



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office**

## **Morning Situation Report**

Thursday, November 21, 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 | <a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com</a>                 |
| Watch Officer                  | Caitlyn Gillespie  | (850) 688-2119 | <a href="mailto:Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com">Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com</a>   |
| Duty Officer                   | Ben Mauro          | (850) 566-4904 | <a href="mailto:Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com">Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com</a>         |
| Operations Officer- Day        | Kaya Dungey        | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Operations Officer- Swing      | Jay Griffin        | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Operations Officer- Night      | Jim Lawhon         | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Meteorologist                  | Melissa James      | (850) 566-6422 | <a href="mailto:Melissa.James@em.myflorida.com">Melissa.James@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Plans Chief                    | Kaylynn Perry      | (850) 254-5657 | <a href="mailto:Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com">Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Logistics Chief                | Christina Goetzman | (850) 519-8581 | <a href="mailto:Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com">Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com</a> |
| Human Services Director        | Pam Hughes         | (850) 528-5638 | <a href="mailto:Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com">Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Emergency Services             | Rob Dietrich       | (850) 727-3414 | <a href="mailto:Robert.Dietrich@em.myflorida.com">Robert.Dietrich@em.myflorida.com</a>       |
| Infrastructure Branch Director | Karen Kozac        | (850) 759-6226 | <a href="mailto:Karen.Kozac@em.myflorida.com">Karen.Kozac@em.myflorida.com</a>               |
| ESF 8 On-Call                  | Hunter Stafford    | (866) 786-4673 | <a href="mailto:DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov">DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov</a>           |
| Public Information Officer     | Marnie Villanueva  | (850) 591-9544 | <a href="mailto:Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com">Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com</a>   |
| DEM Finance and Admin          | Jeremy Smith       | (561) 662-8028 | <a href="mailto:Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com</a>             |



# Response Regional Coordination Team

| Team                      | County Location   | Visits  |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Region 1: Jim Roberts     | Out of Service    | Leave (See Coverage)                              |
| Region 2: Willie Bouie    | Gulf              | Region 2 Quarterly Meeting / Response Meetings    |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers    | Gilchrist, Taylor | Reponse Coordinators Meeting / Equipment pickup   |
| Region 4: James Carter    | Out of Service    | Leave (See Coverage)                              |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly  | Osceola           | G-300 Course Instruction                          |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall    | Hillsborough      | On-Call Status                                    |
| Region 7: Cristian Rivera | Polk              | Online IS Courses / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 8: Mason Kozac     | Broward           | DHS CWMD Seminar                                  |
| Region 9: Theresa Hendry  | Sarasota          | SWFL LEPC Meeting                                 |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker  | Miami- Dade       | HSTF-SE Exercise                                  |



Region 1 Coverage Provided by RRC 1  
 Region 4 Coverage Provided by RRC 4

| Status                       |
|------------------------------|
| Normal Operations            |
| Out of Service / Unavailable |



