



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, February 26, 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Matthew Peloso	(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	Hunter Stafford	(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	Bay, Gadsden	County EM Visit / AlertFL Working Group Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Field Ops Branch SOG Meeting / Fleet Build Work Session / R4 Interviews
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	G-141 Course
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Training and Exercise Regional Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas	Hurricane AAR/Hospital County Call/Executive Support
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Columbia	G-141 Course
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	DeSoto	Beacon Training
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami Dade	Field Ops Branch SOG Meeting

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 7

Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10



Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

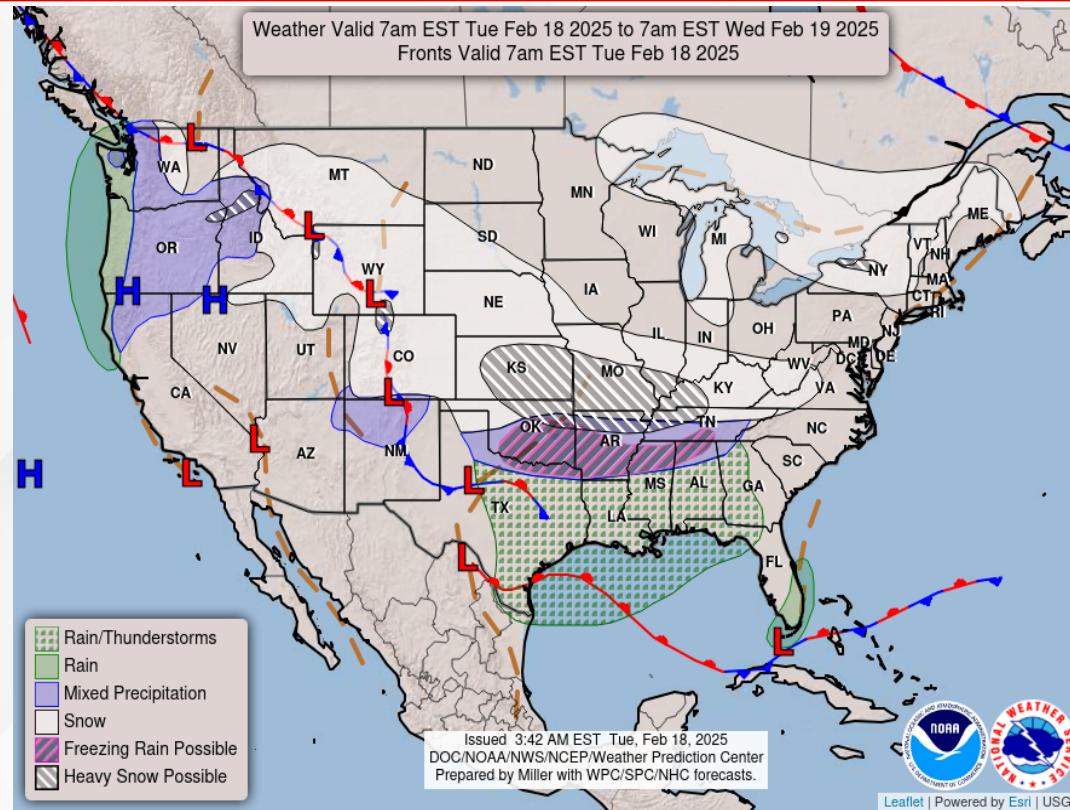
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Bay	County EM Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	External Stakeholder Meetings
Region 3: Patrick James	Gilchrist	G-393
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Flagler	Instructing FL 603
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Flagler	Instructing FL 603
RRCT Manager	Hernando	External Stakeholder Meetings
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	DeSoto	Beacon Training
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Vulnerability Assessment
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	External Stakeholders Meeting

