



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, July 18, 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	Daniel Leader	(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	Office Admin / Vehicle Maintenance
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Office Admin / Vehicle Maintenance
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Suwannee	LSA Site Meetings
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	Office Admin
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Central Florida Cyber Coalition Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Desoto	Region 7 & 9 Quarterly Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Desoto	Region 7 & 9 Quarterly Meeting
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Monroe, St Lucie	Return to R8 Travel / Office Admin
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Exercise Planning Meeting / Region 10 T&E 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	Walton	Administrative Duties
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Administrative Duties
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Leave	See Coverage
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Presentation Prep
Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 6: Vacant		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	DeSoto	Joint Regional Quarterly Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Palm Beach	Municipal EM Meeting
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	DeSoto	Joint Regional Quarterly Meeting
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2

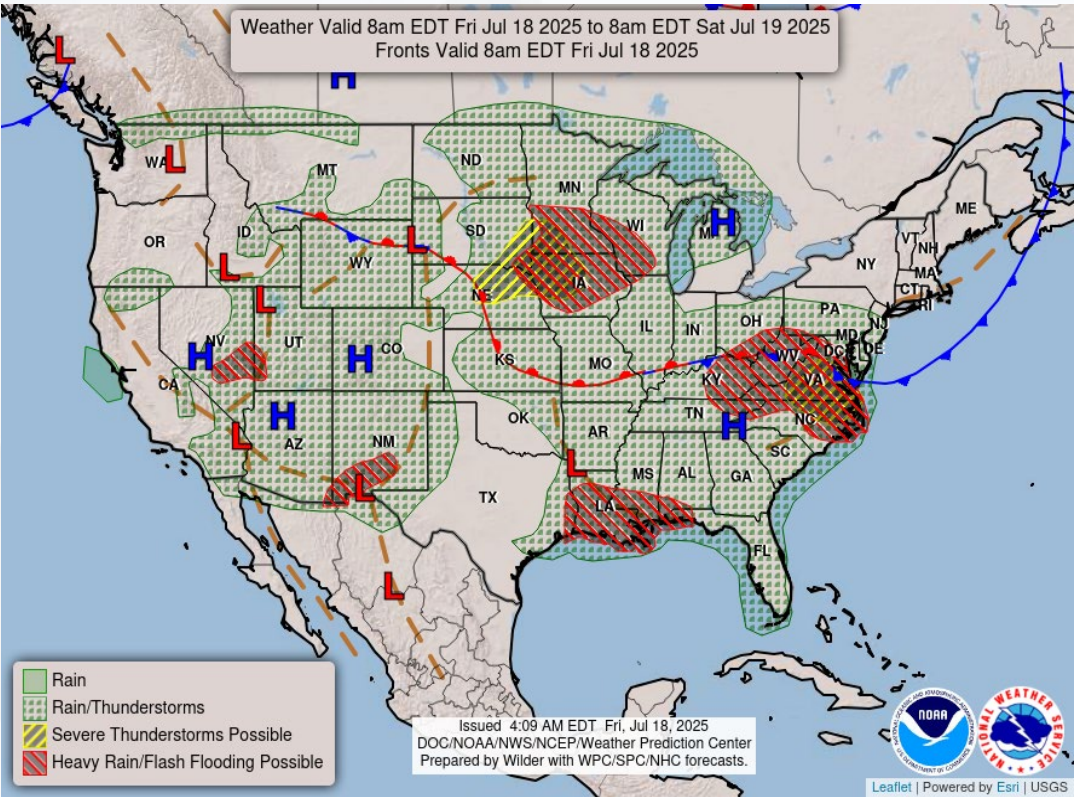
Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

