



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, February 5, 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	Lauren Warfield	(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	Gadsden	RC Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Franklin	EM Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Senior Officials Course / Region 3 Annual Hurricane Readiness Session
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	MGT -466 Course
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	EM Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	RC Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Indian River	RC Meeting
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	RC Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	RC Meeting



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	Professional Development
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Columbia	R3 Hurricane Readiness Session
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Suwannee / Columbia	Senior Officials Course / Hurricane Readiness Session
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	MGT-466 Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Marion	FROC Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	PA Contractors Mtg / Admin Duties
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Okeechobee	LMS 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

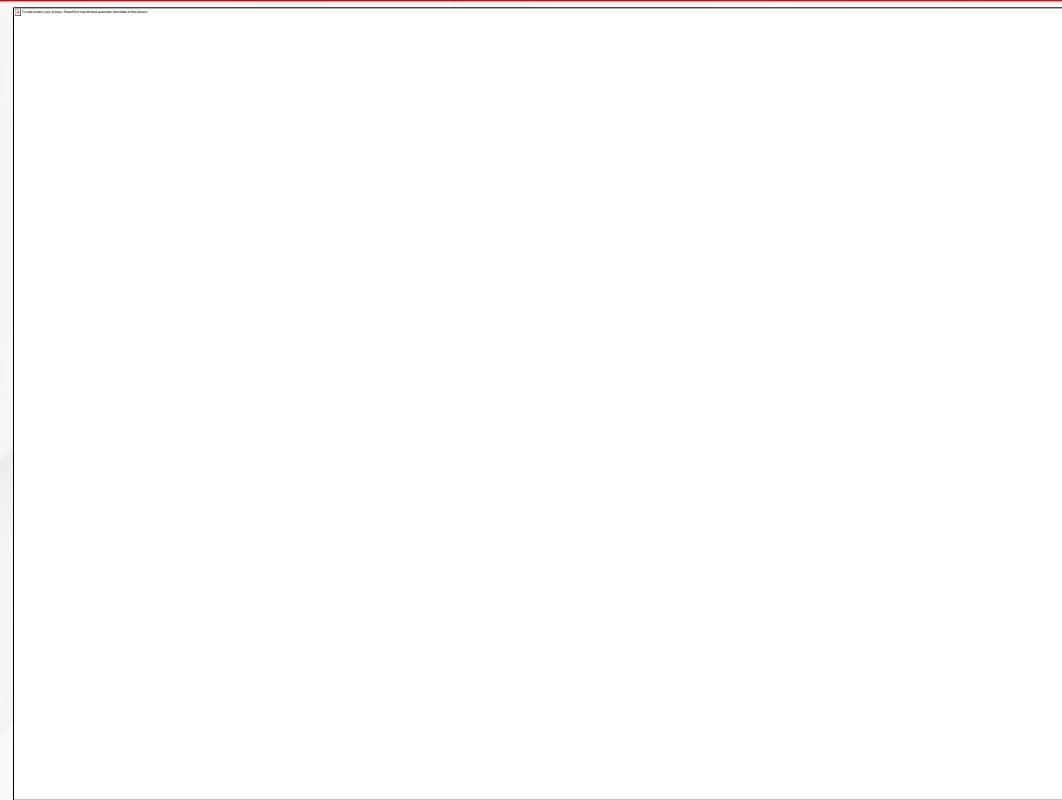
Region 7 Coverage Provided By Recovery Team 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided By Recovery Team 6 & 8

