



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Monday, March 17, 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Plans Chief	Claudia Riddle	(850) 755-2924	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) 591-7732	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	DLDOHDDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Marnie Villanueva	(850) 591-9544	Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com
DEM Finance and Admin	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden	Regional Meeting Prep / Office Admin
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	R4 Position Admin / Mid-Level Leadership Development Program Intro
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Alachua, Levy, Taylor	SERT Disaster Needs Assessment Mtgs / Community Event
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Special Event Prep (SLRC)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas	Hospital Logistics Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Pinellas	Hospital Logistics Meeting
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Indian River	Vehicle Maintenance / FTEM Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	NWS Ruskin Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	G-300 Instrucion Prep

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

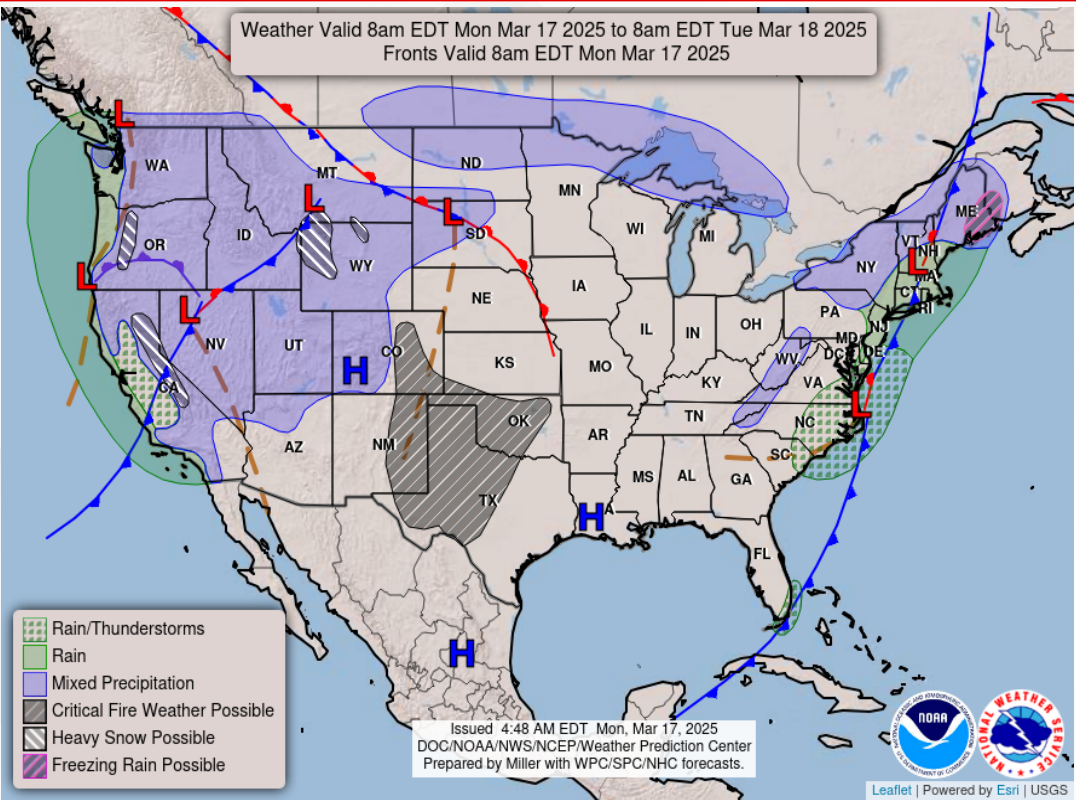
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Madison	HSEEP Training
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
RRCT Manager	Hernando	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Highlands	County EM Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Internal Stakeholders Meeting