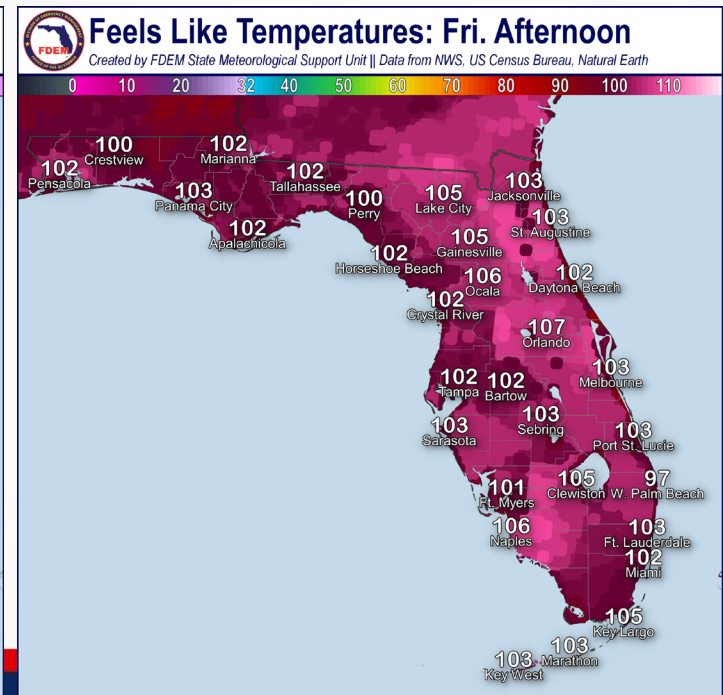
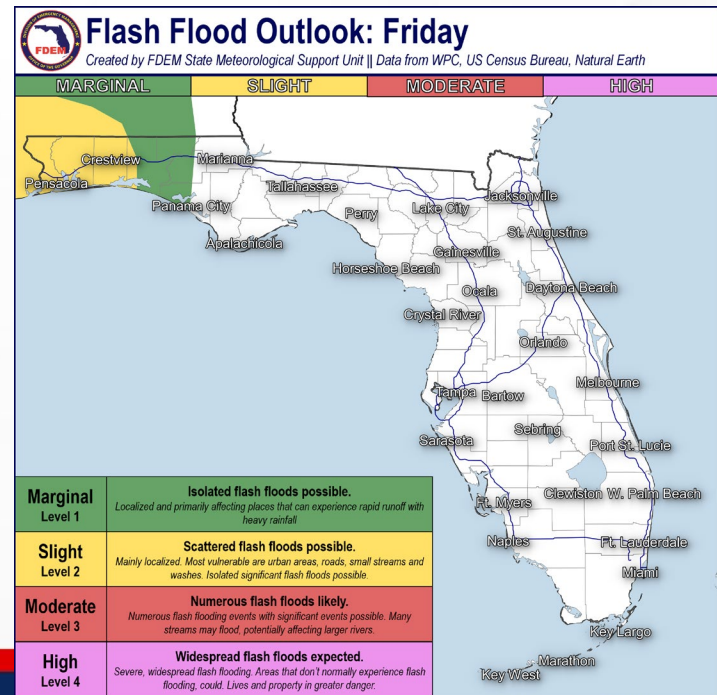


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	H	H	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L								
Excessive Heat	M	H	H	H	H	H	M	M	M	M
Wildfire										
Fog (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.85 ft. (1.77 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Inde	146 (-2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





