





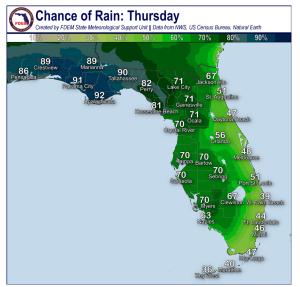
...Wet and Active Weather Pattern Returns Statewide Midweek With Upper-Level Disturbance...Increased Risk for Flash Flooding Each Day With Repeated Rounds of Heavy Rainfall; Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding...Summertime Heat and Humidity Persists; Dangerous Conditions Across Portions of the State Through Midweek and Heat Advisories Likely...Shower and Thunderstorm Chances to Shift Westward Friday and Saturday; Drier Conditions Returning Towards End of Week As Disturbance Moves Away...Triple Digit Heat Index Values Return Statewide By Saturday...

Tuesday – Thursday:

The wet and active weather pattern return for the first half of the forecast period with scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms daily. An upper-level disturbance moving across the Southeast U.S. and towards the Gulf Coast will enhance daily shower and thunderstorm activity, especially with the help of tropical moisture (60-95% chance of rain). This disturbance looks to remain over land; however, it could briefly move over the northeastern and northern gulf waters later this week before moving back over land along the U.S. Gulf Coast. Regardless of any development, the upper-level disturbance will create increased rain chances statewide beginning Tuesday and likely continuing through Thursday. Some lingering showers and thunderstorms may get an early start in the morning hours as the disturbance moves overhead, but the greatest chance for activity will remain in the afternoon and evening hours



with the help of daytime heating. On Tuesday, the Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather across the Florida Big Bend and Northeast Florida



as conditions associated with the disturbance may be favorable for isolated strong to severe thunderstorms to develop. These thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph) and heavy downpours. Across the rest of the state on Tuesday, as well as throughout the day Wednesday and Thursday, embedded locally strong to severe thunderstorms will be possible with the help of breaks in cloud cover. With the abundance of tropical moisture, instances of flash flooding and ponding of water with repeated rounds of heavy downpours or slow-moving thunderstorms will be possible daily. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding statewide on Tuesday, then continues on Wednesday and Thursday along the Florida Gulf and West Coasts as the disturbance also continues to move westward along the Southeast and Gulf Coast states. With the loss of daytime heating,

shower and thunderstorm activity will generally dissipate overnight; however, some isolated to widely





scattered showers and thunderstorms may continue into the overnight hours, mostly near the Gulf Coast and coastlines, as the disturbance moves overhead (30-55% chance of rain).

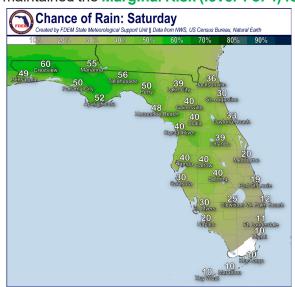
Warm and humid conditions can be expected each day as high temperatures continue to reach the 90s nearly statewide. Heat index values across North and North-Central Florida on Tuesday will reach well into triple digits (109-111-degrees), and Heat Advisories will be in effect throughout the afternoon. Similarly on Wednesday, Panhandle regions can expect heat index values into triple digits (108-111-degrees) and Heat Advisories will likely be needed. Across the rest of the state, both Tuesday and Wednesday, heat index values in the upper 90s to middle 100s can be expected (100-105-degrees). On Thursday, heat index values across West-Central Florida will approach Heat Advisory criteria with heat index values upwards of 108degrees. Low temperatures will continue to fall into the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s throughout the state.

