



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, November 8, 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	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Jay Griffin	(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	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	Karen Kozac	(850) 759-6226	Karen.Kozac@em.myflorida.com
ESF 8 On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Marnie Villanueva	(850) 591-9544	Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com
DEM Finance and Admin	Jeremy Smith	(561) 662-8028	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden	Office Admin
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	DEMES Fleet and Inventory Build Kickoff Meeting / Office Admin
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia, Suwannee	EM Visits
Region 4: James Carter	Flagler	Flagler Quarterly/ AAR Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Brevard, Lake	EM Meetings
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Marion, Manatee	MASTT Call / Logistics Support
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Polk	EPAC Meeting
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Indian River, St Lucie	Milton Support / Office Admin
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Charlotte, Lee	Charlotte AAR Meeting / EM Visit
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	L-449 Course



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	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Out of Region	Leave
RRCT Manager	Hernando	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	Administrative Duties
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Out of Region	Leave
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Out of Region	Leave
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Internal Stakeholders Meeting

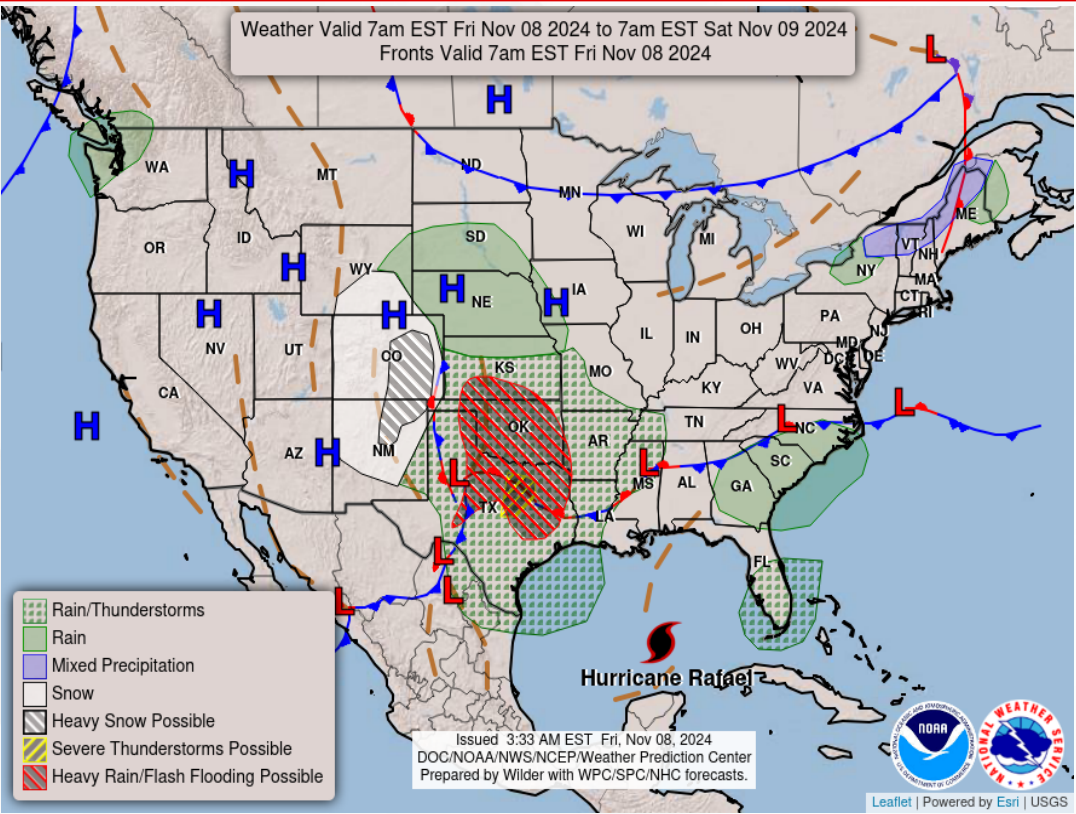
Region 5, 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 10