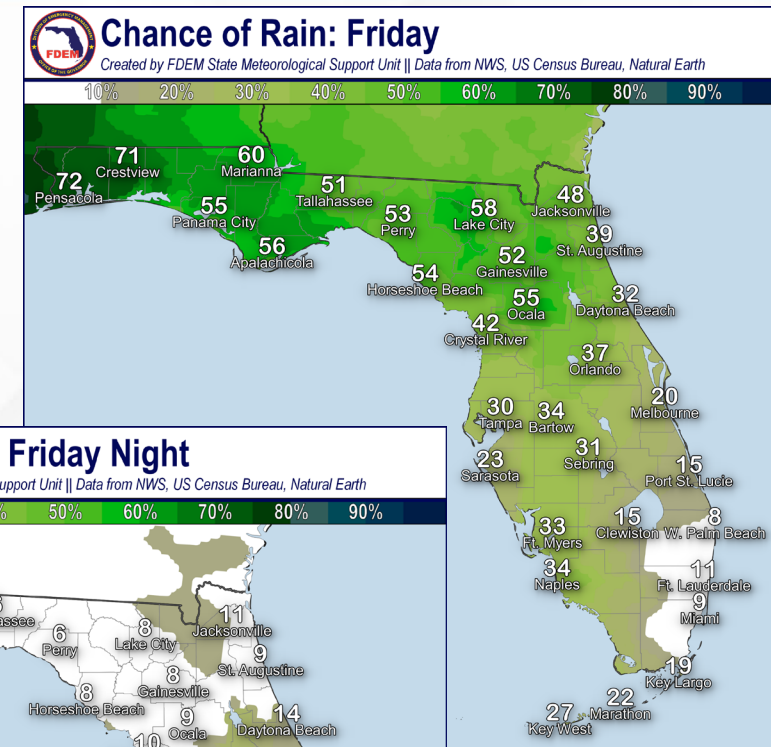
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of high pressure will begin building across the Sunshine State today keeping shower and thunderstorm chances isolated to widely scattered for much of the Peninsula (25-45% chance of rain). However, abundant moisture will remain entrenched over the far western Florida Panhandle where some scattered showers are already found this morning (60-75% chance of rain) and a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** has been outlooked. 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. Any summertime shower and thunderstorm may produce locally heavy downpours; A few isolated **strong to severe thunderstorms** cannot be ruled out with frequent lightning and gusty winds.

Hot and humid conditions will persist today, with afternoon high temperatures reaching the upper 80s to middle 90s statewide. **Triple digit heat index values (100 to 105-degrees)** can be expected across the state. North and Central Florida can expect to see **heat index values** reaching **105 to 107-degrees**. **Heat Advisory** criteria may be reached in some locations.

Isolated to widely scattered showers and thunderstorms will dissipate this evening across the state, keeping rain chances low overnight (10-20% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the 70s and low 80s statewide.

