



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, July 17, 2025



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

| Position | Personnel | Phone | Email |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Operations Chief | Woody Harvey | (850) 591-7939 | Woodham.Harvey@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 | Lauren Warfield | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Swing | Zachary Remante | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Night | Jim Lawhon | (850) 815-4001 | SWP@em.myflorida.com |
| Meteorologist | Caitlyn Gillespie | (850) 688-2119 | Caitlyn.Gillespie@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) 591-7732 | Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com |
| Infrastructure Branch Director | Christina Goetzman | (850) 519-8581 | Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com |
| ESF 8 On-Call | Brandon Gore | (866) 786-4673 | DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov |
| Public Information Officer | Stephanie Hartman | (850) 570-3053 | Stephanie.Hartman@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, Santa Rosa | NWS Weekly Meeting / LMS Meeting / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 2: Enrique Gaston | Franklin | EM Meeting / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers | Columbia | Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 4: Tara Kostich | Duval | UNF EM Meeting / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly | Sumter | G-300 Course Instruction |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall | Hillsborough | Healthcare Coalition Meeting / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck | Polk | Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 8: Mason Kozac | Monroe | REP Reception Center Exercise / Response Coordinators Meeting |
| Region 9: Vacant | N/A | N/A |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker | Miami-Dade | REP Reception Center Exercise / Response Coordinators Meeting |

Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 9

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins | Holmes | LMS Meeting |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara | Franklin | County EM & FEMA IRC Meeting |
| Region 3: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders | Alachua | FROC Training Tour |
| Region 5: Elizabeth Caison | Sumter | Instructing G-300 |
| Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 6: Vacant | | |
| Region 7: Antonio Zapata | Hardee | LTRG Meeting |
| Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller | Palm Beach | LTRG Meeting |
| Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg | Lee | PA Applicant Outreach |
| Region 10: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

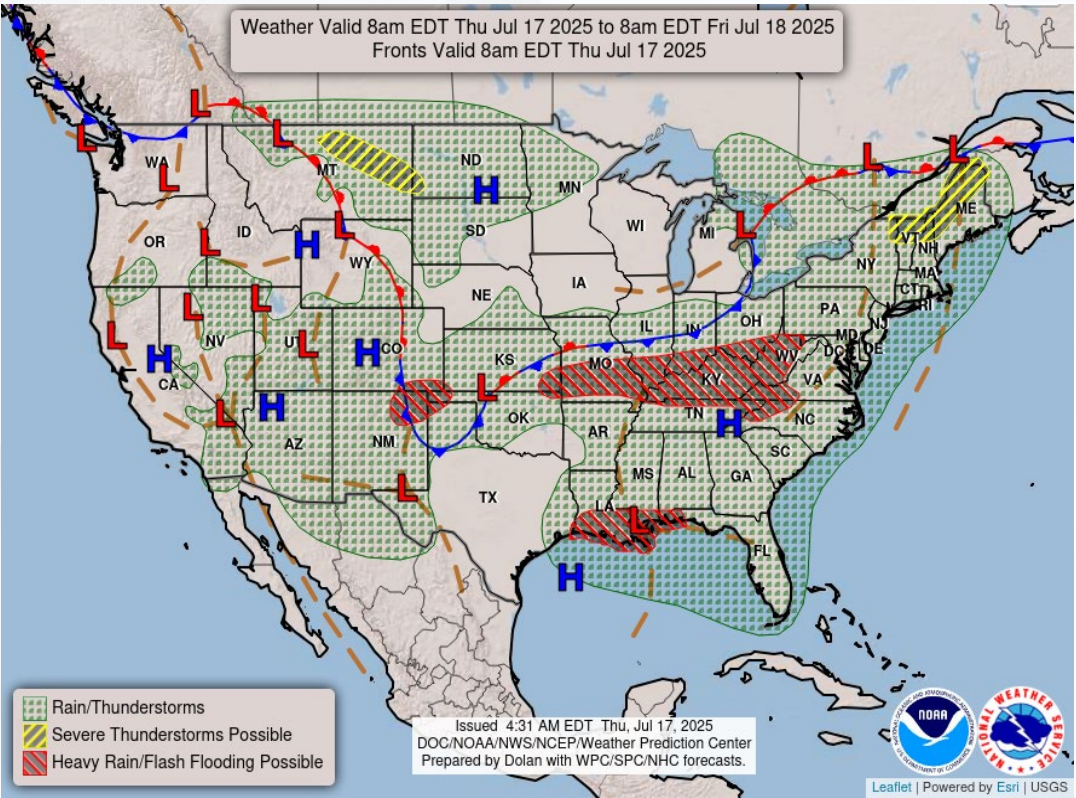
Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

