



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, August 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	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Austin Johnson	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Matthew Peloso	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Kennedy Tartt	(850) 567-6368	Kennedy.Tartt@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	Paige Lay	(850) 591-9933	paige.lay@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	Washington	EM Visit
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	FSU EM Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Orange	L-449 Course
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Leon	Supervisor / EM Meeting / HQ Visit
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Lee	FGCU EM / Logistics Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Palm Beach, Polk	EM Meeting / Return to Region 7 Travel
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	USCG Exercise Planning Meeting / FDOT Meeting

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 4

Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

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

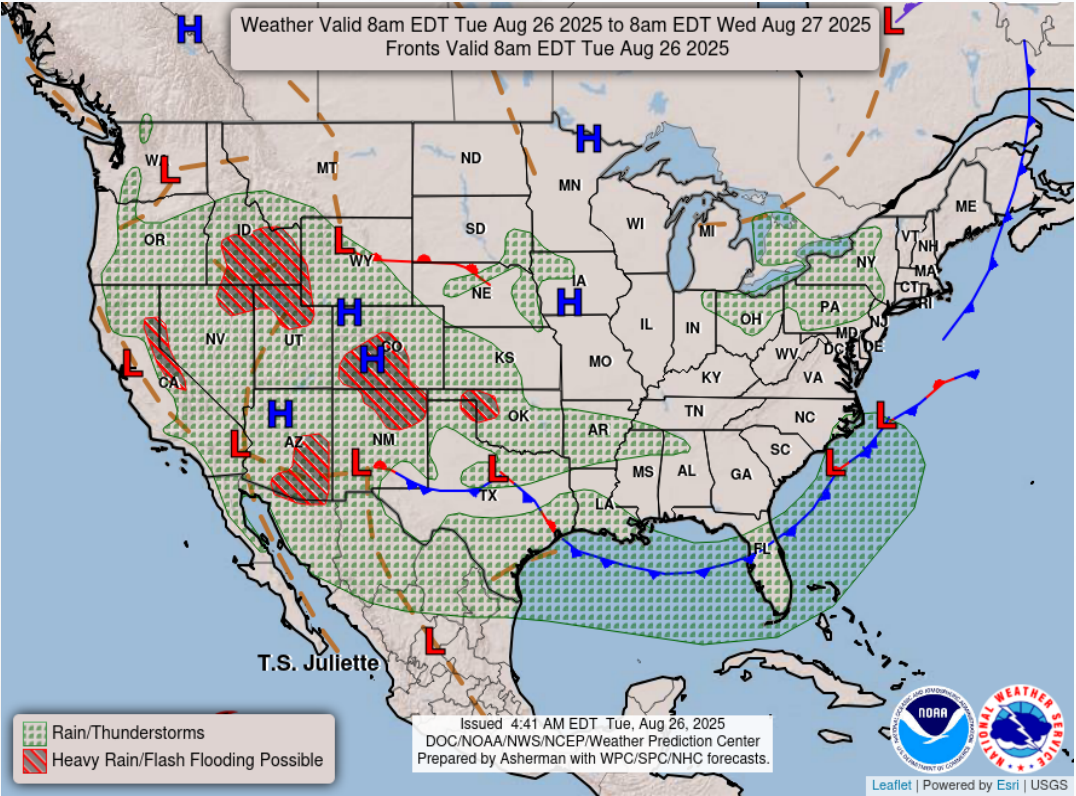
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Washington	FROC Technical Assistance
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	HQ Admin / 806 Onboarding
Region 3: Amber Durden	Lafayette, Union	County EM Meetings
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Recovery Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Pinellas	FROC Training Tour
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Leon	New Employee Onboarding
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Hardee	LMS Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Martin / Palm Beach	County Coordination Meetings
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	Hendry	County EM Meeting
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