Feels Like Temperatures: Tue. Afternoon

Friday – Saturday:

The disturbance will continue to move away from

Florida through the end of the week and into the week and along the Gulf Coast states. This will gradually shift rain chances westward Friday and Saturday as drier air begins to filter back in across eastern Florida. Tropical moisture associated with the upper-level disturbance will continue to linger from east to west Friday and Saturday keeping rain chances elevated across West Florida. Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms will continue across the Panhandle and West Florida on Friday during the afternoon and evening hours (55-80% chance of rain). The greatest rain chances shift across the Panhandle and western Big Bend on Friday while the rest of the state will see more of an isolated chance for daily showers and thunderstorms (40-60% chance of rain). Embedded strong to severe thunderstorms will be possible within the peak heating hours of the day will be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds and heavy downpours. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) maintained the Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding along the western Panhandle on Friday



where lingering heavy rainfall could lead to instances of flash flooding and ponding of water. Showers and thunderstorms will gradually shift westward towards the coastal waters late in the evenings and overnight hours, leading to mostly dry conditions overnight; however, a few rounds of showers and thunderstorms may linger nearby along the coastlines (15-20% chance of rain).

Despite drier conditions returning gradually towards the end of the week, summertime heat and humidity will continue. High temperatures will reach the lower to middle 90s. Heat index values across the state will reach well into triple digits (100-108-degrees) both Friday and Saturday afternoons, especially with decreasing rain chances and increasing sunshine. Areas locally throughout the state could reach Heat Advisory criteria briefly. Low temperatures will continue to fall into the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s throughout the

state.

Tropical Weather:



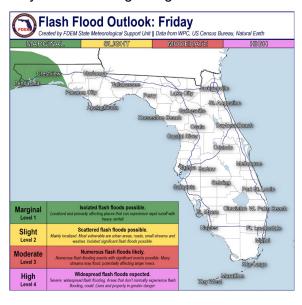


Tropical cyclone activity is <u>not expected</u> within the next 7 days. Please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) website for the latest on the tropics.

Hydrology & Flooding:

A near repeat of last week can be expected again this week as a weak area of low pressure moves along the Southeast U.S. states and the Gulf Coast. Tropical moisture associated with this weak low will bring increased daily shower and thunderstorm chances across the state through the end of the work week. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding nearly statewide on Tuesday and Wednesday before shifting along the West and Gulf

Coast through the end of the week. A Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding may be introduced midweek across northern portions of the Peninsula or even the Gulf Coast, depending on how much rainfall has already occurred and where the next round of potentially heavy rainfall could occur, especially following last week's rounds of heavy rainfall. If the forecast low keeps further inland, rainfall may extend further inland along the Gulf Coast. If the low tracks further south over the Gulf waters, then the greatest rain chances will remain closer towards the coast. Regardless any repeated rounds of heavy rainfall and thunderstorms will be capable of producing localized flash flooding and ponding of water, especially for urban and low-lying/poor drainage. Rainfall totals of 2-4" can be expected across the state, with locally higher totals upwards of 4-6" possible. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) website.



Florida rivers, creeks and waterways remain within good standing and are not forecast to reach minor flood stage over the next 5 days. <u>Fisheating Creek at Palmdale</u> remains within Action Stage (bank-full) and looks to remain steady through the weekend. Depending on where the heaviest rainfall occurs this week, some quick response rivers and waterways could see local rises especially with any repeated rounds of heavy rainfall. With streamflows remaining slightly below to below normal for this time of year nearly statewide, there are no riverine concerns at this time. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.93 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.72 feet <u>below</u> normal for this time of year.

Drought & Fire Weather:

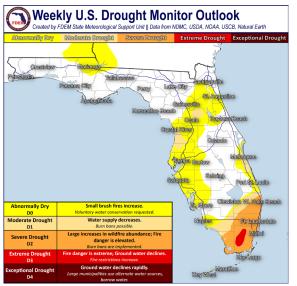
Conditions continues to improve throughout the Florida Peninsula with active weather leading to beneficial rainfall on the latest Drought Monitor update (7/17). Active weather from Invest 93L that moved over the state last week brought rainfall totals of 2-3" throughout much of the northern and central Peninsula, with locally higher totals upwards of 4-6" in some areas, which led to the removal of abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions throughout eastern and interior regions. Longer term drought conditions lingering along the northern half of the St. Johns River and along the Florida West Coast and missed locally heavy rainfall prompted the persistence of abnormally dry conditions, with moderate drought (level 1 of 4) lingering over northeastern Marion County and along the Nature Coast. Along the Florida East Coast, severe drought (level 2 of 4) was removed along Brevard and Indian River counties and moderate drought was removed from Martin and St. Lucie counties where locally heavy rainfall moved onshore and elevated cloud cover kept temperatures cooler-than-normal. The severe drought conditions over Southeast Florida remain largely unchanged; however, the extreme drought (level 3 of 4) was shifted out of Palm Beach County and into Miami-Dade County





