



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, January 9, 2026



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 | Ahnaya Benjamin | (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 | 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 | 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 | Washington, Leon | New County EM Director & FDEM Executive Director Mtg / Computer Update |
| Region 2: Enrique Gaston | Calhoun, Liberty | New County EM Director & FDEM Executive Director Mtg / Facility Tour |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers | Suwannee | New County EM Director & FDEM Executive Director Mtg |
| Region 4: Tara Kostich | Clay | G-141 Course Instructors Meeting |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly | Osceola | G-2300 Course Instruction |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall | Hernando | EM Meeting |
| Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck | Polk | EPAC Meeting |
| Region 8: Amber Durden | Indian River | Office Admin / County EM Meeting |
| Region 9: Brittany Bremer | Lee | FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker | Miami-Dade | EM Meeting / REP Exercise FPM |



| Status |
|------------------------------|
| Normal Operations |
| Out of Service / Unavailable |



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins | Washington / Calhoun | Executive Director X County EM Meetings |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara | Calhoun / Liberty | Executive Director X County EM Meetings |
| Region 3: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders | Suwannee | Executive Director X County EM Meetings |
| Region 5: Elizabeth Caison | Seminole | FEPC Planning Meeting |
| Region 6: Rick Rogers | Citrus | Elevate FL Meeting / 810 Equipment Exchange |
| Region 7: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller | Medical Leave | See Coverage |
| Region 9: Vacant | N/A | See Coverage |
| Region 10: Brian Lee | In State | Return Travel to R10 |

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

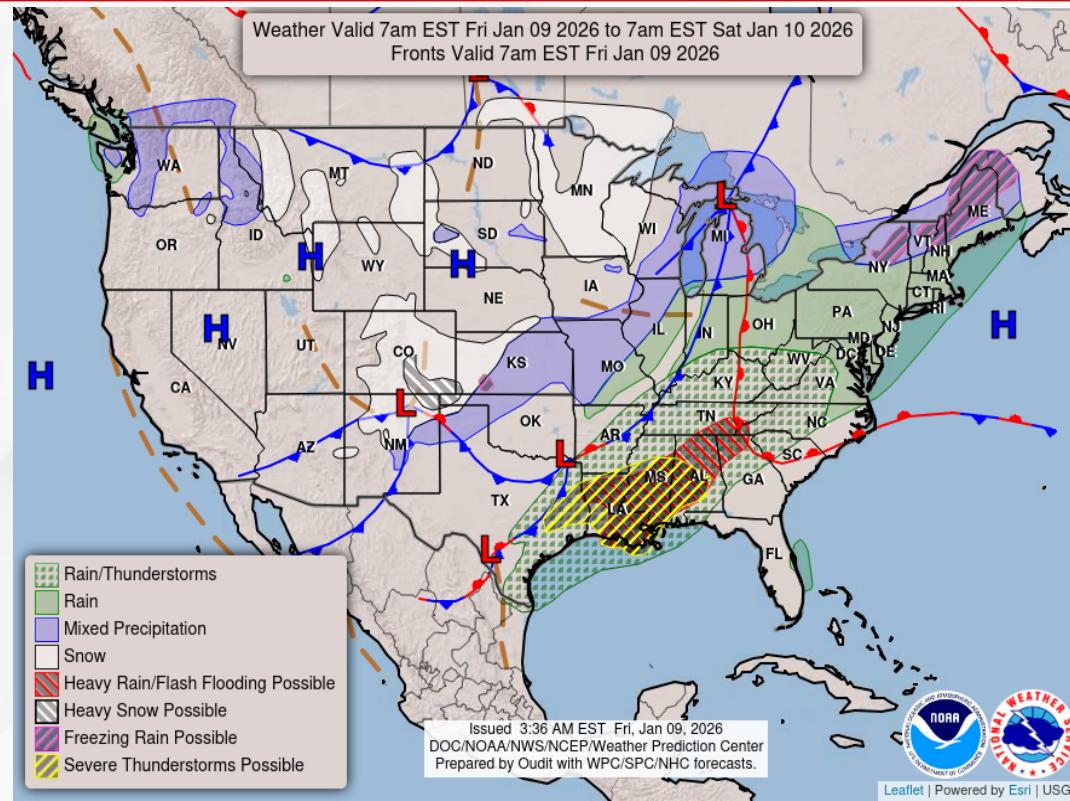
Region 7 & 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

