



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, September 16, 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	Austin Johnson	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Kaya Dungey	(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	Hunter Stafford	(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	Walton	EOC Activation Exercise
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	RDSTF Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Leon, Hamilton	RDSTF Meeting / County EOC Partners Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	Training Prep / Quarterly Meeting Prep
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Sumter	Region 5 Quarterly Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Tampa EM Committee Meeting / ESF-8 Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Polk	FL CoCo Tour / Healthcare Coalition Meeting
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Monroe	REP Training

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

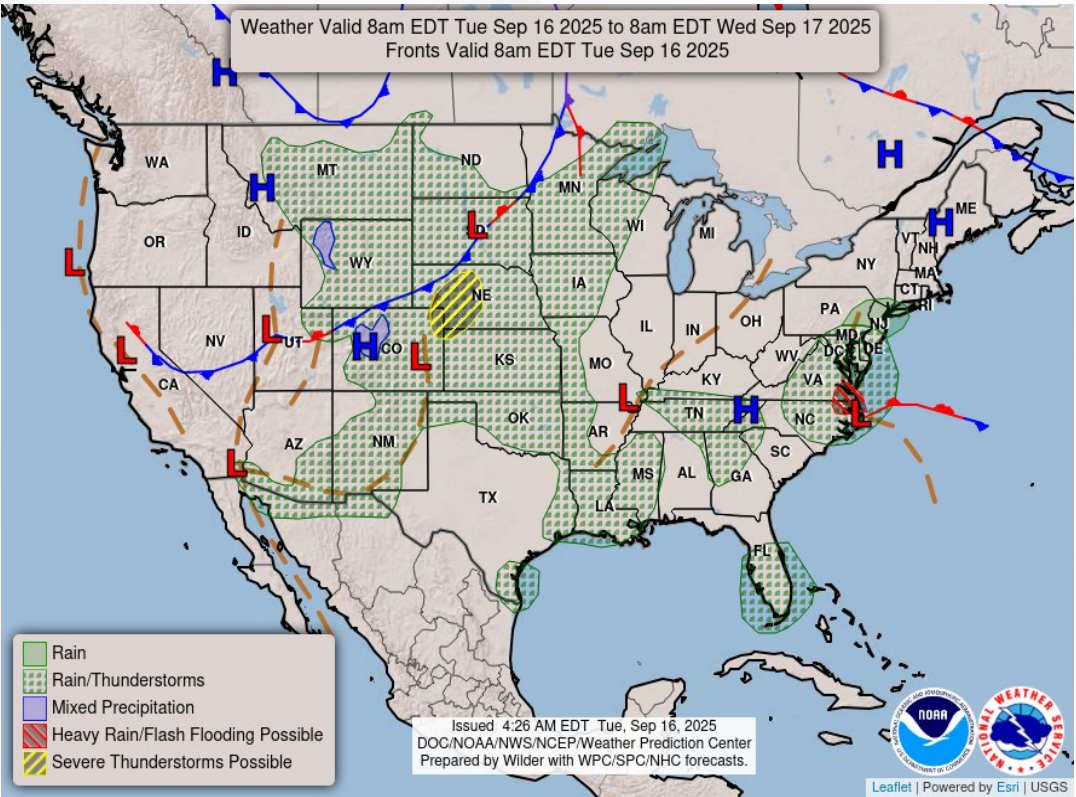
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	County Exercise
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	RDSTF Meeting
Region 3: Amber Durden	Hamilton	LTRG Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Recovery Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Sumter	Regional Quarterly Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Pasco	FROC Training Tour
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	FLCOCO Tour
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Brevard	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	Hendry / Glades	County EM Meetings
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

