





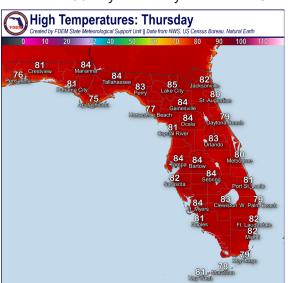
...Sensitive to Elevated Wildfire Conditions and Dense Fog Continue as Main Weather Headlines This Week...Slight Chance of Showers and an Isolated Thunderstorm Return to North Florida Late This Week and Weekend...No Appreciable Rainfall Forecast, Degradation and Expansion of Drought Expected on This Week's Update...

Tuesday-Thursday:

Another dry and sunny day can be expected across the Sunshine State. Onshore winds along the Atlantic Coast may prompt an isolated shower or two to develop along the Treasure Coast and Florida Keys this afternoon (10-15% chance of rain); however, any shower activity that approaches the coastline will be light and brief in nature. Afternoon high temperatures will rise into the upper 70s to lower 80s statewide, with a few inland West-Central Florida locations possibly reaching the middle 80s.

Clear skies and calm conditions can be expected tonight, allowing for another round of **fog and low clouds** early Wednesday morning across North and Central Florida; the greatest chance for areas of **locally dense fog** will reside along portions of the I-10 corridor, the Suwannee River Valley, and into the central Florida Peninsula. Low temperatures tonight will fall into the 50s across North Florida, with some inland locations potentially reaching the **middle to upper 40s**. Elsewhere, lows in the 50s and 60s can be expected across Central Florida and the 70s throughout South Florida and the Florida Keys.

A dominant area of high pressure will maintain quite dormant weather across Florida both Wednesday and Thursday, with rainfall chances slipping below 5% statewide. Ample sunshine will allow for temperatures to rise into the upper 70s and lower 80s, with more interior Florida communities seeing the middle 80s by Thursday afternoon. Comparable to tonight, the light coastal breeze will usher just



enough low-level moisture to prompt the development of fog and low clouds across North and Central Florida Wednesday night and Thursday night. Pockets of locally dense fog can certainly be possible, especially for inland North Florida and the Suwannee River Valley Wednesday night into Thursday and interior West Florida and the central Florida Peninsula Thursday night into Friday. Dense Fog Advisories will be issued as conditions warrant. Current forecast guidance for the western Florida Panhandle shows decent probabilities of dense fog along the I-10 corridor Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Low temperatures will reach the lower to middle 50s across the eastern Florida Panhandle, Big Bend, and Suwannee River Valley, the middle 50s to lower 60s along the Florida Panhandle and Peninsula, and the lower 70s along coastal Southeast Florida and the Keys.

Friday-Saturday:

Confidence remains low in characterizing late-week conditions as a "pattern change," as the approaching frontal system is expected to bring only minimal impacts as it moves eastward this weekend and into early next week. The most noticeable modification to the current pattern will be a gradual increase in humidity and slightly warmer overnight lows as pre-frontal southerly flow strengthens. This moisture return may support a slight chance of showers and isolated thunderstorms on Friday (20-30% chance). At this time, ingredients supportive of severe weather remain displaced well to the north, focused across the Mid-South into the Tennessee and Ohio Valleys.

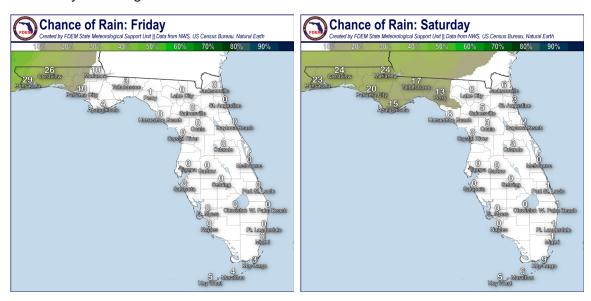
Rain chances along and ahead of the front will shift east toward the Apalachicola River Basin Friday night into Saturday morning, bringing a few showers and possibly a thunderstorm into the eastern Florida Panhandle Saturday afternoon (15-25% chance). Model guidance this afternoon has trended





downward regarding expected rainfall coverage and totals, offering little to no relief for ongoing expansive drought conditions across North Florida.

