



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, March 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Jim Lawhon	(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	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	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Escambia, Santa Rosa	SERT / County Disaster Needs Assessment Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Duval, Leon	Mid-Level Leadership Training / Return to R2 Travel
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	AlertFlorida Working Group Call
Region 4: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Marion	G-300 Course Instruction
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Regional Quarterly Meeting Prep
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Polk	Healthcare Coalition Meeting / Office Admin
Region 8: Mason Kozac	St. Lucie	Office Admin
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	FIFA Meeting

Region 2 Coverage (until 5pm) Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2
Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

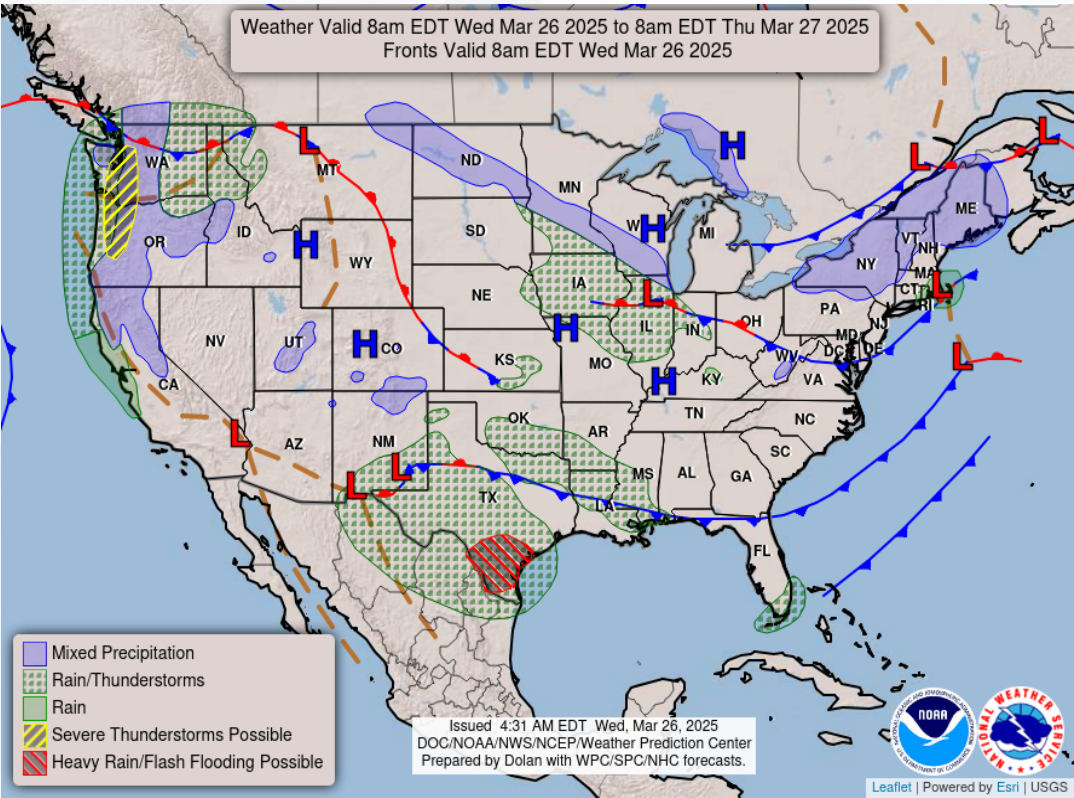
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	Instructing G-300
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	County EM Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Levy	Instructing FL-601 & FL-603
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Flagler	Instructing FL-608
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	Mitigation Meeting
RRCT Manager	In State	Travel to Leon / HQ Meetings
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Lee	FWC Rally
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward	Instructing G-358

