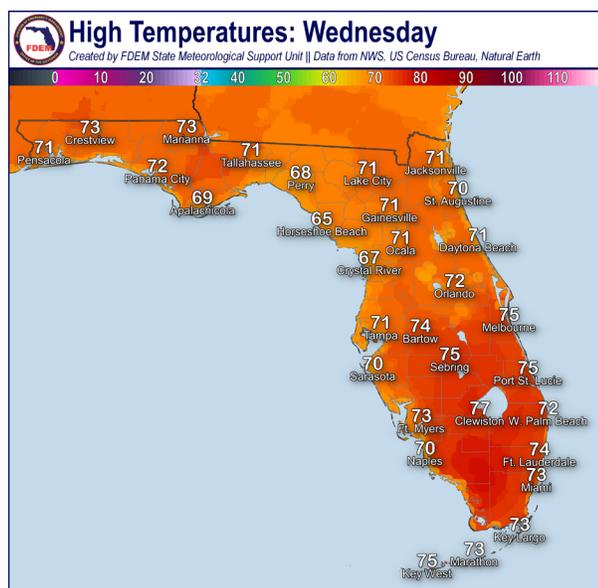
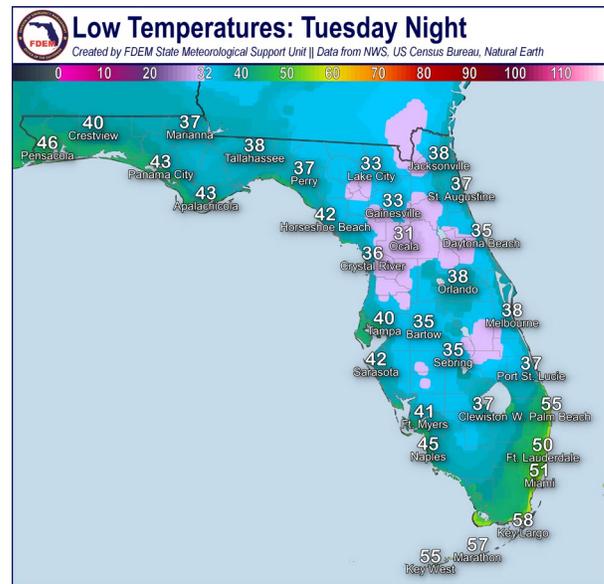


...Dry and Cold Start to the Forecast Period...Elevated Wildfire Conditions Statewide Tuesday...Temperatures Quickly Warm Up Midweek... Next Frontal System Moving Through To Bring Increasing Rain Chances Later this Week... Rain Chances Return to North Florida Thursday Then Expand Statewide Friday...Isolated Thunderstorms Possible At Times...Any Rainfall Will Help...Temperatures Could Reach 90-Mark for Interior Peninsula Friday and Saturday...Extreme Drought Conditions Now Covers Approximately 68% of the State...East Coast Beaches to See a High Risk for Rip Currents Each Day...

Tuesday – Wednesday:

After a cold start to the week, high pressure over the state will help to bring warmer temperatures beginning midweek. Plenty of sunshine and a near-zero chance of rain can be expected both days, with a chance for a few light showers along the Emerald Coast on Wednesday (10-15% chance of rain). Very dry air will linger throughout the state on Tuesday keeping **elevated wildfire conditions** in place, despite the calmer winds. **Locally critical wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out given how dry the soils and vegetation are and the recent uptick in wildfire activity due to drought. Moisture begins to recover on Wednesday for most of the state as winds will shift out of the south helping to pull moisture northward. Pockets of very dry conditions can be expected for East-Central Florida and the interior eastern Peninsula keeping relative humidity values at **critical thresholds**. Calm winds and cool conditions overnight Tuesday will give way to **patchy to widespread frost** development from the Suwannee Valley and throughout the interior Peninsula by Wednesday morning. **Frost Advisories** will go into effect late overnight Tuesday for these areas. Overnight Wednesday, the frontal system approaches the state. With the help of southerly winds, enough moisture will help to bring isolated to scattered showers to the Panhandle (15-35% chance of rain). This will be the start of a more active weather pattern developing later in the week. Also, with low-level moisture increasing and winds keeping calm, **patchy fog** will be possible overnight Wednesday and into Thursday morning.



