



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, December 31, 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	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Octavio Rios	(850) 328-9593	Octavio.Rios@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	Gadsden	Office Admin
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Jackson, Columbia	Return to Region Travel / Office Admin
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	Office Admin
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	On-Call Status
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Polk	Office Admin
Region 8: Amber Durden	Indian River	Office Admin
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	Office Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 2 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6
Region 10 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	Walton	End of Month Admin
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	End of Month Admin
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	On-call Status
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Leave	See Coverage
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	End of Month Admin
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	End of Month Admin
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2/4

Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

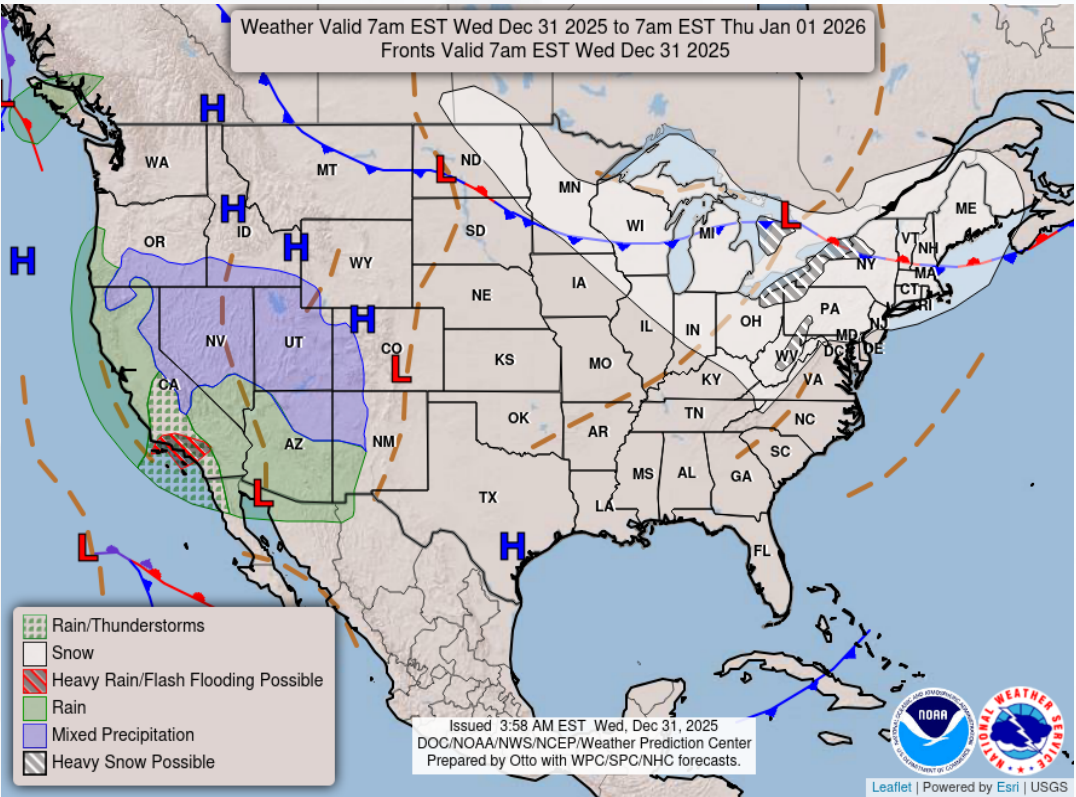
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

