



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office**

## **Morning Situation Report**

Wednesday, August 20, 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	<a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com</a>
Watch Officer	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	<a href="mailto:Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com">Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com</a>
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Day	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Swing	Zachary Remante	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Meteorologist	Kennedy Tartt	(850) 567-6368	<a href="mailto:Kennedy.Tartt@em.myflorida.com">Kennedy.Tartt@em.myflorida.com</a>
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	<a href="mailto:Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com">Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com</a>
Logistics Chief	Timothy Conroy	(850) 524-8699	<a href="mailto:timothy.conroy@em.myflorida.com">timothy.conroy@em.myflorida.com</a>
Human Services Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	<a href="mailto:Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com">Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com</a>
Emergency Services	Tim Kenyon	(850) 591-7732	<a href="mailto:Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com">Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com</a>
Infrastructure Branch Director	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	<a href="mailto:Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com">Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com</a>
ESF 8 On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	<a href="mailto:DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov">DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov</a>
Public Information Officer	Stephanie Hartman	(850) 570-3053	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com">Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com</a>
DEM Finance and Admin	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com</a>



# Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Bay, Leon	Equipment Pick-up/Drop off
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	World Athletics XC Security Planning Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Hamilton, Columbia	EM Visits
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Flagler	G-300 Instruction
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Seminole, Hillsborough	Return to Region 6 Travel / UAWG Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Seminole, Polk	Return to Region 7 Travel / EM Visit
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Seminole, Miami-Dade	Return to Region 10 Travel



Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8  
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 9  
Region 10 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	Bay / Washington	External Stakeholders Meeting / County EM Meeting - Recovery/Mitigation
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jackson	LMS & ERTF Meetings
Region 3: Amber Durden	Hamilton / Columbia	County EM Meetings - Recovery/Mitigation
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Leadership Cohort
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	H.O.W. Fellowship Breakfast / External Stakeholders Meetings
Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 6: Vacant		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	Executive Support
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Martin	LMS Meeting / Administrative Duties
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	Pinellas	Training: MGT-461
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

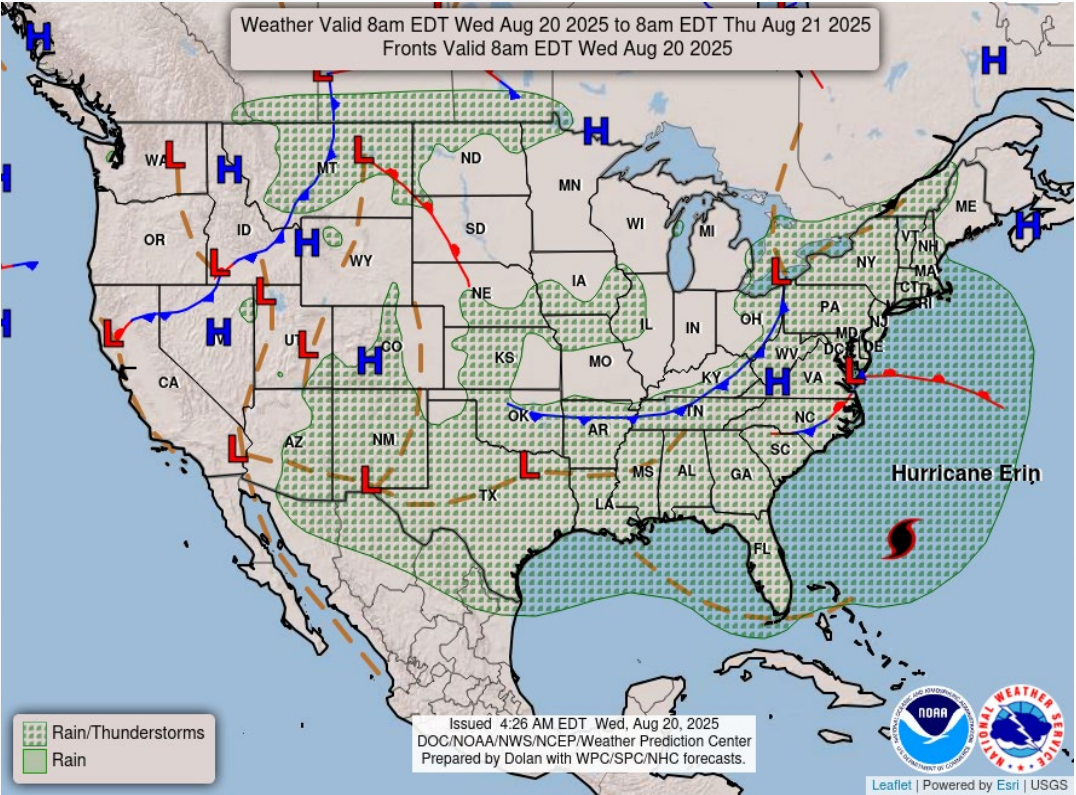
Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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