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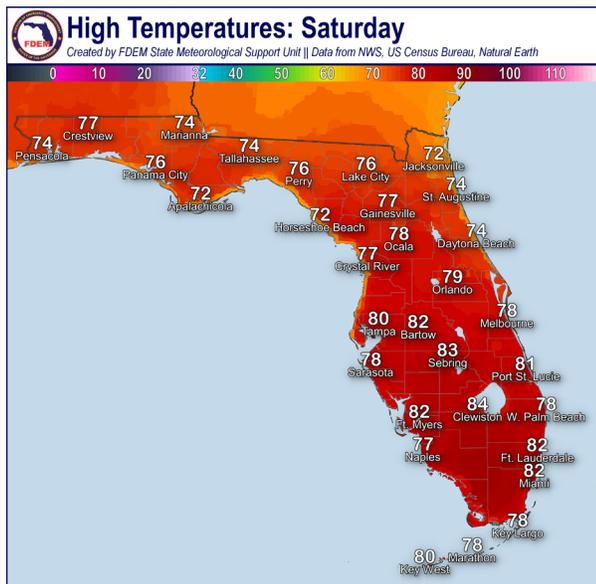
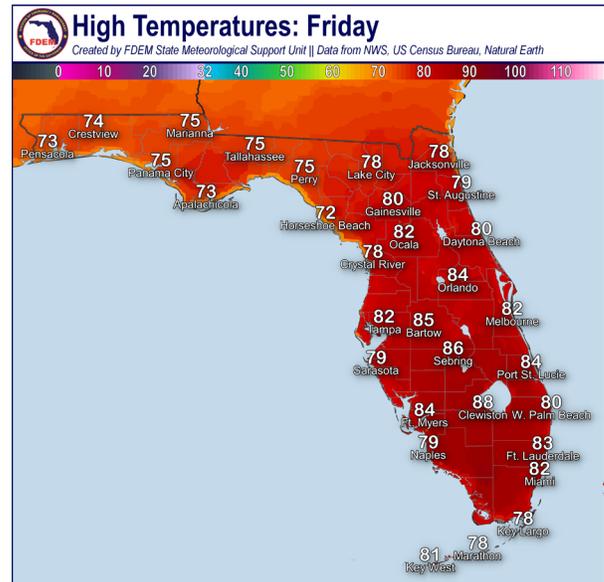
High temperatures will be in the middle 50s to middle 60s across the state on Tuesday before jumping into the upper 60s to middle 70s on Wednesday. Low temperatures will remain in the **30s** to lower 40s for much of the state Tuesday night with the western Panhandle and Southeast Florida keeping to the upper 40s to middle 50s. Isolated low-lying areas in the Suwannee Valley and interior Central Florida could see low temperatures **near or just below freezing (32-degrees)**. Low temperatures Wednesday night will fall into the middle 40s to middle 50s for much of the state. The Panhandle and Southeast Florida will see warmer



temperatures in the middle 50s to lower 60s, especially along the coasts.

Thursday – Saturday:

This next cold front will continue to bring scattered shower activity, with some embedded thunderstorms, across the Panhandle and Big Bend on Thursday (30-65% chance of rain). Gusty winds will develop ahead of the cold front across the Panhandle and Big Bend, with gusts reaching **upwards of 20-30 mph** Wednesday and into Thursday. Cloud cover looks to limit the potential for organized severe weather, but an **isolated strong thunderstorm or two** cannot be ruled out with the help of daytime. Unlike the last few fronts that have moved through, this one appears to be moving slower which could help bring beneficial rainfall that is needed for soils and vegetation. As always, the trends of timing will continue to be monitored within computer model guidance over the next few days. The front will then continue to make its way across North Florida Thursday night, then spreading rainfall into the Peninsula on Friday (45-75% chance of rain). While the best chance for rainfall will remain over northern Florida Thursday and Friday, any rainfall is welcomed across the Peninsula. Isolated to scattered showers will be possible throughout the Peninsula Friday and Saturday as the front continues to slowly make its way southward, or potentially stalls later in the



weekend. The atmospheric conditions are not fully supportive of organized thunderstorm activity, but a few rumbles of thunder or isolated thunderstorms cannot be ruled out both days. Drier conditions return from west to east across the Panhandle on Saturday. With low-level moisture in place, **instances of fog** will be possible throughout the state each morning.

