



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, January 22, 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Lauren Warfield	(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	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	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	Okaloosa	DRA Meeting / Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	TLH Airport FSE MSEL Meeting & Exercise Site Tour / RC Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	RC Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Miami-Dade, Clay	Return to Region 4 Travel / RC Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Lake, Orange	RDSTF Meeting / DOH TTX / RC Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Miami-Dade, Hillsborough	Return to Region 6 Travel / RC Meeting Mass Casualty Planning Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Polk	Region 7 Quarterly Meeting (AM) / Leave (PM - See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	Vehicle Maintenance / RC Meeting / Office Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	EM Partner Meeting / RC Meeting



Region 7 Coverage Provided By Response Coordinator 6

Region 8 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 8

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Region 1: Allison Blevins	Okaloosa	DRA Assistance
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	Exercise Planning Meeting
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	NEFL COAD Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	R7 Quarterly Meeting (V)
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	R7 Quarterly Meeting (V)
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	EM Partners Meeting

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

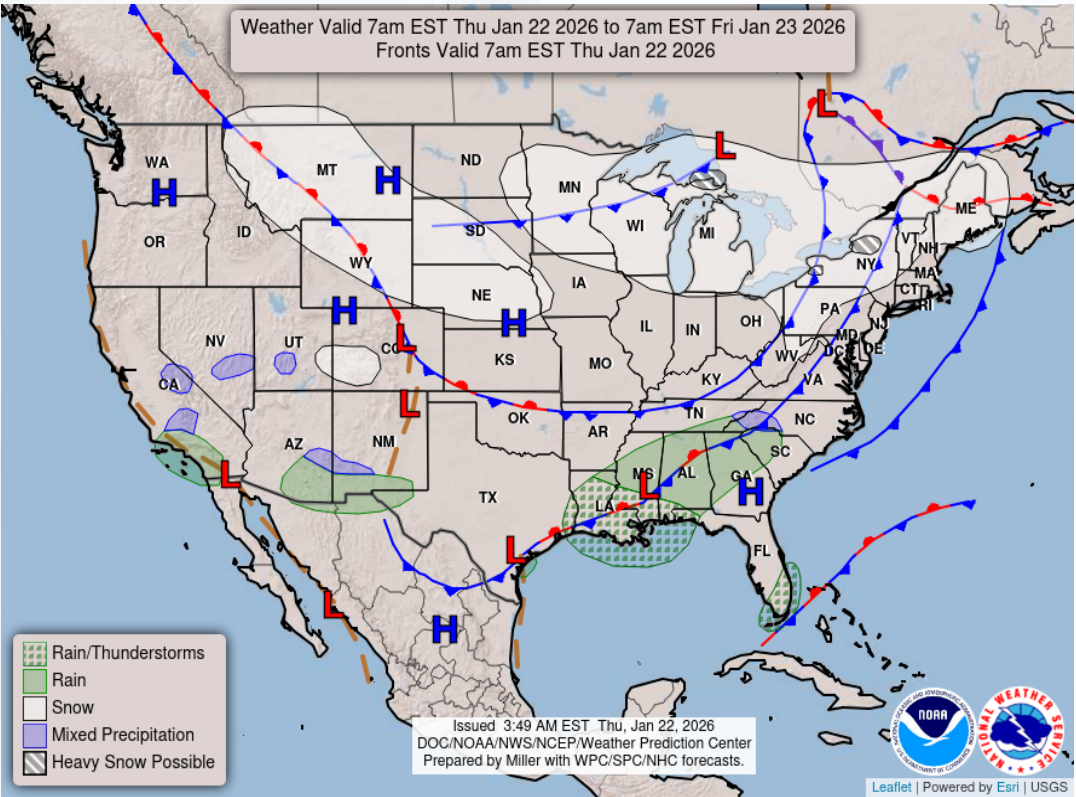
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6 & 8

