



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, February 4, 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	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Ahnaya Benjamin	(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	Walton	LEPC Meeting / Downtime TTX / UAS Coordination Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Region 2 Annual Hurricane Rediness Session
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	County EM Visit / Readiness Session Prep
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	MGT -466 Course
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	EMAC Training / Office Admin
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Manatee	EM Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Indian River	Office Admin
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	Office Admin / Ingestion Pathway Workshop Call
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Broward / Miami-Dade	Regional Hazmat Meeting / OVS UC Meeting / SRT Assessments



Region 7 Coverage Provided By Response Coordinator 6

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	LEPC Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Hurricane Readiness Session
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	County EM Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	MGT - 466 Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Polk	Equipment Swap/Maintenance
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Manatee	County EM Meeting
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Okeechobee	LTRG Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	G-141 Training

Region 3 Coverage Provided By Recovery Team 2 & 4

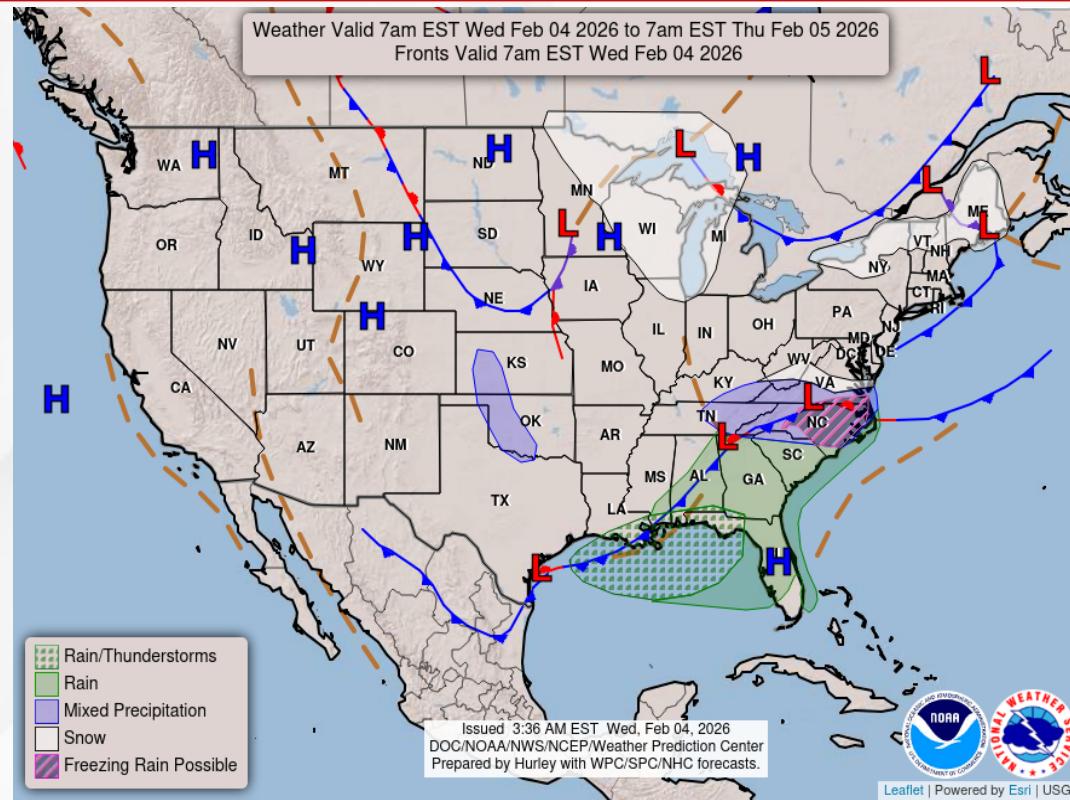
Region 7 Coverage Provided By Recovery Team 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided By Recovery Team 6 & 8