Afternoon highs will reach the upper 70s to middle 80s statewide both Friday and Saturday. Overnight lows Friday night will be unseasonably warm, ranging from the middle 50s to lower 60s across North and Central Florida. Post-frontal, drier air returns quickly Saturday night, with lows dropping back into the 50s. Along the Southeast Florida coast and the Florida Keys, lows will remain in the upper 60s to low 70s throughout the period. Persistent fog formation should lessen with the approach of the front; however, **patchy fog or low clouds** may still develop over portions of the western Florida Peninsula where winds stay on the lighter side.



Tropical Weather: Tropical development is <u>not expected</u> during the next 7 days in the Atlantic basin. Please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) <u>website</u> for the latest on the tropics.

Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk of flash flooding across Florida during the next 5 days. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) website.

Riverine levels at the headwaters of the St. Johns, including <u>Lake Harney</u> and <u>Sanford</u>, remain at Action Stage (*bank-full*). Water levels will continue to slowly decline as the river continues to discharge. There are no other riverine concerns statewide. For more information, visit the <u>River Forecast Center</u>. Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.76 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.18 feet <u>below</u> normal for this time of year.

Drought & Fire Weather:

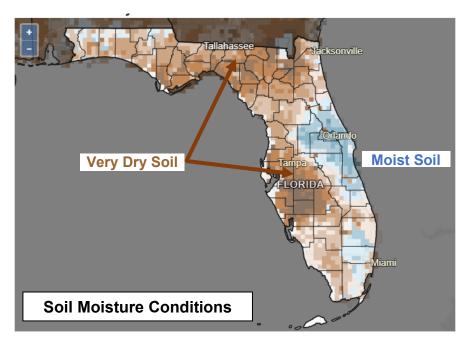
Drought conditions continue to worsen across North and West Florida given the lack of significant rainfall over the last couple of months. Extreme drought conditions (level 3 of 4) have extended beyond the I-10 corridor throughout the eastern Florida Panhandle and interior Big Bend, with severe drought conditions (level 2 of 4) reaching into the Suwanee River Valley. With last week's Drought Monitor update, moderate drought conditions (level 1 of 4) now reside along the Nature Coast and eastward into Polk, Hardee, and DeSoto Counties. Abnormally Dry, or emerging drought conditions, have returned to Southwest Florida and the Lake Okeechobee region. Rainfall deficits continue to climb statewide and are increasing in concern for North Florida.

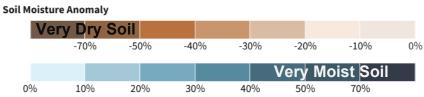
Thursday's update will have some significant degradations of the ongoing drought, especially with no appreciable rainfall forecast for the foreseeable future. We will work our way from south to north, first beginning with the lower Florida Peninsula. An inland expansion of moderate drought (level 1 of





4) can be expected, especially with Lake Okeechobee (13.76') officially sitting about halfway between its median level and water shortage criteria. Extensions of existing Abnormally Dry (emerging drought) and ongoing drought conditions can be expected throughout West Florida. Moving north where additional drought expansion degradation can be expected for North Florida, particularly Gadsden, northern Leon, northern Jefferson. and northwestern Madison Counties; an introduction of a exceptional drought (level 4 of 4) cannot be ruled out on this week's update as above normal temperatures and minimal rainfall persists. Streamflows across North Florida are below to much below normal for this time of





year. This includes mainstem rivers, such as the Black Creek, Choctawhatchee, Apalachicola, Ochlockonee, Withlacoochee, St. Mary's, Santa Fe, and Suwannee.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is 477 on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are 39 Florida counties (Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafeyette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Nassau, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington) that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger). Countyenacted Burn Bans are in effect for the following counties: Duval*, Hardee, Hillsborough*, Manatee, Orange*, Pinellas*, and Sarasota.*Yard debris burn is always prohibited.