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

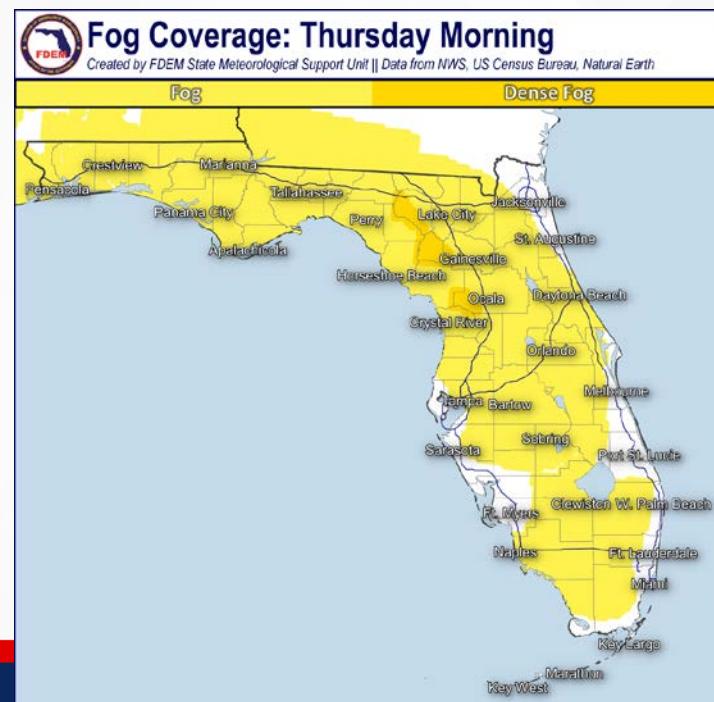
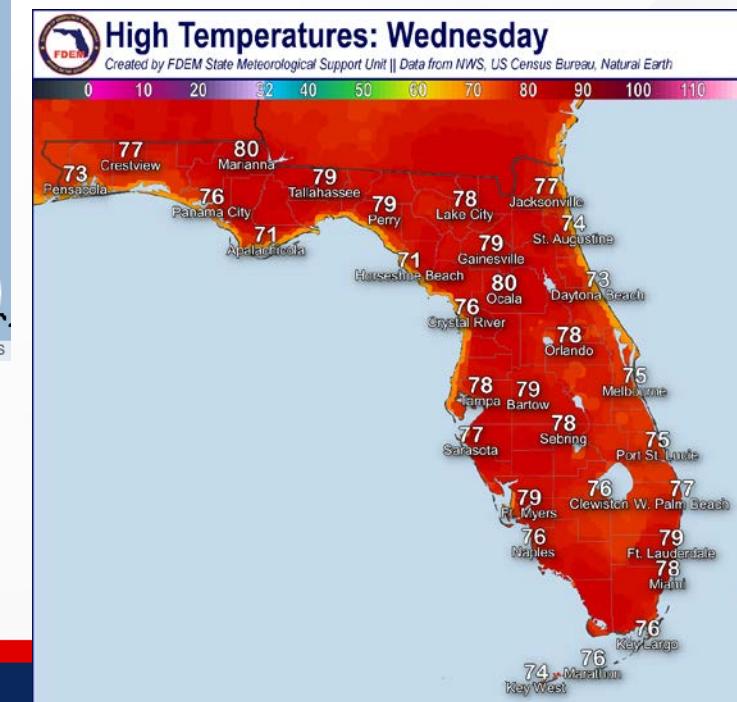


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind/Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Riverine Flooding										
Fire Weather										
Freezing (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	L	M	L	M	M	M	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.81 ft. (0.73 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	283 (-55) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

