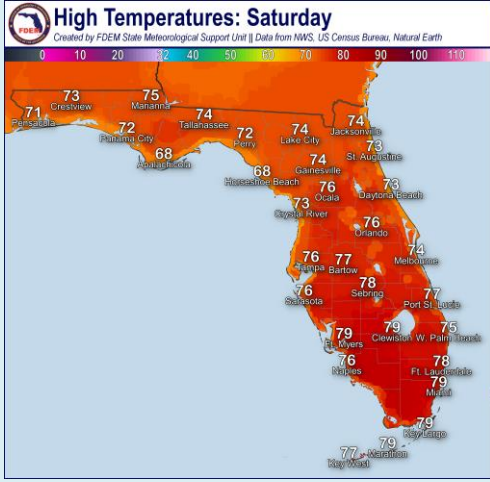
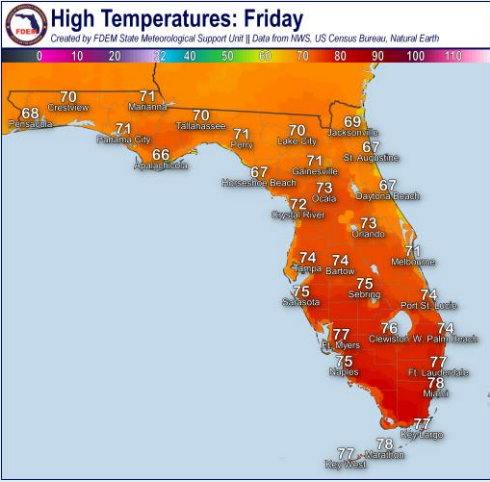
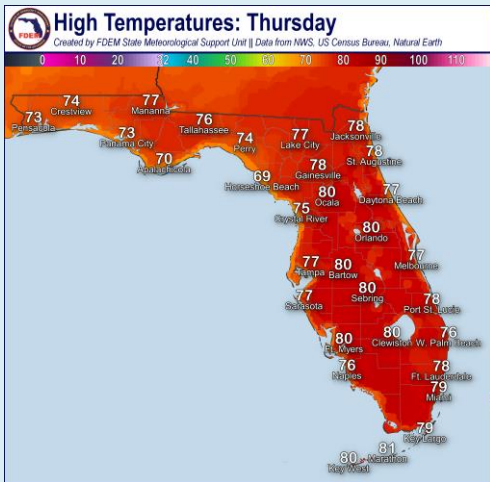
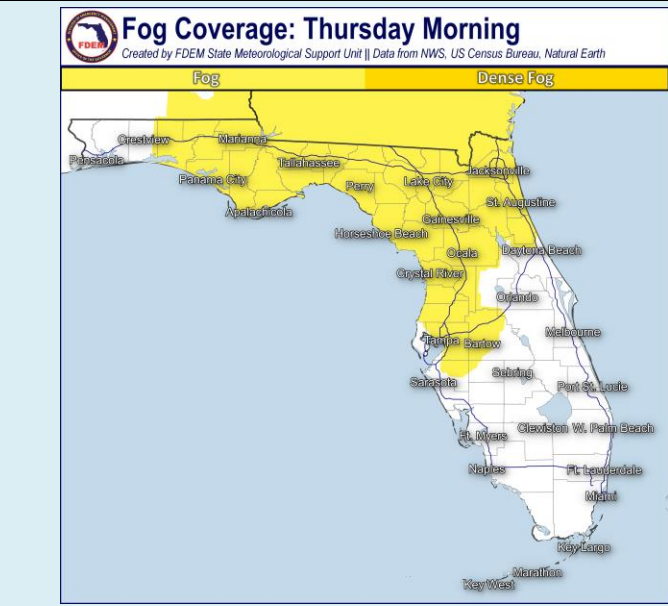