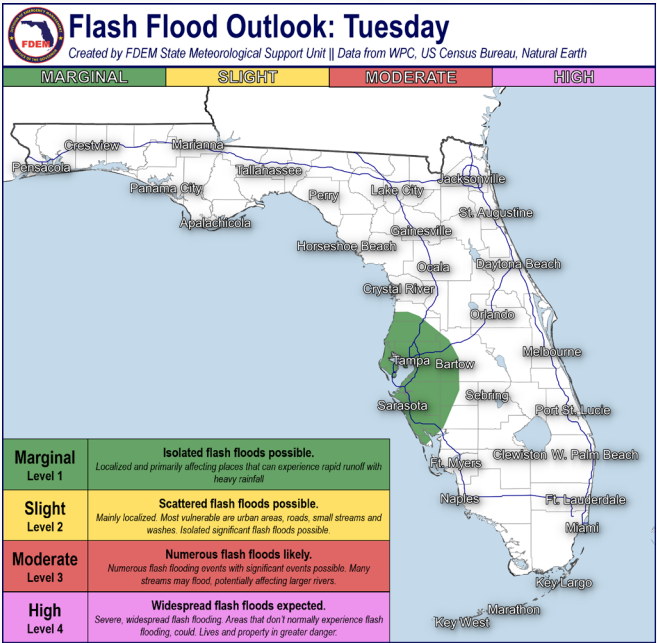
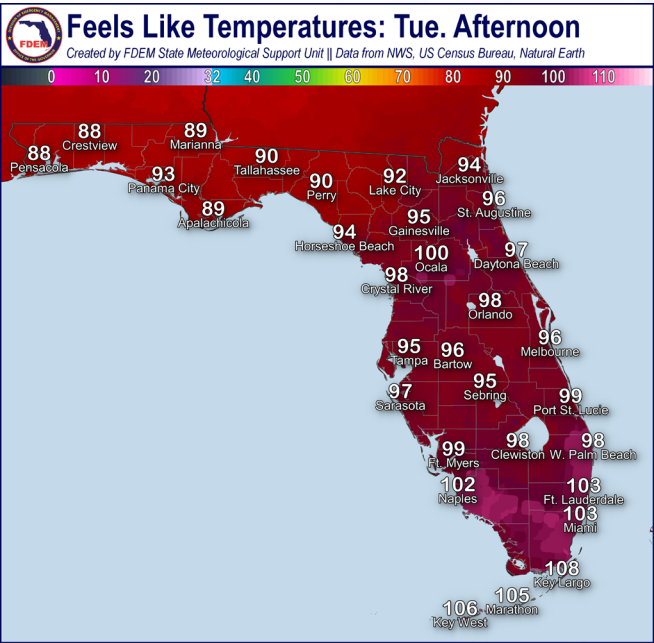


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

T threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning				L	H	H	H	M	M	M
Tornado										
Damaging Wind				L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding					L	M	L	L		
Excessive Heat	L	L	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Wildfire										
Fog (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	H	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.30 ft. (1.83 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	224 (-11) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

