



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Monday, March 2, 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	Jay Griffin	(850) 524-4094	Kellen.Griffin-Jay@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(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	End of Month Admin / Vehicle Maintenance & Inspections
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	End of Month Admin
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Suwannee	County EM Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	NDEMU Advanced Academy
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Lake, Seminole	EM Meeting / Forestry Fire TTX
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	St. Lucie	County EM Visit
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	End of Month Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Broward	Logistics Meeting



Region 6 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6
 Region 7 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 8

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

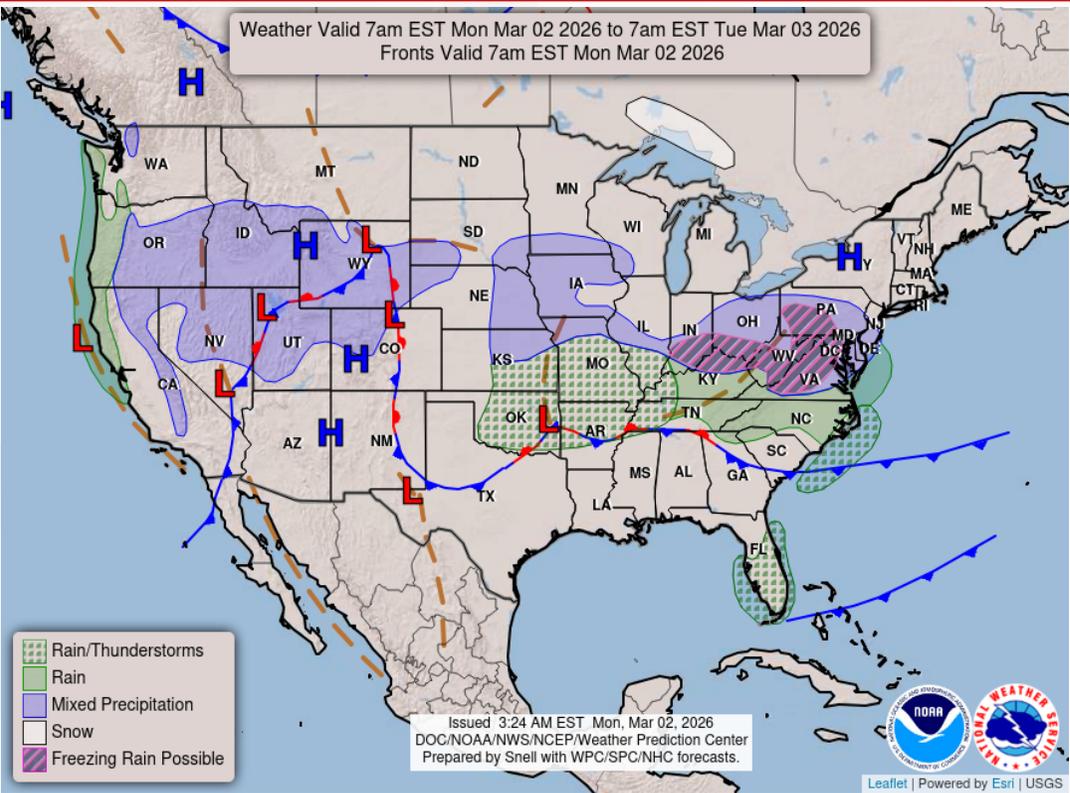
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	F-ROC TA
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Recovery Coordination Mtg
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Columbia	EM Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	NEMAA
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Recovery Coordination Mtg
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	Recovery Coordination Mtg
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Recovery Coordination Mtg
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	FLL 2026 Op. Night Owl