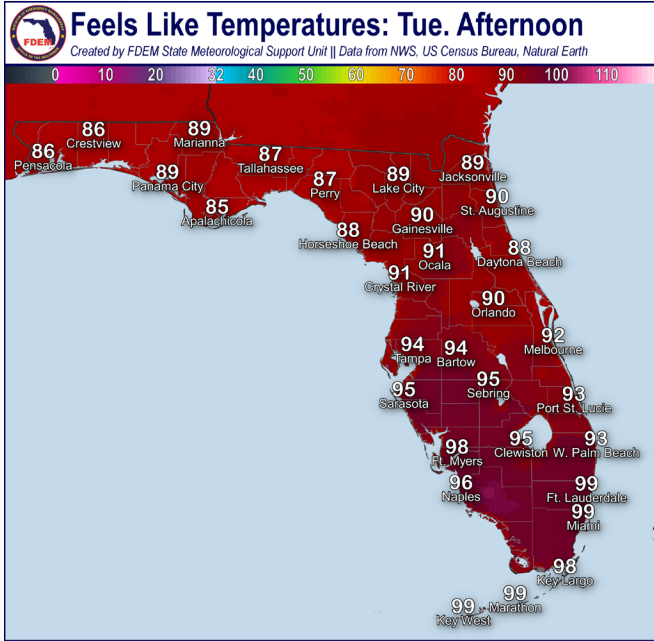
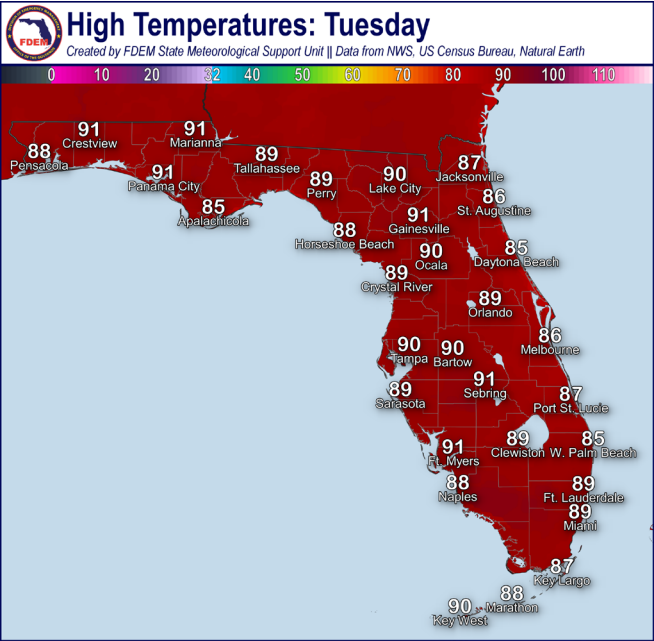


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

T threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning					L	L	L	M	M	M
Tornado										
Damaging Wind					L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding								L	L	L
Excessive Heat						L	L	L	L	L
Wildfire	L	L								
Fog (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.01 ft. (1.54 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	291 (+13) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