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

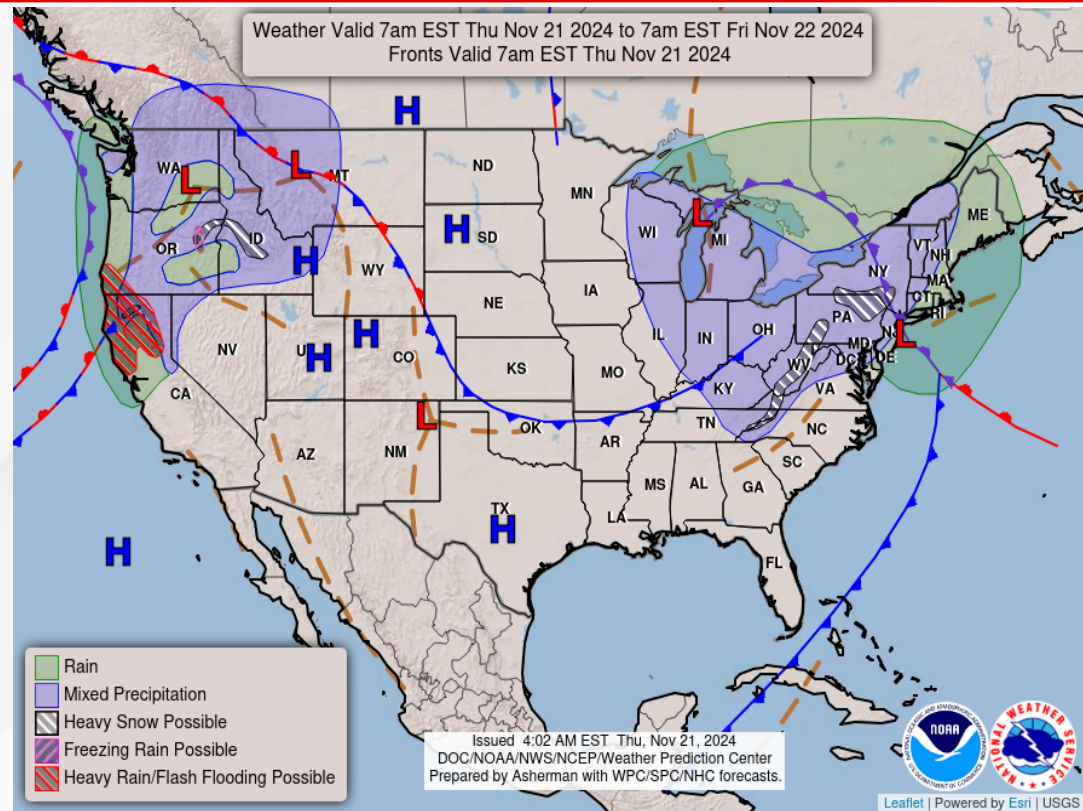
| Team                                    | County Location | Status / Activities                  |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Region 1:</b> Allison Blevins        | Escambia        | Instructing L-449                    |
| <b>Region 2:</b> Justin Lazzara         | Gulf            | Regional Quarterly Meeting           |
| <b>Region 3:</b> Patrick James          | Gilchrist       | IRC Meeting                          |
| <b>Region 4:</b> Joshua Saunders        | St. Johns       | LMS Meeting                          |
| <b>Region 5:</b> Elizabeth Caison       | Marion / Lake   | Mitigation / Recovery Road Show      |
| <b>RRCT Manager</b>                     | Hernando        | Pinellas / Hillsborough LTR Meetings |
| <b>Region 6:</b> Jeremy O'Dell          |                 |                                      |
| <b>Region 7:</b> Antonio Zapata         | Hardee          | LTRG Meeting                         |
| <b>Region 8:</b> Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller | Indian River    | Internal Stakeholders Meeting        |
| <b>Region 9:</b> Kathryn Thompson       | Sarasotoa       | Recovery Meetings                    |
| <b>Region 10:</b> Dana McGeehan         | Marion / Lake   | Mitigation / Recovery Road Show      |

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



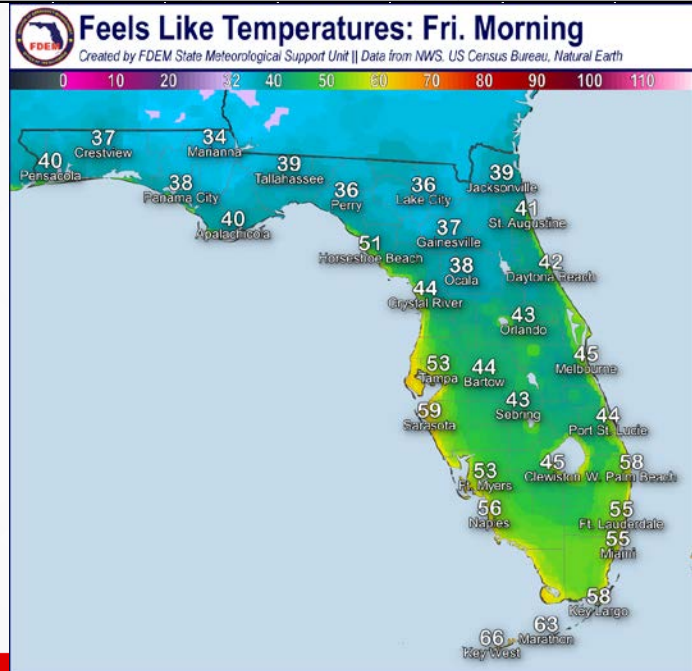
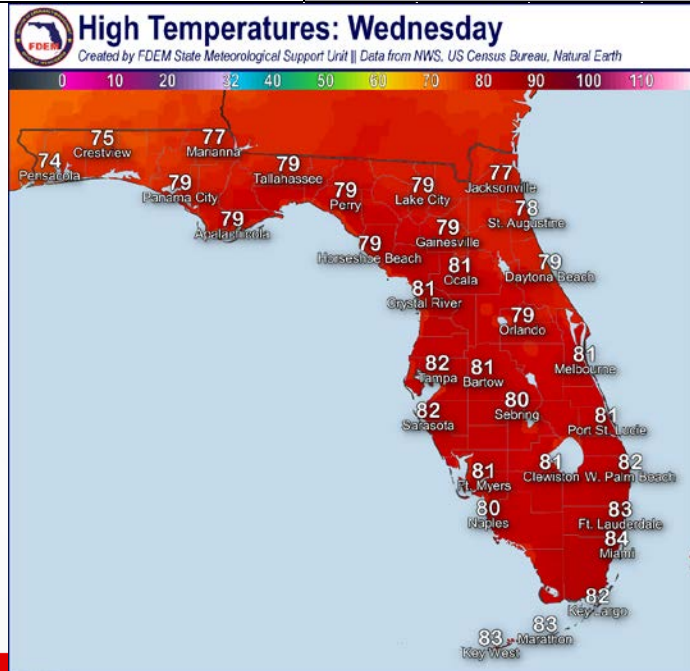


