



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, October 30, 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	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@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	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Evan Newman	(850)-241-5606	Evan.Newman@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	Jackson	Vehicle Maintenance / RC Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Planned Meeting / RC Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia, Alachua	Vehicle Maintenance / UF EM Visit / RC Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	G-2300 Course Instrucion Prep (AM) / Off & Monitoring (PM)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Collier	Em Visit / RC Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Okeechobee	Tabletop Exercise
Region 8: Amber Durden	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Collier	Em Visit / RC Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Collier	EM Visit

Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 7

Region 8 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	Leave	See Coverage
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Gadsden	County EM Meeting
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In State	Return Travel to R4
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Brevard	Flooding Event Recovery Mtg / Radiation Training Course
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Pinellas	Recovery Contractor Mtg / E.F. Meeting
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Okeechobee	County MCI Exercise
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In State	Return Travel to R8
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	Sarasota	Recovery Contractor Meeting
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 1 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2

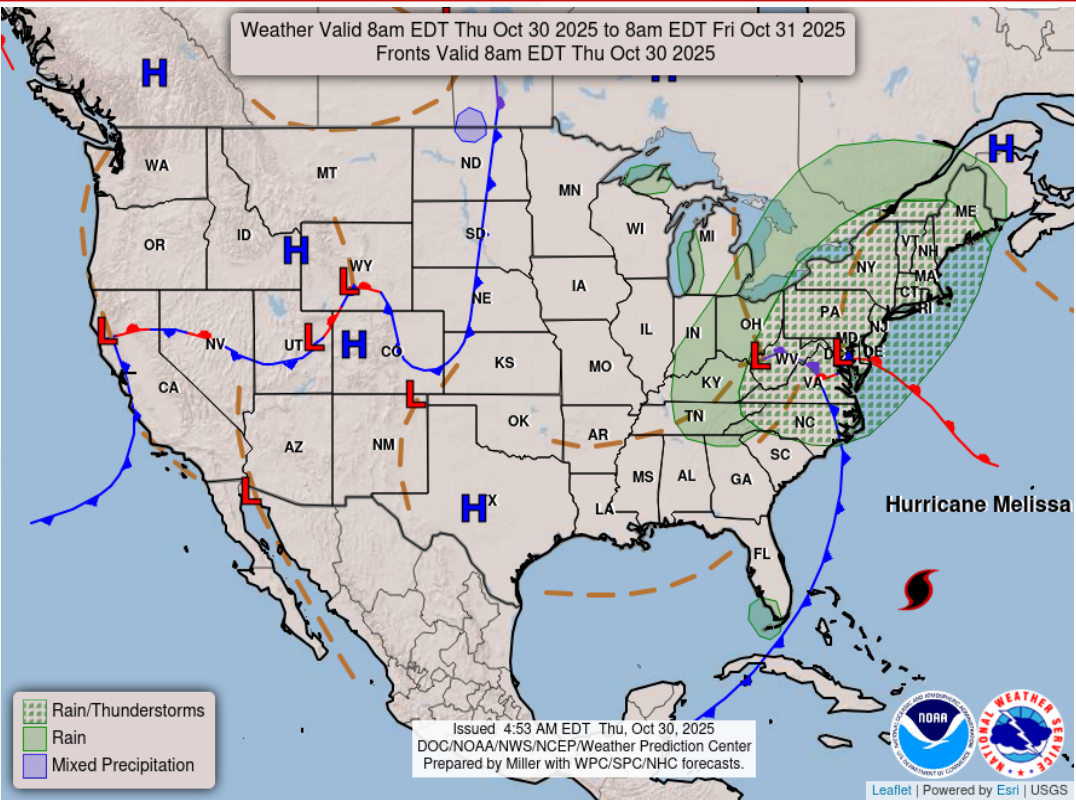
Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 2 & 4

