Florida Division of Emergency Management
State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Monday, December 9, 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Matthew Peloso	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Zachary Remante	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Kaya Dungey	(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	Karen Kozac	(850) 759-6226	Karen.Kozac@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	Jeremy Smith	(561) 662-8028	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com

Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Escambia	SMAA Meetng
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Office Admin
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Office Admin
Region 4: James Carter	Flagler	Hazardous Materials TTX
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	On-Call Status
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Polk	Office Admin
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Indian River, St .Lucie	LSA Follow Ups / Office Admin
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	NWS / Vehicle Maintenance / Office Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Office Admin

Region 5 coverage provided by Response Coordinator 6

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable

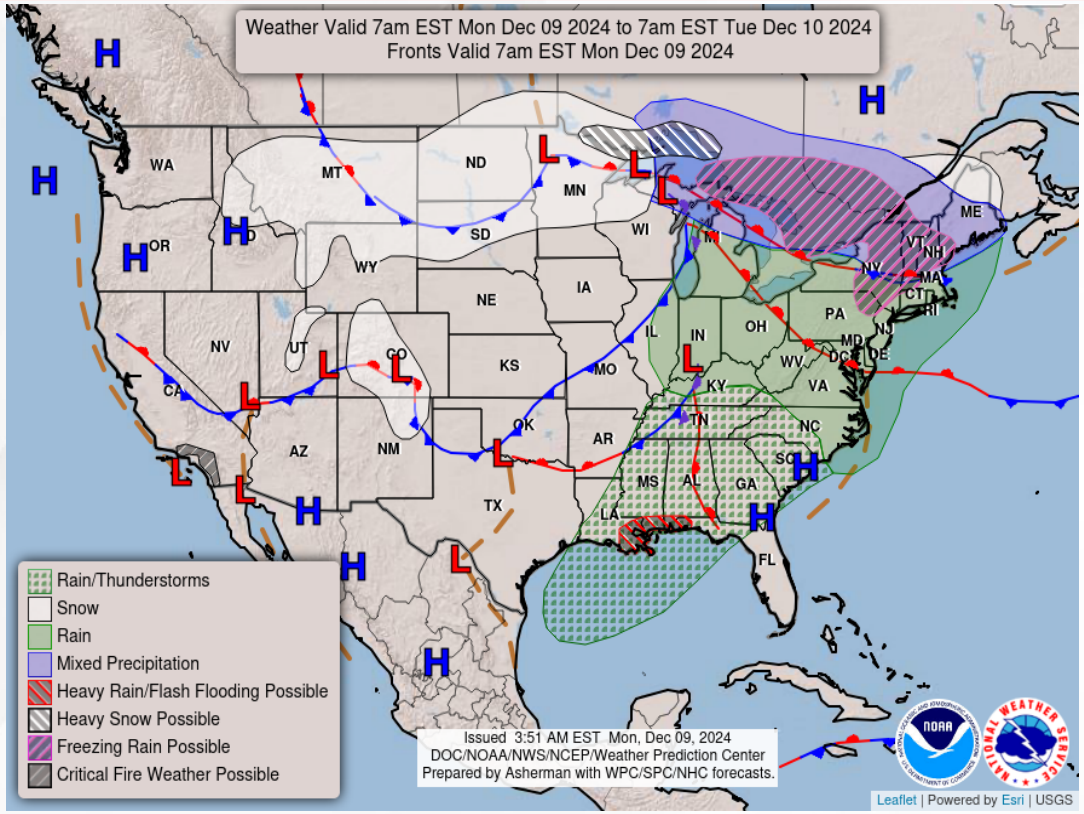
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Escambia	SMAA
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Gulf	IRC Intro Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Levy	G-386 Training
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Leave
RRCT Manager	Hernando	FEMA Meetings
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	Administrative Duties
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Internal Stakeholders MEeting
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Lee	FEMA Meetings
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	In Region	Leave

Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

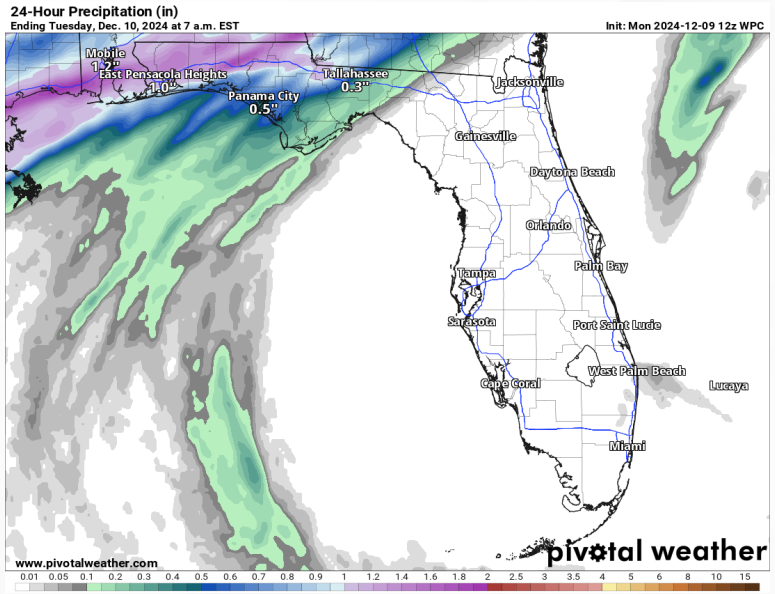
Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable

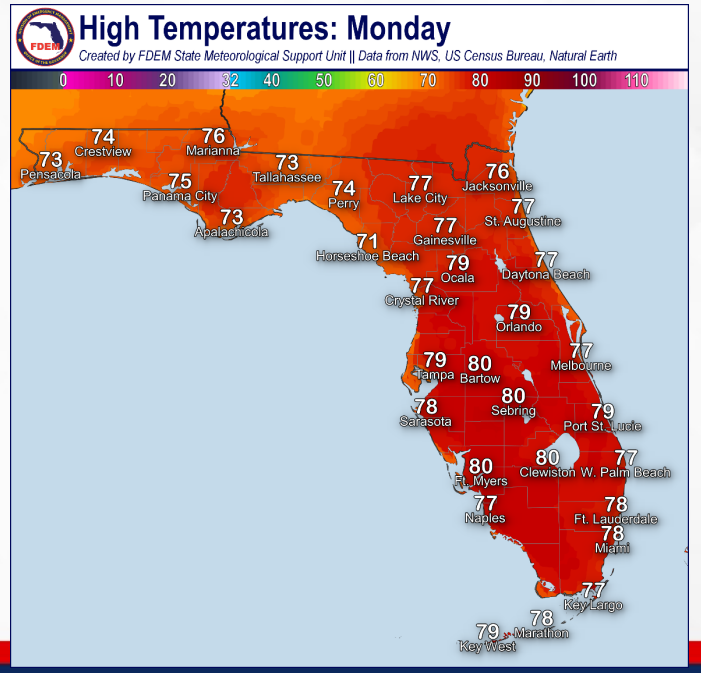
Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L								
Tornado										
Damaging Wind/Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L								
Fog (Overnight)						L	L		L	
Riverine Flooding										
Fire Weather										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	15.56 ft. (0.81 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	380 (+3) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





