



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, December 17, 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	Jay Griffin	(850) 524-4094	Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(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	Walton	Region 1 Quarterly Meeting & Christmas Luncheon
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Walton	Region 1 Quarterly Meeting & Christmas Luncheon
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Leon, Clay	HQ Admin / Visit / Return to Region 4 Travel
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Highlands	EM Visit
Region 8: Amber Durden	Indian River	Office Admin / Quarterly Meeting Prep
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	Lee County Fire Chiefs Association Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	OVS UC Meeting



Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5
Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	Quarterly Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Region	Leave
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Leon	Day Trip
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	F-ROC Training Tour
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Manatee	DOH Meeting
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Desoto	EM Visit
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Orange	F-ROC Training Tour
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 2 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2/4

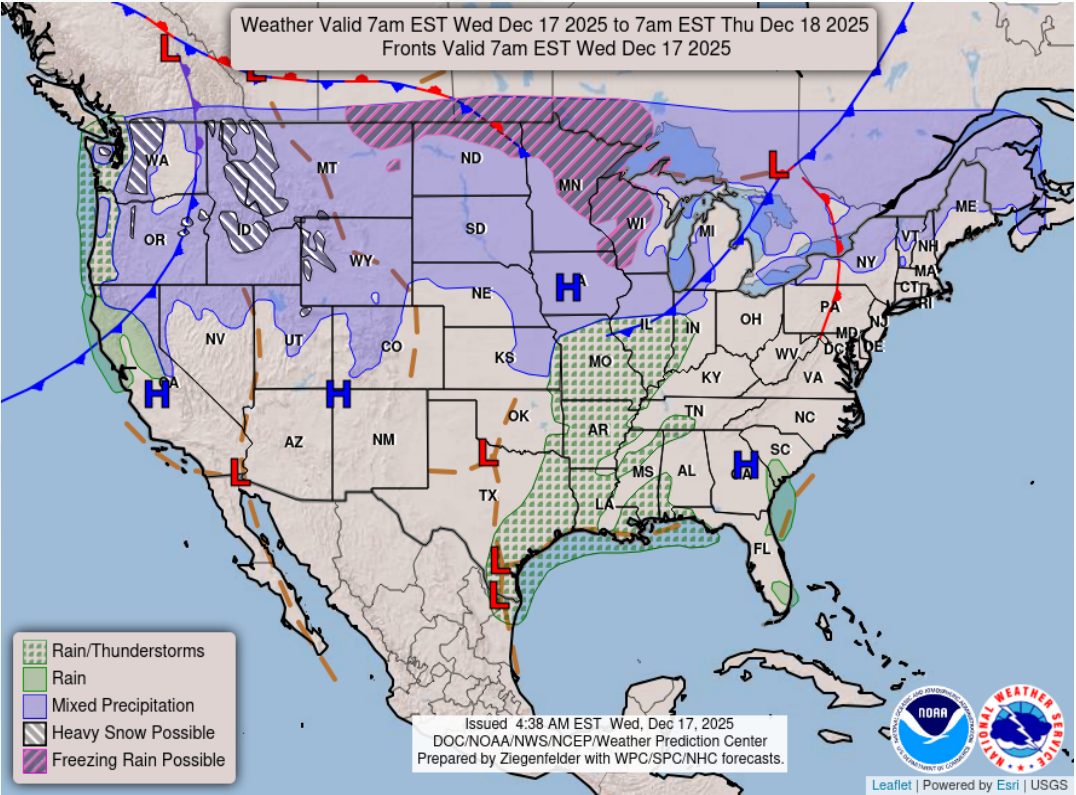
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6/8

