



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Saturday, February 15, 2025



# 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	<a href="mailto:Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com">Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com</a>
Duty Officer	Jay Griffin	(850) 524-4094	<a href="mailto:Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com">Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Day	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Swing	Matthew Peloso	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Zachary Remante	(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	Tim Kenyon	(850) 567-0190	<a href="mailto:Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com">Tim.Kenyon@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	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 2: Willie Bouie	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Mason Kozac	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4  
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 9  
Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Region 1: Allison Blevins	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 3: Patrick James	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	On Call for Region 4
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
RRCT Manager	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	In Region	On Call for Region 10

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

## Status

Normal Operations

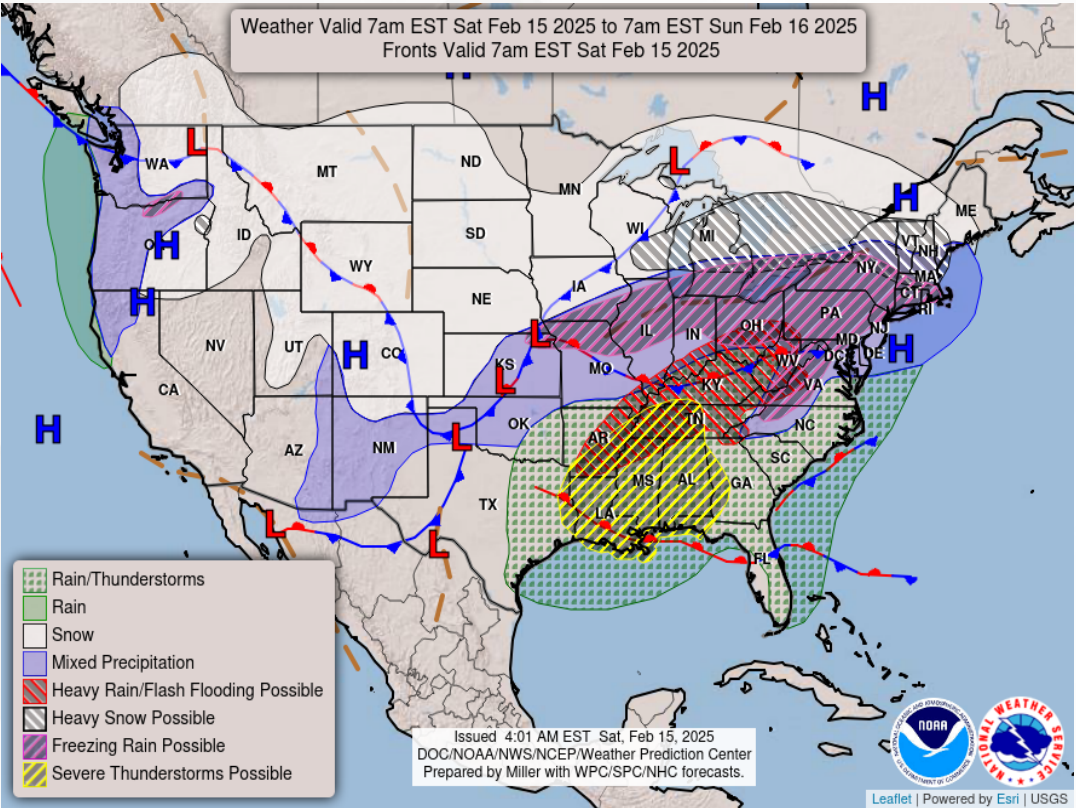
In Region / Delayed Response

Deployed / Delayed Response

Out of Service / Unavailable

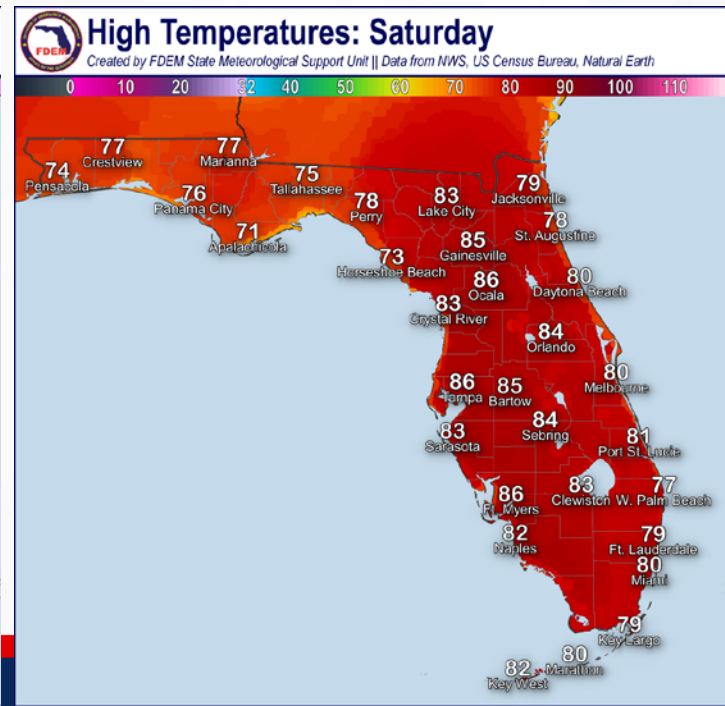
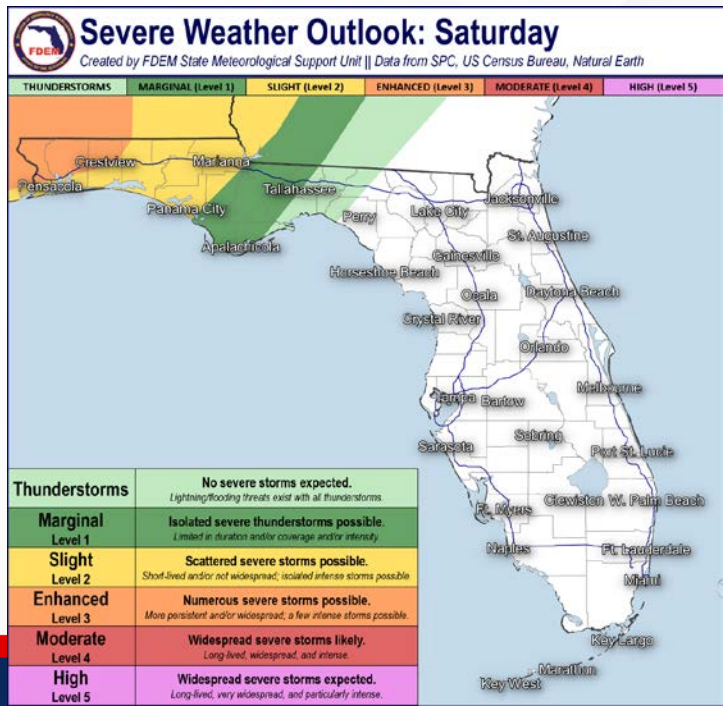


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning (Overnight)	M	M	L							
Tornado (Overnight)	M	L								
Damaging Wind (Overnight)	M	L								
Hail										
Flash Flooding (Overnight)	L									
Fire Weather				L	L	L	L		L	
Fog (Overnight)	L	M	M	L	L	L	L			
Coastal Flooding										
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	M	M		M	M	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.05 ft. (0.52 ft. <u>Below Normal</u> )									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	358 (-12) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