24-Hour Forecast Rainfall Totals –
Locally 3-4" Western Panhandle

Meteorology Summary

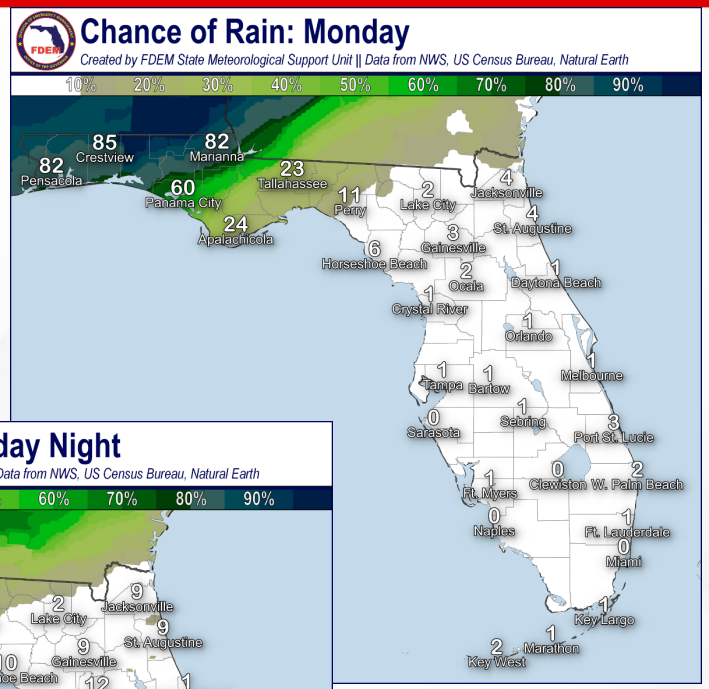
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

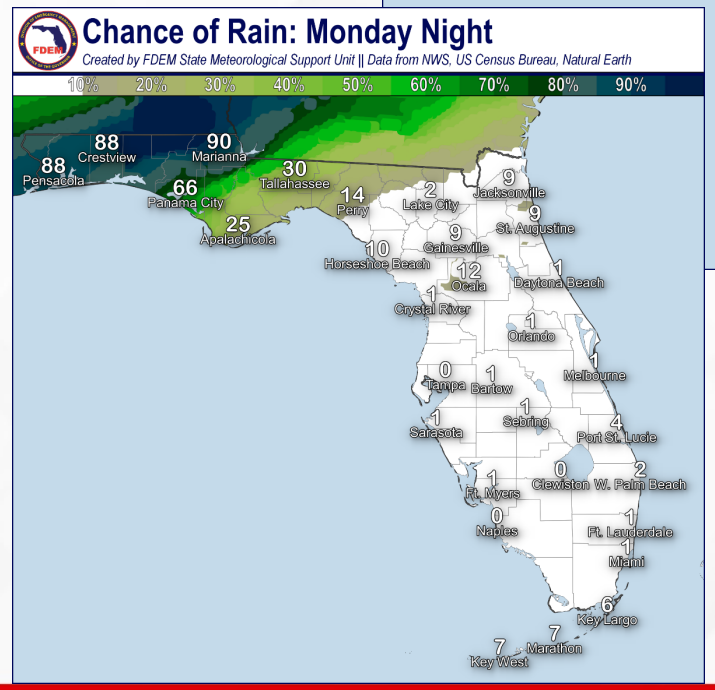
Today will mark the beginning of an active weather day across the Panhandle and Big Bend as the next frontal system develops along the lower Mississippi Valley and the Southeast U.S. Quick-moving showers have already developed this morning throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend and will continue to quickly move eastward as a weak warm front remains situated along the Gulf Coast. As the warm front moves northward, additional scattered to widespread showers will move eastward across the western Panhandle throughout the day, and there may be some embedded rumbles of thunder within (60-85% chance of rain). Severe weather is not expected today. 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 into the western Big Bend as heavy rainfall within widespread shower activity may lead to **instances of localized flooding** for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Mostly dry conditions can be expected throughout the Peninsula as high pressure over the western Atlantic continues to influence conditions.

High temperatures will **trend above normal for this time of year** reaching the middle to upper 70s throughout the state and near 80-degrees for interior portions of the Peninsula this afternoon.

Scattered to widespread showers will continue to push eastward across the Panhandle and into the Big Bend throughout the overnight hours, and a few rumbles of thunder may also continue (65-90% chance of rain). Mostly dry conditions can be expected to persist throughout the Peninsula overnight. **Areas of patchy to locally dense fog** may develop overnight and early Tuesday morning along the West Coast, as well as interior portions of South Florida near Lake Okeechobee.