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

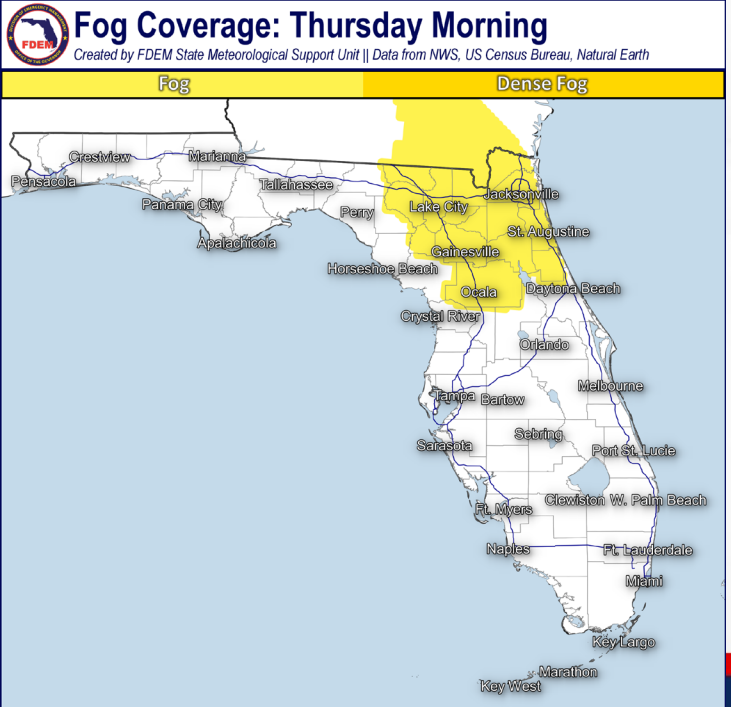
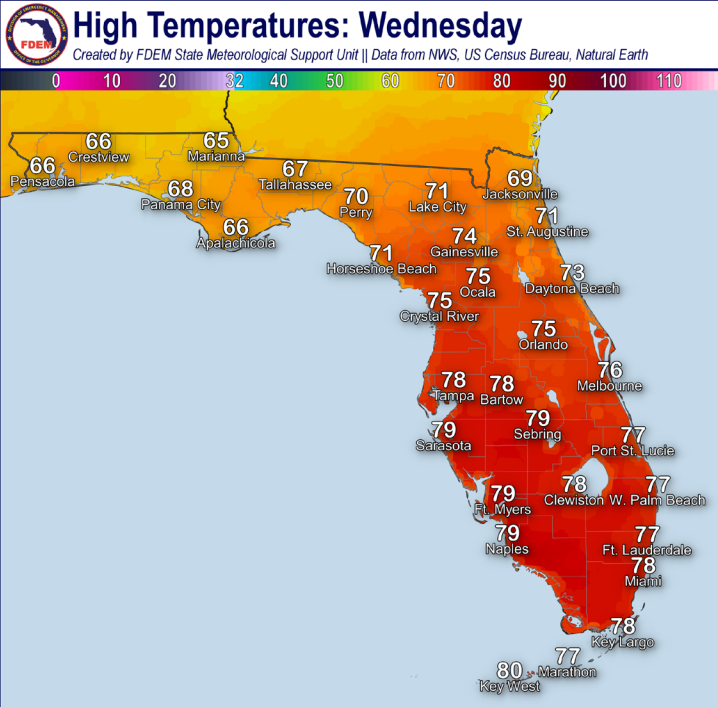


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	L	M	M	M		L				
Wildfire	L	L	L	L		L				
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.54 ft. (1.18 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	416 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