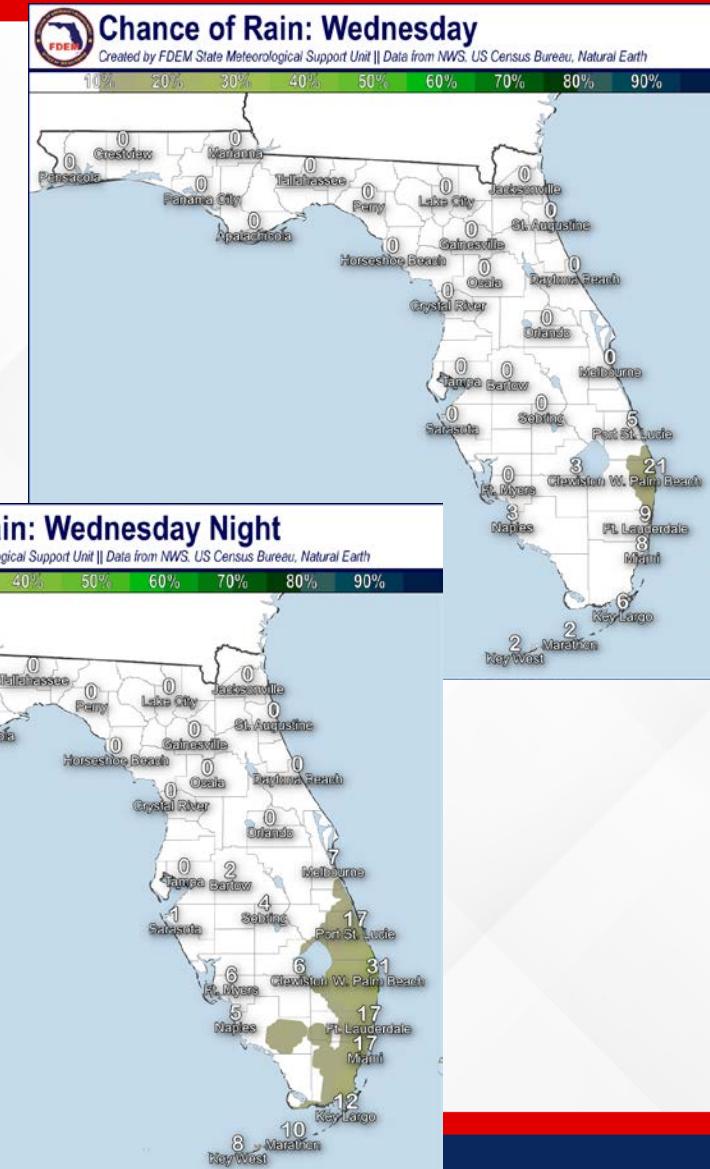
Dense Fog Advisories extend across portions of Nature Coast, with additional areas of locally dense fog along the I-75 corridor. Foggy conditions and low clouds will create **reduced visibility** as low as a mile or less at times. As the sun continues to rise through the morning hours, fog will gradually lift and dissipate.

Weak high pressure will settle in across the Sunshine State allowing for mostly dry conditions to return. Enough moisture and onshore winds along Southeast Florida may allow for a few brief showers to move onshore this afternoon and evening; however, drier conditions may limit shower activity as they move onshore (10-20% chance of rain). **Sensitive wildfire conditions** will be possible this afternoon throughout North and Central Florida as relative humidity values fall **near and below critical thresholds (25-45%)**. Light winds and recent rainfall will help to limit widespread conditions, but ongoing drought conditions in some areas may create a locally greater chance.

High temperatures will reach the lower to middle 70s along the coastlines and middle to upper 70s, possibly near 80-degrees, throughout the interior regions across the state.

Mostly calm and quiet conditions can be expected overnight throughout the state, with instances of brief showers continuing to move onshore along the Southeast Florida coastline late this evening and overnight (20-30% chance of rain). Calm and clear skies overnight, along with winds shifting out of the south, **patchy fog** will be possible across the state by sunrise Thursday morning. **Instances of locally dense fog** cannot be ruled out in some areas.

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





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A moderate risk for rip currents will linger across numerous beaches across the state. Several West Coast and Northeast Florida beaches will return to a low risk. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Calmer marine conditions will return across Gulf and West Coast beaches as wave heights decline to 1-2'. A lingering ocean swell along the East Coast will continue to produce **wave heights of 2-4'**, with the greatest waves along Treasure Coast.

