



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, February 18, 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	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	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Kaya Dungey	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Zachary Remante	(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	Tim Kenyon	(850) 567-0190	Tim.Kenyon@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	Jackson	Forestry Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Response/Preparedness Meeting / R4 Response Coordinator Position Admin
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Response/Preparedness Meeting / Office Admin
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Response/Preparedness Meeting / FDLE Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Response/Preparedness Meeting / Office Admin
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Indian River	Response/Preparedness Meeting / FPL NPP Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Lee	Response/Preparedness Meeting / EM Visit
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Broward	So FLA AHIMT Meeting



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

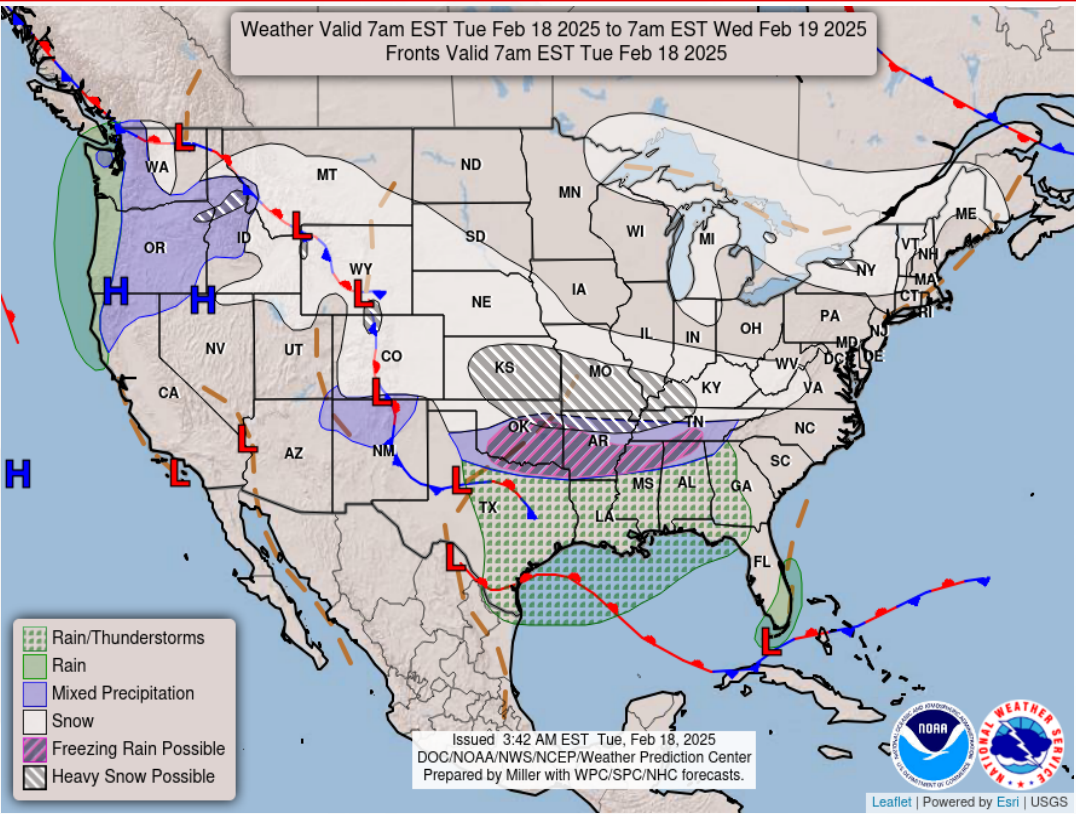
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Jackson	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Administrative Duties
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	WebEOC Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	Administrative Duties
RRCT Manager	Hernando	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Highlands	County EM Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Martin	County EM Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Administrative Duties

