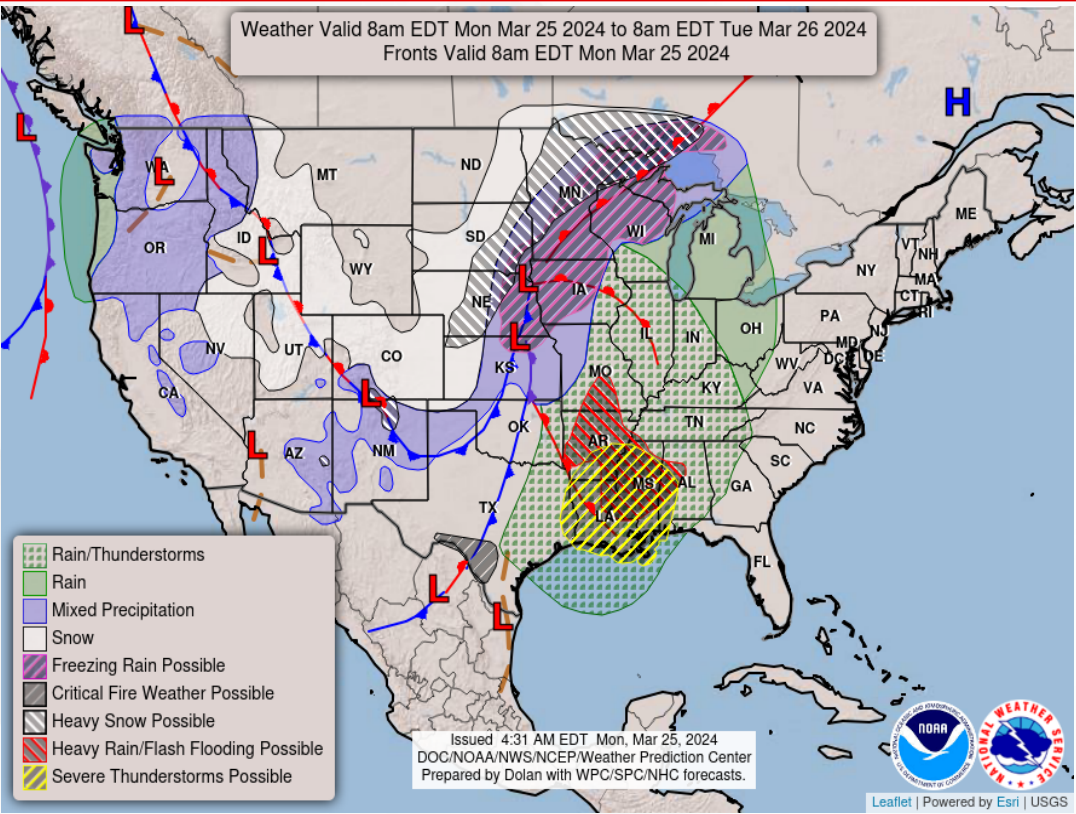
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	Idalia HMGP Meeting / Instruction Preparation
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	Idalia HMGP / County EM Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Madison	LMS Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	St. Lucie	L-101 Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	National Hurricane Conference
RRCT Manager	Orange	National Hurricane Conference
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	Orange	National Hurricane Conference
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Sarasota	External Stakeholder Meeting
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Administrative Duties