Region 8 & 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

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

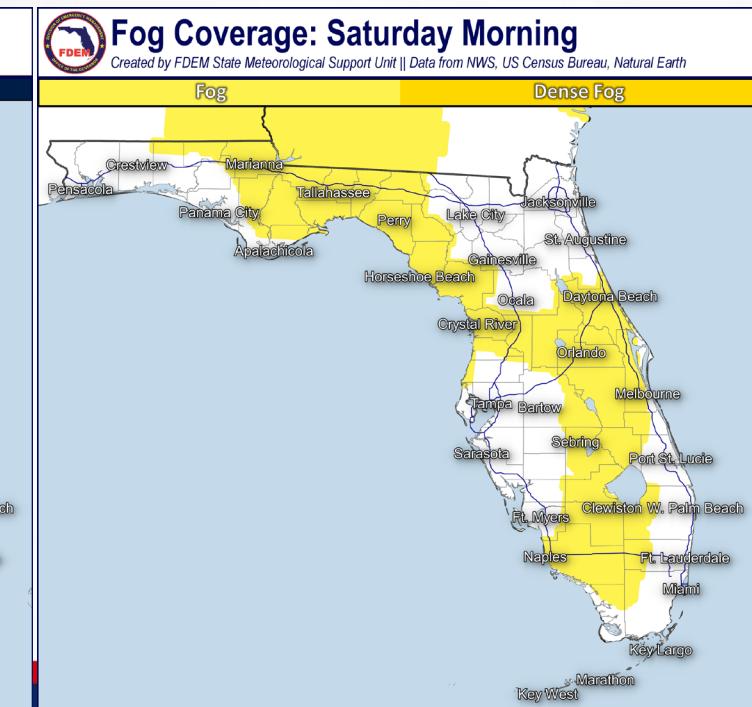
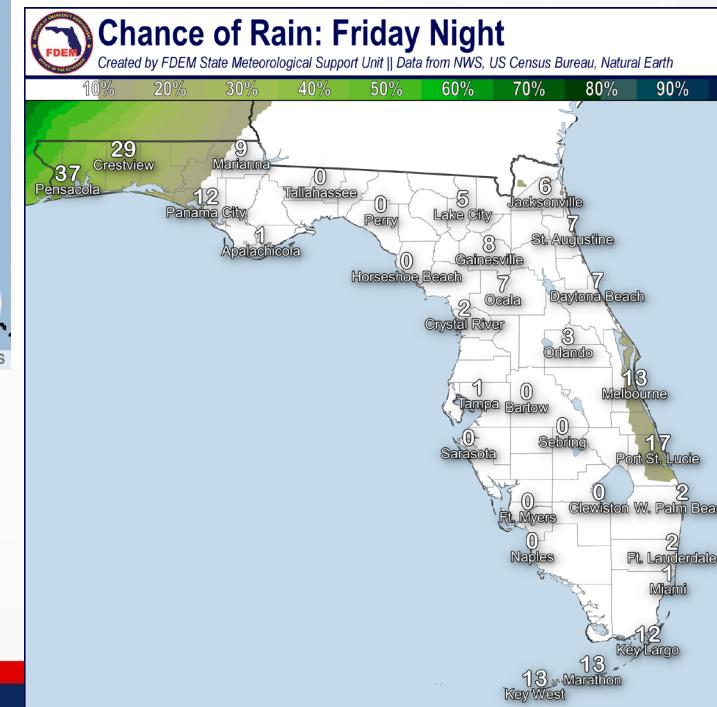