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

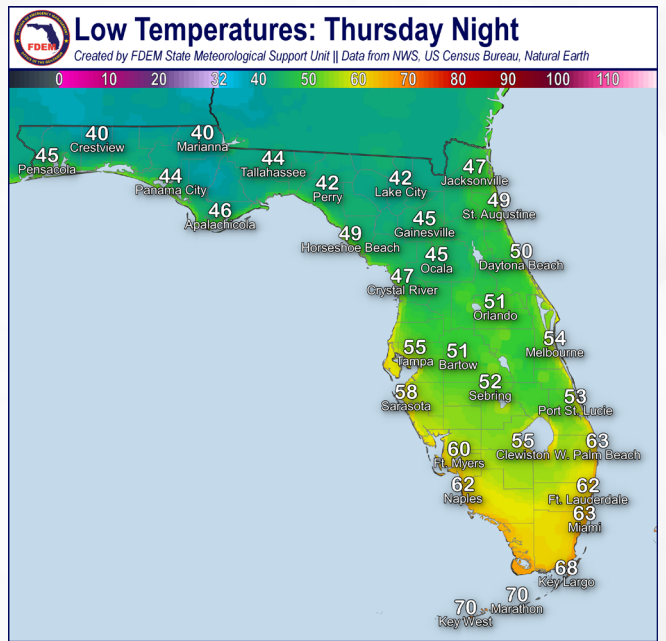
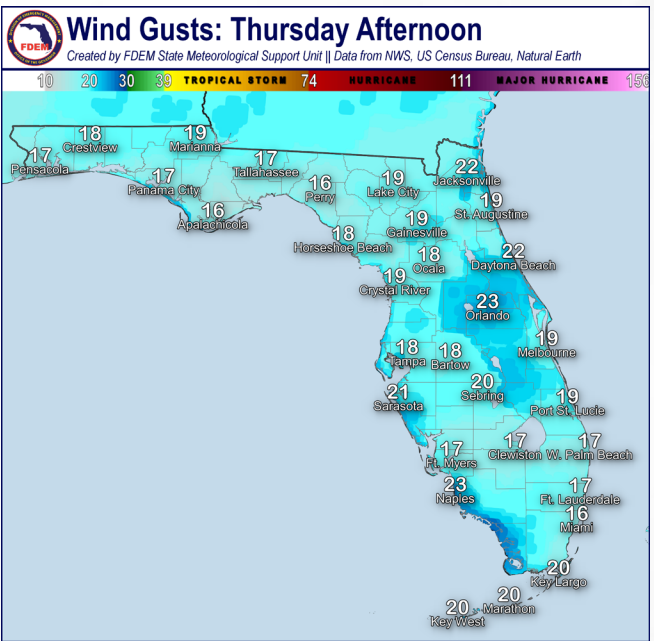


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Wildfire		L	L	L						
Fog (Overnight)			L	L						
Coastal Flooding			L	L						L
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	H	H		H	H	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.94 ft. (1.09 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	388 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