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

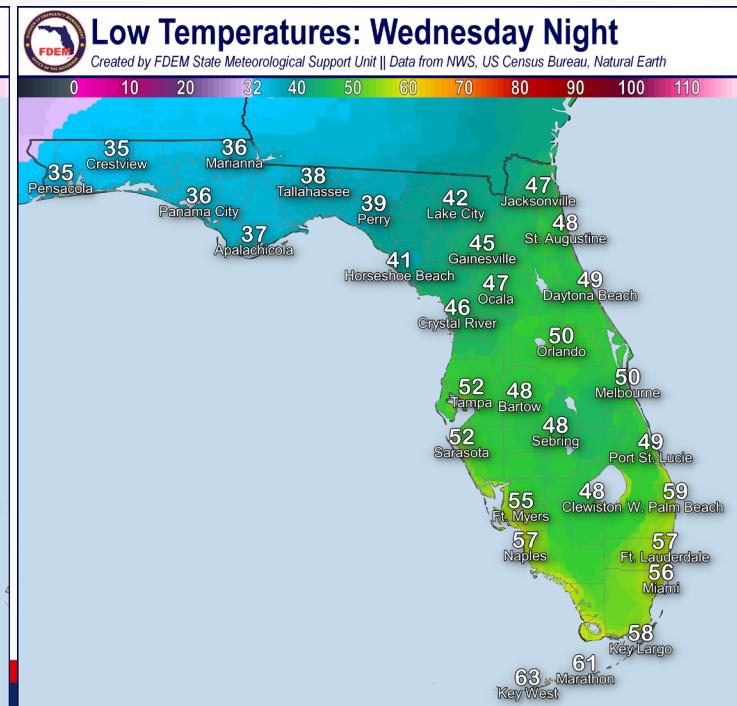
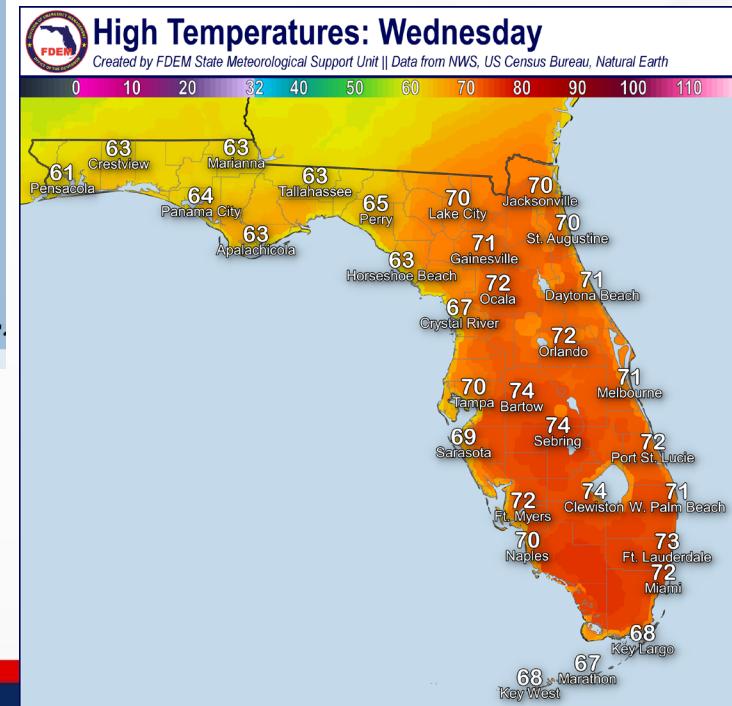


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L								
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)	L	L								
Wind Chills (Overnight)	L	L								
Wildfire			L	M	M	M	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	H	L	H	L	H	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.66 ft. (1.98 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	481 (+1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