Region 6 Coverage Provided by RRC 6

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

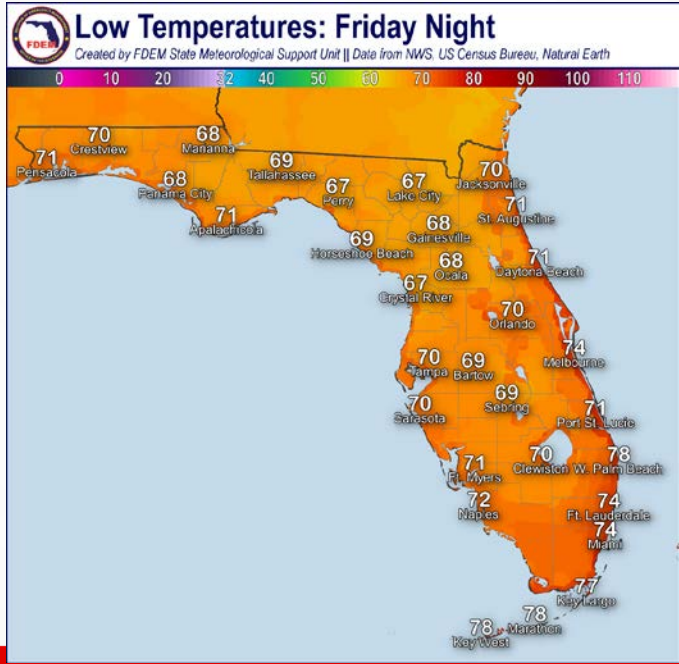
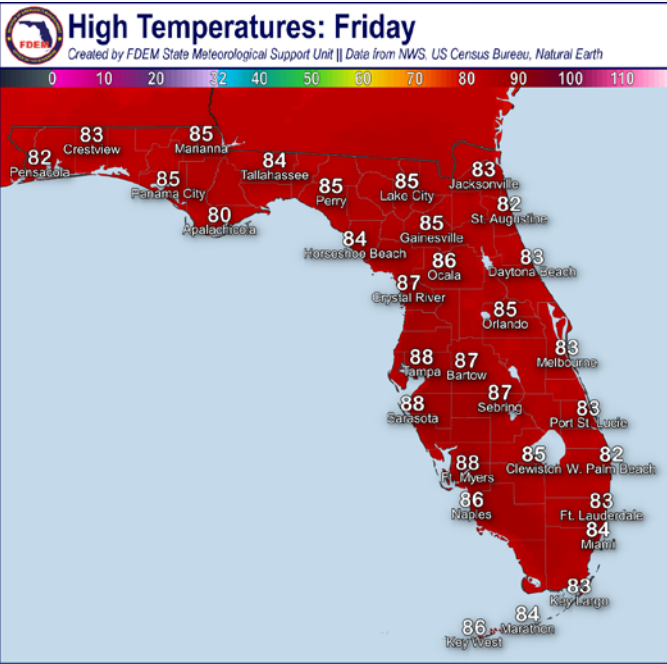


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Coastal Flooding										
Riverine Flooding				L	M	M	L			
Fog (Overnight)			L	L		L	L			
Rip Currents	H	H	H	M	M	H		H	H	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	16.16 ft. (1.13 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	307 (-9) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Pleasant weather returns to South Florida and the Western Peninsula to end the week and start the weekend thanks to high pressure sitting over the region. With lingering moisture and a stationary frontal boundary set up to the north of Florida, isolated showers will be possible across North Florida throughout the day today (10-20% chance of rain). Breezy onshore flow along the East Coast will also allow isolated showers to develop along the coastline and move inland throughout the day (10-20% chance of rain).

Breezy winds upwards of 5-10 mph will persist along the Peninsula and Keys with **gusts reaching upwards of 10-20 mph**. High temperatures will remain unseasonably warm, rising back into the middle to upper 80s across the state.