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

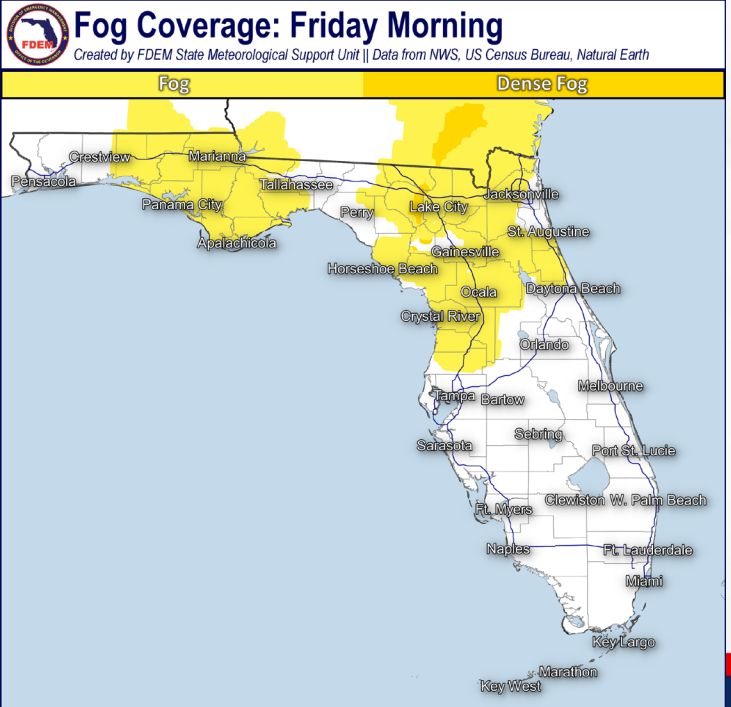
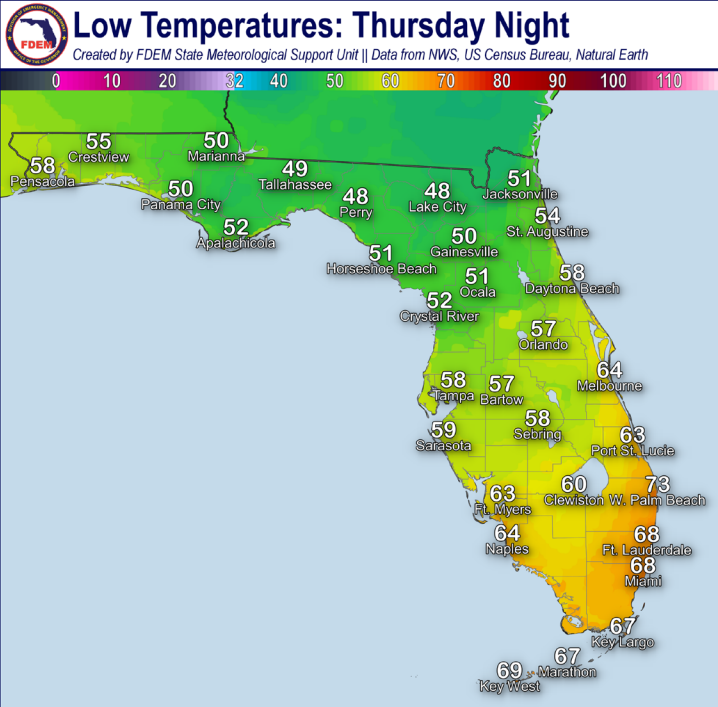


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										L
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	L	L	L	L		L				
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	13.01 ft. (1.69 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	469 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