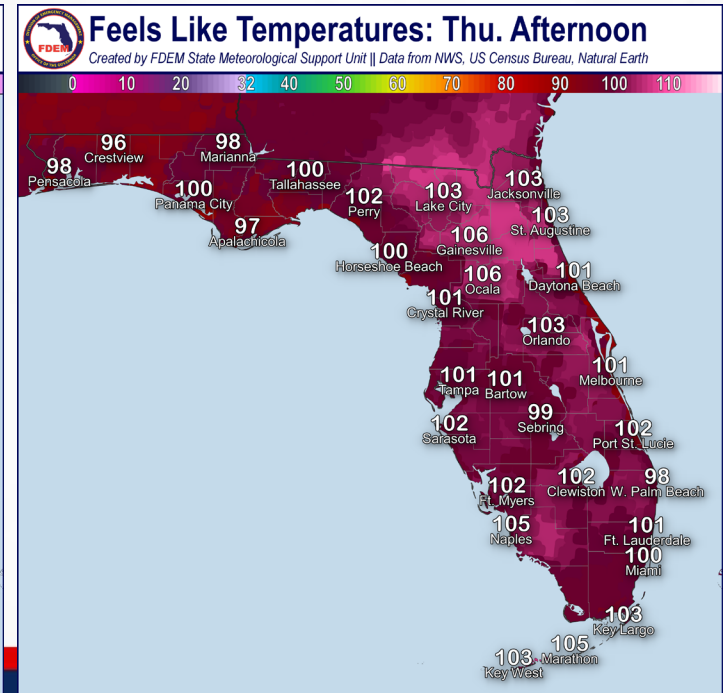
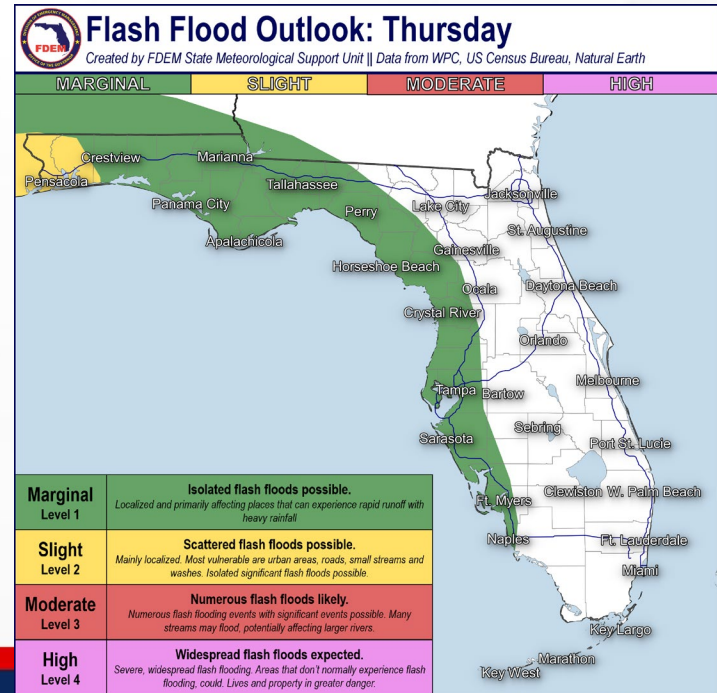


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning | H | H | M | M | H | H | H | H | H | H |
| Tornado | | | | | | | | | | |
| Damaging Wind | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L |
| Hail | | | | | | | | | | |
| Flash Flooding | M | L | L | | | L | L | | L | |
| Excessive Heat | M | H | H | H | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Wildfire | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fog (Overnight) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rip Currents | H | H | L | M | M | L | | M | L | M |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation | 11.81 ft. (1.80 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal) | | | | | | | | | |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index | 148 (-15) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) | | | | | | | | | |