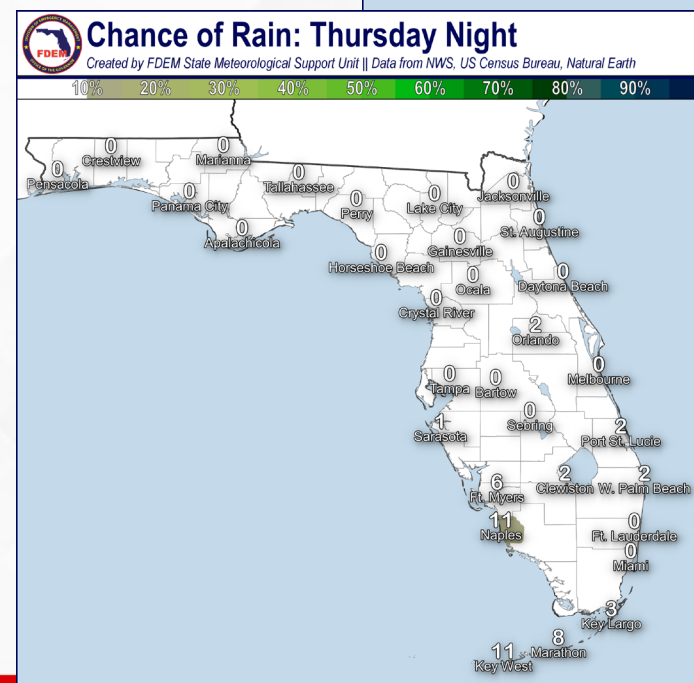
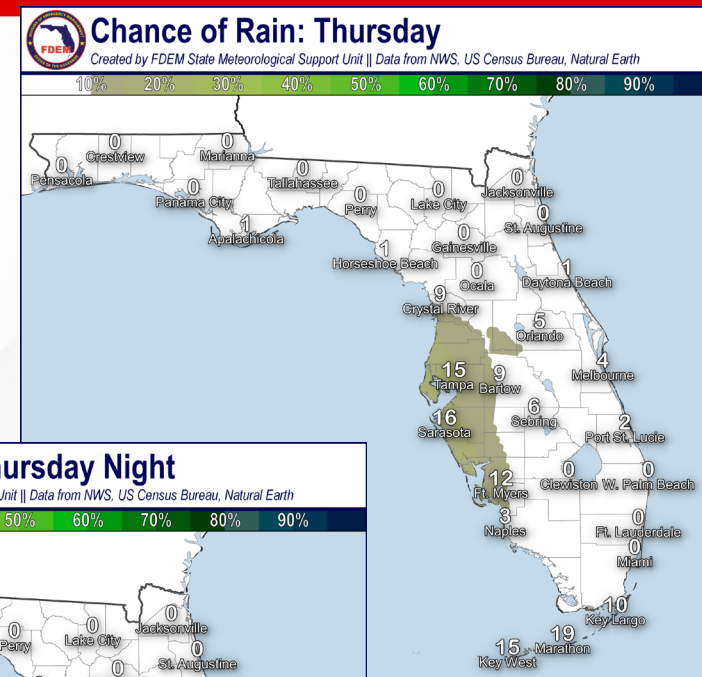


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

In the wake of yesterday's cold frontal passage, dry and cool air will spread across the state today with mostly sunny skies on tap. Breezy northwesterly winds channeled between a potent low-pressure system across the northern Mid-Atlantic, and a building high pressure across the Gulf waters, will bring **wind gusts of 15-25 mph** statewide, with a few gusts **upwards of 30 mph** along coastal areas. Onshore winds may allow enough low-level moisture to move onshore for a few isolated showers across West-Central Florida today, though any activity will be light and brief (15-20% chance of rain). Despite the dry conditions, relative humidities will remain above critical thresholds across the state to keep the overall wildfire threat low. High temperatures will be much cooler today, quite a few degrees below normal for this time of year, in the wake of the frontal passage with middle to upper 60s across North Florida, low to middle 70s for Central Florida, and middle to upper 70s for South Florida.

Dry conditions will continue to prevail statewide tonight as the breezy winds begin to relax after sunset. Low temperatures will dip into the lower to middle 40s for North Florida, with a few locations possibly getting into the upper 30s. Some **patchy fog** may develop in the fog-prone areas of the Suwannee Valley by daybreak. Upper 40s to lower 50s are expected across Central Florida and upper 50s to middle 60s for South Florida. The Florida Keys will remain the warmest overnight with lows only reaching the lower 70s.

