



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, February 27, 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	Jay Griffin	(850) 524-4094	Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Matthew Peloso	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Melissa James	(850) 566-6422	Melissa.James@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	Santa Rosa	LEPC Meeting / EM Visit / Response Coordination Team Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Response / BBHCC / Fleet Management / EPA Water / Wastewater Meetings
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia, Madison	G-141 Course / Capabilities Assessment
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Volusia	Region 5 Quarterly Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Response Coordination Team Meeting
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Columbia, St. Lucie	G-141 Course / Return to R8 Travel
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	SWFL LEPC Meeting / Response Coordination Team meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami Dade	BEACON Training



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



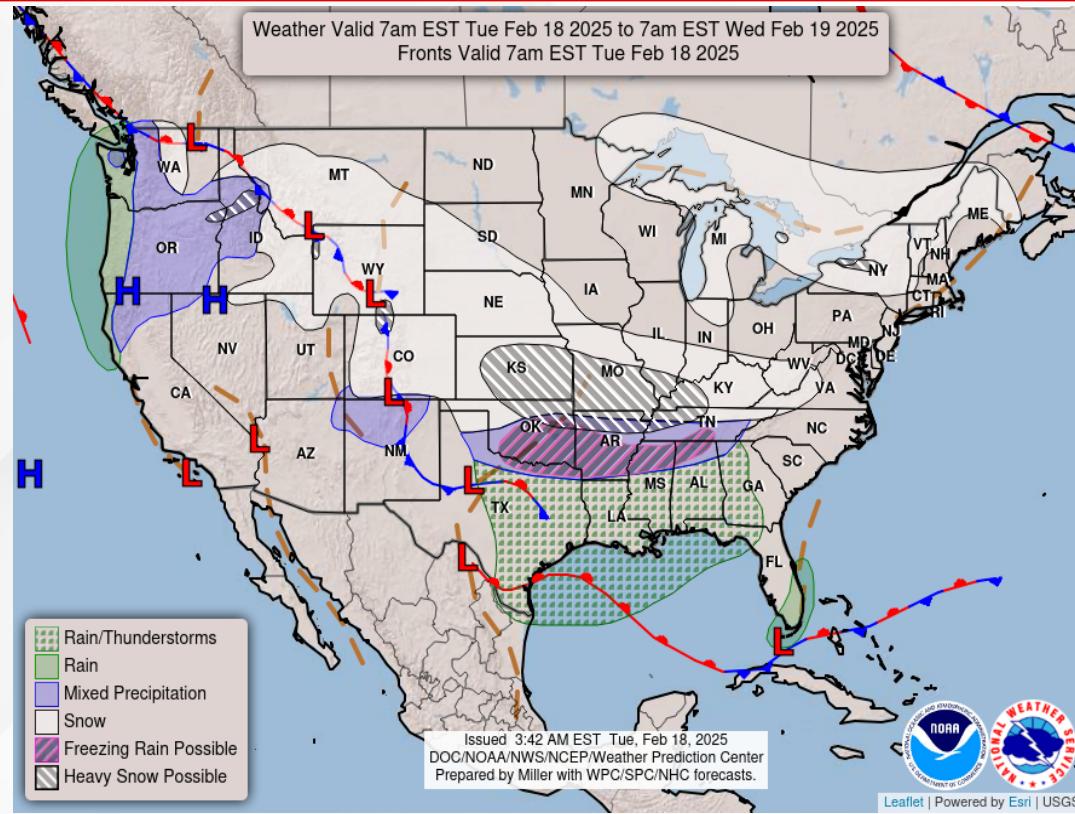
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities	Status
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Santa Rosa	LEPC Meeting	Normal Operations
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	FWC Stakeholders Meeting	In Region / Delayed Response
Region 3: Patrick James	Gilchrist	G-393	Deployed / Delayed Response
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	County Stakeholders Meeting	Out of Service / Unavailable
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Volusia	Regional Quarterly Meeting	
RRCT Manager	Hernando	FEMA RSF Meeting	
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell			
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	Administrative Duties	
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Internal Stakeholders Meeting	
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage	
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Beacon Training	

