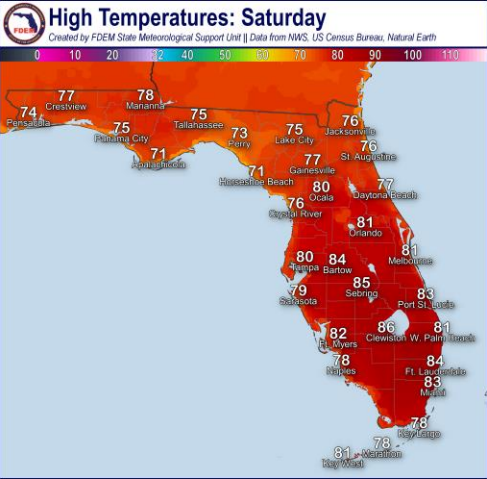
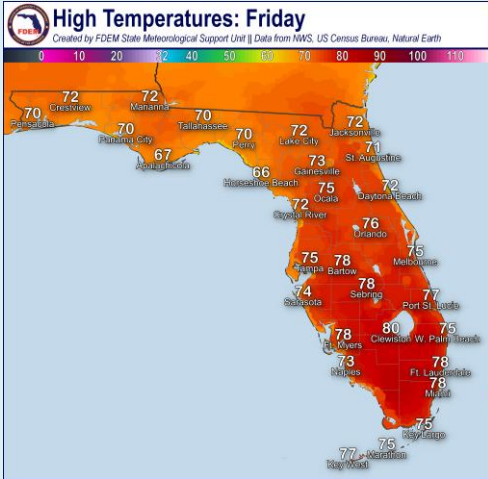
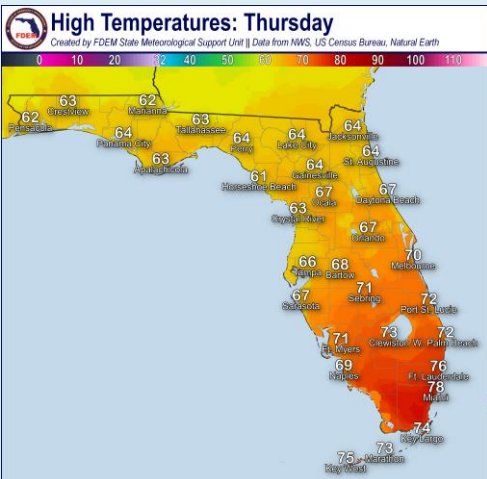
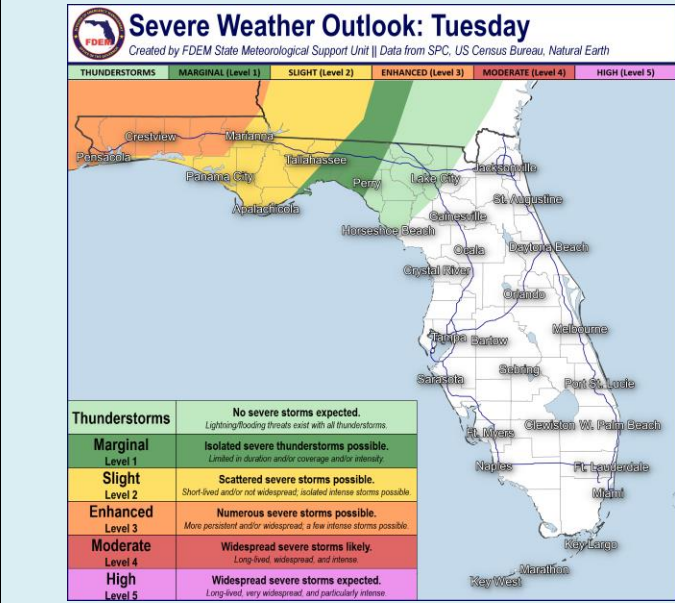