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat                      | R1   | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|-----------------------------|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning                   |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Tornado                     |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Damaging Wind               |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Hail                        |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Flash Flooding              |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Coastal Flooding            |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | L   |
| Riverine Flooding           |  |    |    |    | M  | M  |    |    |    |     |
| Freeze (Overnight)          |  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Rip Currents                | H  | H  | H  | M  | M  | H  |    | M  | H  | M   |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation:  | 16.02 ft. (1.10 ft. Above Normal)                          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index: | 332 (-34) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |





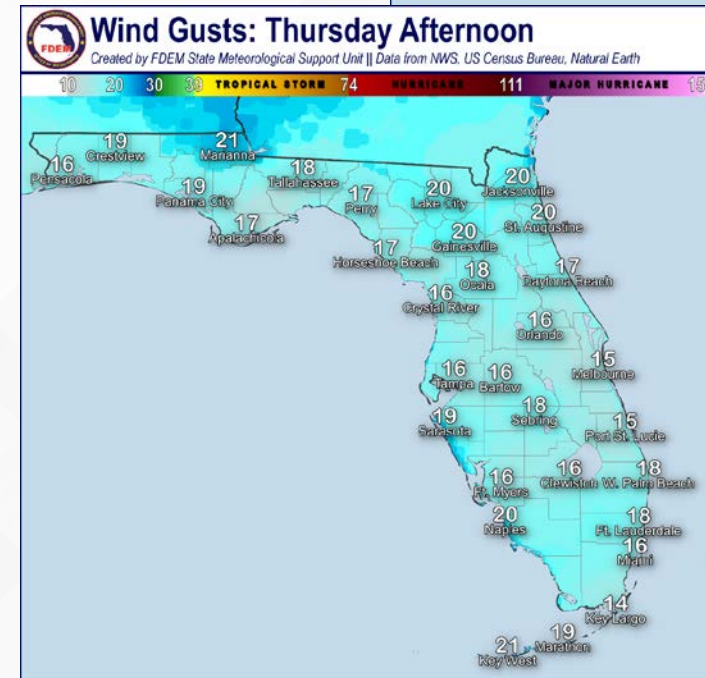
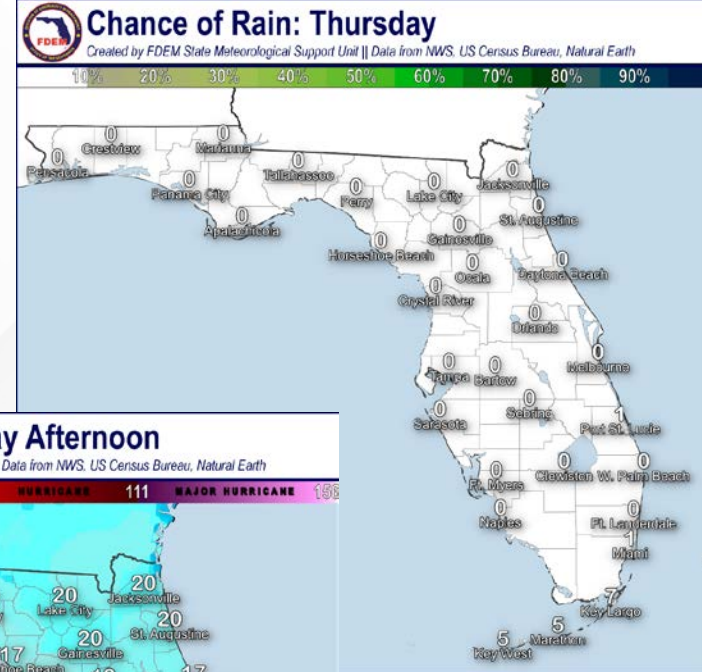
# Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Sunny and dry conditions can be expected across the state today as cool and dry air moves in behind the recent cold front (near 0% chance of rain). Mostly cloudy skies and an isolated shower or two can be expected along Southeast Florida and Keys this morning; however, skies will gradually clear throughout the day as the cold front moves further offshore, giving way to sunny and dry conditions (near 0-10% chance of rain).