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

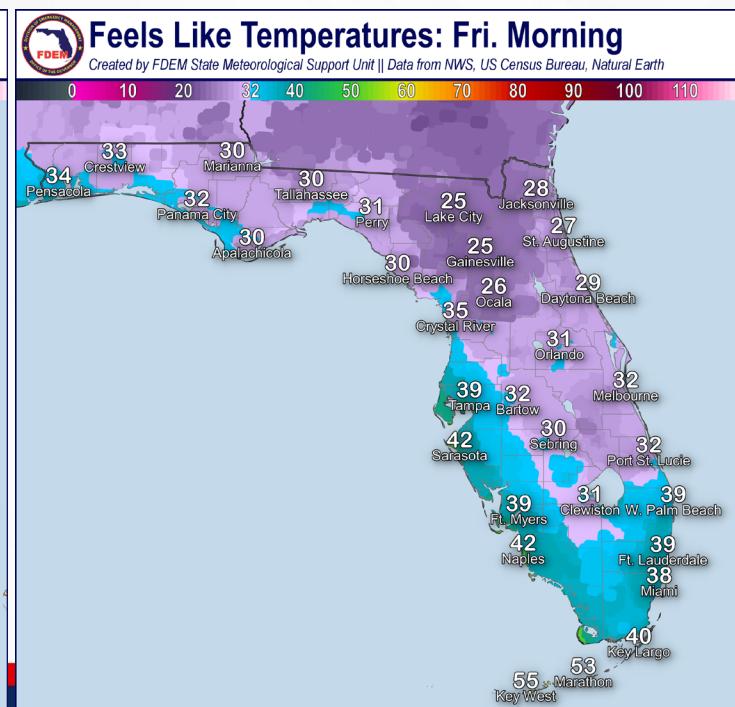
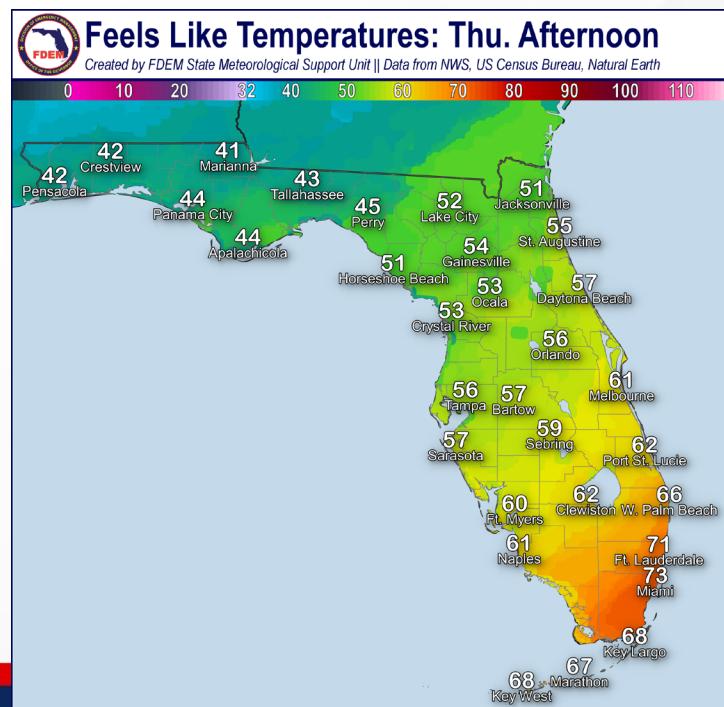


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	
Wind Chills (Overnight)	L	L	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L
Wildfire	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	H	L	M	M	H		H	H	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.66 ft. (1.97 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	483 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