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|----------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning | L | | | | | | | | | |
| Tornado | L | | | | | | | | | |
| Damaging Wind | L | | | | | | | | | |
| Hail | | | | | | | | | | |
| Flash Flooding | L | | | | | | | | | |
| Freeze (Overnight) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fog (Overnight) | M | H | H | H | M | M | M | L | L | L |
| Wildfire | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L |
| Rip Currents | H | H | L | M | M | L | M | L | M | M |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation | 13.26 ft. (1.31 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>) | | | | | | | | | |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index | 463 (+4) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) | | | | | | | | | |





Meteorology Summary

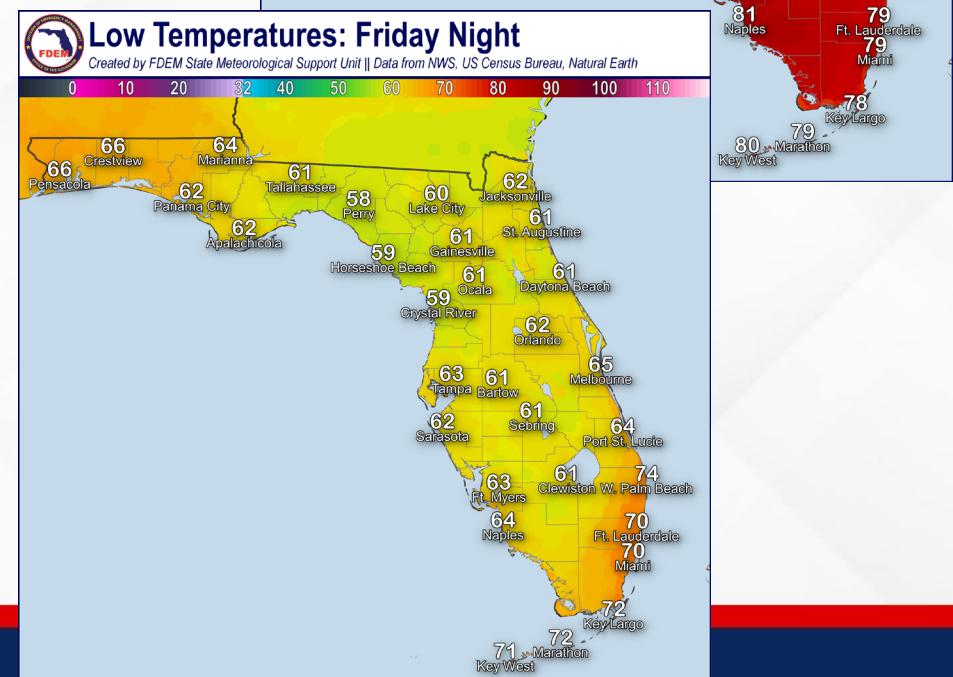
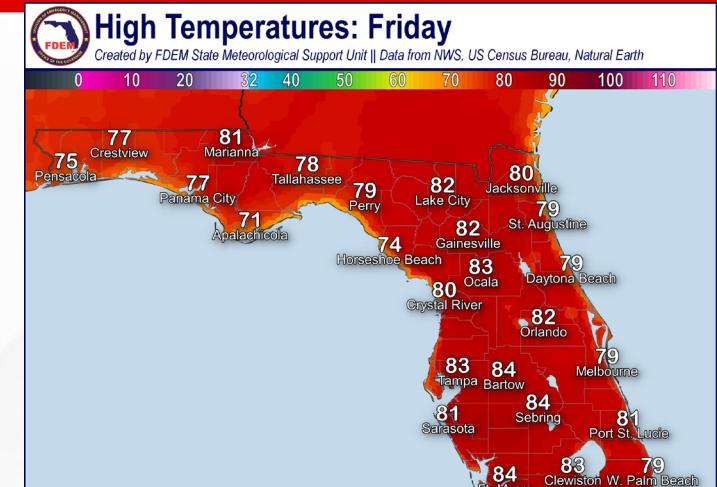
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Another warm and mostly dry day is on tap for the Sunshine State as high pressure remains anchored over the Southeast U.S. Locally dense fog across coastal Northeast Florida and portions of the Panhandle will dissipate by mid-morning, giving way to mostly to partly sunny skies this afternoon. A few coastal showers (near 15% chance of rain) are possible along the Space and Treasure coasts this afternoon, as well as across the far western Panhandle where an approaching cold front may bring a few isolated showers (15-25% chance of rain). Breezy southerly winds ahead of this front will bring wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** across the Panhandle this afternoon.