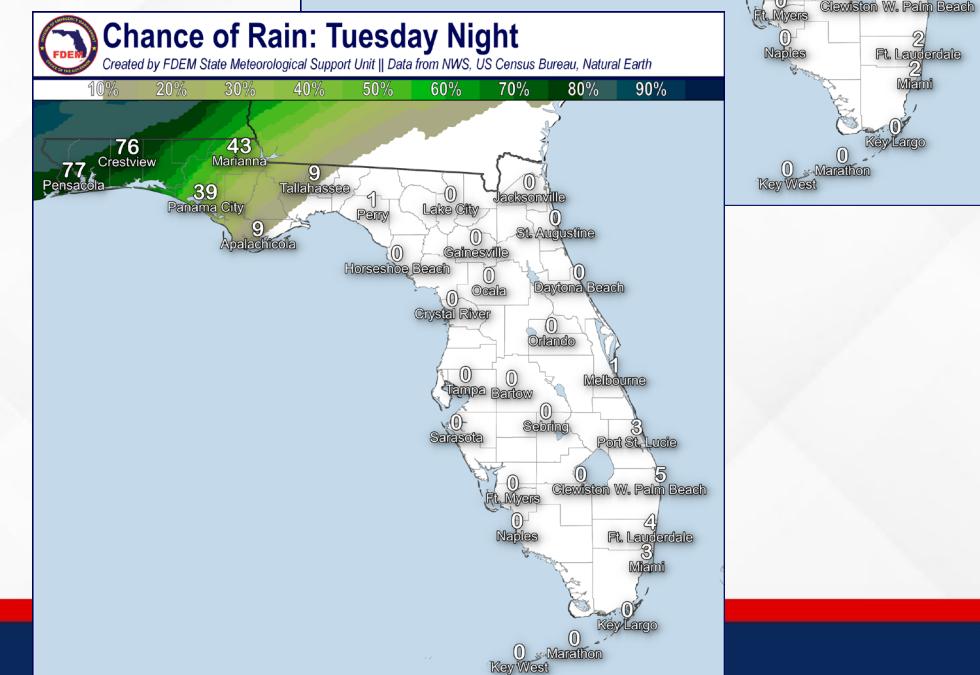
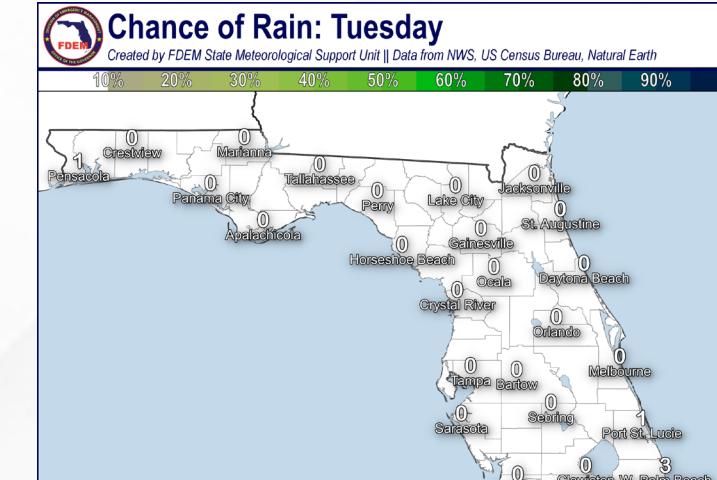
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A **chilly start** this morning across portions of Northeast and Central Florida; however, temperatures will quickly warm up this afternoon ahead of our next frontal system. This next cold front is currently making its way through the lower Mississippi River Valley with scattered to widespread showers and light rain ahead of and along it, spreading across the Panhandle. This activity will slowly slide eastward throughout the day with periods of light to moderate rainfall expected across the Panhandle and Big Bend through this afternoon (80-near 100% chance of rain). Although severe weather is not expected, some of this activity could lead to a few rumbles of thunder and **nuisance flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and low-lying/poor drainage locations. Across Northeast and Central Florida, relative humidities will dip to **near critical thresholds (30-40% RH values)** this afternoon which, paired with a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 25 mph**, may lead to **locally elevated wildfire conditions**. A mostly sunny and dry day is expected across South and Central Florida today.

High temperatures will reach the middle 60s for much of the Panhandle and Big Bend this afternoon, with 70s throughout the Peninsula.

The frontal activity will continue to push eastward this evening and overnight, with scattered to numerous showers first spreading across Northeast Florida and then into Central Florida after midnight (50-near 100% chance of rain). Areas of light to moderate rainfall will be ongoing by daybreak Thursday across the Peninsula. Ahead of this activity across South Florida, moist southerly flow will promote areas of **low clouds and fog** by daybreak, some of which could be **locally dense**.

Behind the front, low temperatures will cool off into the **middle to upper 30s** throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend, with feels-like temperatures by sunrise reaching the **upper 20s** to **lower 30s**. Lows in the 40s can be expected across Northeast Florida and throughout the interior Peninsula, with coastal locations of Central and South Florida remaining in the 50s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Onshore winds and lingering ocean swells along the East Coast and Panhandle will continue to create a **high risk for rip currents**. A **moderate risk** continues for much of Northeast and Southeast Florida beaches where locally calmer seas and winds are expected. A low risk returns to the West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Wave heights of 2-4'** will continue along all East Coast and Panhandle beaches today, with waves near 1-2' for West Coast beaches. An ocean swell will build overnight across the Gulf in the wake of our frontal system, with waves of **3-5'** for Panhandle beaches by daybreak Thursday. A few waves **upwards of 6'** cannot be ruled out for Gulf County beaches.