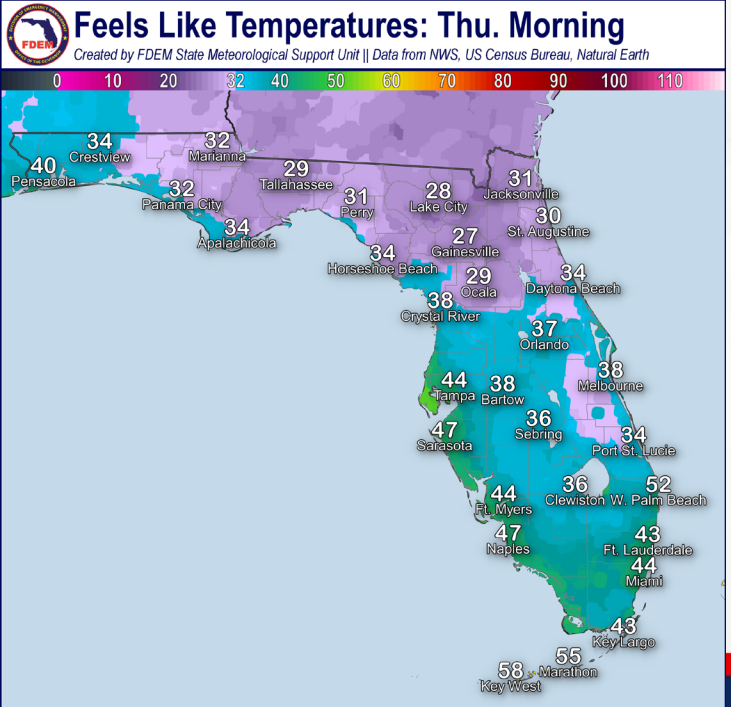
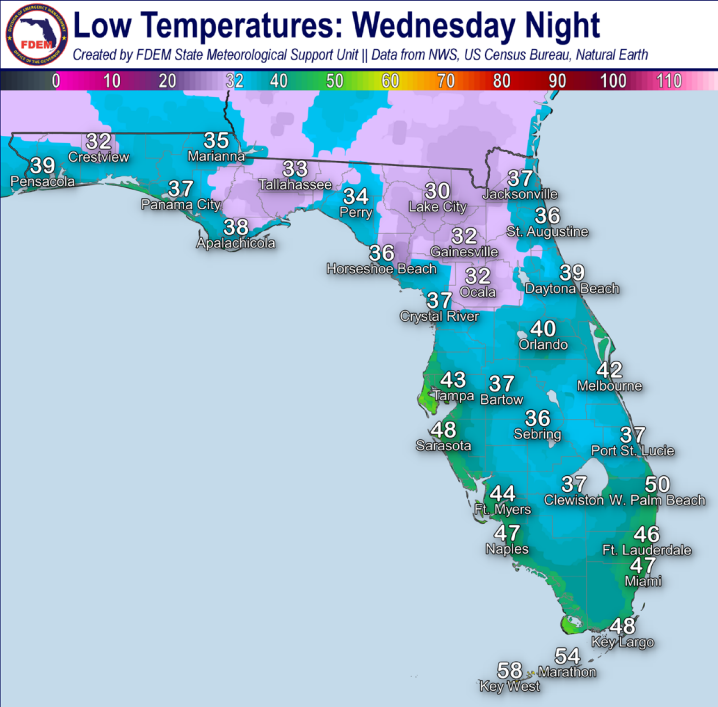


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L
Wind Chills (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L
Wildfire	M	H	H	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Rip Currents	M	M	M	M	M	M		H	H	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.44 ft. (1.21 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	465 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



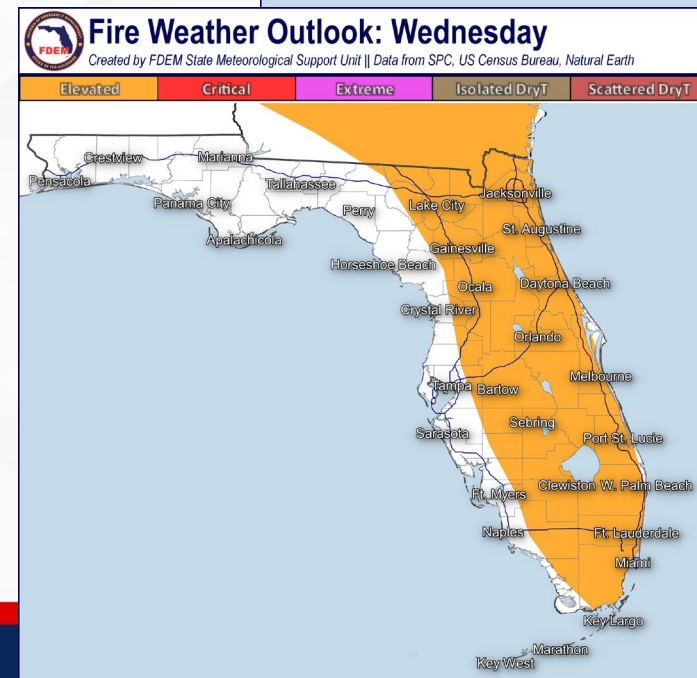
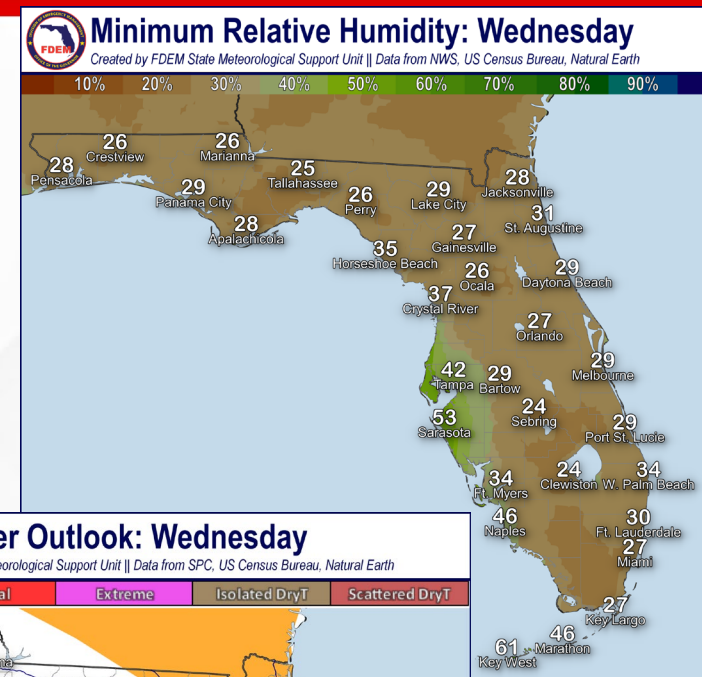