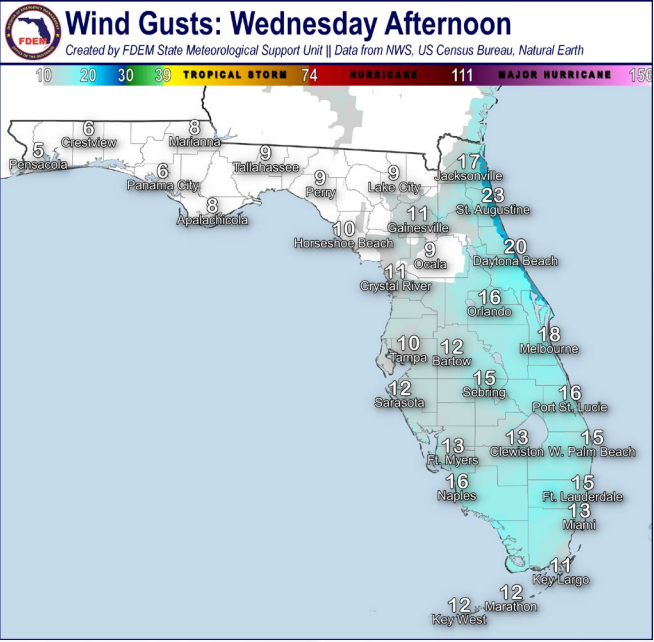
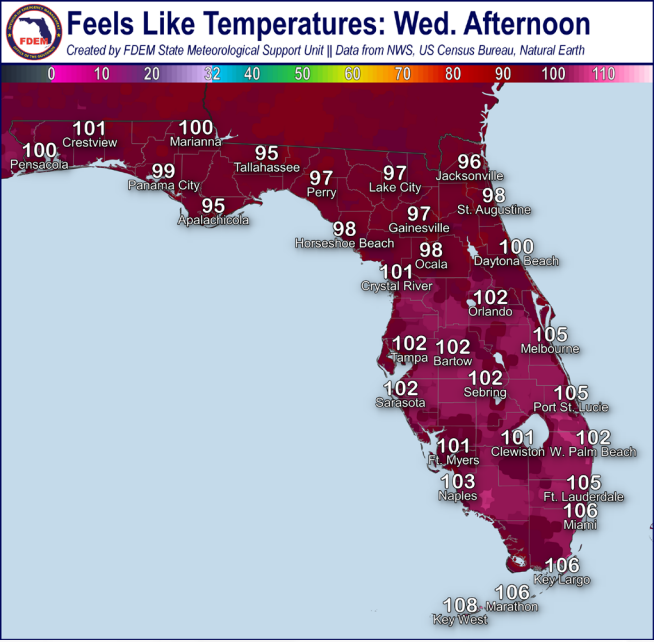


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding	L	L			L	L	L	L	L	L
Excessive Heat	L	L	L	L	M	M	M	M	M	M
Wildfire										
Fog (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.17 ft. (1.88 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	292 (+4) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