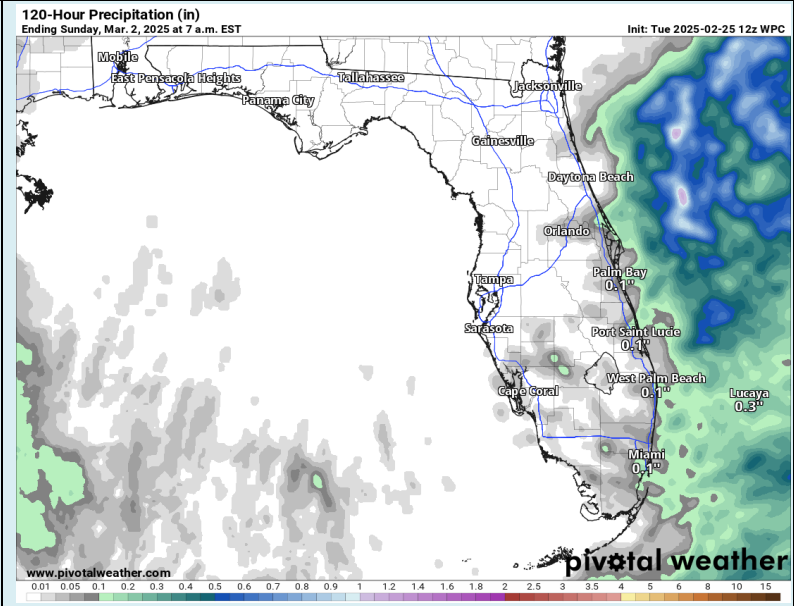
Tuesday, February 25, 2025					5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook			
No Threat		Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat		
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind/Hail	Flash Flooding	Freeze (Overnight)	Wildfire	Fog (Overnight)	Rip Currents
Tue							Locally Big Bend & Nature Coast Statewide	E. Panhandle Statewide Southeast FL
Wed						Locally Iso. Int North FL & I-75 Corridor	Locally N FL & Nature Coast Statewide	Panhandle & East Coast West Coast
Thu							Locally Iso. Nature Coast & Peninsula	Panhandle & East Coast West Coast
Fri						Locally North & Central FL		Locally Statewide
Sat						Locally North & Central FL		Panhandle & East Coast West Coast



Forecast High Temperatures: Thursday, Friday and Saturday Afternoon



Forecast Fog Coverage: Thursday Morning



5 Day Forecast Rainfall Totals through Saturday Evening

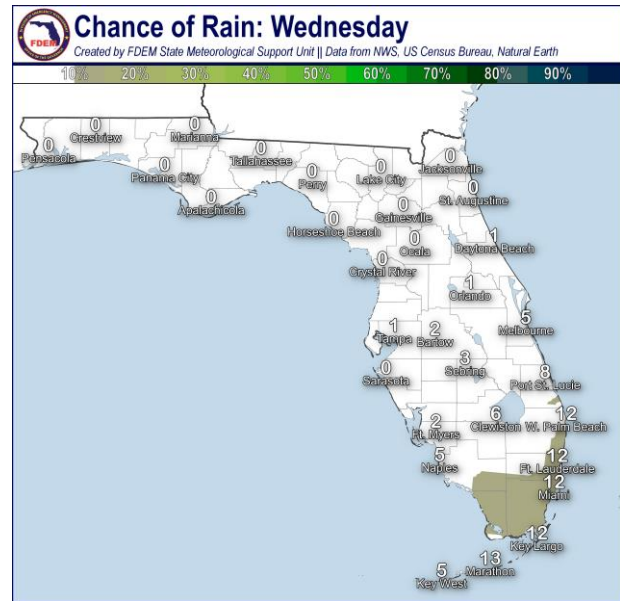


...Drier Conditions Returning Across the State with Instances of Brief Showers Through Forecast Period...Weak Cold Front to Move Across State Thursday Evening and Into Friday; Rain Chances Limited But Possible...Sensitive Wildfire Conditions Possible Midweek; Then More Likely At End of the Week Across North and Central Florida...Instances of Fog Each Morning Through Midweek...Elevated Risk for Rip Currents Along Panhandle and East Coast Each Day...