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

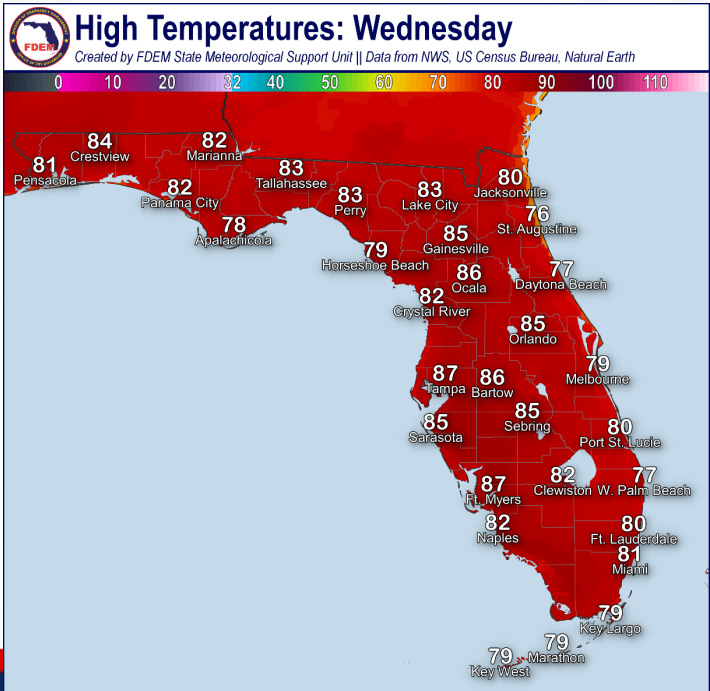
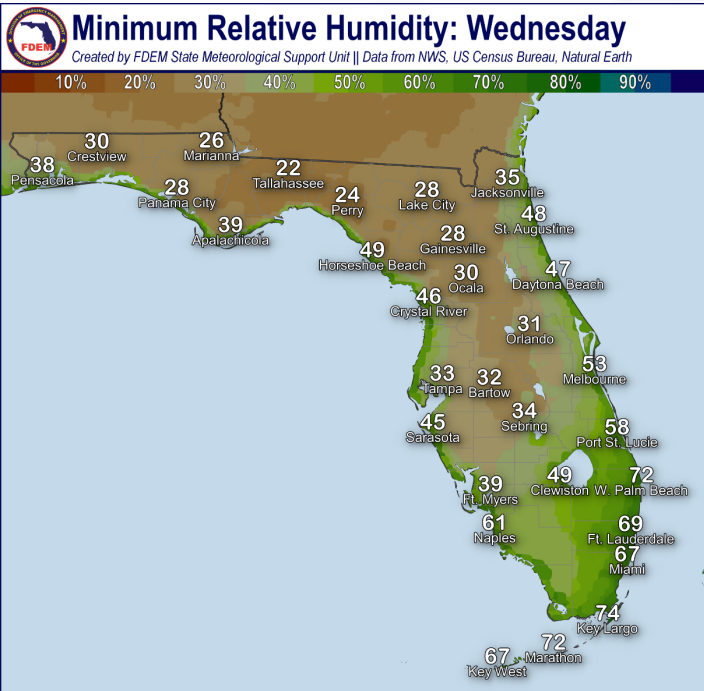


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning									L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Fire Weather	L	L	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L
River Flooding										
Fog (Overnight)							L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	L	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	12.76 ft. (1.58 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	329 (-1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog Advisories will continue through the mid-morning hours across the Florida Panhandle with dense fog conditions **reducing visibility to ¼ of a mile or less** at times. Additional instances of patchy to locally dense fog throughout the state this morning will gradually lift and dissipate as the sun continues to rise.