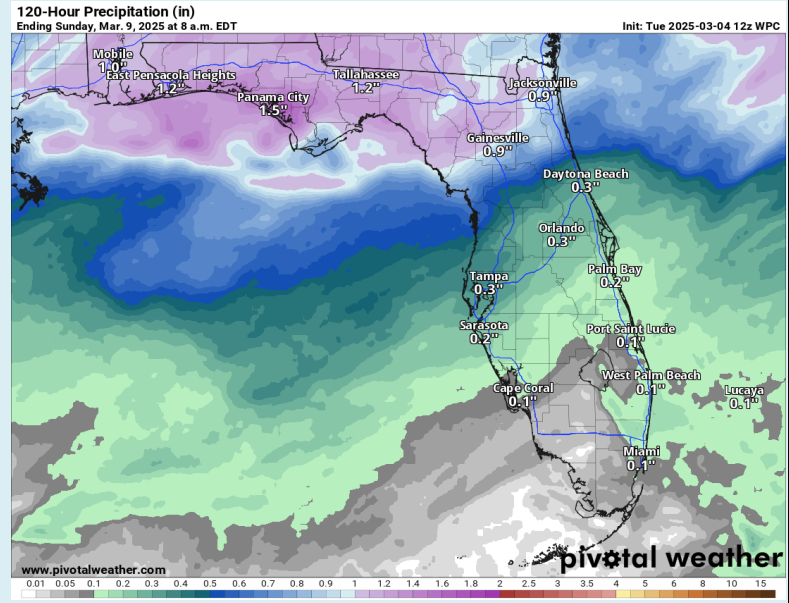
Tuesday, March 4, 2025					5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook			
No Threat		Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat		
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind	Hail	Flash Flooding	Wildfire	Fog (Overnight)	Rip Currents
Tue	Panhandle Big Bend (Overnight)	Panhandle Big Bend (Overnight)	Panhandle W. Big Bend (Overnight)	Far Western Panhandle	Panhandle			Panhandle & East Coast West Coast
Wed	Locally Big Bend & Central FL	Northeast FL Big Bend & Central FL	Big Bend & Central FL	Northeast & Central FL				Statewide
Thu						Statewide		Statewide
Fri						I-75 Corridor & Int. Peninsula Iso. Northern Panhandle		Panhandle & East Coast West Coast
Sat	Panhandle & Big Bend (Overnight)	Iso. Coastal Panhandle & Big Bend (Overnight)	Iso. Coastal Panhandle & Big Bend (Overnight)		Locally North Florida	Int. South FL		Panhandle & East Coast West Coast



Forecast High Temperatures: Thursday, Friday and Saturday Afternoon



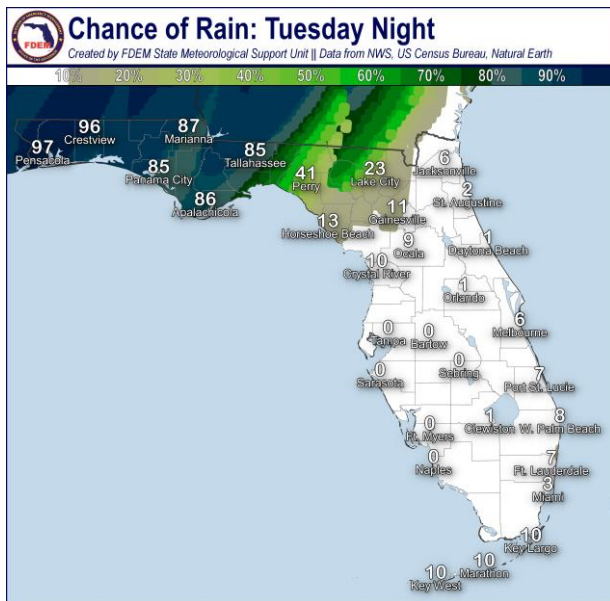
Severe Weather Outlook: Tuesday



5 Day Forecast Rainfall Totals through Saturday Evening



**...Multi-Hazard Severe Weather Event Overnight Tuesday and Into Wednesday Throughout North Florida and Towards the I-4 Corridor...All Hazards of Severe Weather Possible; Frequent Lightning, Damaging Wind Gusts, Embedded Tornadoes, Large Hail and Heavy Downpours...Gusty Winds Before and After Cold Front Passage Expected Through Mid-Week...Sensitive Wildfire Conditions Return Across the State Thursday with Elevated Winds and Dry Conditions...Active Weather Pattern Likely to Return Across North Florida Saturday and Saturday Night; Low Confidence With Shower and Thunderstorm Activity...Moderate to High Risk for Rip Currents to Persist Statewide Through the Rest of the Week...**