Breezy northerly to northwesterly winds near 10-15 mph with **gusts upwards of 15-25 mph** can be expected across the state today. Despite mostly sunny skies, high temperatures will remain in the low to middle 60s across North Florida this afternoon with upper 60s to low 70s across Central Florida, and middle 70s to low 80s across South Florida and the Keys.

Mostly dry and clear conditions will persist tonight as a dry re-enforcing cold front approaches Florida overnight and moves through the state early Friday morning (near 0% chance of rain). While ideal radiational cooling conditions aren't expected tonight due to elevated winds, low temperatures will fall into the **upper 30s** to middle 40s across North Florida tonight with middle 40s to low 50s across Central Florida, upper 40s to middle 50s across South Florida, and upper 50s to middle 60s along the Keys. Slightly breezy winds persisting through the overnight hours will cause **temperatures to feel like** they are in the **middle 30s** to low 40s across North Florida and low to middle 40s along portions of East-Central Florida early Friday morning.

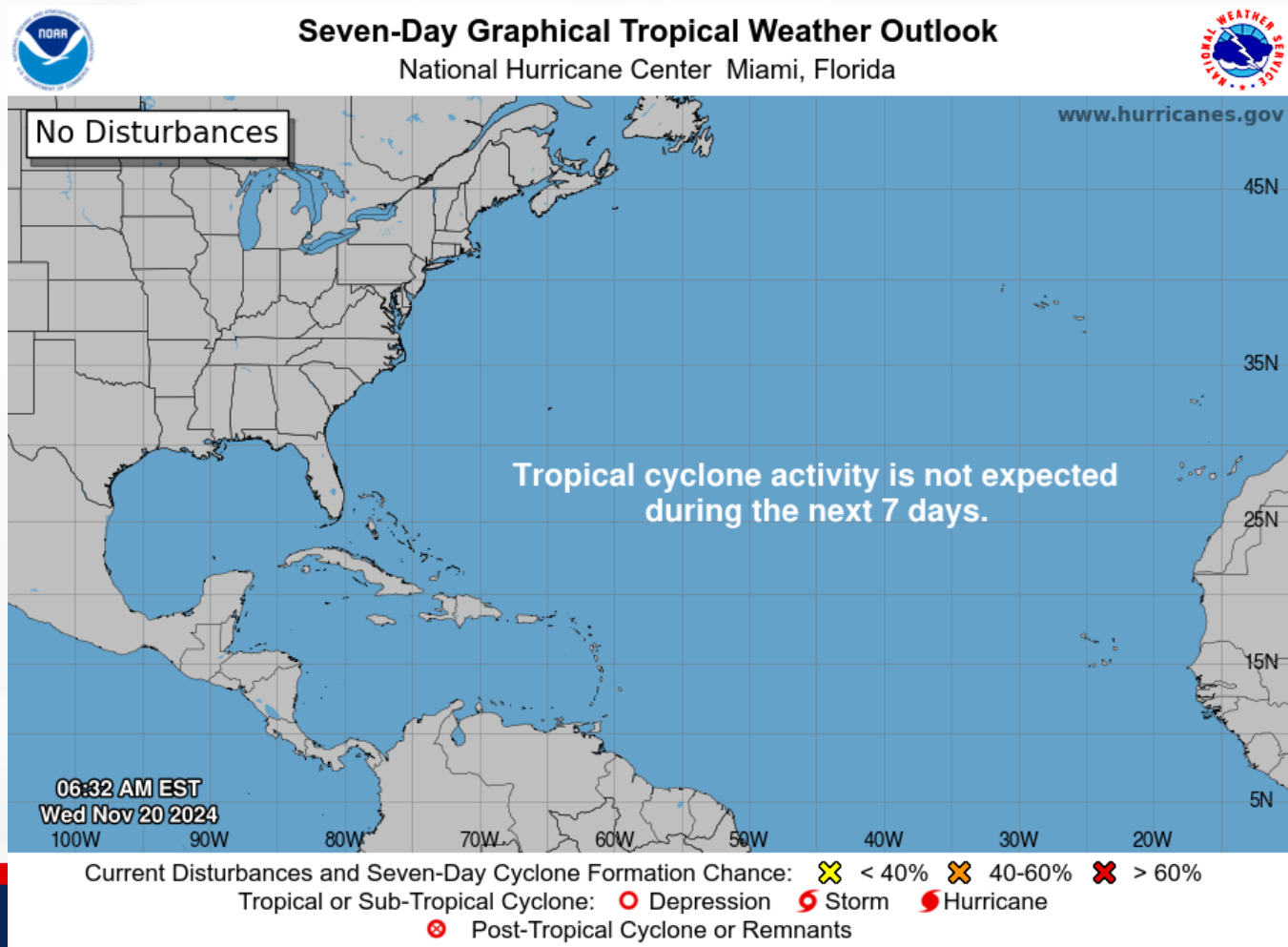




# Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov).

**Tropical cyclone activity is not expected during the next 7 days.**







# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Breezy winds and ocean swells will create a **high risk for rip currents** along the Florida Panhandle and Gulf Coast today. East Coast beaches will see a **moderate to risk for rip currents**. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** Ocean swells will linger along Florida Coastlines behind the recent cold front, supported by breezy post-frontal winds, maintaining **hazardous beach and boating conditions** across the state. **3-6' breaking waves** can be expected nearly statewide in the surf with **locally higher waves near 7-8'** further offshore along the East Coast and West Coast.

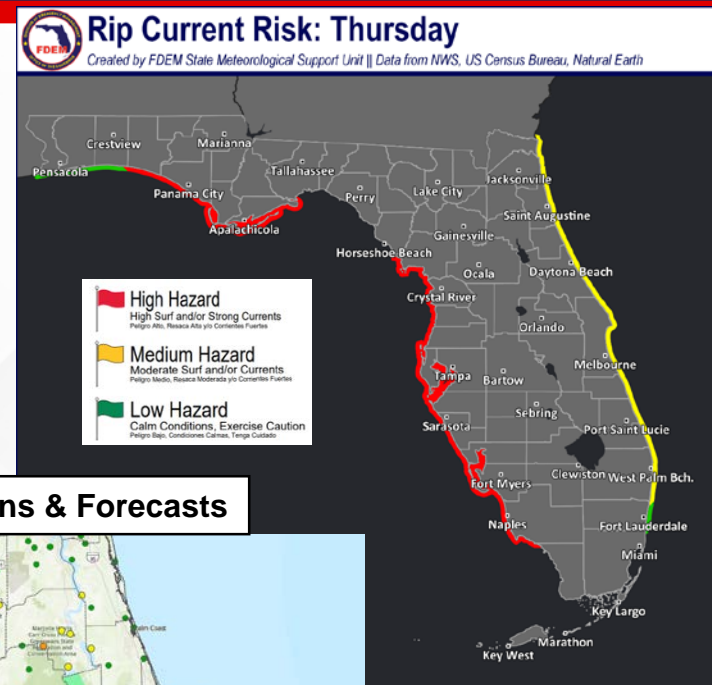
**Red Tide** has been observed in **125** samples collected from Northwest and Southwest Florida over the past week (as of 11/20). Background to **medium concentrations** were observed in and offshore of Pinellas County with **low and medium concentrations** in and offshore of Hillsborough County, background to **medium concentrations** in and offshore of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee Counties, background to **very low concentrations** offshore of Collier County, and **medium concentrations** offshore of Pasco County. **Fish kills** suspected to be related to red tide were reported offshore of Pinellas County and along Manatee and Sarasota Counties. **Respiratory irritation** suspected to be related to red tide was reported in Sarasota County.

**Coastal Flooding:** **Coastal Flood Statements** remain in effect along the Middle and Upper Keys through this afternoon as **minor saltwater flooding** persists. **Locally moderate saltwater flooding** cannot be ruled out along the Upper Keys at times of high tide.