Region 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 5 & 10

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

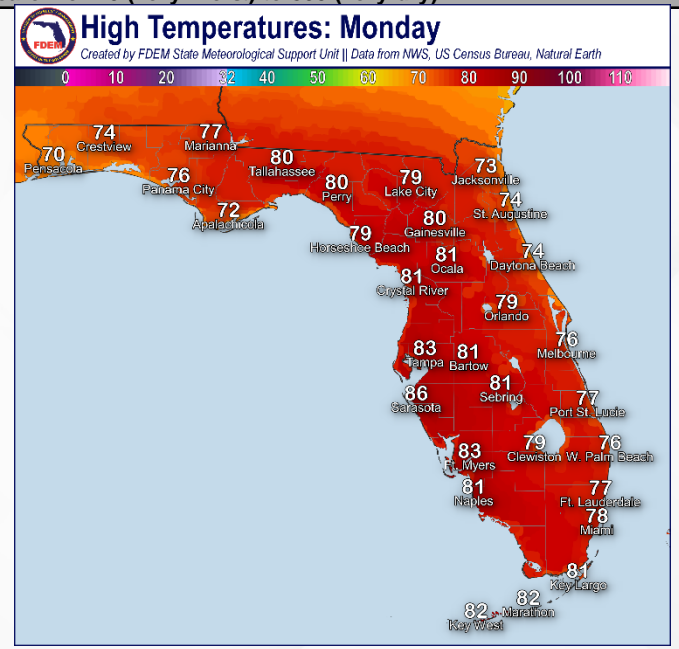
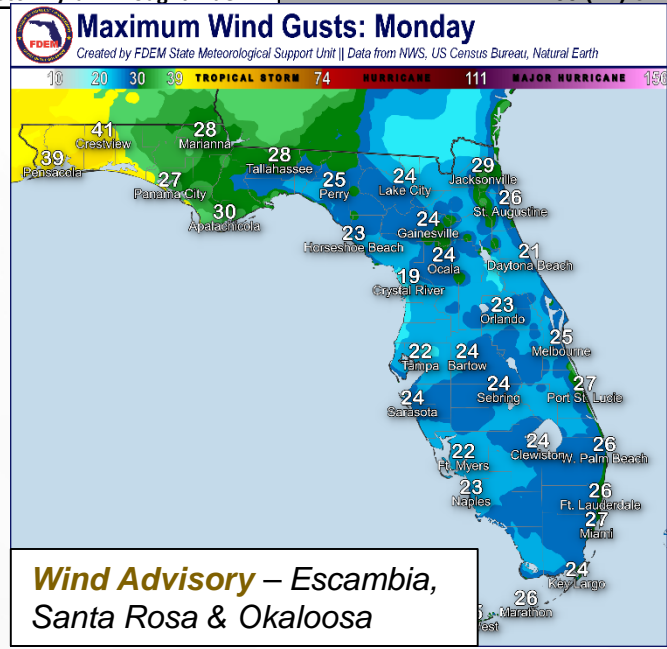


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning (Overnight)	L									
Tornado										
Damaging Wind (Overnight)	L									
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Wildfire										
River Flooding										
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	M	L		H	M	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	15.47 ft. (1.11 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	100 (+1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

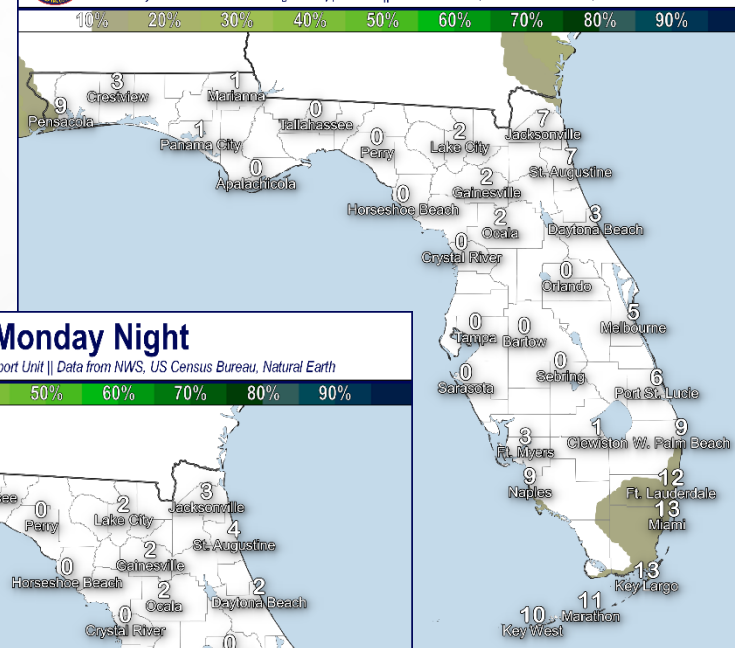
High pressure over the Northeastern U.S. will continue to bring mostly dry conditions across the state during the daytime hours. Breezy onshore winds along the Florida East Coast may allow for some very isolated and brief sprinkles or possible showers during the morning and early afternoon hours (5-15% chance of rain). Should any of these showers develop or move onshore they will remain brief and light in nature with little to no accumulation expected. A low pressure system developing over the Central U.S. will bring **gusty winds of 30-40 mph** across the far western Panhandle throughout the day and into early Tuesday morning. A **Wind Advisory** will go into effect mid-morning as **southeasterly winds of 15-20 mph** and **wind gust upwards of 45 mph** can be expected through the early morning hours on Tuesday. Across the rest of the state, **breezy wind gusts of 20-30 mph** can be expected to develop throughout the day due to the strong pressure difference from the two opposing systems. High temperatures will reach the middle to upper 70s and low 80s across the state with breezy winds helping conditions. Portions of the western Peninsula, especially towards the coastline, can anticipate high temperatures near or within the **middle 80s** this afternoon given plenty of sunshine.