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

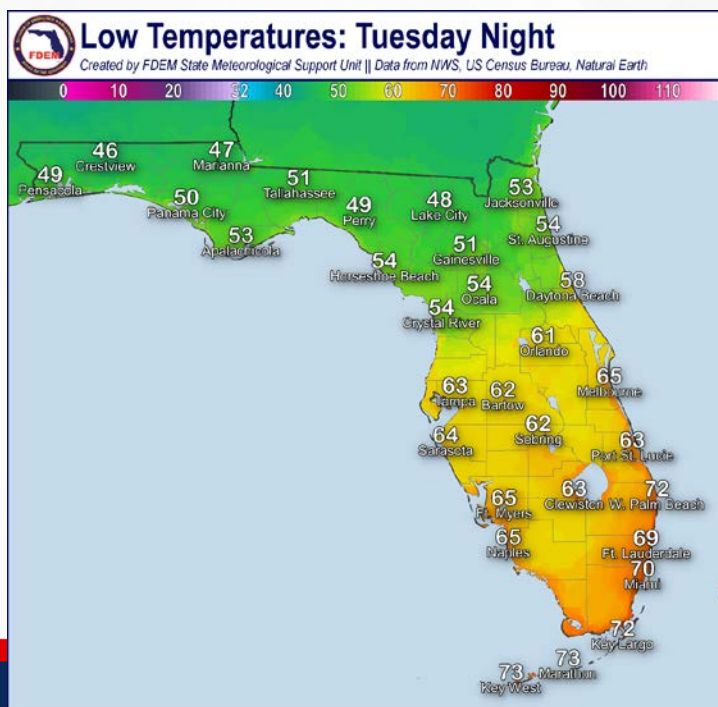
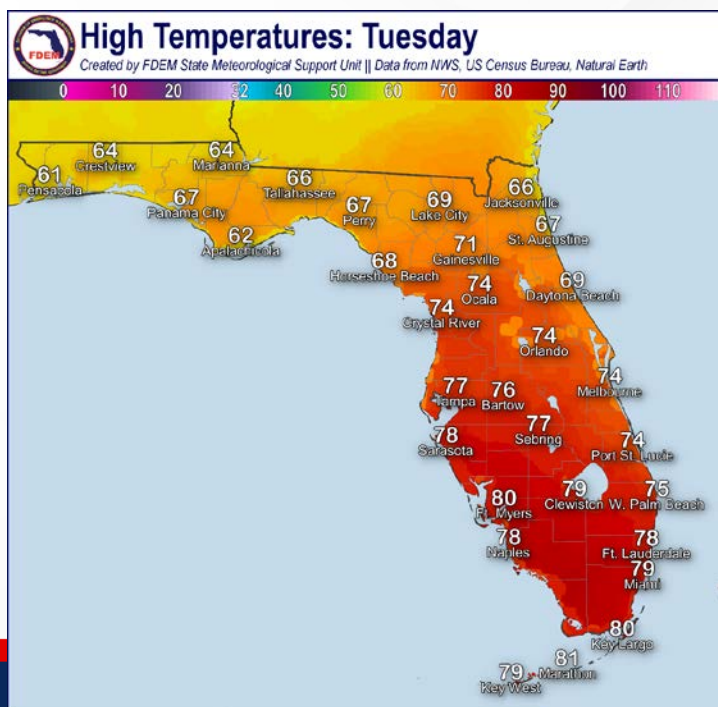


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning (Overnight)	L									
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	LL									
Fire Weather	L	L	L							
Freezing (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)								L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		H	M	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.97 ft. (0.60 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	358 (-4) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