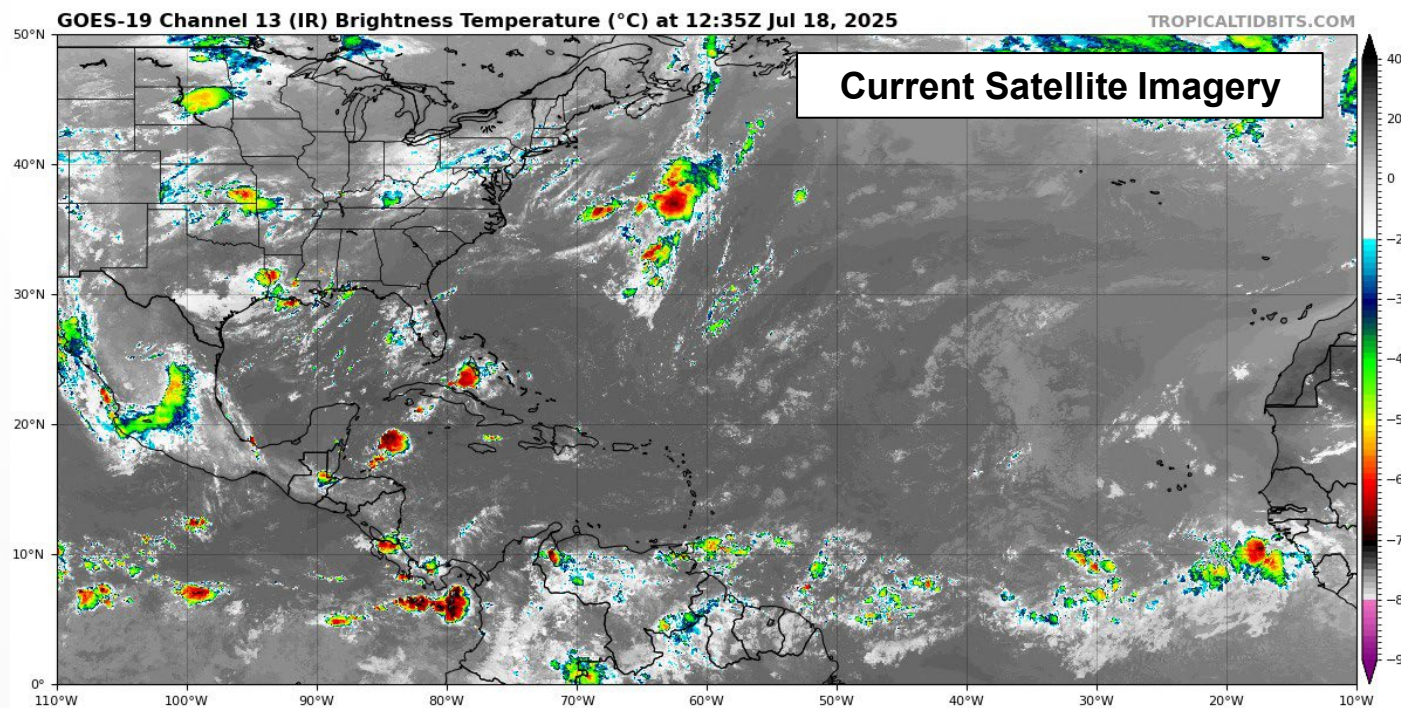
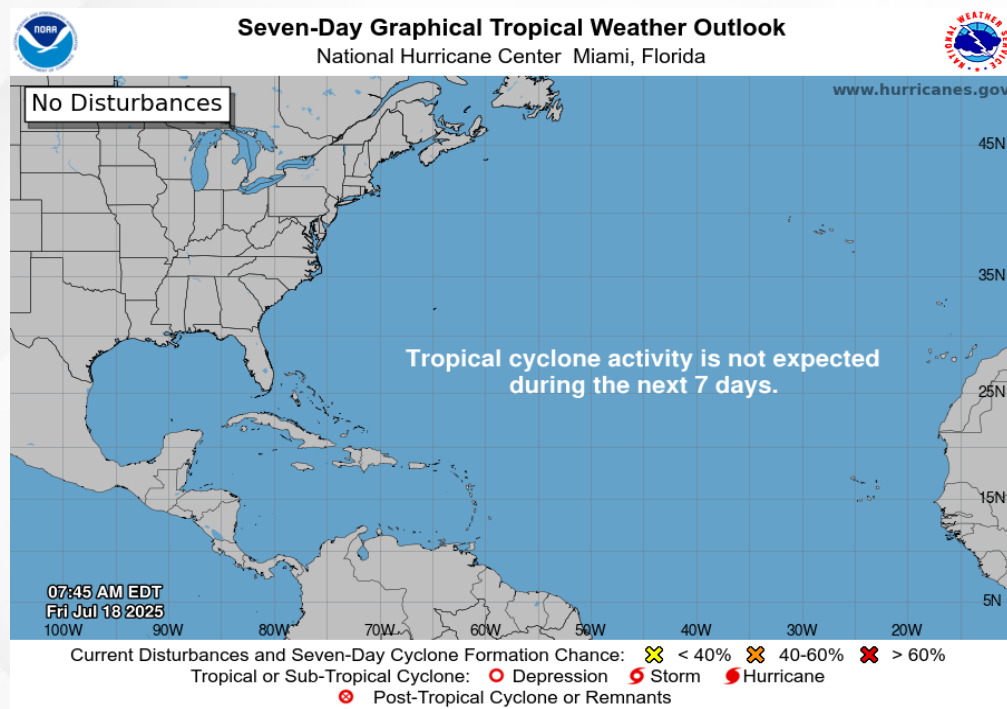




Tropical Weather

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

Tropical cyclone activity is **not expected** during the next 7 days in the Atlantic basin.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

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

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of around 2-3' can be expected along Florida Panhandle and East coast beaches today, with wave heights of 1-2' across West coast beaches.