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

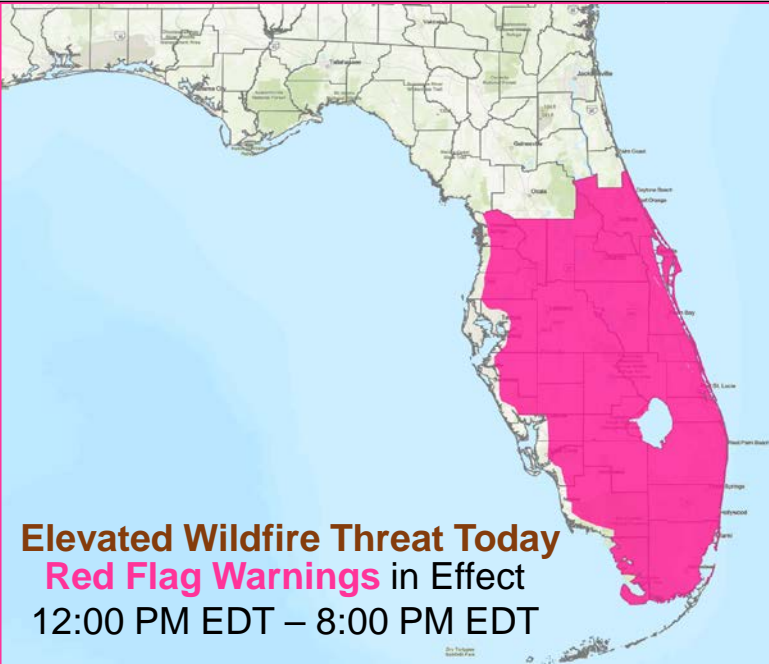
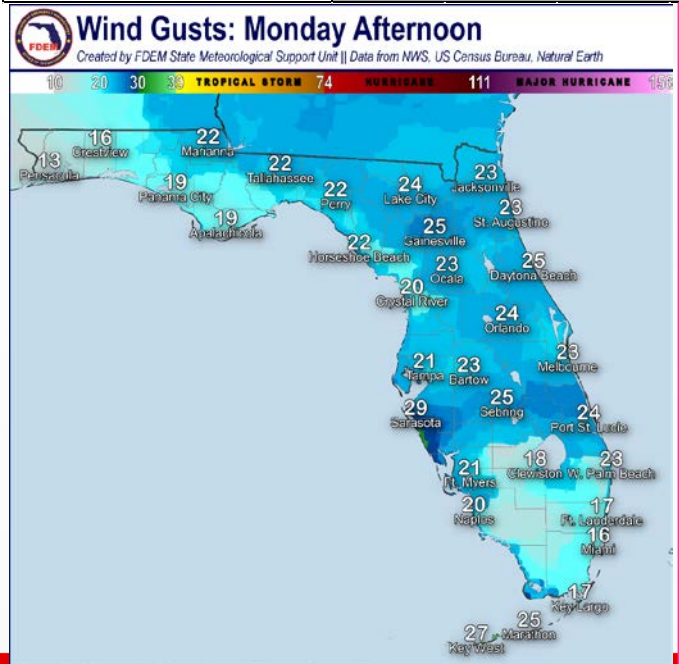


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Fire Weather		L	L	L	M	M	H	M	M	H
River Flooding		L	L	L						
Fog (Overnight)									L	
Rip Currents	H	H	H	M	M	H		M	H	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.13 ft. (1.29 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	315 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

