



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, March 19, 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	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@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	Kennedy Tartt	(850) 567-6368	Kennedy.Tartt@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	Brandon Gore	(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	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Escambia	Region 1 Quarterly Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Support Services Call / LMS/Stakeholders Mtg / Fleet Build Working Session
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Leon	SERT Disaster Needs Assessment Meetings (V - Taylor, Gilchrist/Dixie, Suwannee)
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Lake, Osceola	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas	EM Logs Meeting / Support Services Call / City Manager Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Hardee, DeSoto	Support Services Call / EM Visits
Region 8: Mason Kozac	St. Lucie	Support Services Call
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Sarasota	Vehicle Maintenance / Support Services Call
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	G-300 Co-Instruction / OVS Meeting

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 3
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

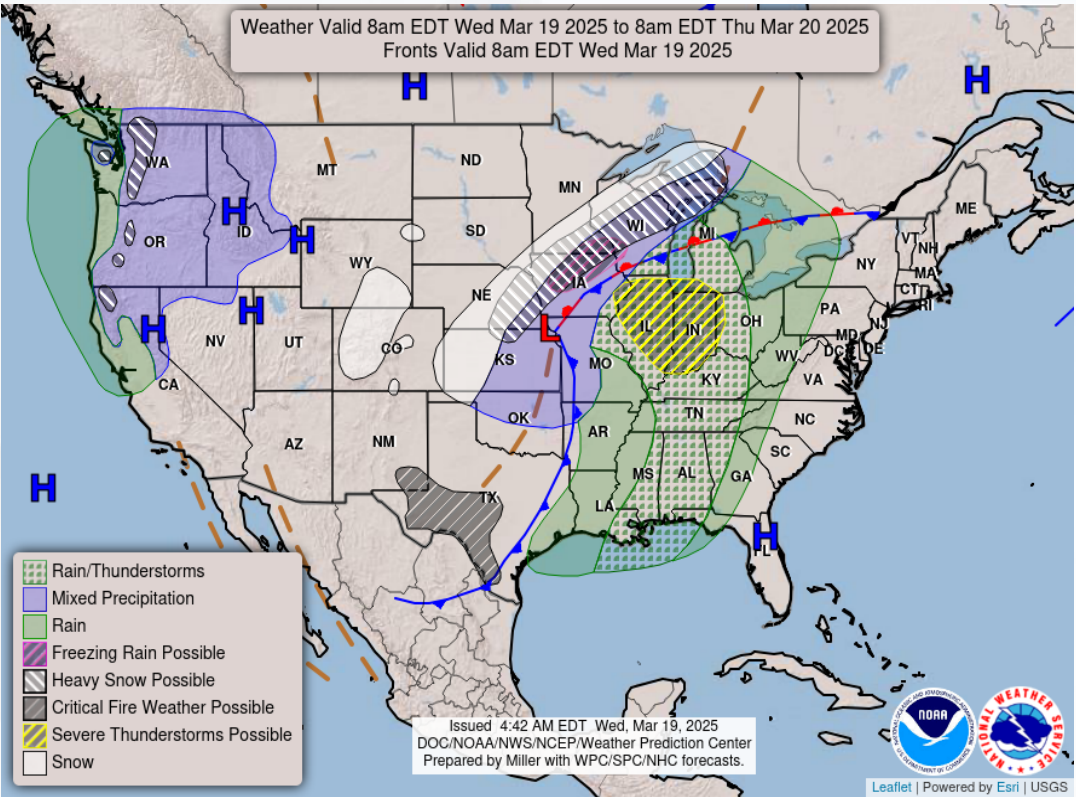
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Escambia	FROC Abatement Assistance
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	FEMA CA Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
RRCT Manager	Hernando	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Hardee	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 2
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

