



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office**

## **Morning Situation Report**

Wednesday, March 11, 2026



# State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

**Level 2: Partial Activation**



# SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	<a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com</a>
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	<a href="mailto:Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com">Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com</a>
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Day	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Swing	Austin Johnson	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Meteorologist	Evan Newman	(850)-241-5606	<a href="mailto:Evan.Newman@em.myflorida.com">Evan.Newman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	<a href="mailto:Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com">Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com</a>
Logistics Chief	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	<a href="mailto:Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com">Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Human Services Branch Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	<a href="mailto:Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com">Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com</a>
Emergency Services Branch Director	Tim Kenyon	(850) 591-7732	<a href="mailto:Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com">Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com</a>
Infrastructure Branch Director	Paige Lay	(850) 591-9933	<a href="mailto:Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com">Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com</a>
ESF 8: Health & Medical On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	<a href="mailto:DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov">DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov</a>
ESF 14: Public Information Officer	Stephanie Hartman	(850) 570-3053	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com">Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Finance Chief	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com</a>



# Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Santa Rosa	County MCI TTX / Regional Coordination Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Region 2 Sheltering Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Dixie, Levy	County EM Visits
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	SRT Assessment (JFRD FL-TF5)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Florida Senior Elected Officials Course
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Martin	G-141 Course
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Martin	G-141 Course
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Glades	G-141 Course
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Fire Response / Response Maritime Security Mtg / SLNPP Exercise Hotwash

Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6  
 Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

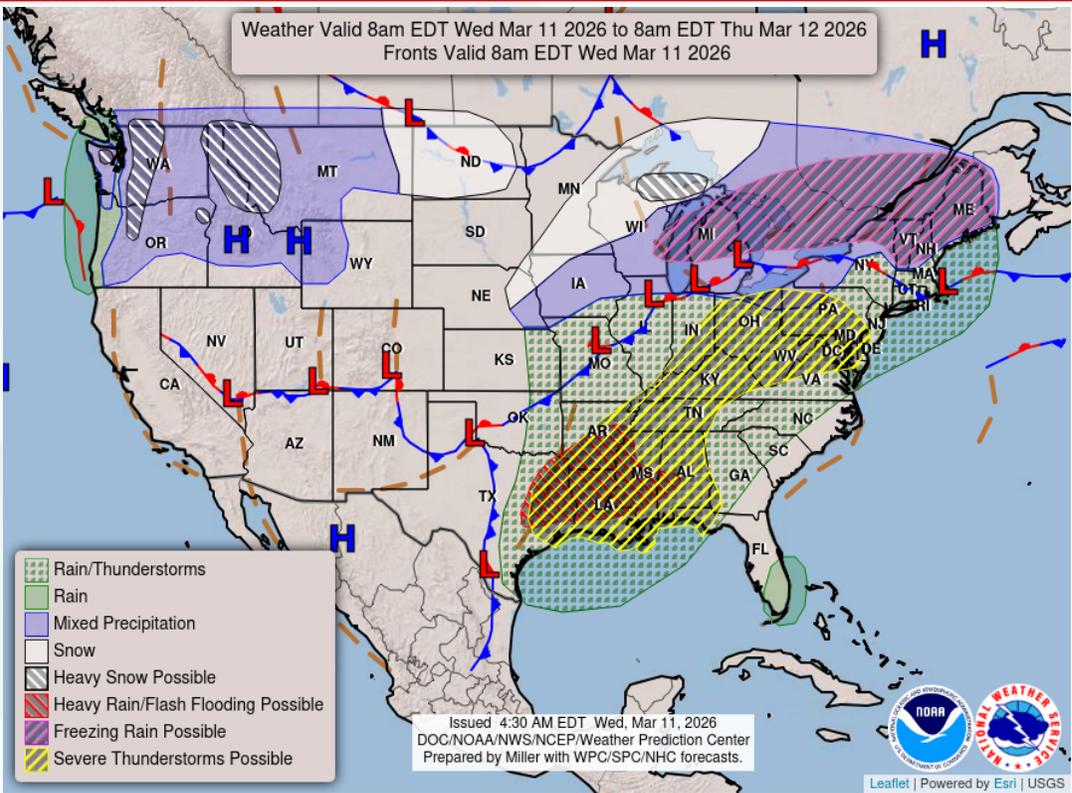
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Santa Rosa	MCI Exercise
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	EM Meeting
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	Career Development/Administration
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Nassau	LMS Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Sumter	Leadership Training
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	L-449 Webinar
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	EM Advisory Group Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	LMS Flooding Subcommittee Meeting

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6  
 Region 9 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6