# Meteorology Summary

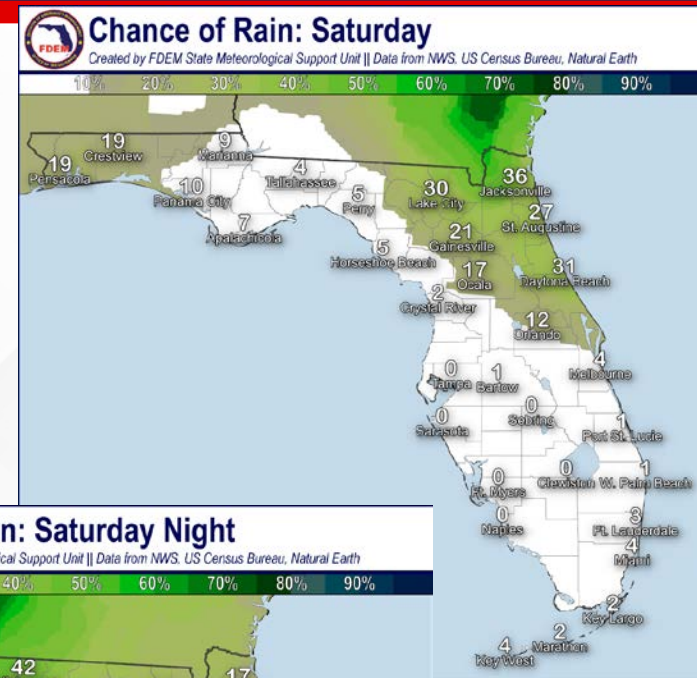
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** that have developed over portions of the state this morning will gradually lift and dissipate through the mid-morning hours. **Localized areas of patchy sea fog** may linger coastal Gulf water throughout the day. Mostly dry conditions can be expected across the state today under the continued influence of high pressure as it slips eastward over the Western Atlantic (near 0-15% chance of rain). Isolated to widely scattered showers will be possible across North Florida throughout the day as a frontal boundary lifts northward through the region (15-35% chance of rain). Any activity that develops is expected to remain light and brief.

High temperatures will rise into the 70s along the Florida Panhandle and upper 70s to middle 80s along the Peninsula and Keys this afternoon. Interior portions of the Peninsula will see **relative humidity values fall to near 40-55%** this afternoon, which may give way to **sensitive wildfire conditions** in areas with ongoing drought conditions. Breezy easterly to southeasterly winds can be expected across the state today, reaching near 10-15 mph with **gusts upwards of 15-20 mph**. Winds will turn more southerly to southwesterly overnight, strengthening across North Florida ahead of the approaching cold front. **Wind Advisories** have been issued across North Florida for late tonight through Sunday evening as **southwest winds near 15-30 mph with gusts up to 40-45 mph** are expected.

A strong cold front will approach and begin to move eastward through Florida tonight and Sunday. A squall line of strong to severe thunderstorms will likely form along or just ahead of the cold front and will begin to move rapidly eastward through the Panhandle (70-near 100% chance of rain) and towards the Big Bend (25-50% chance of rain) overnight into Sunday morning. Confidence is increasing for a more robust threat for severe weather associated with this activity. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking an **Enhanced Risk (level 3 of 5) for Severe Weather** across the Western Panhandle with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5)** extending through the Eastern Panhandle and a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** stretching through the Western Big Bend. Frequent lightning, damaging winds (50-70 mph), a few tornadoes (*a strong EF2+ possible*), and locally heavy downpours will be possible with this squall and with any isolated storms that are able to develop ahead of the line. Locally heavy downpours may give way to instances of nuisance or flash flooding along portions of the Panhandle tonight, primarily over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas (**Marginal Risk for Flash Flooding – level 1 of 4**). Mostly dry conditions will persist elsewhere across the state overnight under the lingering influence of high pressure to the east (near 0-15% chance of rain).

Low temperatures will remain in the low to middle 60s across North Florida and middle 60s to middle 70s along the Peninsula and Keys overnight. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across portions of North and Central Florida overnight into early Sunday morning.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** 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 risk for rip currents is expected to return along the West Coast today. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** **Poor to hazardous beach and boating conditions** are expected to continue along the Florida Panhandle and Florida's Atlantic Coast this weekend as breezy onshore winds and ocean swells develop with the incoming cold front. **High Surf Advisories** have been issued along the Emerald Coast as **large breaking waves of 3-9'** are expected to develop in the surf zone tonight and Sunday. Similarly, **large breaking waves near 3-6'** can be expected along Florida's Atlantic Coast today, building to **near 4-7'** in the surf tonight. **Gale Warnings** have been issued for coastal waters along the Panhandle as **winds near 20-25 kt with gusts up to 35 kt** and **seas of 4-7'** are expected this evening and into Sunday. **Gale Watches** have been issued over coastal waters along portions of the East Coast and Keys as **winds near 20-30 kt with gusts up to 35-40 kt and seas of 6-9'** will be possible Sunday. **Wave heights near 1-3'** will persist along the Big Bend and West Coast today, increasing to **near 2-4'** tonight.