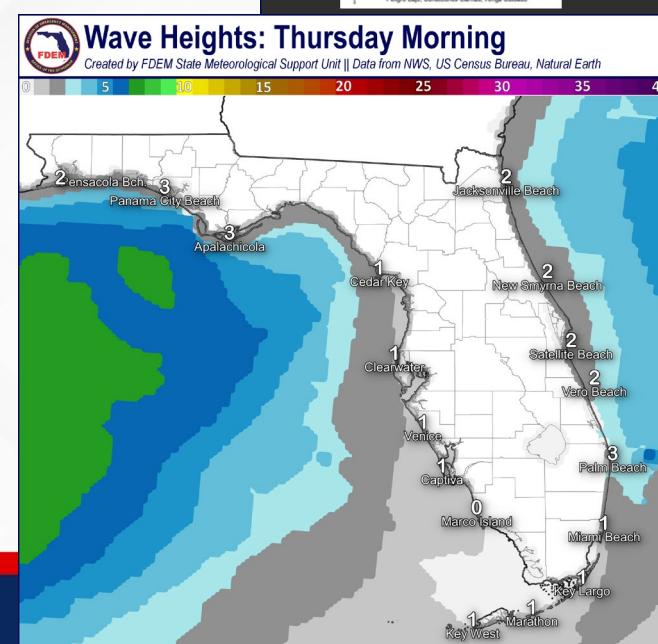
Red Tide was observed at background to very low concentrations in Walton County, background to medium concentrations in Bay County, and low concentrations in Gulf County across the Panhandle. In Southwest Florida, red tide was observed at background to very low concentrations offshore Hillsborough and Lee County. Along the Florida East Coast, red tide was observed at background concentrations from Brevard County (valid 1/31/2026).

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. A cold front will bring widespread light to moderate rainfall across the Panhandle and Big Bend today, spreading into Northeast and Central Florida overnight. Rainfall totals will generally remain below 0.5" for most locations, however locally heavier pockets of rainfall could lead to totals **upwards of 1"**. Given the very dry soils and grounds, this rainfall will be beneficial to the ongoing drought.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.66 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.98 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