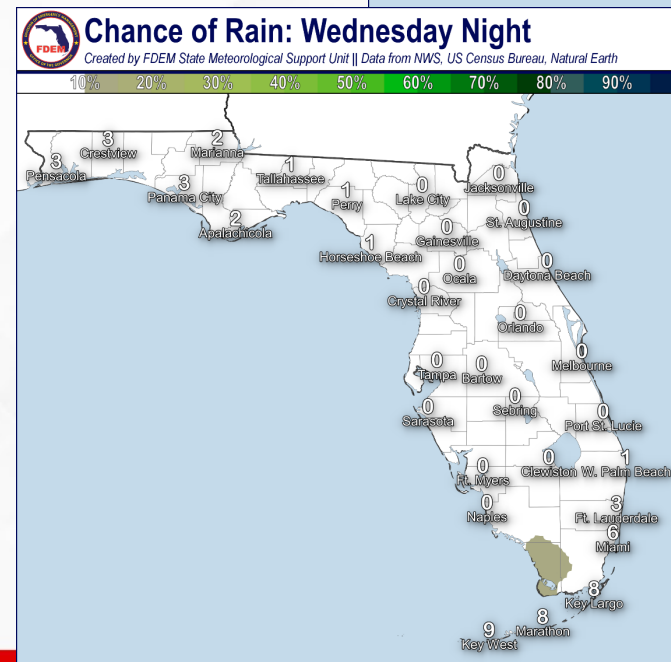
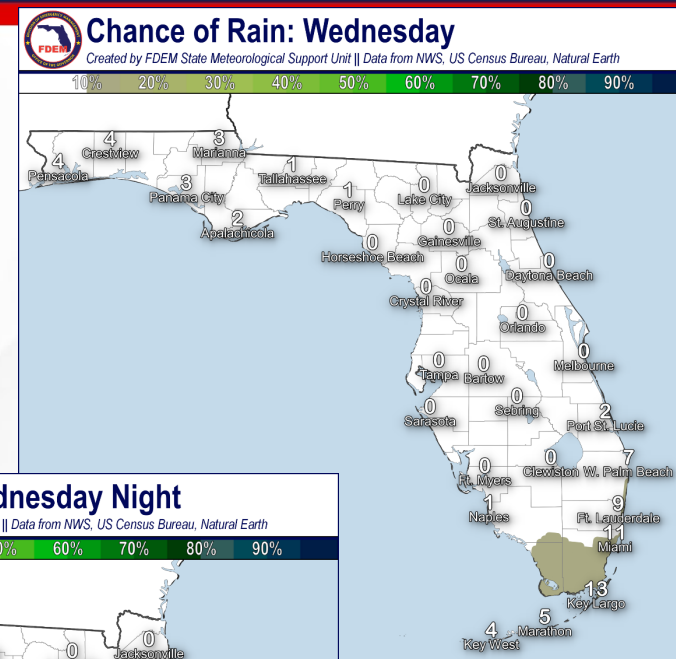
A dry cold front attempting to sink into North Florida will help to reinforce dry conditions with the help of high pressure settling in over the Mississippi Valley. As northerly to northwesterly winds bring drier air southward, relative humidity values throughout interior North and Central Florida will drop **near and below critical thresholds this afternoon (20-35%)**. These winds will generally remain light near 5-10 mph throughout the afternoon, but wind gusts will gradually increase to 10-15 mph; however, despite critical relative humidity values, winds will remain below Red Flag conditions. Regardless, **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** will develop this afternoon across interior North and Central Florida.

Mostly dry conditions can be expected to start off the day throughout South Florida. Throughout the afternoon and into the evening hours, the sea breeze will develop and push inland. With lingering moisture over the region, isolated showers and thunderstorms, some which may **become locally strong**, will develop across the southernmost Peninsula and portions of the Florida Keys later in the daytime hours and continue into the evening (10-20% chance of rain). With thunderstorms developing over these dry areas of South Florida, **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out as thunderstorms will be capable of producing lightning and erratic winds that could ignite new fires or further spread ongoing ones.

High temperatures this afternoon will reach the middle to upper 70s to lower to middle 80s this afternoon across the state.

Any showers and thunderstorms that develop across South Florida and the Keys will generally move southwestward towards the adjacent coastal waters late this evening and into the overnight hours. Mostly dry conditions will return across the state overnight as northerly to northwesterly winds continue to usher drier air southward. **Instances of patchy fog** may be possible overnight and into early Thursday morning.