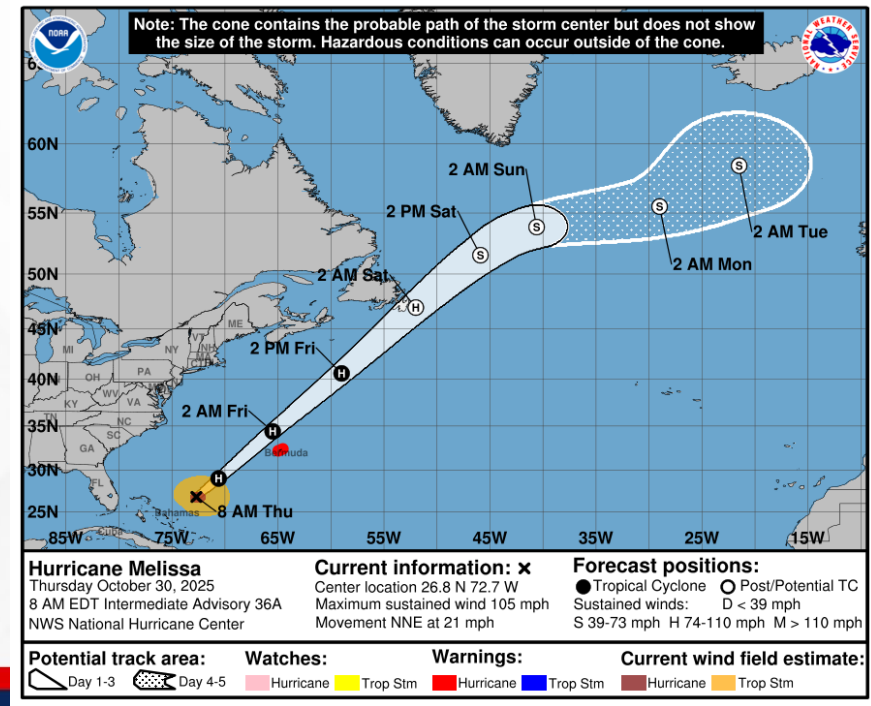
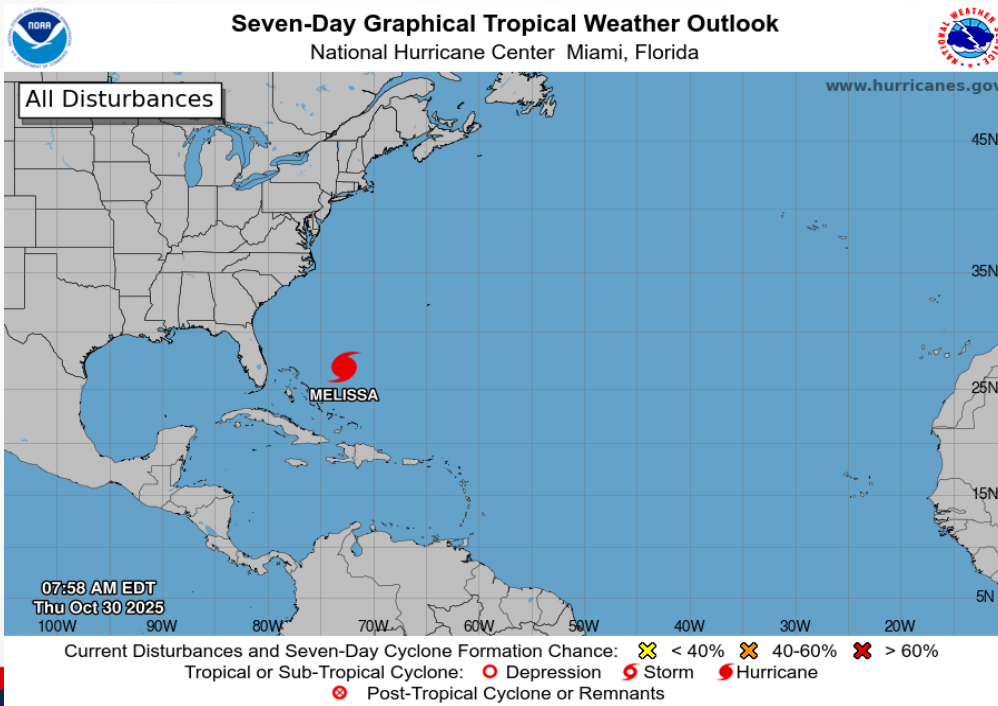




Tropical Weather

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

Hurricane Melissa: As of 8:00 AM EDT, Melissa is located about 215 miles northeast of the Central Bahamas and moving north-northeastward at 21 mph. An accelerated northeastward motion is expected during the next couple of days. On the forecast track, the center of Melissa is expected to pass to the northwest of Bermuda later today and tonight. Maximum sustained winds are near 105 mph with higher gusts, making Melissa a Category 2 hurricane. Slight strengthening is possible today before weakening likely begins on Friday. ***Melissa poses no direct threat to Florida.***