Cloud cover will begin to increase later this evening and throughout the overnight hours, especially along the Panhandle. The low pressure system over the Central U.S. will move towards the Midwest, allowing for its cold front to drag across the Deep South and into the far western Panhandle late overnight and near daybreak on Tuesday. This cold front will bring scattered showers and thunderstorms during the late overnight hours along the far western Panhandle. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** along the far western Panhandle as isolated strong to severe thunderstorms will be possible overnight and early Tuesday morning. These **strong to severe thunderstorms** may be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph) and heavy downpours. While the greater risk for isolated tornadoes is to the west of the Florida Panhandle, an isolated tornado or two cannot be ruled out. Low temperatures overnight will fall into the upper 50s to middle 60s across North and Central Florida overnight. Areas across South Florida can anticipate low temperatures in the upper 60s to low 70s, especially towards the coastlines.



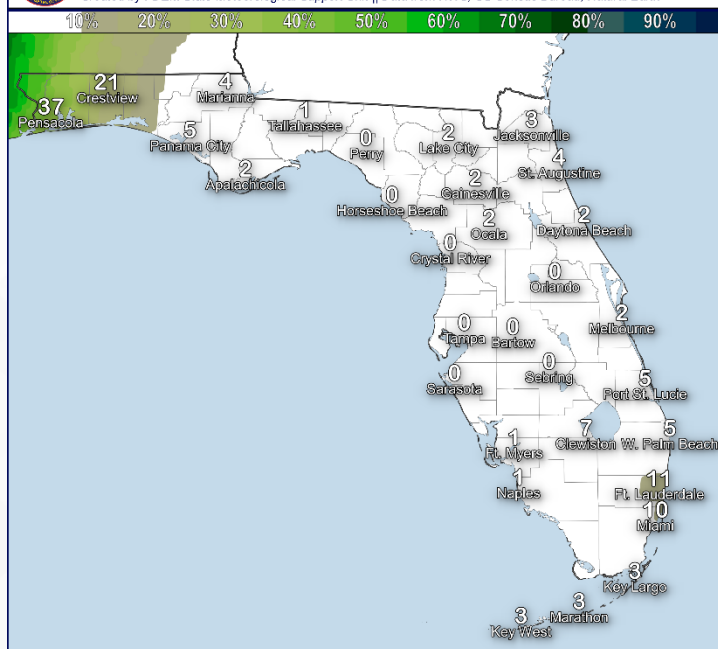
Chance of Rain: Monday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth



Chance of Rain: Monday Night

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected across all Panhandle and East Coast beaches due to breezy winds and large ocean swells. A low risk for rip currents can be expected for western Peninsula beaches, with an **elevated risk for rip currents** along Southwest Florida beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