Low temperatures will fall into the 50s across North Florida, upper 50s to lower 60s across Central Florida and middle 60s to lower 70s across South Florida overnight.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Numerous beaches across the Panhandle and East Coast can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** to persist throughout the day. A **locally high risk** can be expected across portions of Southeast Florida beaches. With spring break season in full-swing, messaging regarding **rip currents and dangerous surf** conditions should be maintained for visitors and tourists. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Mostly calm marine conditions can be expected across the Sunshine State as wave heights near 1-2' persist. Northerly winds will begin to create wave heights of 3' later this afternoon along Treasure Coast and Southeast Florida beaches.

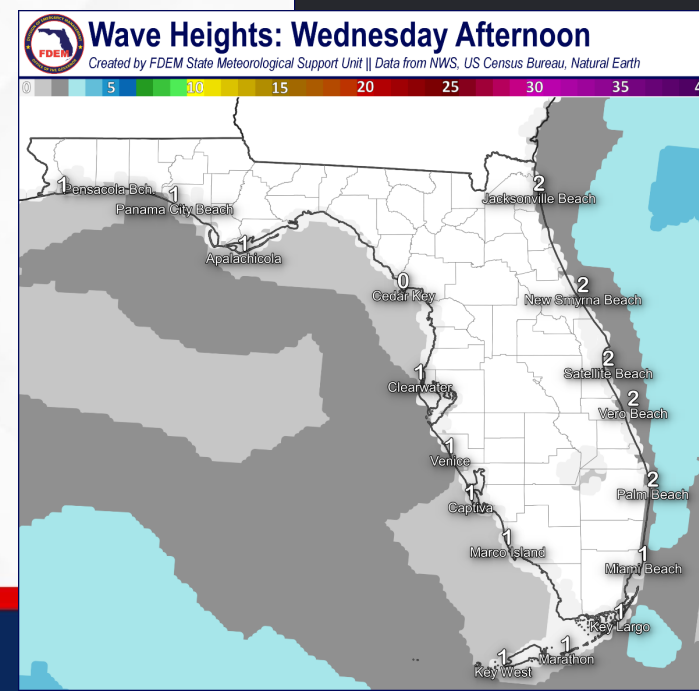
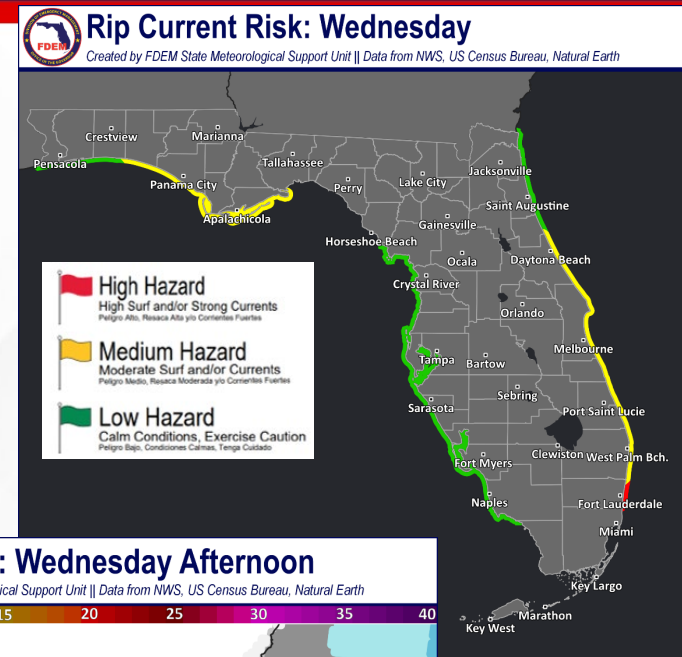
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in **3** samples collected around the state (one sample from Okaloosa County, one sample from Bay County, and one sample from Palm Beach County) over the past week (valid 3/21). *There have been no reports of respiratory irritation or fish kills suspected to be related to red tide.*

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Showers and thunderstorms developing along the sea breeze later this afternoon and evening across interior South Florida and the Keys will be capable of bringing locally heavy rainfall. With ongoing drought conditions and dry vegetation this rainfall will be much needed; however, should any locally heavy downpours fall over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas it could lead to **nuisance ponding of water or localized flash flooding**. Rainfall totals near 0.5-1" can be expected, with **locally higher rainfall totals** upwards of 2-3" possible.

