

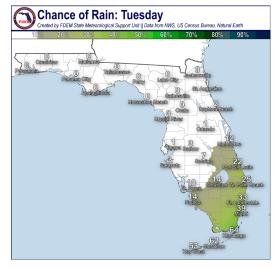




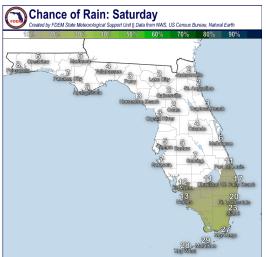
...Dry and Cool Start to the Forecasting Period With Lingering Showers Over South Florida and the Keys...Mostly Dry and Sunny Conditions Return Statewide Midweek...Frost Possibly Early Wednesday Morning North of the I-10 Corridor...Weak and Dry Cold Front to Push Through the State Wednesday and Thursday Helping to Reinforce Dry Conditions...Locally Sensitive Wildfire Conditions May Return to North Florida As Dry Conditions Return Over Longer Term Drought Conditions...Showers Possibly to Return Across South Florida on Saturday, But Theres Uncertainty...Recent Rainfall to Help Streamflow and Drought Conditions Across the Panhandle and West-Central Florida...

Tuesday - Saturday:

After a wet and unsettled weather pattern the last several days, dry and calm conditions will return to the Sunshine State throughout this week. The recent cold front from Monday remains draped just south of the Peninsula and near the Keys on Tuesday, which will lead to isolated to scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms during the afternoon and evening hours (20-40% chance of rain). While the heaviest rainfall should remain offshore; however, any thunderstorm that develops further inland or heavier rainfall moves onshore could bring some locally heavy rainfall that leads to **nuisance ponding of water** for urban areas. Drier conditions move into South Florida and the Keys overnight Tuesday and through Wednesday as the previous cold front shifts further south and away from the state, leading to a near-zero chance of rain nearly statewide on Wednesday except for a few brief showers possible over the Keys (15-



25% chance of rain). Cool and dry conditions will persist throughout the state on Wednesday before another reinforcing dry and cold front pushes through North Florida that night. This next cold front will remain dry as it pushes through North Florida Wednesday night, then through the rest of the state on Thursday, but it may try and spark a few brief sprinkles where there is more available moisture locally along the immediate frontal boundary. Drier air throughout the atmosphere should help to limit shower activity from developing or even reaching the ground if any manage to develop. Once this cold front pushes through, high pressure will shift over the state on Friday and remain over the state keeping conditions dry throughout the day. A chance for isolated showers may return later in the day on Saturday across South Florida and the Keys where moisture may begin to increase with a possible upper-level



disturbance developing over the Gulf waters, but confidence remains low at this time on the forecast (15-35% chance of rain). With dry conditions returning across North Florida over longer term drought conditions, locally sensitive wildfire conditions will return despite the widespread rainfall from the last few days.

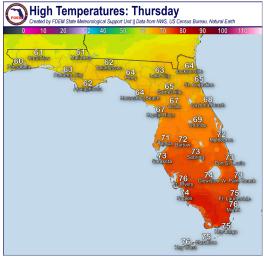
The coolest day of the forecast period will be today with high temperatures reaching the middle to upper 50s across North Florida, middle 60s to lower 70s across Central Florida





and lower to middle 70s across South Florida. High temperatures will continue to gradually warm up each day, with a brief cool down on Thursday behind the reinforcing cold front, but temperatures will only be a couple degrees cooler. High temperatures in the 60s can be expected for North Florida, upper 60s to middle 70s across Central Florida and upper 70s to lower 80s from Wednesday through Friday. High temperatures will reach the 70s and lower 80s across the state on Saturday.

Tuesday night will be the coldest night across North Florida as low temperatures dip into the lower to middle 30s across interior areas and the upper 30s to lower 40s along the coast. Instances of patchy frost will be possible early Wednesday morning due to calm winds and clear skies, and a Frost Advisory has been issued for the northern



Suwannee Valley. Central Florida will see low temperatures in the upper 40s to upper 50s and South Florida will see low temperatures in the upper 50s to lower 70s. Cooler air will sink into the rest of the state Wednesday and Thursday nights creating low temperatures **middle 30s** to middle 40s across North Florida, middle 40s to middle 50s across interior Central and South Florida and middle 50s to lower 60s along the coasts. Portions of the northern Suwannee Valley could dip into the **lower 30s** Thursday night and into Friday morning and additional **patchy frost** cannot be ruled out. Conditions begin to gradually warm up Friday and Saturday nights with low temperatures reaching the 40s to lower 50s across North Florida, 50s to lower 60s across Central Florida and upper 50s to upper 60s across South Florida.

Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk for flash flooding over the next five (5) days. After today, mostly dry conditions return across the state through the weekend. Rainfall totals today across South Florida and the Keys could reach upwards of 0.5-1" with heavier rainfall. An isolated 1-2" cannot be ruled out with any training showers or brief heavy downpours. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) website.