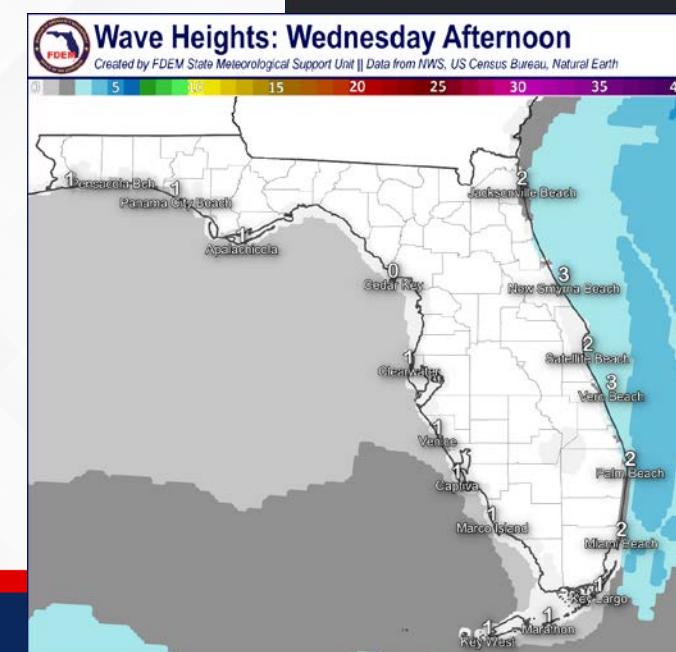
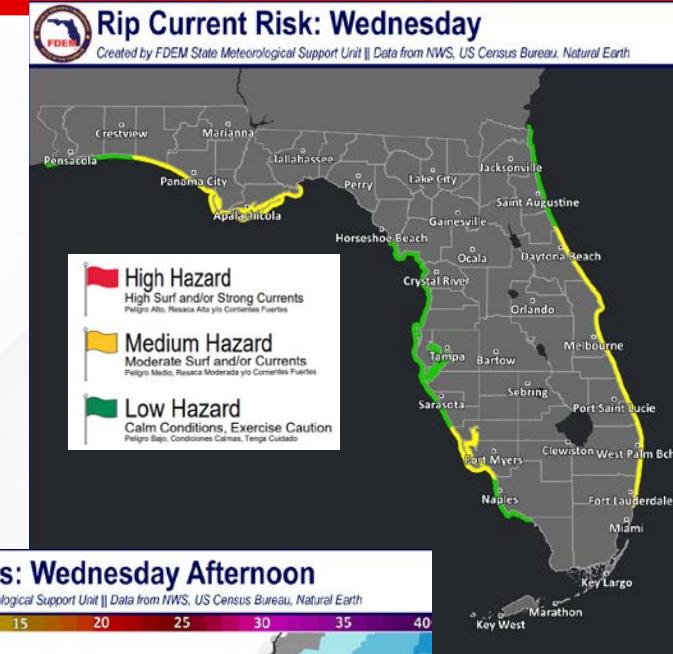
Red Tide has been observed in **37** samples collected from Florida (valid 2/21). Background to **low concentrations** have been observed in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Charlotte, Collier, Okaloosa, and Duval Counties. Background to **medium concentrations** have been observed offshore of Monroe County. Background to **high concentrations** have been observed in Sarasota County. *Fish kills and respiratory irritation have been reported from and/or offshore of Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, and Monroe Counties.*

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected today.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding.

Riverine Flooding: Several rivers along the Panhandle and Big Bend have reached Action Stage (bank-full) with recent heavy rainfall; however, riverine flooding is not expected at this time. There are no additional riverine concerns at this time. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.81 feet, which is within the operational band and is **0.73 feet below** normal for this time of year.