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

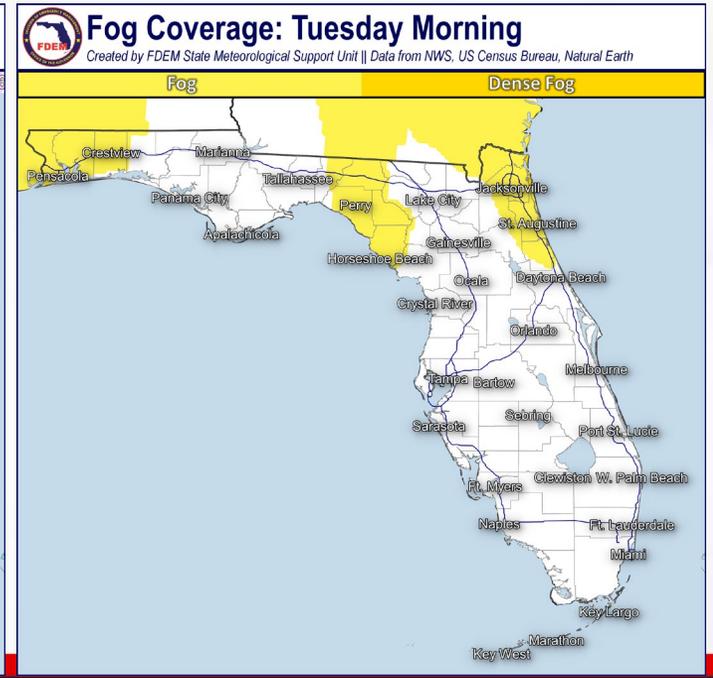
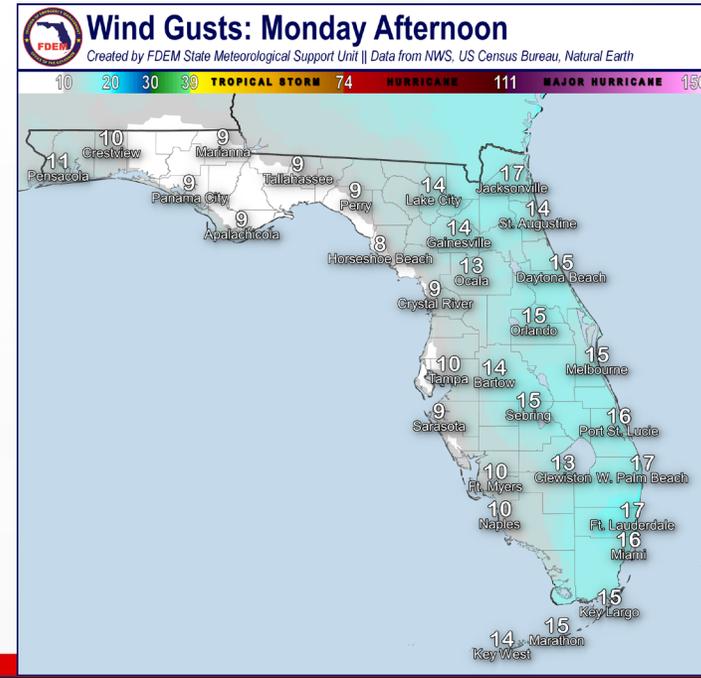


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning						L	L	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.29 ft. (2.22 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	467 (-2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

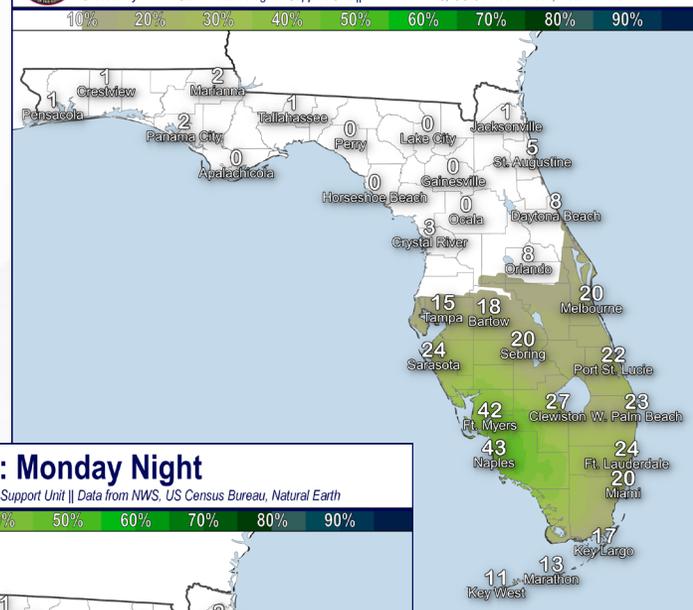
Areas of **dense fog** have developed this morning across portions of Northeast and East-Central Florida leading to **reduced visibilities**. Additional areas of **patchy fog** have also developed throughout the state creating reduced visibilities. Showers remain offshore along Southeast Florida this morning, but going throughout the day onshore winds and daytime heating will lead to additional shower activity developing. Isolated to widely scattered showers can be expected to develop mostly along the I-95 corridor and across the eastern Peninsula before pushing inland towards the western coast (20-40% chance of rain). Thunderstorm activity will remain limited, but an isolated thunderstorm across West-Central and South Florida will be possible. Throughout the rest of the state mostly dry conditions can be expected, with the drier conditions across the interior Big Bend where relative humidity values are expected to **dip near critical thresholds (35-40%)**. A weak cold front will move into Northeast Florida and will cause gusty winds to develop throughout the day, especially along the eastern peninsula. Wind gusts will reach **upwards of 15-25 mph** by the afternoon hours. High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to middle 80s across the state this afternoon.