### Tuesday – Wednesday:

Mostly dry conditions can be expected throughout the daytime hours as high pressure from the Atlantic coastline continues to gradually shift eastward towards the open waters. Increasing cloud cover will develop throughout the day as a low pressure system develops over the Central Plains and begins to move northeastward. With this, the pressure difference between the high and the low will create gusty winds later this morning that will continue into the afternoon and evening hours. Southerly to southeasterly winds of 10-20 mph can be expected throughout the state, with **wind gusts upwards of 15-25 mph** from Northeast Florida and southward throughout the Peninsula and **stronger wind gusts upwards of 30-40 mph** across the Panhandle and into the western Big Bend. Wind Advisories have been issued and will go into effect across the Panhandle near midday due

to these gusty winds developing. Onshore winds flowing from the adjacent Atlantic waters may also bring isolated to widely scattered showers along the eastern Peninsula, mainly through the I-95 corridor throughout the day (15-35% chance of rain).

A strong cold front also associated with the low pressure system will sweep across the Gulf Coast states this afternoon and evening before reaching the Panhandle late this evening and overnight. Increasing rain chances can be expected across the Panhandle this evening as the cold front approaches bringing a line of scattered showers and thunderstorms into the overnight hours (85- near 100% chance of rain). Within this line of scattered showers and thunderstorms, embedded strong to severe thunderstorms will be possible. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking an **Enhanced Risk (level 3 of 5) for Severe Weather** across the Panhandle, with a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5)** extending through the Capital City and a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** towards the I-75 corridor due to the potential for **isolated strong to severe thunderstorms**. Any of these strong to severe thunderstorms may be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (50-70 mph), embedded tornadoes, large hail (upwards of 1" or quarter-size) and heavy downpours. A strong tornado (EF-2 or greater) cannot be ruled out along the far western Panhandle (Escambia and Santa Rosa counties). While the line of showers and thunderstorms ahead of the cold front will quickly move across the Panhandle along the I-10 corridor through the overnight and early morning hours on Wednesday, instances of locally heavy downpours within stronger activity could lead to **instances of nuisance or localized flash flooding** across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the Panhandle through tonight and into the predawn hours on Wednesday.