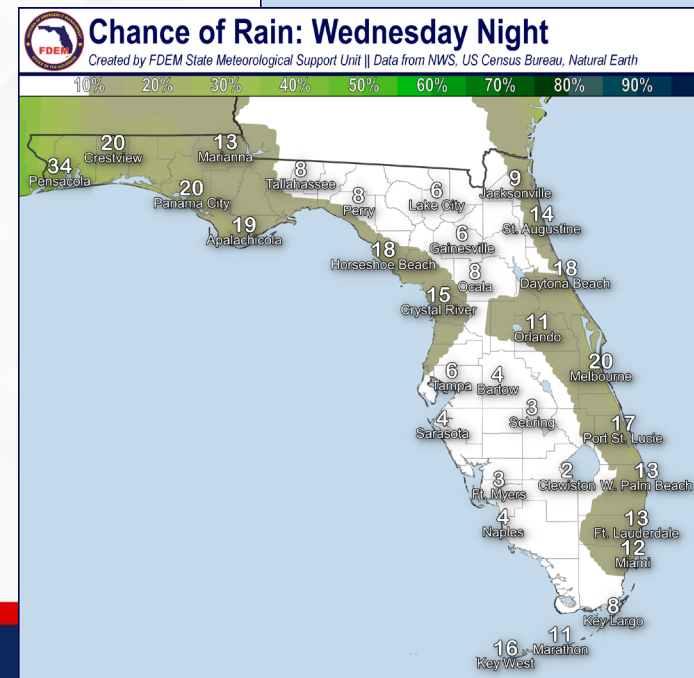
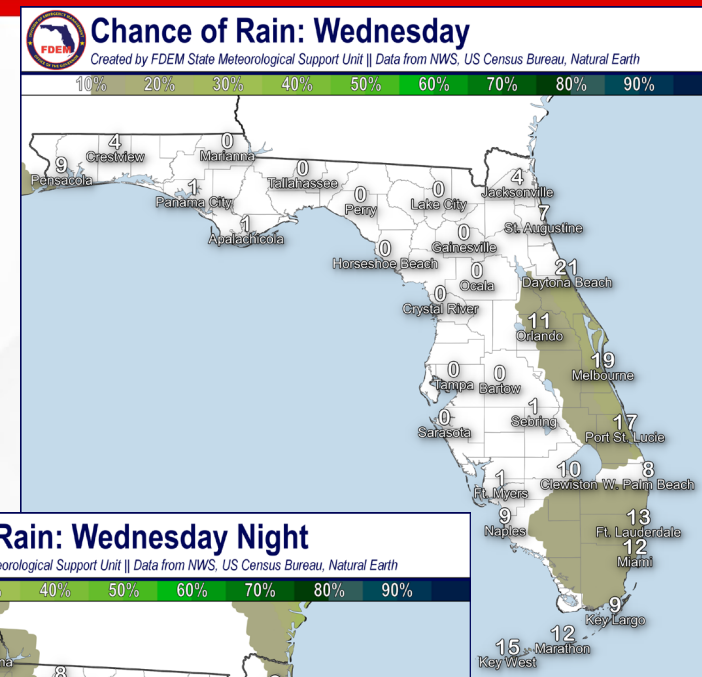
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A pleasant day across the Sunshine State can be expected as high pressure conditions will continue. Mostly sunny conditions will persist throughout the state, with a chance for some light sprinkles or a brief shower along portions of the eastern coastline due to an upper-level feature (10-20% chance of rain). Any activity that manages to develop or drift onshore will remain light and brief. Despite relative humidity values remaining above critical thresholds across North Florida, **sensitive wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out with ongoing long-term drought conditions over the region. Otherwise, mostly calm conditions will continue throughout the day across the state with some lingering wind **gusts of 15-20 mph** across South Florida and the Keys.

High temperatures will return back into the middle 60s to lower 70s for North Florida, middle to upper 70s across Central Florida and upper 70s to near 80-degrees for South Florida this afternoon.

Our next frontal system will approach the state tonight, and elevated moisture ahead of this front may help to bring isolated showers onshore for much of the Panhandle and East Coast during the late overnight and early morning hours (10-35% chance of rain). The best chance for shower activity will be along the Panhandle as a warm front lifts northward from the gulf waters bringing showers and a possible thunderstorm. With moisture recovering and calm winds, **instances of fog** will be possible early Thursday morning throughout the Big Bend, Suwannee Valley and interior Northeast Florida.

Low temperatures will fall into the lower to middle 50s for North Florida, upper 50s to middle 60s across Central Florida and 60s to near 70-degrees for South Florida.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Numerous Panhandle and East Coast beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** due to onshore winds and dissipating ocean swells. Southeast Florida beaches will continue to see a **high risk for rip currents**. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights along the East Coast continue to gradually decline and will remain **near 2-4'** throughout the day. Isolated breaking **waves upwards of 5'** cannot be ruled out along the Treasure Coast this afternoon. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect wave heights near 1-2'.