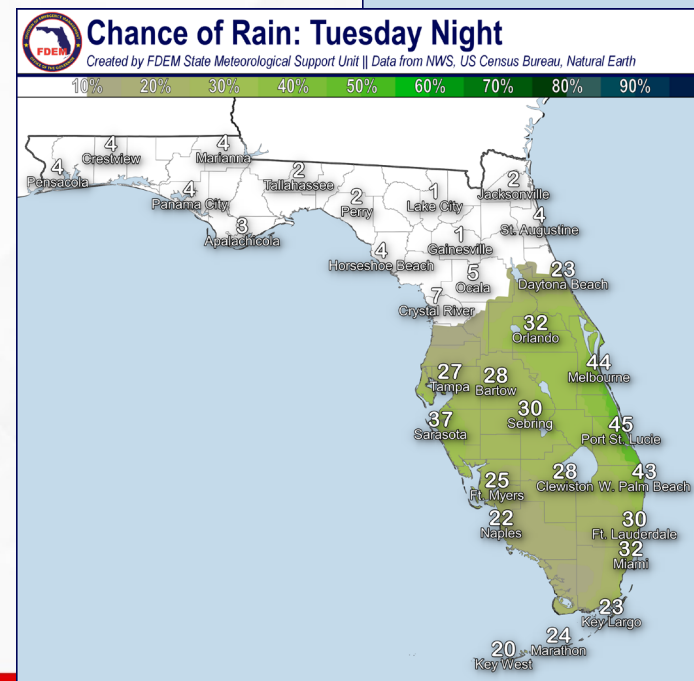
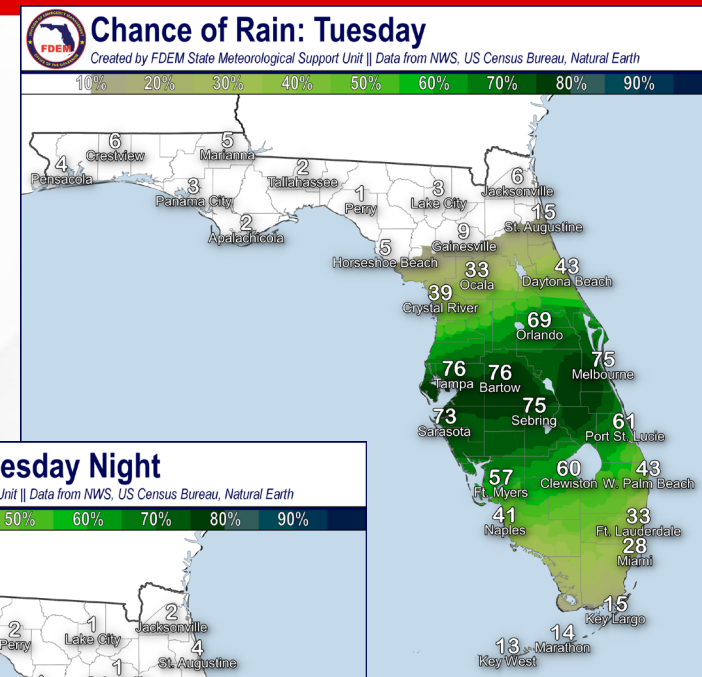
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A weak cold front has pushed through North Florida and will bring some relief from the muggy and humid summer conditions over the next day or so. Mostly dry conditions can be expected throughout North Florida with plenty of sunshine courtesy of drier air moving in behind the front. The cold front will continue to slowly move into the central Peninsula today before stalling, helping to enhance daily shower and thunderstorm activity. Persistent onshore winds will continue to bring showers and embedded thunderstorms onshore along the Florida West-Central coast this morning, before becoming more scattered to numerous in the peak heating hours of the day (45-80% chance of rain). The greatest chance for shower and thunderstorm activity will remain along the I-4 corridor and across the central Peninsula this afternoon and evening. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) has maintained a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across coastal West-Central Florida for today. After several days of repeated rainfall over the same areas, grounds and soils remain saturated and could lead to an earlier onset for **localized flash flooding and ponding of water** with additional rainfall today. Any thunderstorm that develops today will be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds and heavy downpours.

High temperatures throughout the state will continue to reach the upper 80s to lower 90s this afternoon. Drier conditions will lead to **heat index values** only reaching the lower to **middle 90s** throughout North Florida this afternoon. **Muggy conditions** will continue throughout Central and South Florida leading to **heat index values** in the **upper 90s to middle 100s**.

Shower and thunderstorm activity will gradually dissipate throughout the evening and into the early overnight hours across the central Peninsula. A few coastal showers may linger overnight near the coastline or over the adjacent coastal waters, which then may drift back onshore early Wednesday morning (20-40% chance of rain). Overall, mostly dry conditions can be anticipated overnight throughout the state.