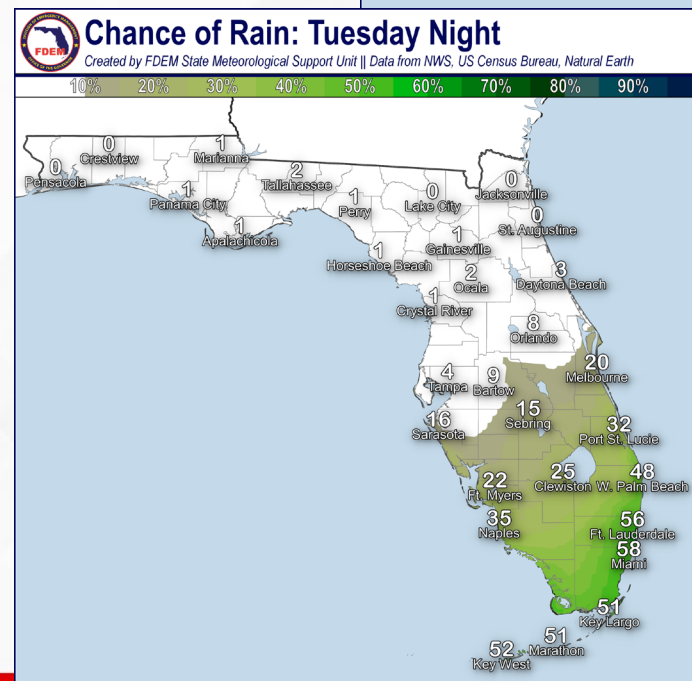
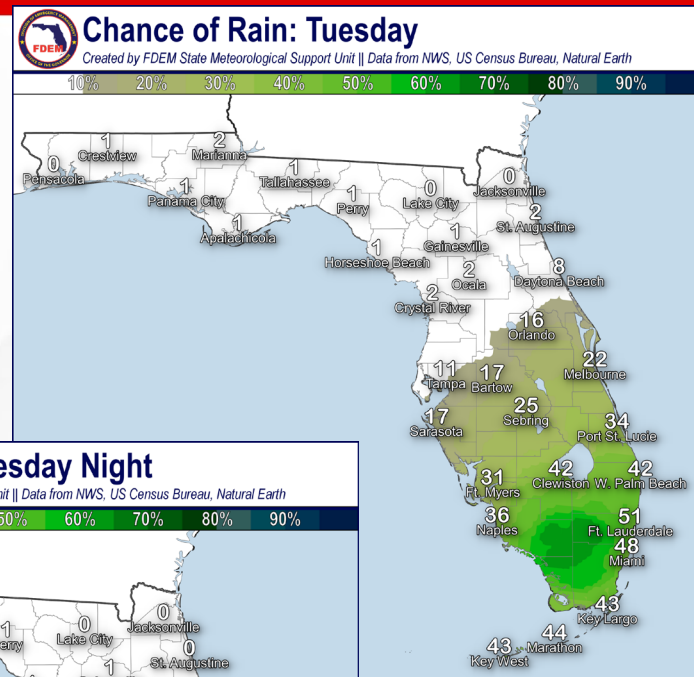
Pleasant and mostly sunny conditions can be expected across North Florida and most of Central Florida as northeasterly winds ushering dry air southward will suppress rain chances. While winds have calmed down some along the northeast coastline, instances of **gusts near 15-25 mph** will remain possible this afternoon. With drying conditions along the Panhandle, and limited rain chances, **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** will be possible this afternoon.

The stalled frontal boundary south of the Florida Peninsula and the Keys will remain there for today; however, moisture will continue to push northward into South Florida today bringing increasing rain chances. Drier air mixed within will keep shower and thunderstorm develop to later in the afternoon and evening hours, with scattered activity developing across South Florida (35-50% chance of rain). There is no organized risk for flash flooding today; however, instances of **locally heavy downpours** may be possible within thunderstorm activity. With moisture pushing northward into Central Florida will allow for isolated showers and possible embedded thunderstorm to return near and south of the I-4 corridor (15-30% chance of rain).

High temperatures will reach the middle 80s to lower 90s across the state this afternoon. Dry conditions will keep heat index values below critical thresholds across North and East-Central Florida. Increasing moisture across West-Central and South Florida will create **heat index values** in the **middle to upper 90s** before thunderstorm activity develops.

Showers and thunderstorms across South Florida will continue throughout the late evening hours before moving offshore into the overnight hours. A break in activity can be expected heading into the overnight hours, but by the early morning hours on Wednesday additional showers and embedded thunderstorms look to approach South Florida and the coastlines (20-45% chance of rain). Elsewhere mostly dry conditions can be expected overnight.

Low temperatures will fall into the lower to middle 60s across North Florida, lower to middle 70s across Central Florida and upper 70s to lower 80s across South Florida.