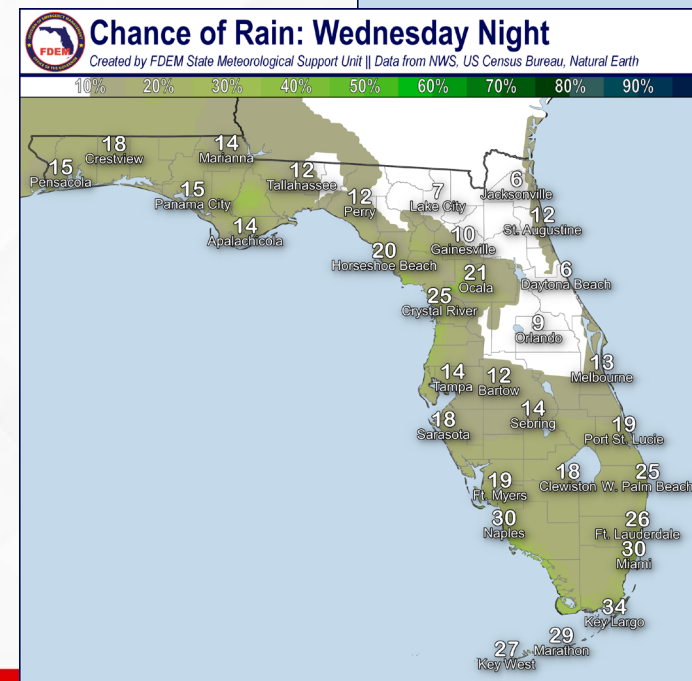
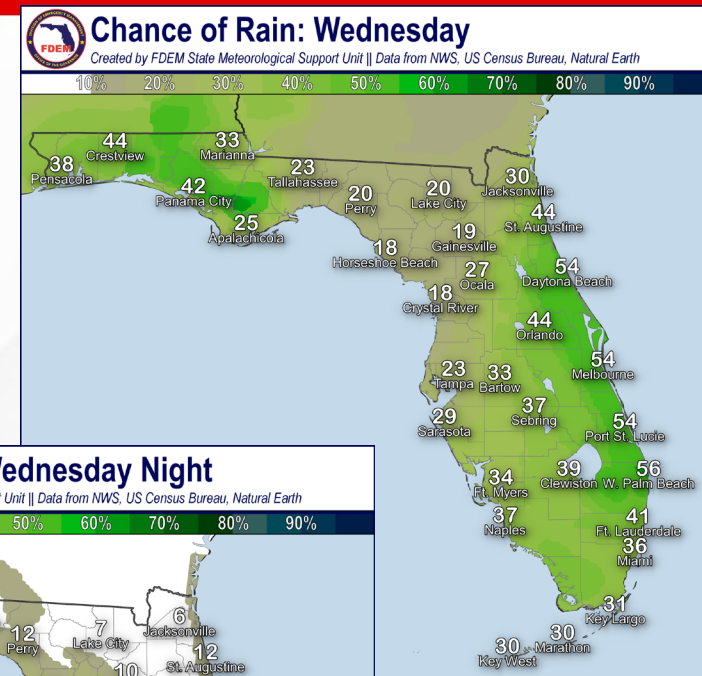
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Showers and thunderstorms are currently offshore the east coast of Florida this morning associated with the outer circulation of distant Hurricane Erin. Northeasterly winds will slowly begin to push some of these showers and thunderstorms onshore the East Coast throughout the day, along with help from the afternoon sea breeze, though likely remaining isolated to scattered in nature (30-55% chance of rain). These northeasterly winds will generally filter in drier air across the state, keeping much of the western Peninsula and North Florida with modest rainfall chances (15-35% chance of rain) while a bit more abundant tropical moisture will keep rainfall chances elevated over the western Panhandle this afternoon (30-50% chance of rain). Some **breezier winds of 15-20 mph** can be expected along the East Coast with offshore Hurricane Erin. Some locally higher wind gusts **upwards of 25 mph** could occur across Northeast Florida. **Any thunderstorm** that develops will be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds and torrential downpours. **Instances of nuisance flash flooding and ponding of water** will be possible with any heavy downpours or slow-moving thunderstorms.

**Warm and muggy conditions** will remain today with high temperatures reaching the lower to middle 90s. **Heat index values will continue to reach triple digits (100-107-degrees)** in the early to mid-afternoon for much of the state, though drier air will keep the feels like temperatures on the “cooler” side. A **Heat Advisory** for dangerous heat index values **upwards of 110-degrees** will go into effect this afternoon across Southeast Florida.

Showers and thunderstorms will generally dissipate with loss of daytime heating by the evening and early overnight hours, leading to mostly dry conditions. Some lingering showers may persist over Southwest Florida with winds turning onshore early Thursday possibly bringing activity back onshore. Low temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s.







# Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov).