Riverine Flooding: Portions of the Aucilla and Santa Fe rivers remain within Action Stage (bank-full) following recent heavy rainfall but river flooding is not expected. There are no additional riverine concerns. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.76 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.58 feet **below** normal for this time of year.





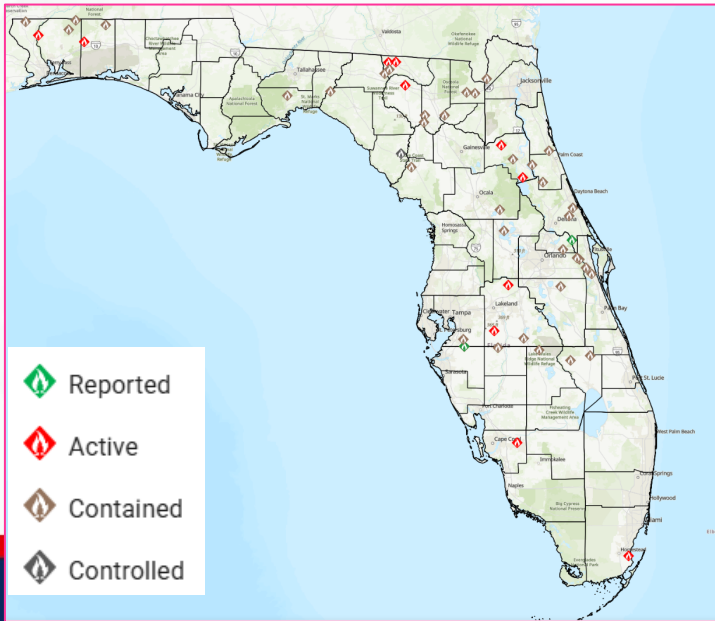
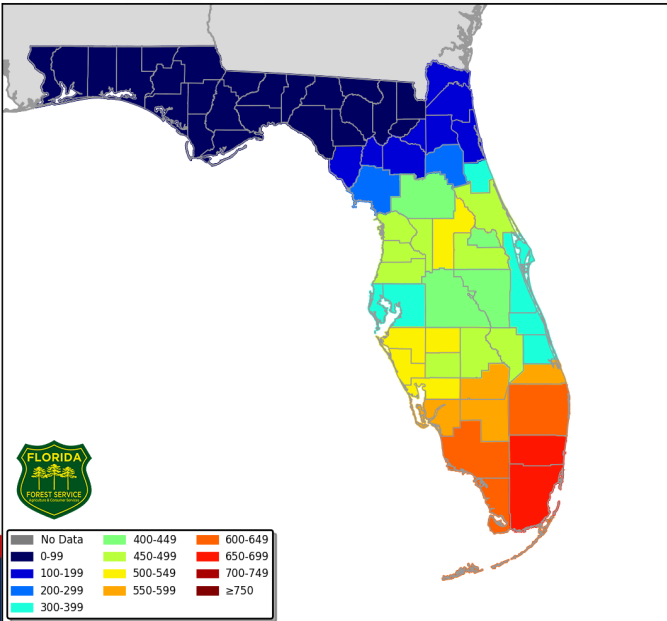
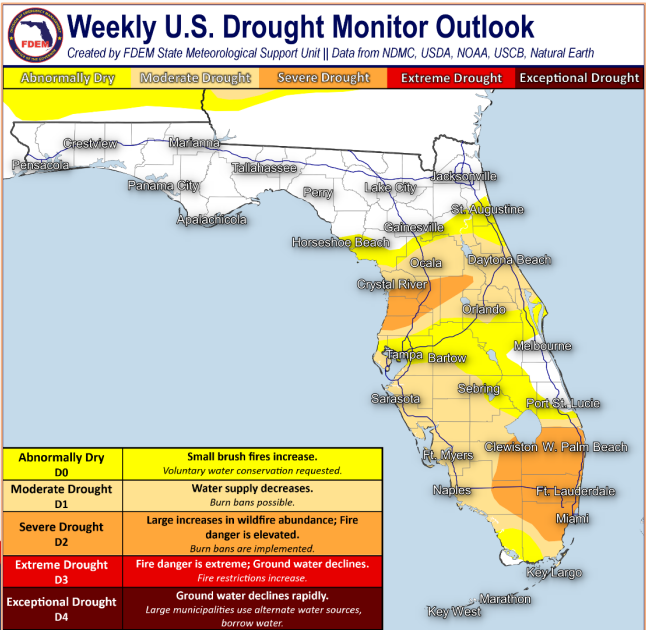
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: **Dense Fog Advisories** are in effect along portions of the Panhandle through the mid-morning hours due to reduced visibilities. Additional instances of **patchy to locally dense fog** has developed throughout portions of the state, but foggy conditions and low clouds will gradually lift and dissipate through the early to mid-morning hours. Drier conditions return throughout most of the state, with the exception of the southernmost Peninsula and Keys, as high pressure shifts over the Mississippi Valley. Northerly to northwesterly winds near 5-10 mph will bring drier air southward throughout the day across North and Central Florida allowing relative humidity values to drop **near or below critical thresholds this afternoon (20-35%)**. Wind gusts will gradually increase throughout the day reaching upwards of 10-15 mph by the late afternoon hours across the state. **Sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** can be expected to develop by the afternoon hours throughout interior North and Central Florida. Isolated thunderstorms will be possible late this afternoon and evening with the help of the sea breeze across portions of South Florida and the Keys which will create **locally sensitive wildfire** conditions due to *potential lightning and erratic winds* over dry soils and vegetation. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 51 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 28,336 acres.