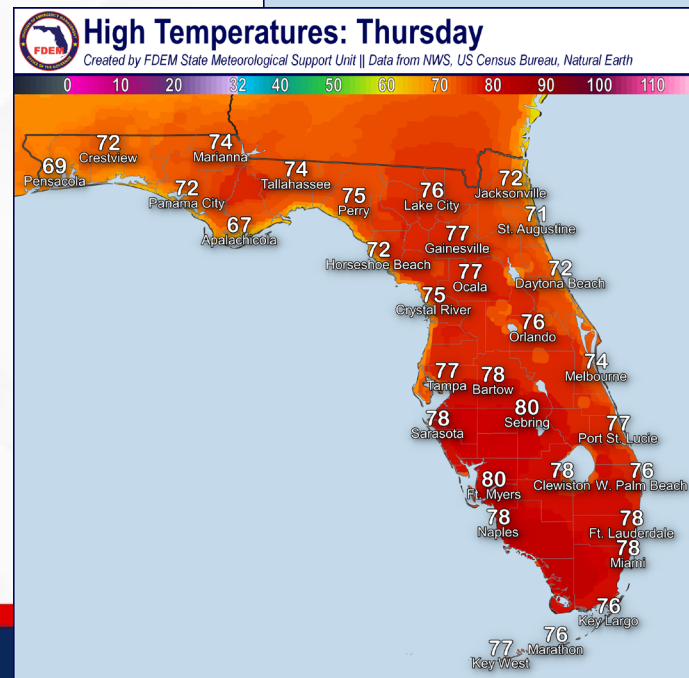
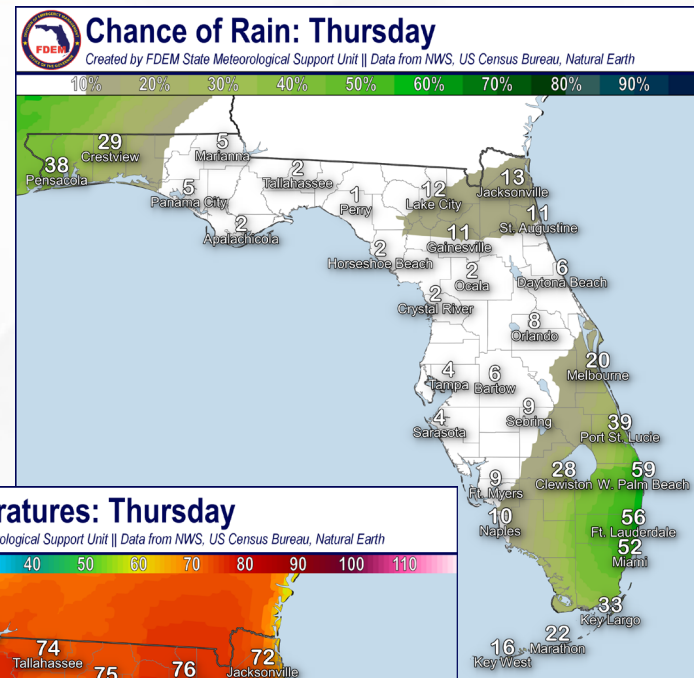
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

The gradual warming trend will continue across the Sunshine State, courtesy of an area of high pressure positioned between two frontal boundaries. Afternoon temperatures will trend above normal for this time of year, with highs reaching the lower to middle 70s across North Florida and the middle 70s to even isolated pockets of the lower 80s south of the I-4 corridor.

Showers currently pinned along the Southeast Florida coastline will continue to increase in coverage and potentially intensity through the afternoon hours (50-70% chance of rain). While isolated thunderstorms cannot be ruled out during the peak heating hours of the day, **rainfall rates** will be the primary trend to monitor as shower and thunderstorm activity will be slow-moving along the Southeast Florida Coast. The main forecast uncertainty is how far inland rain activity may advance versus remain just offshore within the coastal zones. Should heavier rainfall move onshore, **minor street flooding and ponding water** cannot be ruled out along and east of the I-95 corridor, with localized rainfall totals in excess of 3" possible. Farther north, rain chances will gradually return to the western Florida Panhandle today (30-45% chance of rain), with a few rumbles of thunder possible.

Temperatures continue to moderate tonight, with lows in the 40s and 50s across North and Central Florida and the 60s through South Florida. Lingering low-level moisture within today's prevailing easterly flow may support the development of **fog and low clouds** tonight into Friday morning, with the greatest potential for reduced visibilities across North Florida and the Nature Coast.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: There is a **moderate to high risk of rip currents** for all Florida East Coast beaches today due to onshore winds and lingering elevated surf. A **moderate risk of rip currents** continues for many Florida Panhandle beaches, with a low risk persisting along the Florida West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights will continue to gradually subside along the Florida Atlantic Coast today, with breakers in the surf zone still reaching **2-4'** through the afternoon. Locally higher waves upwards of **5'** cannot be ruled out along portions of the Space Coast. Elsewhere, wave heights of 1-2' can be expected.