Low temperatures will fall back into the middle to upper 60s throughout North Florida overnight. Central and South Florida will continue to see low temperatures in the middle to upper 70s and lower 80s ahead of the frontal boundary.

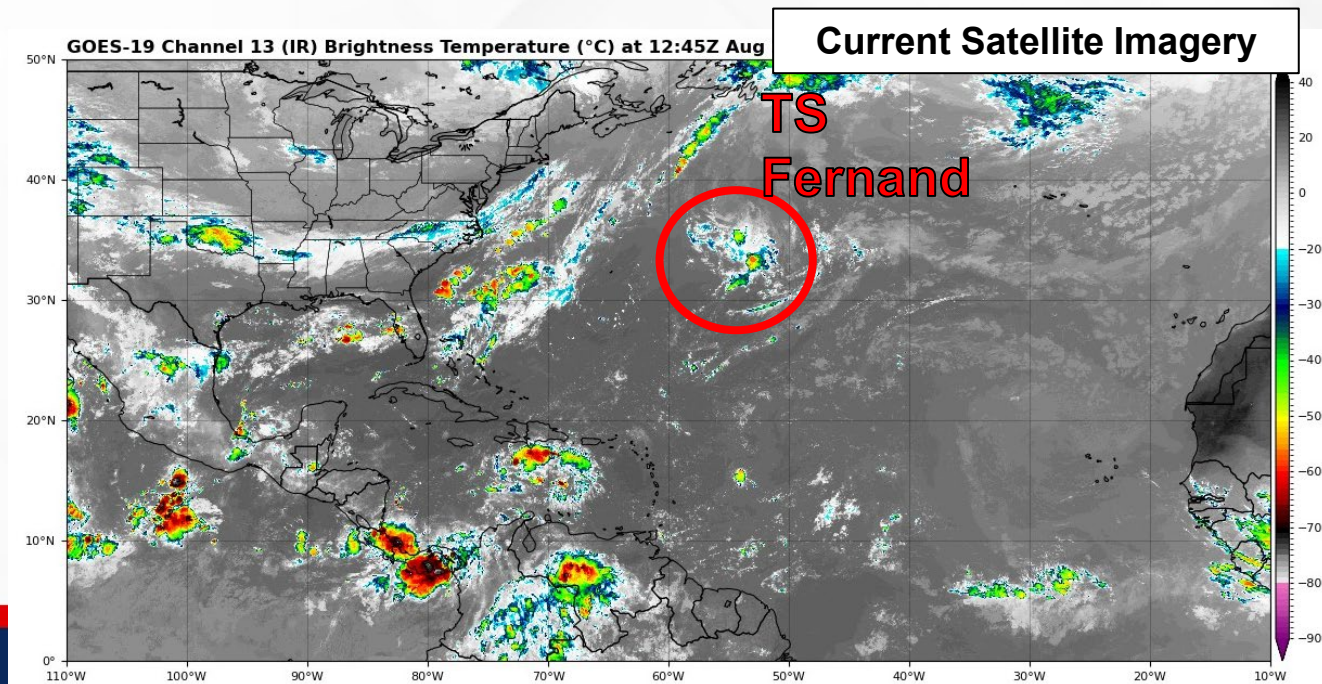
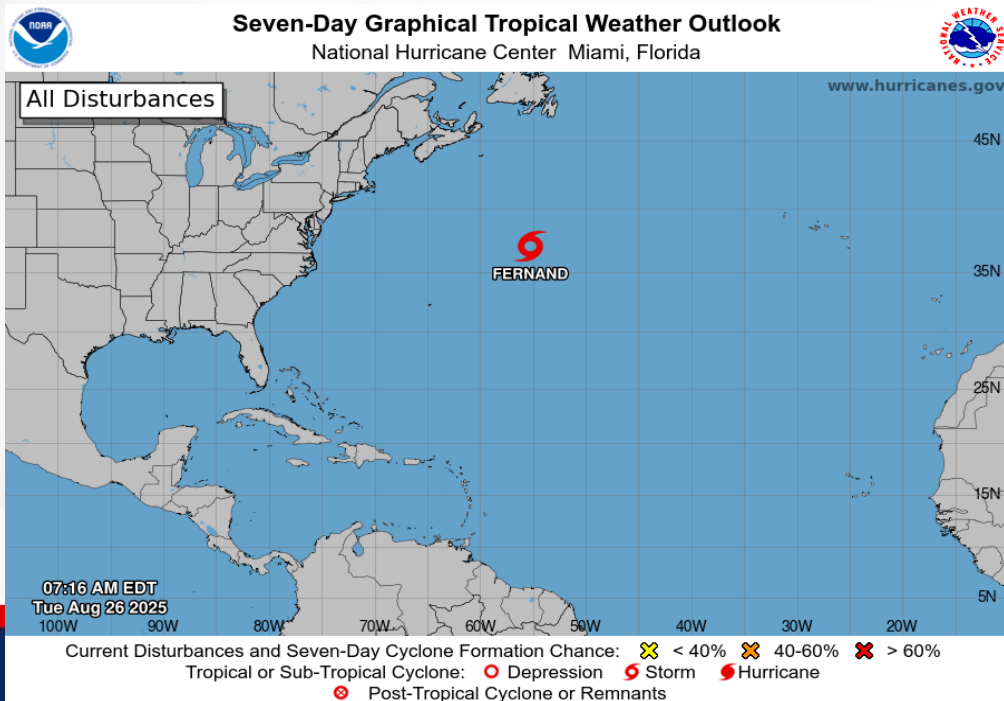