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Wind chills were in the 20s and 30s across much of the state this morning, **and Cold Weather Advisories** are in effect nearly statewide until 9:00AM-10:00 AM EST. Another mostly sunny and dry can be expected throughout the state as high pressure dominates over the state (near 0% chance of rain). With very dry infiltrating the state, relative humidity values will fall **below critical thresholds** this afternoon statewide this afternoon (**25-30%**). The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking an **Elevated Risk (level 1 of 3) for Wildfire Danger** from the I-75 corridor and throughout the Peninsula given the critical relative humidity values and lingering breezy winds over ongoing and worsening drought conditions. Chilly and dry conditions can be expected throughout the overnight hours throughout the state. Cold air will hold steady in the state overnight, especially with the clear skies and we could see **Frost Advisories** extend throughout much of the state for **frost development** by early Thursday morning.

High temperatures will be in the middle 50s across North Florida, upper 50s and lower 60s across Central Florida and the middle 60s across South Florida this afternoon. Low temperatures will fall into the **lower to middle 30s** throughout the Suwannee Valley and North Florida, and **Freeze Warnings** have been issued for the Suwannee Valley and interior Northeast Florida through 9:00 AM EST Thursday morning. Low temperatures throughout Central and South Florida will reach the **middle to upper 30s** throughout interior regions and 40s to near 50s along the coasts. **Feels-like temperatures** will fall into the **upper 20s to lower 30s** throughout North Florida and lower to middle 30s throughout interior Central and South Florida. **Cold Weather Advisories** may be needed again overnight and early Thursday morning, especially for interior areas of the Peninsula.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Numerous beaches will see a **moderate risk for rip currents**, with a **high risk** along Gulf and Palm Beach counties. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Ocean swells will decline throughout the state today keeping wave heights near 1-3' across the state with portions of the Treasure Coast seeing **waves upwards of 4'**.