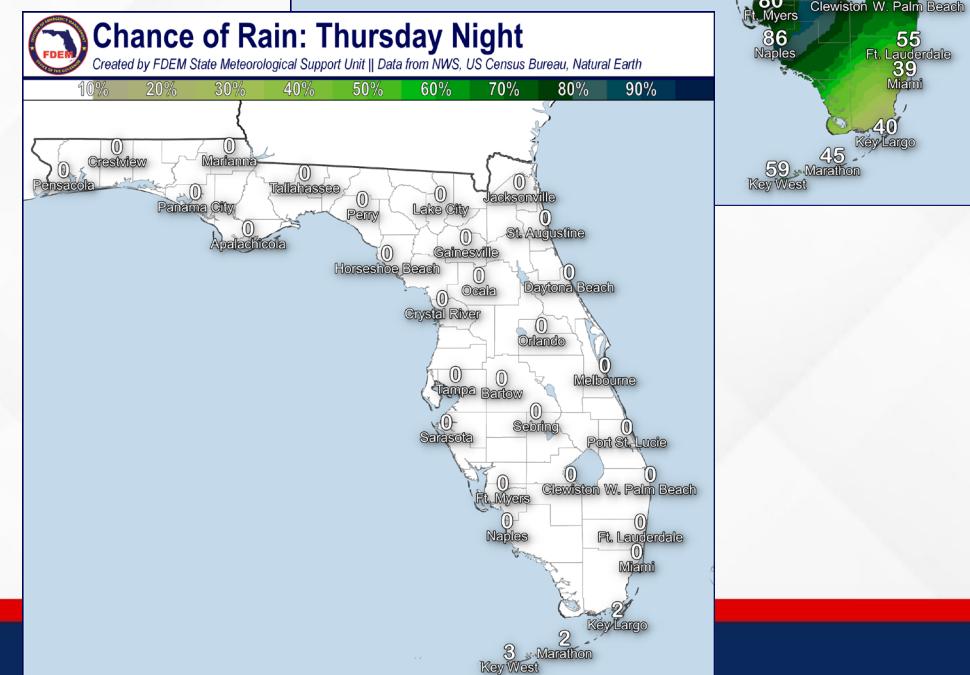
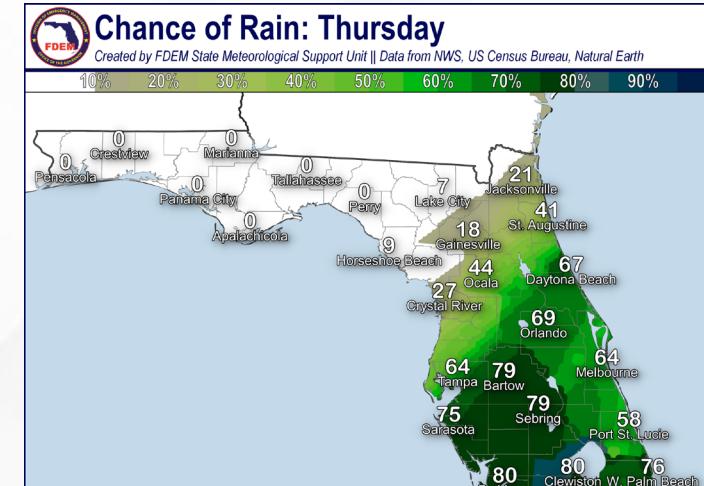


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Scattered showers are ongoing this morning across Central and South Florida ahead of and along our cold front passing through the state. Most activity is along and south of the I-4 corridor, and additional rounds of scattered showers or light rain are expected throughout the day across Central and South Florida before pushing offshore by mid-afternoon (50-90% chance of rain). In the wake of the front, much cooler and drier air will begin to filter into the state. This cool air is already felt in the western Panhandle this morning with wind chills in the **20s** and **30s**. Temperatures will hardly warm up this afternoon, with highs struggling to climb out of the lower to middle 50s throughout North Florida. With a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** at times, temperatures will feel like the lower to middle 40s throughout the afternoon. Relative humidities will also dip to **near or below critical thresholds (25-30% RH values)** this afternoon across the far western Panhandle, which may lead to **locally elevated wildfire conditions**. Elsewhere across the state, relative humidities will remain above critical thresholds. However, breezy winds can also be expected across Central and South Florida today with gusts **upwards of 25-30 mph** possible this afternoon. Highs will reach the lower to middle 60s in Central Florida and middle 60s to middle 70s in South Florida.