Low temperatures will remain in the upper 50s along the I-75 corridor, while the rest of the state can anticipate low temperatures in the low to middle 60s except for Southeast Florida and the Keys which will see low temperatures in the low 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate to locally high risk for rip currents** persists along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast today with a low risk continuing along West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Ocean swells of 1-3' will persist across the state throughout the day, with **breaking waves upwards of 4'** in the surf zone.

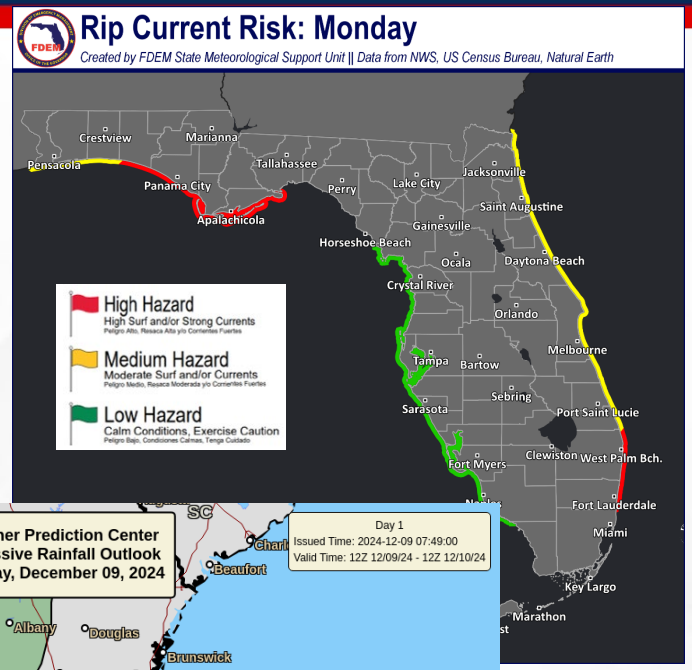
Red Tide has been observed in **54** samples collected from Southwest Florida over the past week (as of 12/6). Background to **medium concentrations** were observed in Pinellas County with **low concentrations** in Hillsborough County, background to **low concentrations** in Manatee County, background to **medium concentrations** in Sarasota County, **low to medium concentrations** in Charlotte County, and background to **medium concentrations** in and offshore of Lee County. ***Fish kills*** suspected to be related to red tide were reported along Pinellas County and ***respiratory irritation*** suspected to be related to red tide were reported in Pinellas and Sarasota Counties.

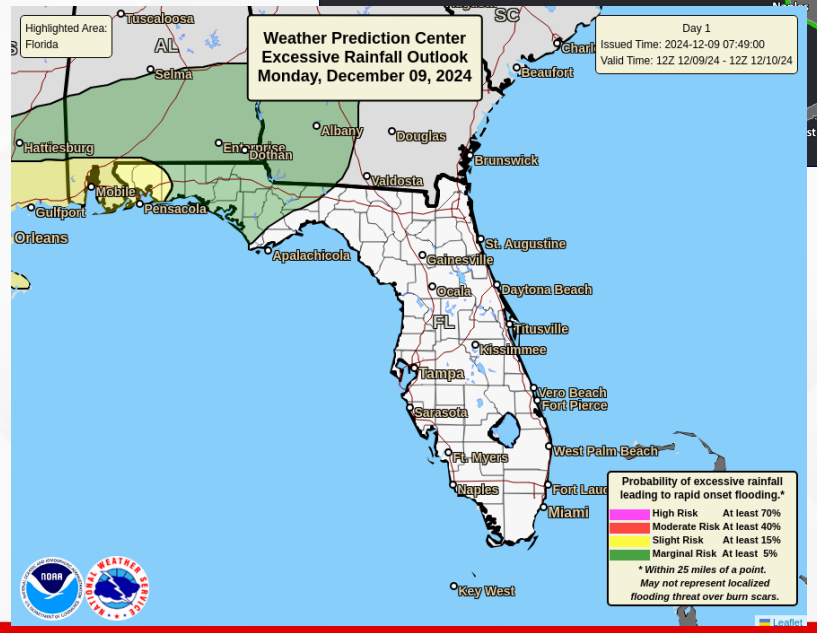
Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected today.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the far western Panhandle, with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending into the western Big Bend as widespread shower activity with embedded thunderstorms may lead to instances of **localized flash flooding**. Abundant moisture flowing northward behind a warm front will give way to multiple rounds of heavy rainfall at times today and into tonight along the Panhandle and towards the Big Bend. Any training showers and possible thunderstorms, especially those that produce heavy downpours at times, may lead to **minor flooding** for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Luckily, with the ongoing drought conditions along the Panhandle, it will take a lot of rain to produce any widespread flooding concerns. Rainfall totals of 1-2" are possible through today, with **locally higher totals** upwards of 3-4" possible along the western Panhandle.