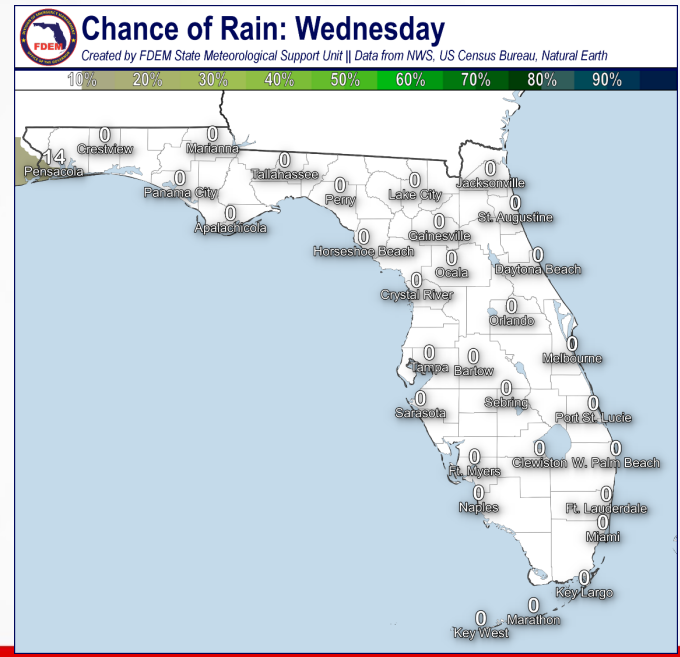
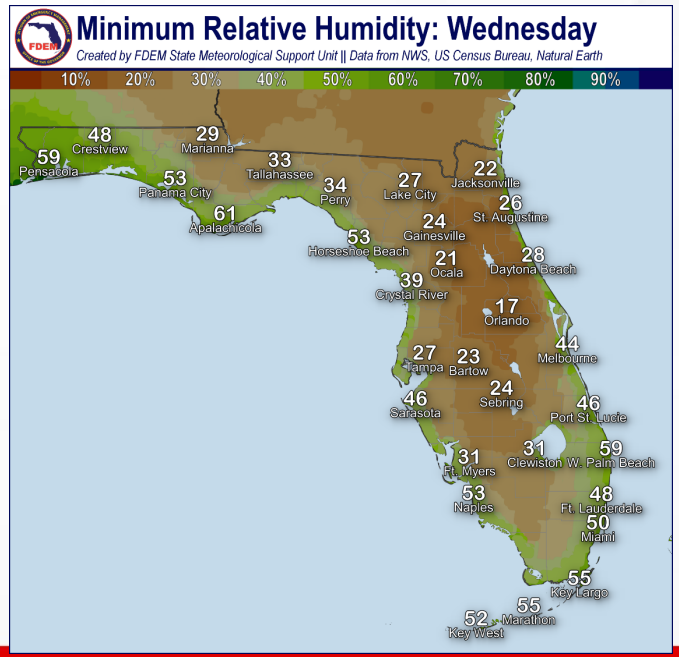


Meteorology Summary



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	M	M	M	M	M
River Flooding		L	L							
Fog (Overnight)									L	
Rip Currents	M	H	L	M	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.03 ft. (1.38 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	303 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