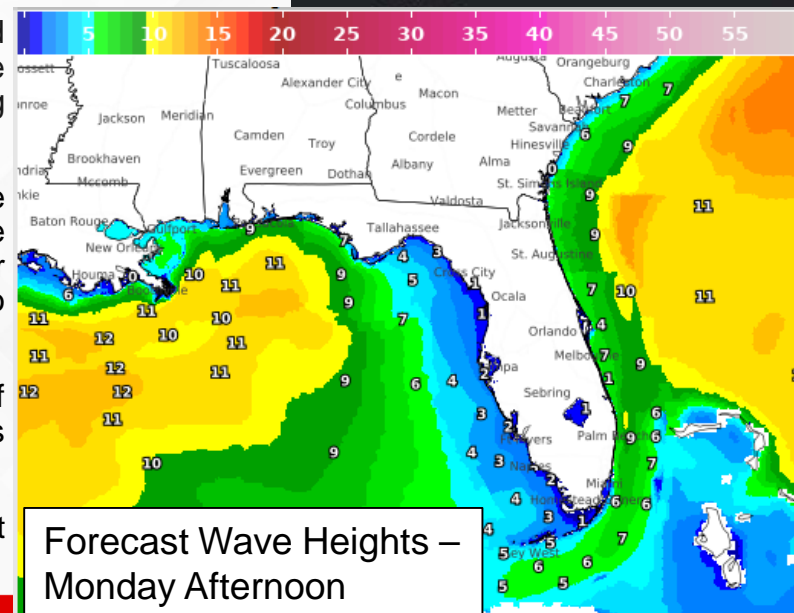
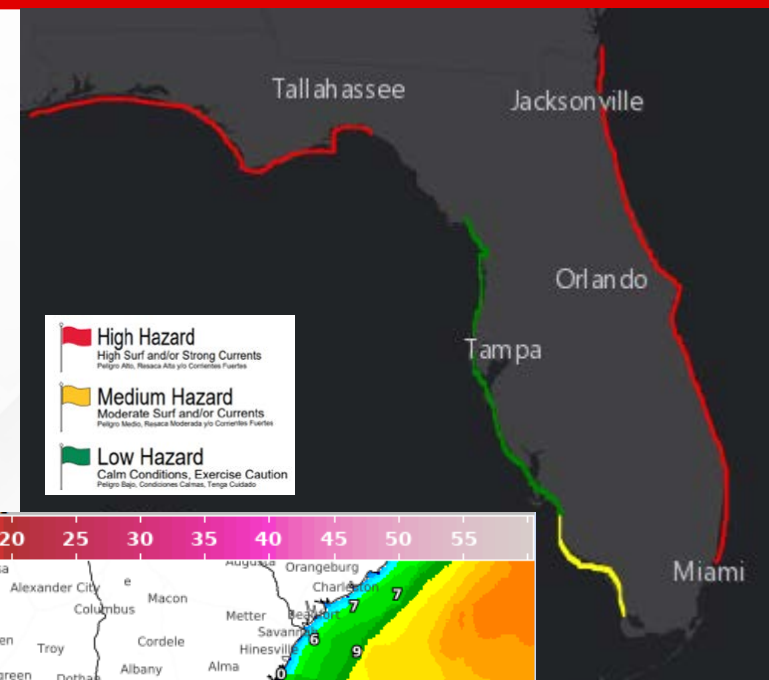
Marine Hazards: The long period ocean swell over the western Atlantic Ocean will continue to bring hazardous beach conditions across the Florida East Coast. **Wave heights** of 6-8' can be expected for all beaches throughout the day, with **breaking waves** further offshore upwards of 9-10'. **High Surf Advisories** extend from the Northeast Florida coastline into Treasure Coast (Palm Beach County) where large **breaking waves** of 5-8' can be expected through the early to middle part of this week. A second ocean swell has developed over the northern Gulf of Mexico where strong onshore winds are ongoing. **Wave heights** of 5-8' can be expected across the western Panhandle beaches and a **High Surf Advisory** is in effect. For the far western Panhandle, a **High Surf Warning** has been issued due to **large breaking waves** of 7-9'. **Red Tide** has not been observed above background levels over the past week.