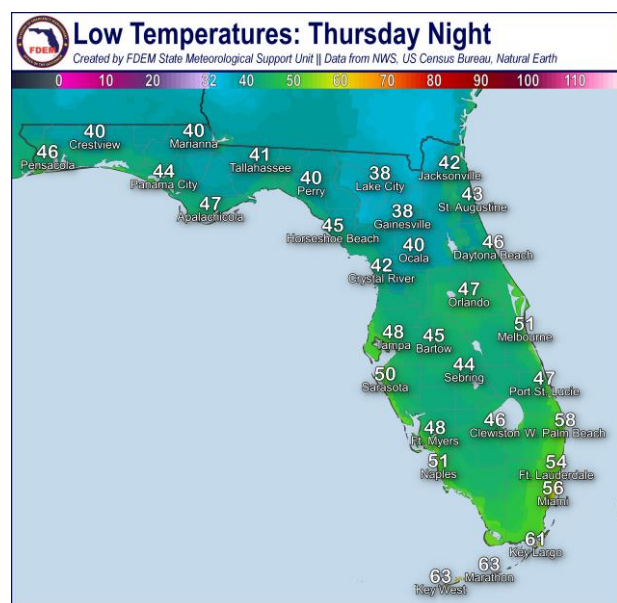




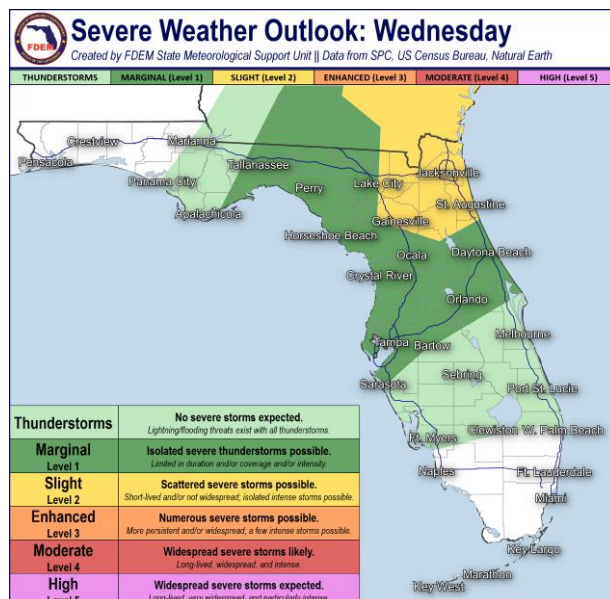
The line of strong to severe thunderstorms will continue to progress eastward across the I-10 corridor through the morning hours across Northeast Florida and eventually into the northern Peninsula (80-near 100% chance of rain). The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is maintaining a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather** across Northeast Florida on Wednesday, with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** from the Capital City through the I-4 corridor for embedded strong to severe thunderstorms within the line. **Any strong to severe thunderstorm** that develops will be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (50-60 mph), embedded tornadoes, large hail (upwards of 1" or quarter-size) and locally heavy downpours. Regardless of thunderstorm activity, gusty winds will continue to persist across the state throughout the day on Wednesday. Westerly to southwesterly winds near 15-20 mph can be expected throughout the state by the afternoon hours, with **wind gusts upwards of 20-30 mph**. As the line of showers and thunderstorms continues to push southward beyond the I-4 corridor late in the afternoon, drier air will disrupt the activity and the line will weaken. By the time it reaches South Florida, there will only be a slight chance for showers (15-30% chance of rain). Mostly dry conditions can be expected to return overnight throughout the state with a chance for lingering showers along Southeast Florida and the upper Keys (15-30% chance of rain).

High temperatures across the region will reach the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s this afternoon as a warm front ahead of the low pressure system moves northward Tuesday. Low temperatures will fall into the middle to upper 50s and lower 60s overnight Tuesday night. High temperatures Wednesday afternoon will reach the upper 60s to upper 70s across North Florida and upper 70s to middle 80s across Central and South Florida Wednesday. Low temperatures will fall into the upper 30s to upper 40s across North Florida, upper 40s to middle 50s across Central Florida and upper 50s to middle 60s across South Florida Wednesday night.

## Thursday – Friday:



Waking up Thursday morning, it will be chilly outside as **feels-like temperatures** near sunrise will be in the **middle to upper 30s** along and north of the I-10 corridor. Dry conditions will return across the Sunshine State Thursday and Friday as high pressure over the Gulf Coast states gradually shifts eastward (near 0% chance of rain). With drier conditions returning, **sensitive wildfire conditions** are also likely to return. Relative humidity values will fall **near and just below critical thresholds (25-40%)** throughout most of the state on Thursday as drier air continues to sink southward. Areas across the Panhandle will start to see relative humidity values recover Friday; however, from the I-75 corridor southward throughout the interior Peninsula, relative humidity values will fall to **near and below critical thresholds again (25-35%)**. Mostly sunny conditions can be expected each day with the help of high

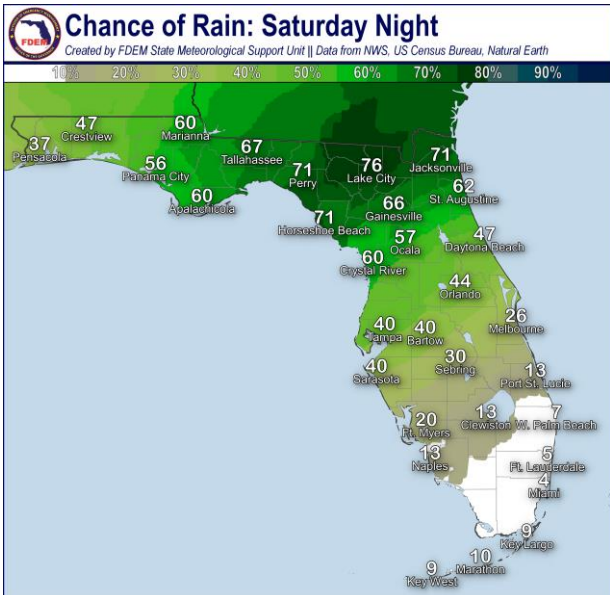


remains low (20-40% chance of rain). Isolated **instances of patchy frost**

e 70s and near 80-degrees statewide on Friday. Low temperatures will return to the upper 40s to

**Saturday:**

There is low confidence regarding the next low pressure system that is forecast to move into