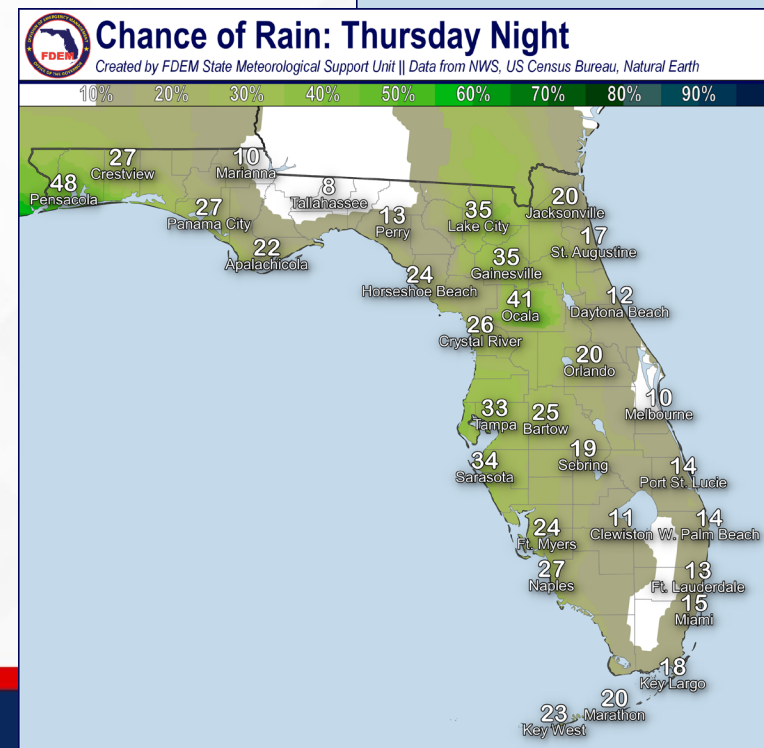
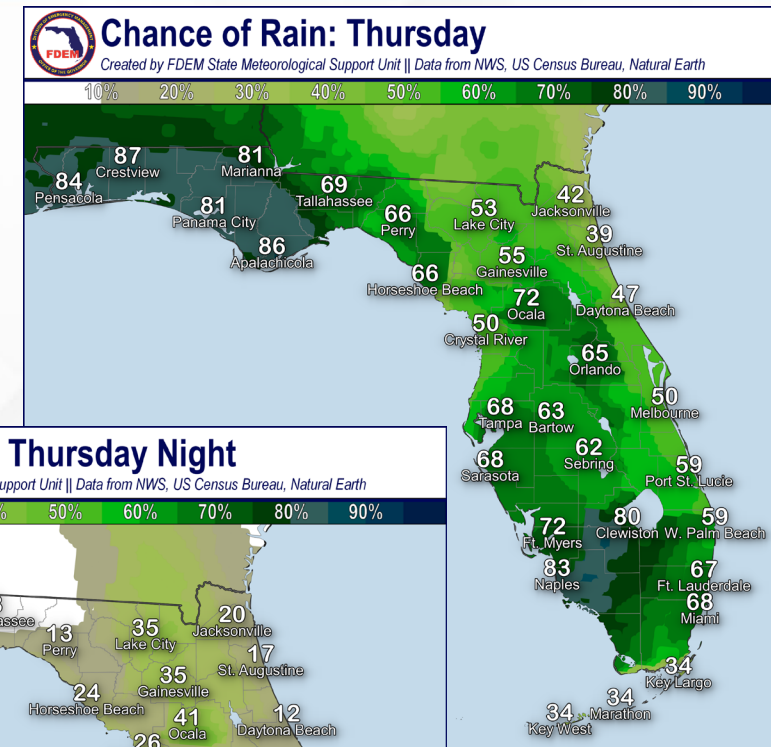
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

The weak area of low pressure designated as **Invest 93L (30%)** will continue moving westward along the northern Gulf Coast away from the state today keeping Florida embedded within deep southerly flow and tropical moisture. Scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms are ongoing this morning across the Florida Panhandle, setting the stage for another unsettled weather day (70-95% chance of rain). A few **stronger thunderstorms** capable of producing gusty winds, frequent lightning, and heavy rainfall rates will be possible across the Panhandle and West Florida coastlines where a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** remains today. Repeated rounds of showers and thunderstorms over the same locations may lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. A **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** has been outlooked for the far western Florida Panhandle today where this is most likely.