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

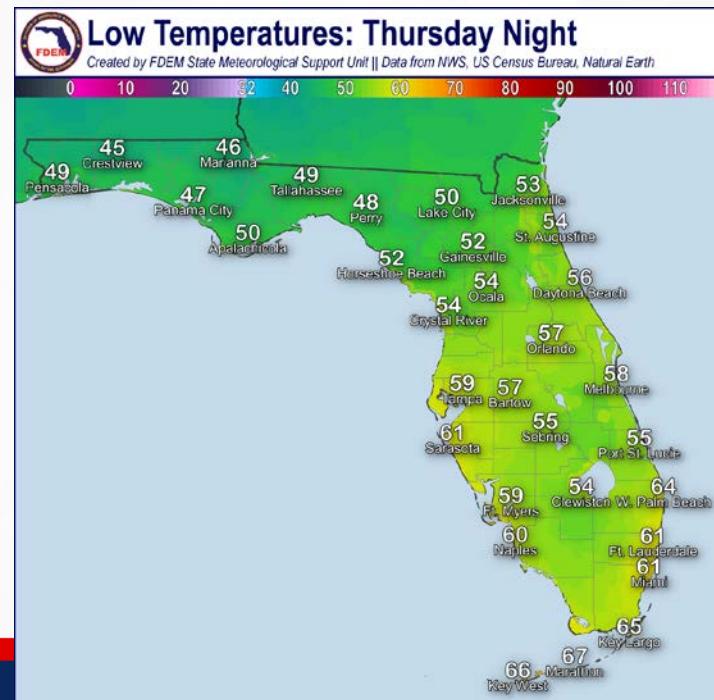
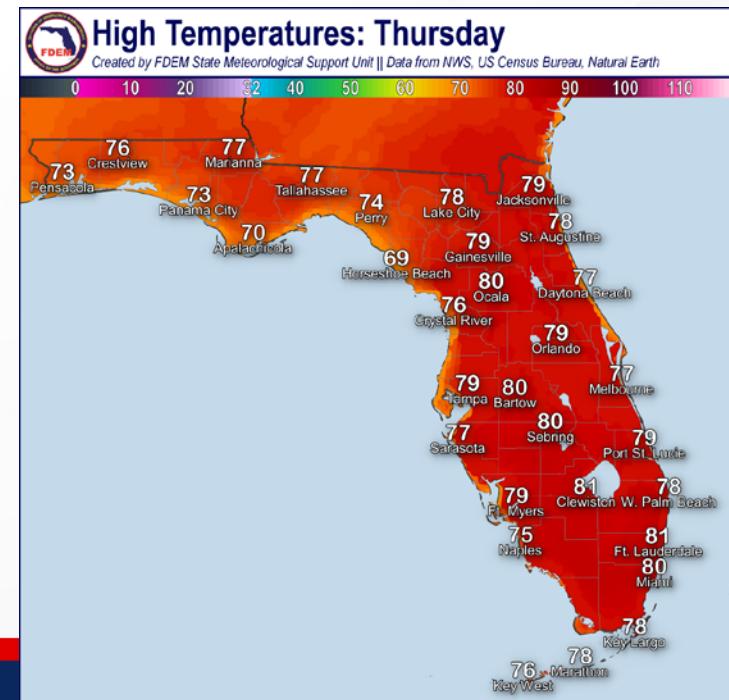


Meteorology Summary



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	L	L	L	L						
Freezing (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)			L			L	L	L	L	
Rip Currents	M	M	L	L	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.81 ft. (0.72 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	287 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