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

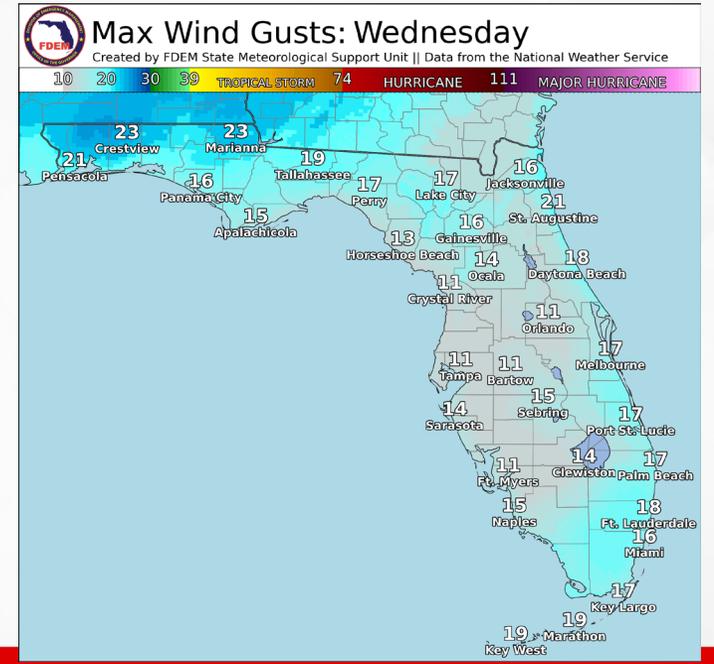
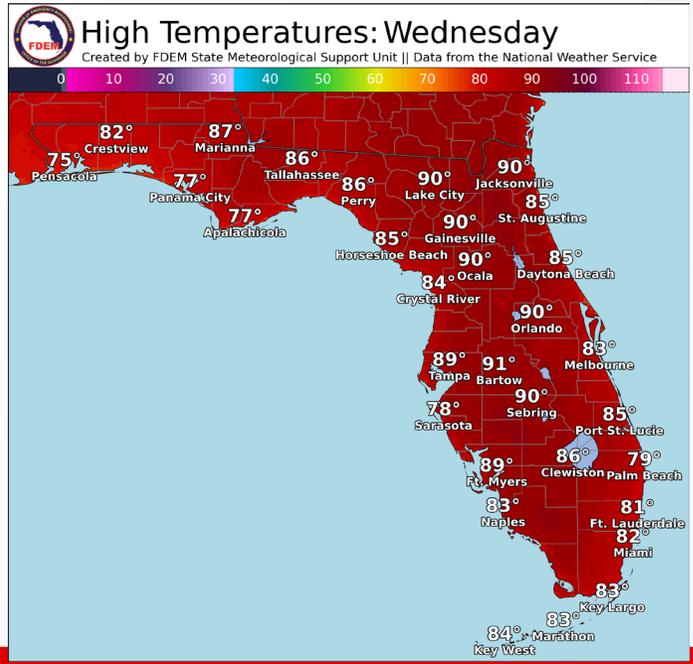


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	L	L							
Tornado	M	L								
Damaging Wind	M	L								
Hail	L	L								
Flash Flooding	L									
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	L	M	M	L	L	M	M	L	L	L
Wildfire	L	L	M	L	M	L	M	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.22 ft. (2.27 ft. <u>Below Normal</u> )									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	497 (+7) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





