



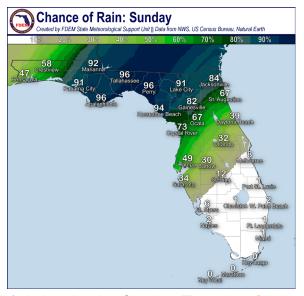


...Mostly Dry Conditions Statewide Today Into Saturday Thanks to High Pressure With Isolated to Widely Scattered Showers Possible...Shower and Thunderstorm Activity Returns to North Florida and Portions of Central Florida Saturday Night Into Sunday With the Next Cold Front...Marginal to Slight Risk For Severe Weather Along the Panhandle and Western Big Bend Saturday; Marginal Risk for Severe Weather Across the Big Bend and Northern Peninsula Sunday; Frequent Lightning, Damaging Wind Gusts, A Few Tornadoes, and Locally Heavy Rainfall Possible...Outside of Thunderstorms, Breezy Winds Near 15-25 MPH With Gusts Upwards of 20-30 MPH To Develop Saturday Night Into Sunday...Drier Conditions Prevail Sunday Night Through Early Next Week Under High Pressure With Isolated Showers Possible Across South Florida...Showers and Thunderstorms Return Along the Florida Panhandle Tuesday Night Ahead of the Next Frontal System; Strong to Severe Thunderstorms May Be Possible Mid-Next Week...Localized Instances of Flooding Cannot Be Ruled Out This Weekend and Mid-Next Week...Cooler Temperatures Across North Florida Over the Next Few Days But Remaining Near to Above Normal Elsewhere...Hazardous Beach and Boating Conditions and Moderate to High Risk For Rip Currents Anticipated Nearly Statewide Over the Next 5 Days...

Friday – Sunday:

A stalled frontal boundary near the Lake Okeechobee region will linger this morning before beginning to lift northward tonight. High pressure briefly building in over the state will allow drier conditions to return to the Sunshine State over the next day or so (near 0-15% chance of rain); however, the lingering frontal boundary will continue to serve as a focus for isolated to widely scattered shower activity statewide today and across North Florida tonight and Saturday (15-35% chance of rain).

The next cold front will approach the state from the west Saturday night and move through the state on Sunday. Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms can be expected along the Panhandle (70-95% chance of rain) and into the Big Bend (20-50% chance of rain) Saturday night and across North Florida (70-95% chance of rain) and southward to the I-4



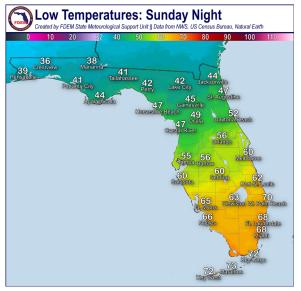
corridor into West-Central Florida (30-60% chance of rain) during the day Sunday. There is a Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather along the Panhandle with a Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) extending into the Western Big Bend as strong to severe thunderstorms ahead of the cold front and embedded within the more organized line of activity along and ahead of the cold front will be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (40-60 mph), a few tornadoes, and locally heavy downpours. A Marginal Risk for Severe Weather continues into the daytime hours across the Big Bend and Northern Peninsula Sunday as the cold front pushes further eastward.

Mostly dry conditions will persist along the Peninsula and Keys Saturday night and south of the I-4 corridor through the Keys Sunday under the lingering influence of high pressure as it moves off to the east (near 0-15% chance of rain). Drier conditions will return statewide on Sunday night as the cold front sinks through the Peninsula, stalling along the far Southern Peninsula and Keys, and high pressure builds back in behind it (near 0-25% chance of rain).

High temperatures will remain in the middle 60s to middle 70s across North Florida this afternoon, rising back into the middle 70s to middle 80s Saturday, and remaining in the 70s to low 80s Sunday. The rest of the state will continue to see high temperatures in the upper 70s to upper 80s.







Breezy winds will remain near 10-15 mph with **gusts upwards of 15-25 mph** today, strengthening to **near 15-25 mph** with **gusts upwards of 20-30 mph** Saturday night and Sunday.