Tropical Weather

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

Invest 92L (Central Tropical Atlantic): Showers and thunderstorms associated with a broad area of low pressure located about midway between the Windward Islands and the coast of west Africa have become better organized since yesterday. Environmental conditions are conducive for additional development, and a tropical depression or storm is likely to form in the next day or two as the system moves west-northwestward or northwestward at 10-15 mph over the central tropical Atlantic. *This system poses no threat to Florida at this time.*

*Formation chance through 48 hours...**high...90%.**

*Formation chance through 7 days...**high...90%.**

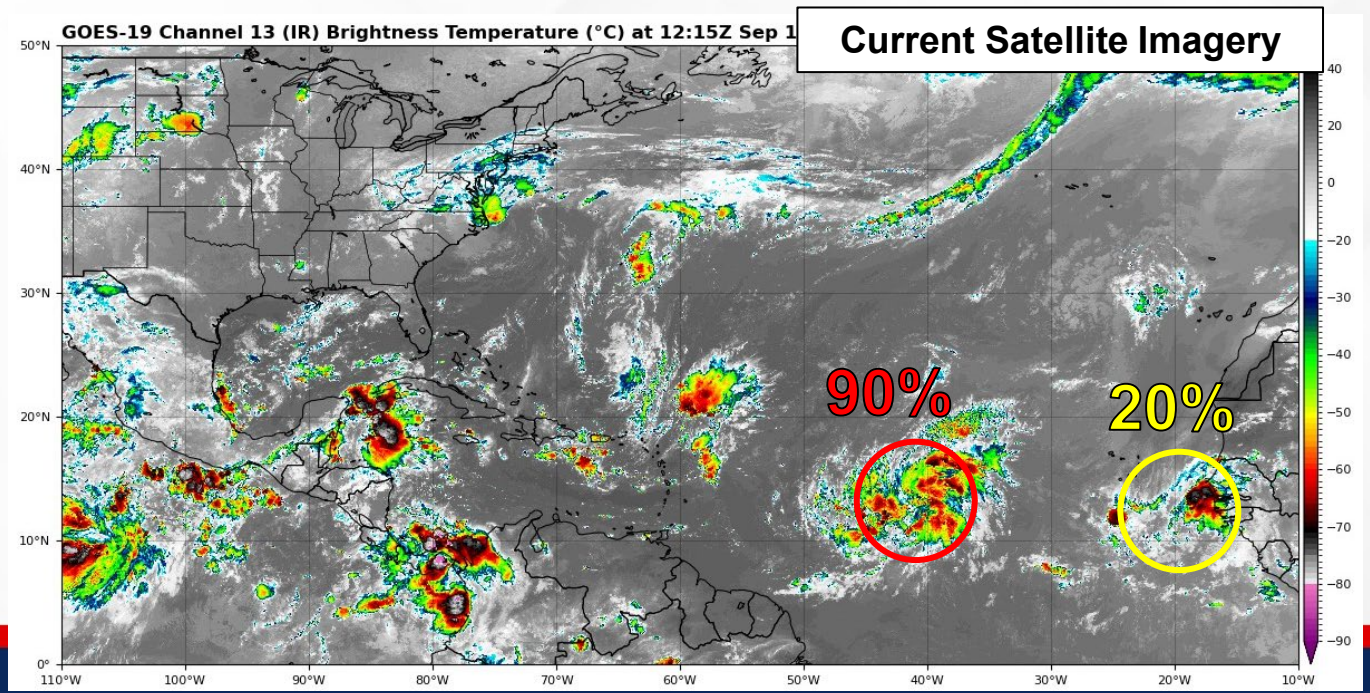
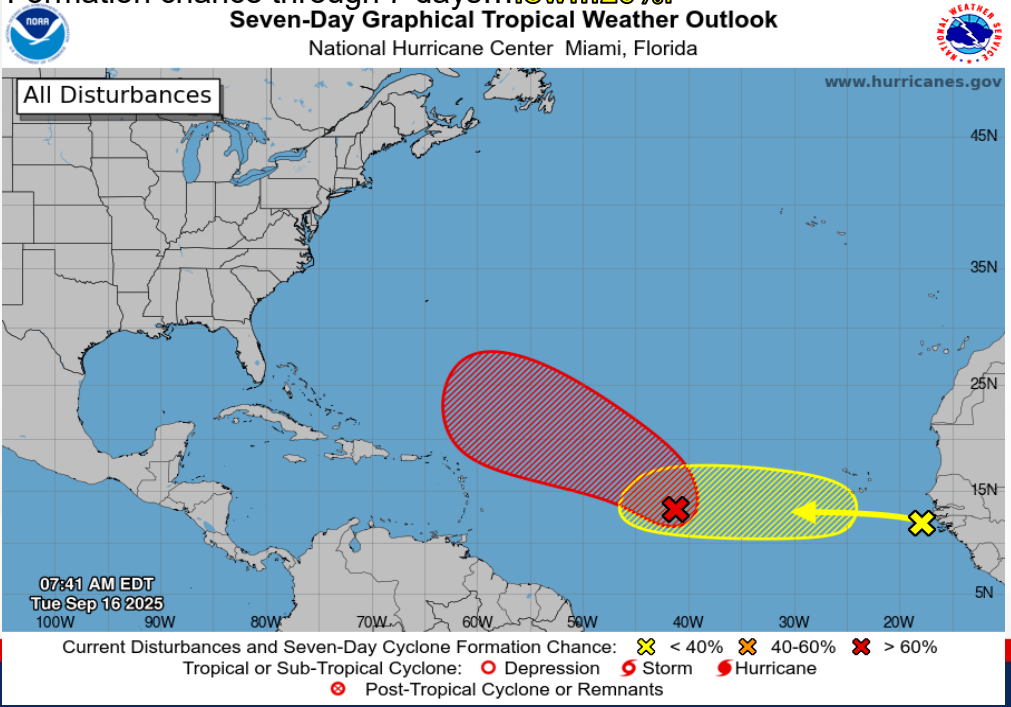
Eastern Tropical Atlantic: A tropical wave emerging off the west coast of Africa is producing an area of disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Some slow development of this system is possible towards the mid to latter part of this week as it moves westward at 15-20 mph, moving from the eastern to central portion of the tropical Atlantic. *This system poses no threat to Florida at this time.*