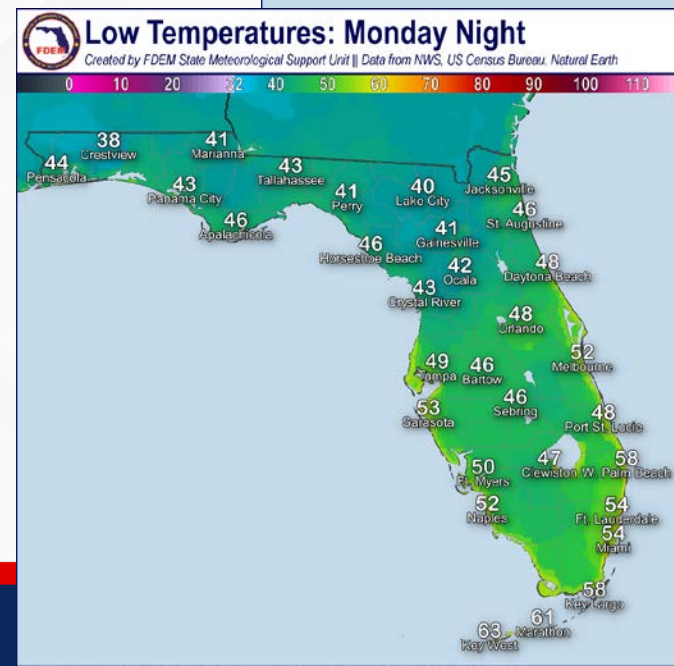
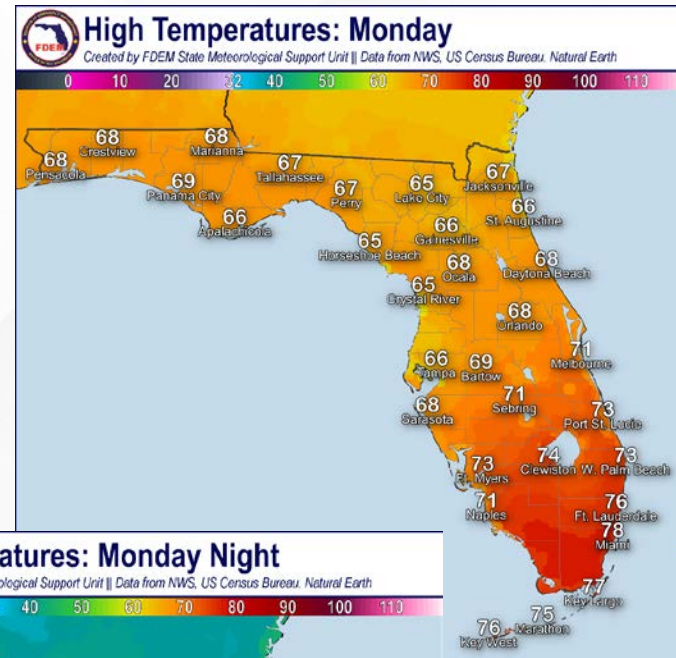
On current radar (9:00 AM EDT), the final showers and embedded thunderstorms along the recent springtime cold front have moved off the Southeast Florida coastline this morning with clearing skies anticipated through the day. Near-zero rain chances and ample sunshine anticipated to begin the work week.

Breezy northwesterly winds will filter a cooler and drier airmass across the state, with sustained winds of 10-20 mph developing statewide. **Moderate to strong wind gusts** frequently reaching **25-30 mph** can be expected during the daytime hours. Windy conditions coupled with **critically low relative humidity values (20s and 30s)** will give way to **elevated wildfire conditions** nearly statewide; **Red Flag Warnings** will go into effect midday across the Florida Peninsula until 8:00 PM EDT this evening as **enhanced wildfire danger and behavior** can be expected for locations experiencing longer-term drought and dry soil/vegetation.

Afternoon high temperatures will remain in the upper 60s across much of North and Central Florida and reach the lower to middle 70s throughout the southern Florida Peninsula and Keys. Clear skies overnight will allow for temperatures to drop into the lower 40s across North Florida, with some interior locations seeing brief periods in the **upper 30s**. Elsewhere, low temperatures tonight in the upper 40s to lower 50s can be expected across Central Florida and the 50s to 60s through South Florida and the Keys.



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: **Moderate to high, life-threatening, rip current** conditions persist statewide today as breezy winds and continued ocean swells impact the coastlines. Messaging the **dangerous and life-threatening** risk of rip currents is imperative for tourists and out-of-town Spring Break vacationers. The **greatest rip current risk** resides along Florida Panhandle, West Florida, and Southeast Florida beaches today. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Hazardous beach and boating conditions** continue along many Florida coastlines today, courtesy of breezy northerly to northwesterly post-frontal winds. **Wave heights** of **2-4'** can be expected along Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches, with **locally higher breakers** reaching **5'** possible. **Wave heights** of **4-7'** will be possible along the Florida West Coast through the afternoon hours.