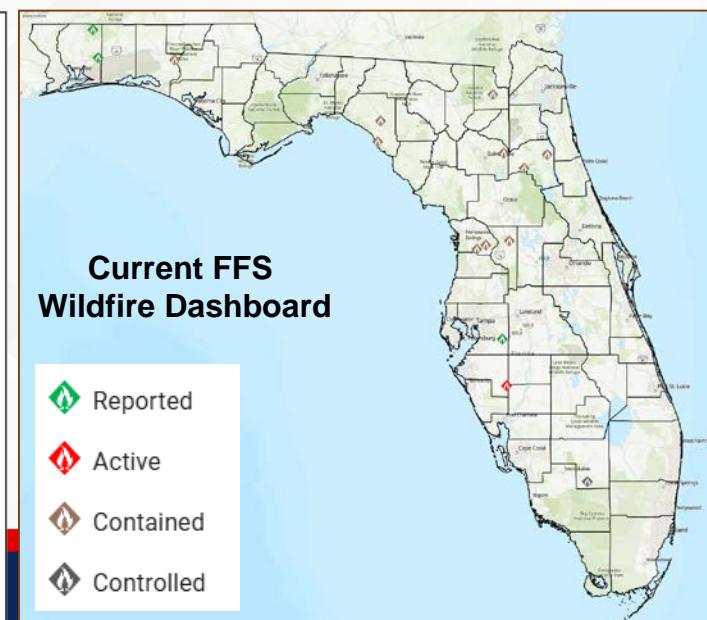
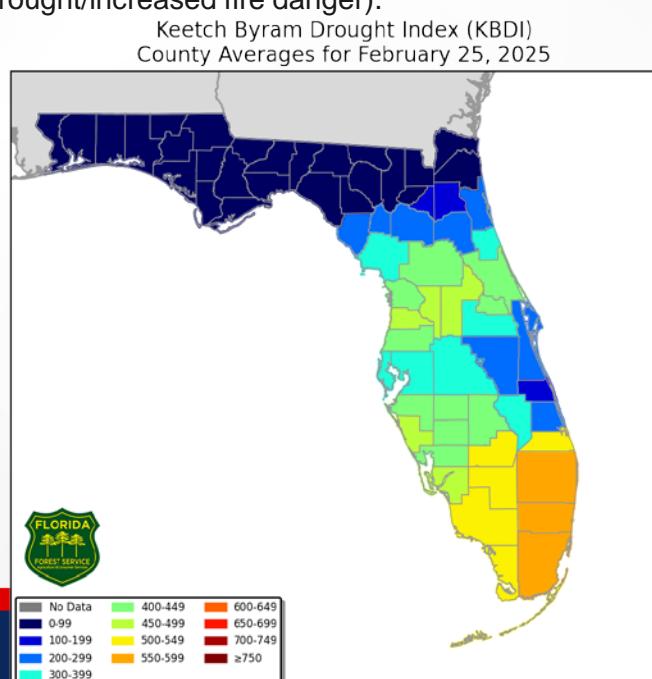
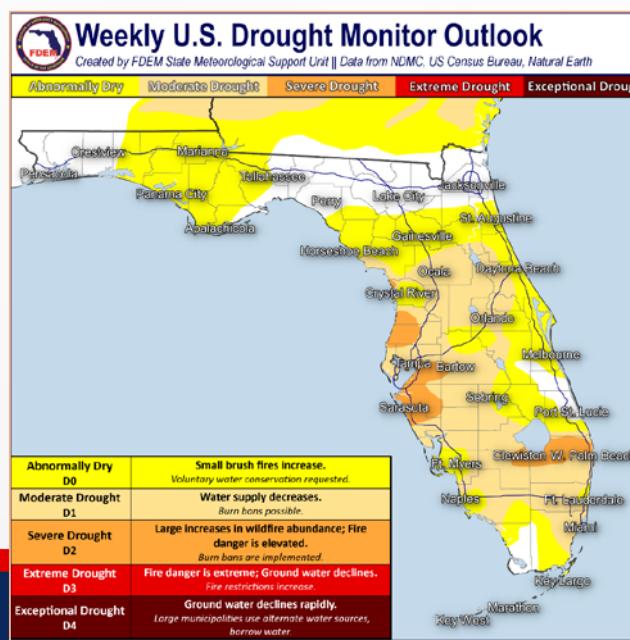


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dense Fog has developed this morning across portions of the Big Bend and I-75 corridor, with additional areas of patchy fog throughout the state. Foggy conditions and low clouds will gradually lift and dissipate this morning. Weak high pressure will allow for dry conditions to return across the state throughout the day. Northerly to northwesterly winds will bring drier air across North and Central Florida allowing for relative humidity values to fall **near and below critical thresholds (25-45%)**. **Sensitive wildfire conditions** will develop this afternoon throughout North and Central Florida as winds will remain below 10 mph and recent rainfall has saturated the grounds and soils. Patchy fog can be anticipated across the state by sunrise Thursday morning, with instances of **locally dense fog** possible. Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 15 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 371 acres.

