



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, December 26, 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	Taylor Cheney	(850) 545-4047	Taylor.Cheney@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@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	Tim Kenyon	(850) 591-7733	Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com
Infrastructure Branch Director	Tony Harris	850-273-0954	Tony.Harris@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

Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden	NWS Meeting / Office Admin
Region 2: Willie Bouie	In Region	On- Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: James Carter	In Region	On- Call Status
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On- Call Status
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	Office Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	In Region	On- Call Status



Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 4
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 7
Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	Sert Trac Training
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	Administrative Duties
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	External Stakeholder Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
RRCT Manager	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	End of Month Admin Duties
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Internal Stakeholder Meeting
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)

R2 coverage provided by Recovery RC 3

R5 and R6 coverage provided by Recovery RC 4

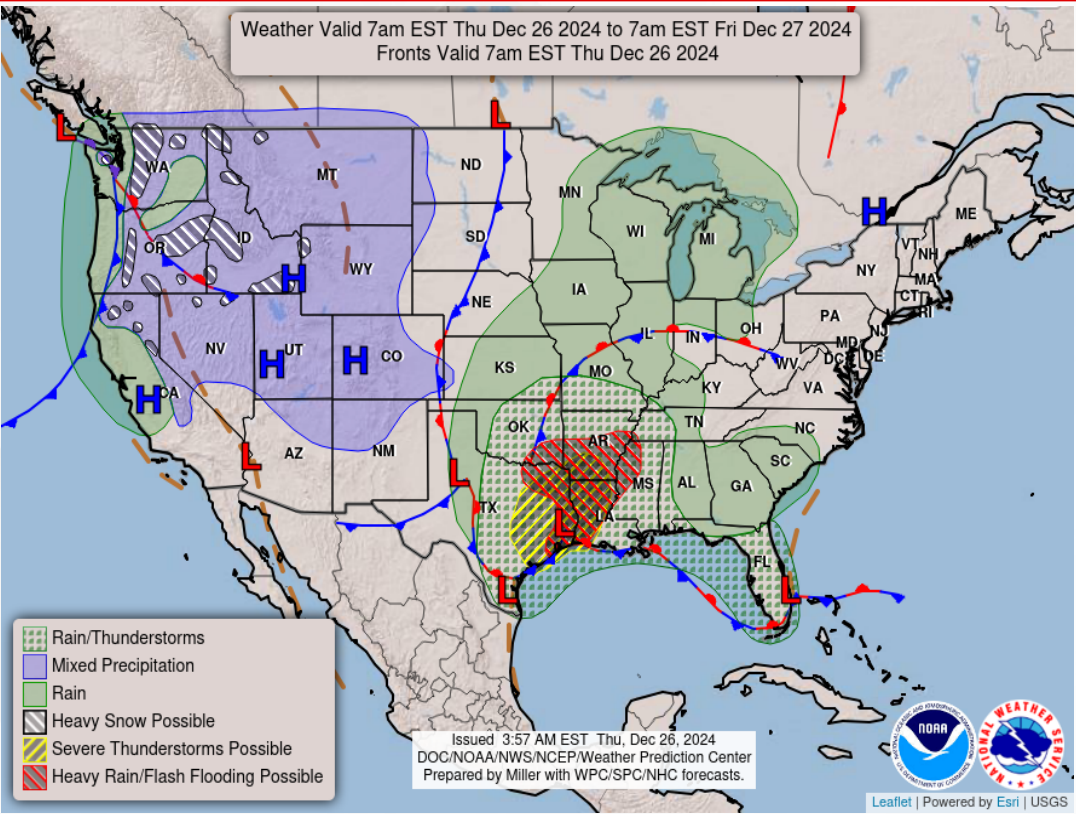
R7 coverage provided by Recovery RC 7

R9 and R10 coverage provided by Recovery RC 8

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

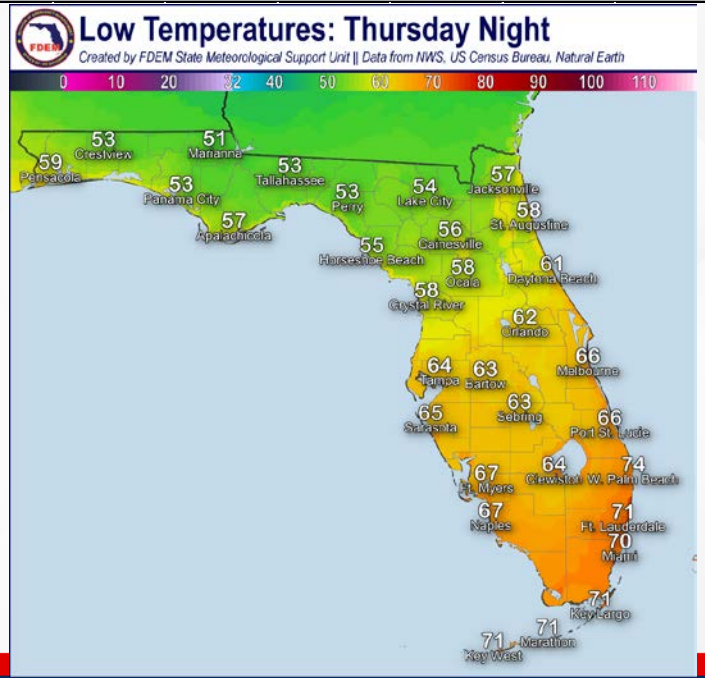
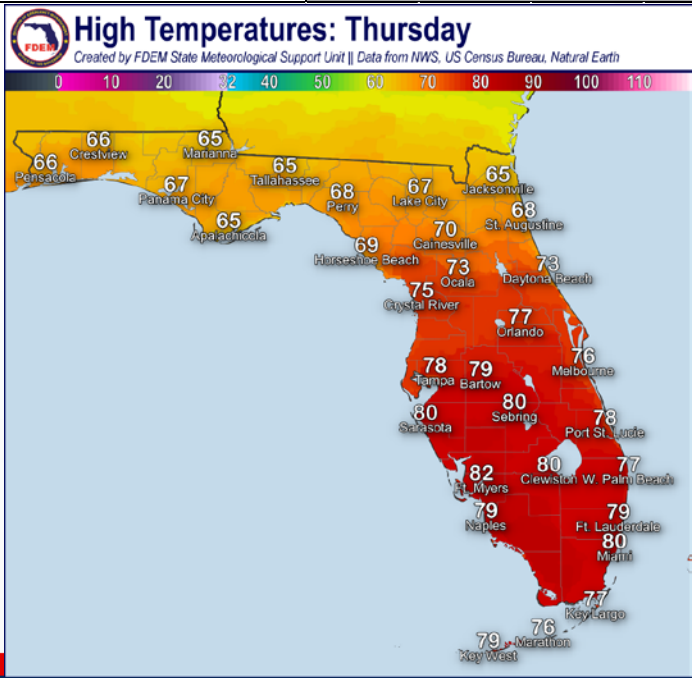


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)			L	L	L	L	L		L	
Fire Weather										
Coastal Flooding										
Rip Currents	H	M	L	H	M	L		M	L	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	15.17 ft. (0.50 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	392 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