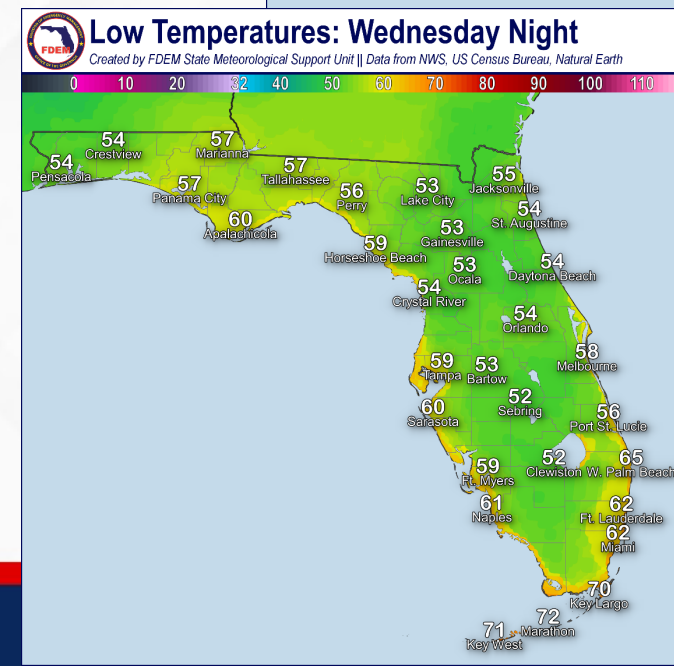
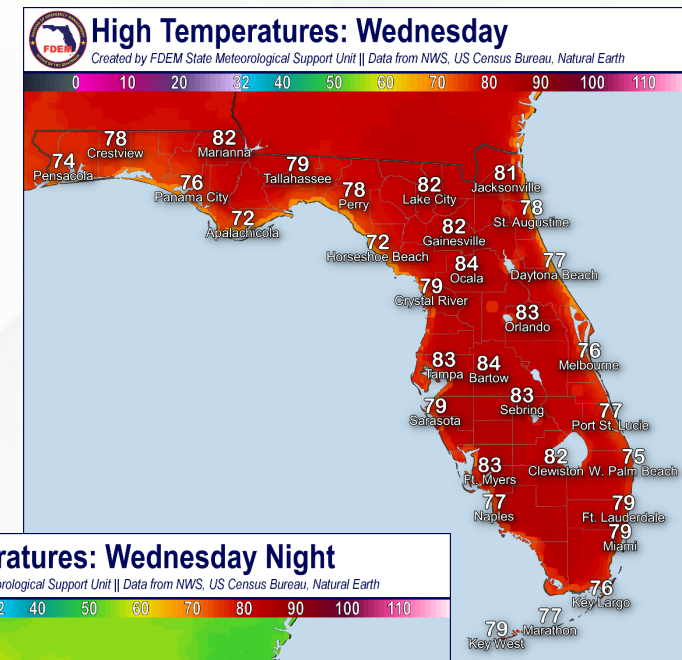
Instances of **locally dense fog** have developed this morning along coastal portions of East-Central Florida but will gradually lift and dissipate as the sun rises.

Another pleasant day can be expected throughout the day as high pressure very slowly moves eastward towards the western Atlantic waters. Mostly sunny and dry conditions can be expected throughout the daytime hours, with cloud cover beginning to increase later in the day along the western Panhandle ahead of the next approaching cold front. With ongoing dry conditions, **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** will persist throughout the Big Bend and the interior Peninsula this afternoon. Relative humidity values throughout interior Northeast Florida and the Peninsula will fall **below critical thresholds (15-25%)** this afternoon creating a more locally elevated threat whereas the Big Bend will see values fall **near critical thresholds (30-40%)** creating more sensitive conditions. Winds will become more southerly today ahead of the approaching cold front and will also remain light below 10 mph. Wind gusts will also be upwards of 10-15 mph throughout the Peninsula, with the **strongest gusts upwards of 20 mph** along the Panhandle. An ongoing wildfire in southern Miami-Dade County could lead to **hazy conditions** throughout the day.

High temperatures will warm up into the middle to upper 70s and lower to middle 80s across the state this afternoon.

A weak cold front will approach the Florida Panhandle late this evening and overnight bringing isolated to scattered showers ahead of it (15-45% chance of rain). While atmospheric and environmental conditions appear to be unfavorable for thunderstorm development, a few rumbles of thunder or isolated thunderstorm cannot be ruled out overnight and into early Thursday morning. These showers will continue to move eastward along the Panhandle and towards the western Big Bend through the early morning hours. Elsewhere across the state, dry and calm conditions can be expected to persist.

Low temperatures will fall into the lower to middle 50s throughout interior regions across the state and lower to middle 60s along coastal regions.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Numerous beaches across the state can still expect a **moderate to high risk for rip currents**. Messaging the **dangerous and life-threatening** risk of rip currents is imperative for tourists and out-of-town Spring Break vacationers. The **highest risk for rip currents** will be along the Panhandle, Space and Treasure Coasts. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Panhandle and Gulf Coast beaches can expect to see slightly calmer marine conditions as wave heights will return to 1-2' for numerous beaches, with wave heights upwards of 3' along the far western Panhandle coast. An ocean swell over the southwestern Atlantic waters will continue to produce **wave heights of 4-6'** along all East Coast beaches through the evening hours.