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy northwesterly winds and large ocean swells in the wake of yesterday's frontal passage will bring a **high risk for rip currents** for all Panhandle and West Coast beaches today. Large ocean swells associated with offshore Hurricane Melissa will also bring a **high risk for rip currents** to all East Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Ocean swells will remain elevated across the Gulf waters as post-frontal winds remain breezy in the wake of the cold frontal passage yesterday. Wave heights of **4-6'** will continue for most West Coast and Panhandle beaches, with a few waves **upwards of 7'** possible along coastal Gulf County where a **High Surf Advisory** remains in effect. Large ocean swells from distant Hurricane Melissa will also bring elevated surf of **4-6'** for East Coast beaches.

Red Tide was observed at background concentrations offshore Sarasota County in Southwest Florida. It was also observed at medium to high concentrations from Gulf County in Northwest Florida. Red tide was not observed along the Florida East Coast (10/24).

Coastal Flooding: **Coastal Flood Advisories** remain in effect along tidal portions of the St. Johns River where water levels have risen to **1-1.5' above normally dry ground** near and during times of high tide leading to instances of **minor tidal and coastal flooding**. Some areas may approach **2' above normally dry ground** as the next full moon (11/5) approaches. These conditions can be anticipated to continue through the week ahead of the next full moon cycle. **Coastal Flood Statements** have been issued along the Florida Keys for **minor tidal flooding**.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today.

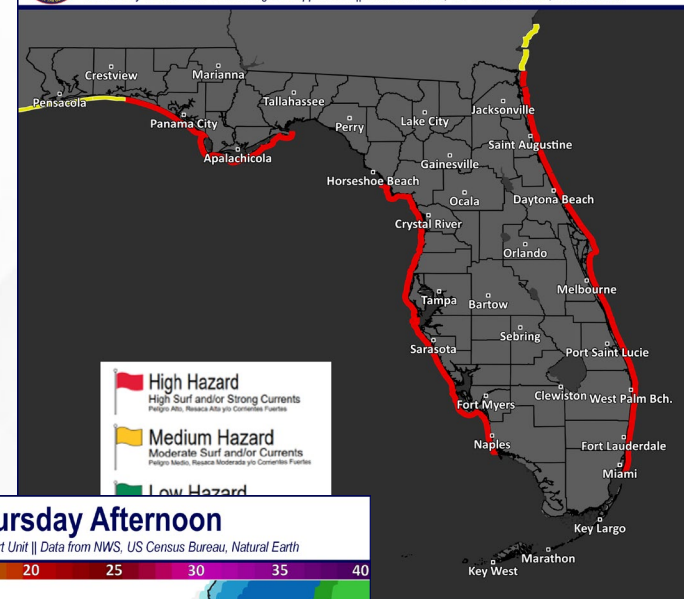
Riverine Flooding: Following the recent heavy rainfall on Sunday, water levels for the [St. Johns River at Astor](#) have risen back into **moderate flood stage**. Additional points along the headwaters of the St. Johns River including [Deland](#), [Sanford](#) and [Lake Harney](#) are all forecast to rise into **minor flood stage** over the next few days. A **River Flood Warning** has been issued for the St. Johns River above Lake Harney as water levels are forecast to reach **minor flood stage** midweek. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.94 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.09 feet below normal for this time of year.