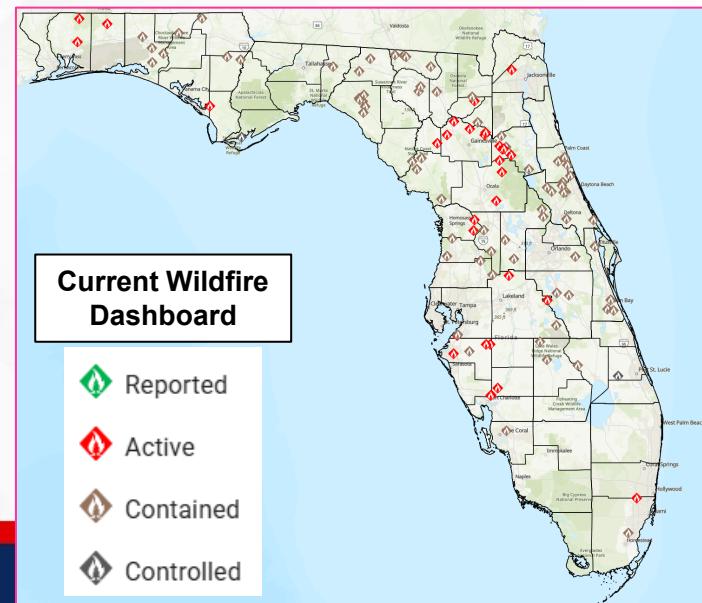
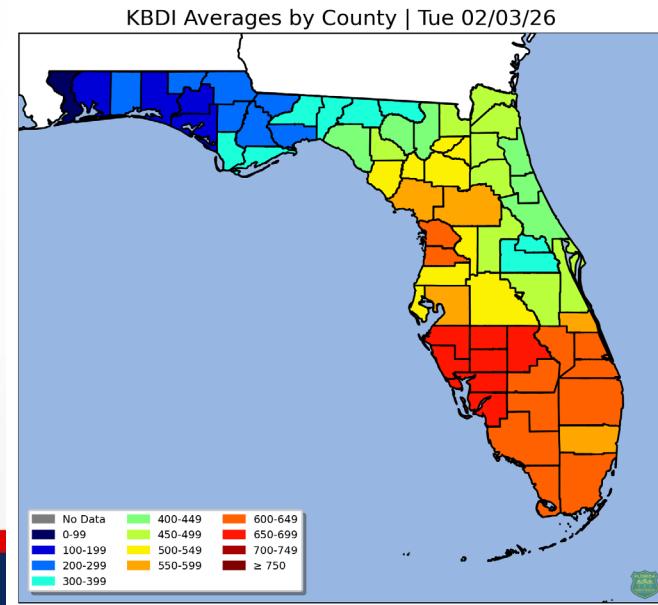
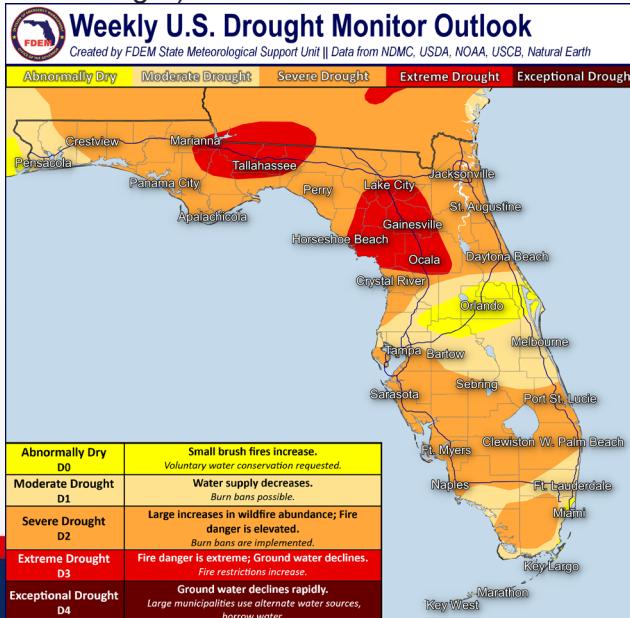


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dry air will linger across Northeast and North-Central Florida throughout the day ahead of our next approaching frontal system. Relative humidities will dip to **near critical thresholds (30-40% RH values)** which, paired with breezy wind gusts **upwards of 25 mph**, may lead to **locally elevated wildfire conditions**. Given the ongoing drought, **locally sensitive wildfire conditions** can be expected throughout much of the Peninsula. Across the Panhandle and Big Bend, moist air and rainfall will limit the overall wildfire threat today. This area of rain will eventually spread into Northeast and Central Florida this evening and overnight. Instances of **patchy fog** may also develop towards daybreak Thursday across South Florida, which can further reduce visibilities in active wildfire areas. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 118 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,333 acres.