High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to



## Hydrology & Flooding:

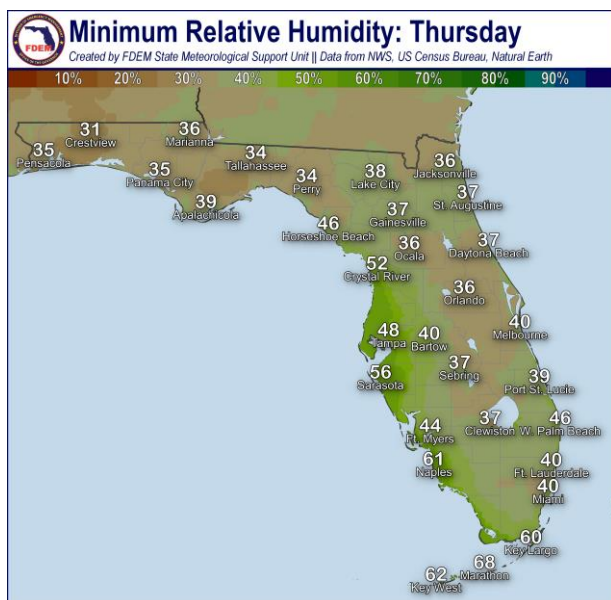
The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the Panhandle on Tuesday due to scattered showers and thunderstorms, some which may be strong to severe, being capable of producing locally heavy downpours. Strong winds will pull moisture northward ahead of the main line of shower and thunderstorm activity, which may aid development of locally heavy downpours. The line of showers and thunderstorms looks to move rather quickly across the Panhandle, which would limit overall flooding concerns; however, any of those stronger thunderstorms could create heavy rainfall rates that lead to **nuisance and localized flash flooding** for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Rainfall totals will generally remain near 0.5-1" across the Panhandle, with locally higher totals upwards of 2" possible with the heaviest downpours. Another round of heavy rainfall may be possible on Saturday with another low pressure system moving through Gulf Coast states; however, rainfall totals and placement of any heavy rainfall will remain dependent on the track of the low and its forward speed. Another 1-2" of rainfall may be possible throughout portions North Florida on Saturday, with locally higher totals. Any heavier downpours or slow-moving showers and thunderstorms could lead to **instances of localized flash flooding** for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](#).

The [Aucilla River at Lamont](#) remains within Action Stage (bank-full) as water levels continue to gradually decline following rises with recent heavy rainfall. The river is forecast to fall below flood stage within the next few days, and river 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 13.66 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.85 feet below normal for this time of year.

## Fire Weather:

Beneficial improvements were made to the latest [Drought Monitor](#) (2/27) update following much needed rainfall with last week's active weather pattern earlier in the week. In combination with beneficial rainfall, temperatures were cooler than normal throughout the state, nearly 5-15-degrees below normal for this time of year. As a result, abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions were nearly removed from the Florida Panhandle and portions of the **moderate to severe drought conditions** were improved within the central Peninsula. Unfortunately, **moderate drought conditions** expanded slightly within South Florida where the heaviest rainfall missed those areas. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking drought conditions persisting across much of the interior and western Peninsula with drought development likely from the Big Bend throughout the rest of the Peninsula and into much of South Florida for the month of March. As well, the CPC is outlooking leaning above temperatures and equal chances of above or below normal precipitation across the state for the month of March.



[The Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **312** 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).

With drier conditions returning, **sensitive wildfire conditions** are also likely to return. Relative humidity values will fall **near and just below critical thresholds (25-40%)** throughout most of the state on Thursday as drier air continues to sink southward. Luckily, calmer winds below 15 mph will return on