Drought: The March 15-16 severe weather event brought much needed rainfall to portions of the Southeast U.S. this past week (as of 3/20). However, little rainfall was observed across the Florida Peninsula, where several new wildfires burned thousands of acres in typically swampy areas. As a result, **Severe Drought** conditions were expanded in Southern Florida on this week's Drought Monitor update (valid 3/20). **Severe Drought** condition also persist north of the I-4 corridor across portions of the Nature Coast. **Abnormally Dry (emerging drought)** to **Moderate Drought** conditions expand elsewhere across the Peninsula south of the I-10 corridor from a line from Horseshoe Beach to Gainesville to St. Augustine and southward through the far southern Peninsula. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near to above normal temperatures and slightly below to slightly above normal rainfall across the Peninsula over the next week or so which may allow drought conditions to hold steady or continue worsening.

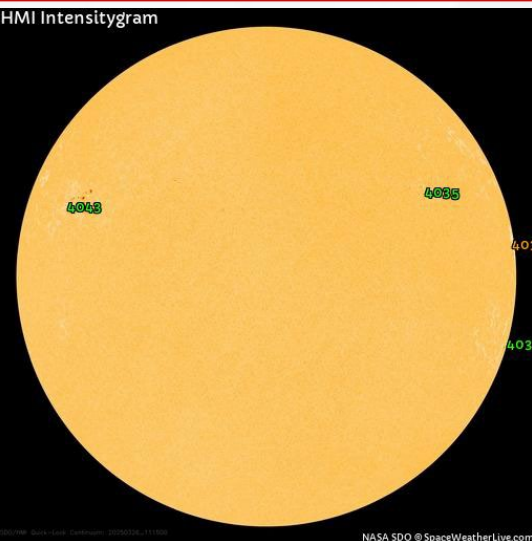
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **329 (-1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **13** Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Lake Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for March 25, 2025