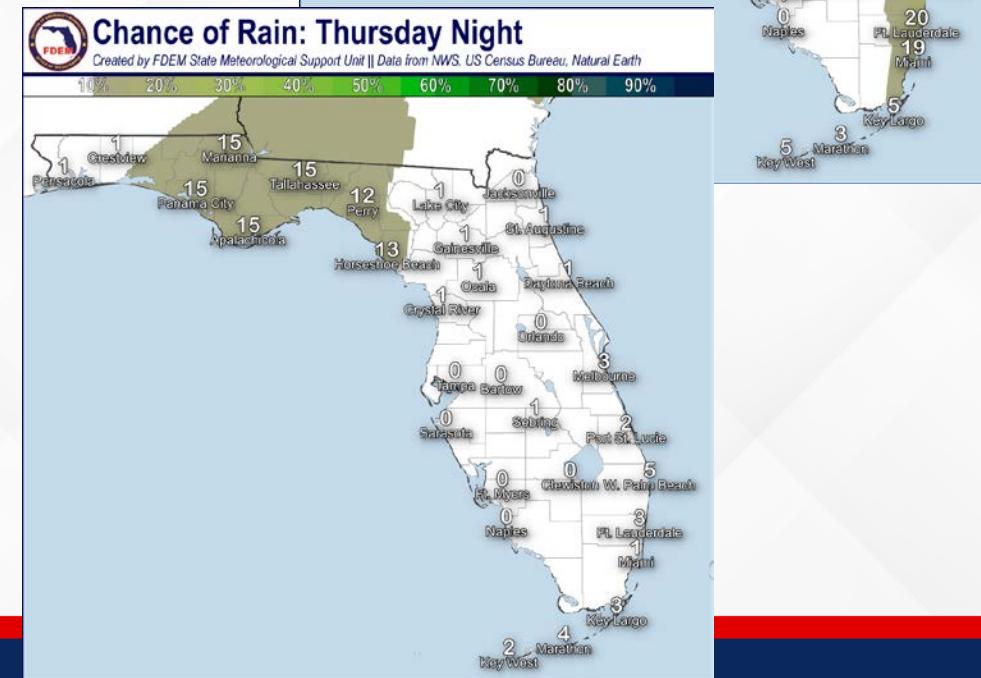
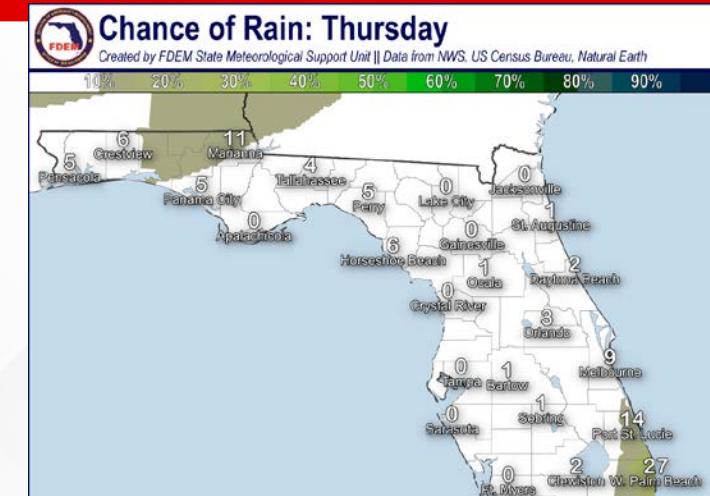
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog Advisories will remain in effect along the Panhandle and Western Big Bend through the mid-morning hours this morning as areas of **dense fog** reduce visibilities to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or less at times, creating **hazardous driving conditions**.

High pressure over the Eastern Gulf will continue to push further eastward across the Florida Peninsula and into the Western Atlantic today as a cold front approaches from the west, swinging southeastward through North and Central Florida late this afternoon into tonight. Moisture ahead of the cold front is minimal, and little to no rainfall is expected with this frontal passage (near 0-15% chance of rain). An isolated shower or two will be possible along the Southeast Coast today with the help of higher moisture levels (10-30% chance of rain).

High temperatures will rise into the middle 70s to low 80s nearly statewide today. Temperatures will likely remain slightly cooler, closer to the upper 60s to middle 70s, along coastlines and just inland this afternoon. Winds will reach upwards of 5-10 mph with **gusts near 10-20 mph** today. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** may be possible across interior portions of North Florida this afternoon as **relative humidity values fall to near 40-55%**.

Low temperatures in the middle 40s to low 50s across the Florida Panhandle, low to middle 50s across the Northern Peninsula, middle to upper 50s across Central Florida, upper 50s to middle 60s across South Florida, and middle to upper 60s along the Keys can be expected tonight. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible along the Peninsula overnight into Friday morning.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** will persist along numerous Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches today. A low risk can be expected elsewhere. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Waves heights** will remain **near 2-3'** along Florida's East Coast today while the rest of the state can expect calm marine conditions with wave heights up to 1'. **Poor boating conditions** return late tonight into early Friday as winds increase and seas build. **Breaking waves** will build to **near 2-4'** along the East Coast and the Florida Panhandle overnight with **locally higher 5' breaking waves** possible further offshore. All other beaches will continue to see **wave heights near 1-2'**.