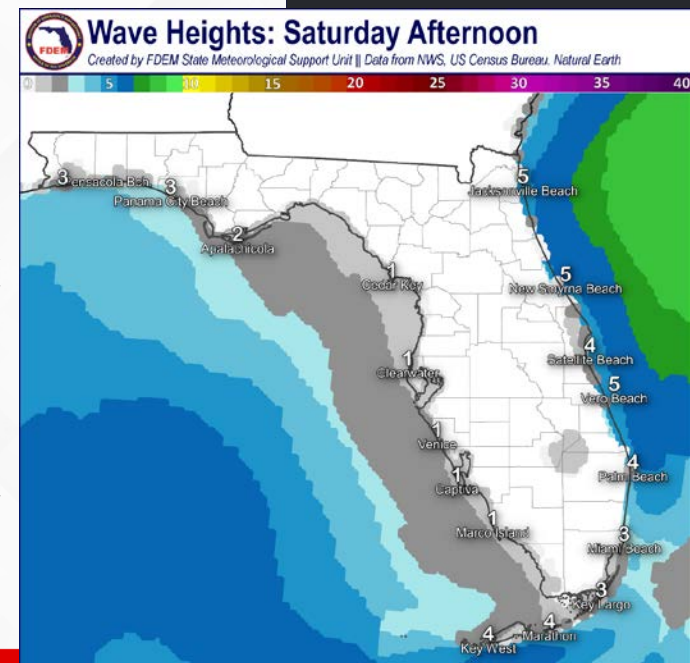
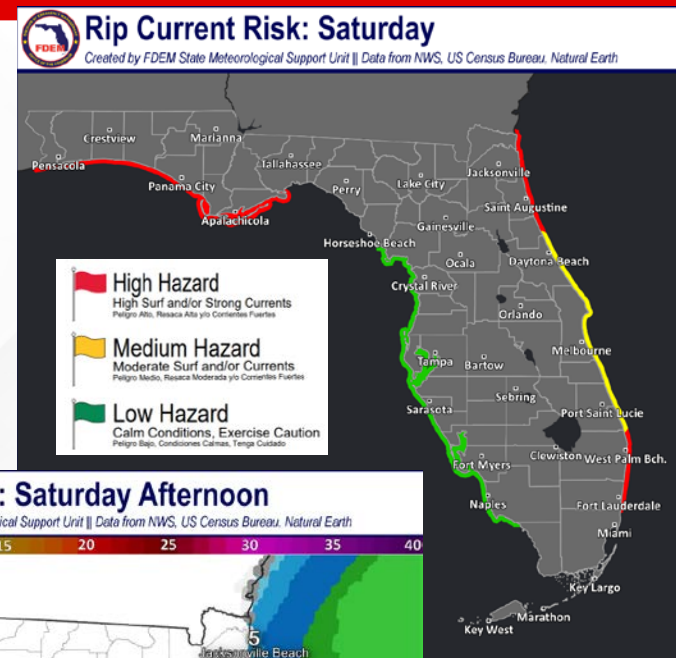
**Red Tide** has been observed in **50** samples collected from Southwest Florida (valid 2/14). Background to **low concentrations** have been observed in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Monroe Counties. Background to **medium concentrations** have been observed in Sarasota, Charlotte, and Collier Counties. Background to **high concentrations** have been observed in Lee County. *Fish kills and respiratory irritation have been reported in Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, and Monroe Counties.*

**Coastal Flooding:** With breezy winds and ocean swells continuing to develop through the weekend 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 this weekend 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.

**Flash Flooding:** The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Northwestern Panhandle today. A cold front approaching from the west will begin to push a line of strong to severe thunderstorms into the Panhandle tonight and eastward through the Florida Panhandle and into the Peninsula Sunday. Locally heavy rainfall will be possible with this shower and thunderstorm activity. Localized **nuisance** or **flash flooding** may be possible, primarily across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas that see these locally higher rainfall totals. Widespread rainfall totals are expected to remain near or below 1" along the Panhandle today with **locally higher totals** near 1-2" possible.