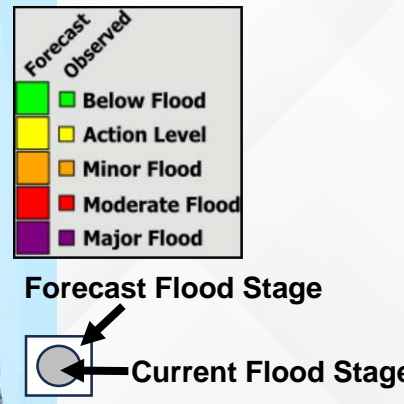
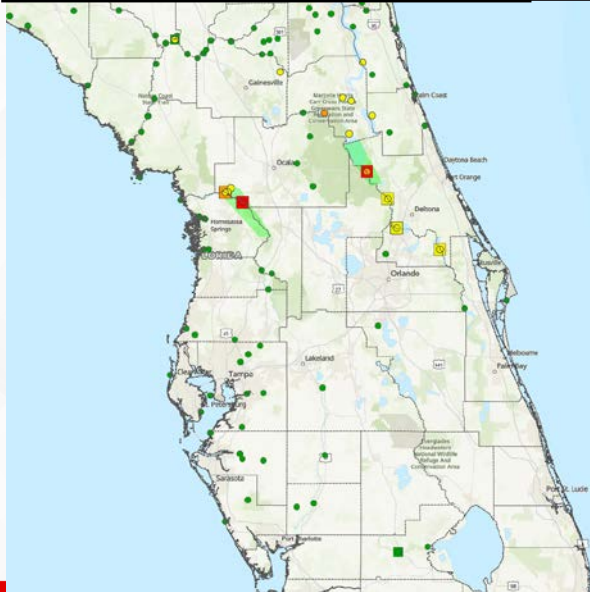
**Flash Flooding:** There is no risk for flash flooding today.

**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** persists along the [Withlacoochee River near Holder at SR-200](#) as water levels continue to slowly decline. The [St. Johns River at Astor](#) is currently within **Minor Flood Stage** but is forecast to rise back into or near **Moderate Flood Stage** later today due to breezy onshore north to northwesterly winds. The [Withlacoochee River at US-41 Dunnellon](#) has fallen just below **Minor Flood Stage** and back into Action Stage (bank-full) and is forecast to hold steady or very slowly fall over the coming days. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 16.02 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.10 feet above normal for this time of year.