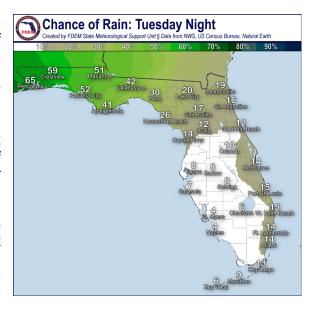
Low temperatures will fall into the middle 50s to low 60s across North Florida tonight but remain in the low to middle 60s Saturday night. The rest of the state can expect to see low temperatures in the middle 60s to middle 70s tonight and Saturday night. With the passage of the next cold front on Sunday, low temperatures will fall into the middle 30s to middle 40s along the Florida Panhandle, middle 40s to low 50s across the Northern Peninsula, middle 50s to low 60s across Central Florida, and middle 60s to middle 70s across South Florida Sunday night. Continued breezy winds through the overnight hours will create wind chills near or below freezing along the Florida Panhandle and in the middle

to upper 30s across portions of the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley Sunday night into Monday morning. Patchy areas of frost cannot be ruled out Sunday night into Monday morning in areas that see calmer winds. Areas of patchy to locally dense fog will be possible along the Peninsula tonight into Saturday morning and across North and Central Florida Saturday night into Sunday morning. Areas of patchy fog will be possible along the Peninsula Sunday night into Monday morning.

Monday - Tuesday:

Mostly dry conditions can be expected across the state Monday and into Tuesday under the influence of an area of high pressure (near 0-10% chance of rain). A few isolated showers will be possible at times across South Florida and the Keys as a frontal boundary remains stalled just off the South Florida Coast and along the Keys (10-25% chance of rain). Rain chances will likely return to the Florida Panhandle Tuesday night ahead of the next frontal system (30-65% chance of rain). While it is too early to determine severe weather potential at this time, **strong to severe thunderstorms** may be possible around mid-next week.

High temperatures will remain in the upper 50s to middle 60s across North Florida Monday afternoon but rise back into the middle 60s to middle 70s Tuesday. Northerly to northeasterly winds Monday will turn more easterly Tuesday but remain near 5-10 mph with gusts upwards of 10-15 mph.



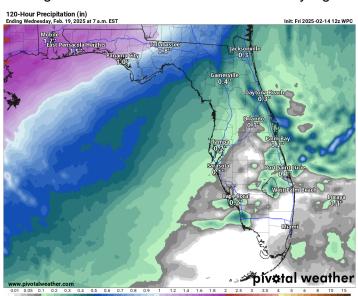
Low temperatures will fall into the **middle 30s** to middle 40s across North Florida, low to middle 50s across Central Florida, upper 50s to upper 60s across South Florida, and low 70s along the Keys Monday night in the wake of the cold front passage. Lingering breezy winds will create **near freezing wind chills** along the Panhandle and in the **upper 30s** to low across the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley Monday night into Tuesday morning. Cool conditions will linger Tuesday night for portions of the state with low temperatures in the middle 40s to middle 50s across North Florida, low to middle 60s across Central Florida, and middle 60s to low 70s across South Florida.

Hydrology & Flooding:





There is no organized risk for flash flooding over the next 5 days. High pressure briefly building in over the state will allow drier conditions to return to the Sunshine State over the next day or so; however, the lingering frontal boundary will continue to serve as a focus for isolated to widely scattered shower activity today and Saturday. Any activity that develops is expected to remain light and relatively brief, and flooding is not expected. A cold front will bring more scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms across North Florida and into Central Florida Saturday night into Sunday, some of which may be capable of producing locally heavy rainfall. While there is no organized risk for flash flooding at this time, localized **nuisance flooding** may be possible, primarily across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Drier conditions return Sunday night into early next week as high pressure builds back



in behind the cold front with isolated showers possible across portions of South Florida and the Keys as a frontal boundary lingers near the region. Any activity that develops is expected to remain light and brief, and flooding is not expected. Widespread rainfall totals near or below 1-2" are expected across North and Central Florida over the next 3 days with locally higher totals upwards of 2" possible. Rain chances return along the Florida Panhandle Tuesday night ahead of the next frontal system. With grounds already saturated in the region from prior rounds of heavy rainfall, instances of flooding and ponding of water cannot be ruled out with additional heavy rainfall, despite no organized risk. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center website.

Riverine flooding is not expected today. Quicker-response rivers and waterways along the Florida Panhandle will likely see instances of water level rises as heavy downpours from showers and thunderstorms over the last couple of days filters through the basins; however, riverine flooding is not expected at this time. The <u>Apalachicola River near Blountstown</u> and <u>Big Coldwater Creek near Milton</u> are forecast to rise into Action Stage in the coming days. Additional rivers may rise into Action Stage (bank-full) over the next week. Conditions will be monitored over the next several days for potential elevated headwaters flowing downstream into the Panhandle from southern Alabama and Georgia due to heavy rainfall. Localized instances of minor riverine flooding cannot be ruled out along rivers and waterways that see locally higher rainfall totals across the basin over the next week. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.05 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.53 feet <u>below</u> normal. Lake elevations have fallen by about 0.22 feet over the past week and about 0.64 feet over the past 30 days. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near to above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall across the Lake Okeechobee region over the next week or so which will likely allow water levels to hold steady or increase slightly.