Red Tide has been observed in **39** samples collected from Florida's Gulf Coast (valid 2/26). Background to **low concentrations** have been observed in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier, and Bay Counties. Background to **medium concentrations** have been observed offshore of Monroe County. *Fish kills and respiratory irritation have been reported from and/or offshore of Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Lee, Collier, and Monroe Counties.*

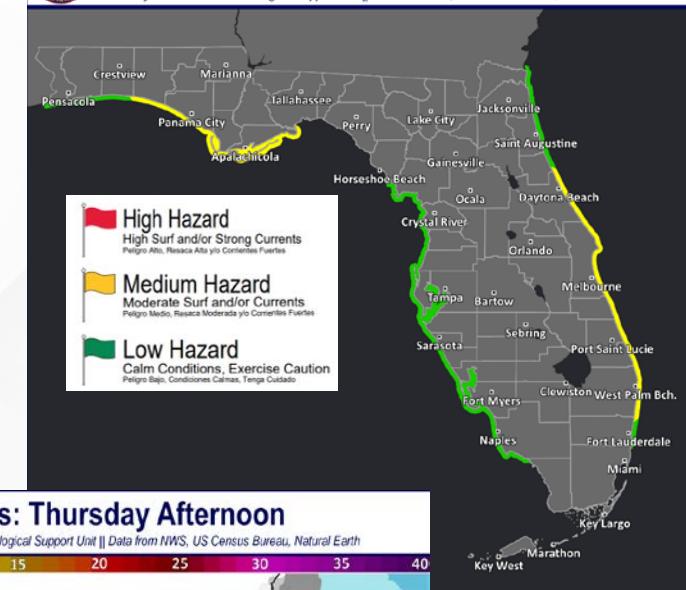
Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected today; however, **astronomically high tides** with tonight's New Moon may lead to instances of **elevated water levels (0.25-0.75' above normally dry ground)** near and at times of high tide today.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today.

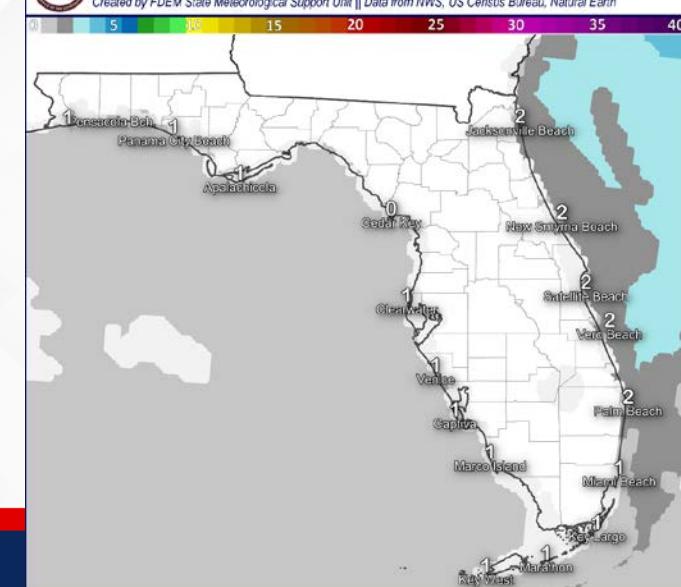
Riverine Flooding: Several rivers along the Panhandle and Big Bend remain within Action Stage (bank-full) as water levels continue to gradually decline following rises with recent heavy rainfall. Riverine flooding is not expected. There are no additional riverine concerns at this time. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.81 feet, which is within the operational band and is 0.72 feet below normal for this time of year.

Rip Current Risk: Thursday
Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth



Wave Heights: Thursday Afternoon
Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth



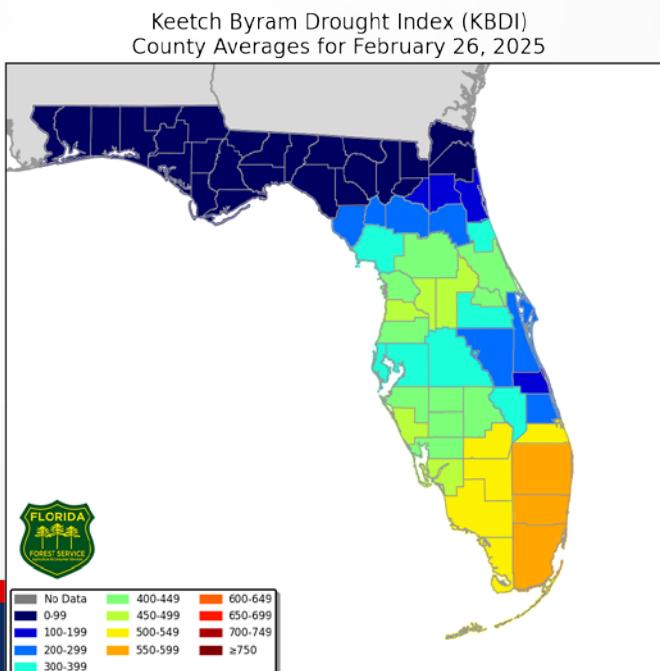
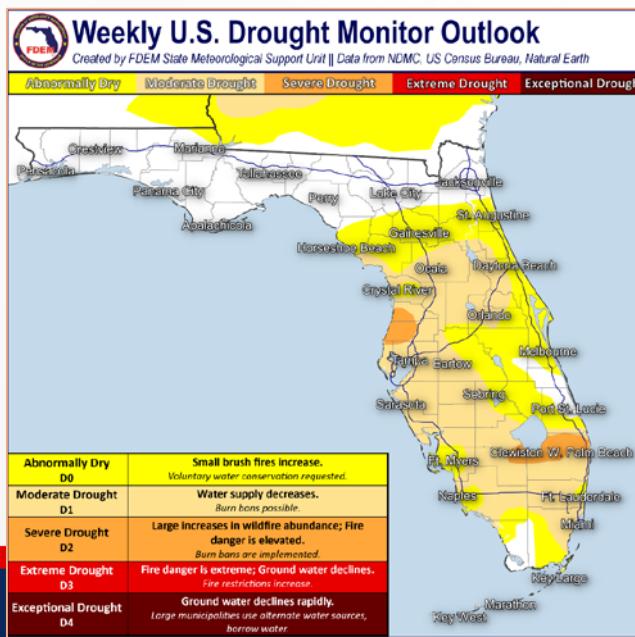


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dense Fog Advisories will remain in effect along the Panhandle and Western Big Bend through the mid-morning hours this morning as areas of dense fog reduce visibilities to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or less at times. Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires. High pressure over the Eastern Gulf will continue to push further eastward across the Florida Peninsula and into the Western Atlantic today as a cold front approaches from the west, swinging southeastward through North and Central Florida late this afternoon into tonight. Moisture ahead of the cold front is minimal, and little to no rainfall is expected with this frontal passage. An isolated shower or two will be possible along the Southeast Coast today with the help of higher moisture levels. Winds will reach upwards of 5-10 mph with **gusts near 10-20 mph** today. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** may be possible across interior portions of North Florida this afternoon as **relative humidity values fall to near 40-55%**. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 17 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 206.03 acres.

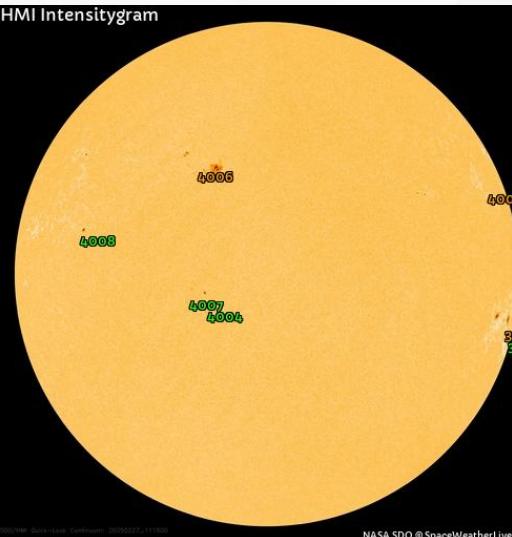
Drought: Some needed precipitation was observed across much of Florida this week, accompanied by cooler-than-normal weather. *Abnormally Dry (emerging drought)* conditions were removed from the Panhandle of Florida on this week's Drought Monitor update (valid 2/27) while **severe and moderate drought** were improved in Central Florida. However, **moderate drought** expanded slightly in South Florida despite heavy rainfall observed in some areas earlier in the week. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall statewide over the next week or so. Further improvements in drought conditions may be possible over the next week if sufficient rainfall is observed over drought-stricken areas.