*Formation chance through 48 hours...**low...near 0%.**

*Formation chance through 7 days...**low...20%.**

Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected for all East Coast beaches today, with several Panhandle beaches seeing a **moderate risk**. A low risk for rip currents can be expected for West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: An ocean swell off the Southeast U.S. coast will create **elevated surf of 3-5'** for the Florida East Coast throughout the day. Panhandle and West Coast beaches will see wave heights of 1'.

Red Tide was observed at background concentrations offshore Bay County in Northwest Florida and offshore Flagler County along the East Coast. It was not observed in any samples collected across Southwest Florida or the East Coast (9/12).

Coastal Flooding: Elevated high tides and elevated surf will continue to produce **minor coastal and tidal flooding** for the Florida Keys near and during times of high tide, and **Coastal Flood Statements** remain in effect. Growing ocean swells and onshore winds will trap elevated tides within tidal portions of the St. Johns River, leading to instances of **minor coastal and tidal flooding** near and during times of high tide. **Coastal Flood Advisories** remain in effect along the upper St. Johns River for water levels reaching **1.5-2' above normally dry ground** during high tide.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Instances of **localized flash flooding and ponding of water** cannot be ruled out within shower and thunderstorm activity today, especially along portions of South Florida. Repeated rounds of heavy rainfall over the last week have left grounds saturated in areas, which could lead to an earlier onset of possible flash flooding within additional rainfall today. Rainfall totals of 1-2" can be expected, with **locally higher totals** upwards of 2-4" possible in heavy downpours from thunderstorm activity.