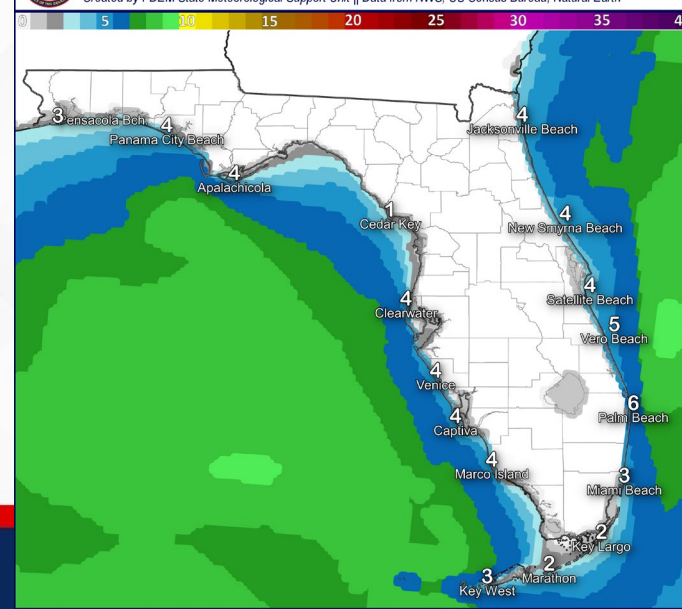
Rip Current Risk: Thursday

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



Wave Heights: Thursday Afternoon

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



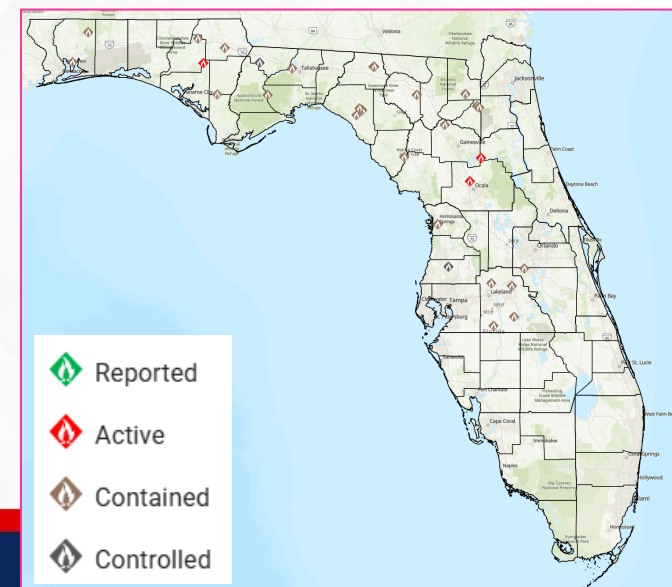
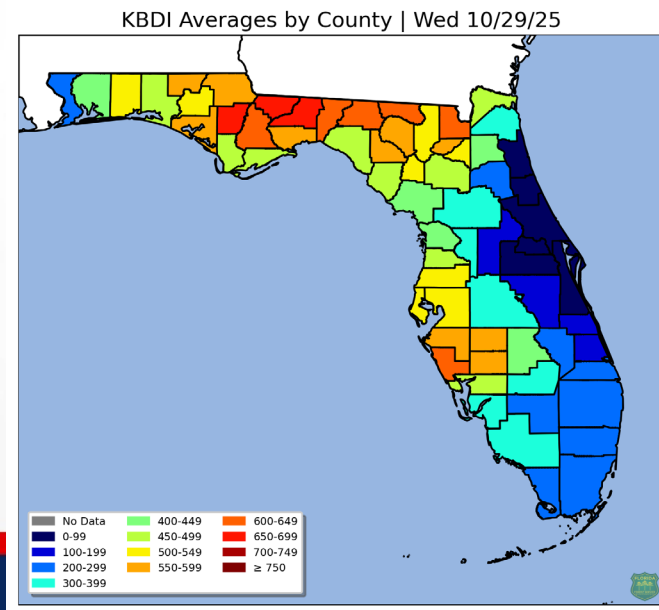
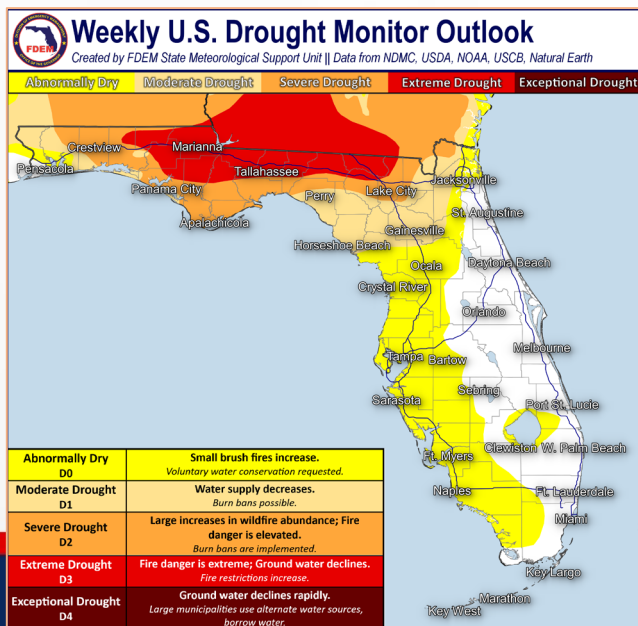