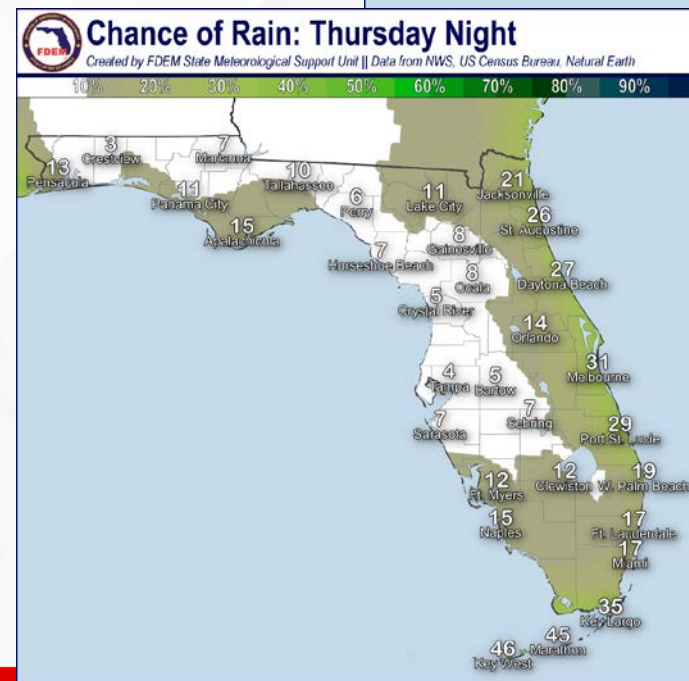
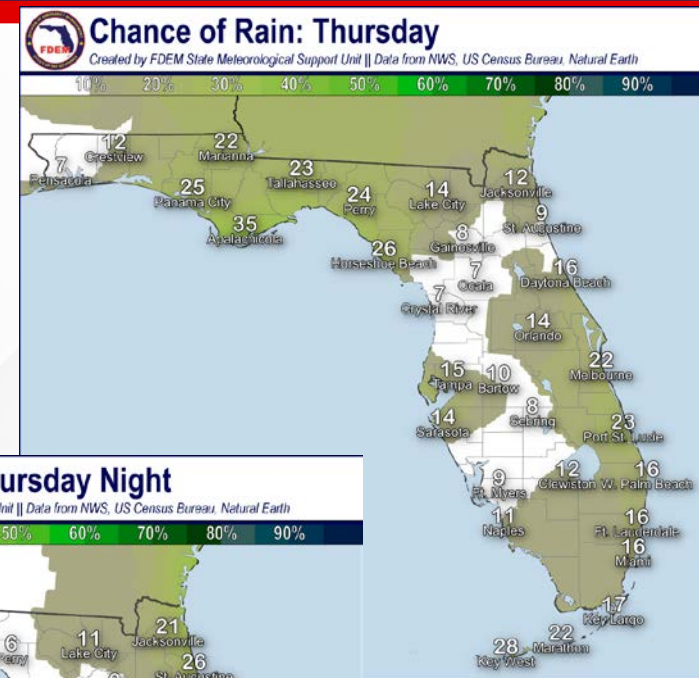
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** across portions of the Peninsula will gradually lift and dissipate through the mid-morning hours this morning; however, mostly cloudy skies will continue throughout the day. An upper-level disturbance moving eastward across the southeast this morning is helping to generate some light showers across the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley. Isolated to scattered showers and a thunderstorm or two will likely continue across much of the state throughout the day as warm, moist air continues to be pulled in and a stalled surface boundary across South Florida shifts slightly further northward (10-35% chance of rain).

Cloudier skies across the state will keep high temperatures in the middle 60s to low 70s across North Florida this afternoon with middle 70s to low 80s through the rest of the Peninsula and Keys. Northeasterly to easterly winds near 5-10 mph with gusts near 10-25 mph can be expected. **Locally stronger gusts reaching up to 20 mph** may be possible along the Panhandle later today into the early overnight hours.

Isolated to scattered showers will persist through the overnight hours across much of the state with an isolated thunderstorm or two remaining possible along the East Coast and Keys (10-45% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the 50s across North Florida, low to middle 60s across Central Florida, and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida overnight. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across the state overnight into Friday morning.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast today. A low risk can be expected elsewhere. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Poor to hazardous beach and boating conditions** can be expected along the East Coast and Panhandle today as ocean swells linger, maintaining **wave heights near 3-5'** in the surf with **locally higher 6' breaking waves** possible further offshore tonight. **1-3' waves** can be expected along the Big Bend and Atlantic-facing Keys throughout the day with **locally higher 4' breaking waves** possible. West Coast beaches will likely see wave heights remain near or below 1' this afternoon and near 1-2' overnight.

