



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, January 14, 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jay Griffin	(850) 524-4094	Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Austin Johnson	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(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	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	Region 1 Training & Exercise Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Jefferson	EM Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	G-191 Course Instruction Prep
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	NEDMU National Emergency Management Advanced Academy
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	G-141 Course Instruction
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Desoto, Polk, Hillsborough	Desoto & Polk Capabilities Assessments / Return to R6 Travel
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Desoto, Polk	Desoto & Polk Capabilities Assessments
Region 8: Amber Durden	Desoto, Polk	Desoto & Polk Capabilities Assessments
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Desoto, Charlotte	Desoto Capabilities Assessment / Region 9 Annual Hurricane Readiness Session
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Hurricane Exercise Planning Meeting / R10 Coordinators Meeting



Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	Instructing G300
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	County EM Meeting
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	NEMAA Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Osceola	County TTX
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Charlotte	R9 Hurricane Readiness Meeting
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	NWS Hydrology Training
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	Regional Counterpart Meeting

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

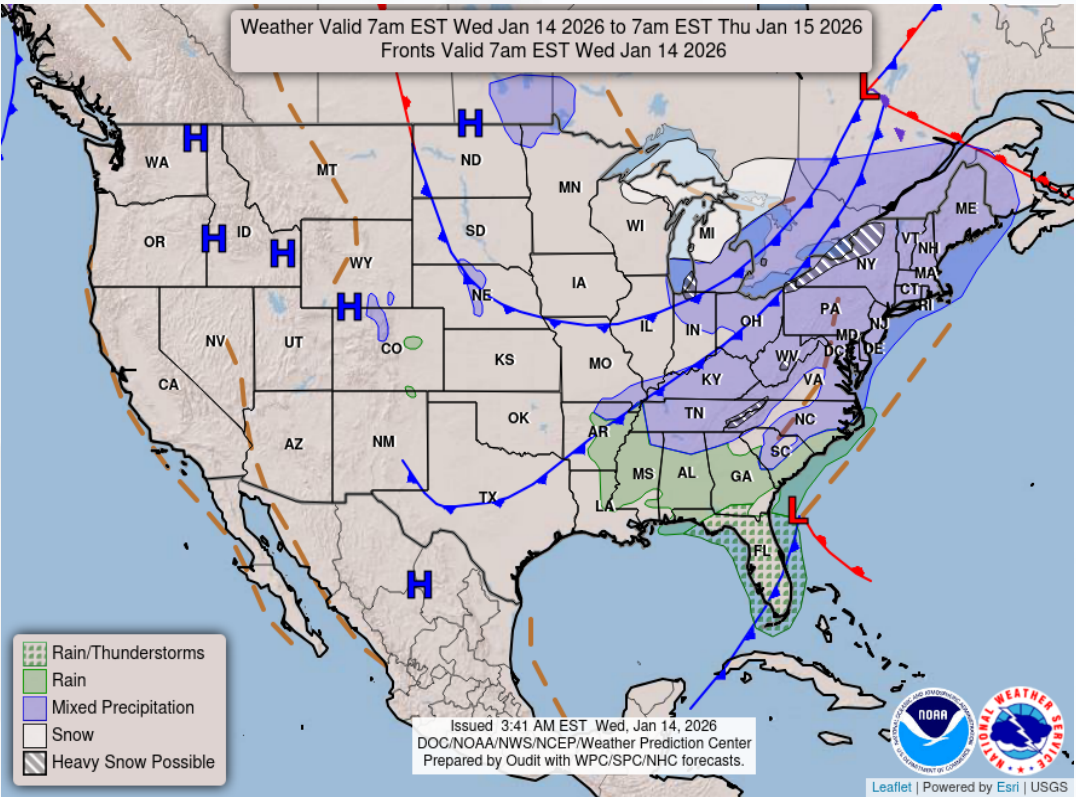
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6 & 8