A dry air mass will continue to hold influence across the Sunshine State, with relative humidity values reaching 30-40% across North Florida and the interior Florida Peninsula. Some interior North Florida locations may even approach critical relative humidity thresholds in the upper 20% range. Sensitive wildfire conditions can be expected across North and Central Florida during the forecast period, with locally elevated wildfire concerns expected for areas experiencing long-term significant drought. While winds through the forecast period will generally remain light statewide, extremely dry soils/vegetation can lead to easier wildfire ignitions. *Please use extreme caution when dealing with any activities involving flame, or with materials that can cause sparks*. Areas of fog and low clouds during the morning hours this week may further reduce visibilities near any ongoing wildfires or active burns. Friday and Saturday, a wind shift ahead of an approaching frontal system may allow for some recovery in terms of relative humidity; however, locally sensitive wildfire conditions will likely linger along the vulnerable I-10 corridor into the weekend as southerly to southwesterly winds build to 10-15 mph ahead of a frontal system. According to the Florida Forest Service, there are currently 52 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 445 acres.





Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

A moderate risk of rip currents will largely continue for Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches throughout the forecast period, with a localized high risk of rip currents along Palm Beach County beaches for the next day or so. Later this week, winds will shift to the south and southwest, ahead and along our next frontal system, yielding a moderate to high risk of rip currents along Florida Panhandle beaches Friday and Saturday. Offshore flow will allow for a low to moderate risk of rip currents to reside along the Florida East Coast. The Florida West Coast can expect low rip current conditions during the next 5 days. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Generally calm marine conditions can be expected throughout the week as wave heights remain at 1-3' for statewide beaches. Southerly flow later in the forecast period may allow for wave heights in the surf zone to reach 3' (very isolated 4') at times along the Florida Panhandle and Atlantic-facing beaches of the Florida Keys. There is no risk of coastal flooding statewide despite the New Moon occurring tonight. Astronomical tides are forecast to remain below flood stage, with light winds and a calm sea state helping to limit elevated water levels at times of high tide.

The latest <u>Blue-Green Algae</u> report shows algal bloom conditions were observed within Lake Okeechobee at low to <u>moderate bloom potential</u> along the southeastern shoreline of the lake. <u>Moderate bloom potential</u> has also been observed along portions of the St. Johns River downstream to Doctor's Lake. The Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries have no reported any algal bloom conditions.

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!

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







Florida NCAA Division I Football Forecast *All times are in ET*



FSU vs. NC State	Friday 8:00 PM EST	Raleigh, NC
Mostly cloudy skies with a chance for showers near and after kickoff.		
Kickoff Temperature: 67°	Halftime Temperature: 65°	Final Whistle Temperature: 63°

#15 Miami vs. Virginia Tech	Saturday 12:00 PM EST	Blacksburg, VA	
Increasing chances for isolated to widely scattered showers after kickoff.			
Kickoff Temperature: 64°	Halftime Temperature: 65°	Final Whistle Temperature: 65°	

	#24 USF vs. UAB	Saturday 3:00 PM EST	<u>Birmingham, AL</u>	
ſ	Mixture of sunshine and cloud cover with wind gusts upwards of 15 mph.			
	Kickoff Temperature: 70°	<u>Halftime Temperature: 69°</u>	Final Whistle Temperature: 67°	

UConn vs. FAU	Saturday 3:00 PM EST	Boca Raton, FL
Mostly clear skies with wind gusts upwards of 15 mph.		
Kickoff Temperature: 81°	Halftime Temperature: 79°	Final Whistle Temperature: 77°

FAMU vs. B-CU	Saturday 3:30 PM EST	Daytona Beach, FL
Mostly clear skies with wind gusts upwards of 15 mph.		
Kickoff Temperature: 79°	Halftime Temperature: 76°	Final Whistle Temperature: 72°

Jax St. vs. FIU	Saturday 3:30 PM EST	Miami, FL
	Mostly clear skies with light winds.	
Kickoff Temperature: 79°	Halftime Temperature: 78°	Final Whistle Temperature: 77°

Oklahoma St. vs. UCF	Saturday 4:00 PM EST	Orlando, FL
	Mostly clear skies with light winds.	
Kickoff Temperature: 81°	Halftime Temperature: 76°	Final Whistle Temperature: 71°

#23 Tennessee vs. UF	Saturday 7:30 PM EST	Gainesville, FL
	Mostly clear skies with passing clouds.	
Kickoff Temperature: 59°	Halftime Temperature: 56°	Final Whistle Temperature: 54°