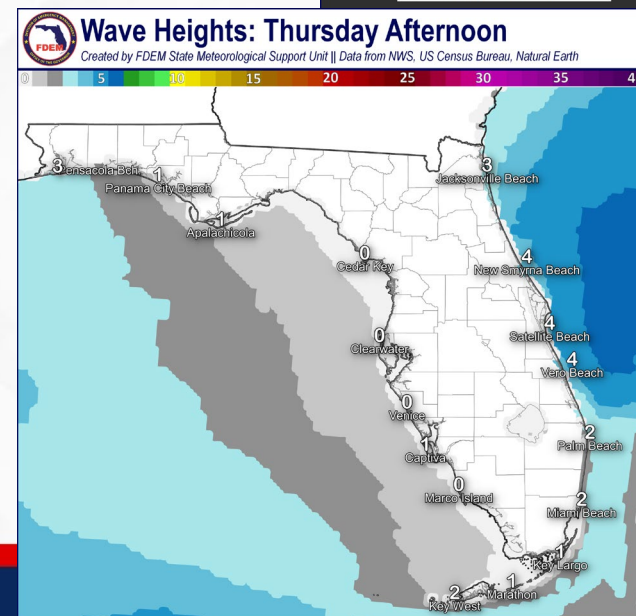
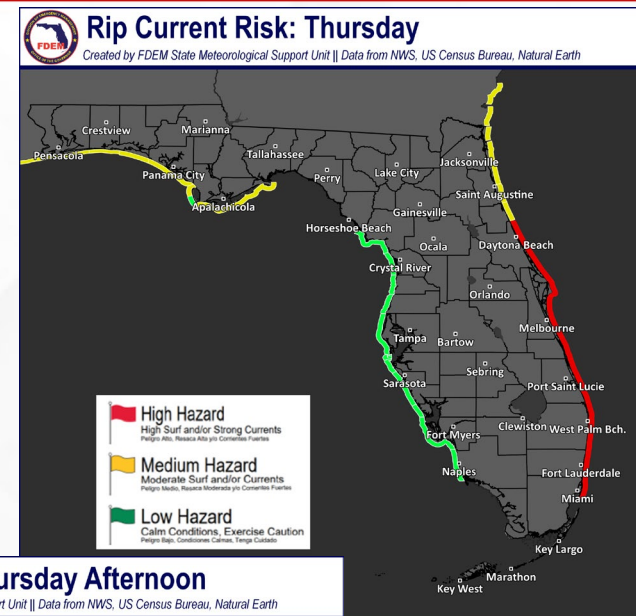
Red Tide was observed at background to **medium concentrations** in Bay and Gulf counties and background to very low concentrations in Franklin and Walton counties. In Southwest Florida, Red Tide was also observed at background concentrations in Sarasota, Charlotte, and offshore Collier County. It was observed at low concentrations offshore Monroe County (valid 1/16/2026).

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

Flash Flooding: While there is no organized risk for flash flooding, rainfall rates will be the primary trend to monitor as shower and thunderstorm activity will be slow-moving along the Southeast Florida Coast. The main forecast uncertainty is how far inland rain activity may advance versus remain just offshore within the coastal zones. Should heavier rainfall move onshore, **minor street flooding and ponding water** cannot be ruled out along and east of the I-95 corridor, with localized rainfall totals in excess of 3" possible.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.01 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.69 feet below normal for this time of year.