Shower activity will linger through the evening hours before dissipating or shifting offshore. A few showers may continue to linger through the evening hours, mainly near the coastlines and adjacent coastal waters (20-30% chance of rain). Instances of **dense fog** will be possible throughout the I-10 corridor and northern Florida early Tuesday morning, with additional areas of **patchy fog** throughout the state. Elevated winds overnight may limit the potential for fog development early Tuesday morning. Low temperatures will fall into the middle to upper 50s across North Florida, lower to middle 60s across Central Florida and middle 60s to lower 70s across South Florida.



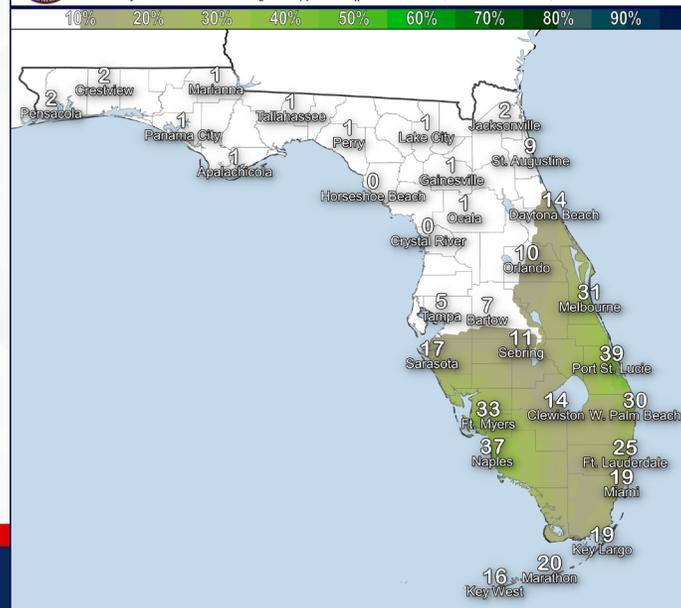
Chance of Rain: Monday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth



Chance of Rain: Monday Night

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Onshore winds will create a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** along the Florida East Coast. A **moderate risk** can also be expected for numerous Panhandle beaches. All other beaches can expect a low risk. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Northeasterly to easterly winds are pushing ocean **swells of 3-4'** towards the Florida East Coast today. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect wave heights to remain near 1-2'.