Hot and humid conditions will persist today, with afternoon high temperatures reaching the upper 80s to middle 90s statewide. **Triple digit heat index values (99 to 103-degrees)** can be expected across the state before shower and thunderstorm activity increases. North and Central Florida can expect to see **heat index values** reaching **105 to 107-degrees**.

Typical afternoon shower and thunderstorm activity across the state will largely taper off through the evening hours. However, rain chances remain elevated into the evening and early overnight across the Florida Panhandle (35-50% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the 70s and low 80s statewide.



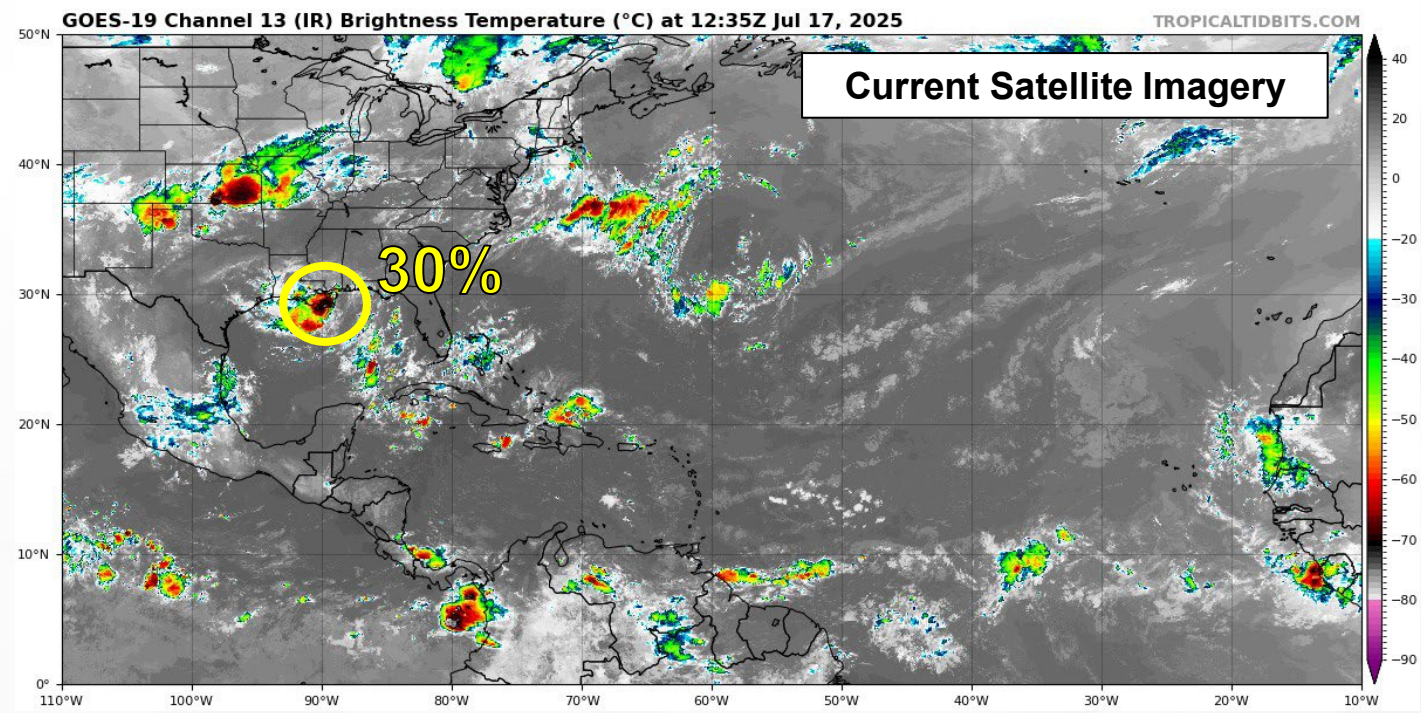
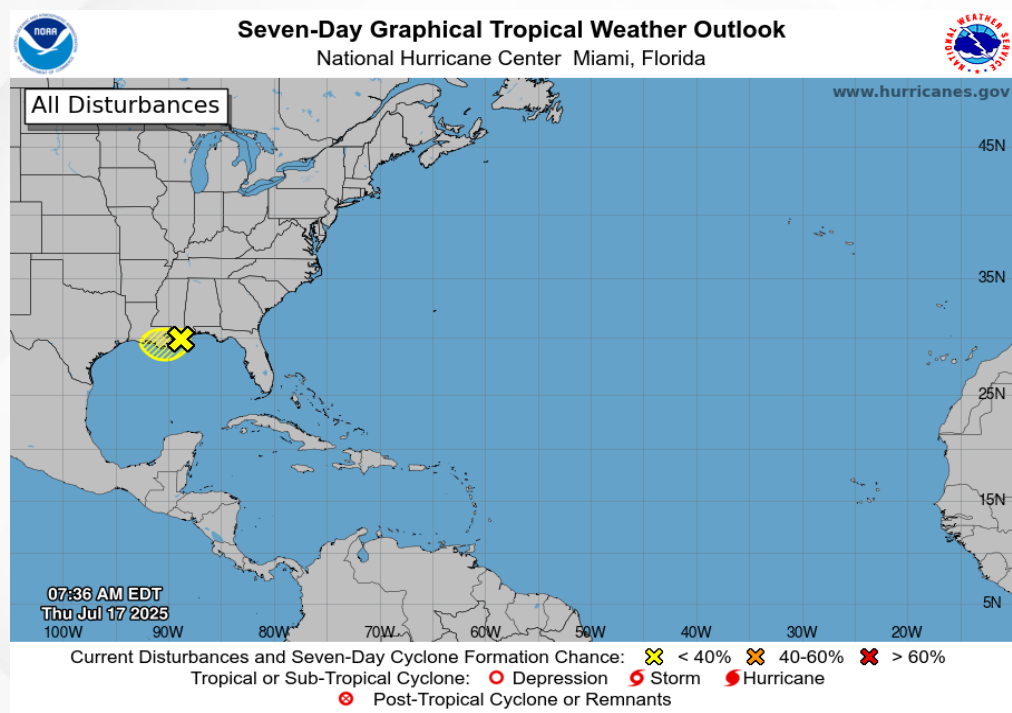


Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

Invest 93L (Northern Gulf Coast): The center of Invest 93L is located just south of the Mississippi coast this morning as it continues to trek westward towards Louisiana. The heaviest shower and thunderstorm activity is displaced south and west of the center. Some development could occur before the system moves onshore Louisiana later today or tonight, although the chance of system development is low. **Regardless of development, heavy rainfall could produce localized flash flooding over portions of the north-central Gulf Coast through Friday.**

- *Formation chance through 48 hours... **low... 30%.**
- *Formation chance through 7 days... **low... 30%.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: There is a **high risk of rip currents** along most Florida Panhandle beaches today and a **moderate risk of rip currents** along all East Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Wave heights of around 3-4'** can be expected along Panhandle beaches today, with wave heights of 2-3' across most other Florida beaches.

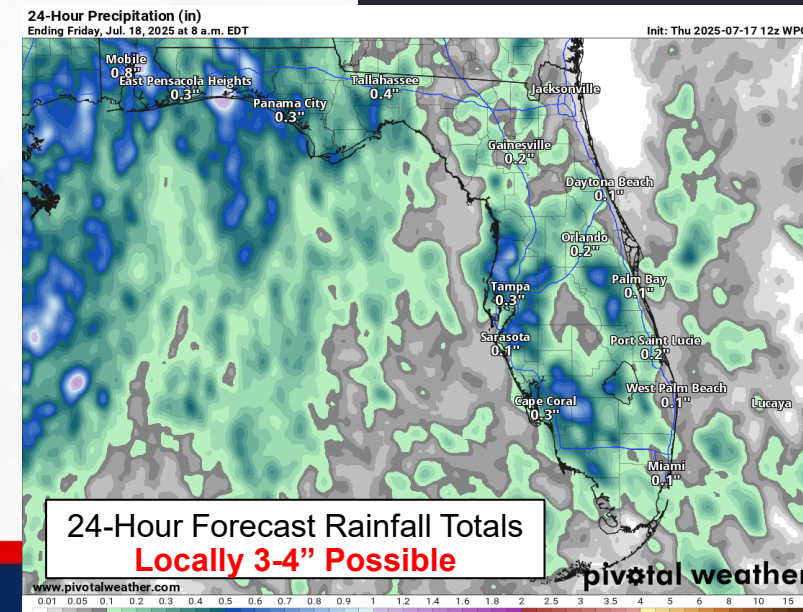
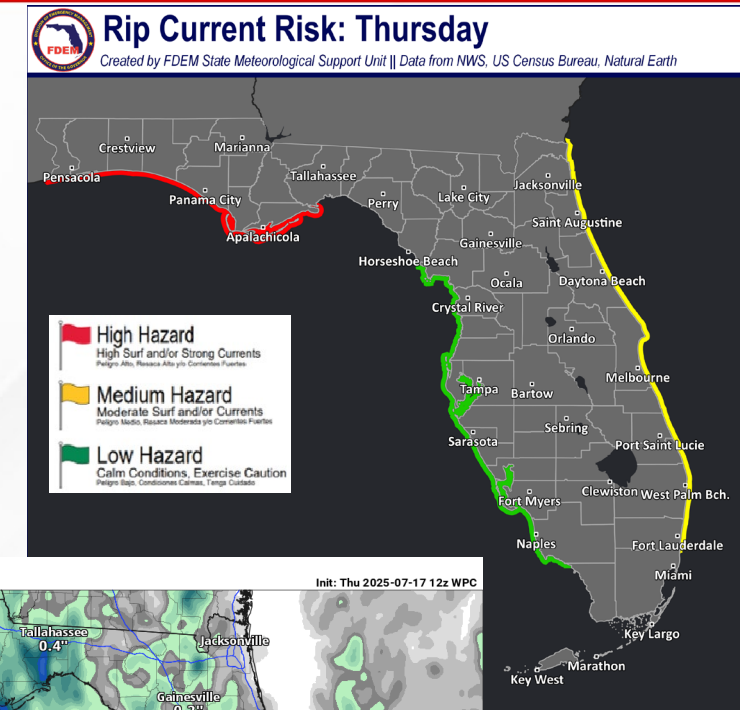
Red Tide has been not been observed along any Florida coastline over the past week (valid 7/11).

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

Flash Flooding: Multiple rounds of heavy rain and thunderstorm activity can be expected across the western Florida Peninsula and Panhandle today. Already saturated soils from Invest 93L's passage Tuesday, and recent daily thunderstorm activity, may lead to an earlier onset to **flash flooding and ponding of water** this afternoon, especially for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** remains for the Florida Panhandle and immediate West Florida coastline and a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** over the far western Florida Panhandle where the greatest rainfall totals are expected. Widespread 1-2" of rain can be expected across the Florida Panhandle west of the Suwannee River Valley; locally higher amounts upwards of 3-4" are possible for any **repeated rounds of intense downpours**. Scattered rainfall amounts upwards of 1-2" can also be expected for the Florida Peninsula west of I-95 with any locally intense showers or thunderstorms.

Riverine Flooding: The [Ocklawaha River at Moss Bluff Dam](#), [Rodman Dam](#), and [near Ocala](#) was observed at Action Stage (bank-full) this morning. [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#) was also observed at Action Stage (bank-full) this morning. Forecast heavy rainfall across the western Florida Peninsula may lead to more riverine response for a few other West Florida rivers, creeks/streams, and waterways through the week. Riverine conditions will be heavily dependent upon where the greatest rainfall totals occur in each basin, and any prolonged thunderstorm activity will result in elevated riverine gauge levels. Additional updates to these forecasts will be likely through the week. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.81 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.80 feet **below** normal for this time of year.