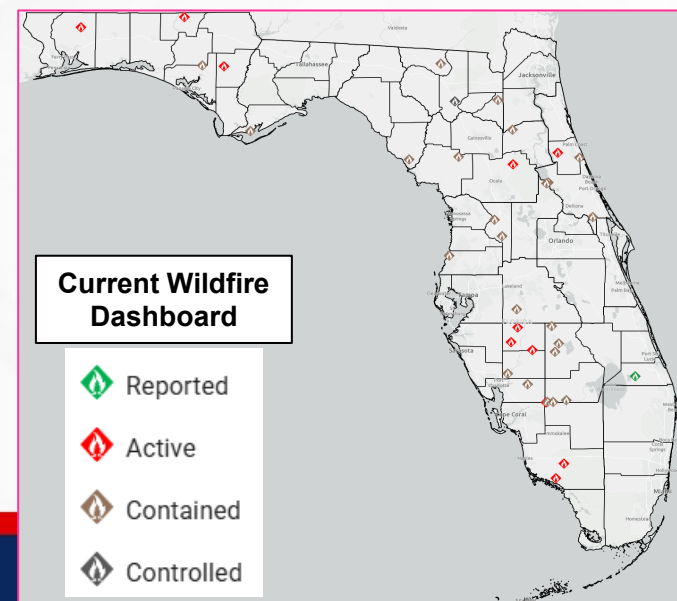
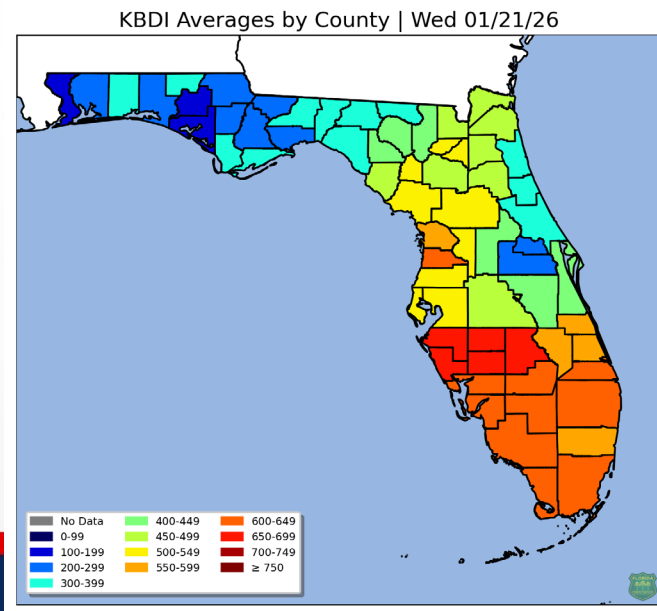
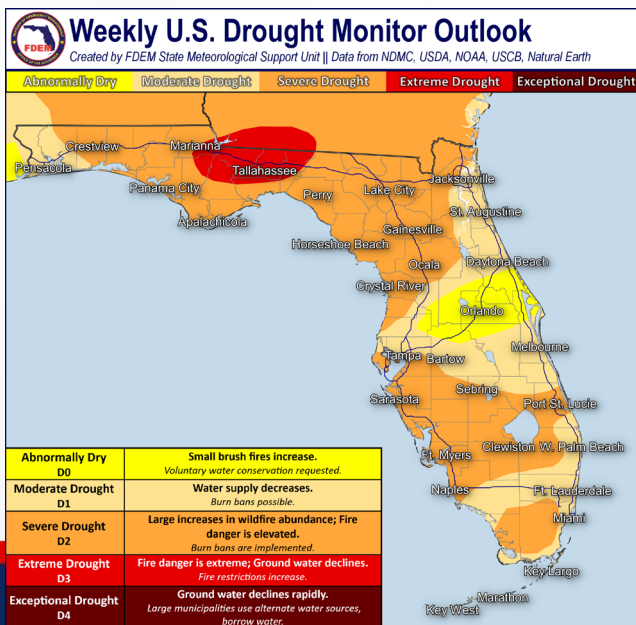