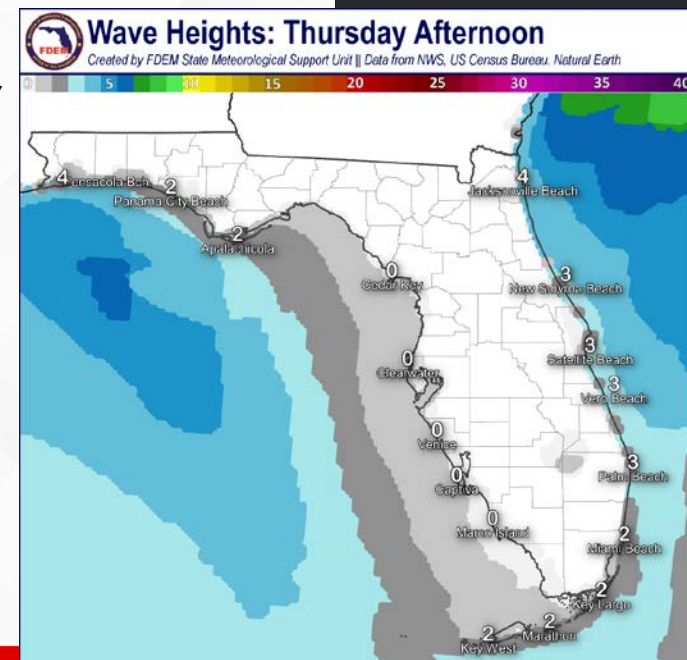
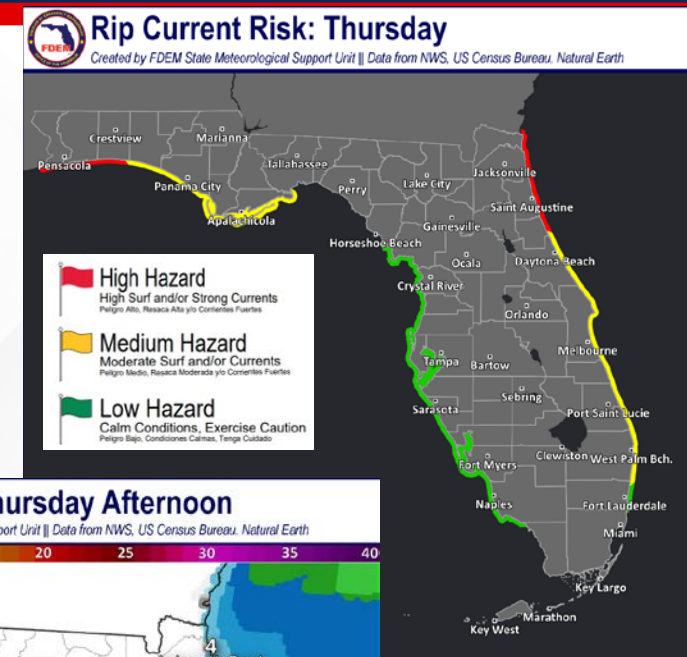
Red Tide has been observed in **99** samples collected from the Gulf Coast of Florida over the past week (as of 12/20). Background to **low concentrations** were observed in and offshore of Pinellas County, with background to **medium concentrations** in and offshore of Hillsborough County, background to **low concentrations** in and offshore of Manatee County, background to **medium concentrations** in and offshore of Sarasota County, background to **low concentrations** in and offshore of Lee County, background to **low concentrations** in and offshore of Collier County, and **very low concentrations** in Franklin County. **Fish kills** suspected of being related to red tide were reported offshore of Pinellas County and along Sarasota and Lee Counties and **respiratory irritation** suspected to be related to red tide was reported in Sarasota and Lee Counties.

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected today; however, **elevated tides (0.25-0.75' above normally dry ground)** may be possible near times of high tide due to the upcoming New Moon on 12/30.

Flash Flooding: Flash flooding is not expected today. Isolated to scattered showers will likely develop across much of the state today and tonight; however, widespread rainfall totals are expected to remain well below 1" with locally higher totals near 1" possible.

Riverine Flooding: Water levels along the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) have risen into Action Stage (bank-full) as a result of trapped tides in the basin struggling to discharge due to onshore winds and swells along the coastline. Water levels are forecast to remain relatively steady over the next few days, and riverine flooding is not expected at this time. There are no additional riverine flooding concerns across Florida. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 15.17 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.50 feet above normal for this time of year.