Riverine Flooding: There are no riverine concerns at this time. Riverine flooding is not anticipated over the next couple of days with the more active weather pattern and widespread rainfall expected. Rises within streamflow may occur with heavier downpours, but will depend on where the heaviest rainfall occurs. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 15.56 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.81 feet above normal for this time of year.



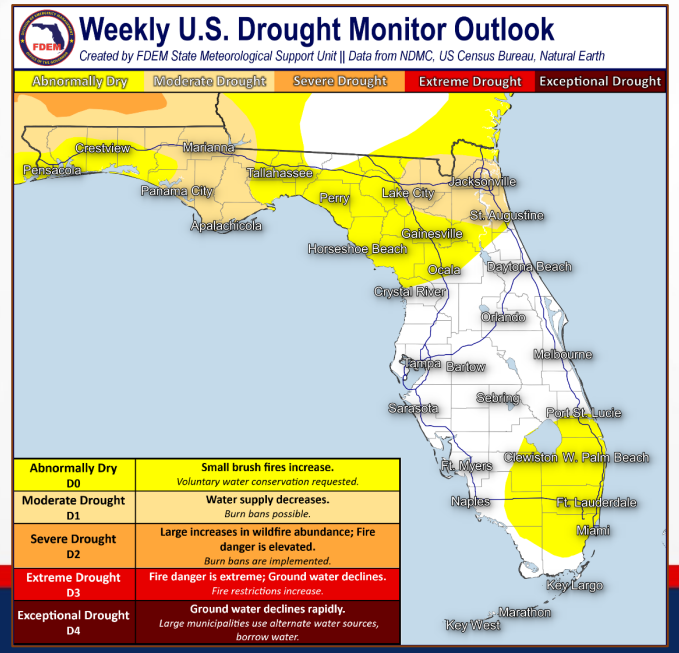


Drought & Fire Weather

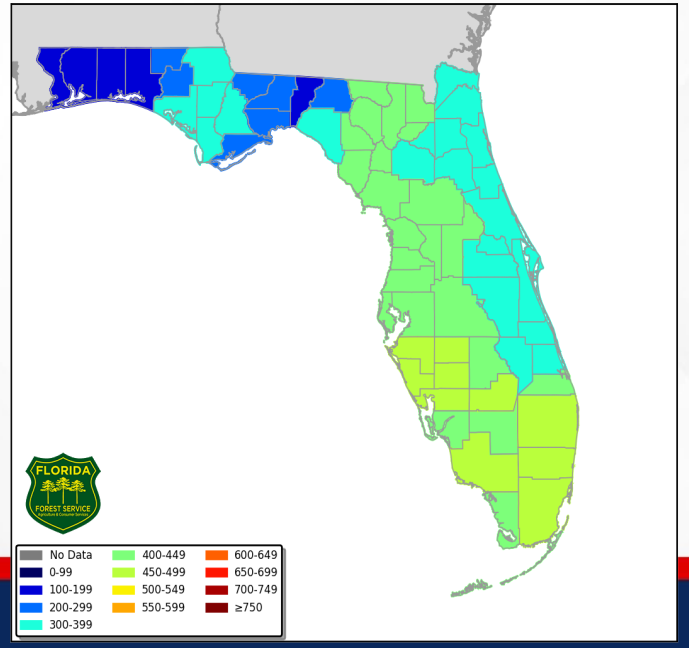
Fire Weather: An active weather pattern developing across the Panhandle and Big Bend will bring widespread rainfall over much needed areas. Southerly to southeasterly winds will bring moisture northward to keep relative humidity values above critical thresholds. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** may develop across interior portions of the northern Peninsula where relative humidity values may fall **near critical thresholds (45-50%)**. Wind gusts of 10-15 mph will develop this afternoon across the state during the afternoon hours, then calm down late in the afternoon and evening. **Areas of patchy to locally dense fog** may develop overnight or early Tuesday morning along the West Coast and throughout interior portions of South Florida. *Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires.* According to the Florida Forest Service, there are 30 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 138 acres.