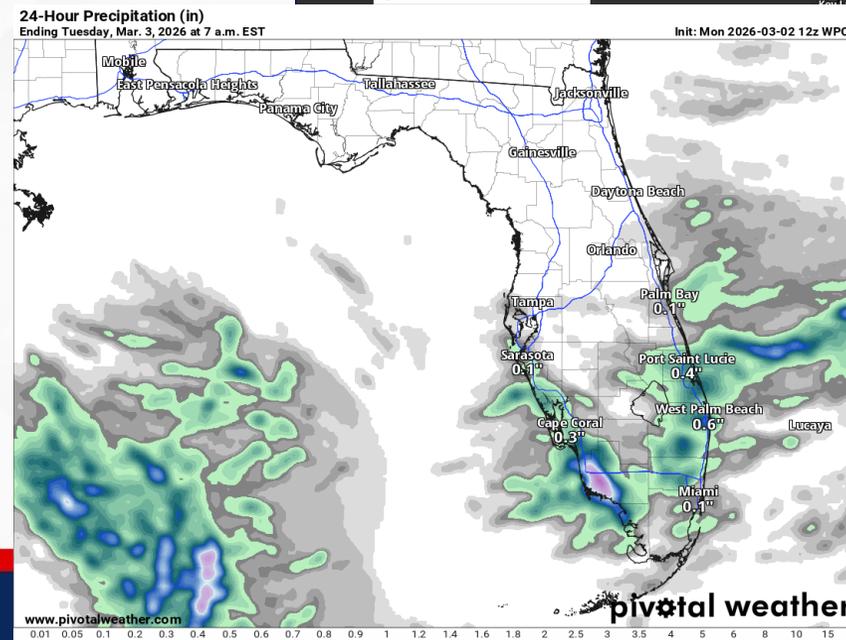
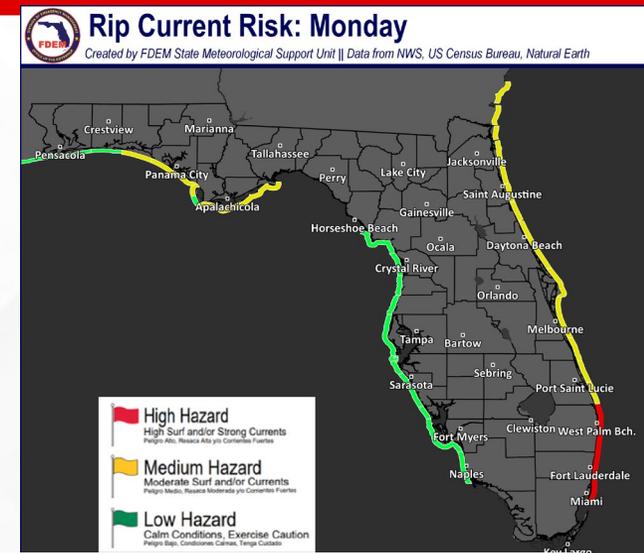
Red Tide was observed at background conditions in two samples from Bay County. It was not observed along the Florida East Coast or Southwest Florida (valid 2/27/2026).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Afternoon shower activity will keep rainfall totals near 0.5-1" along portions of the South Florida coastlines. Any thunderstorm activity that develops will be capable of producing a **quick 1-2"** of rainfall at times. **Nuisance flooding and localized ponding of water** cannot be ruled out during quick downpours, especially 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 12.29 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.22 feet below normal for this time of year.