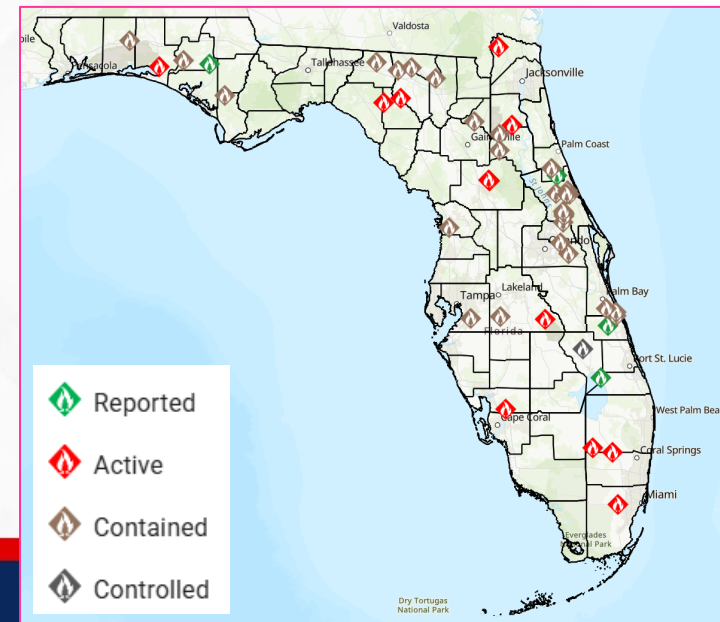
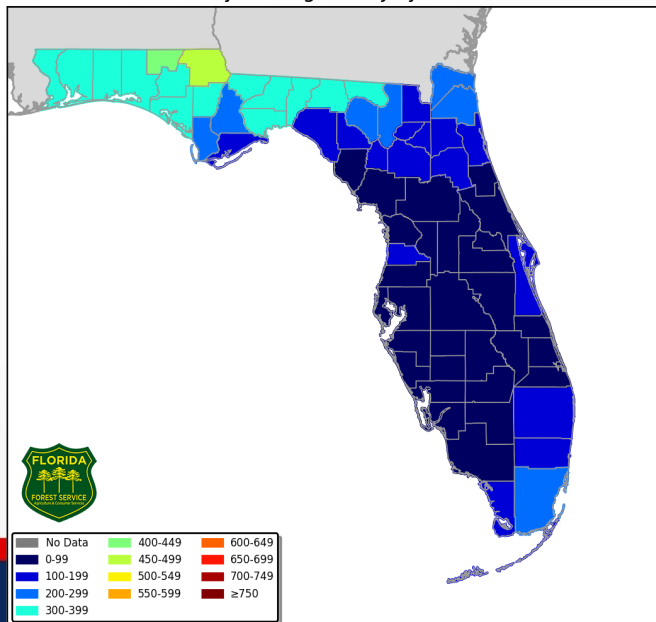
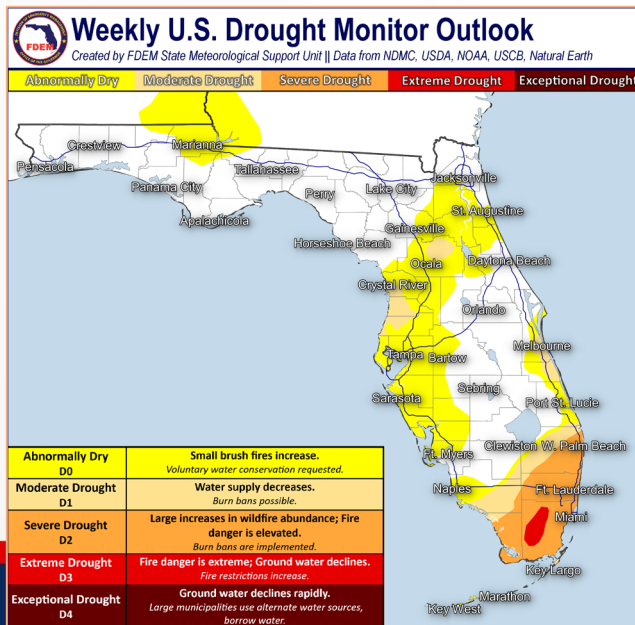
Drought & Fire Weather