Coastal Flooding: There is no organized risk for coastal flooding today. Elevated surf along beaches and breezy winds may allow for instances of **localized beach and coastal erosion** along vulnerable Northeast and East-Central Florida beaches at times. Large waves during times of high tide this evening and through Tuesday evening may also contribute to localized beach erosion at times.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will move eastward towards and along the far western Panhandle late overnight and early Tuesday morning. While the greatest risk for flash flooding remains to the west of the Florida Panhandle, some isolated stronger shower and thunderstorm activity could drift into the region and bring heavy rainfall. This situation also remains dependent on the timing of the frontal boundary bringing showers and thunderstorms.

Riverine Flooding: All Florida rivers, creeks and waterways are currently below flood stage. Portions of the Santa Fe River basin remain with Action Stage (bank-full) following heavy rainfall last week. At this time there are no additional riverine concerns. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](http://www.floridawater.com).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 15.47 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.11 feet above normal for this time of year.





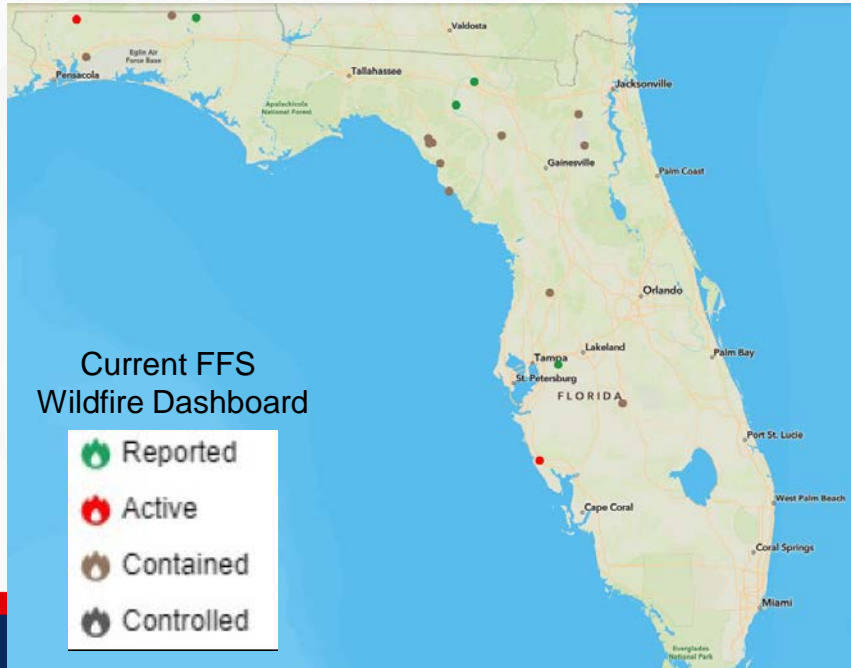
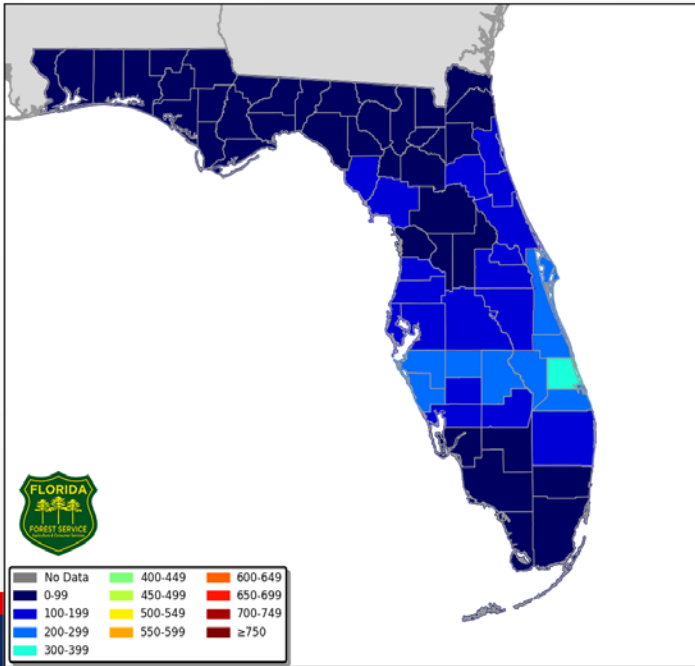
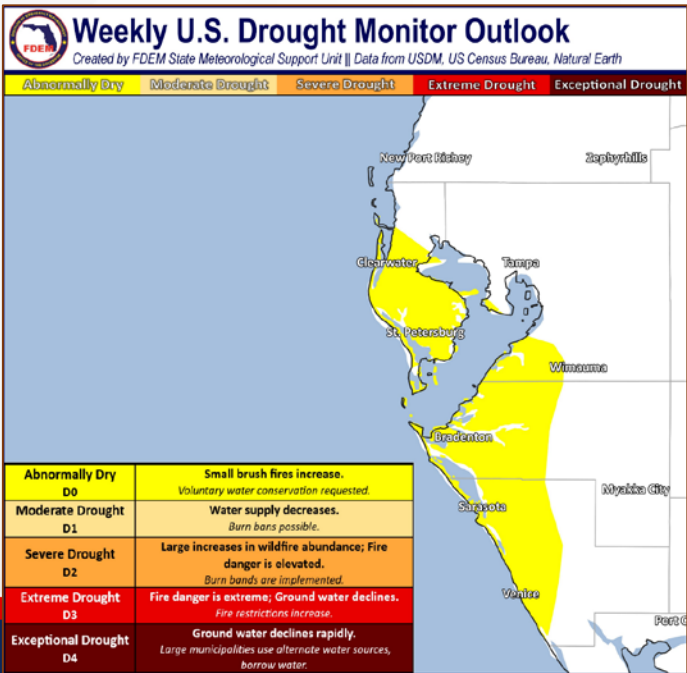
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Breezy, and at times gusty, winds can be expected to develop across the state beginning this morning and continuing throughout the day. A low pressure system over the Central U.S. will create **gusty winds of 30-40 mph** along the far western Florida Panhandle this morning and throughout the day. **Wind Advisories** will go into effect mid-morning across the area as **southeasterly winds of 15-20 mph** and **wind gusts upwards of 45 mph** can be expected through daybreak on Tuesday. Additional wind gusts **upwards of 20-30 mph** can be expected to develop across the state due to a strong pressure difference. Easterly to southeasterly winds will allow for relative humidity values to recover slightly, but portions of the interior Suwannee River Valley and Nature Coast could see values in the low to middle 40% this afternoon. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 17 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 278 acres.