Tropical Weather

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

Tropical Storm Fernand: As of 5:00 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Fernand was located about 635 miles east-northeast of Bermuda and moving northeastward at 14 mph. A slightly faster northeast motion is anticipated over the next couple of days. Maximum sustained winds have decreased to near 45 mph with higher gusts. Continued weakening is likely, and Fernand is likely to become a post-tropical cyclone later tonight or early Wednesday before dissipating on Thursday. *Fernand poses no threat to Florida.*





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Lingering ocean swells along the Florida East Coast will continue to create a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** along all beaches. Panhandle beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents**. West Coast beaches will return to a low risk. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-3' will return for beaches across the state, with the largest waves along First Coast beaches.

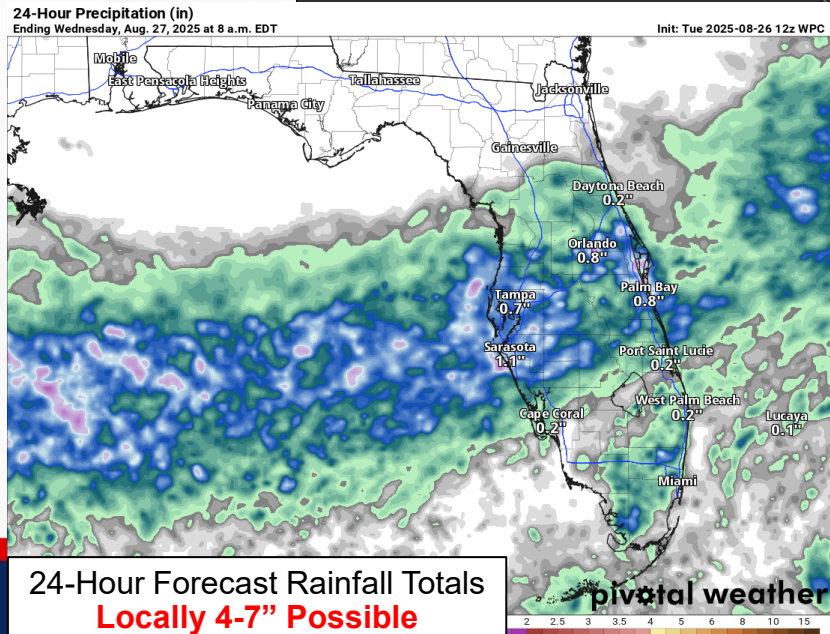
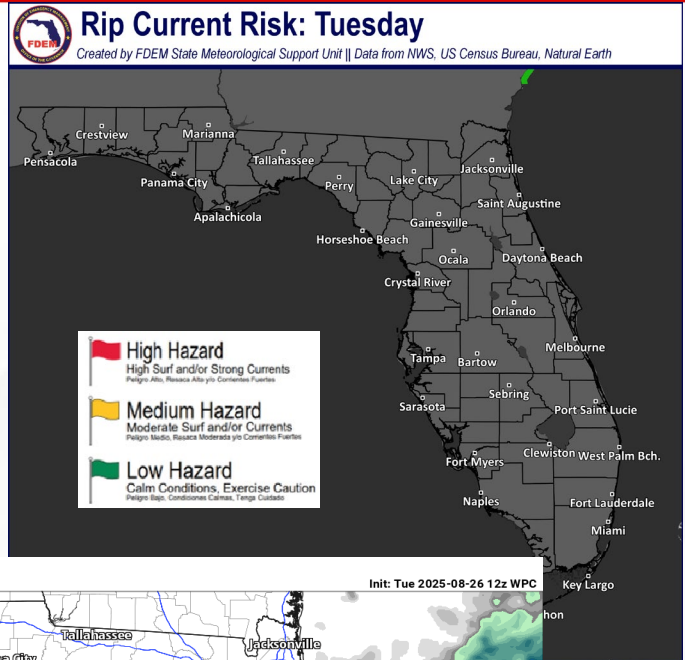
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in one sample collected offshore Sarasota County in Southwest Florida. In Northwest Florida, red tide was observed at background and very low concentrations in Gulf County and Dixie County. It was not observed in any samples along the East Coast.

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not anticipated today. Trapped tides within portions of the St. Johns River may lead to nuisance coastal and saltwater flooding near and during times of high tide.