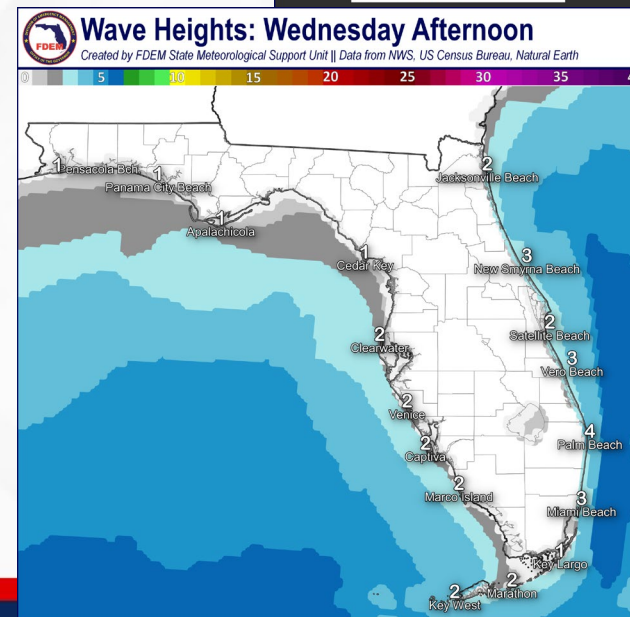
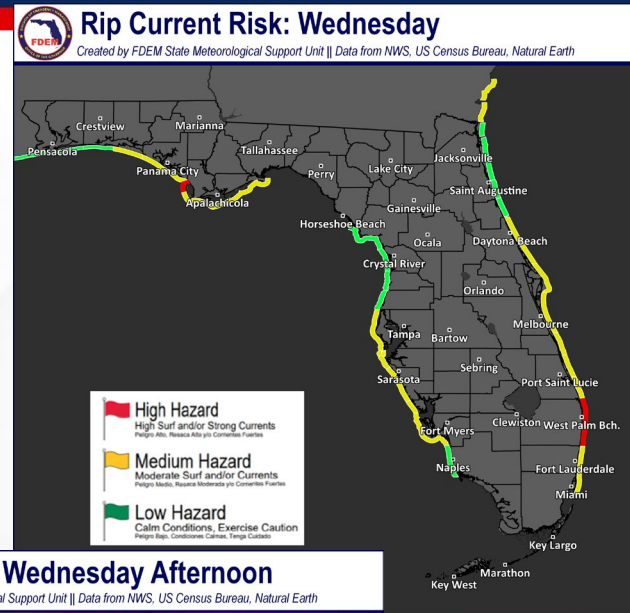
Red Tide was observed at background to **medium concentrations** in Bay County, very low to **low concentrations** in Gulf County, and background to very low concentrations in Franklin County. Across Southwest Florida, it was also observed at background concentrations offshore Hillsborough County. Red Tide was not observed along the Florida East Coast (valid 12/23).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no 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 13.40 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.25 feet below normal for this time of year.



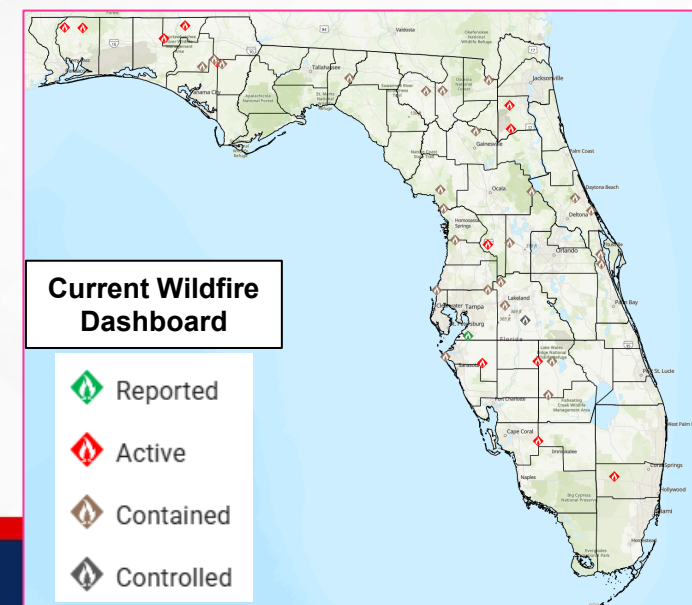
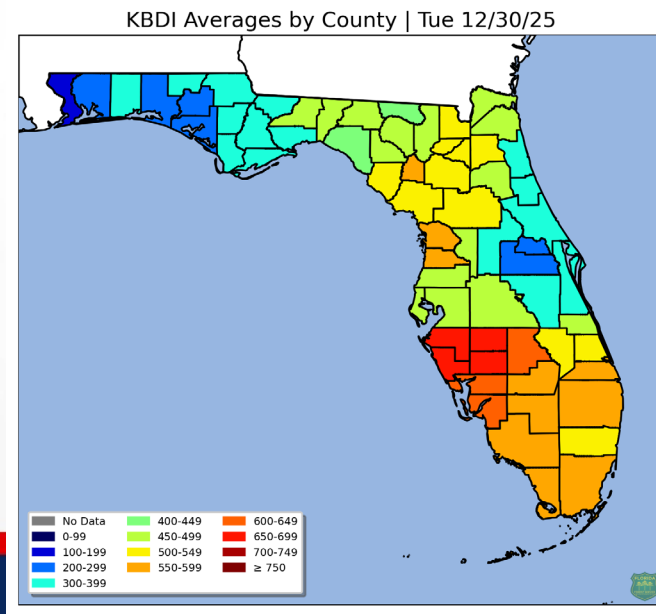
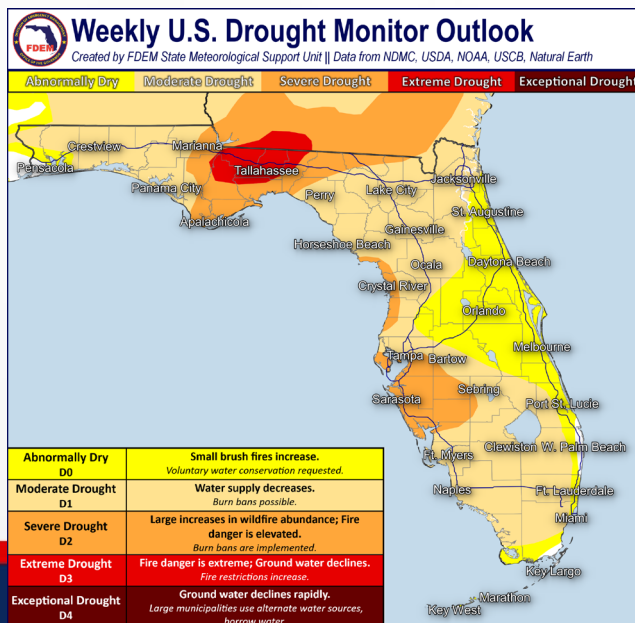