Drought: Conditions remain unchanged on this week's Drought Monitor update. Long-term rainfall deficits continue to promote Abnormally Dry (*emerging drought*) conditions along West-Central Florida. A widespread 3-5" of rain was observed along the Southern Peninsula and Keys Friday with locally higher totals of 5-8" along the far southern Peninsula and the Keys. North of Lake Okeechobee, widespread rainfall totals near 1-2" were observed with locally higher totals of 2-3". Combined with widespread heavy rainfall expected across portions of the state today will likely help to improve ongoing dry conditions through the Peninsula.

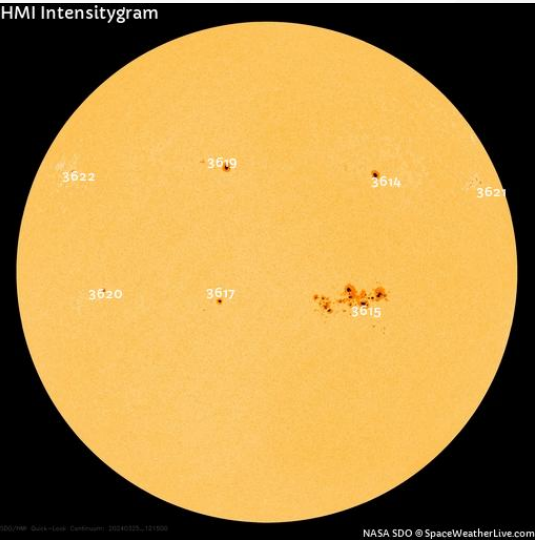
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **100 (+1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **zero** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for March 24, 2024