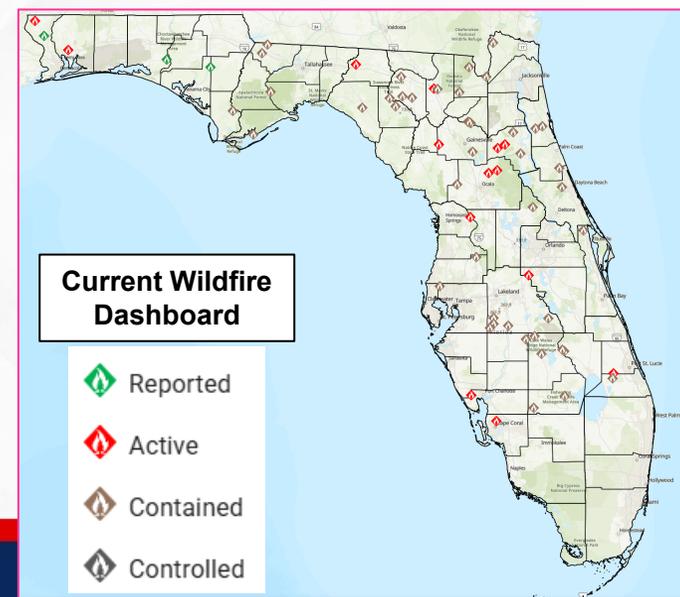
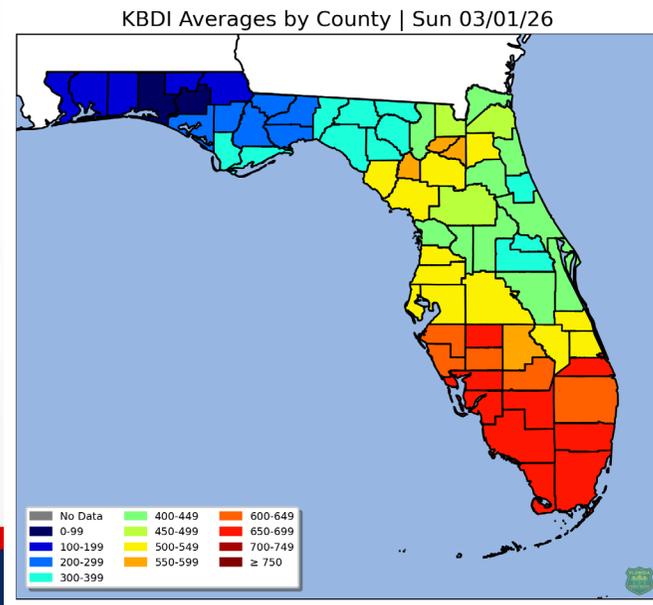
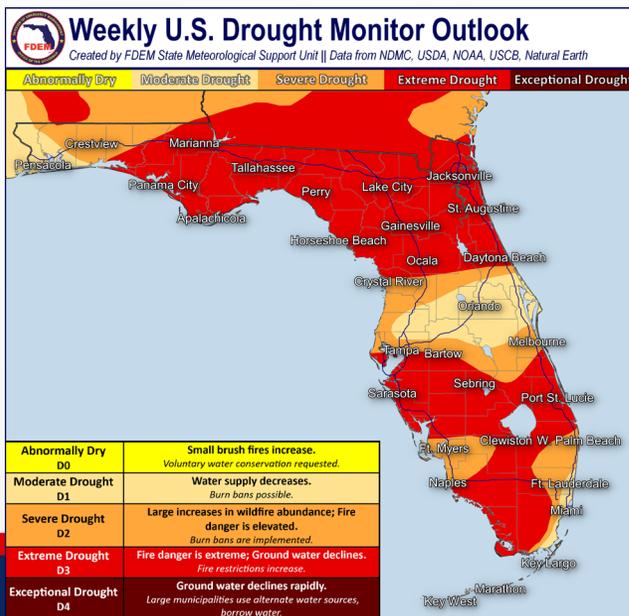
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dense Fog has developed this morning across portions of Northeast and East-Central Florida this morning, reducing visibilities. Additional areas of patchy fog have also developed this morning throughout the state, but generally fog and low clouds will continue to lift and dissipate throughout the morning. Low-level moisture remaining in place, along with the help of the sea breeze, will give way to isolated to widely scattered showers developing along the I-95 corridor and the eastern Peninsula this afternoon before pushing inland. An embedded thunderstorm or two cannot be ruled out across West-Central and South Florida this afternoon and early in the evening given daytime heating. Elsewhere across the state dry conditions can be expected. Relative humidity values look to remain above critical thresholds; however across the interior Big Bend they will approach critical thresholds this afternoon (35-40%). Wind gusts are expected to increase throughout the day reaching near 15-25 mph, especially along the eastern Peninsula. Another round of patchy fog will be possible overnight and into Tuesday morning, but ongoing elevated winds may limit the potential for dense fog. Fog combined with wildfire smoke will reduce visibilities even further, creating hazardous driving conditions. According to the Florida Forest Service, there are 61 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 4,485 acres.

Drought (2/26/26): Showers bypassed many areas of the Southeast United States, leading to slowly worsening drought conditions on this week's Drought Monitor update. The recent uptick in wildfires across Northeast Florida and the Florida Peninsula are a result of increasing both near-term and long-term rainfall deficits throughout the Sunshine State, and are truly indicative of how dry Florida's soil and fuel/vegetation is nearly statewide. 90-day rainfall totals have now trended 5-7" below normal for this time of year across North and Southeast Florida, with rainfall deficits of 2-4" below normal noted elsewhere across the state.