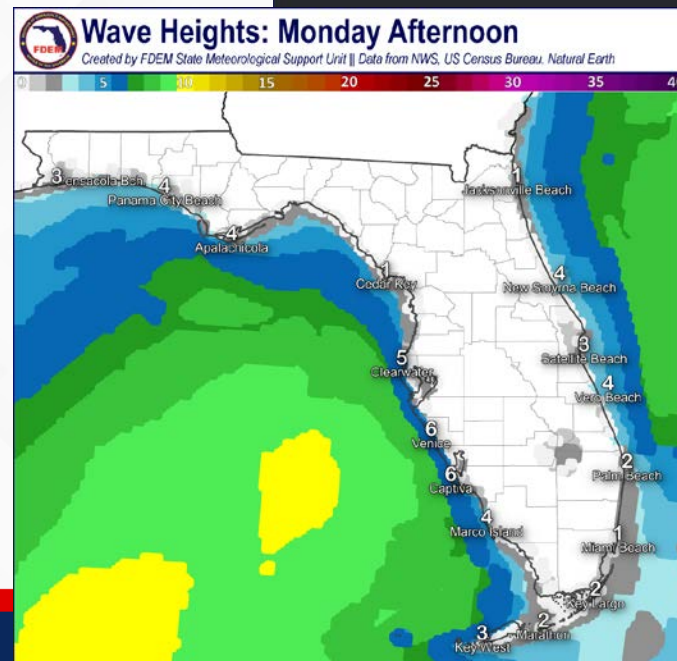
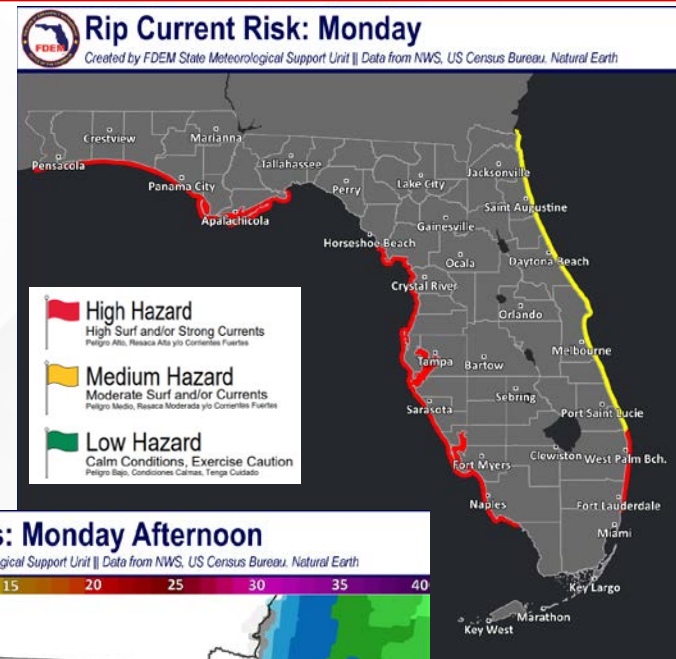
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in **2** samples collected from Florida's Gulf Coast (Pinellas and Gulf Counties) over the past week (valid 3/14). *Fish kills suspected to be related to red tide were reported in Sarasota County. There have been no reports of respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide.*

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not anticipated.

Flash Flooding: There is no risk of flash flooding across Florida today.

Riverine Flooding: **Minor flooding** continues along portions of the [Aucilla River at Lamont](#) and [St. Mary's River at Macclenny](#), with **River Flood Warnings** remaining in effect until further notice and until Tuesday (3/18) evening, respectively. Additional river basins, such as the Ochlockonee, Sopchoppy, Withlacoochee and Santa Fe, are all forecast or have already risen into Action Stage (bank-full). For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.13 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.29 feet below normal for this time of year.