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

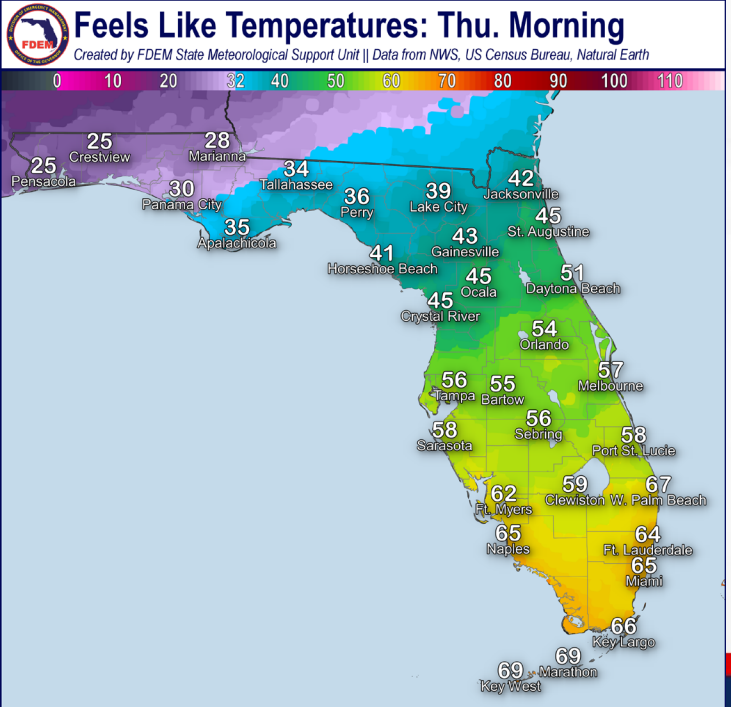
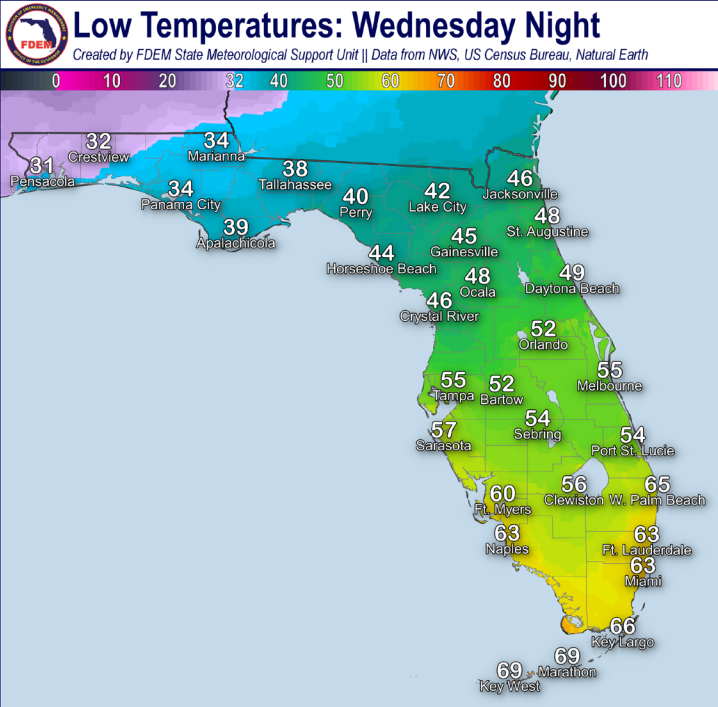


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning									L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding						L				L
Freeze (Overnight)	M	L								
Wind Chill (Overnight)	M	L								
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	L	M	L		M	M	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.19 ft. (1.52 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	481 (+1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