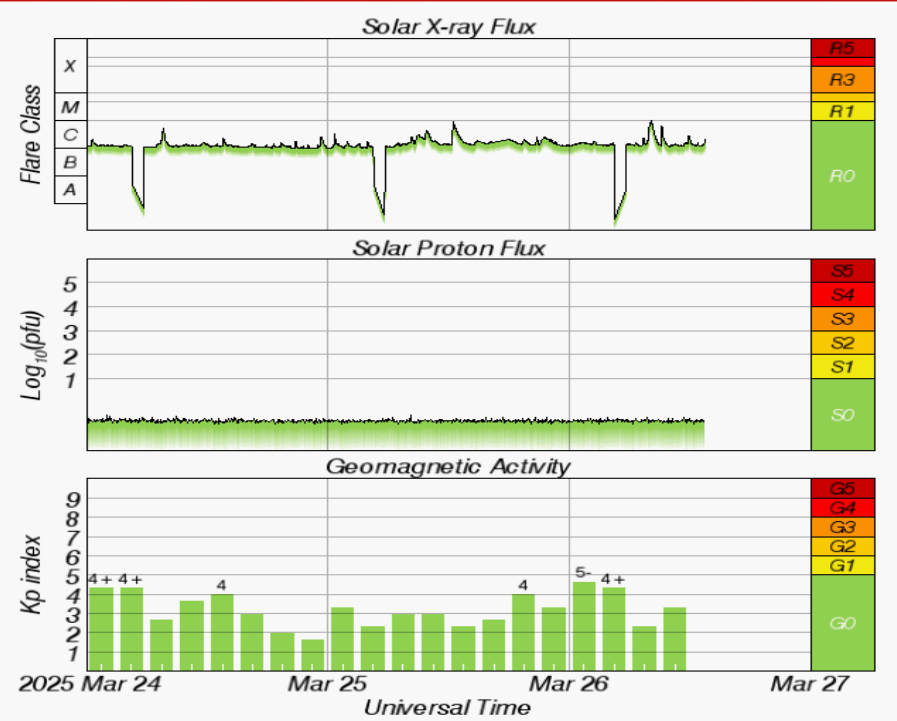
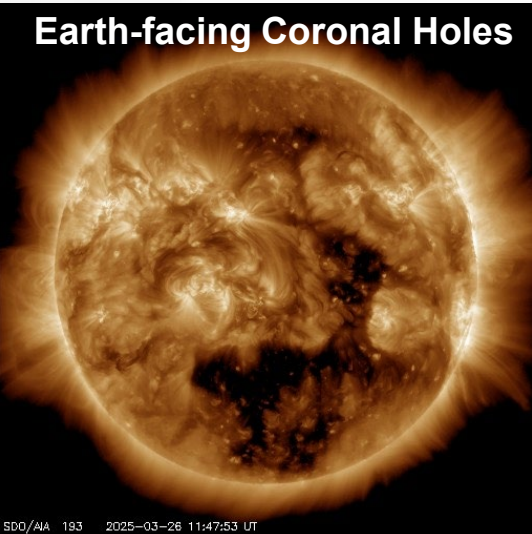




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 30%	Geomagnetic Storm: G2 Watch (3/26)	C9 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/26	3/27
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 15%	Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%

Space Weather: All but two sunspots have rotated off the western limb of the sun, and these two contain simple magnetic fields. The limited activity from these sunspots will continue to create low chances for solar activity for moderate (C-class) solar flares likely and an isolated chance for a strong (M-class) solar flares. Should any M-class solar flares develop they will likely bring minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts with them. Enhanced solar wind conditions will continue through today due to the co-rotating pair of coronal hole winds flowing towards Earth from a large coronal hole over the southern hemisphere of the sun. These conditions will allow for periods of minor to moderate (G1-G2) geomagnetic storming through today before conditions begin to slowly wane through the end of the week. The G2 Geomagnetic Storm Watch has been extended through today. 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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