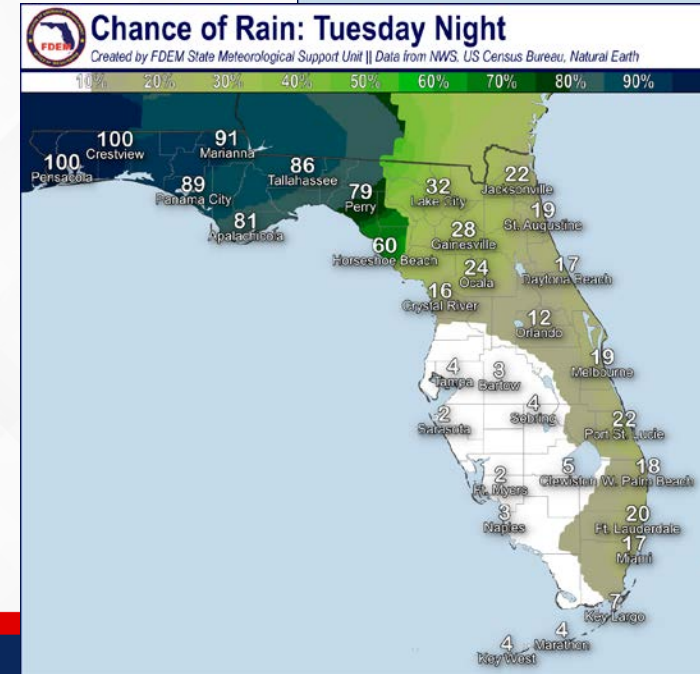
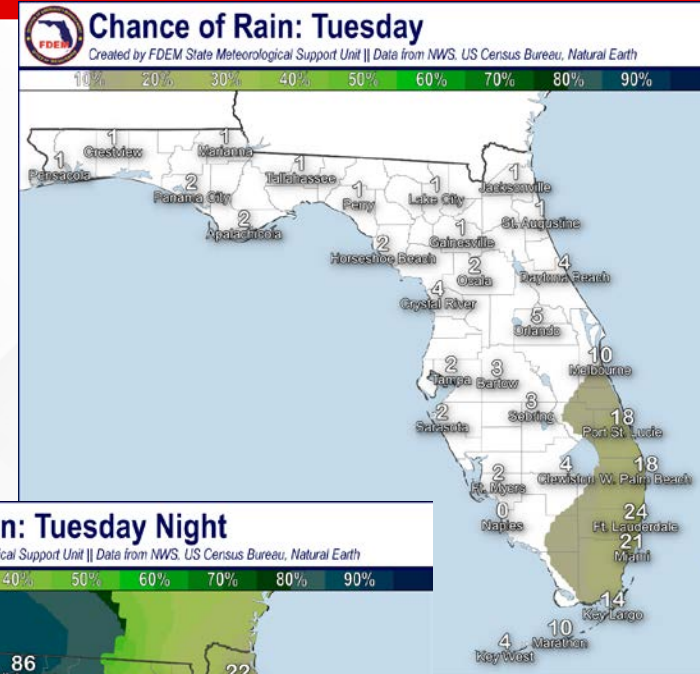
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Frost Advisories will be allowed to expire this morning at 8:00 AM EST across the Suwannee Valley and Northeast Florida. Brief isolated showers will be possible throughout the day across portions of East-Central and South Florida due to a stationary front just south of the Florida Keys (15-25% chance of rain). These showers should remain relatively light in nature and brief due to drier air within the upper-levels of the atmosphere. High pressure over the Mid-Atlantic states will extend over the rest of the Sunshine State throughout the day creating mostly dry conditions and a mixture of sunshine and cloud cover. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** will develop along the I-10 corridor this afternoon with relative humidity values falling **near or below critical thresholds** this afternoon (**30-40%**); however, recent rainfall should help to limit the overall wildfire threat.

High temperatures will reach the 60s across North Florida, lower to middle 70s across Central Florida and upper 70s to lower 80s across South Florida and the Keys.

A Gulf Low will develop off the Texas coastline overnight and move over the open waters of the gulf parallel to the Gulf Coast states. Increasing cloud cover and rain chances can be expected overnight and into Wednesday morning from west to east across the Panhandle and western Big Bend. Widespread showers, with embedded rumbles of thunder, can be expected to spread across the Panhandle and inland overnight and into the predawn hours (80-near 100% chance of rain). While the flash flood risk remains to the west of the Panhandle, **instances of nuisance flooding and ponding of water** cannot be ruled out through the predawn hours with any heavy downpours or repeated shower activity. Calm winds and elevated moisture will give way to **instances of patchy fog** developing by sunrise across portions of South Florida.