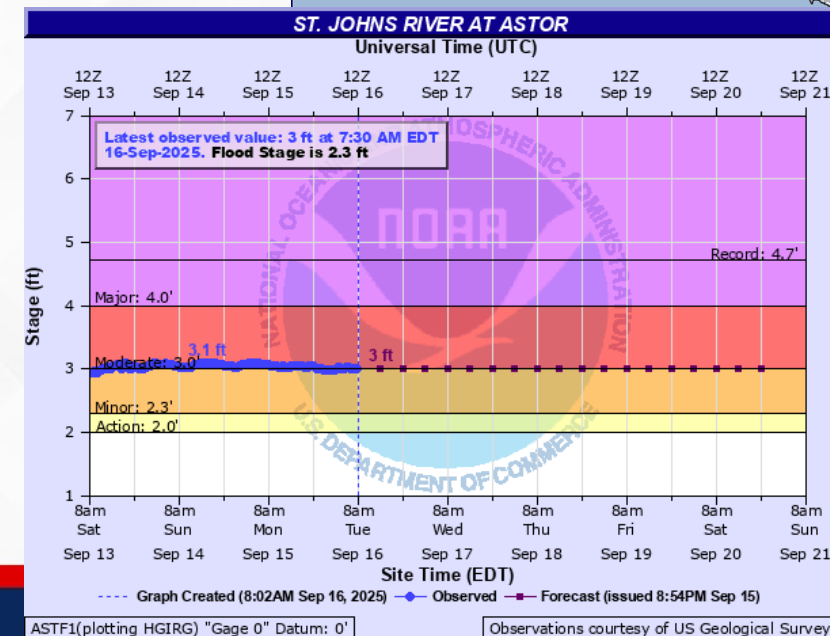
Riverine Flooding: A **River Flood Warning** remains in effect for the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) as water levels have risen into **moderate flood stage**. The upstream gauge at the [St. Johns River near Deland](#) is currently below flood stage but is forecast to rise into Action Stage (bank-full) later this weekend as tides continue to backfill the St. Johns River. The [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#) is also at Action Stage (bank-full) and is expected to remain so through the end of the week with some additional heavy rainfall. There are no other riverine concerns. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.01 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.54 feet below normal for this time of year.



Rip Currents: Wednesday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth



ASTF1(plotting HGIRG) "Gage 0" Datum: 0'

Observations courtesy of US Geological Survey

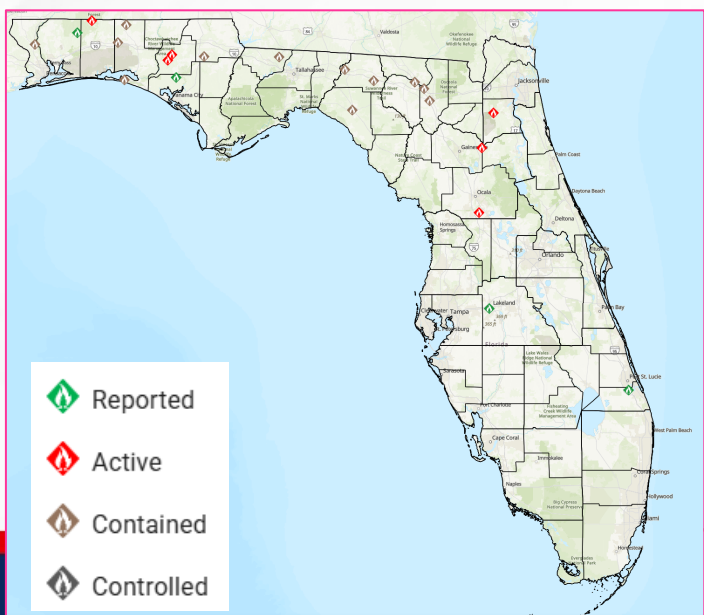
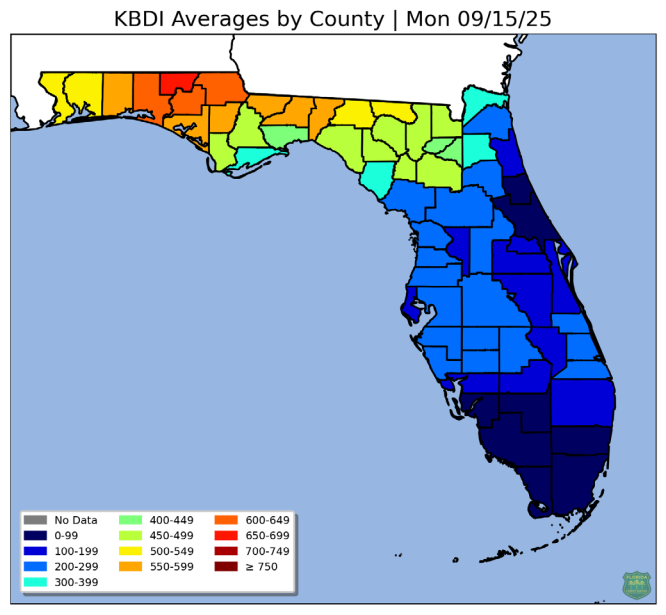
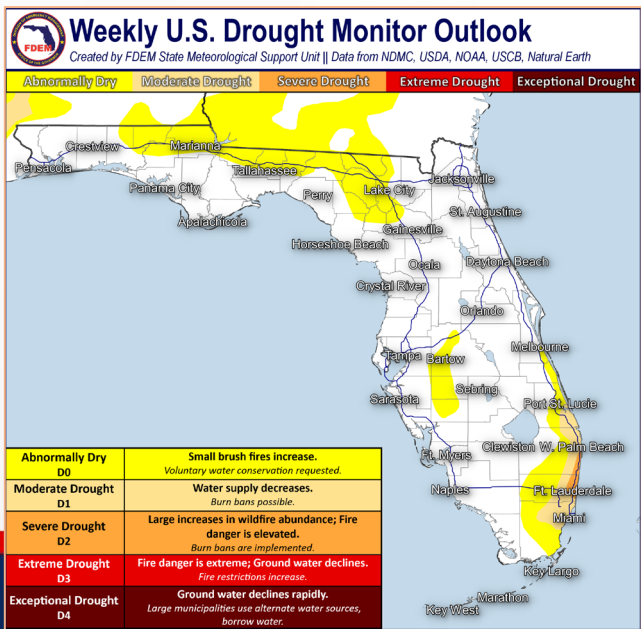