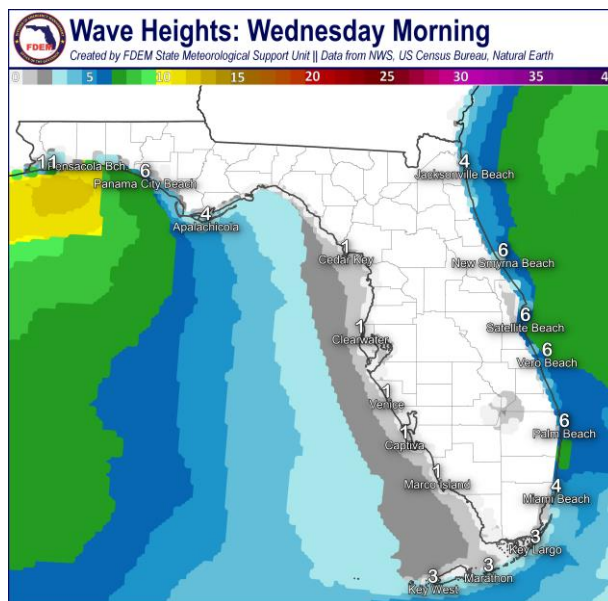


Thursday afternoon that will keep widespread wildfire conditions low. **Isolated wind gusts of 15-20 mph** will be possible into the early afternoon hours on Thursday before declining. Areas across the Panhandle will start to see relative humidity values recover Friday; however, from the I-75 corridor southward throughout the interior Peninsula, relative humidity values will fall to **near and below critical thresholds again (25-35%)**. Calmer winds below 10 mph can be expected on Friday. Linger dry conditions on Saturday could lead to instances of **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** with relative humidity values (30-40%) dropping near critical thresholds. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 53 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 1,638 acres.

### Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Strong onshore winds and elevated surf conditions will create a **high risk for rip currents** across all Panhandle and East Coast beaches beginning Tuesday. A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected to persist across all beaches throughout the state through the end of the week with hazardous surf and boating conditions. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

Strong onshore winds ahead of an approaching cold front will increase **wave heights** along Panhandle beaches to **4-6'** by the afternoon hours, with deteriorating beach and boating conditions expected to continue into the evening and overnight hours. A **High Surf Warning** has been issued along the western Panhandle as **dangerous surf of 7-11'** is expected through this afternoon and into Wednesday. **High Surf Advisories** will also go into effect later today along the rest of the Panhandle for **wave heights upwards of 6-8'** possible Tuesday evening and through Wednesday. The rest of the Gulf and West Coast will likely see increased surf conditions upwards of 1-3'. East Coast beaches can also expect increasing **hazardous surf conditions upwards of 4-7'** by Tuesday afternoon and continue through Wednesday. The swell over the eastern gulf waters will gradually shift southward parallel or along the West Coast overnight Wednesday and into Thursday increasing wave heights for numerous beaches to **5-8'** by the morning hours. *High Surf Advisories may briefly be needed along West Coast beaches later in the day Wednesday.* East Coast beaches will continue to see the ocean swell over the western Atlantic waters persist creating **wave heights of 3-6'** through Thursday morning. By Friday afternoon, calmer marine conditions will return for the Gulf and West Coasts with wave heights declining to 1-3' before increasing again Saturday evening. **Wave heights of 2-5'** will linger along East Coast beaches through the end of the week.



There is no organized risk for coastal flooding today; however, strong onshore winds and elevated surf along the Panhandle and Big Bend, especially within Apalachee Bay, may lead to **instances of minor coastal flooding and beach erosion** near and during times of high tide Tuesday night and into Wednesday. As of right now, the strongest onshore winds look to occur with the lower of the two high tide cycles early Wednesday morning, which could lower to potential for coastal flooding. As of right now there are no additional coastal flood concerns; however, hazardous surf lingering along coastlines may lead to **instances of nuisance flooding and beach erosion**. Strong northwesterly winds along Gulf-facing Key beaches behind a passing cold front may lead to **instances of minor coastal flooding** near and during times of high tide through Thursday afternoon before onshore winds decrease.



[Red Tide](#) has been observed in **46** samples collected from Southwest Florida as of 2/28. Chlorophyll satellite imagery continues to track offshore patches suspected to contain red tide, but imagery continues to vary from day to day. Images from 2/27 show slightly elevated chlorophyll levels offshore of the Panhandle region and from Pinellas to Monroe counties in Southwest Florida. In Southwest Florida, background to low concentrations in and offshore were observed in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Monroe counties. In Northwest Florida, background concentrations were collected from a sample from Bay County. Fish kills and respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide were reported in Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, Sarasota, Collier and Monroe 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 to southern movement of surface waters and a net southeastern transport of subsurface waters in most areas over the next 3.5 days.

The latest [Blue-Green Algae](#) report indicates algal bloom conditions were observed at 11 sites during the week of 2/21 to 2/27. Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows scattered moderate bloom potential, primarily in Fisheating Creek area and along the western shoreline. 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. The Caloosahatchee Estuary and St. Lucie Estuary shows scattered low to **moderate bloom potential** signals in visible portions of the upper Caloosahatchee Estuary and the South Prong of the St. Lucie River.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily 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](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather)