Tuesday – Saturday:

A low pressure system off the Southeast Florida U.S. coast will continue to move northeastward and away from the coastline throughout the day on Tuesday. Isolated showers will continue through the morning and early afternoon hours along Northeast Florida and extend along the east coast as the system continues to pull away towards the western Atlantic waters (25-55% chance of rain). With this system, breezy wind gusts across the Peninsula will reach upwards of 15 mph during the afternoon, but **stronger wind gusts upwards of 20 mph** will be possible along the immediate east coastline. While the low pressure system moves away from the coast, weak high pressure over the northern gulf waters will shift over the Southeast U.S. bringing drier conditions from west to east. By Tuesday night, mostly dry and calm conditions will return overnight across the state (near 0% chance of rain). Calm conditions and mostly clear skies may allow for **instances of patchy to scattered fog** to develop overnight and into early Wednesday morning, with areas along the Big Bend and Nature Coast most likely to see fog. Localized **instances of dense fog** cannot be ruled out in isolated areas Wednesday morning.

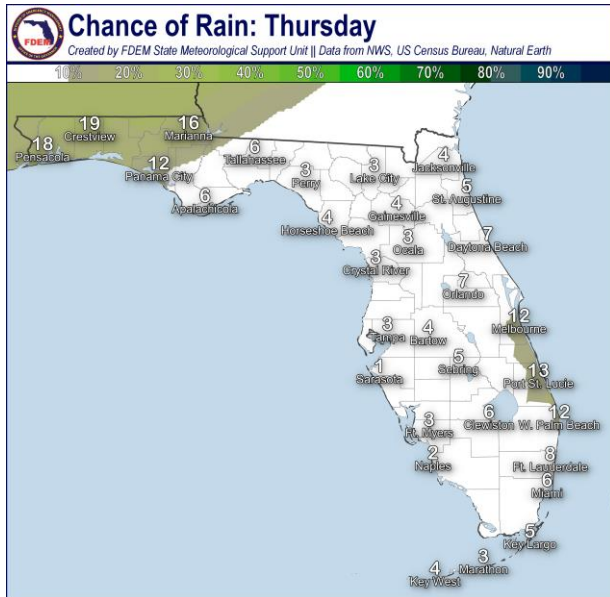
High pressure will dominate across the Sunshine State on Wednesday and Thursday keeping conditions mostly dry with a slight chance for brief showers along South Florida (10-15% chance of rain). Drier conditions returning throughout North and Central Florida may allow for **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** to develop throughout interior areas and along the I-75 corridor as relative humidity values drop **near critical thresholds** in the afternoon (**30-45%**). Light winds and recent rainfall will help limit widespread wildfire concerns, but conditions will be possible. Pleasant conditions can be expected each day with light winds; however, winds will begin to increase Thursday afternoon with an approaching weak cold front. This weak cold front will move into the Panhandle late Thursday evening and continue along the I-10 corridor overnight. Since this front will weaken upon its approach to the Sunshine State, rainfall chances look minimal, but a few brief showers may be possible during the late afternoon hours and into overnight (10-20% chance of rain). Ahead of the front, **instances of patchy fog** may be possible overnight and early Thursday morning across the Big Bend, I-75 corridor, and Nature Coast. Instances of **localized dense fog** conditions may be possible early Friday morning.



The weak cold front will continue to sweep through the state on Friday as a dry boundary and keeping rainfall chances near-zero. Once the front moves through, another weak area of high pressure will follow behind and dominate across the state through the end of the week. Mostly dry conditions can be expected through the end of the week, with pleasant conditions due to a mixture of sunshine and cloud cover. Drier conditions on Friday and Saturday will allow for **sensitive wildfire conditions** to develop during the afternoon as relative humidity values will drop **near and below critical thresholds (25-45%)**. Light winds and recent rainfall should help to preclude widespread wildfire conditions, but

locally elevated wildfire conditions cannot be ruled out where there are ongoing drought conditions throughout North and Central Florida.

Temperatures in the afternoons will reach 70s across the state each afternoon, with portions of interior Central and South Florida reaching near or at 80-degrees Thursday afternoon. Once the weak cold front moves through high temperatures across North Florida will reach the upper 60s to lower 70s before returning to the lower to middle 70s on Saturday. Low temperatures will reach the middle to upper 40s and lower 50s across North Florida, 50s throughout Central Florida and upper 50s to upper 60s across South Florida. Behind the weak cold front, low temperatures will fall into the lower to middle 40s across North Florida, upper 40s to lower 50s across Central Florida and upper 50s to middle 60s across South Florida Friday night. Temperatures overnight Saturday will begin to slowly increase across North Florida to the middle to upper 40s.



Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no organized risk for flash flooding over the next 5 days. Lingering showers Tuesday along the Florida East Coast will remain possible through the afternoon hours as the low pressure system moves away from the coastline. A weak frontal boundary will move across the state Thursday evening and into Friday but any showers that manage to develop will be light and brief. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](#).

A few rivers along the Panhandle and Big Bend (Aucilla River, Withlacoochee River, Ochlockonee River) remain in Action Stage (bank-full) following heavy rainfall last week and elevated headwaters flowing southward from Alabama and Georgia. These rivers have already crested and will continue to slowly decline through Action Stage over the next 5 days. The Aucilla and Withlacoochee Rivers should fall below flood stage by midweek, while the Ochlockonee River is forecast to remain in Action Stage through the end of the week, at least. There are no additional river flood concerns at this time. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.72 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.82 feet below normal for this time of year.

Fire Weather:

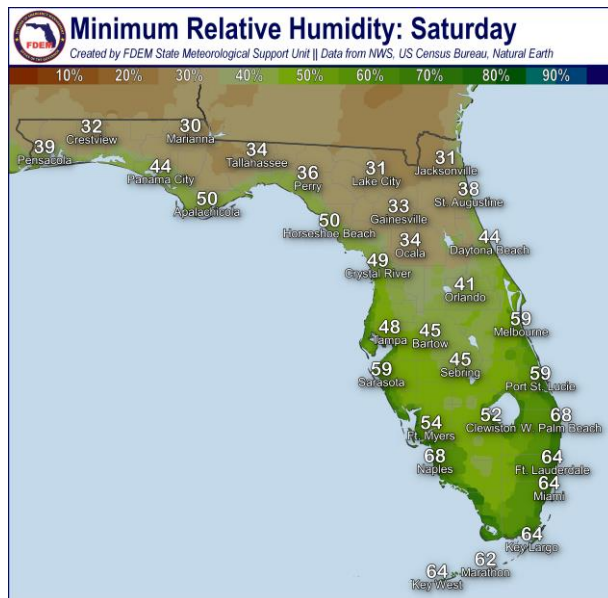
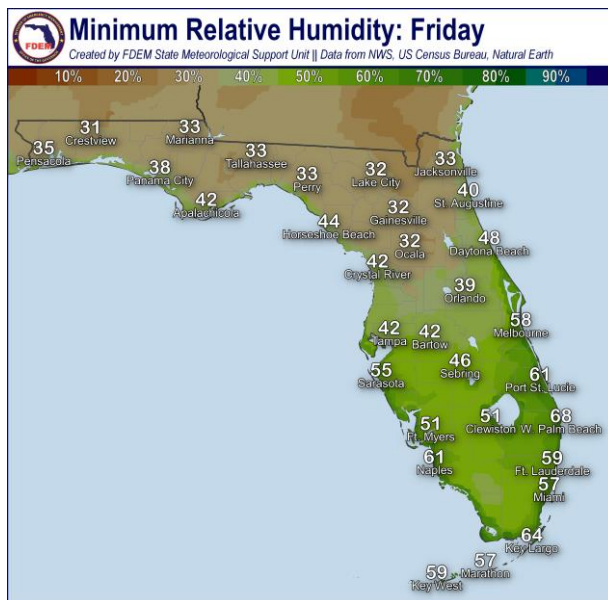
Slight adjustments were made to the most recent [Drought Monitor](#) (2/20) update; however, the most noticeable update was the introduction of **severe drought conditions** along portions of the Florida West Coast. **Severe drought conditions** were introduced along portions of Pasco and Hernando counties, as well as another section within Hillsborough, Manatee and Sarasota counties. Much of the Southeast U.S. experience a wet and active weather pattern, except for the Florida Peninsula. Temperatures were also warmer than normal, nearly **6-9-degrees above normal** for the time of year, across most of the state. These conditions led to the worsening of drought conditions along the Florida



West Coast as it continues to miss out on needed precipitation compared to other parts of the state. 90-day rainfall deficits along the Nature Coast and extending into the West-Central Florida coastline have reached **4-5" below normal**, with **localized areas upwards of 8"** below normal. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) has updated the February Drought Outlook to show **drought development likely** from the Apalachicola River basin and throughout the state, with **drought conditions persisting** from West-Central Florida and southeastward towards the Treasure Coast. As well, the CPC has issued their outlook for the month of March indicating **above normal temperatures** likely, with equal chances of above or below normal rainfall.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **338** 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).