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dry conditions persist across North Florida and much of Central Florida courtesy of high pressure over the eastern U.S. Northeasterly winds will continue today, with **gusts reaching upwards of 15-25 mph** along the Northeast Florida coastline this afternoon. These drier conditions will continue to suppress shower and thunderstorm activity north of Lake Okeechobee; however, a brief shower or two may be possible along the I-4 corridor and South-Central Florida. Relative humidity values should remain above critical thresholds for North and Central Florida, but will dip **near critical thresholds (35-40%)** across the Panhandle leading to a **localized low wildfire risk** given recent lack of rainfall. Moisture gradually increasing across South Florida will bring back scattered showers and thunderstorms later in the daytime hours and into the evening. *Thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning and erratic winds.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 22 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 114 acres.

Drought: Much of the drought across Southeast Florida continues to diminish with recent heavy rainfall and as reflected in the most recent drought outlook. The extreme drought across coastal Palm Beach and Broward counties has been reduced to a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)**, while much of the previous severe drought area was reduced to **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)**. In general, a one category reduction was made in all locations in Southeast Florida where most locations have seen rainfall departures 2" to upwards of 8" above normal in the past two weeks. Portions of coastal Martin County remain in a **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** where most heavy rainfall has missed. While wet conditions persisted across South Florida, very dry conditions were found across the Panhandle. Much of the northern Panhandle saw additional introduction to the abnormally dry (emerging drought) category where rainfall deficits have neared 2-3" over the last two weeks. These dry conditions will likely persist through the next week, leading to a possible categorical increase in the drought outlook next week. Elsewhere across the state, no additional changes were made. Abnormally dry (emerging drought) remains across inland Polk, Hardee, and DeSoto counties.