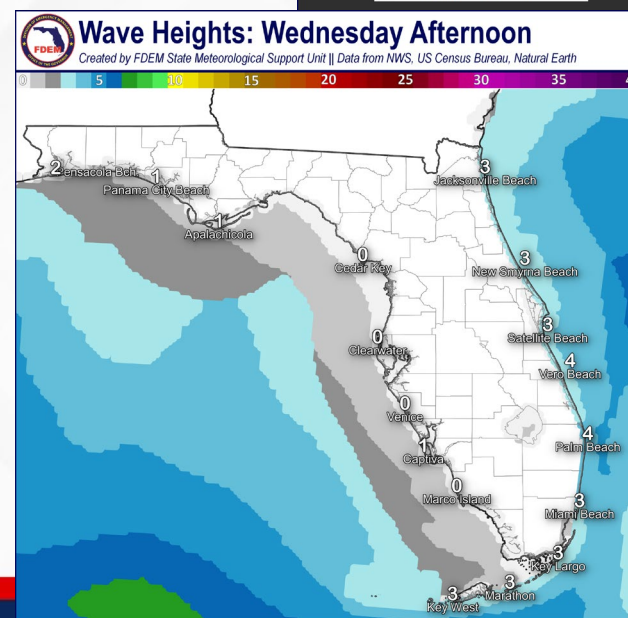
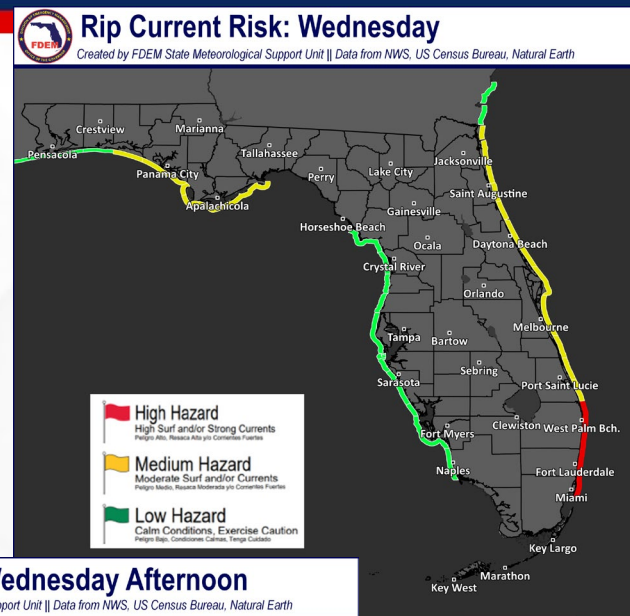
Red Tide was observed at background to **medium concentrations** in both Bay and Gulf counties and background to **low concentrations** in Franklin County. Red Tide was not observed in Southwest Florida or along the Florida East Coast (valid 12/12).

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding across Florida.

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

Riverine Flooding: There are no riverine concerns across Florida. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.54 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.18 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



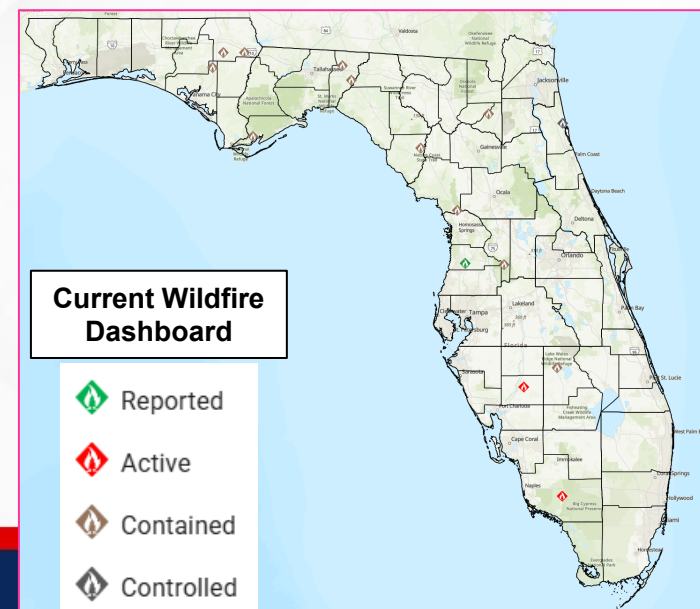
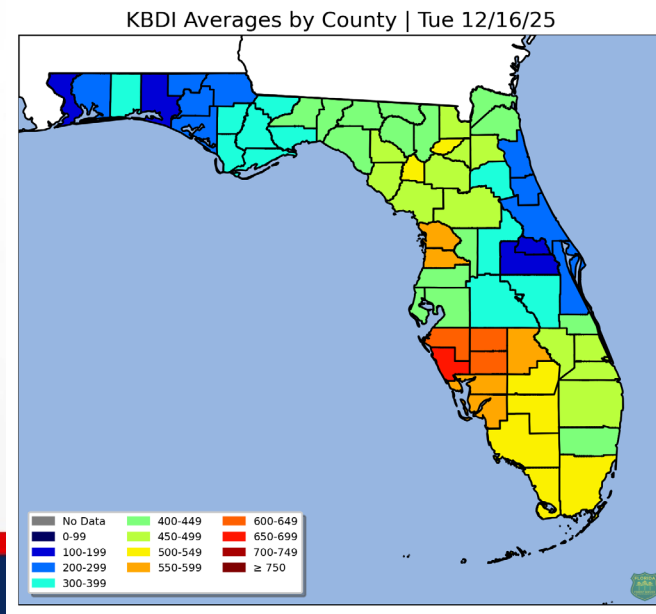
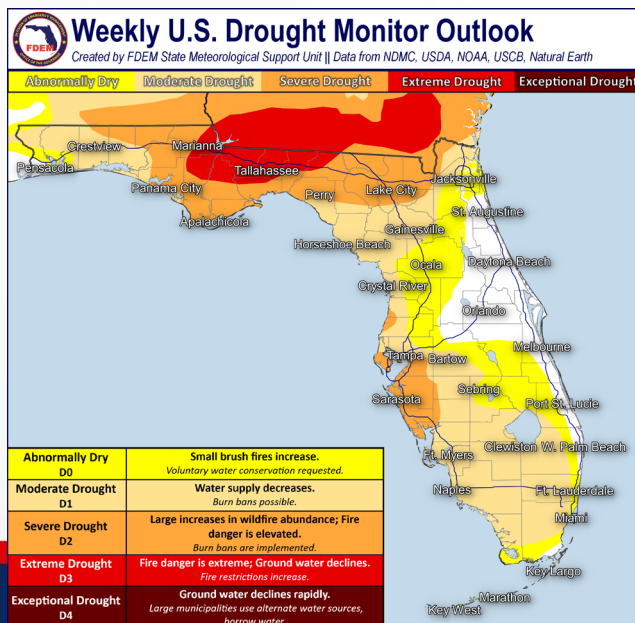