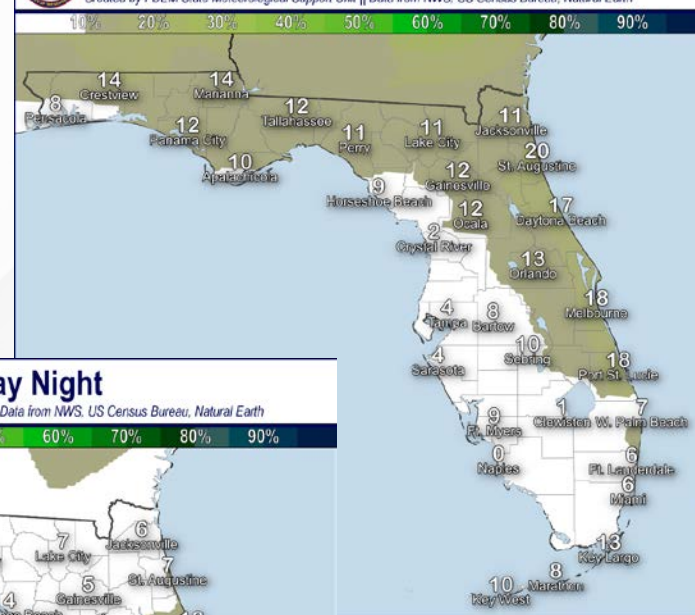
Heat index values will reach into the **low 90s** across portions of the Big Bend and Western Peninsula late this afternoon. *Please continue to practice heat safety when working out in the field during recovery efforts. Remember to take breaks from direct sunlight and drink plenty of water.*

Mostly dry conditions are expected statewide through the overnight hours with an isolated shower or two possible in the Panhandle and East Coast (5-15% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the upper 60s to low 70s across North Florida, low to middle 70s through Central and South Florida, and upper 70s along the Keys. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across the portions of North and Central Florida overnight into the early morning hours Saturday where calmer conditions prevail.