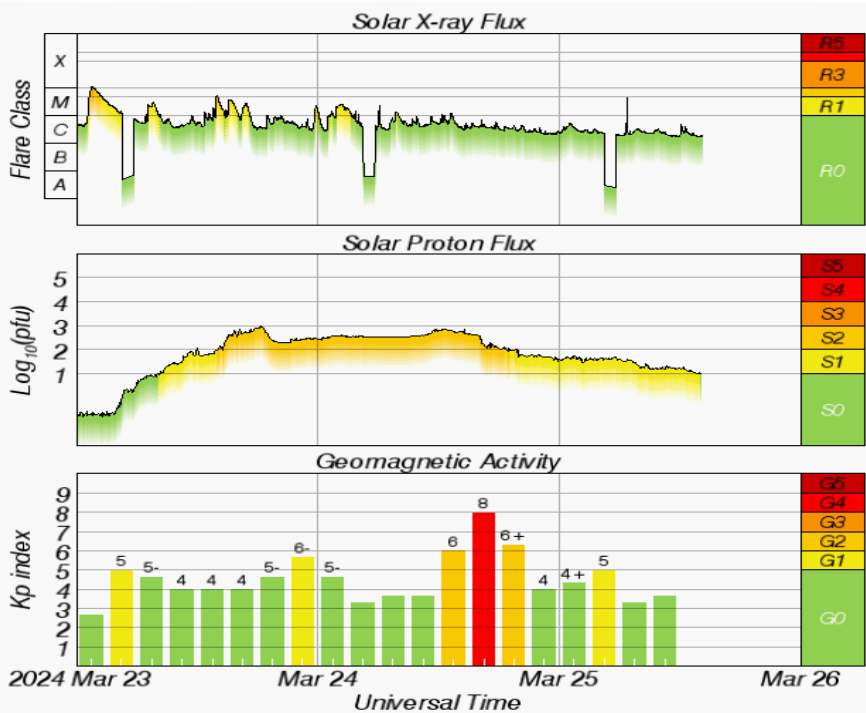
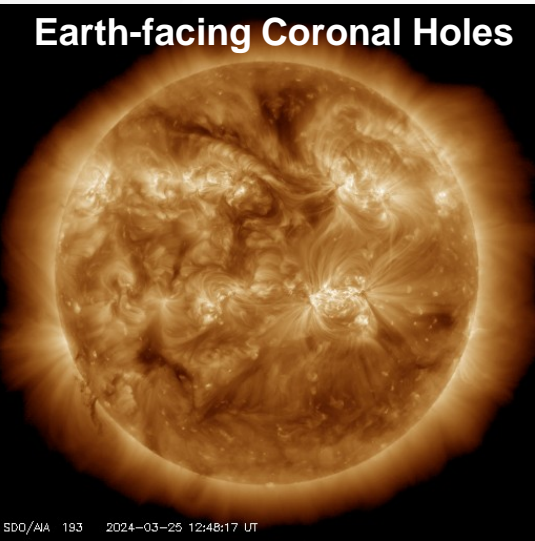




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 85%	Geomagnetic Storm: G2-G3 Watch – 3/24-3/25	M4 Solar Flare
X-class: 25%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout
48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast		
3/25		3/26
Max Kp= 6 (G2)		Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 50%		Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 10%

Space Weather: Yesterday, a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) struck the Earth’s geomagnetic field, as predicted, and sparked a severe geomagnetic storm (G4). This was the strongest geomagnetic storm since September 2017. Solar activity is expected to continue at moderate levels with a chance for significant ((X-class) solar flares due to active sunspot #3615. This active sunspot continues to maintain a magnetic field that harbors energy for X-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with strong (M-class) solar flares and strong (R3) radio blackouts will likely accompany any significant (X-class) solar activity. Lingering influences from the solar radiation storm on Sunday, combined with ongoing CME influences this morning, will create enhanced solar wind conditions throughout the day. Minor (S1) solar radiation storms can be expected. As well, solar winds flowing from a southern coronal hole will likely reach the Earth by today or tomorrow (3/26). The Earth’s geomagnetic field is expected to continue at unsettled to moderate (G2) levels through today as CME influences continue. The G2-G3 Geomagnetic Storm Watch remains in effect. By tomorrow, CME conditions will wane but keep the possibility for minor (G1) geomagnetic storms to continue. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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