High temperatures will climb into the upper 70s to middle 80s across the state today, which will approach **record warm temperatures** for many across North Florida.

Sea fog off the Northeast Florida coastline will retreat this afternoon before spreading back inland this evening and overnight. Additional instances of **locally dense fog** are likely overnight tonight across portions of North and Central Florida, and **Dense Fog Advisories** will be issued as conditions warrant. The approaching cold front will continue to bring a few isolated to widely scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms to the far western Panhandle overnight, with some **locally strong to severe thunderstorms** possible by daybreak Saturday where a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Thunderstorms** is outlooked. A few of these thunderstorms could produce gusty winds, heavy downpours, and an isolated weak tornado. There is a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across northern Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties tonight where some **locally heavy downpours** could bring **nuisance flooding and ponding of water**, however widespread flash flooding is not expected.

Low temperatures will dip into the upper 50s to middle 60s nearly statewide tonight, the exception being coastal Southeast Florida and the Keys that will only reach the upper 60s to lower 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** is outlooked for all Panhandle beaches as breezy onshore winds bring dangerous swimming conditions. A **moderate risk for rip currents** is expected for all East Coast beaches today, with a low risk for all West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Southerly winds will bring an increase in wave heights across the Panhandle beaches today, with surf of **2-4'** expected. West Coast and East Coast beaches will see waves of 1-2', with some Florida Keys beaches seeing waves near 3'.

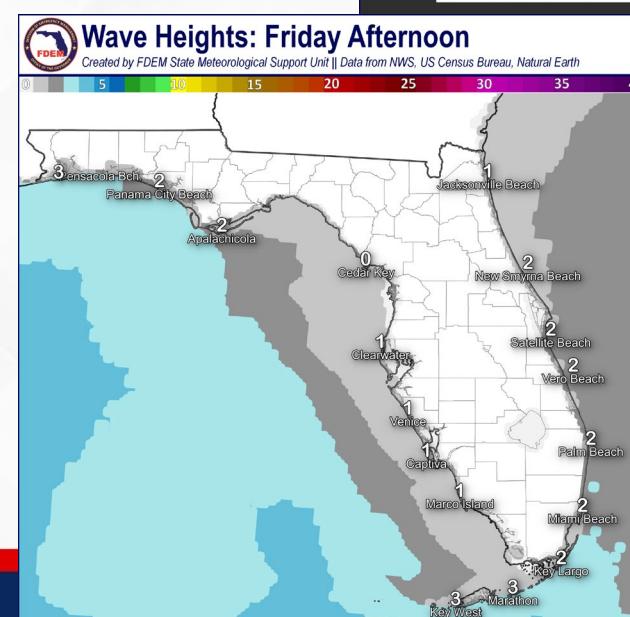
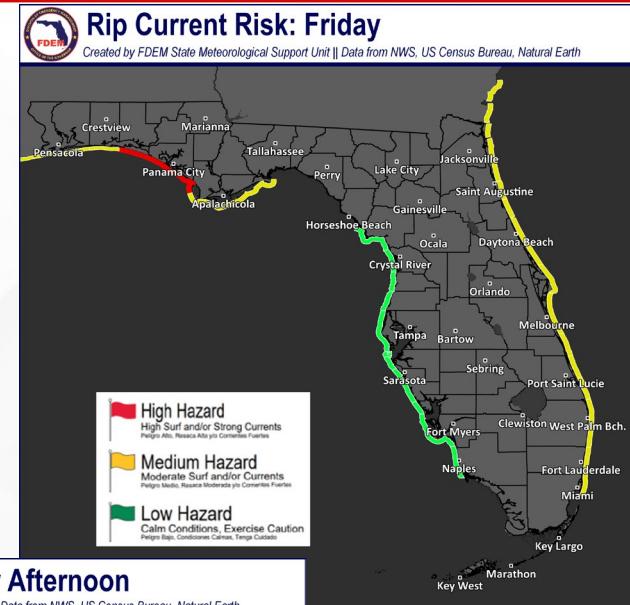
Red Tide was observed at background to **medium concentrations** in Bay County. Red Tide was not observed along the Florida East Coast or Gulf Coast (valid 12/31/2025).