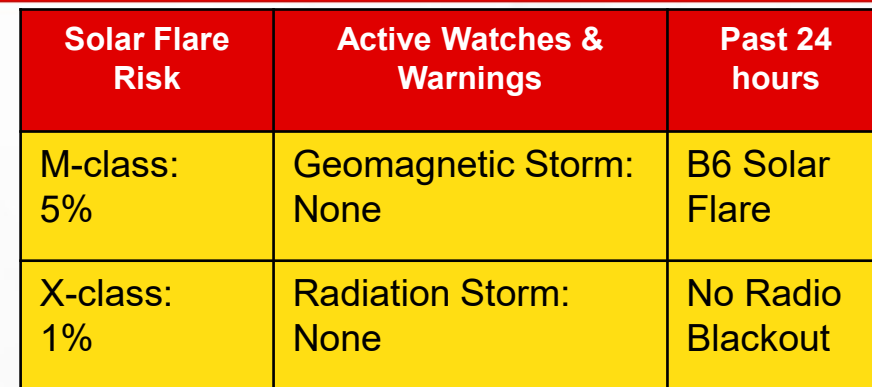
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: In the wake of the frontal passage yesterday, dry and breezy winds will overspread the Sunshine state today. Breezy winds with gusts of **15-25 mph** are expected across the state, with a few gusts **upwards of 30 mph**. However, despite the dry conditions statewide, relative humidities will remain above critical thresholds (45-55% RH values). As such, overall wildfire conditions will remain very low across the state. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 15 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 68 acres.

Drought (10/30): Widespread rainfall was unfortunately not found across the state in the past week or so, though some beneficial rainfall did occur in parts of the state. However, this rainfall generally fell in areas that were already saturated and above normal in rainfall for the month. Across South Florida, abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions were expanded further inland across Collier, Hendry, Glades, and Highlands counties and remains in place for the rest of the Florida West Coast. Monthly rainfall departures remain 2-3" below normal for much of West Central Florida and drought conditions are likely to slowly worsen heading into November. A different story is found along the Florida East Coast where persistent onshore winds for much of the month of October have brought above normal rainfall for the month. As such, drought conditions remain in check along the I-95 corridor. Further north, 30-day rainfall departures also remain 2-4" below normal across the I-10 corridor which has resulted in persistence of the worsening drought conditions. **Severe (level 2 of 4)** to **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place across much of the Panhandle where a lack of rainfall and very low soil moisture prevails. The frontal passages over the past week were unable to bring enough heavy rainfall to make any real dent in the dry conditions. In fact, some expansion south and eastward of the **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** into Hamilton, Liberty, Calhoun, Washington, and Bay counties was added on this week's drought monitor outlook. No significant changes were made elsewhere across the Panhandle with **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** conditions persisting for interior Northeast Florida and the Suwannee Valley.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **388 (+5)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **28** Florida counties (Baker, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Columbia, DeSoto, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hardee, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee, Union, Wakulla, and Washington) that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

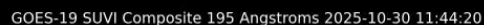




48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

10/30	10/31
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Space Weather: Solar activity will remain very low through the end of the work week as moderate (C-class) solar flares will be possible, but all current sunspots remain stable. A slight chance for strong (M-class) flares returns on Saturday as active sunspots rotate into view. Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds will continue to flow towards the Earth leading to enhanced solar wind conditions. The Earth's geomagnetic field will see active conditions early on Thursday, with minor (G1) geomagnetic storming conditions forecast. Geomagnetic conditions will begin to wane back to unsettled or active levels on Friday and Saturday. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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