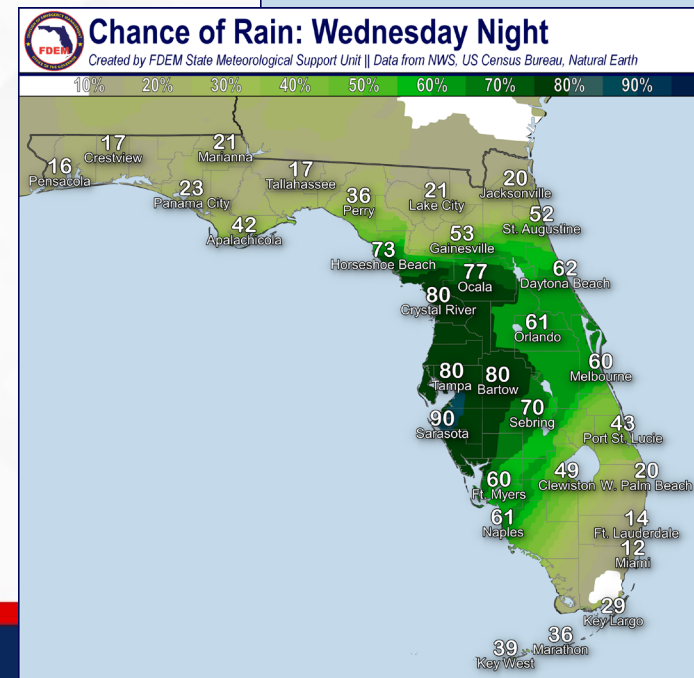
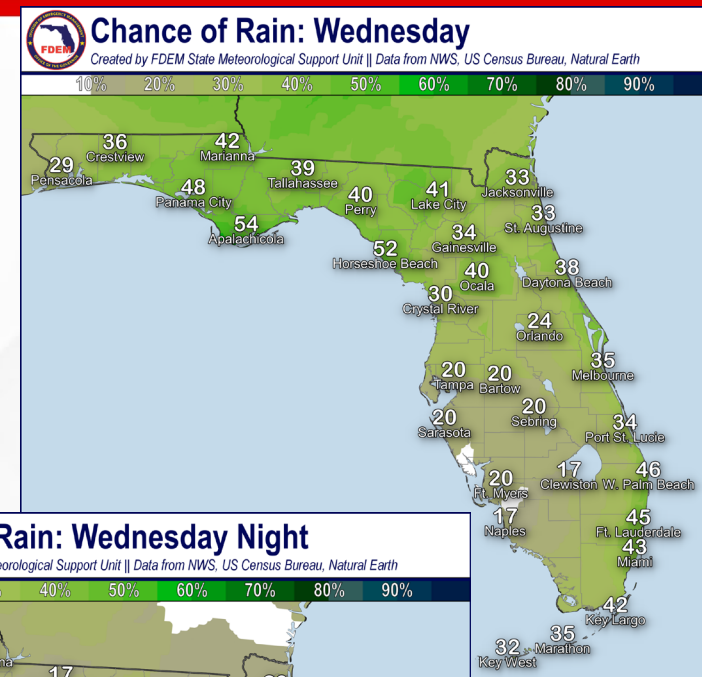
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog has developed this morning throughout interior South Florida prompting **Dense Fog Advisories** until 9:00 AM EST for reduced **visibilities of ¼ of a mile or less**. A more active weather pattern returns across the state today as an approaching cold front will pull enough moisture to bring isolated to widely scattered showers throughout North and Central Florida during the daytime hours (20-40% chance of rain). Further to the south, the lingering frontal boundary that has been there for the last few days along the Straits will lift slightly northward increasing shower coverage across South Florida and along the Atlantic Coast (20-40% chance of rain). With enough heating there may be a chance for an isolated rumble of thunder along the Southeast Florida coastline or over the adjacent coastal waters near the Gulf Stream. A mixture of sunshine and cloud cover can be expected throughout the state during the daytime hours.

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

Rain chances will gradually decrease across the Panhandle and Big Bend this evening and the overnight as the cold front pushes through. Enough moisture will be pulled from the adjacent gulf waters across the West Coast and the Peninsula giving way to more scattered to widespread shower activity overnight (50-80% chance of rain). Behind the passing cold front, breezy winds will sweep in across the Panhandle and Big Bend during the early morning hours on Thursday with wind gusts reaching **upwards of 15-25 mph** with **stronger wind gusts of 30-35 mph** closer towards the coasts and the coastal waters.

Colder air will begin to race in behind the cold front tonight across the western Panhandle dropping temperatures into the **lower to middle 30s** while the rest of North Florida reaching the upper 30s to middle 40s. With the breezy winds developing early Thursday morning, **feels-like temperatures** will be in the **middle to upper 20s** along the Panhandle and **lower to middle 30s** across the western Big Bend. Central Florida will see low temperatures in the lower to middle 50s. South Florida will see low temperatures in the upper 50s to middle 60s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Westerly to northwesterly winds will continue to create a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** along the Panhandle and Southwest Florida beaches. Numerous East Coast beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** to persist after large ocean swells lingering along the coastline. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected statewide today. An isolated breaking wave offshore from the eastern Panhandle could reach **upwards of 4'** later this afternoon. Ocean swells along the Panhandle and West Coast will grow overnight **to reach 3-5'**.