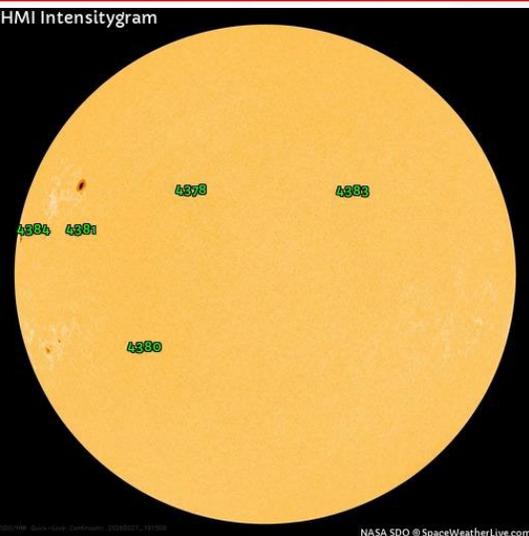
Extreme drought (level 3 of 4) areas have expanded across North Florida and into the Florida Panhandle, now stretching from coastal Walton County to Volusia County; **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** persists south of the I-4 corridor across the southern Florida Peninsula. Other changes to note include the upgrade of all remaining areas of Abnormally Dry (emerging drought) conditions into moderate drought (level 1 of 4), this now brings 100% of land area across Florida within a category of drought. Rainfall forecast over the next 7 days will certainly be beneficial for North and Central Florida; however, any observed rainfall has quite an uphill battle against the long-term drought. Unfortunately, rainfall totals remain sparse to widely isolated throughout the southern Florida Peninsula as frontal systems will not be able to remain intact as it advances through the state.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **467 (-2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **30** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

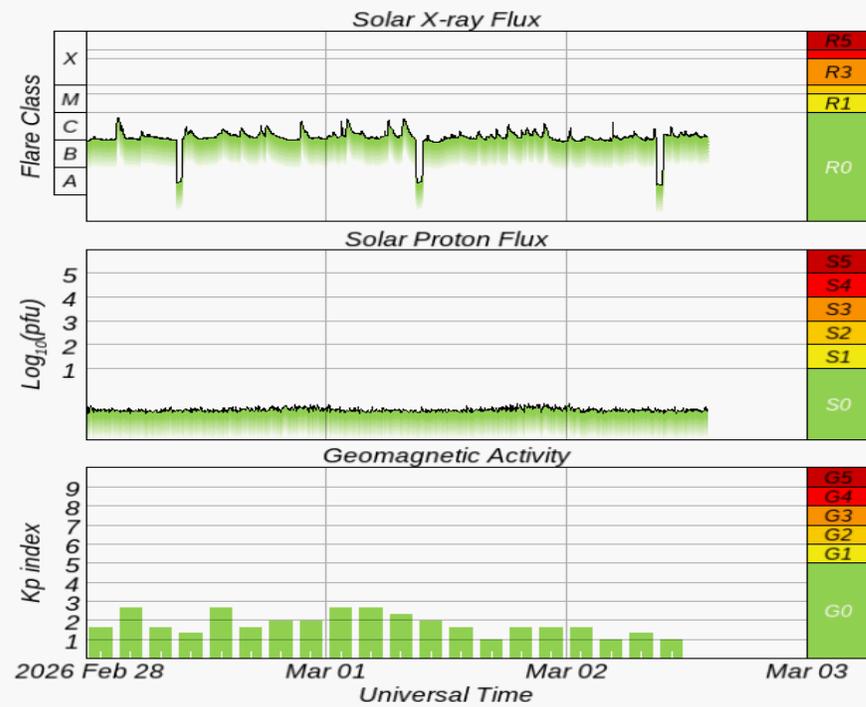




Space Weather

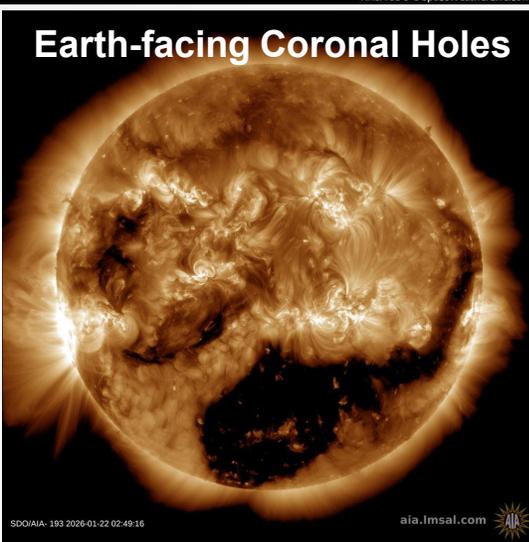


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 25%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C4 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/2	3/3
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%



Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be low with a chance for an isolated strong (M-class) solar flare. All Earth-facing sunspots currently have stable or decaying magnetic fields and pose little threat for strong solar flares. Should any M-class flares develop they will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Enhanced solar wind conditions are possible through the midweek due to ongoing Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) conditions. The Earth's geomagnetic field is expected to reach unsettled levels, with a chance for isolated active periods due to CH HSS conditions. 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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