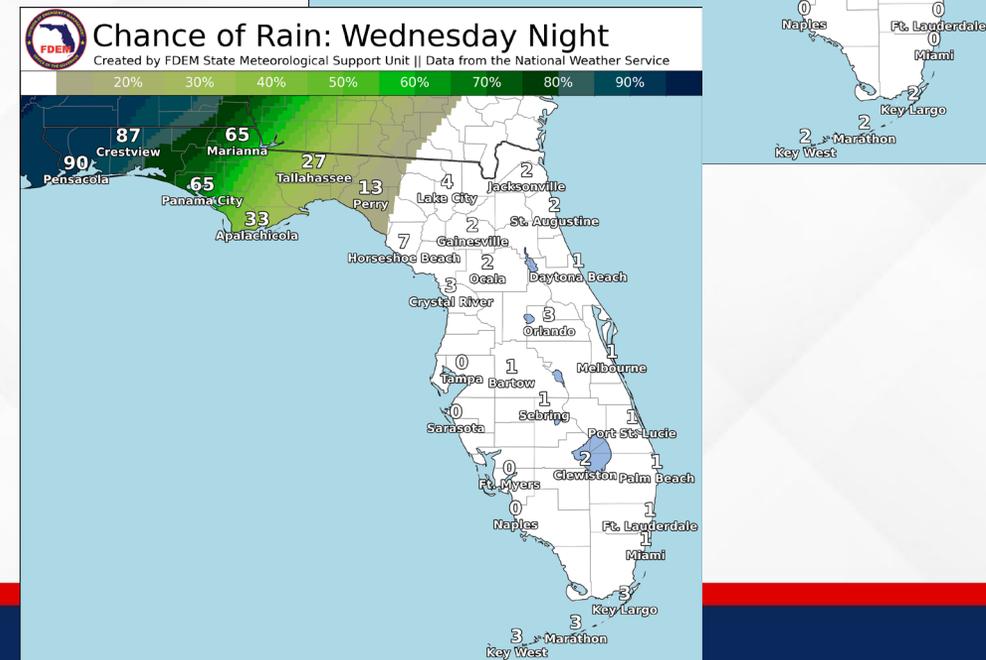
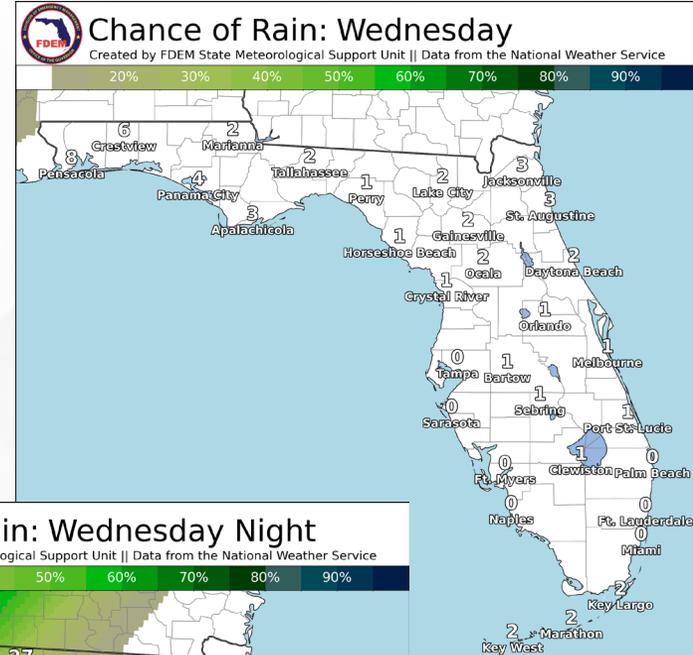
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Foggy conditions this morning, some of which is **locally dense** across the Big Bend and interior South Florida, will continue to gradually lift and dissipate as the sun rises over the Sunshine State. High pressure will remain over the state today, keeping mostly dry conditions in place with sunny skies prevailing. Relative humidities will dip **near critical thresholds** across the interior Peninsula today (35-40%) which will continue to create **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions**. High temperatures will reach well into the middle to upper 80s statewide, with **lower 90s** expected throughout the Peninsula. Temperatures will approach **daily record highs** in many locations. Breezy winds will develop across the Panhandle this afternoon, with gusts **upwards of 25 mph** expected.

Active weather makes a quick return to the state tonight ahead of an approaching frontal system along the Gulf Coast. A **strong to severe line of thunderstorms** trekking across the deep south is expected to arrive to the western Panhandle shortly after midnight (85-near 100% chance of rain). A **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather** is outlooked for the western Panhandle tonight where this line of storms could produce a few damaging wind gusts (50-70 mph), small hail, and a few tornadoes. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** is outlooked for the eastern Panhandle and nudging into the Big Bend (30-70% chance of rain) as the line of storms is expected to slowly weaken, though similar hazards still exist as the line of thunderstorms enter the region towards sunrise. There is no organized risk for flash flooding with this activity, however **nuisance flooding** and **ponding of water** cannot be ruled out in areas that receive the heaviest rainfall. Ahead of the front, areas of **fog and low clouds**, some of which could be **locally dense**, is expected, especially along the Big Bend, Nature Coast, and West-Central Florida coastlines.

Low temperatures in the middle 60s to lower 70s are expected nearly statewide, outside of the far western Panhandle where rainfall and cloud cover will bring lows into the upper 50s.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Numerous beaches across the state can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents**, with a **locally high risk** along the First Coast. West Coast beaches can still expect a low risk. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected statewide. Locally higher surf with waves **upwards of 4'** are possible for the Florida Keys.