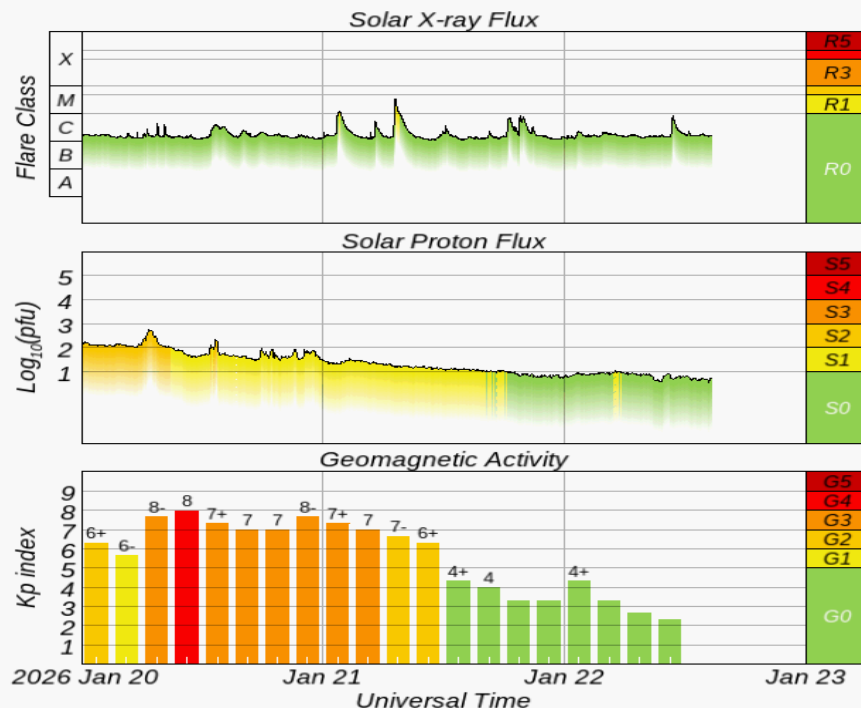
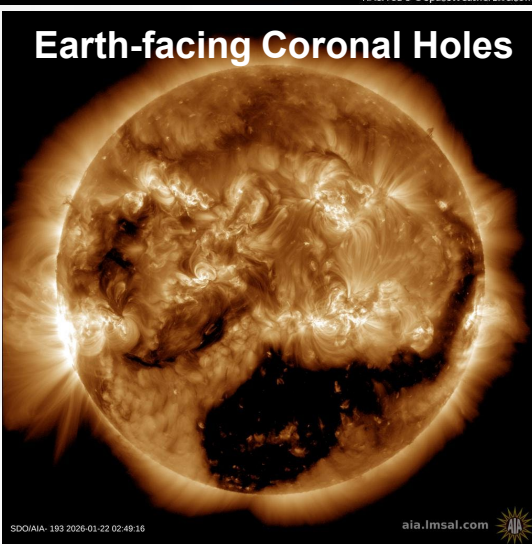
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Relative humidity values continue to recover across the Sunshine State today, courtesy of prevailing easterly winds. While values will remain well above critical thresholds statewide, pockets of 40-45% relative humidities can be expected across interior portions of North Florida throughout the Suwannee River Valley. The overall wildfire threat today will remain low; however, winds may become breezy at times through the Florida Peninsula (10-20 mph). With expanding drought and long-term dry conditions, **locally sensitive wildfire** conditions continue in the forecast this afternoon. Areas of **fog and low clouds** may develop tonight, leading to further reductions in visibility near or around any ongoing wildfires or burns. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 36 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,550 acres.

Drought (1/22/26): Light precipitation was observed across Florida over the past 7 days, with portions of the interior Florida Panhandle receiving precipitation as snowfall! However, rain and snow totals of 0.25 to 1" were insufficient to produce meaningful drought improvement. Rainfall totals continue to trend below for this time of year, both in the middle to long-range guidance, and streamflows across North Florida remain below low-flow thresholds. As a result, expansions of both **moderate (level 1 of 4)** and **severe (level 2 of 4) drought** were observed throughout the Sunshine State, particularly for the Florida Big and areas south of the I-4 corridor. **Extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** persists over the interior eastern Florida Panhandle and Big Bend as 60-day rainfall deficits continue to run at 2-3.5" below normal for this time of year. This now brings over 92% of the state is under a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** or worse on this week's Drought Monitor update.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **469 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **29** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 60%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C8 Solar Flare
X-class: 15%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
1/22	1/23
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is likely to remain at moderate levels today, with a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flare activity. The elevated solar flare risk is primarily due to the potential of active sunspot regions 4341, 4342, and 4345. Minor to moderate radio blackouts may accompany the stronger and more organized flare activity. While solar wind conditions near Earth will be slowly waning over the next 24 hours, positive coronal hole influences will maintain an unsettled environment today. Minor (G1) geomagnetic storming can be expected today, gradually subsiding into Friday. The overall space weather threat to Florida remains 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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