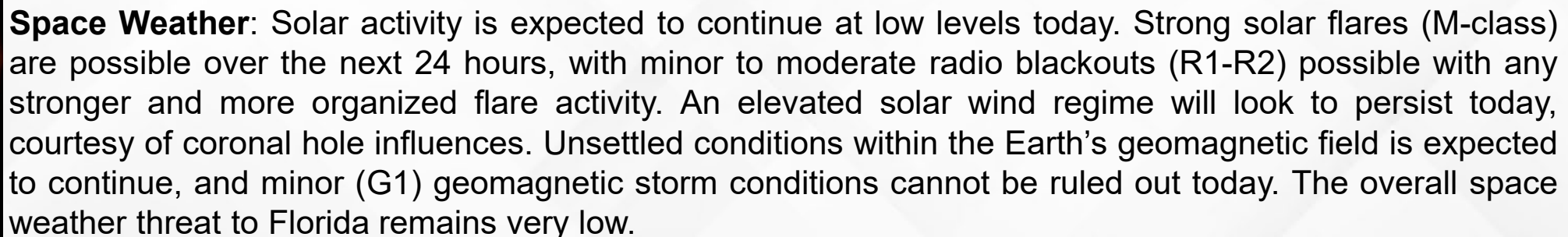
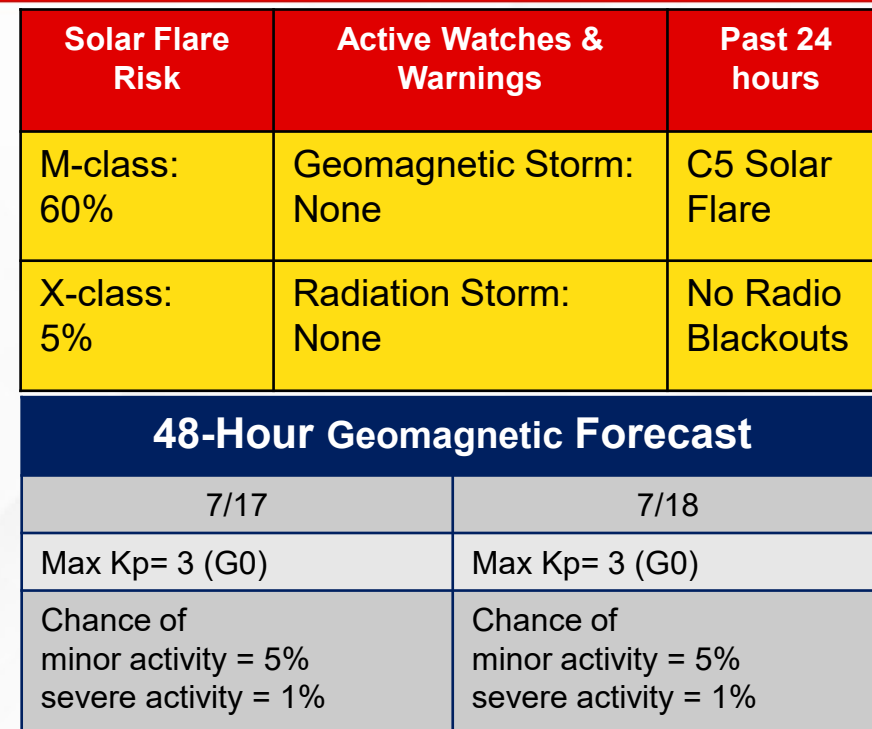
Fire Weather: Scattered shower and thunderstorm activity will persist across the Florida Panhandle and West Florida coast today associated with deep southerly flow and tropical moisture. Some drier air will be in place across northeastern Florida and the Suwannee River Valley (55-60% RH values); however, scattered shower and thunderstorm activity may develop along the afternoon sea breeze during peak heating hours of the day keeping relative humidity across the state above critical thresholds. Any thunderstorms that do develop will be capable of producing very frequent lightning and gusty/erratic winds which may lead to new ignitions or localized spread of existing brush fires. Elevated rain chances and improving soil/vegetation saturation will keep the overall wildfire threat low. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 22 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 15,141 acres.

Drought: Improvements continue to be made along the Treasure Coast with the recent active weather pattern that brought plentiful rainfall last week of 1-3". **Severe drought (level 2 of 4)** and **Moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** were nearly removed completely within this region. The Nature Coast and portions of central Marion County remain in **Moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** where longer term drought conditions and lower streamflow persists, however recent heavy rainfall may lead to further improvements and be reflected in next weeks drought update. Conditions largely remain unchanged along the I-95 corridor, with **Severe drought (level 2 of 4)** persisting across Southeast Florida. Central Palm Beach County was removed from **Extreme drought conditions (level 3 of 4)**, though western Miami-Dade county has been upgraded to this drought level.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **148 (-15)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). Zero Florida counties have an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

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







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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