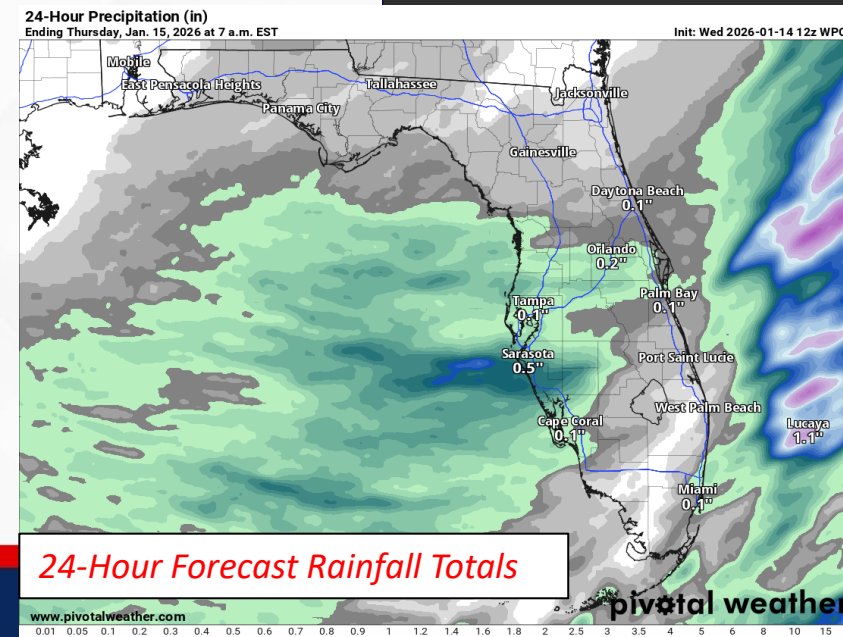
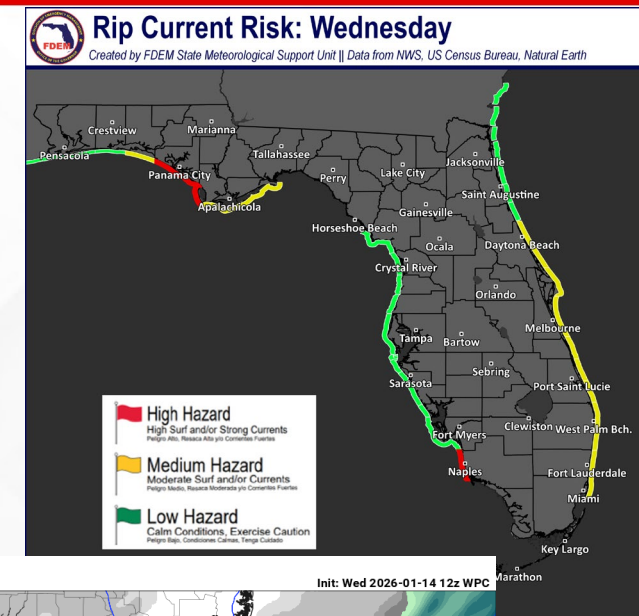
Red Tide was observed at background to **high concentrations** in Bay County and background to very low concentrations in Gulf County along the Panhandle. It was also observed at background to very low concentrations in Charlotte County in Southwest Florida. Red Tide was not observed along the Florida East Coast (valid 1/9/2026).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today. Isolated to scattered showers will move across North and Central Florida today ahead of a cold front; however, drier conditions will limit the amount of rainfall received. Rainfall totals will remain near 0.1-0.5", with the greatest totals along the West Coast possibly reaching upwards of 1-1.5" locally. Some nuisance ponding of water cannot be ruled out within any locally heavier rainfall or repeated shower activity over urban areas.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.19 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.52 feet below normal for this time of year.