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Mostly dry conditions can be expected to persist across the state today as high pressure slides eastward and away from the state. A few lingering wind **gusts of 15-20 mph** will continue for portions of South Florida and the Keys. Onshore winds and an upper-level feature hanging off the Florida East Coast may continue to prompt light sprinkles or a brief shower along portions of the coastline throughout the day. Winds becoming more southerly today will help to continue to pull moisture northward with the next frontal system approaching tonight keeping relative humidity values above critical thresholds statewide. With this next frontal system, some isolated shower activity may develop during the early morning hours along the Panhandle on Thursday. Instances of **patchy fog** will be possible throughout the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley by sunrise Thursday morning. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 15 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 166 acres.

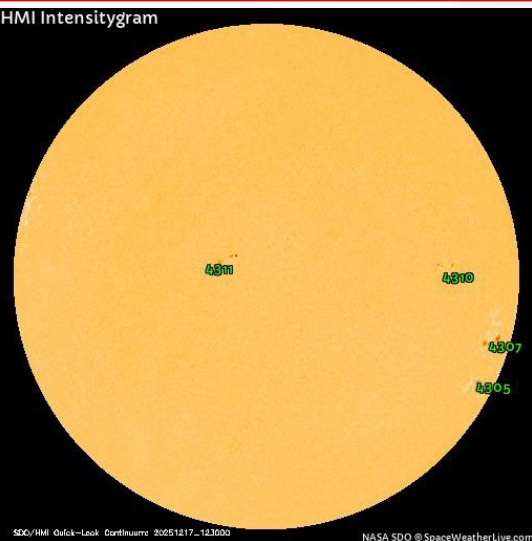
Drought (12/11): Widespread rainfall totals of 2-4 inches were observed across the Panhandle and North Florida over the past week as numerous rounds of showers and thunderstorms rolled through the area the last weekend and early last week. As a result, this week's Drought Monitor outlook features some reduction in drought categories across much of North Florida. Last week's Exceptional Drought has been downgraded to an **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** across portions of Jackson, Calhoun, Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla, Jefferson, and Madison counties. **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** remains in place cross much of the I-10 corridor from Baker County to Holmes County in North Florida, with **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** across the rest of the western Panhandle and southward across the southern portions of the Suwannee River Valley. Some slight reduction in the **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** was seen over coastal West-Central Florida of northern Hillsborough and Pinellas County where some localized rainfall totals of 4-6 inches was observed in the past week. However, just south of that, expansion of the **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** was added over southern Sarasota and coastal Charlotte Counties where rainfall largely missed. A general couple of tenths of rain were observed over South Florida in the past week, not enough to curb the developing drought. Expansion of the **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** was added to this week's outlook across much of interior South Florida, with abnormally dry (*emerging drought*) conditions expanding to the Southeast Florida coastline. Although shorter-term rainfall departures are above normal due to the recent rainfall, portions of North Florida are still under a long-term rainfall deficit (60-90 days) and drought conditions will persist. Additionally, rainfall chances will remain very low over the next week, or longer, which may lead to a resumption of deteriorating drought conditions.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **416 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **16** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