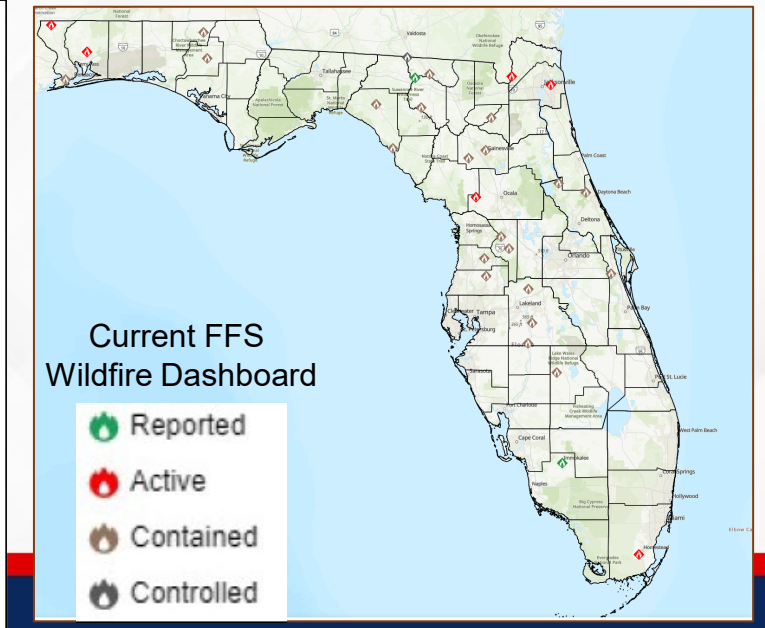
Drought: During the past week, generally dry conditions have prevailed with some isolated light precipitation observed, leading to worsening drought conditions as depicted in this week's Drought Monitor update (12/5). In Southeast Florida, short-term rainfall deficits in the past 30 days have led to a slight expansion of *Abnormally Dry (emerging drought) conditions*. Temperatures up to 2-6-degrees above normal across North Florida combined with these dry conditions have led to further expansion of **Moderate Drought conditions**, which now spread through Gulf and Franklin Counties to Apalachicola and across Nassau County. *Abnormally Dry conditions* remain in place elsewhere across North Florida. While near to above-normal temperatures are expected to persist over the next week or so, above normal rainfall outlooked through the period may help to improve drought conditions over the next week.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **380 (+2)** 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).