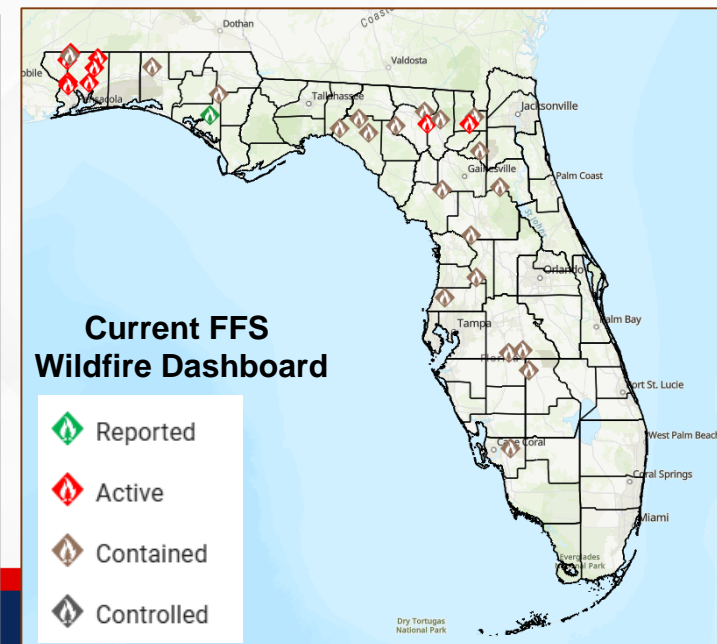
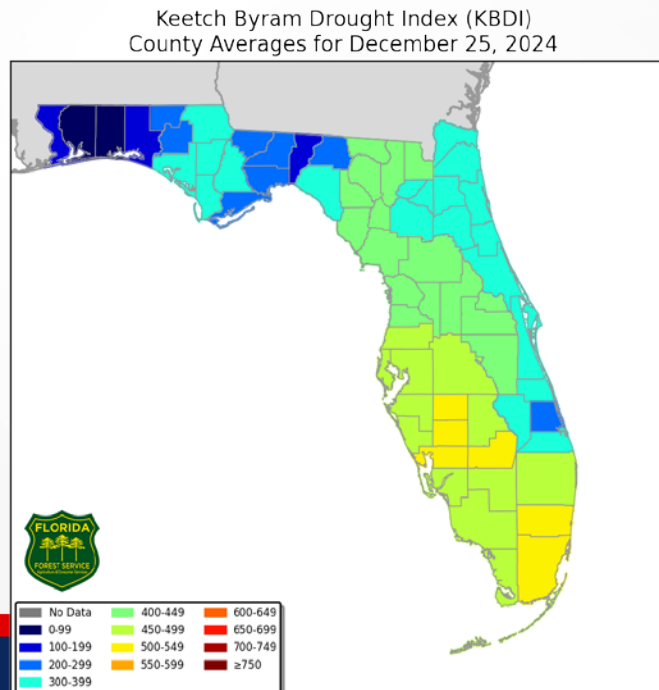
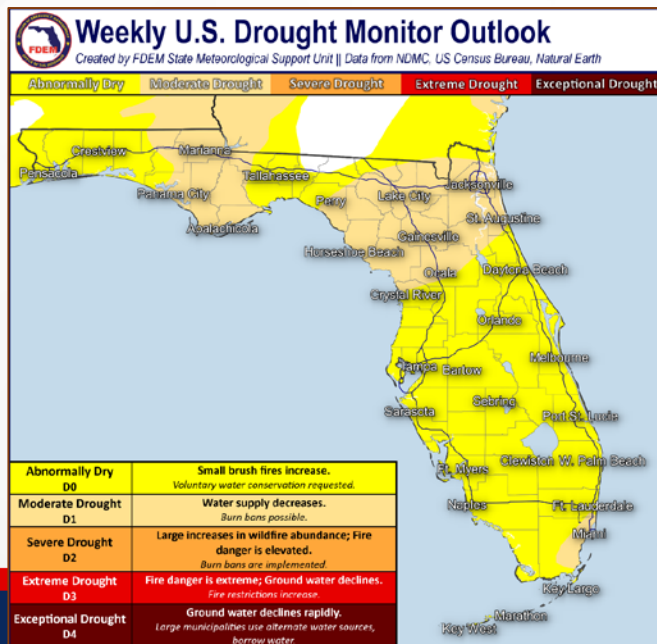


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Fire weather concerns are minimal today as relative humidity values are forecast to remain well above critical thresholds statewide. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** across portions of the Peninsula will gradually lift and dissipate through the mid-morning hours this morning; however, mostly cloudy skies will continue throughout the day. An upper-level disturbance moving eastward across the southeast this morning is helping to generate some light showers across the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley. Isolated to scattered showers and a thunderstorm or two will likely continue across much of the state throughout the day and overnight as warm, moist air continues to be pulled in and a stalled surface boundary across South Florida shifts slightly further northward. Northeasterly to easterly winds near 5-10 mph with gusts near 10-25 mph can be expected. **Locally stronger gusts reaching up to 20 mph** may be possible along the Panhandle later today into the early overnight hours. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across the state overnight into Friday morning. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 31 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 67.52 acres.