## River Observations & Forecasts





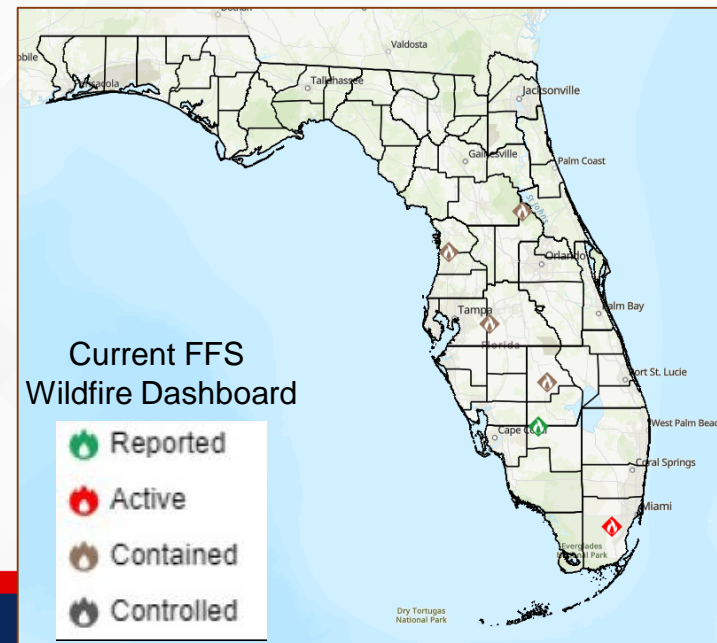
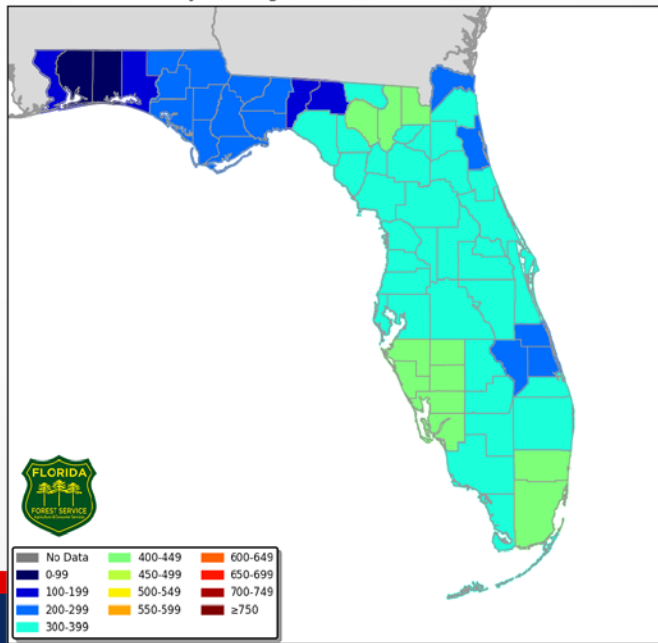
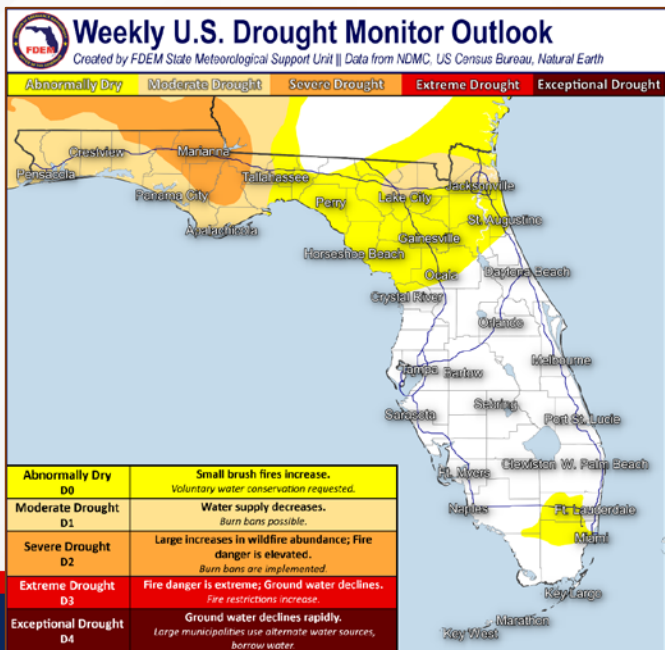
# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Sunny and dry conditions can be expected across the state today as cool and dry air moves in behind the recent cold front. Breezy northerly to northwesterly winds near 10-15 mph with **gusts upwards of 15-25 mph** can be expected throughout the day, remaining elevated through the overnight hours. Dry air will cause **relative humidity values to fall below critical thresholds** across North Florida (25-35%) and Central Florida (30-45%) this afternoon. Recent wetting rains should keep fire weather concerns low despite the breezy and dry pattern; however, **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** will be possible, especially along portions of the Florida Panhandle with ongoing drought conditions. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 6 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 15.51 acres.

**Drought:** Dryness and drought conditions persist across North Florida on this week's Drought Monitor update (11/21) as a result of little to no rainfall across the state. **Severe Drought** conditions have shifted eastward and now cover much of the Central Florida Panhandle. **Moderate Drought** conditions remain in place through the rest of the Panhandle and eastward to the Capital City but have also now been introduced in a band along and north of the I-10 Corridor from the I-75 corridor eastward to the East Coast. **Abnormally Dry** (emerging drought) conditions remain in place through the Eastern Big bend and Northern Peninsula and have also been introduced in South Florida in this week's update where rainfall totals ranged from 1/2 to 2/3 of normal for the past couple of months. Above normal temperatures and near to slightly above normal rainfall outlooked over the next week or so may allow for little change in drought conditions over the next week.

**The Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **332 (-34)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **no** Florida Counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

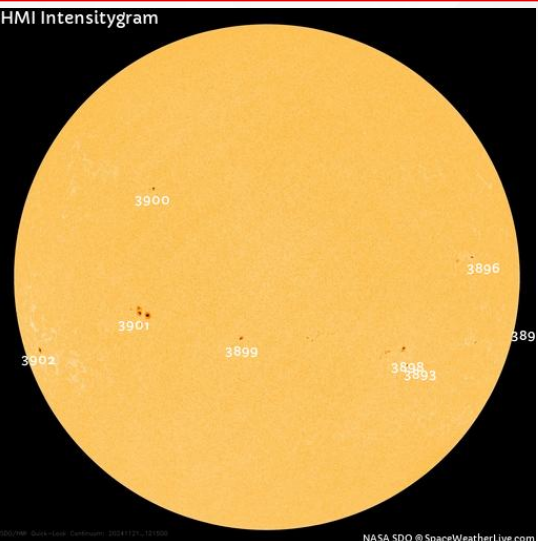
Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)  
County Averages for November 20, 2024