**Riverine Flooding:** The [Apalachicola River near Blountstown](#) has risen into Action Stage (bank-full) as a result of heavy rainfall across the basin earlier in the week and elevated headwaters flowing downstream from Georgia. Water levels are forecast to continue rising over the next day or so, reaching **Minor Flood Stage** later today. Additional rivers and waterways along the Panhandle including portions of the [Escambia River](#), [Big Coldwater Creek](#), [Shoal River](#), [Choctawhatchee River](#), and [Apalachicola River](#) are also forecast to reach Action Stage in the coming days as a result of heavy rainfall across the basins earlier in the week and additional heavy rainfall expected this weekend. Additional riverine flooding is not expected at this time; however, additional quicker-response rivers will likely see water levels rises in response to heavy rainfall tonight and Sunday and instances of **minor riverine flooding** may be possible should heavy rainfall be observed across already elevated rivers and waterways. Conditions will also continue to 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. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 14.05 feet, which is within the operational band and is 0.52 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



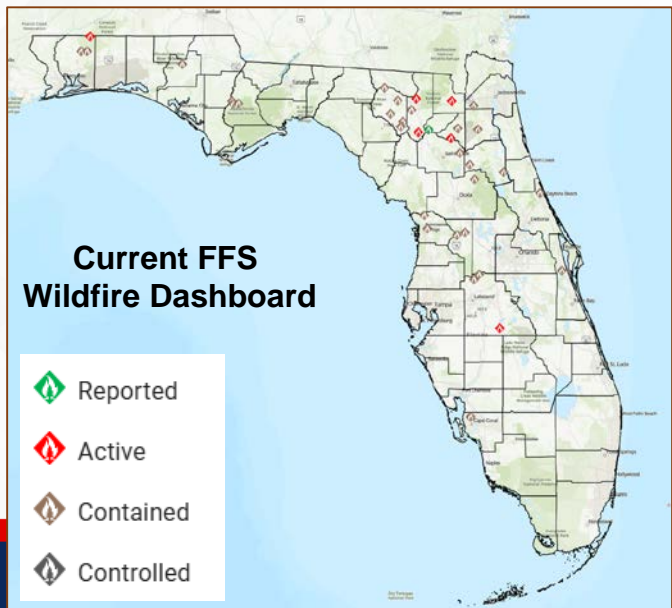
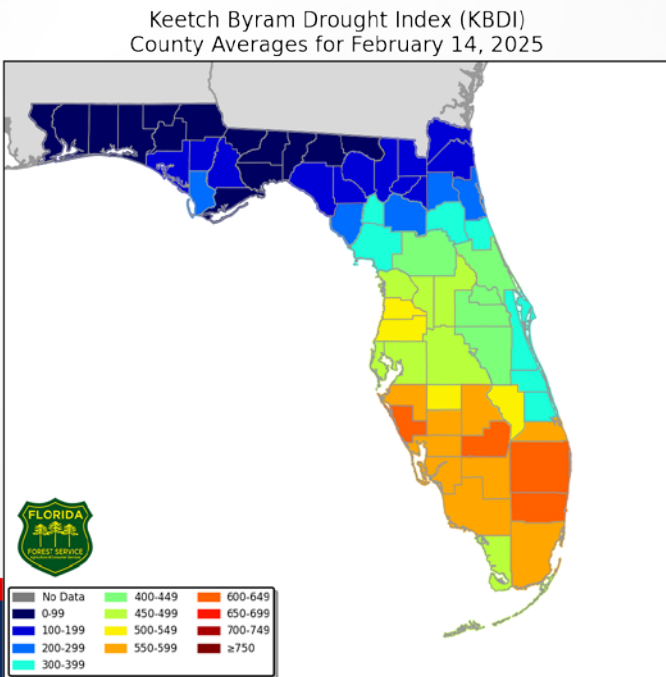
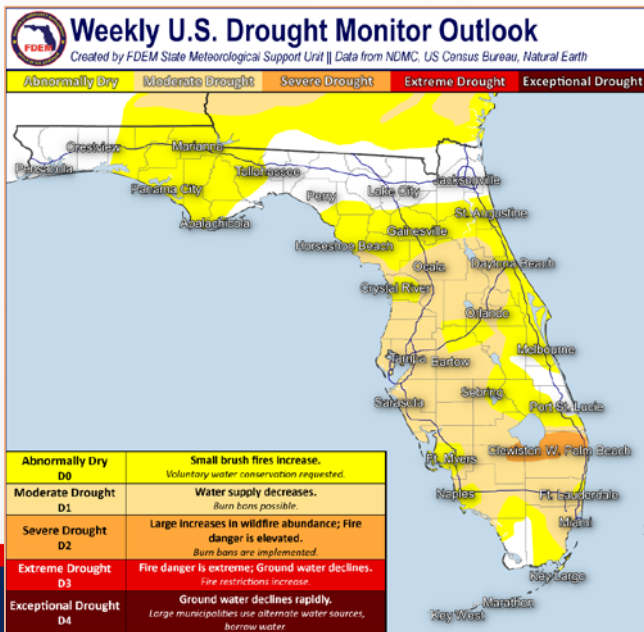