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: **Elevated wildfire conditions** will persist throughout the state today as very dry air has settled into the state creating critically low relative humidity values. Elevated wind gusts upwards of 15 mph will remain possible from the Suwannee Valley and throughout the Peninsula, contributing to the **Elevated Wildfire Outlook (level 1 of 3)** from the Storm Prediction Center (SPC). Critically low relative humidity values and elevated winds on top of the ongoing drought conditions will lead to the **enhanced wildfire conditions**. Outdoor burning is not recommended, especially with **active burn bans** in place. With the worsening drought, **localized dangerous wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 38 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 628 acres.

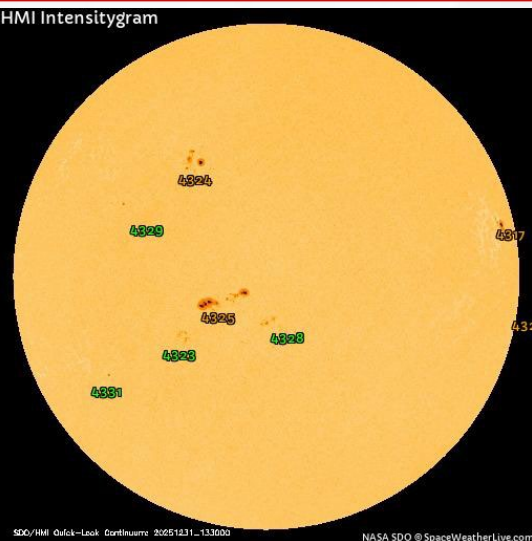
Drought (12/24): Over the past two weeks, much of the Florida Peninsula has seen little in the way of rainfall outside of immediate coastal Southeast Florida where rainfall totals have only added up to 1-2". As such, drought has expanded for parts of South and Central Florida on this weeks latest Drought Monitor outlook. A **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** has been expanded north of Lake Okeechobee to include all of Highlands, Okeechobee, and interior Martin and St. Lucie counties. A similar story is ongoing along coastal West-Central Florida where the **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** has also been expanded to include all interior Hardee and DeSoto counties, and southwest Polk county. The long-term (60 to 90 day) drought in these areas continues to worsen, with many areas between 6-8" below normal rainfall over the past two to three months. The Nature Coast has also seen a lack of rainfall in the long-term, with coastal Levy, Citrus, Hernando and Pasco counties under a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** with rainfall departures around 3-4" below normal over the past 2 months. **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** has also been expanded away from the coast to include the interior counties of Sumter, Marion, and Putnam in Northeast Florida where similar rainfall departures over the past 2-3 months are found. Abnormally dry (*emerging drought*) has been introduced too all East-Central Florida, bringing 99% of the entire state of Florida under at least some classification of drought. Across North Florida and the Panhandle, very little changes were made to this week's outlook. An **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place over Liberty, Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla, and Jefferson counties with a **Severe Drought (level 2 of 4)** surrounding that. A **Moderate Drought (level 1 of 4)** occupies the rest of the I-10 corridor across the Panhandle and Northeast Florida. Very little meaningful rainfall is expected over the next week which will likely bring persistence, or worsening, drought levels on next weeks outlook. Although some water levels improved from recent rainfall over North Florida, dry conditions will begin to bring those back down slowly below normal levels.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **468 (+3)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **28** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