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along coastal West-Central Florida where additional rounds of locally heavy downpours could bring **instances of flash flooding and ponding of water**. Onshore winds will continue to bring showers and thunderstorms eastward across the western Peninsula throughout the day, which could lead to a training effect and allow for multiple rounds of heavy downpours at times. Some areas that saw heavy rainfall this weekend already could see an earlier onset to any possible flash flooding or ponding of water with additional heavy downpours or stationary thunderstorms throughout today. Rainfall totals of 1-2" can be expected, with **locally higher totals** upwards of 2-4" possible, especially along the Florida West Coast.

Riverine Flooding: **River Flood Warnings** have been issued for [Little Manatee at Wimauma at US-301](#) and [St. Johns River at Astor](#) as **minor flooding** is forecast. Recent rounds of repeated heavy rainfall along West-Central Florida will allow for water levels to gradually rise over the next few days for the Little Manatee, and water levels are forecast to reach minor flood stage by Wednesday or Thursday. Elevated tides remain trapped within the St. Johns basin from last week's northeasterly winds and elevated surf, but water levels should begin to slowly flush out later in the week and into the weekend. The [Sopchoppy River at Sopchoppy](#) are holding steady within Action Stage (bank-full) as water levels slowly decline and recede within the basins. Locally heavy rainfall and repeated downpours along the Florida West Coast may allow for several rivers, such as the [Manatee](#), [Alafia](#), [Myakka](#), and [Horse Creek](#), to rise into Action Stage (bank-full) over the next several days. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.30 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.83 feet below normal for this time of year.