**Hurricane Erin:** As of 8:00 AM EDT, Erin is located about 400 miles south-southeast of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina and is moving north-northwestward at 13 mph. A turn toward the north and northeast is expected today and tonight, followed by a faster motion towards the northeast by Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Erin will pass over the western Atlantic between the U.S. east coast and Bermuda today through early Friday and then pass south of Atlantic Canada Friday and Saturday. Maximum sustained winds are near 100 mph with higher gusts, making Erin a category 2 hurricane. Some strengthening is possible during the next day or so before weakening is likely on Friday. *Erin poses no direct threat to Florida but will bring life-threatening rip currents and surf along Florida East Coast beaches over the next couple of days.*

**Central Tropical Atlantic:** A tropical wave located over the central tropical Atlantic continues to produce a broad area of disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions appear conducive for gradual development of this system. A tropical depression could form toward the end of this week or weekend while it moves near or north of the northern Leeward Islands. This *system poses no threat to Florida at this time but continues to be monitored.*


\*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low... 10%.**

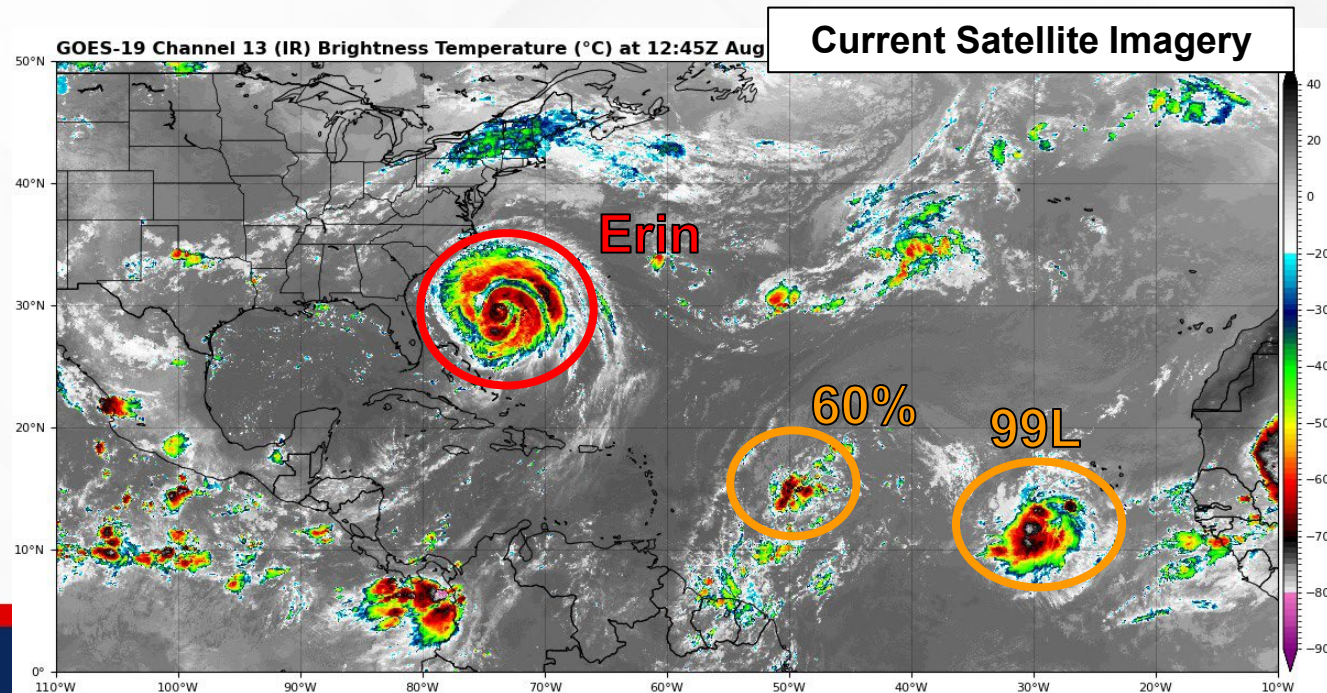
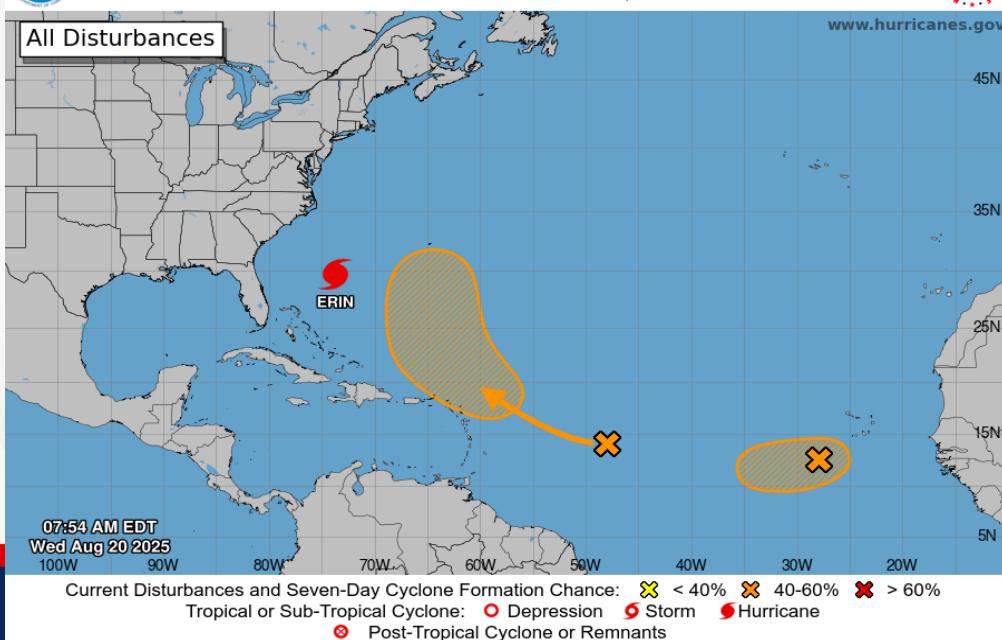
\*Formation chance through 7 days...**medium...60%.**