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Areas of patchy to locally dense fog that have developed over portions of the state this morning will gradually lift and dissipate through the mid-morning hours. Localized areas of patchy sea fog may linger coastal Gulf water throughout the day. High pressure shifting eastward will continue to promote drier conditions across the state today and across the Peninsula tonight. An active weather pattern will begin to unfold across the Florida Panhandle overnight into Sunday as a cold front pushes a line of strong to severe thunderstorms through the region ahead of it. *Thunderstorms may be capable of producing frequent lightning and erratic winds.* Breezy easterly to southeasterly winds can be expected across the state today, reaching near 10-15 mph with **gusts upwards of 15-20 mph**. Winds will turn more southerly to southwesterly overnight, strengthening across North Florida ahead of the approaching cold front. **Wind Advisories** have been issued across North Florida for late tonight through Sunday evening as **southwest winds near 15-30 mph with gusts up to 40-45 mph** are expected. Relative humidity values will remain well above critical thresholds today along the Florida Panhandle. Interior portions of the Peninsula will see **relative humidity values fall to near 40-55%** this afternoon, which may give way to **sensitive wildfire conditions** in areas with ongoing drought conditions. **Areas of patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across North and Central Florida overnight into early Sunday morning. *Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 35 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 721.24 acres.

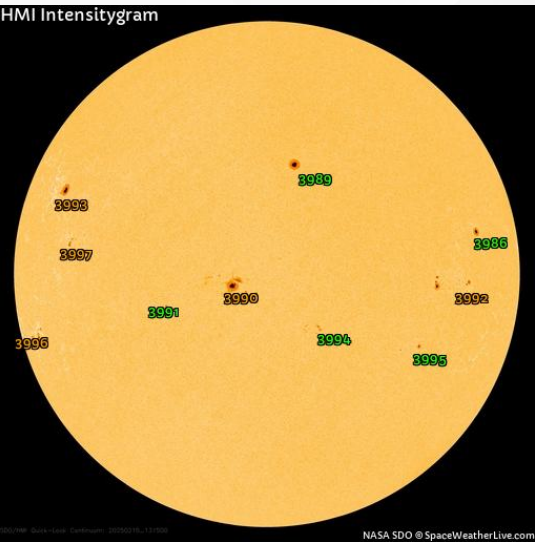
**Drought:** Florida missed out on all beneficial rainfall over the past week, adding on to the week (and months for some areas) of dryness. Above-normal temperatures also contributed to deteriorating conditions. Streamflow, soil moisture, lack of precipitation and other precipitation-based indicators 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 Drought Monitor 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 **17** 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).