Low temperatures will fall into the middle to upper 40s and lower 50s across North Florida, middle 50s to lower 60s across Central Florida and upper 60s to lower 70s across South Florida overnight.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected for numerous beaches across the state, with a **locally high risk** along Palm Beach County. Most of the West Coast has returned to a low risk for rip currents, except for portions of Southwest Florida. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-2' return across Gulf and West Coast beaches throughout the day. East Coast beaches can expect **wave heights near 2-4'** to persist.

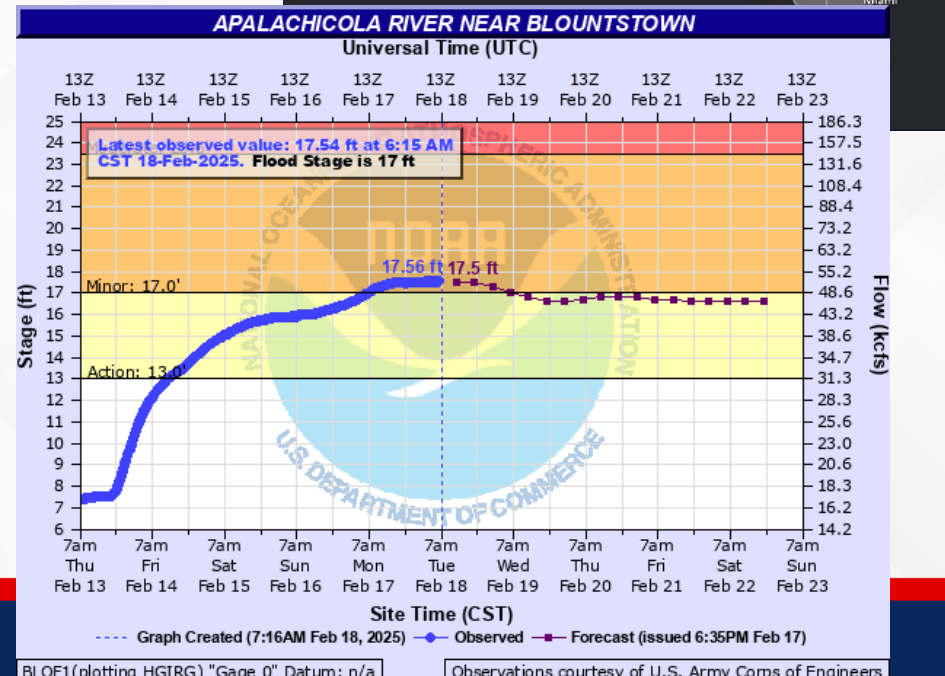
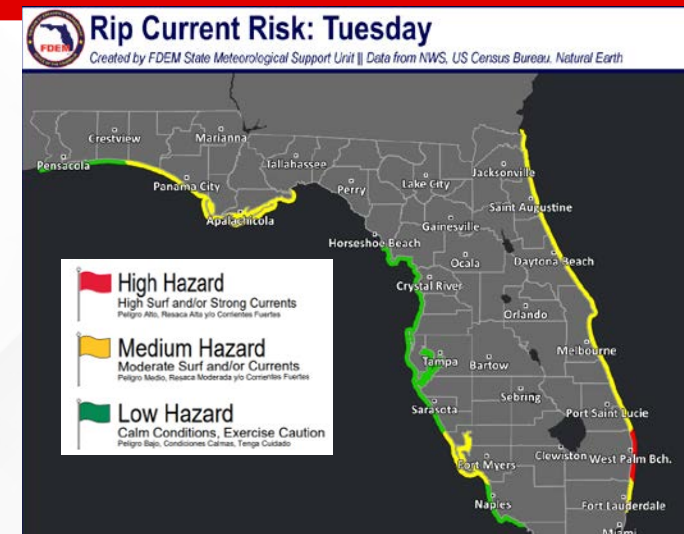
Red Tide has been observed in **50** samples collected from Southwest Florida (valid 2/14). Background to **low concentrations** have been observed in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Monroe Counties. Background to **medium concentrations** have been observed in Sarasota, Charlotte, and Collier Counties. 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: There is no organized risk for coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flooding today. Widespread shower activity will move into the Panhandle overnight and continue to move eastward during the early morning hours as a Gulf Low develops off the Texas coastline and moves over the Gulf waters. While the greatest risk for flash flooding remains to the west, **instances of nuisance flooding and ponding of water** cannot be ruled out within heavier downpours and repeated rounds of activity. Rainfall totals of 0.5-1" are possible through tonight, with locally higher totals upwards of 2" possible. Shower activity along portions of East-Central and South Florida should remain light and brief throughout the day.