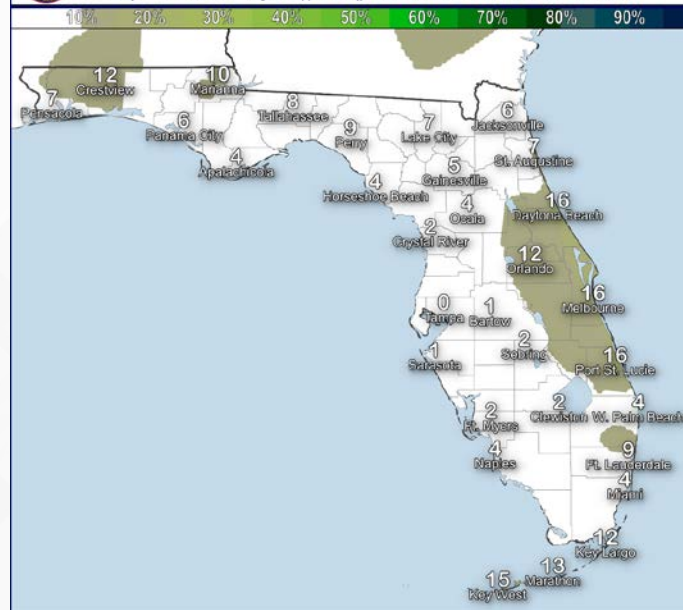
Chance of Rain: Friday

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



Chance of Rain: Friday Night

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





Tropical Weather

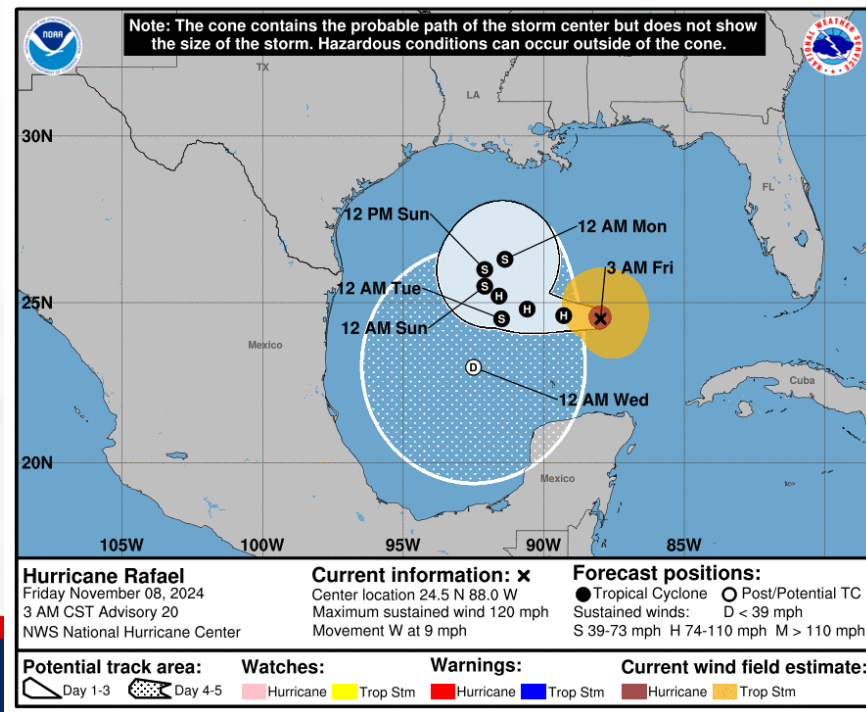
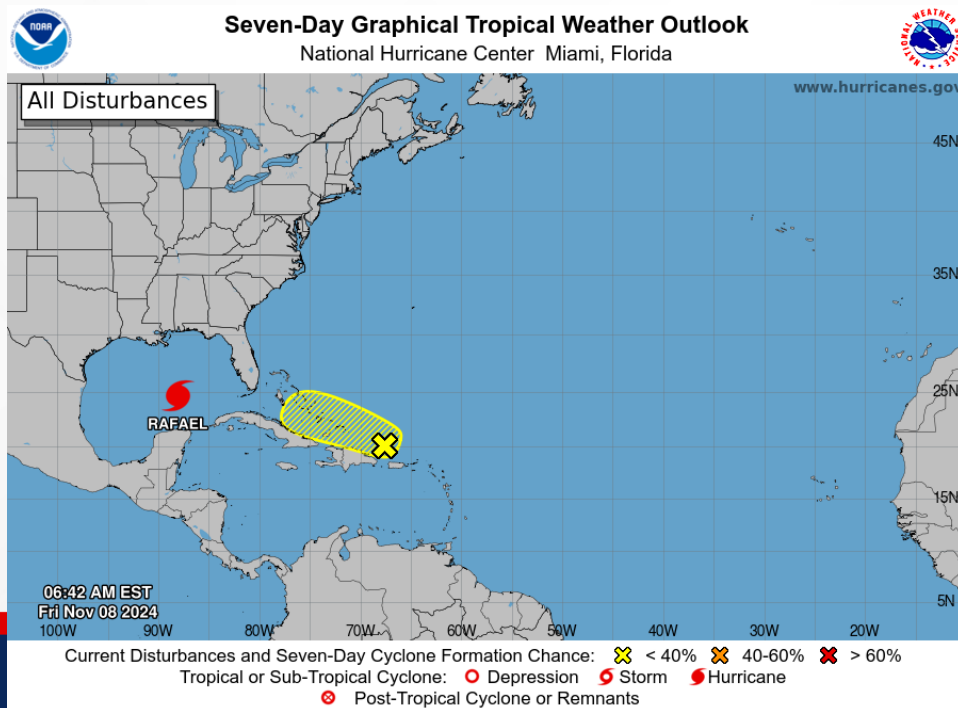
For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

Major Hurricane Rafael: As of 4:00 AM EST, Rafael is located about 245 miles north-northeast of Progreso, Mexico and about 585 miles east of the mouth of the Rio Grande and moving westward at 9 mph. A general westward to west-northwestward motion is expected through the weekend. On the forecast track, Rafael is expected to move over the central Gulf of Mexico for the next few days. Maximum sustained winds remain near 120 mph, making Rafael a Category 3 hurricane. Some fluctuations in intensity are possible today. By tonight, a steady weakening trend is forecast and should continue through the weekend. *All tropical watches and warnings for Florida have been discontinued. Hazardous beach and boating conditions, ocean swells, breezy winds, and increased rain chances will linger across portions of the state today.*

Near the Greater Antilles: Disorganized showers and thunderstorms continue in association with a trough of low pressure that extends from the central Caribbean Sea northeastward across Hispaniola and into the southwestern Atlantic. Some gradual development of this system is possible during the next couple of days while it moves westward near the Greater Antilles. *This system poses no direct threat to Florida over the next 5-7 days but will continue to be monitored. Regardless of development, an increase in rain chances can be anticipated across portions of South Florida late in the weekend or early next week.*

*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low...20%.**

*Formation chance through 7 days... **low...20%.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** continues along the Florida Panhandle and West Coast today due to breezy winds and ocean swells with a **moderate to high risk** along the East Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Hazardous beach and boating conditions** persist along the Florida Panhandle with ongoing breezy winds and ocean swells. **High Surf Advisories** remain in effect along portions of the Florida Panhandle as ocean swells from distant Hurricane Rafael maintain **large breaking waves near 5-7'** in the surf zone. **3-6' breaking waves** are forecast to persist the West Coast of Florida. **Wave heights** will return to **near 3-5'** along the East Coast today; however, **large breaking waves near 4-6'** will persist along the Atlantic-facing Keys this morning.