**Eastern Tropical Atlantic (Invest 99L):** A tropical wave located to the southwest of the Cabo Verde Islands continues to produce a concentrated area of showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions appear marginally favorable for additional development over the next couple of days as the system moves westward at around 15 mph. A short-lived tropical depression could form before environmental conditions are expected to become unfavorable for further development. *This system poses no threat to Florida at this time.*

\*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low... 40%.**

\*Formation chance through 7 days...**low... 40%.**

 **Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook**  
National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida







# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Distant Hurricane Erin will bring a **high risk for rip currents** along all East Coast beaches due to onshore winds and dangerous ocean swells. A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected for numerous Panhandle beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** **High Surf Advisories** extend along the First, Space, and Treasure Coasts due to **dangerously large and life-threatening ocean swells** from distant Hurricane Erin. **Wave heights** will peak this afternoon, reaching **5-10'** for the First and Space Coasts by the late afternoon and early evening hours. Across Treasure Coast beaches, **wave heights** of **3-7'** can be expected this afternoon. Wave heights will slowly begin to diminish overnight as Hurricane Erin moves further away offshore, bringing wave heights back down to **4-8'** for much of the East Coast. Further **offshore wave heights will reach 9-12'**. Southeast Florida beaches can expect to see **wave heights of 2-5'**. Panhandle and West Coast beaches will continue to see mostly calm marine conditions with wave heights of 1'.