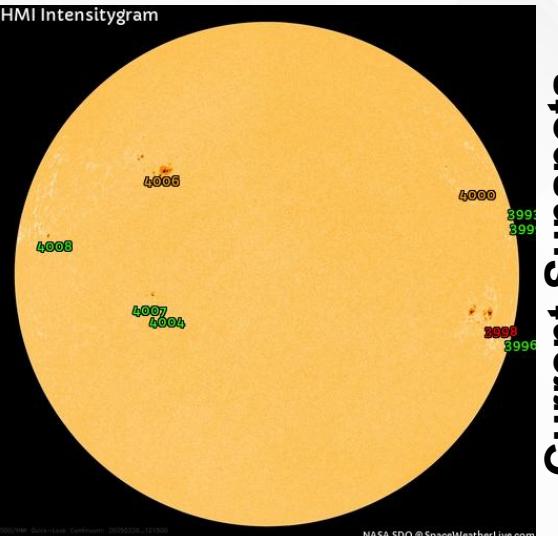
Drought: It was a very wet week (as of 2/20) for the Southeast U.S., except for the Florida Peninsula. Temperatures across most of the state continue to run about 6-9-degrees above normal. Along the west coast of Florida, where conditions have been the driest over the past week, the short-term drought indicators allowed for the introduction of **Severe Drought** in some areas on this week's Drought Monitor update (valid 2/20) in addition to the already existing area of **Severe Drought** remaining south of Lake Okeechobee in Palm Beach and Hendry Counties. **Abnormally Dry (emerging drought)** to **Moderate Drought** conditions remain in place across much of the rest of the Peninsula from the Keys northward towards the I-4 corridor. **Abnormally Dry** conditions also persist across the Eastern Panhandle and Western Big Bend, despite recent wetting rains. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near to below normal temperatures and below normal rainfall statewide over the next week or so, which may allow for further worsening of drought conditions.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **283 (-55)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **8** Florida counties (Broward, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

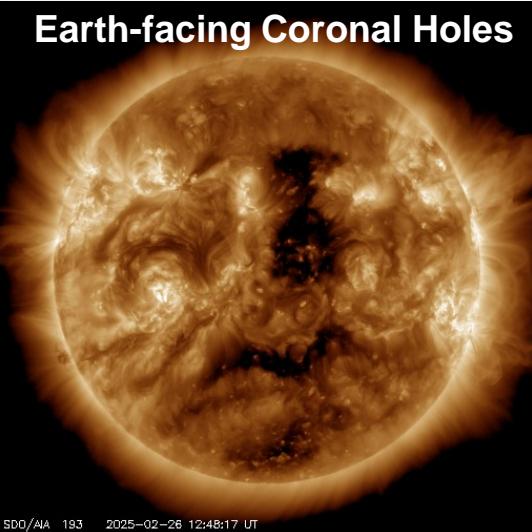




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Space Weather: Solar activity will continue at moderate levels as strong (M-class) solar flares are likely and there remains a chance for significant (X-class) solar flares. Active sunspot #3998 contains a magnetic fields that harbors energy for X-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with any M-class solar flare and strong (R3) radio blackouts can be expected with any X-class solar flares. Nominal solar wind conditions will likely return today followed by an enhancement of conditions later this week as solar winds flowing from a large coronal hole on the surface of the sun towards Earth. Another additional enhancement to the solar wind field may be possible later this week or this weekend as a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) could make contact with the Earth's magnetic field. Minor (S1) solar radiation storms can be expected, with possible moderate (S2) solar radiation storms possible due to an M3.9 solar flare from sunspot #3998 this morning. Isolated unsettled to active geomagnetic levels are expected through this morning before returning to mostly quiet conditions through the rest of the day. Quiet to unsettled levels are likely to return tomorrow and continue through the end of the week. There may be a chance for minor (G1) geomagnetic storming on Friday with possible impacts from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) and enhanced solar winds. The overall space threat to Florida is low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 65%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M3 Solar Flare
X-class: 25%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

2/26	2/27
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%



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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