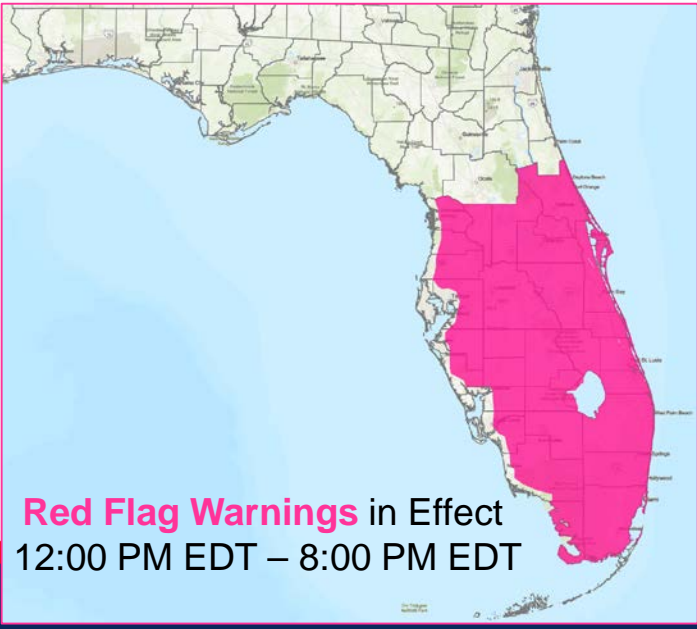
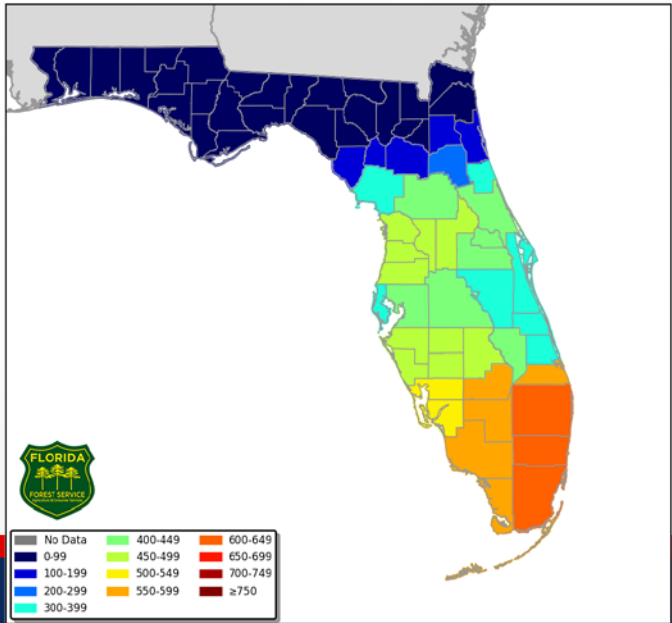
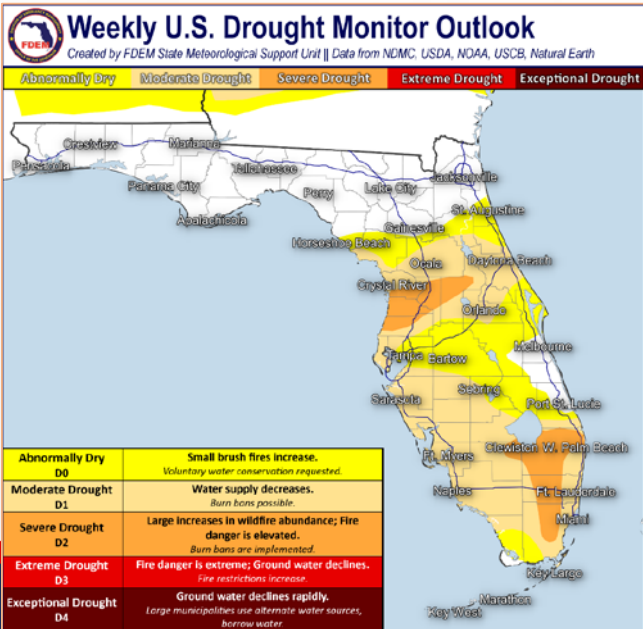
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dry air and breezy conditions will give way to **elevated wildfire concerns** throughout much of the Florida Peninsula today, with **Red Flag Warnings** forecast to go into effect midday through the evening (8:00 PM EDT for most locations). Sustained northerly to northwesterly winds of 10-20 mph will influence dry air and ample sunshine, with **wind gusts** reaching **25-30 mph** during the daytime heating hours. **Critically low relative humidity values (20s and 30s)** will lead to **enhanced fire danger and behavior**, especially for locations that are experiencing long-term drought and dry soils/vegetation. Any fires that develop or are ongoing could spread rapidly and not be easily contained; outdoor burning is not recommended. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 29 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 1,607 acres.

Drought: Near to above-normal rainfall was observed in most areas in the Southeast U.S. over the past week (as of 3/13), although the heaviest totals along and adjacent to North Florida were outside the areas affected by dryness. Dry conditions along the Central and Southern Florida Peninsula have led to some degradations on last week's Drought Monitor update (valid 3/13). **Abnormally Dry (emerging drought)** to **Moderate Drought** conditions remain in place across South and Central Florida northward to a line from Horseshoe Beach to Gainesville to St. Augustine. Expanding pockets of **Severe Drought** persisting across the Nature Coast and extending northeastward towards Daytona Beach and in the Southern Lake Okeechobee region stretching southward to Miami-Dade County.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **315 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **10** Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