Riverine Flooding: The [Apalachicola River near Blountstown](#) has risen into **Minor Flood Stage** as a result of the active weather pattern over the last few days bringing heavy rainfall and elevated waters flowing downstream from Georgia and Alabama. The river is forecast to steadily rise within minor flood stage over the next couple of days before cresting and remaining steady through the end of the week. Several rivers along the Panhandle and Big Bend are forecast to rise into Action Stage (bank-full) over the couple of days with forecast widespread rainfall beginning overnight Tuesday and continuing into Wednesday. Heavy rainfall may allow for quick-response rivers along the Panhandle and Big Bend to see water levels rise faster than other larger river basins. There are no additional riverine concerns at this time. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.97 feet, which is within the operational band and is 0.60 feet below normal for this time of year.



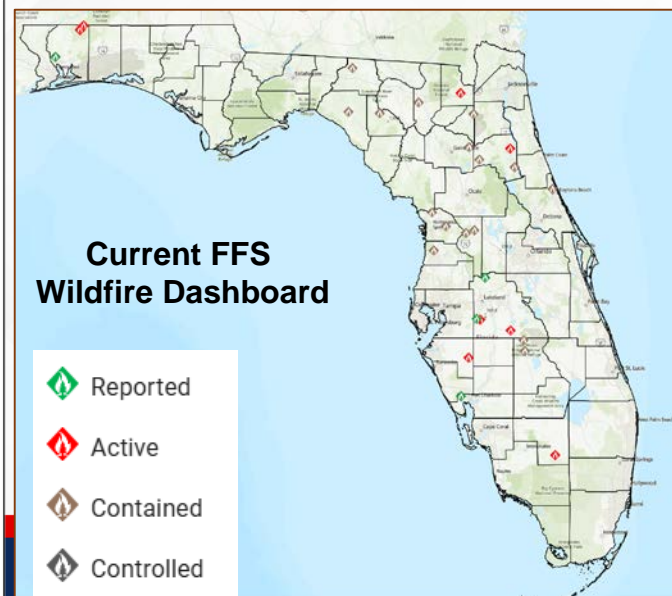
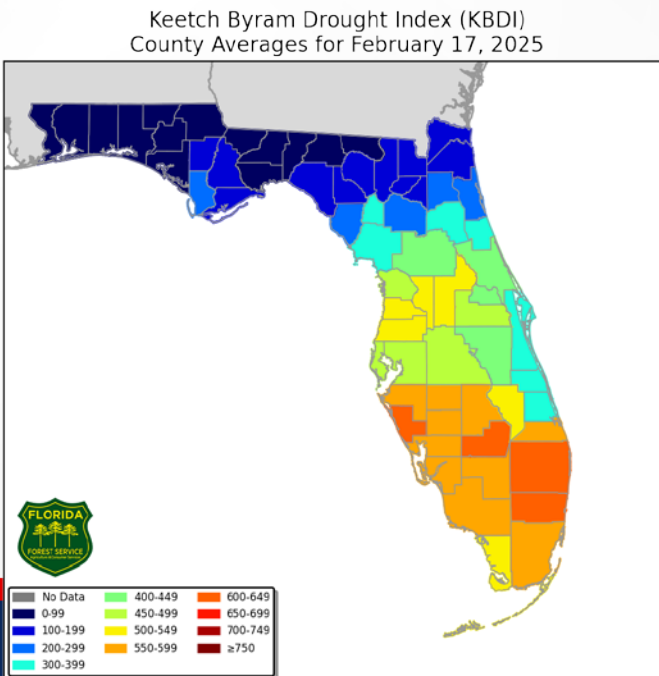
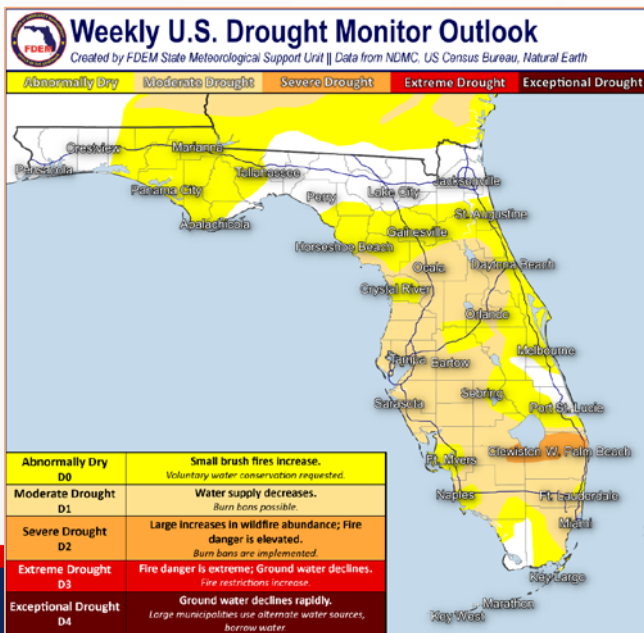