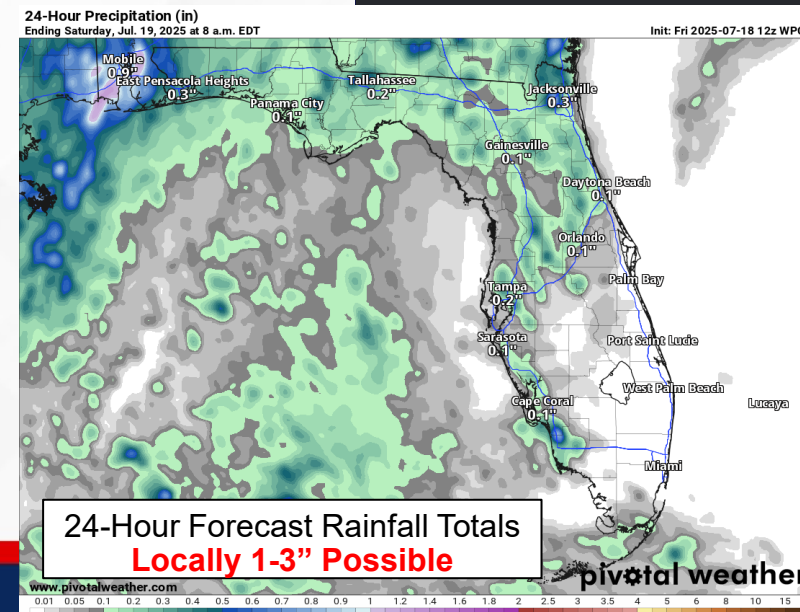
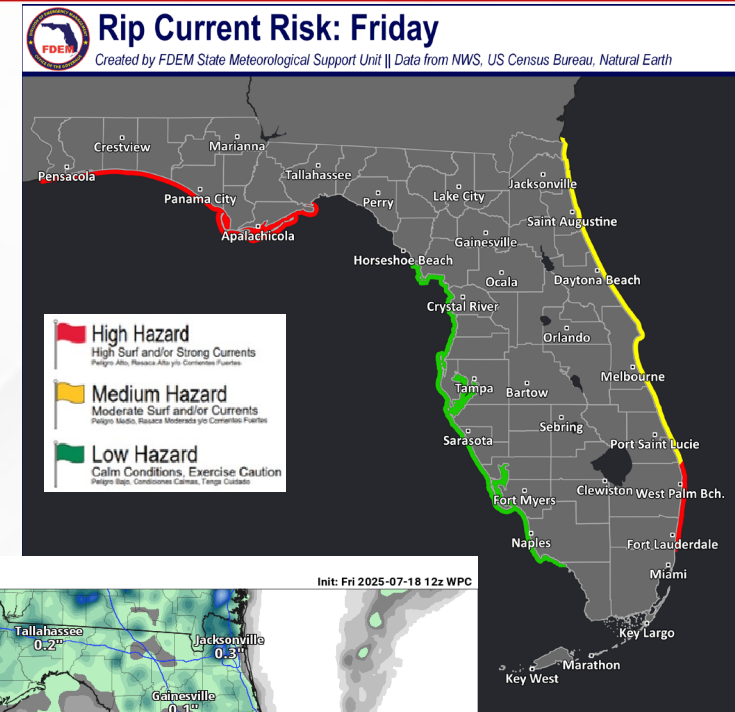
Red Tide has been not been observed along any Florida coastline over the past week (valid 7/11).

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

Flash Flooding: Abundant moisture will stick around over the far western Florida Panhandle today where a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** remains outlooked for Okaloosa County on west, and a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending eastward to the US-231 corridor. Recent daily thunderstorm activity may lead to an earlier onset to **flash flooding and ponding of water** this afternoon across the western Panhandle, especially for urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Localized areas may see 1-2" of rain where any repeated rounds of showers and embedded thunderstorms occur; isolated higher amounts upwards of 3" are possible for any **repeated rounds of intense downpours**. Any isolated shower and thunderstorm across the Peninsula will have the chance to produce localized flooding, especially in urban and poor drainage areas.

Riverine Flooding: The [Ocklawaha River at Rodman Dam](#) was observed at Minor Flood Stage this morning, with upstream gauges at [Moss Bluff Dam](#), [Ocala](#), and [Eureka](#) observed at Action Stage (Bank-full). [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#) remains at Action Stage (bank-full) this morning as well. No widespread significant riverine responses are expected; however, conditions will be heavily dependent upon where any prolonged thunderstorm activity occurs resulting in possible localized 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 11.85 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.77 feet **below** normal for this time of year.