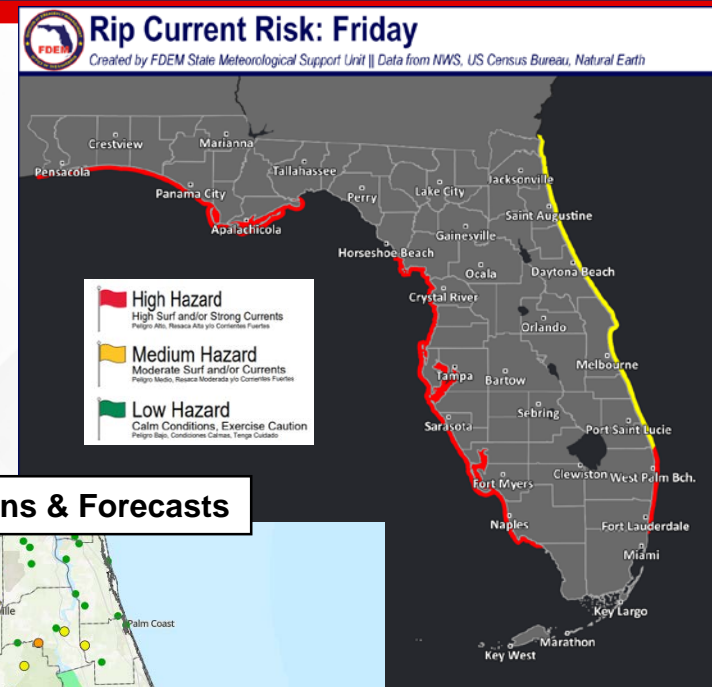
Red Tide has been observed in **51** samples collected from Florida's Gulf Coast over the past week (as of 11/6). Background to **very low concentrations** were observed in Pinellas County with **very low to low concentrations** in Manatee County, background to **low concentrations** in Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee Counties, and background concentrations offshore of Collier County. Background and **very low concentrations** of Red Tide were also observed in Franklin County. Satellite imagery continues to show a large offshore patch of elevated chlorophyll spanning Pasco to Collier counties and a few isolated patches further north, off the Big Bend region; however, confirmatory offshore sampling was not possible over the past week due to weather. It is suspected that Red Tide continues to be present offshore but it is possible this signal represents a mixed assemblage of other algal species. **Fish kills and respiratory irritation** suspected to be related to red tide were reported in Pinellas, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties.

Coastal Flooding: There is no organized risk for coastal flooding today; however, **elevated tides** can be expected along the Emerald and Forgotten Coasts as large ocean swells continue to impact the coast.

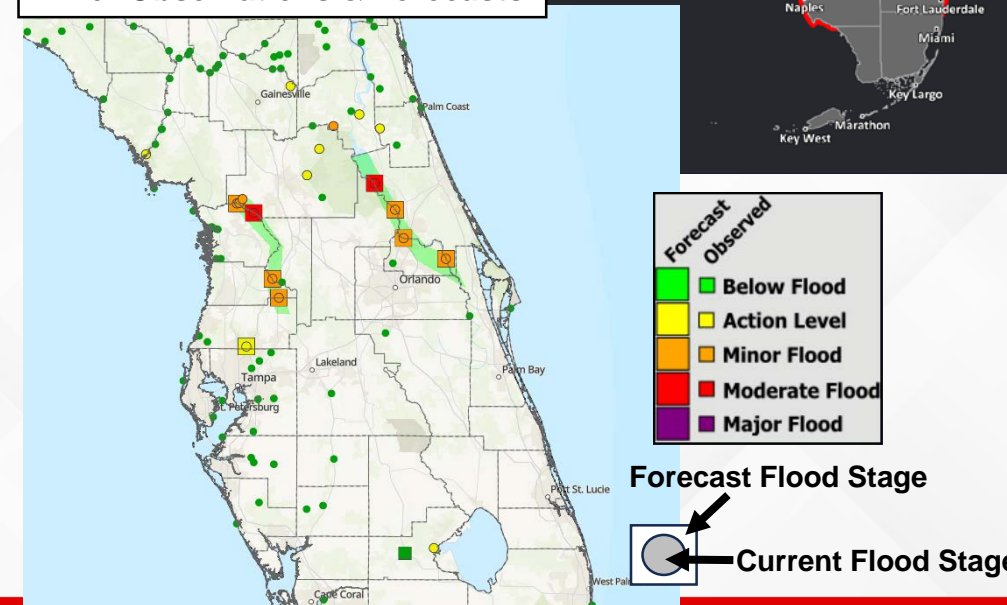
Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today.