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: High pressure over the Mid-Atlantic states will continue to extend into much of the Sunshine State allowing for dry conditions. Relative humidity values will fall **near and below critical thresholds (30-40%)** this afternoon across the I-10 corridor and the Suwannee Valley, but recent heavy rainfall should limit the overall wildfire threat. **Sensitive wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out in isolated locations. Light northeasterly winds below 10 mph can be expected throughout the day across the state. Increasing rain chances can be expected to develop overnight across the Panhandle with widespread showers move in from the west. Embedded rumbles of thunder cannot be ruled out within widespread shower activity. **Areas of patchy fog** will be possible overnight and into early Wednesday morning for portions of South Florida due to calm winds and elevated moisture. *Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 29 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 402 acres.

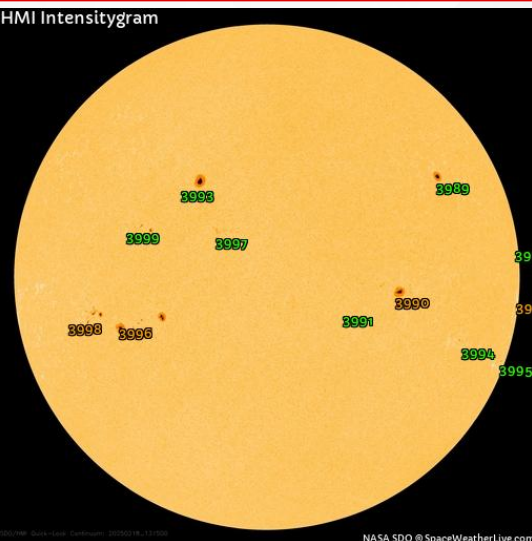
Drought: Florida missed out on all beneficial rainfall over the past week, adding on to the week (and months for some areas) of dryness. Above-normal temperatures also contributed to deteriorating conditions. Streamflow, soil moisture, lack of precipitation and other precipitation-based indicators are 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 (-4)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **20** Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Pasco, Sarasota and Sumter) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