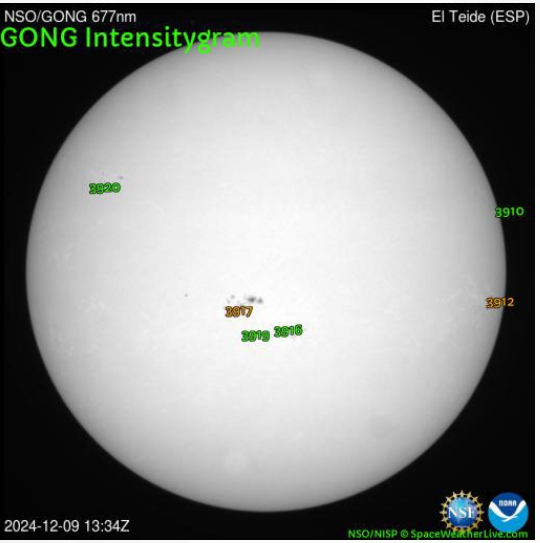


Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for December 08, 2024

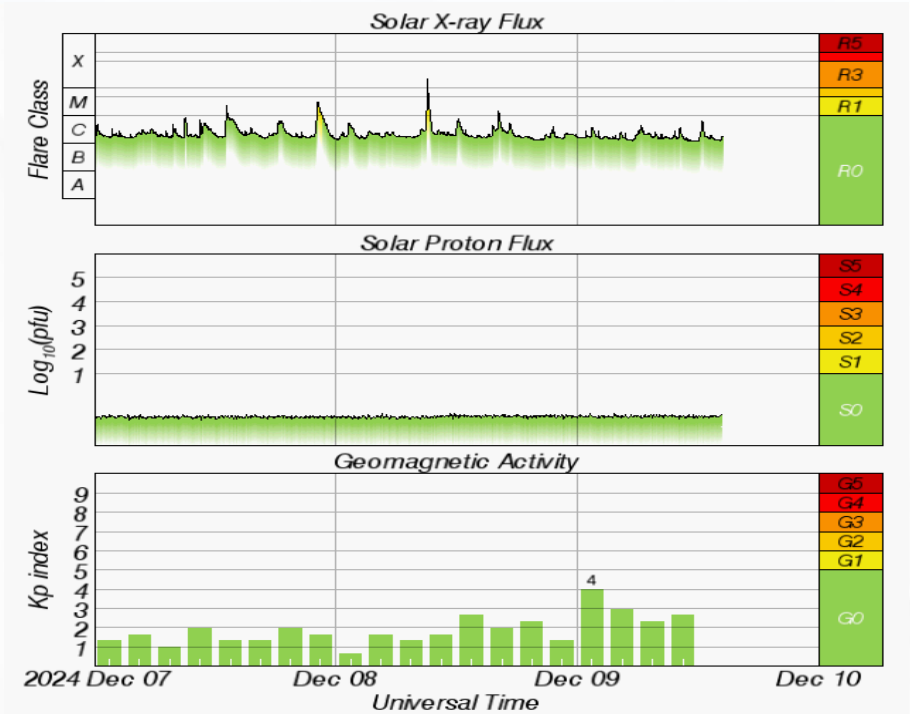




Space Weather



Current Sunspots

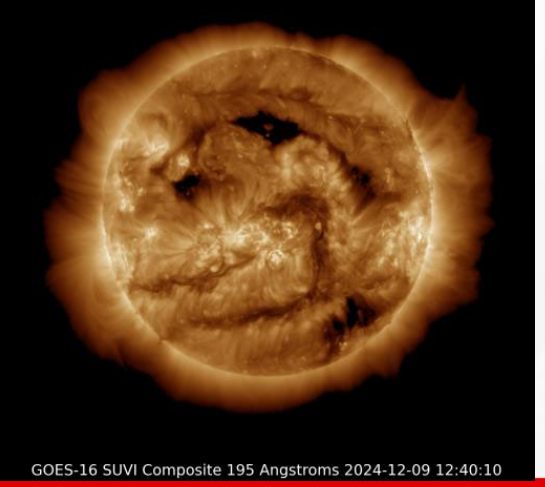


Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 60%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

12/9	12/10
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Space Weather: Solar activity is likely to continue at low to moderate levels with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares through today, with a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares through the next three days. Growing sunspot #3917 poses an increasing threat for M-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with any M-class solar flares and strong (R3) radio blackouts can be expected with any X-class solar flare. Sunday's X-class solar flare launched a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) into space, but it is not expected to directly impact Earth. Minor enhancements may be possible within the solar wind parameters over the next three days due to potential influence of Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds. There is a slight chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms through today due to favorable activity from sunspot #3917. The Earth's geomagnetic field is likely to reach quiet to unsettled evels, with a slight chance for isolated activity, over the next three days. 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	

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Caitlyn Gillespie

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