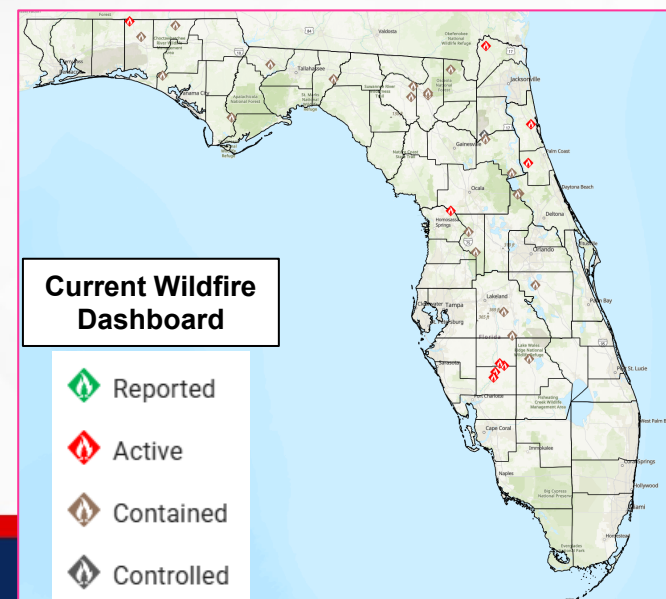
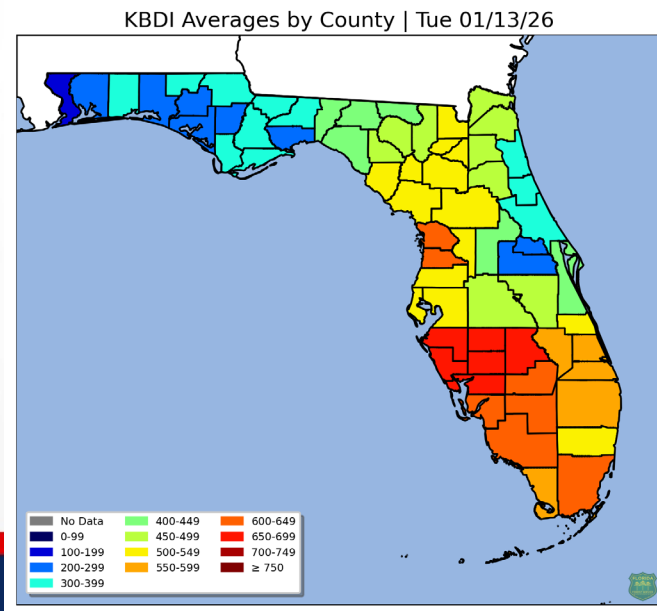
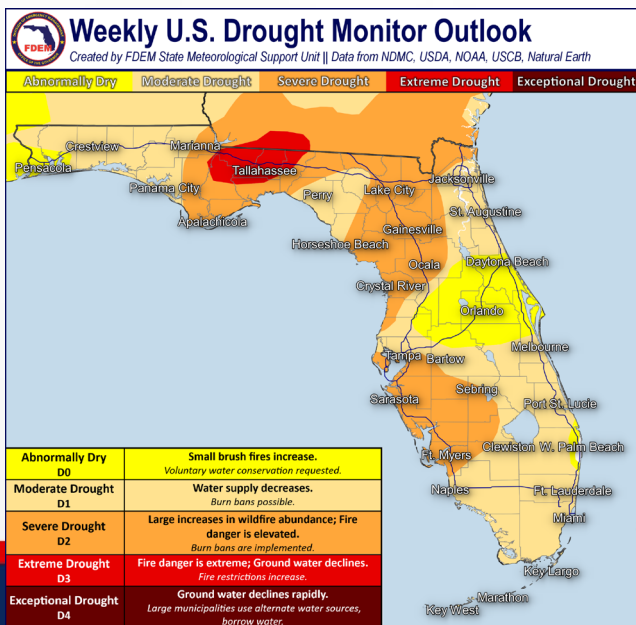


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Moisture ahead of an approaching cold front will bring isolated to widely scattered showers across much of North and Central Florida during the daytime hours. Later this evening and overnight, more scattered activity can be expected along the West Coast as the system pulls moisture from the gulf waters. Relative humidity values will remain above critical thresholds throughout the state given the uptick in moisture. Wind gusts upwards of 15 mph will gradually develop throughout the day and expand statewide by the late afternoon hours. Due to the ongoing drought conditions and lack of rainfall recently, **sensitive wildfire conditions** will persist across the state. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 31 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 456 acres.