High pressure will begin to settle across the region tonight, providing for a clear, dry, but cold night. A **Freeze Warning** is in effect for Northeast Florida where **sub-freezing temperatures** are expected. Lows in the **upper 20s** to **lower 30s** are expected throughout much of North Florida tonight, where **widespread frost** is likely by daybreak. The interior Peninsula, extending into South Florida, can expect lows in the **middle to upper 30s**, with coastal locations of Central and South Florida staying in the 40s. With some breezy winds lingering overnight, wind chills may reach the **middle 20s** to **lower 30s** throughout the state tonight, as far south as interior Miami-Dade County. As such, a **Cold Weather Advisory** is in effect tonight until 9:00 AM EST throughout Central and South Florida for these **very cold wind chills**.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Onshore winds and a building ocean swell will bring a **high risk for rip currents** to most West Coast beaches today, as well as a local high risk for Gulf County along the Panhandle. A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected for all other Gulf-facing beaches, as well as the East Coast where seas will be locally calmer. Palm Beach County beaches can expect a **high risk for rip currents**. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: **Wave heights of 2-4'** can be expected for nearly all statewide beaches this afternoon. A building ocean swell in the Gulf, in the wake of our frontal passage, will bring locally higher surf to some Florida West Coast beaches this afternoon with some waves **upwards of 5'** possible. Surf will remain elevated near **2-4'** for West Coast beaches tonight. East Coast beaches will see an increase in surf tonight and by daybreak tomorrow, with **wave heights of 3-5'** expected. A few waves **upwards of 6'** cannot be ruled out, especially for Treasure Coast beaches.

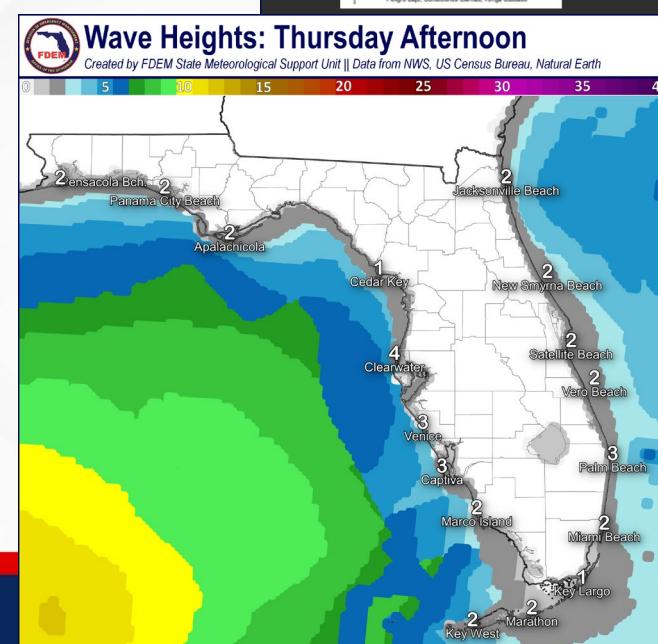
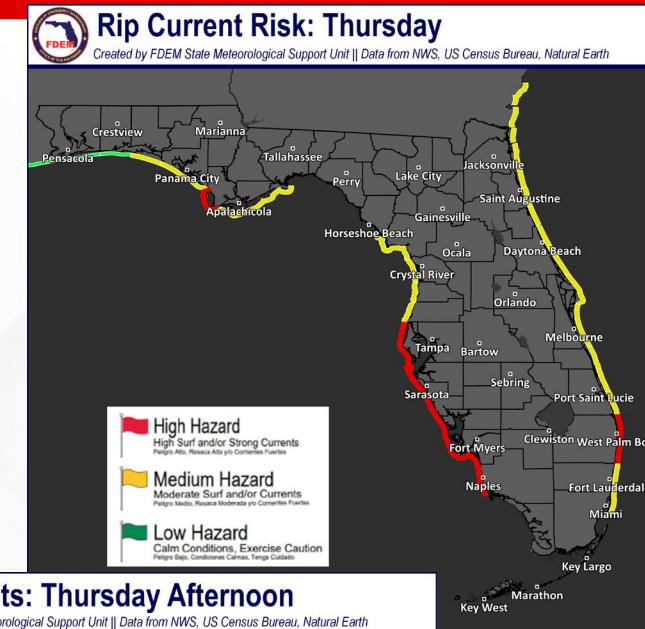
Red Tide was observed at background to very low concentrations in Walton County, background to medium concentrations in Bay County, and low concentrations in Gulf County across the Panhandle. In Southwest Florida, red tide was observed at background to very low concentrations offshore Hillsborough and 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 continue to bring scattered showers and light rainfall across the central and southern Peninsula this morning, eventually pushing offshore by the mid-afternoon hours. Rainfall totals will generally remain below 0.3-0.4" 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 **1.97 feet below** normal for this time of year.