Temperatures will warm up substantially in the later half of the forecast period with high temperatures reaching the 70s to middle 80s each day. Some interior portions of South-Central and South Florida could reach near or at the **90-degree mark** by Friday and Saturday. Low temperatures will only reach the middle 50s to middle 60s for most of the state and the upper 60s to lower 70s for the Southeast Florida coastline and Keys. Some cooler air will filter into the Panhandle behind the cold front Saturday night allowing for low temperatures to fall back into the lower 50s.

Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk for flash flooding over the next five (5) days. Conditions are expected to remain dry through the daytime hours on Wednesday before rain chances increase across the Panhandle overnight. The next frontal system moving through the state later this week and into the weekend will bring scattered rainfall, with the best chances occurring across northern Florida. Any rainfall across the state, especially the Peninsula, will benefit the drought conditions. While this system does not seem to be a big rainmaker, it does have a better chance at bringing rainfall to the Peninsula compared to the last few fronts that have moved through. Generally, rainfall totals of 0.5-1.5" can be expected throughout



the state through Saturday evening. There is some discrepancies between computer model guidance for the forecast total rainfall. The American (GFS) is keeping rainfall totals lower near 0.5-1" while the European is outlooking pockets of 2-3" across the Peninsula. Trends within both model runs will be monitored going forward for the next few days to see if totals become in better agreement. For the latest on the rainfall outlook, please visit the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) [website](#).

There are no riverine concerns at this time. Numerous North and West-Central Florida rivers are running well-below normal streamflows given the ongoing drought conditions and lack of rainfall. Some of the rainfall may have helped to fill some of the small creeks and streams, but overall streamflow remains below normal. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.33 feet, which is within the operational band and 2.22 feet below normal for this time of year.

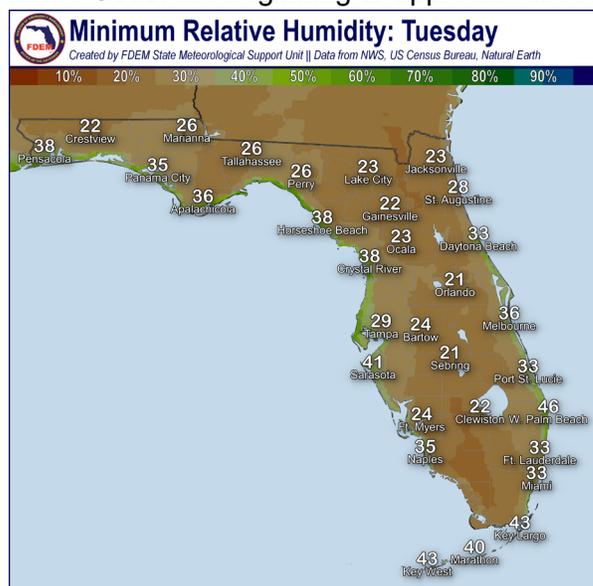
Drought & Fire Weather:

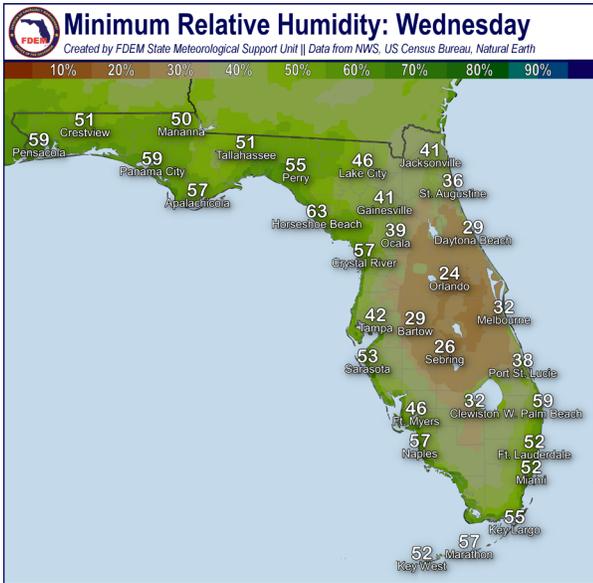
What little bit of rainfall occurred last reporting period did not make any impact to the drought monitor update from Thursday. Pockets of 0.5-1.5" were reported for portions of North Florida and the Nature Coast, but there needs to be a lot more rainfall to make any significant impact to the drought conditions. Temperatures were also warmer than normal for the period which also led to further drying out of soils and vegetation. **Extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** now covers approximately 67-68% of the state as it has now expanded to most of North and South Florida. **Severe drought (level 2 of 4)** conditions cover approximately 20% of the state mainly focused across South Florida and the perimeter of Central Florida. The southern half of the Florida Peninsula has reported less than one-quarter of normal amounts over the last 90-days. Numerous rivers, especially major rivers, are low to much below normal streamflows throughout North and Central Florida given the lack of rainfall. Water restrictions have been issued by 4 of the 5 Water Management Districts. Burn bans now extend to over 30 counties, most of them being across the Suwannee Valley and the Peninsula. KBDI values across South Florida have reached 650-700, with only coastal portions of Miami-Dade County remaining below 400. This drought is the worst drought for the state since 2001.