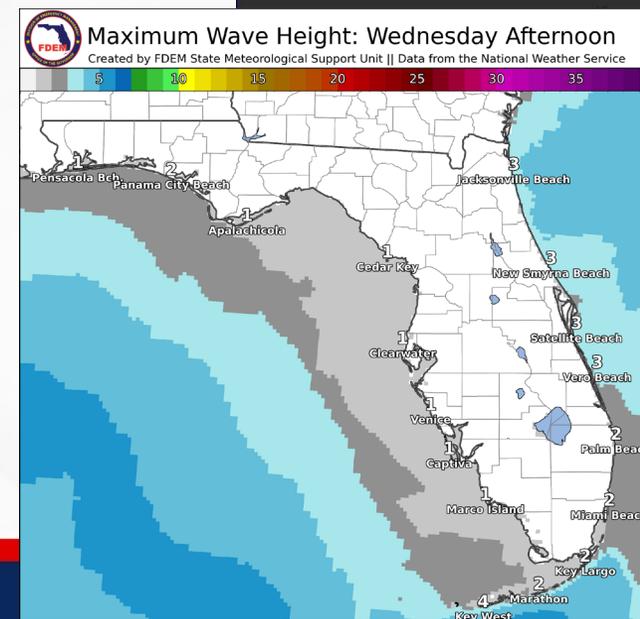
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations in Walton and Bay counties in Northwest Florida. It was also observed at background concentrations from Flagler County and low concentrations in Brevard County along the East Coast. It was not observed in Southwest Florida (valid 3/6/26).

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

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. A line of **strong to severe thunderstorms** will enter the Panhandle shortly after midnight tonight accompanied by **locally heavy rainfall**. Rainfall totals tonight will generally range between 0.5-1" across the Panhandle, though **locally higher totals** upwards of 2-3" cannot be ruled out.

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

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 12.22 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.27 feet below normal for this time of year.



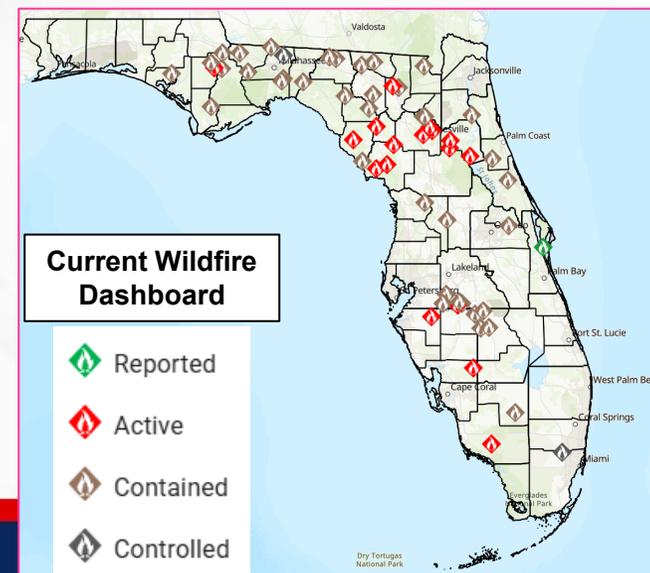
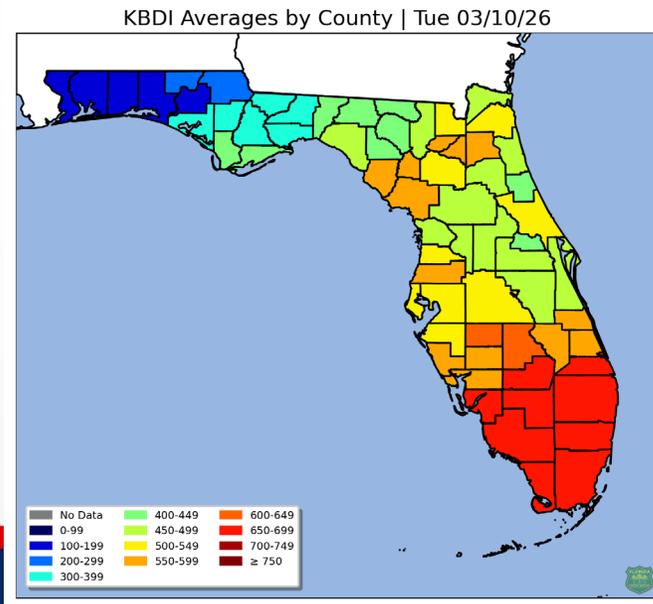
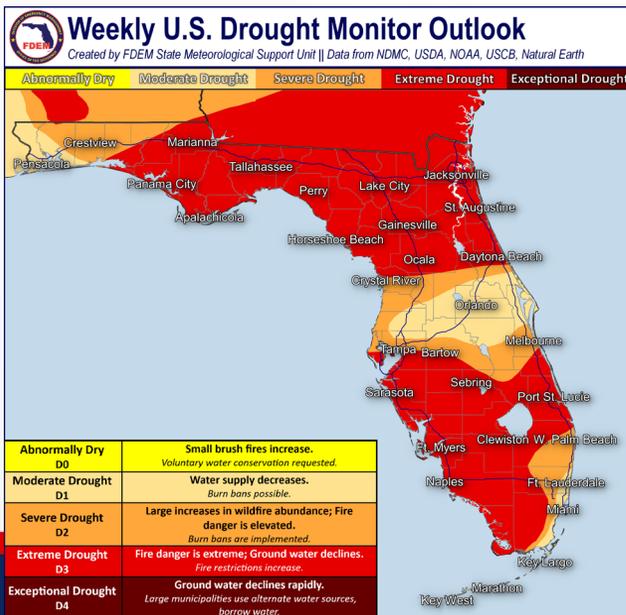