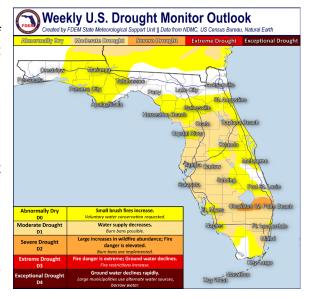
Fire Weather:

Florida missed out on all beneficial rainfall over the past week, adding on to the week (and months for some areas) of dryness. 60-day rainfall deficits have now reached 2-4" below normal across much of the state with locally higher pockets of 4-5" across the Apalachicola region and in Northwestern Palm Beach County. Above-normal temperatures also contributed to deteriorating conditions. Streamflow, soil moisture, lack of precipitation and other precipitation-based indicators are all showing quick drying over the past 1-3 months. Because of this, widespread *Abnormally Dry* (emerging drought) and Moderate Drought conditions spread across Florida on this week's <u>Drought Monitor</u> update (as of



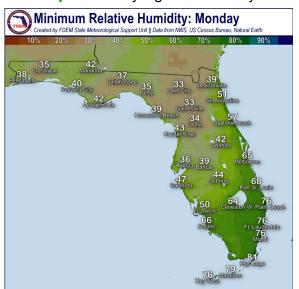


2/13). Abnormally Dry to Moderate Drought conditions now stretch south of the I-10 corridor through much of the Peninsula with a localized area of Severe Drought conditions now introduced south of Lake Okeechobee in Palm Beach and Hendry Counties. With rainfall from today (2/13) and Wednesday (2/12) not yet included into the outlook, Abnormally Dry conditions have also been reintroduced across much of the Eastern Panhandle and Western Big Bend. Improvements in drought conditions along the Florida Panhandle will likely be noted in next week's update as rainfall from today (2/13) and Wednesday (2/12) are taken into account and with additional rounds of heavy rainfall are possible this weekend and mid-next week. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near normal temperatures and above normal rainfall along the Peninsula over the next week or so, which may bring some improvements to drought conditions in the region.



The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **358** (-12) on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are <u>17</u> Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Pasco, and Sarasota) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

High pressure briefly building in over the state will allow drier conditions to return to the Sunshine State over the next day or so; however, the lingering frontal boundary will continue to serve as a focus for isolated to widely scattered shower activity today and Saturday. A cold front will bring more scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms across North Florida and into Central Florida Saturday night into Sunday. Drier conditions return Sunday night into early next week as high pressure builds back in behind the cold front with isolated showers possible across portions of South Florida and the Keys as a frontal boundary lingers near the region. Rain chances return along the Florida Panhandle Tuesday night ahead of the next frontal system. Breezy northeasterly to easterly winds will remain near 10-15 mph with gusts upwards of 15-25 mph today, becoming southerly to southeasterly Saturday and southwesterly to northwesterly Sunday, and strengthening to near 15-25 mph with gusts upwards of 20-30 mph Saturday night into Sunday. Calmer northerly to northeasterly winds Monday will turn more



easterly Tuesday but remain near 5-10 mph with gusts upwards of 10-15 mph. Relative humidity values will fall to near 45-50% along the Panhandle and interior portions of the Peninsula at times over the next 3 days but remain well above critical thresholds elsewhere. Drier conditions can be expected early next week with high pressure building back in over the state, allowing relative humidity values to fall to near 30-45% across North Florida and portions of Central Florida in the afternoon. Locally sensitive wildfire conditions will be possible Monday and Tuesday afternoon, especially across areas that have seen little to no rainfall over the last week or that have ongoing drought conditions. Areas of patchy to locally dense fog will be possible across portions of the state overnight into the following morning hours over the next few days. According to the Florida Forest Service fire dashboard, there are 38 active



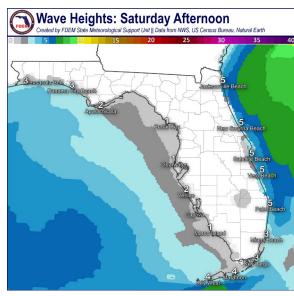


wildfires across the state burning approximately 767.24 acres (as of 1:44 PM EST).

Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

A moderate to high risk for rip currents persists along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast with the help of developing breezy winds and ocean swells. A low to moderate risk for rip currents is expected to return along the West Coast today. A moderate to high risk for rip currents will persist along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast over the next 5 days with the help of breezy winds and oceans swells. A low to moderate risk can be expected along the West Coast Saturday, increasing to a moderate to high-risk Sunday and Monday as a cold front moves through the state. A low to moderate risk for rip currents will likely return to the West Coast Tuesday. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Poor to hazardous beach and boating conditions are expected along the Florida Panhandle and Florida's Atlantic Coast today, likely continuing this weekend, as breezy onshore winds and ocean swells develop. Large breaking waves near 4-7' can be expected to develop in the surf along the Northeast and Central-East Coasts and Atlantic-facing Keys today and tonight with locally higher breaking waves upward of 7' possible further offshore. These large breaking waves will persist Saturday and into Sunday before gradually beginning to dissipate, likely returning to near 3-6' Sunday and Monday. High Surf Advisories may be issued as conditions warrant. The rest of Florida's Atlantic Coast will see wave heights remain near 1-3' today, increasing to 3-6' tonight before returning to near 2-4' late Saturday into Sunday and near 1-3' Monday. Florida Panhandle beaches will likely see wave heights remain near 3-6' today through Monday with 1-4' waves



along the West Coast. 1-4' waves can be expected to return statewide Tuesday before the next frontal system begins to redevelop ocean swells along the coastlines.

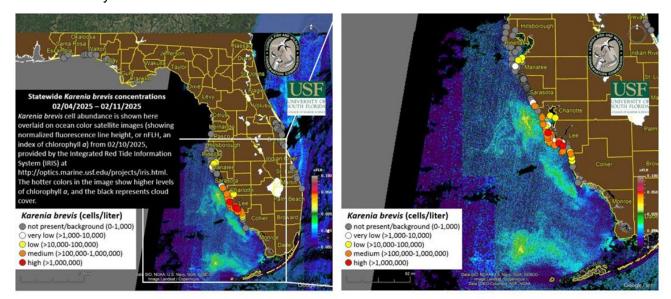
While there is no organized risk for coastal flooding at this time, yesterday's full moon creating astronomically high tides combined with continued breezy winds and ocean swells will create elevated tides (0.25-1' above normally dry ground) near and at times of high tide along Florida Panhandle and West Coast beaches today. Instances of minor coastal flooding cannot be ruled out. Northeast Coast beaches may also see instances of elevated tides today as large breaking waves develop in the surf. With winds and ocean swells continuing to develop over the next few days with the incoming cold front, elevated tides (0.25-1.5' above normally dry ground) and localized instances of minor coastal flooding will continue to be possible near and at times of high tide through the weekend and into early next week along the Florida Panhandle and West Coast. Minor coastal erosion may be possible along portions of the First, Space, and Treasure Coasts as large breaking waves impact the coastline over the next few days.

Red Tide has been observed in 65 samples collected from Southwest Florida (valid 2/12). Background to low concentrations have been observed in Pinellas and Manatee Counties. Background to medium concentrations have been observed in Sarasota, Charlotte, and Collier Counties. Background to high concentrations have been observed in Lee County. Fish kills and respiratory irritation have been reported in Lee, Collier, and Monroe Counties. Based on satellite imagery from 2/10-11, chlorophyll patches persist along and offshore of Charlotte, Lee, Collier, and Monroe Counties. In comparison with prior weeks, chlorophyll patches have moved further northward and decreased somewhat in intensity. Northwestern to northern movement of surface waters and





variable transport of subsurface water is forecast from Pinellas County to northern Monroe County over the next 3-4 days.



As of 2/6, <u>Blue-Green Algae</u> was observed on partially obscured satellite imagery of Lake Okeechobee with widely scattered low to <u>moderate bloom potential</u> throughout the lake. Partially obscured satellite imagery of the St. Johns River from 2/5 showed scattered low to <u>moderate bloom potential</u> on Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River downstream to Jacksonville, Florida. Satellite imagery from 2/6 is partially obscured by cloud cover but shows sparsely scattered low bloom potential throughout the upper half of the Caloosahatchee Estuary. Partially obscured satellite imagery of the St. Lucie Estuary from 2/5 shows scattered low bloom potential in the south fork of the St. Lucie River.

NWS Mobile Daily Hazards
NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards
NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards

NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards
NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards
NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards
NWS Kev West Daily Hazards

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:

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Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click here.

Have a wonderful weekend!
Melissa James, Assistant State Meteorologist
Florida Division of Emergency Management
www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather