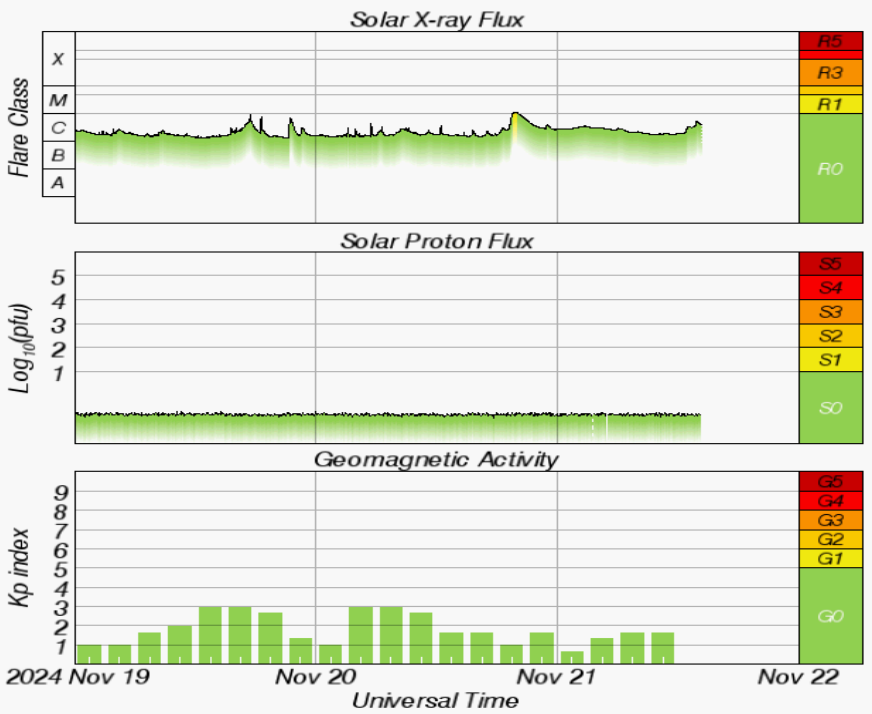
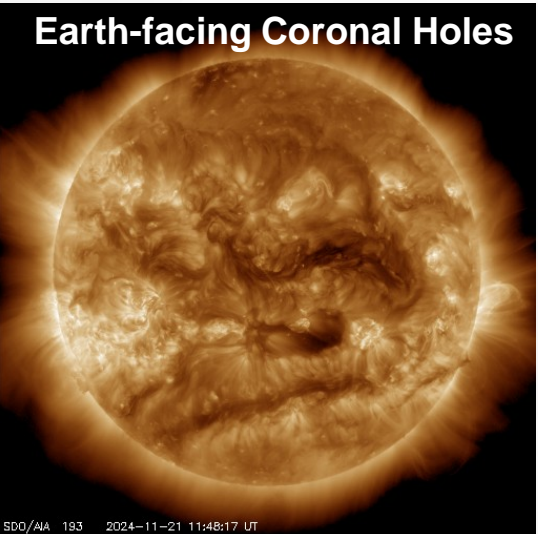




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



| Solar Flare Risk | Active Watches & Warnings | Past 24 hours     |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| M-class: 50%     | Geomagnetic Storm: None   | M1 Solar Flare    |
| X-class: 10%     | Radiation Storm: None     | R1 Radio Blackout |

| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast                          |  |
|---|--|
| 11/21   | 11/22  |
| Max Kp= 2 (G0)  | Max Kp= 3 (G0)   |
| Chance of minor activity = 5%<br>severe activity = 1% | Chance of minor activity = 10%<br>severe activity = 1% |

**Space Weather:** Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares over the next few days. New sunspot #3901 is crackling with M-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will likely accompany M-class solar flare activity, and strong (R3) radio will be possible in the event of any X-class solar flares. Solar wind conditions are anticipated to become elevated Friday and Saturday due to Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) influences. Mostly quiet geomagnetic conditions are expected today, becoming quiet to unsettled with a chance for an isolated active period Friday and Saturday due to the anticipated CH HSS effects. The overall space threat to Florida remains 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:            | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                            | Operational |          |
| SWO Tracker:      | <a href="https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/">https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/</a> | 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:          | <a href="http://www.floridadisaster.org">http://www.floridadisaster.org</a>               | Operational |          |

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