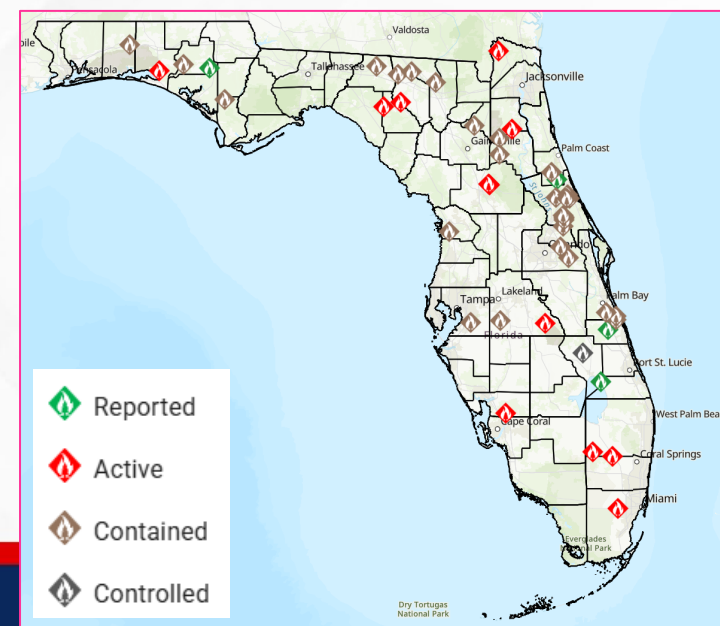
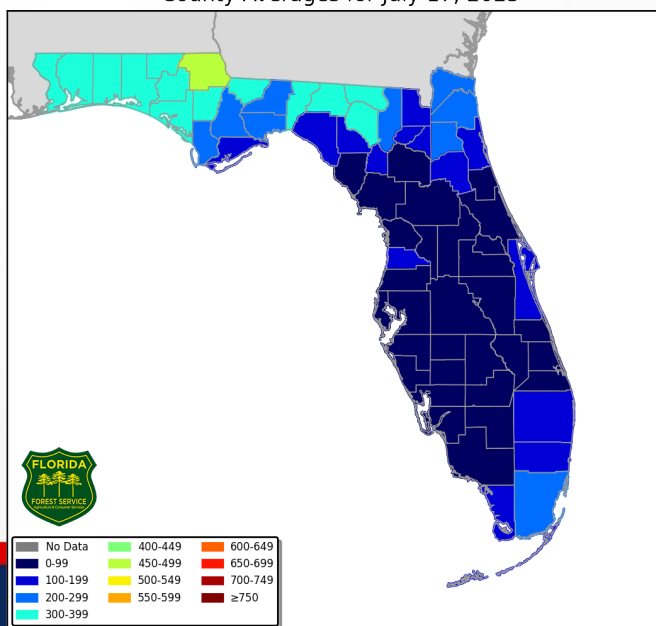
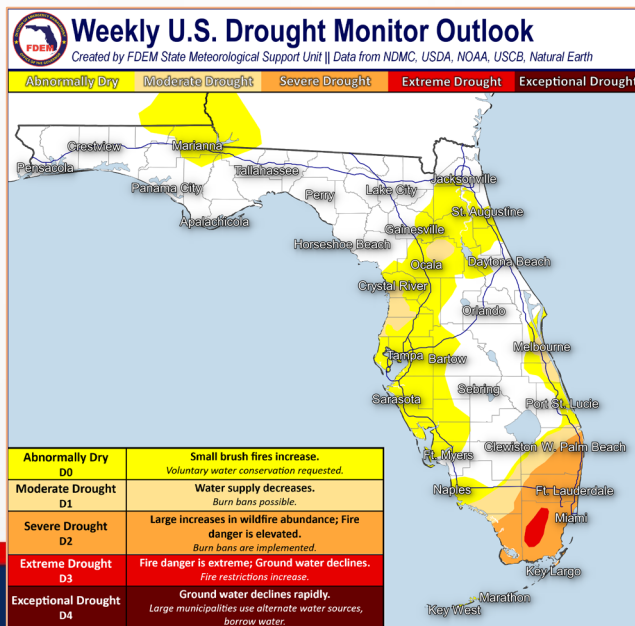
Drought & Fire Weather