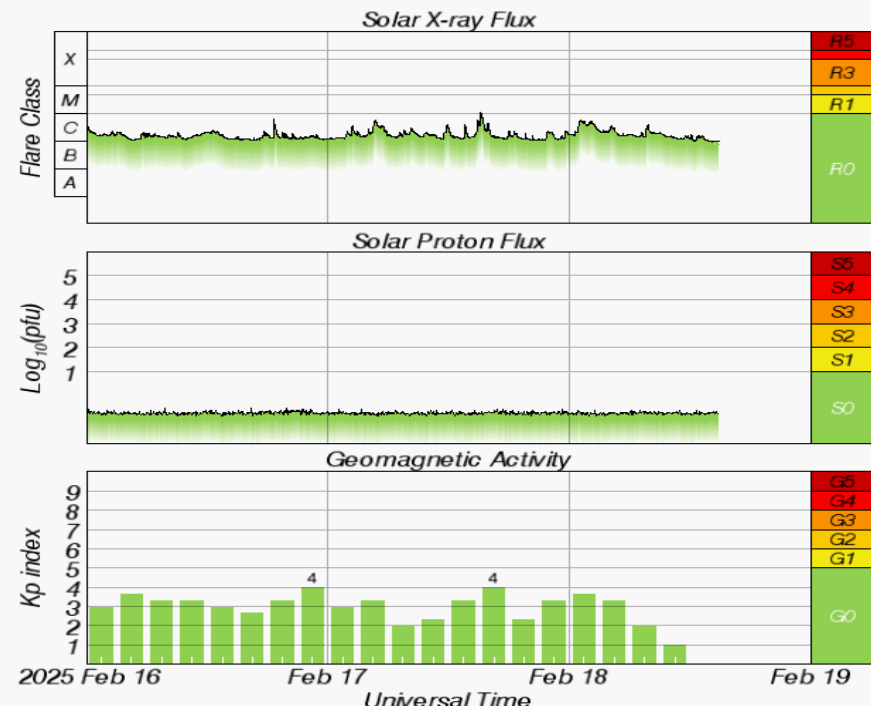




Space Weather

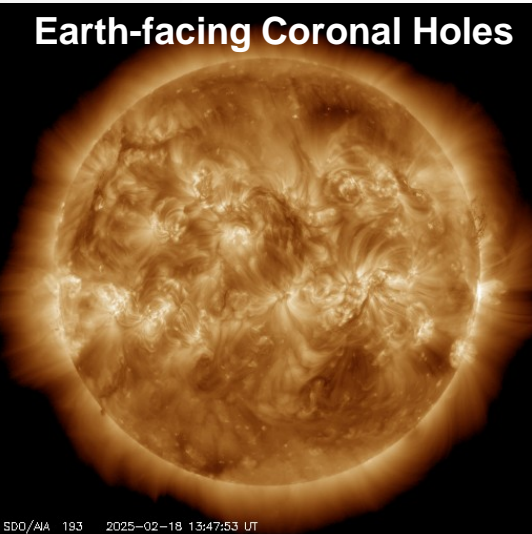


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 45%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
2/18	2/19
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%



Space Weather: Solar activity will persist at low levels with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares due to a few active sunspots on the surface of the sun. Sunspots #3990, #3992 and #3996 all contain magnetic fields that harbor energy for M-class solar flares. Any M-class flares that develop will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts, and any X-class flares that develop will be capable of producing strong (R3) radio blackouts. A Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that left the sun on 2/15 could graze the Earth's magnetic field today; however, confidence is low. If the CME does make an impact, solar wind conditions will likely increase. Solar winds will gradually diminish through today and any additional impacts to the solar wind field will remain dependent on the CME. Nominal conditions are expected to return by the mid-to-late week. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are expected through today, but any impact from the CME could lead to instances of minor (G1) geomagnetic storming. Unsettled to active conditions are expected to continue through the mid-to-late week. 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:	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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