where there has been a local increase in fire weather and lack of necessary rainfall. Drier and warmer conditions leading up to the increased wet and active pattern across the Panhandle led to abnormally dry conditions to be introduced along the northeastern Panhandle and the northern part of the Apalachicola River basin.

The heaviest rainfall late last week (to be included on the update released 7/24) occurred along the northern peninsula, stretching from Levy to Volusia counties, with isolated pockets across Pasco,



Hillsborough and Highlands counties as well, and these areas are likely see additional improvements on the next update. Some additional small improvements may occur along Southeast Florida as well, but rainfall totals of 1-3" will likely keep conditions the same. Across the Panhandle, the heaviest rainfall occurred closer to the coast rather than further inland. With ongoing above normal temperatures and suppressed rain chances conditions will also likely remain the same or there could even be an expansion of the abnormally dry conditions across the northern Panhandle.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **213** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are <u>no</u> Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Active weather returns through the end of the work week with a weak disturbance moving overhead across the Southeast U.S. and Gulf Coast. Increased

daily shower and thunderstorm activity can be expected each day, likely peaking in the afternoon and evening hours with the help of daytime heating. Thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning erratic winds, especially any that occur over ongoing drought areas. Slightly drier conditions return in the wake of the disturbance, especially across the Florida Peninsula which will limit shower and thunderstorm activity heading into the weekend. According to the Florida Forest Service, there are currently 27 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 15,174 acres.

Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Elevated onshore winds across the state will lead to a moderate risk for rip currents for Panhandle and East Coast beaches beginning Tuesday and continuing over the next few days. As an upper-level disturbance moves southwestward across the Southeast Atlantic waters and towards the Gulf Coast, stronger onshore winds along the Panhandle will develop Thursday and into Friday along the Panhandle, creating a high risk for rip currents. Similarly, East Coast beaches will see elevated surf and persistent onshore winds that could lead to a moderate to high risk for rip currents through the end of the week and into the weekend. West Coast beaches will likely continue to see a low risk for rip currents as winds shift offshore; however, a locally moderate risk cannot be ruled out Tuesday and into Wednesday before the disturbance moves towards the Gulf Coast. Daily thunderstorms may lead to choppy waters and rough beach conditions. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Wave heights will remain near 1-3' throughout the next 5 days. Instances of wave heights near 4' cannot be ruled out along Panhandle beaches late Thursday and into the weekend as the disturbance moves near the Gulf Coast and away from Florida. Stronger onshore winds along the East Coast Friday and into Saturday may also allow for wave heights upwards of 4-5' to develop for Atlantic-facing Key beaches.

The latest <u>Blue-Green Algae</u> report shows algal bloom conditions were observed at nine sites out of the 16 site visits conducted from 7/11 to 7/17. Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows <u>moderate bloom potential</u> on approximately 25% of the lake with the highest potential in the northern





portion of the lake. Moderate bloom potential was also observed throughout visible portions of Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River downstream to Palatka. Scattered low to moderate bloom potential was also observed down to Doctors Lake from the satellite imagery over the St. Johns River. No significant bloom potential was observed for the Caloosahatchee or St. Lucie Estuaries.

NWS Mobile Daily Hazards
NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards
NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards

NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards

NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards

NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards

NWS Key West Daily Hazards

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:

Pensacola Panama City Tallahassee Gainesville Jacksonville Daytona Beach
Orlando Tampa Fort Myers West Palm Beach Miami Key West
Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service
For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click here.

Have a wonderful rest of the week!

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist Florida Division of Emergency Management www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather