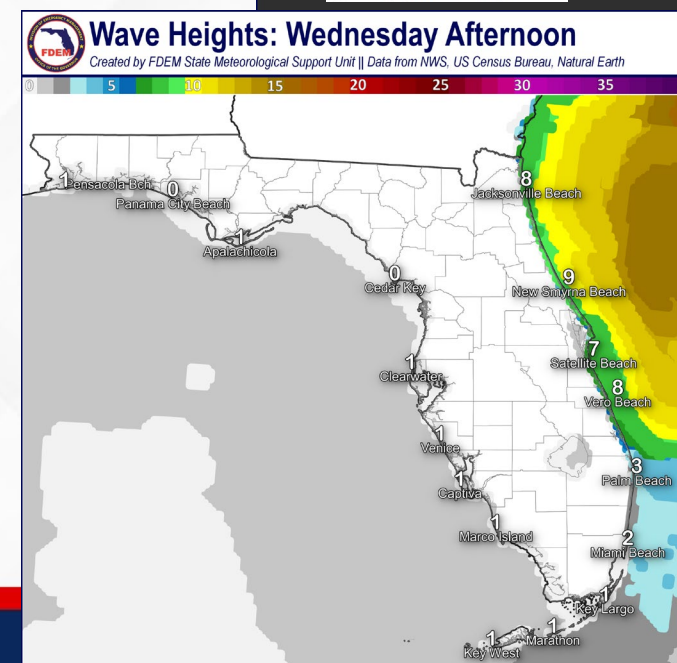
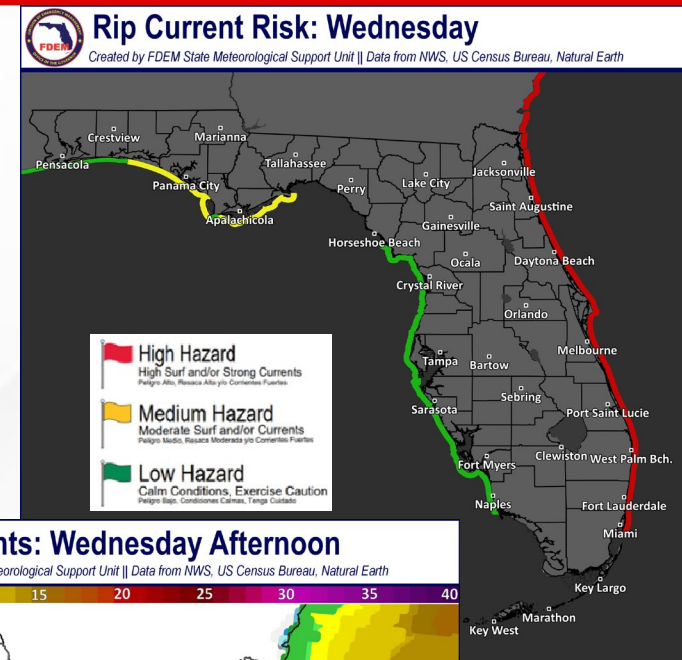
**Red Tide** was observed in one sample from Florida's East Coast in Brevard County (valid 8/15). It was not observed in any other samples statewide.

**Coastal Flooding:** Increased wave action and persistent onshore winds along portions of Northeast and East-Central Florida beaches may lead to **minor beach erosion and coastal flooding** near and during times of high tide through today, especially during the evening high tide cycle. **Coastal Flood Advisories** have been issued today along Northeast Florida coastal areas and the tidal portions of the St. Johns River. Isolated instances of flooding of lots, parks, and roads may occur during the evening high tide.

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding today; however, daily showers and thunderstorms will be capable of producing intense downpours that could lead to quick accumulations. Localized instances of **flooding and ponding of water** cannot be ruled out, especially across the East Coast and Panhandle where general rainfall totals of around 1" can be expected, with **locally higher totals** upwards of 2-3" possible.

**Riverine Flooding:** The [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#) remains at Action Stage (bank-full) near Lake Okeechobee; however, these water levels continue to slowly decline. Rivers throughout the state remain generally in good condition, but any repeated heavier downpours could bring localized water level rises. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#) is hovering within Action Stage (bank-full) due to recent localized heavy rainfall, and will hover there for the next few days. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

[Lake Okeechobee's](#) average elevation is 12.17 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.88 feet below normal for this time of year.