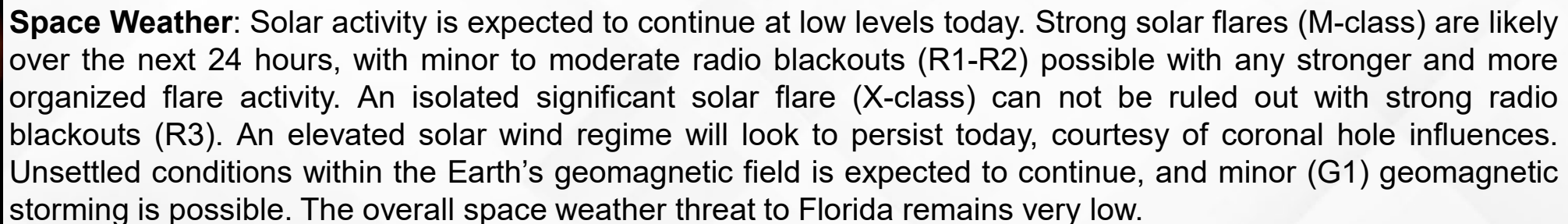
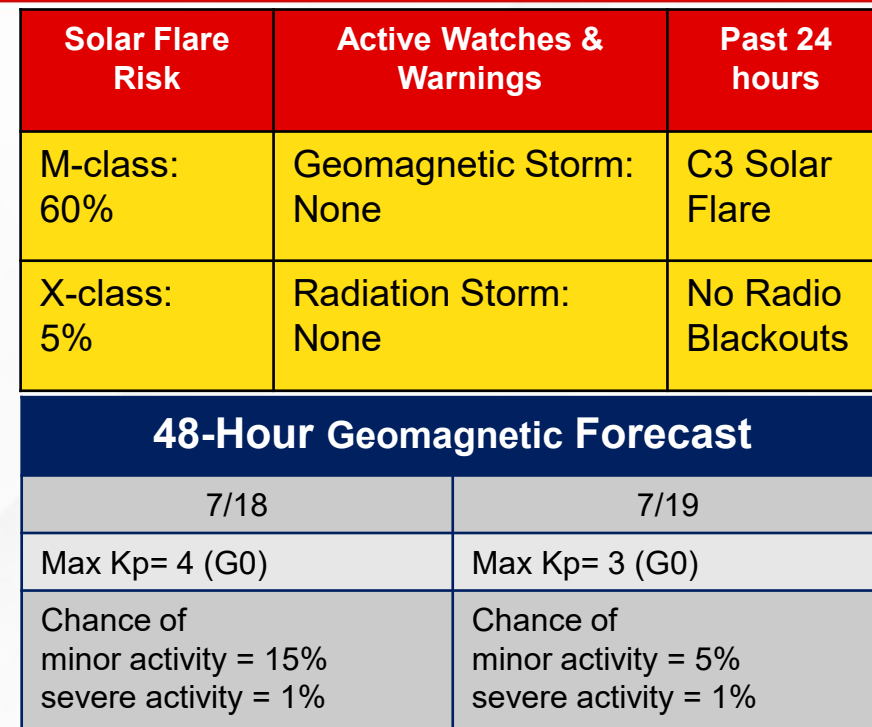
Fire Weather: Shower and thunderstorm activity will be much more isolated to widely scattered today as the deep southerly flow and tropical moisture from recent days wanes. Relative humidities will remain above critical thresholds statewide (50-70% RH values), especially across the far western Panhandle where abundant moisture will stick around yielding a greater chance for shower and thunderstorm activity. 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 15,154 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 **146 (-2)** 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 17, 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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