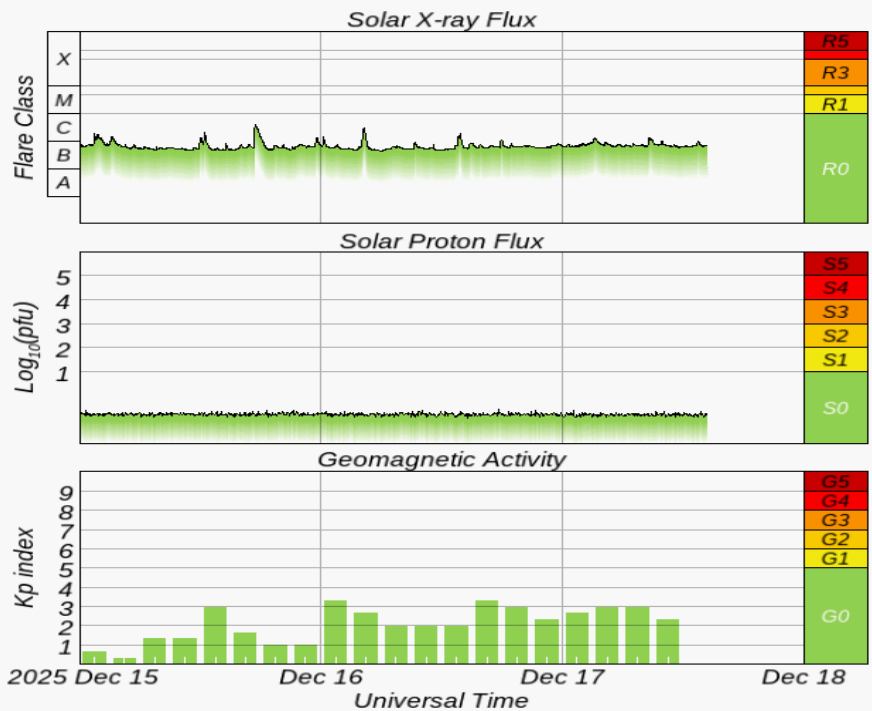
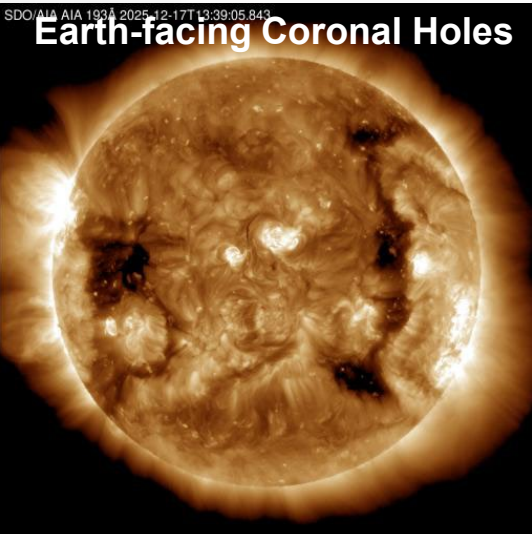




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 15%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
12/17	12/18
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 5%

Space Weather: With all the current sunspots having stable magnetic fields and keeping quiet, low solar activity can be expected to persist through the end of the week. Should any strong (M-class) solar flares erupt, they will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Enhanced solar wind conditions have returned with a stream Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds, which are expected to continue through tomorrow. The Earth's geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet to active due to low solar activity but ongoing CH HSS conditions. 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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