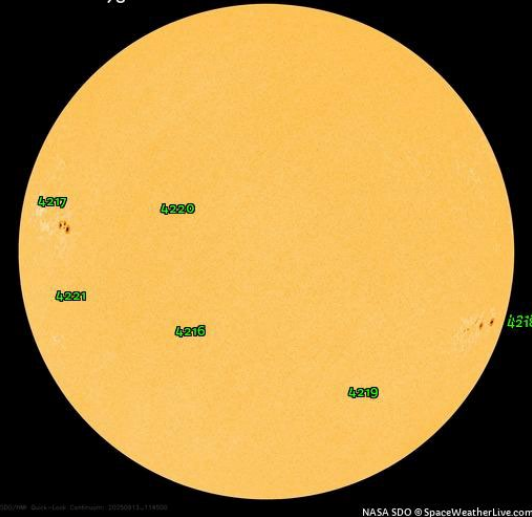
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **291 (+13)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **14** Florida counties in the Florida Panhandle (Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Gadsden, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, and Washington County) that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





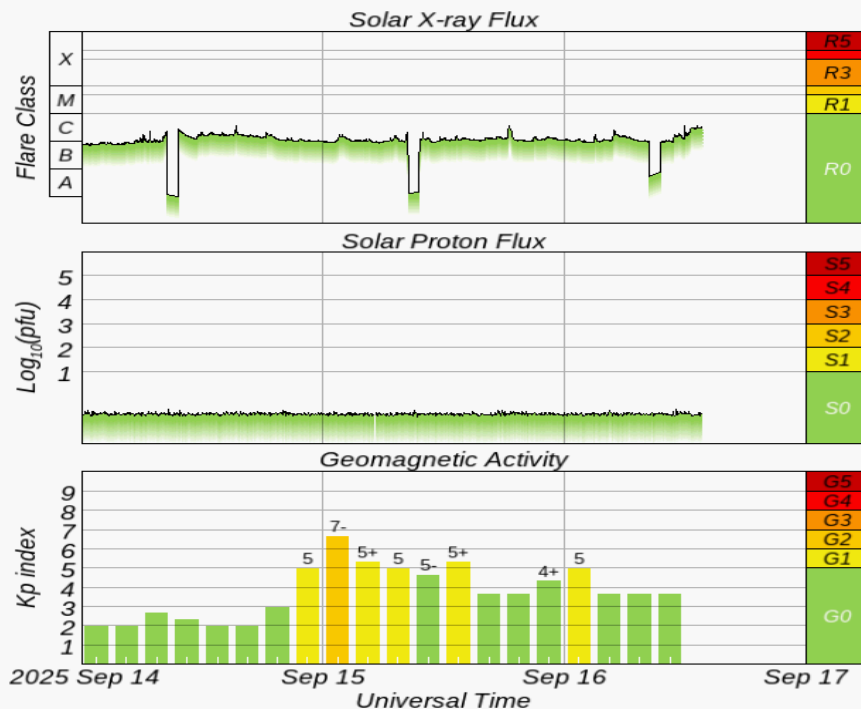
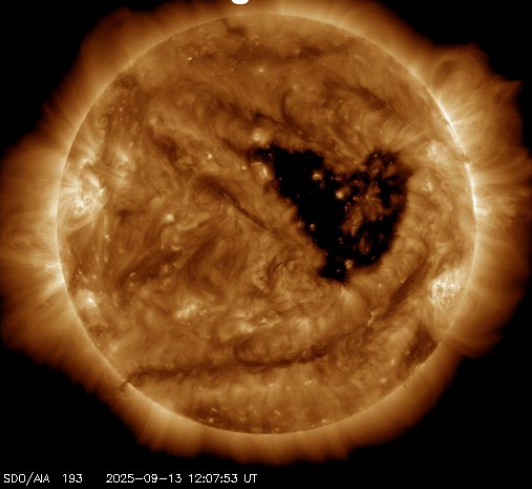
Space Weather

HMI Intensitygram



Current Sunspots

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 30%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
9/16	9/17
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 15%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for isolated strong (M-class) solar flares through midweek as all current sunspots are quiet and stable. Any M-class solar flare that does develop will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds will continue to linger through today leading to an enhanced solar wind environment. Conditions will then likely gradually diminish beginning tomorrow and Thursday. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are expected, with instances of minor to moderate (G1-G2) geomagnetic storming possible through today. Unsettled to active conditions are likely to continue through Thursday as CH HSS conditions wane. The overall space threat to Florida remains very 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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