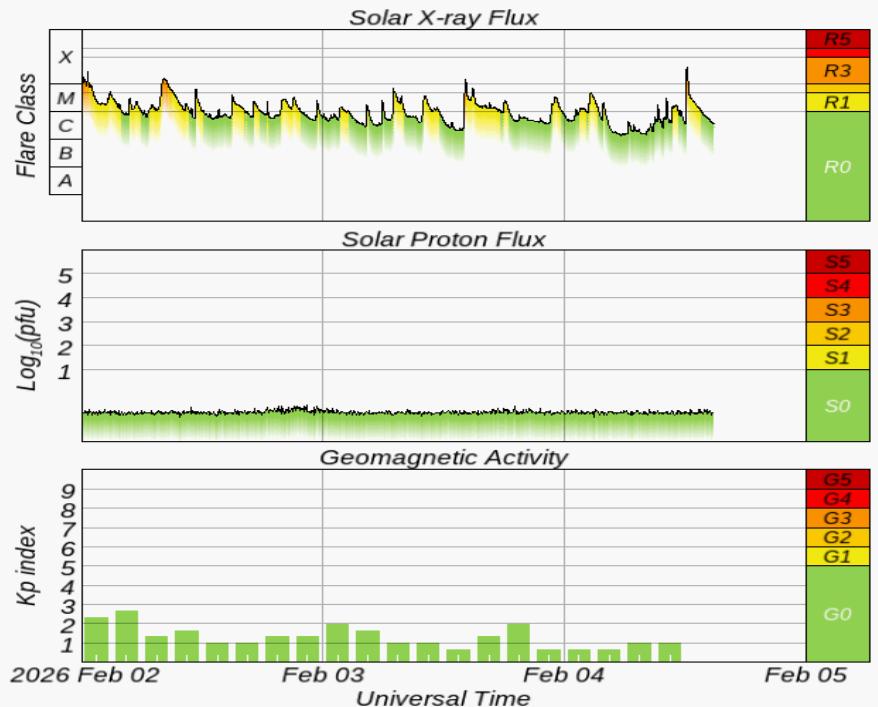
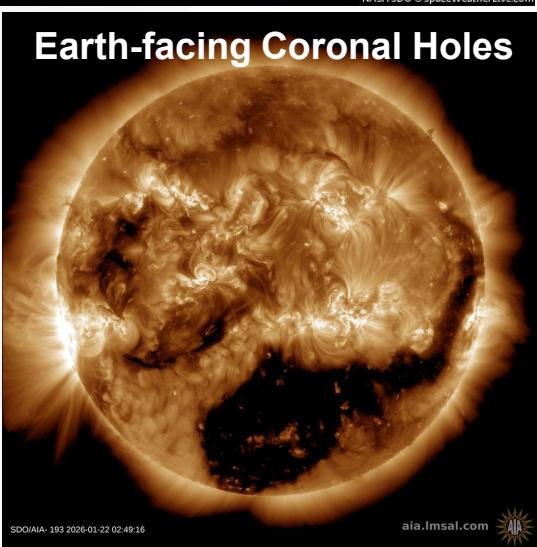
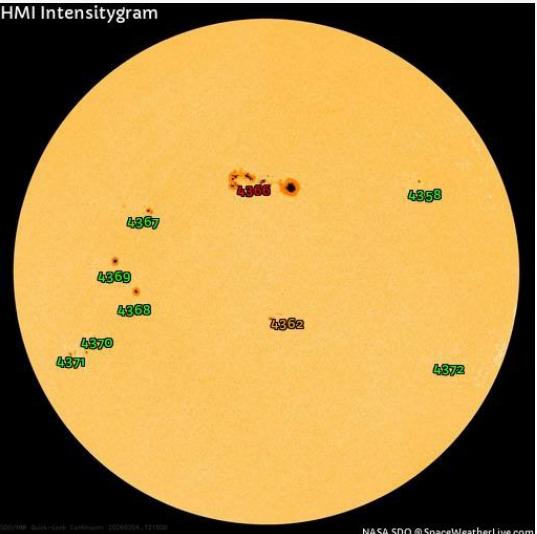
Drought (1/29/26): We saw the greatest rainfall over the past week mainly across the Florida Panhandle and north of the I-10 corridor with our frontal passage last weekend (1/25). Here rainfall totals of 0.5-2" fell, yet the ongoing long-term drought was hardly impacted. On the latest Drought Monitor outlook, **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** persists across much of North Florida and the I-10 corridor, expanding eastward to include the entire First Coast. Long-term (60 day) rainfall departures across the Nature Coast and North-Central Florida have neared 3-4" below normal, which has prompted the addition of an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** category. The **extreme drought** also remains untouched across the northern Big Bend region where, despite some rainfall, soil moisture levels and streamflows are well below normal. Across Central and South Florida, very little changes were made to this week's outlook. Some slight expansion of the **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** was added across coastal Palm Beach and Martin counties where rainfall departures continue to dip below normal. Some slight improvement in drought conditions were found along the immediate Southeast Florida coastline with recent coastal shower activity. As of this outlook, 94% of the state is under a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** or worse.

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



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 80%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	X4 Solar Flare
X-class: 40%	Radiation Storm: None	R3 Radio Blackout
48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast		
2/4	2/5	
Max Kp= 2 (G0)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)	
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	

Space Weather: Moderate to high solar activity can be expected due to recent activity from sunspot #4366. This sunspot poses a threat for strong (M-class) to significant (X-class) solar flares as it remains magnetically complex. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany M-class flares and strong (R3) radio blackouts will accompany X-class flares. The solar wind is expected to remain slightly enhanced before returning to nominal conditions until mid-day Thursday. Then, a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) is forecast to approach due to the impressive X8.1 solar flare from 2/1. The Earth's geomagnetic field will remain quiet through today but will start to increase to unsettled conditions ahead of the CME arrival. 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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