[The Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **287 (+5)** 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).

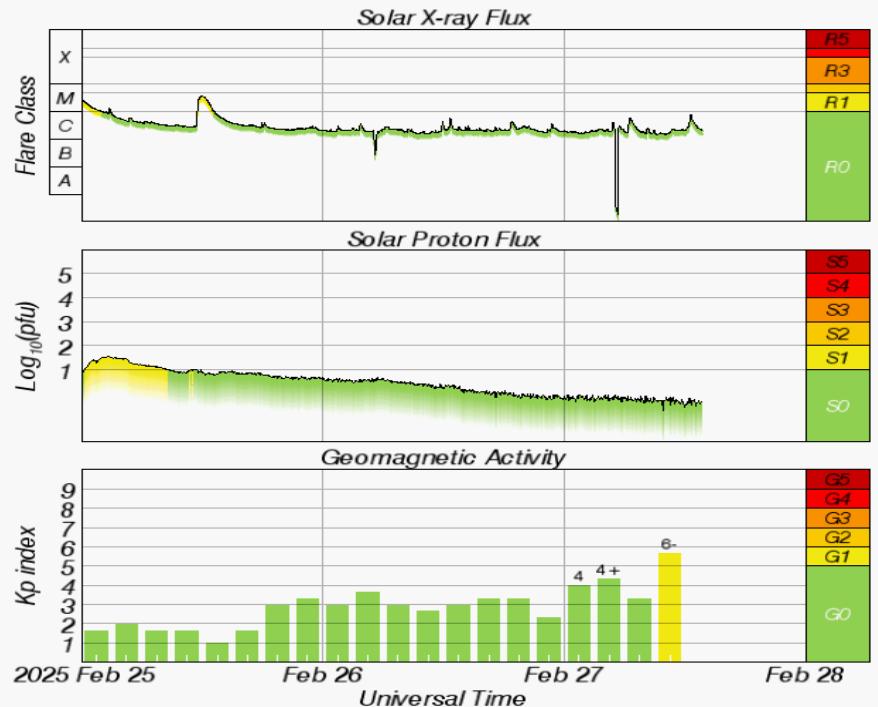
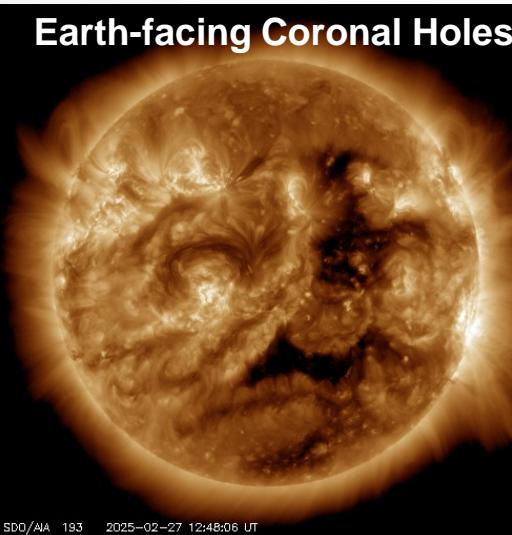




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to continue at low to moderate levels with strong (M-class) solar flare events likely and a chance for significant (X-class) solar flares over the next few days. Sunspots #3998, #4000, and #4006 contain magnetic fields that harbor energy for M-class solar flares. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will likely accompany M-class solar flare activity and strong (R3) radio blackouts or greater will be possible in the event of any X-class solar flares that occur. A slight chance for **minor (S1) solar radiation storms** exists today as levels slowly decline to background. Solar wind conditions are expected to remain enhanced over the next few days with Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) influences. Further enhancement to the solar wind field are possible Friday related to the Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that was observed leaving the Sun on 2/25. Active geomagnetic conditions to **moderate (G2) geomagnetic storm levels** are expected today with effects from a CH HSS. Unsettled to active levels are likely on Friday and Saturday as CH HSS influences continue and a glancing blow is possible from the 2/25 CME. The overall space threat to Florida is very low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 65%	Geomagnetic Storm: G2 Warning (2/27)	C5 Solar Flare
X-class: 25%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

2/27	2/28
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%



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	

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/Subscriber/new?topic_id=Morning_SITREP