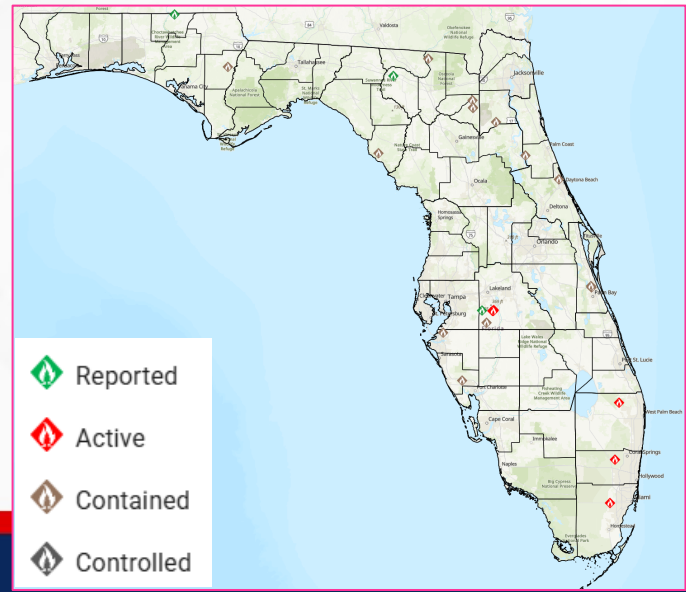
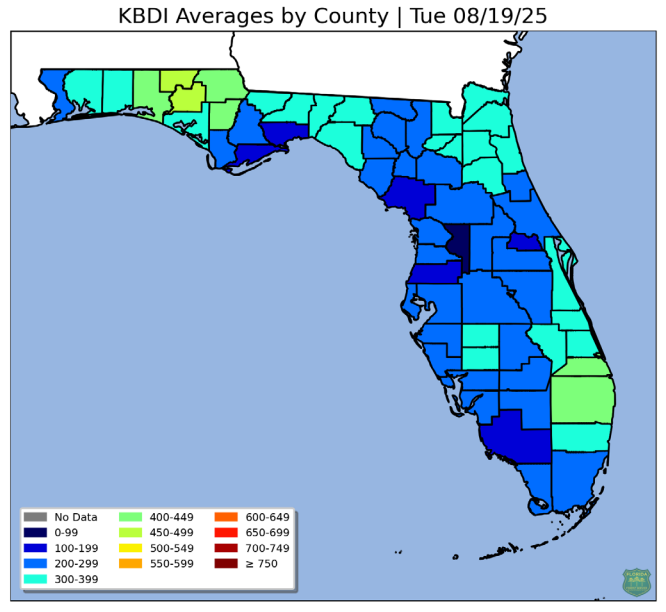
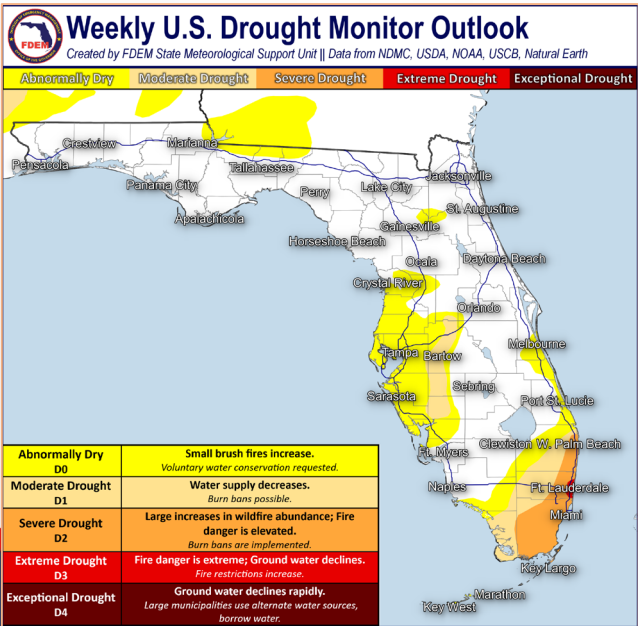


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Drier air will filter in across much of the state today keeping afternoon shower and thunderstorm activity isolated to scattered. Still, relative humidities will remain well above critical thresholds keeping the overall wildfire threat low (50-70% RH values). *Thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning and erratic winds.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 21 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,886 acres.

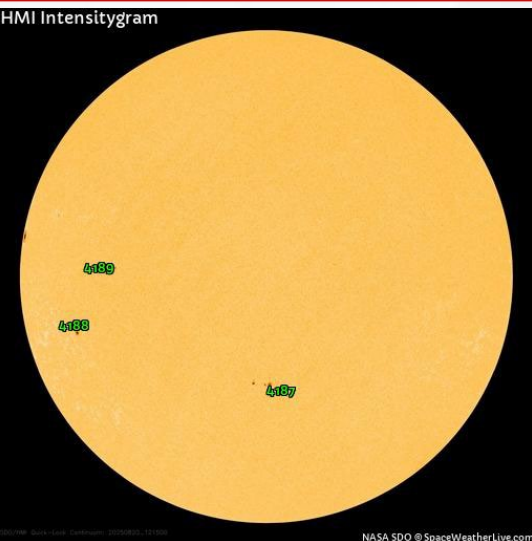
**Drought:** Recent heavy rainfall has brought some much-needed improvement to the drought outlook across Southeast Florida this week. The large area of extreme drought (level 3 of 4) in western Miami-Dade County has been completely removed and replaced with a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** instead. Much of Miami-Dade County saw rainfall of 3-6” in the past two weeks, with some areas receiving as much as 10” of rainfall. However, the **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place across coastal Broward county where thunderstorms have missed. Monroe and western Broward County have likewise seen a categorical reduction to **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** where monthly rainfall departures have returned closer to normal. The **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** was removed across portions of the Nature Coast, however added to portions of the central Peninsula (Western Polk, Hardee, and DeSoto) where monthly rainfall deficits have neared 3-6”. No significant changes were made across the Panhandle; daily thunderstorms have kept the drought conditions in check. Rainfall chances will continue across the state this weekend and into next week with daily showers and thunderstorms which may alleviate some drought conditions. However, the scattered nature of these showers and thunderstorms may benefit some locations while missing others.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **292 (+4)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **no** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