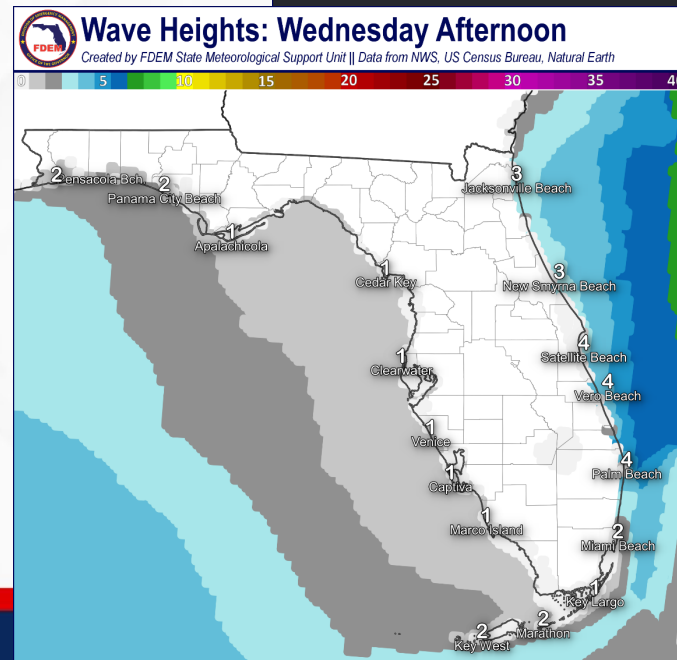
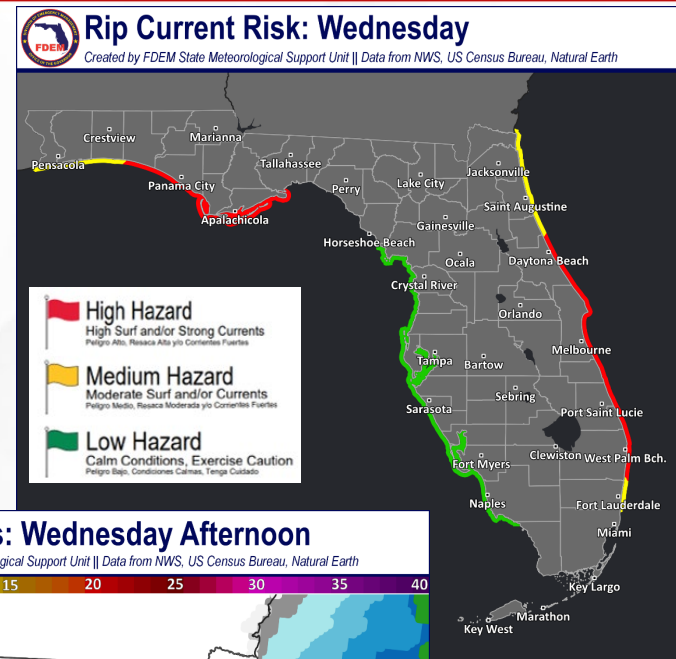
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in **2** samples collected from Florida's Gulf Coast (Pinellas and Gulf Counties) over the past week (valid 3/14). *Fish kills suspected to be related to red tide were reported in Sarasota County. There have been no reports of respiratory irritation suspected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

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not expected.

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](#) with a **River Flood Warning** remaining in effect through Saturday (3/22), 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 13.03 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.38 feet below normal for this time of year.