Riverine Flooding: **Minor to moderate riverine flooding** is ongoing for portions of the Withlacoochee River (in West-Central Florida) and the St. Johns River in response to Hurricane Milton. **Moderate flooding** is ongoing along the and the [Withlacoochee River near Holder at SR-200](#) and [St. Johns River at Astor](#). **Minor Flooding** continues along the Withlacoochee River ([at US-301 Trilby](#), [at Croom](#) and [at US-41 Dunnellon](#)), St. Johns River ([near Deland](#), [near Sanford](#), and [above Lake Harney](#)). Water levels along upper portions of the Withlacoochee River have crested and are seeing water levels gradually fall and lower portions of the river have crested and are holding near steady or very slowly falling. The St. Johns River will see water levels continue to slowly fall as weaker as trapped tides within the tidal portions of the river continue to discharge. With persistent onshore winds along the lower St. Johns River, discharge rates will slow down or possibly stall over the next couple of days. North Florida rivers and waterways are forecast to remain below flood stage at this time with the additional rainfall observed over the last few days; however, streamlevel rises are expected and will have to be monitored as heavy rainfall across the Georgia headwaters filters downstream. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 16.16 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.13 feet above normal for this time of year.



River Observations & Forecasts





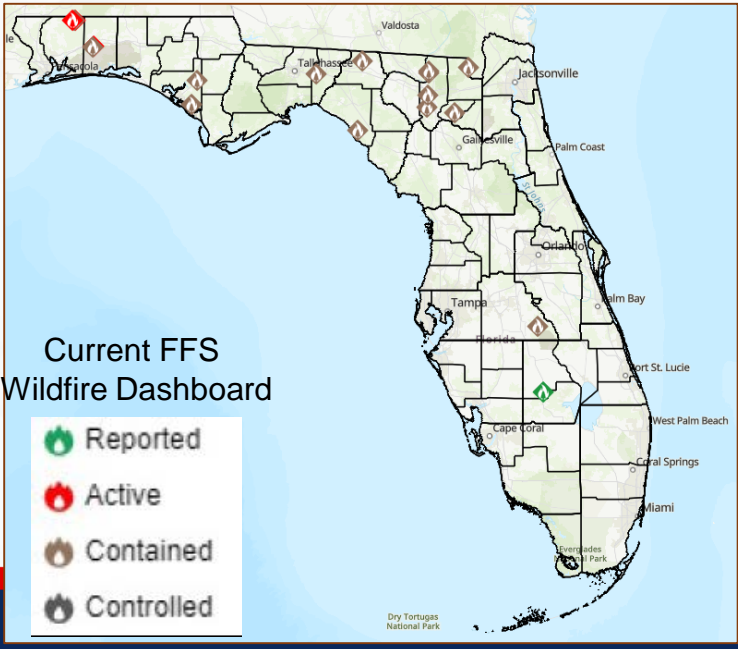
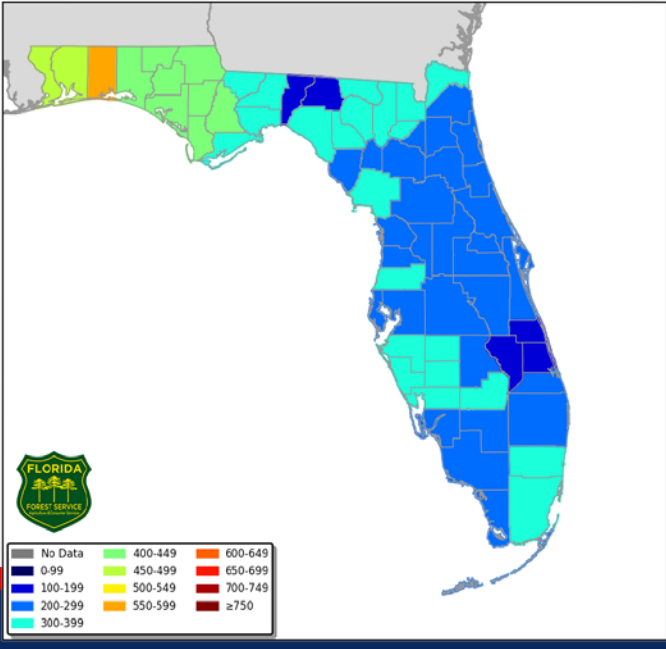
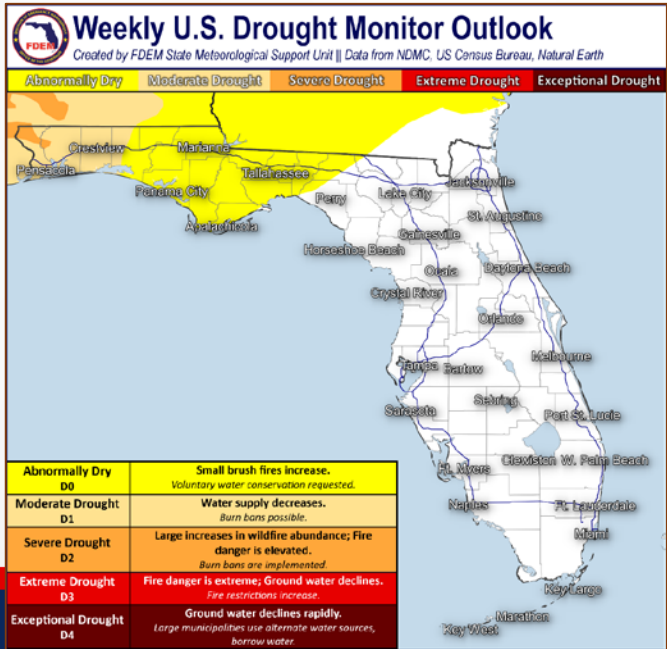