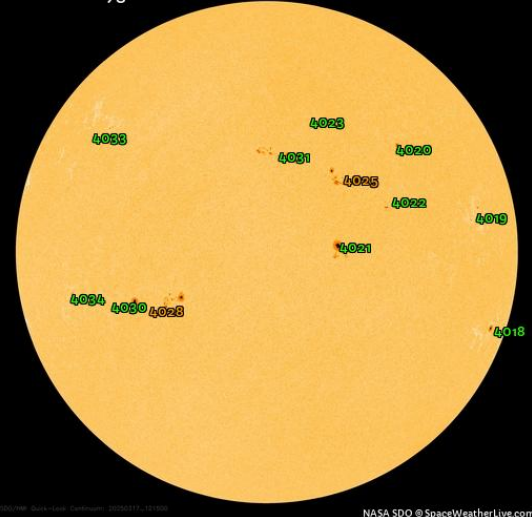
Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for March 16, 2025





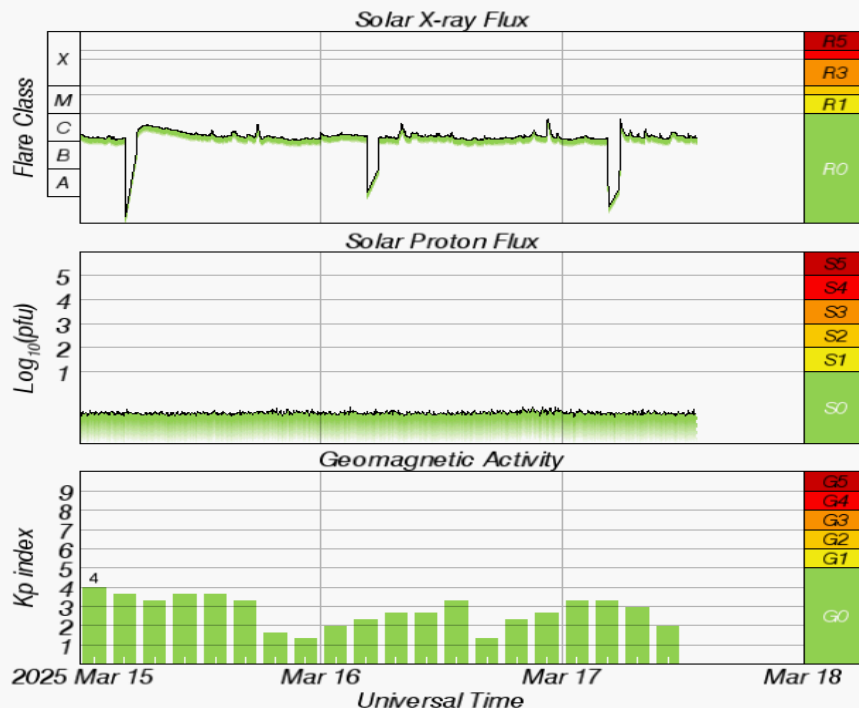
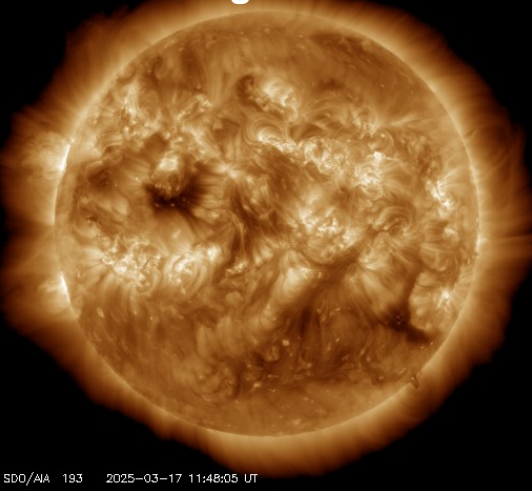
Space Weather

HMI Intensitygram



Current Sunspots

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 40%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C7 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/17	3/18
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar flare activity is expected to be low with a chance for stronger (M-class) solar flares and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares. While the Sun's disk is peppered with several sunspot areas, all remain unactive at this time. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts may accompany the stronger and more organized flare activity. Enhanced solar wind parameters can be expected to continue today, courtesy of some coronal hole influences; however, widespread and organized geomagnetic storming is not anticipated. The overall space weather 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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