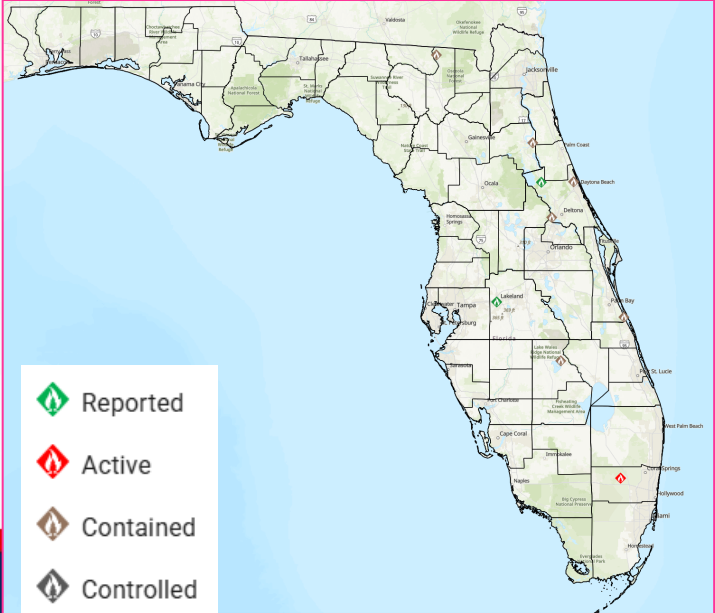
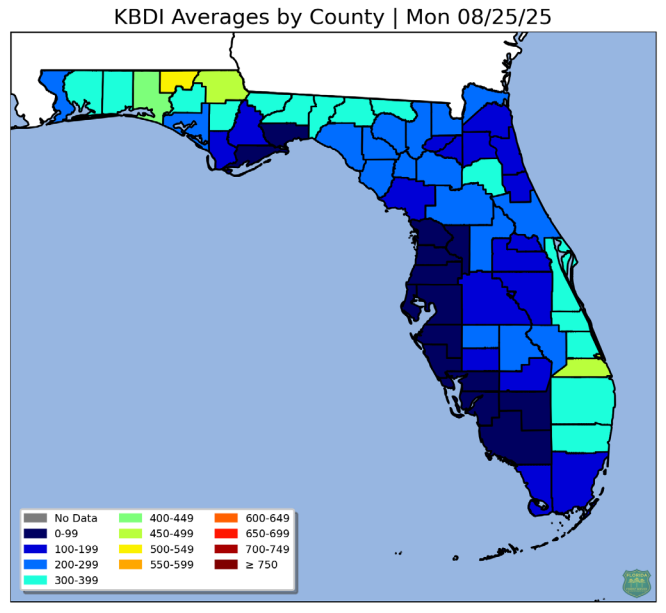
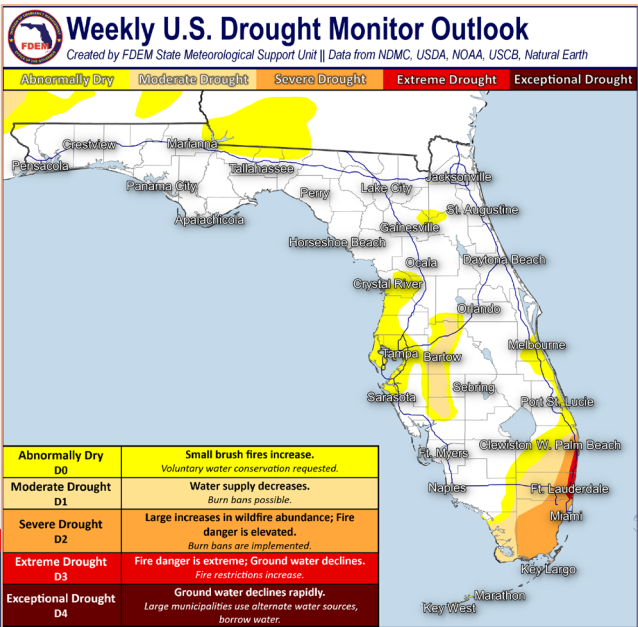


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Drier conditions will return across North Florida in the wake of a passing cold front that remains draped over northern-central Florida. Relative humidity values will fall near critical thresholds (35-40%), but recent rainfall will keep grounds and vegetation saturated. Throughout the Peninsula, scattered showers and thunderstorms can be expected as relative humidity values remain above critical thresholds. *Thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning and erratic winds.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 9 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 48,216 acres.