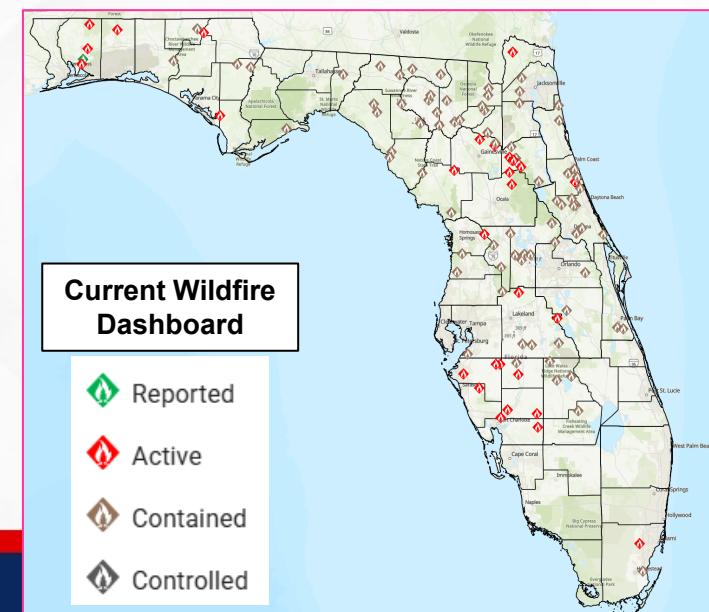
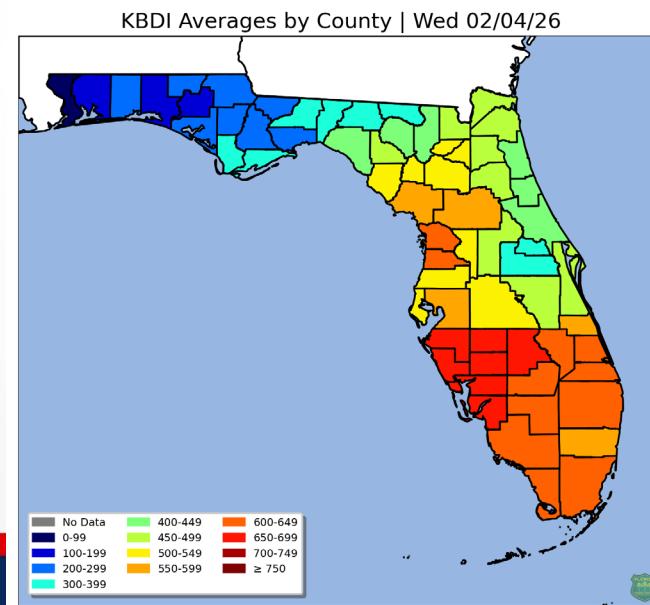
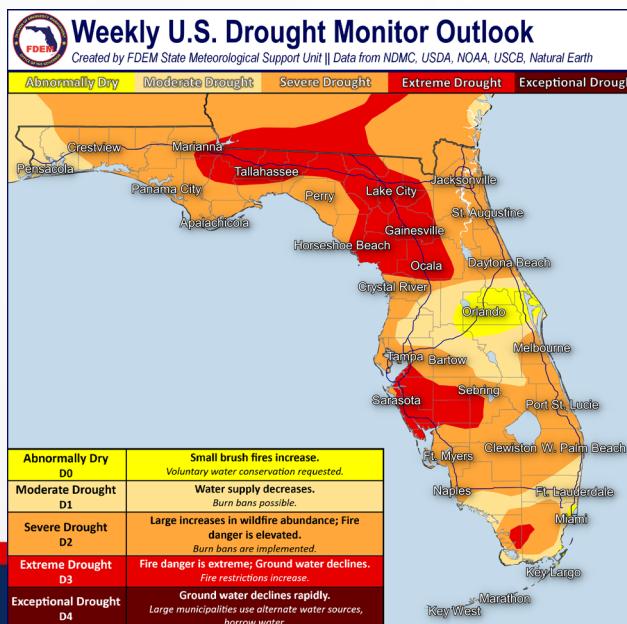