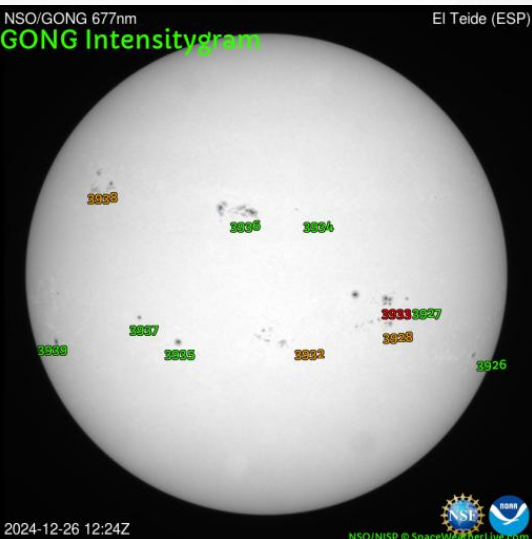
Drought: Increasing 60-day rainfall deficits of more than 4" has led to the addition of short-term **Moderate Drought** to portions of South Florida on this week's Drought Monitor update (as of 12/25). In addition, soil moisture and 28-day stream flows are beginning to fall below the 20th percentile across the Atlantic coastal areas of South Florida. **Moderate Drought conditions** remain in place across the Northern Peninsula and portions of the Central Florida Panhandle as mostly dry conditions have persisted over the past week. *Abnormally Dry (emerging drought)* conditions continue to spread across the rest of the Sunshine State. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near to below normal temperatures and below normal rainfall nearly statewide over the next week or so which may cause drought conditions to further deteriorate.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **392 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **6** Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, and Miami-Dade) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

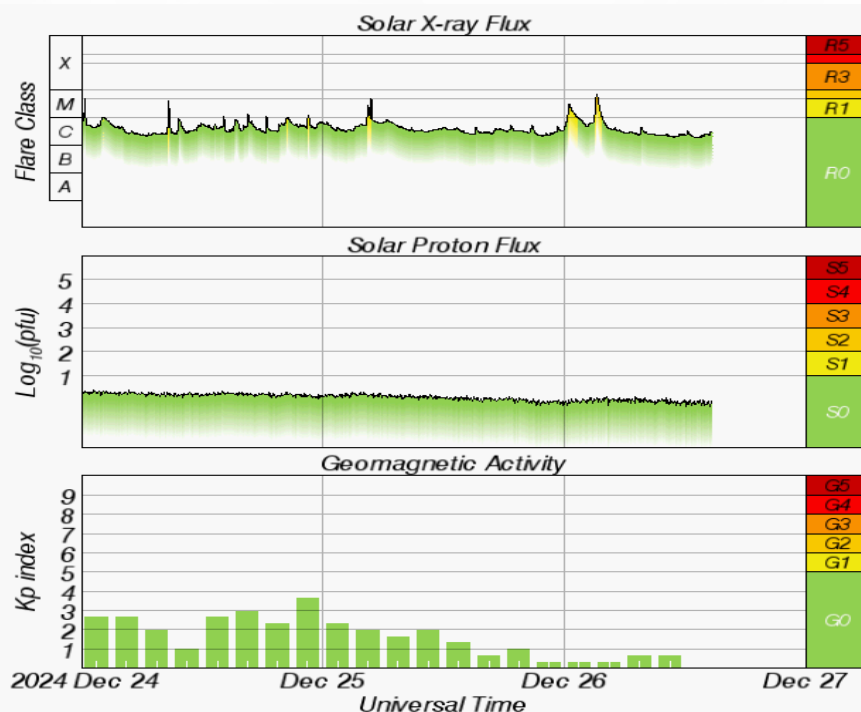




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 75%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M7 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R2 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

12/26	12/27
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



GOES-16 SUVI Composite 195 Angstroms 2024-12-26 12:40:24

Space Weather: Solar activity is forecast to reach high levels again today with a strong (M-class) solar flares expected and a slight chance for an isolated significant (X-class) over the next few days. Sunspot #3933 has a magnetic field that poses a threat for X-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will likely accompany M-class solar flare activity and strong (R3) radio blackouts may be possible in the event of any X-class solar flares. There remains a slight chance for solar radiations to reach minor (S1) solar radiation storm levels over the next few days. Enhanced solar wind conditions are expected to prevail through Friday due to the potential influences from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) from 12/24 and a Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS), while Saturday is expected to be only mildly enhanced. **Minor (G1) Geomagnetic Storming** is expected today with a slight chance for **isolated Moderate (G2) Geomagnetic Storm periods** due to the arrival of the CME from 12/24. Friday is expected to be quiet to active due to CH HSS influences plus additional waning influences from the CMEs, returning to quiet to unsettled geomagnetic conditions Saturday. The overall space weather 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:	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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