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: With lingering moisture and a stationary frontal boundary set up to the north of Florida, isolated showers will be possible across North Florida throughout the day today. Breezy onshore flow along the East Coast will also allow isolated showers to develop along the coastline and move inland throughout the day. Breezy winds upwards of 5-10 mph will persist along the Peninsula and Keys with **gusts reaching upwards of 10-20 mph**. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible overnight into the early morning hours Saturday across the state where calmer conditions prevail. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 18 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 82.70 acres.

Drought: Mostly dry conditions and above-normal temperatures along the Florida Panhandle over the past week have led to expanding and worsening drought conditions on this week's Drought Monitor update (11/7). **Moderate Drought conditions** have expanded across the Western Panhandle and **Severe Drought conditions** in the Northwestern Panhandle while Abnormally Dry (*emerging drought*) conditions remain in place through the rest of the Florida Panhandle towards the I-75 corridor. Slightly above normal rainfall outlooked over the next week or so may help provide some relief from worsening drought conditions.

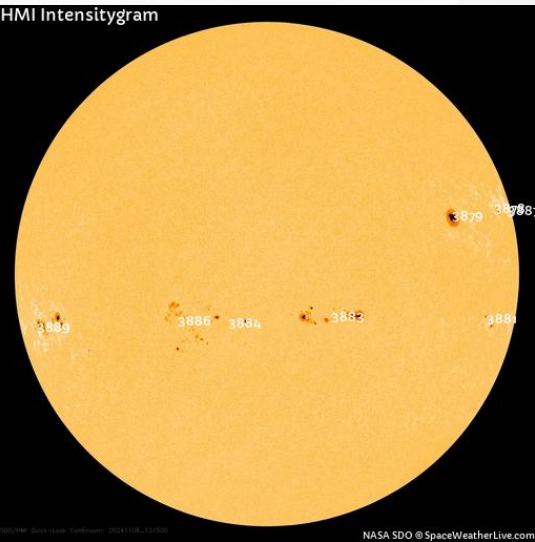
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **307 (-9)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **one** Florida County (Okaloosa) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for November 07, 2024