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The passing cold front through Central and South Florida will bring scattered showers throughout the morning and early afternoon hours, bringing some beneficial rainfall and keeping the overall wildfire threat low. However, in the wake of the front, much drier air will begin to filter into the state. Relative humidities will dip to **near or below critical thresholds (25-30% RH values)** across the western Panhandle this afternoon which may lead to **locally elevated wildfire conditions**. Breezy winds with gusts **upwards of 20 mph** are expected throughout North and Central Florida this afternoon, with a few gusts **upwards of 30 mph** possible across South Florida. Given the ongoing drought, at least **sensitive wildfire conditions** are expected across much of the state today. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 114 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,734 acres.

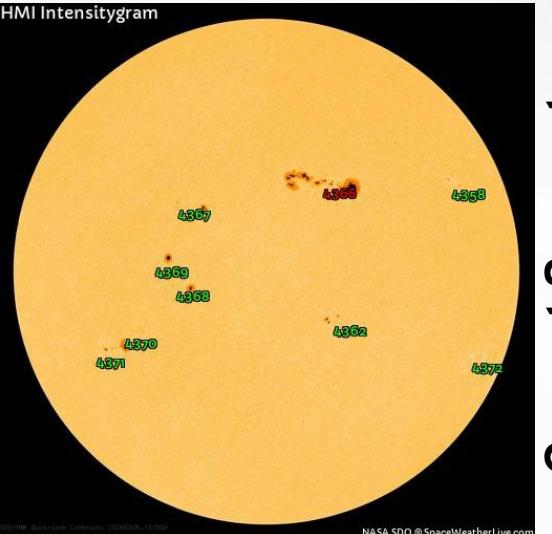
Drought (2/5/26): Over the past 10 days, a few cold fronts have brought scattered showers to portions of the state with some light rainfall. However, rainfall totals have remained very meager, at best, and have been unable to truly alleviate the ongoing drought conditions. As such, we have seen further deterioration of drought across much of the state in this week's Drought Monitor outlook. Across North Florida, rainfall totals of 1-2" were found across the western Panhandle, yet these totals were still not enough to bring much drought relief. The I-10 corridor also saw some light rain, with totals around 0.5-0.75". However, very dry conditions filtered into the state in the wake of the frontal passages which quickly dried out any soils and grounds. This has resulted in worsening drought and expansion of the **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** across Madison, Hamilton, Columbia, and Suwannee counties. This extreme drought remains in place across much of the Suwannee River Valley, Nature Coast, and northern Big Bend. A **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** occupies much of the rest of North Florida, the exception being the far western Panhandle where a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** is still in place. 60-day rainfall departures are still well below normal across all this region, and in some places upwards of 7" below normal. Worsening drought was also found across Central and South Florida in the past week. New areas of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** have been added to portions of coastal West-Central Florida in Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, and Highlands counties, as well as interior mainland Monroe County in South Florida. The drought in this portion of the state has now begun to become a longer-term concern, with 3-month rainfall departures nearly 4-6" across all Central and South Florida. Additional expansion of the **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** was added across coastal Indian River and Brevard counties along the East Coast. Across the entire state, streamflows are running well below normal in many rivers, streams, and creeks. Additionally, soil moisture levels are at extremely low levels. Some light rainfall with a few frontal passages are possible this week and next week, however there does not appear to be any real relief coming from the drought. As of this outlook, over 95% of the state is under a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** or worse.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **483 (+2)** 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).