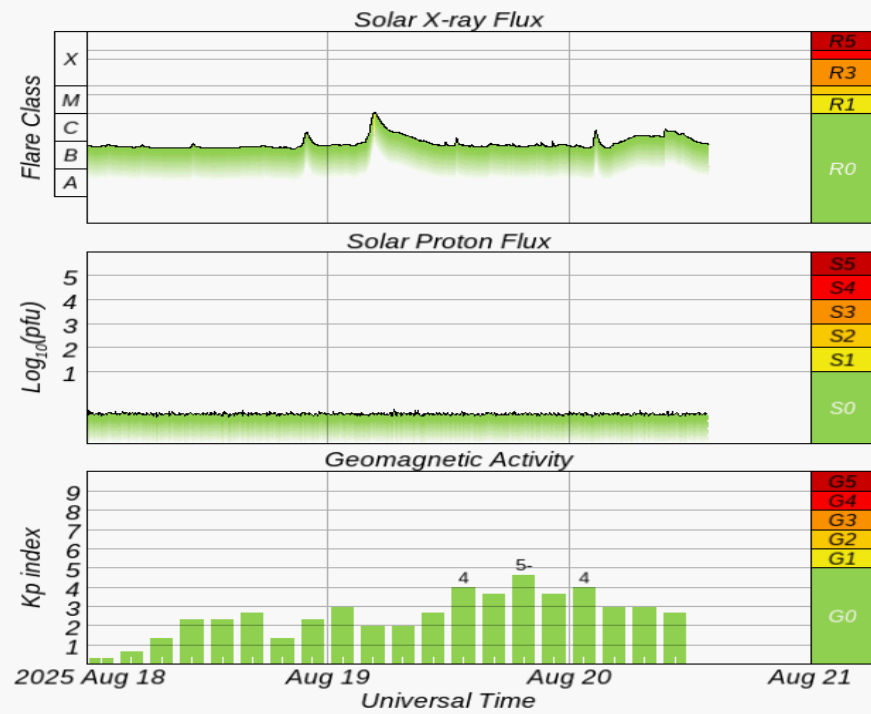
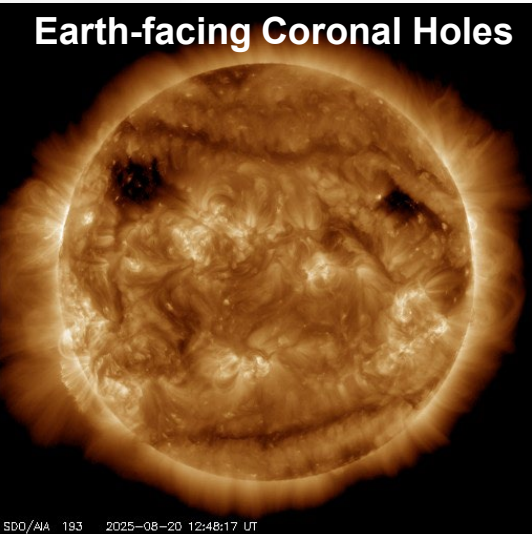




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 10%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C2 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
8/20	8/21
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 10%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

**Space Weather:** Solar activity will remain at very low to low levels, with a chance for moderate (C-class) solar flares through today and tomorrow. A slight chance of a strong (M-class) solar flare could occur through Friday as an old sunspot rotates back into frame. Should any M-class solar flares develop, minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany them. A disturbed solar wind will continue through Friday as coronal hole influences persist. Additional enhancements could occur as a coronal mass ejection (CME) passes by on Wednesday. The Earth's geomagnetic field has reached G1 (Minor) storming early Wednesday and this elevated activity will slowly wane through the rest of the week returning to quiet to unsettled levels by the weekend. An isolated G2 (Moderate) period of storming can not be ruled out on Wednesday. The overall space threat to Florida remains 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:	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	<a href="https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/">https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/</a>	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:	<a href="http://www.floridadisaster.org">http://www.floridadisaster.org</a>	Operational	

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