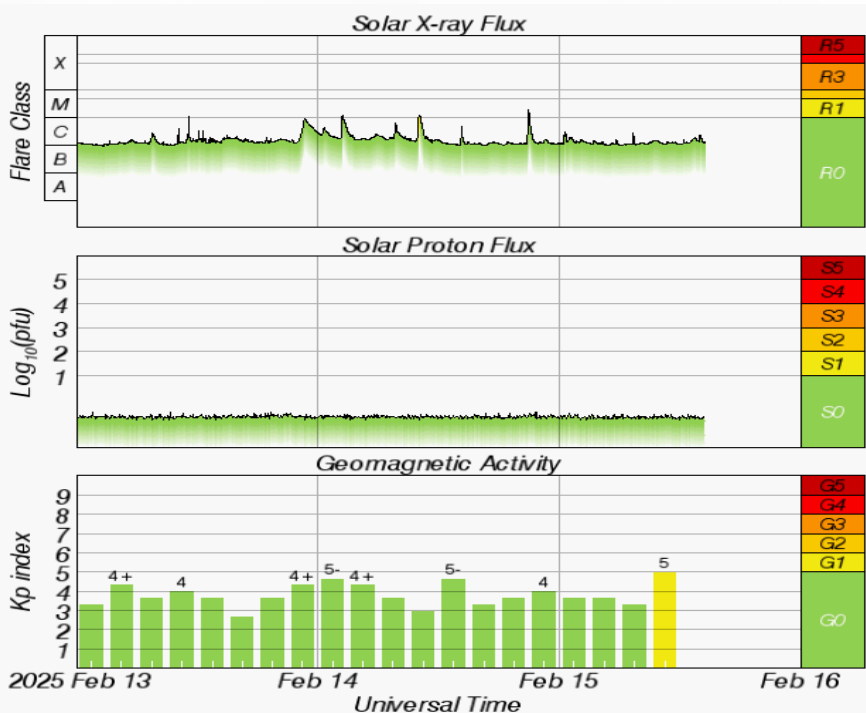
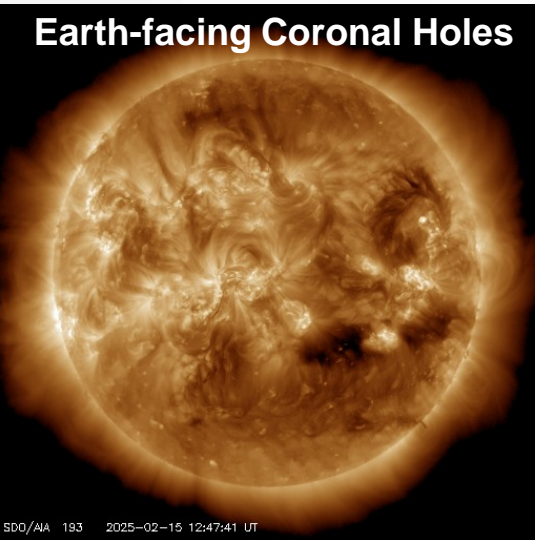




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 45%	Geomagnetic Storm: <b>G2 Warning (2/15)</b>	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
2/15	2/16
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% 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. Sunspots #3990 and #3992 contain magnetic fields that harbor energy for M-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will likely accompany any M-class solar flares that occur, and strong (R3) radio blackouts will be possible in the event of any X-class solar flares. The solar wind environment is expected to remain enhanced over the next few days due to influence from a recurrent Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS). An additional disturbance is possible by late Sunday due to any glancing or shock influences from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that left the Sun on 2/14. A **Moderate (G2) Geomagnetic Storm Warning** is in effect until 10:00 AM EST this morning as a Geomagnetic K-index of 6 is expected due to a coronal hole that has moved into a position favorable for enhanced interaction between the high speed stream and Earth's magnetosphere. The geomagnetic field is likely to remain at active levels for the remainder of the day with a chance for isolated **minor (G1) geomagnetic storming periods** as CH HSS effects continue. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are expected Sunday as CH HSS effects gradually begin to wane. There is also a chance for **minor (G1) geomagnetic storming** on Sunday with any glancing effects or shock from the 2/14 CME. Primarily quiet to unsettled geomagnetic conditions are expected to prevail Monday as weakening CH HSS effects continue. 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:	<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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