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

Flash Flooding: A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across the far western Panhandle, across northern Santa Rosa and Okaloosa counties, for a few **locally strong to severe thunderstorms** that could produce **localized heavy downpours** late tonight. However, the heaviest activity is likely to remain confined north and west of the state. Rainfall totals should remain below 0.5" through tonight, though **locally higher amounts** cannot be ruled out if any heavier downpours occur.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.26 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.31 feet below normal for this time of year.



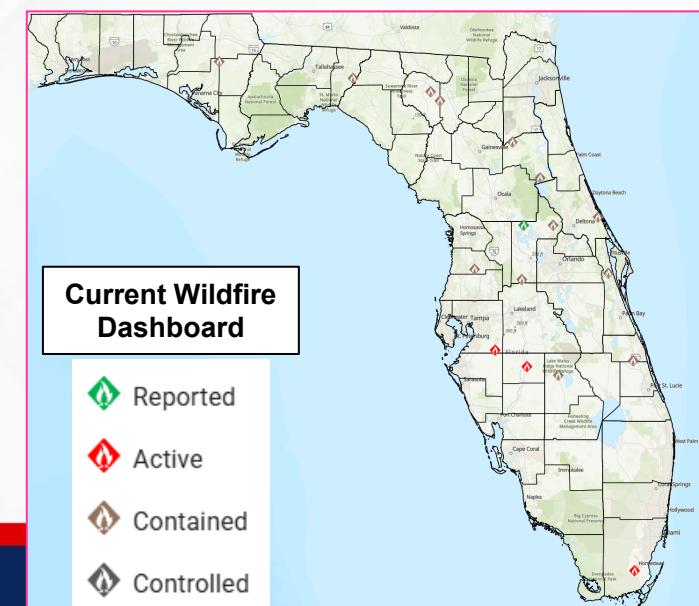
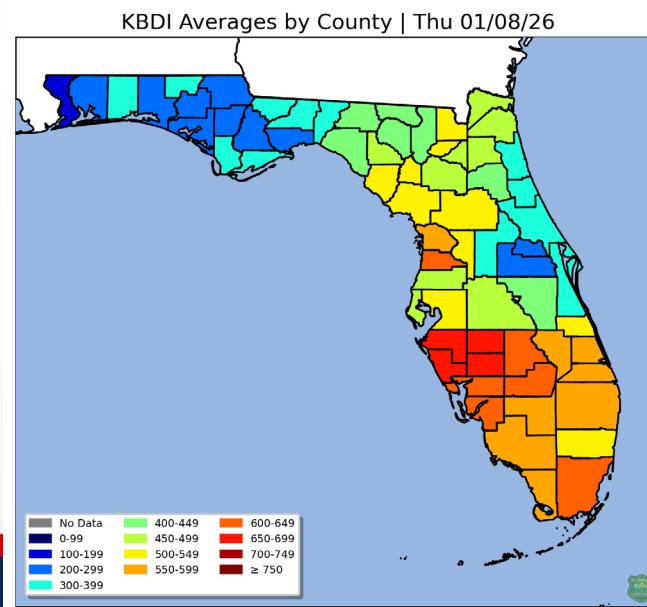
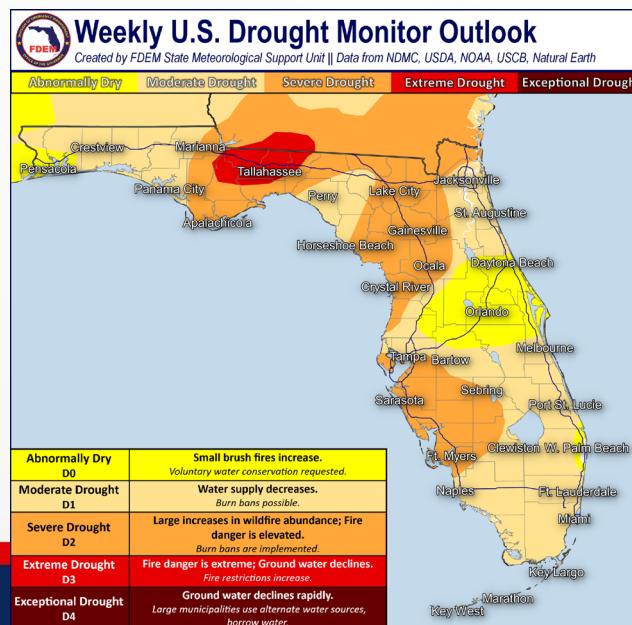