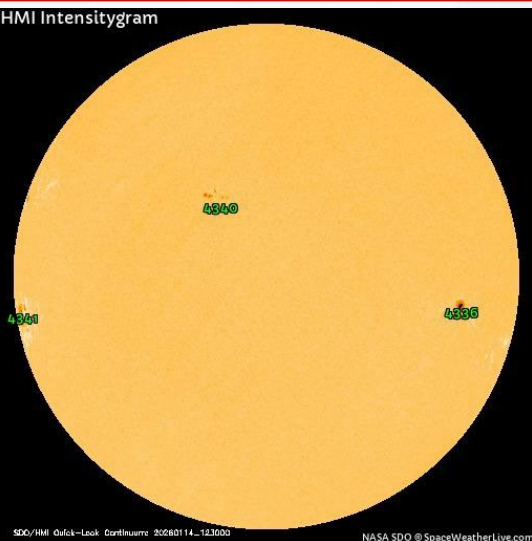
Drought (1/8/26): Some beneficial rainfall fell across North Florida this past weekend, bringing widespread 1-2" totals to the Panhandle and Big Bend. However, very little change was made to this weeks Drought Monitor outlook due to long-term drought and **above normal temperatures** keeping drought 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 **481 (+1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **32** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

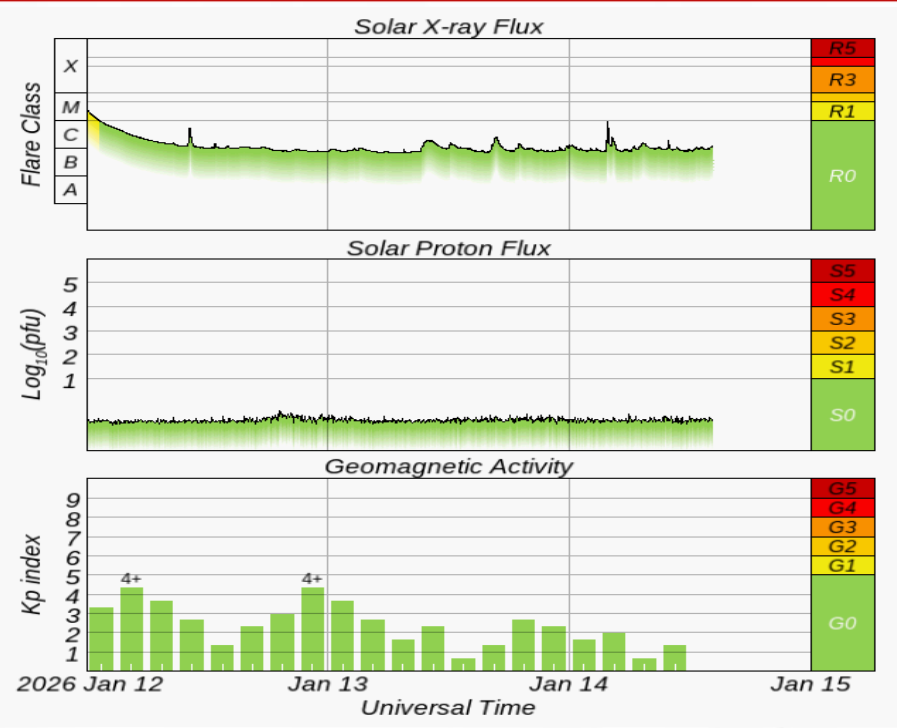
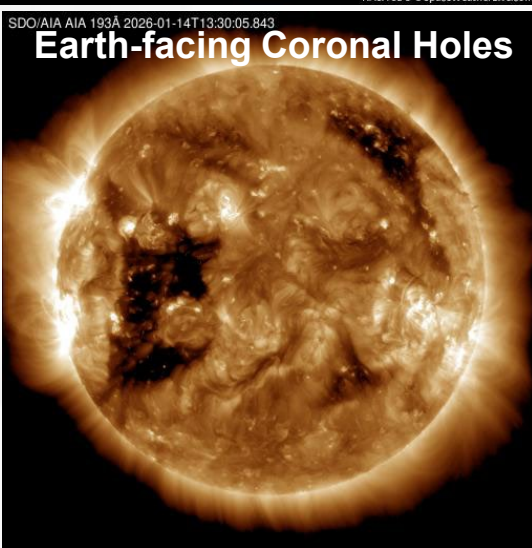




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 25%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
1/14	1/15
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be low today with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares due to sunspot #4336 and a new emerging sunspot off the western limb of the sun. Any M-class solar flare that develops will bring minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts with it. Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds are expected to continue through today before gradually diminishing tomorrow. The Earth's geomagnetic field will be at unsettled to active levels given the ongoing CH HSS conditions persisting. 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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