Over the last week, pockets of rainfall from the weekend were mostly below an inch throughout the state. Only the Panhandle and the western Big Bend received about an inch of rain with very isolated pockets upwards of 2" along the eastern Panhandle. This rainfall is not enough to make any impact to drought conditions other than to improve some small streamflow for rivers and bring some moisture to the topsoils. Temperatures were also much above normal for the time of year with temperatures reaching well into the 80s. KBDI values remain well into the 600s and into the 700s from near the I-4 corridor through South Florida and now portions of the Nature Coast are beginning to approach above the 500 threshold. The pocket of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** across interior Central Florida will likely continue to shrink on this week's update given the warmer temperatures last week and minimal rainfall, as well as increased wildfire activity.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **490** 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).

Very dry conditions can be expected to start off the forecast period with relative humidity values falling **near and below critical thresholds** this afternoon (**20-35%**). Luckily, lighter winds can be expected than that last couple of days, but lingering wind gusts of 10-15 mph can be expected across South Florida Tuesday morning and early afternoon. With the ongoing drought





conditions and recent wildfire activity, **elevated wildfire conditions** can be expected with locally critical wildfire conditions possible nearly statewide. Moving through the rest of the week, relative humidity values will slowly recover as low-level moisture begins to slowly return and rain chances increase. Interior portions of Northeast Florida and the Peninsula will see relative humidity values **near critical thresholds (25-35%)** Wednesday afternoon, but the Panhandle will start to recover as winds become more southeasterly. This will keep the **elevated wildfire conditions** in place for these areas on Wednesday, especially as temperatures begin to warm back up. Pockets of very dry conditions will linger along the interior eastern Peninsula Thursday keeping relative humidity values **near 30-35%**. Another weak front will move into the state late Wednesday and Thursday, bringing increased rain chances and gusty winds. Once the front

pushes through North Florida it will struggle through the Peninsula and possibly stall, hopefully bringing some beneficial rainfall Friday and into Saturday. Embedded thunderstorms will also be possible with the cold front, and thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning and gusty winds. With moisture increasing and winds keeping calm during the overnights, **instances of fog** will also return during the latter half of the forecast period. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are currently 83 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,694 acres (as of 9:03 AM EST).

Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

East Coast beaches will largely see a **high risk for rip currents** persist over the next several days. The Panhandle will see beaches start off at a **moderate risk** for Tuesday and Wednesday as winds maintain offshore flow. With the next front approaching and gusty winds developing associated with the front, a **high risk for rip currents** will return late Wednesday and continue through the rest of the week. West Coast beaches will mostly see a low risk beginning Wednesday, but isolated beaches Wednesday could see a **brief moderate risk** with southwesterly winds flowing onshore.

Ocean swells associated with the last frontal system will continue to gradually decline and allow wave heights to return to calmer conditions, especially for the eastern coastline. Surf will be **elevated near 3-5'** on Tuesday and into Wednesday for the eastern coastline beaches before returning to 1-3' Thursday through the end of the week. Panhandle beaches will see mostly calm conditions Tuesday and Wednesday with surf near 1-3'. As the next cold front approaches and moves through, surf along the Panhandle will **increase to 3-4'** as winds become breezy. These conditions won't last long, just into Friday afternoon as they continue to decrease. By Saturday, wave heights will return to 1-2'.

The latest [Blue-Green Algae](#) dashboard shows there have been 57 reports of algal bloom conditions within the last 30 days. **High levels** have been observed in Lake Thonotosassa, Peace River off Lake Branch Rd, southern Lake Okeechobee and Lake Killarney. **Moderate levels** have been observed in Harbor Lake, the Sebastian Canal in the Caloosahatchee River, southern and southwestern Lake Okeechobee and Lake Jesup within the St. Johns River.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

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Have a wonderful rest of the week!

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist
Florida Division of Emergency Management
www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather