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Warm and mostly dry conditions can be expected across the state once again, with moist southerly flow ahead of an approaching cold front keeping relative humidity values well above critical thresholds statewide. **Sensitive wildfire conditions** will be possible with the ongoing drought conditions and warm temperatures, especially for areas that have seen little to no rainfall recently. Another round of **widespread fog** will be likely overnight and into Friday morning nearly statewide, with areas of **dense fog** possible. Foggy conditions and low clouds will further **reduce visibilities** where there are ongoing or new fires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 24 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 249 acres.

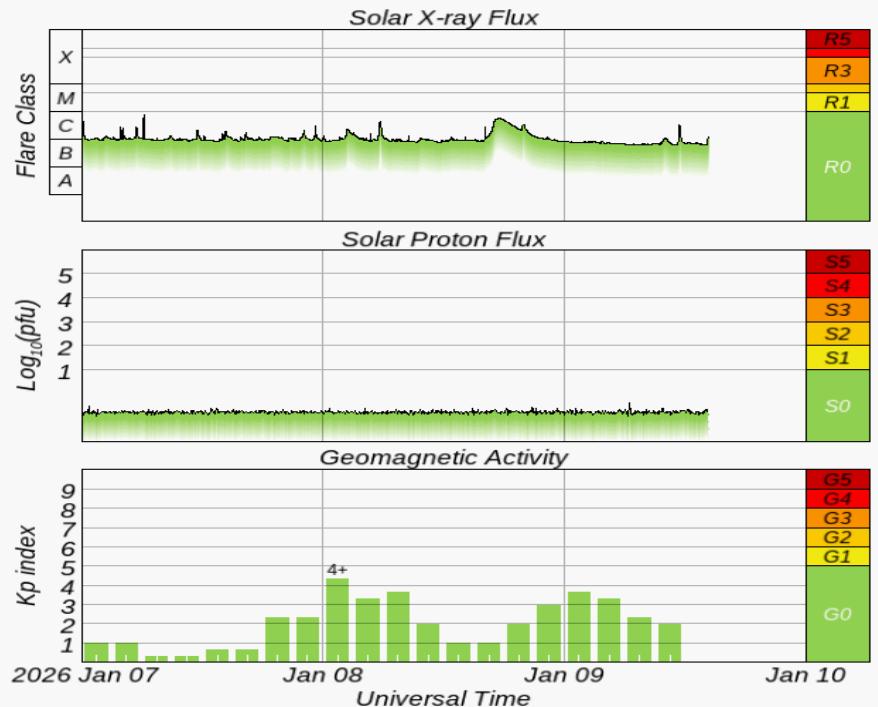
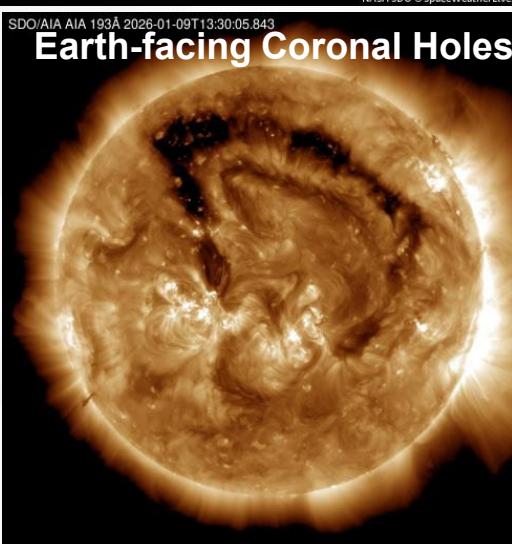
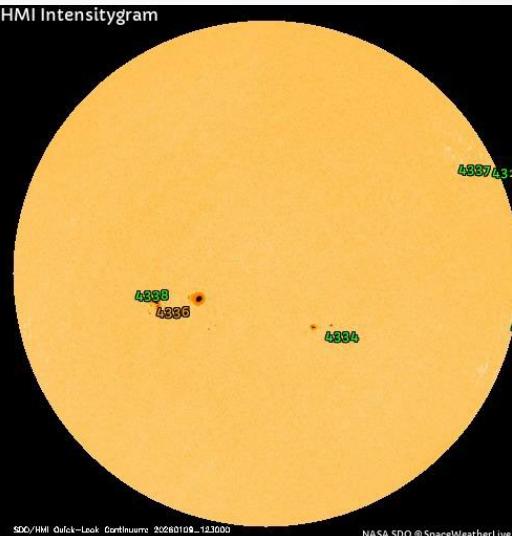
Drought (1/8/26): Some beneficial rainfall fell across North Florida this past weekend, bringing widespread 1-2" totals to the Panhandle and Big Bend. However, very little change was made to this weeks Drought Monitor outlook due to long-term drought and **above normal temperatures** keeping drought in place. Short-term rainfall departures are all below normal across the entire state, with the largest deficits (2-4") over the western Panhandle. Here, **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** remains, with **severe (level 2 of 4)** to **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** persisting over the interior eastern Panhandle and Big Bend. **Severe drought (level 2 of 4)** also remains in place across the Suwannee River Valley where streamflows are well below normal. Some of the biggest changes in recent outlooks has been across West-Central and South Florida where long-term rainfall departures have reached 4-6" in many locations. The **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** has expanded further south along the Gulf coast to include all of Charlotte and Lee counties, and westward to interior Glades and Hendry counties. Expansion of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** was also added across coastal Southeast Florida. Nearly 87% of the state of Florida is now under a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** or worse. Our next chance for rainfall returns this weekend; however, rainfall totals do not appear substantial enough to allow for category improvements.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **463 (+4)** 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



| Solar Flare Risk | Active Watches & Warnings | Past 24 hours |
|--|--|-------------------|
| M-class: 45% | Geomagnetic Storm: None | C5 Solar Flare |
| X-class: 10% | Radiation Storm: None | No Radio Blackout |
| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast | | |
| 1/9 | 1/10 | |
| Max K _p = 5 (G1) | Max K _p = 4 (G0) | |
| Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 5% | Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1% | |

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a slight chance for moderate (M-class) solar flares through the weekend. Any M-class flares that develop from this region will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts, and any isolated X-class flares that develop will be capable of producing strong (R3) radio blackouts. Enhanced solar wind conditions are expected today with the arrival of Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds. Elevated solar winds are expected through the weekend with CH HSS influence persisting, with potential greater disturbance on Saturday with a few glancing coronal mass ejection (CME) impacts. Unsettled to active geomagnetic levels are expected through the weekend as well, with isolated minor (G1) storm conditions possible from the CH HSS effects and glancing CMEs. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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