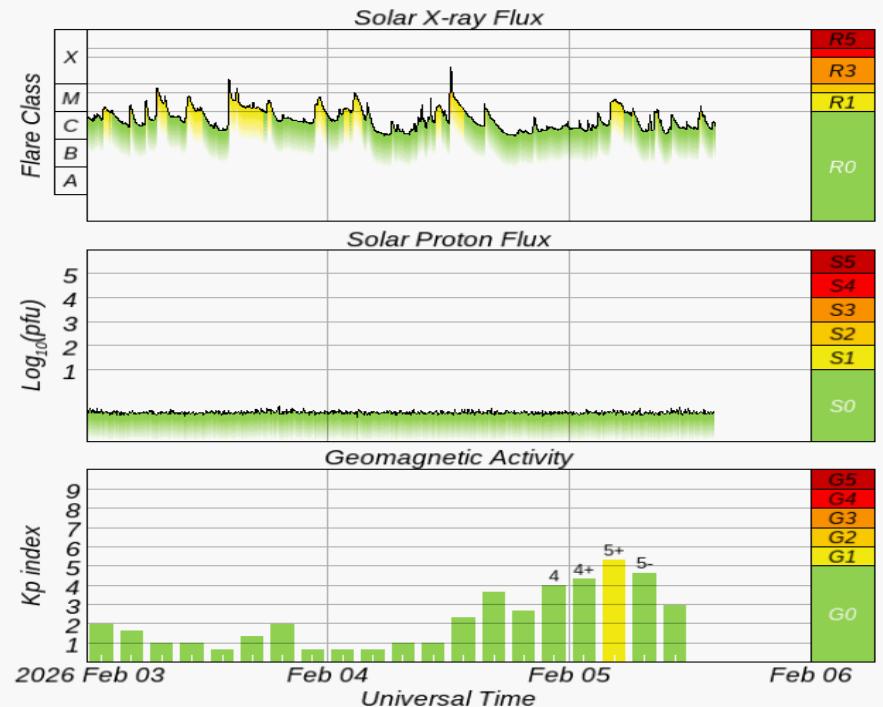
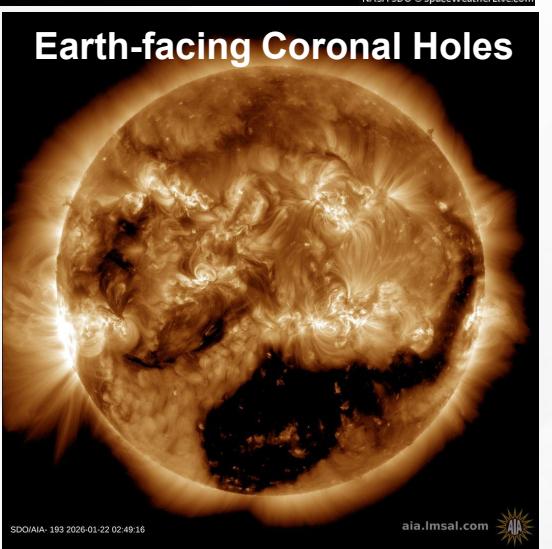




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



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 and Earth-facing. 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 moderately enhanced through Friday due to continued Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) effects, as well as coronal hole influences. Isolated Minor (G1) geomagnetic storming is expected through Friday due to the passing CME and coronal hole influences. Unsettled to active conditions are expected by Saturday. The overall space threat to Florida is low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 80%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M2 Solar Flare
X-class: 40%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout
48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast		
2/5	2/6	
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)	
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 5%	



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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