Drier conditions will return across the state later in the day Tuesday and through most of Thursday as weak high pressure moves in after a wet start to the week. Light winds and recent rainfall will help to keep the overall wildfire threat low on Wednesday, but **locally sensitive conditions** will develop due to relative humidity values falling **near or below critical thresholds (30-45%)** during the afternoon. A weak cold front approaching later in the day on Thursday could allow for instances of brief showers across the Panhandle, but will also allow for relative humidity values to remain above critical thresholds. Once the front moves through, another area of high pressure will move over and dominate through the end of the week allowing for dry conditions. Relative humidity values Friday and Saturday afternoons will fall **near and below critical thresholds** across North and Central Florida (**25-45%**) creating **sensitive wildfire conditions**, and **possibly locally elevated wildfire conditions** in some areas. Luckily, winds will remain light which should limit widespread elevated wildfire conditions, but ongoing drought conditions and drying conditions since Monday will create increased wildfire conditions. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 17 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 215 acres.



Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

An **elevated risk for rip currents** can be expected to persist along both Panhandle and East Coasts through the end of the forecast period, with localized instances of a **high risk** possible. A **moderate risk for rip currents** could extend along portions of the West Coast on Friday as winds return to onshore behind the passing of a weak cold front before returning to a low risk Saturday. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.



Calm surf and marine conditions will gradually return through Thursday evening across the state. Wave heights of Tuesday will reach 1-3' across the Gulf and West Coast and 2-4' across the East Coast. By Thursday, all Gulf and West Coast beaches can expect to see wave heights near 1'. Ocean **swells of 2-4'** will linger slightly longer on the East Coast through Wednesday before declining to 1-3' Thursday. As the next weak cold front moves overnight and into Friday, ocean swells behind the front will re-develop along both coasts. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect to see wave heights return to 2-3' while East Coast beaches will see **wave heights return to 2-4'** Friday morning and afternoon. By Saturday afternoon, mostly calm conditions return to the Panhandle and West Coast. East Coast beaches will continue to see elevated surf near 2-3' with locally **higher surf upwards of 4'** in the surf zone along Southeast Florida beaches.

There is no risk for coastal flooding over the next 5 days.

Red Tide has been observed in **37** samples collected from Southwest Florida as of 2/21. Chlorophyll satellite imagery continues to track offshore patches suspected to contain red tide; however, most of the satellite imagery for this reporting period was obscured by cloud cover. In Southwest Florida, red tide was observed at background to **low concentrations** in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Charlotte and Collier counties. Background to **medium concentrations** have been observed in Monroe County. Background to **high concentrations** have been observed in Sarasota County. Fish kills and respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide have been reported within Southwest Florida along Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Monroe counties. Background concentrations were also observed in a sample from Okaloosa and Duval counties. *There is likely a higher risk for respiratory irritation from red tide when winds are blowing onshore or alongshore.* Forecasts from Pinellas to northern Monroe counties predict net southwestern movement of surface waters and net southeastern transport of subsurface waters in most areas.

The latest **Blue-Green Algae** report indicates algal bloom conditions were observed at eight sites during the week of 2/14 to 2/20. Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows widely scattered low to **moderate bloom potential** along the nearshores of the lake. The St. Johns River satellite imagery also shows scattered low to **moderate bloom potential** on Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River downstream to Jacksonville. Both the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries show no visible bloom potential within satellite imagery.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

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

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[Orlando](#) [Tampa](#) [Fort Myers](#) [West Palm Beach](#) [Miami](#) [Key West](#)

[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 rest of the week!

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist
Florida Division of Emergency Management
www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather