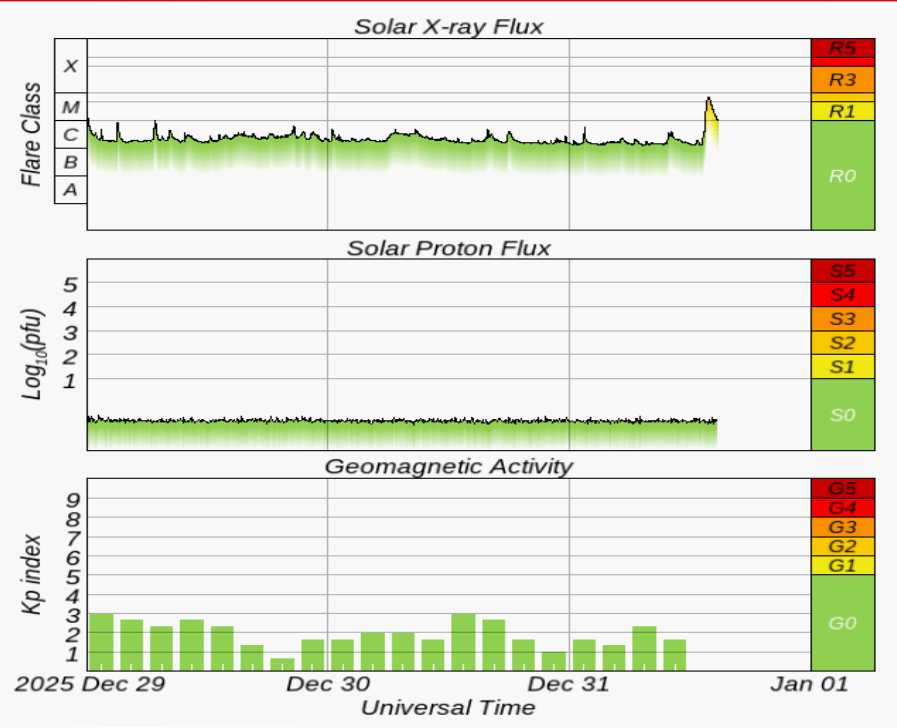
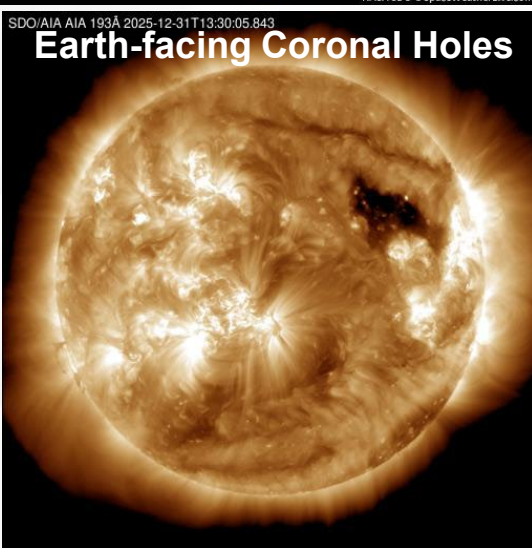




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 60%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 25%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
12/31	1/1
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%

Space Weather: Sunspots #4324 and #4325 continue to pose a threat for strong (M-class) solar flares. And a slight chance for a significant (X-class) solar flare. Should any M-class solar flares erupt they will produce minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts, and any X-class flare that develops will be capable of producing strong (R3) radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions are anticipated to increase through the end of the week due to influences from coronal holes. The Earth's geomagnetic field is likely to reach quiet to active levels, with instances of minor (G1) geomagnetic storming tomorrow. 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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