Drought: Very few changes were made to this week's drought outlook across the state. The **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** has remained across Southeast Florida for coastal Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties. Interior regions of these counties saw a general 1-3" of rain in the past week, with upwards of 5" in some locations. However, this was not enough to alleviate the drought conditions and the monthly rainfall departures have persisted. Coastal areas of Southeast Florida continue under an **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)**, which was expanded along the coastline in Palm Beach and Broward counties. Some improvements were seen in Manatee and Sarasota county along the West Coast with a removal of abnormally dry conditions (emerging drought). Likewise, monthly rainfall deficits have rebounded closer to normal across interior Hillsborough, Pasco, Sumter, and Hernando counties with a removal of abnormally dry conditions. Otherwise, no other changes were made across the state. The **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** has remained over western portions of Broward and Palm Beach county. Over North Florida and the Panhandle, increased rainfall chances will continue to keep drought conditions mitigated through the weekend.

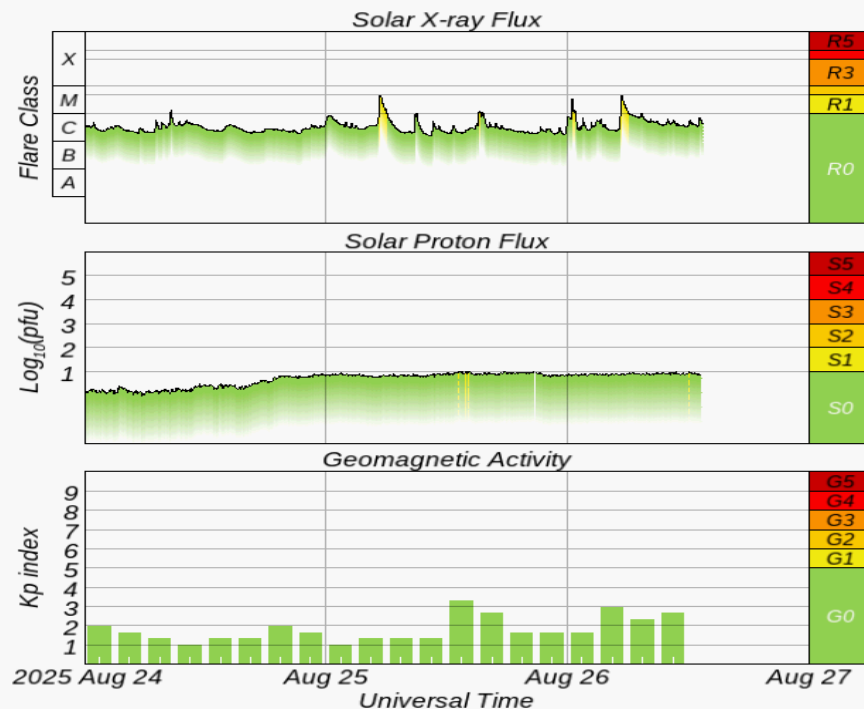
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **224 (-11)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **1** Florida counties (Holmes County) that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Current Sunspots

SDO/AIA 193 2025-08-26 11:47:53 UT



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M4 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

8/26	8/27
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity will increase to moderate levels through the end of the week due to recent solar flare activity from sunspot #4199. Strong (M-class) solar flares can be anticipated and there is a slight chance for an isolated significant (X-class) solar flare or two. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with M-class solar flares, and strong (R3) radio blackouts can be expected to accompany X-class solar flares. Solar winds flowing from a coronal hole will continue to create enhanced solar wind conditions through the end of the week. The Earth's geomagnetic field will continue to reach active periods through midweek before likely returning to unsettled conditions towards the end of the week. 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:	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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