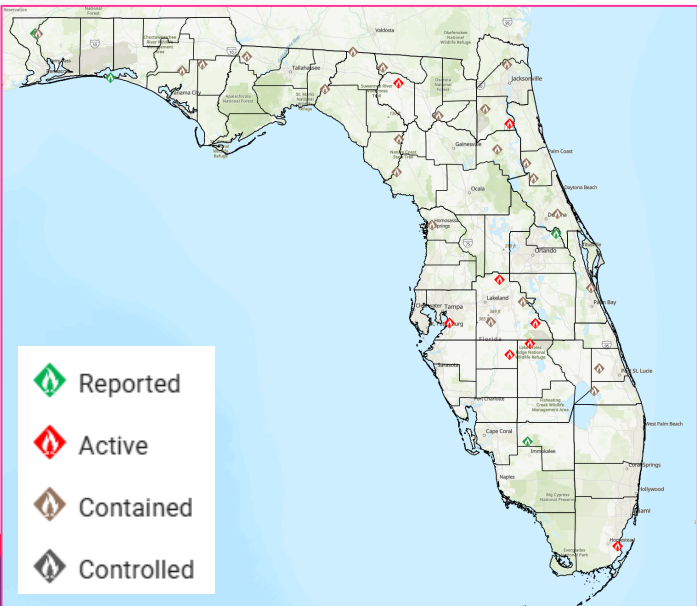
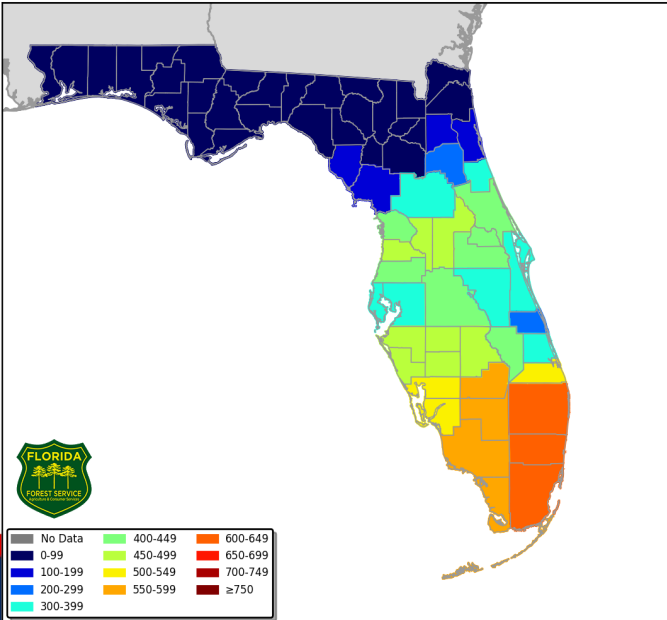
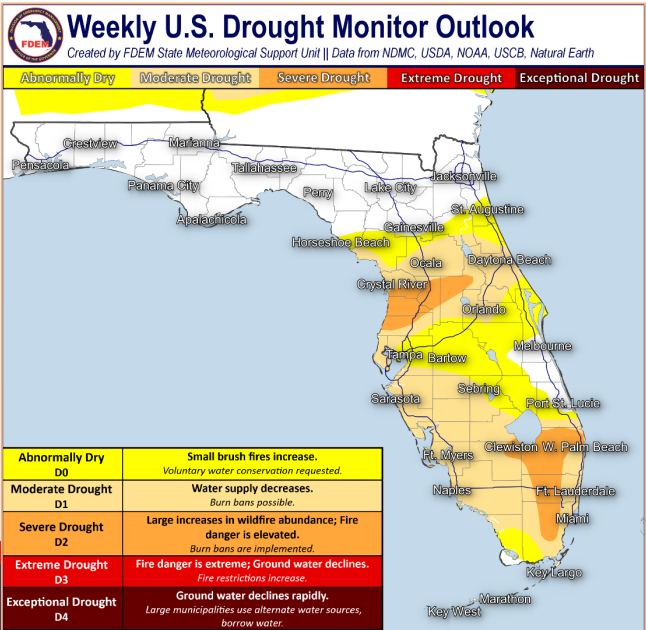
Drought & Fire Weather