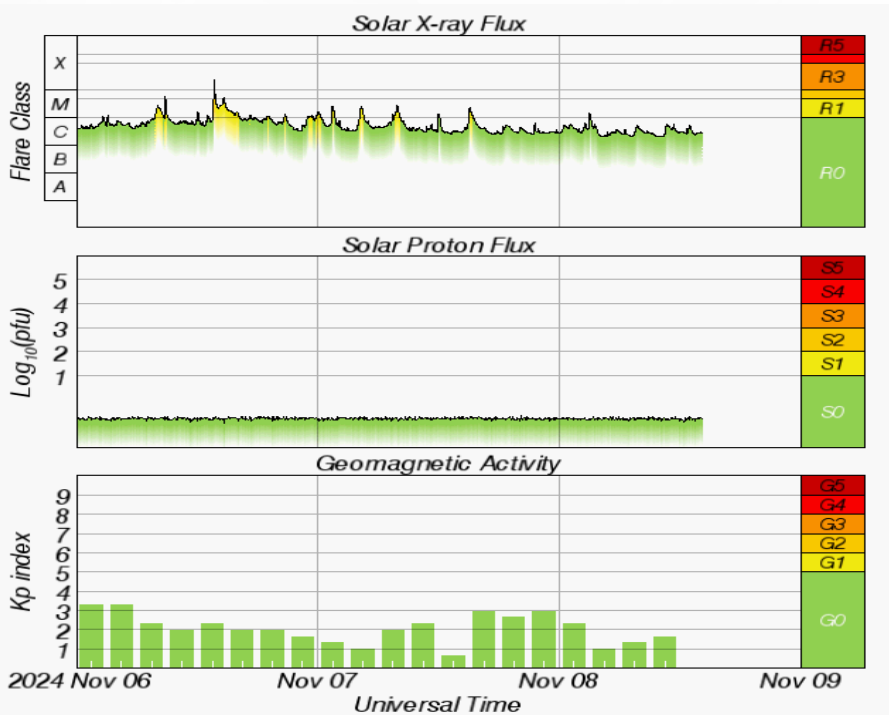
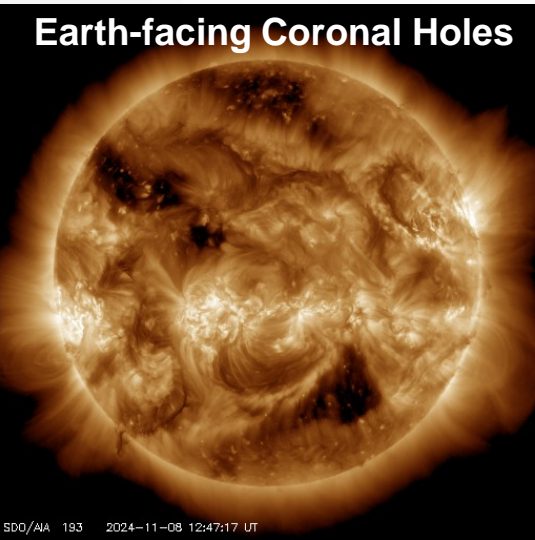




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 80%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M2 Solar Flare
X-class: 35%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
11/8	11/9
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be moderate with continued strong (M-class) solar flares and a chance for significant (X-class) solar flares through the weekend. Sunspots #3883, #3886, and #3889 are driving up solar flare probabilities due to their history and magnetic complexities that pose a threat for X-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected to accompany M-class solar flares while strong (R3) radio blackouts will likely accompany any X-class solar flares that occur. A slight chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms persists today due to the flare potential of regions #3883, #3886, and #3889. Waning Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) influences as well as a weak Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) are expected today. Solar wind parameters may become enhanced again as a large CH HSS in the southern hemisphere and a large CH HSS in the northern hemisphere become geoeffective this weekend. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions will continue through the weekend from waning CME influences and the arrival of two CH HSSs. The overall 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:	MSAT 888-890-5178 or Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	http://www.floridadisaster.org	Operational	

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=Morning_SITREP