There are no riverine concerns at this time. With the recent rainfall late last week and over the weekend, streamflows along the Panhandle have returned to near normal and remain below flood stage. Portions of the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley continue to experience rivers and creeks with below normal streamflow due to less rainfall than surrounding areas. Similarly, the Florida West Coast has several rivers that have below normal streamflow due to recent dry conditions. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.66 feet, which is within the operational band and 1.10 feet below normal for this time of year.

Drought & Fire Weather:

This week's <u>Drought Monitor (12/4)</u> monitor showed worsening conditions expanding southward into the Suwannee Valley and Nature Coast with <u>severe drought conditions</u> (level 2 of 4) present as the heaviest rainfall during the observational period fell to the north of the state. <u>Severe drought conditions</u> were also reintroduced along West-Central Florida. Abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions were reintroduced through portions of South-Central Florida (Polk and Osceola) and the interior Treasure Coast (Okeechobee to St. Lucie) due to recent dry conditions over the region. Rainfall departures were 1-2" below normal along the Florida Panhandle, which continues to impact drought conditions, and according to the Southeast Regional Climate Center's Climate Perspective tool this last month (11/2-12/2) Florida has been very dry. This year has been the 3rd driest year on record for the





city of Jacksonville and **driest year on record** for Vero Beach and Fort Myers. Streamflows were at the lowest levels along the Florida Panhandle and West-Central Florida with well-below normal average streamflow. Temperatures were also 1-5-degrees **above normal for the year** across the state despite the chilly Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Not enough rainfall fell over South Florida with shower and thunderstorm activity to create any significant changes or noticeable impacts to change drought conditions. Given that, there has also been an increase in the KBDI values and recent wildfire activity too.

Finally, some beneficial and much needed rainfall fell across the Panhandle during the observational period, which will be used for this week's drought monitor. On average, a widespread 2-3" were observed across the Panhandle and Big Bend since last Tuesday which should help to remove the **exceptional drought (level 4 of 4)** conditions along the northern Big Bend this week. As well, a swath of heavy rainfall fell along the I-4 corridor, with the heaviest totals along the West-Central Florida coastline, which should also help to create a 1-category improvement on the next update. Overall improvements will be made this week with the helpful rainfall, but drier conditions will return through this week and into the weekend.

The <u>Keetch-Byram Drought Index</u> average for Florida is **393** (-77) on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are <u>12</u> Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

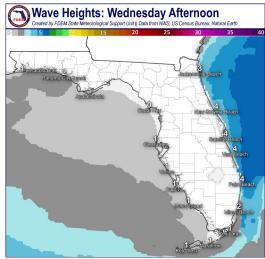
Dry conditions will return throughout this week across drought impacted areas of North and West Florida leading to drying out of conditions after recent heavy rainfall. The recent heavy rainfall from late last week and over the weekend will remain beneficial for soaking into groundsoils and vegetation. Longer term drought conditions and conditions gradually warming up again may lead **to locally sensitive wildfire conditions** developing in the afternoons, especially with another reinforcing dry and cold front pushing through the state near midweek. According to the <u>Florida Forest Service</u>, there are currently 14 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 295 acres.

Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Westerly to northwesterly winds through Thursday and calming marine conditions will lead to a moderate risk for rip currents along Panhandle and West Coast beaches. Beginning Friday afternoon and continuing into Saturday, winds will shift out of the south to southeast remaining light and helping to keep the moderate risk in place along the Panhandle. Offshore winds and calm marine conditions will allow West Coast beaches to return to a low risk. Large ocean swells and onshore winds will lead to a high risk for rip currents through Wednesday, at least, possibly Thursday along the Florida East Coast. Lighter winds and calmer marine conditions will then create a moderate risk for beaches through the end of the week and into the weekend. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Unsettled marine conditions can be expected along the Florida East Coast as wave heights reach 3-5' in the afternoon on Tuesday, with larger breaking waves upwards of 5-7' in the surf zone along Treasure Coast and the Southeast Florida coast. Panhandle and West Coast beaches will see wave heights reaching 1-3'. Wave heights along the East Coast will continue to slowly decline throughout the week reaching 2-4' on Wednesday and Thursday, then declining further to 1-2' Friday and Saturday. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect calm marine conditions beginning Wednesday and continuing through the rest of the forecast period.

The latest <u>Blue-Green Algae</u> report shows algal bloom conditions were observed within Lake Okeechobee at low to <u>high bloom potential</u> along the southern shoreline of







the lake. **High bloom potential** was reported within Hobbs Lake and the Pond near Dorothy B. Oven Park. **Moderate bloom conditions** were reported along Lake Marian and the Lake Clay boat ramp. Algal bloom conditions have not been reported or observed within the St. Johns River basin.

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

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Have a wonderful rest of the week!

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