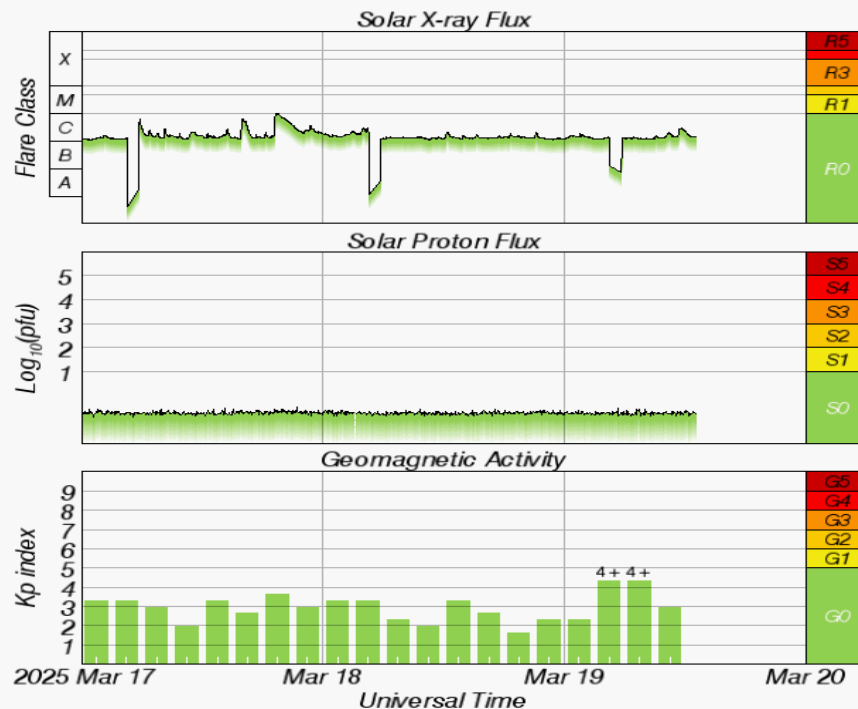
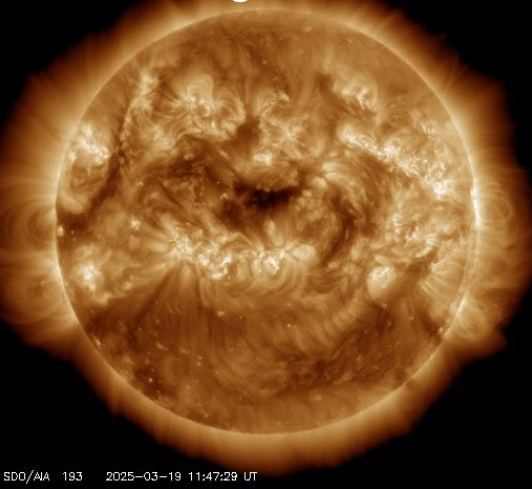
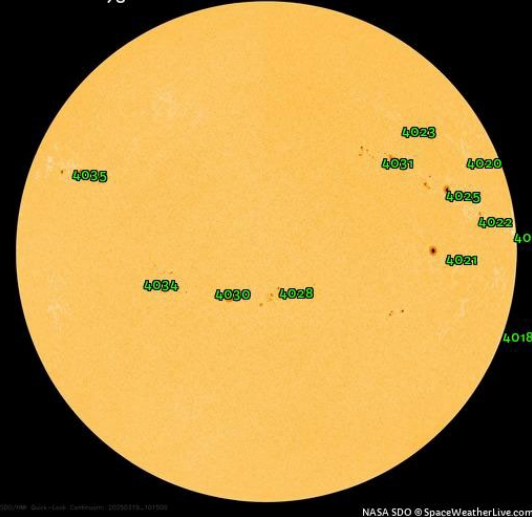
Fire Weather: Areas of locally dense fog have developed this morning along coastal East-Central Florida, but conditions will dissipate and lift by the morning hours. Persistent dry conditions across the state will continue to create **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** throughout the Big Bend and the interior Peninsula this afternoon. Relative humidity values will fall **below critical thresholds (15-25%)** this afternoon along the I-85 corridor and throughout the interior Peninsula, while across the Big Bend and coastal Peninsula areas relative humidity values will only **approach critical thresholds (30-40%)**. Winds will become more southerly throughout the day and remain light below 10 mph this afternoon. Lighter wind gusts upwards of 10-15 mph will be possible throughout the Peninsula, while stronger **wind gusts upwards of 15-20 mph** will be possible across the Panhandle and Big Bend. Ongoing drought conditions and dry vegetation will increase the locally elevated wildfire threat throughout the interior Peninsula. The wildfire over southern Miami-Dade County may continue to create **hazy conditions** due to smoke. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 39 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,967 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 **303 (+5)** 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 18, 2025





Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 50%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C2 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/19	3/20
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity will remain low as moderate (C-class) solar flares can be expected; however, there remains a chance for isolated strong (M-class) solar flares and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares due to the combined flare probabilities from several active sunspots. Should any M-class flares develop, they will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts, and should any X-class solar flares develop they will be capable of producing strong (R3) radio blackouts. Minor disturbances within the solar wind field can be anticipated through tomorrow due to influences from coronal hole winds. A Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that left the sun on 3/17 is likely to pass above Earth, but could still bring minor enhancements to the solar wind field. The Earth's geomagnetic field will continue to see quiet to active conditions. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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