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Foggy conditions this morning throughout the state this morning will linger as it slowly mixes out and lifts. Dry conditions continue across the Sunshine State today, leading to relative humidity values across the interior Big Bend and Peninsula falling to **near critical thresholds (35-40%)**. Winds will begin to increase this afternoon across the Panhandle and coastal Southeast Florida where gusts **upwards of 25 mph** are expected. Another round of **widespread fog** can be expected to develop statewide overnight and into the morning, with **dense fog conditions** possible. *Foggy conditions will further reduce visibilities where there are ongoing wildfires.* Additionally, a line of strong to severe thunderstorms will enter the Panhandle shortly after midnight. *Thunderstorms can produce gusty/erratic winds which can influence ongoing wildfire behavior, and lightning can spark new or reignite existing wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 58 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 8,357 acres.

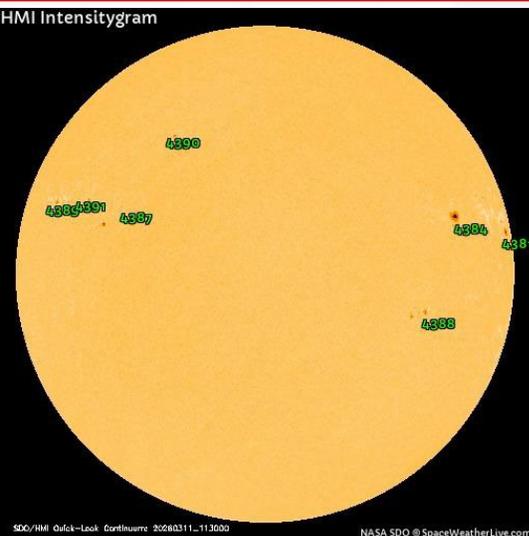
**Drought (3/5/26):** The cold front that swept through the state last weekend (2/27-2/28) brought some “beneficial” rains to portions of the state, yet totals were still not enough to provide any real relief or alleviation to the ongoing long-term drought that has stricken Florida. The heaviest totals were found across the Panhandle and in pockets throughout Central Florida, generally upwards of 2-2.5” or so. However, other portions of the state, such as interior South Florida, saw negligible rainfall. This was reflected in the latest Drought Monitor update this week where the previous severe drought has been upgraded to an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** across the remainder of Collier, Lee, and Hendry counties. As such, all Southwest Florida is now under the extreme drought category as 90-day rainfall departures remain at **3-5” below normal**. Elsewhere, no significant changes were made to the Drought Monitor this week. An **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** persists across nearly all North Florida, outside of the western Panhandle that remains under a **moderate (level 1 of 4) to severe (level 2 of 4) drought**. The largest rainfall departures in the past 3 months of **5-7” below normal** is found across North Florida where streamflows remain well below normal, recreational and agricultural impacts have worsened, and brush wildfires continue to remain a concern. A **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** remains across much of the I-4 corridor where locally heavier rains have fallen in the past few months. The extreme drought conditions have brought increasing wildfire conditions as well, especially throughout South Florida where a few large wildfires have broken out (i.e. the National Wildfire burning nearly 35,000 acres). As of this update, 100% of the land across Florida remains within a category of drought and 70% of the state under an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**. The rainfall forecast through the next week does not look promising for any improvements to the drought. A few isolated showers or embedded thunderstorms could bring pockets of heavier rainfall to portions of the Peninsula as the local sea breezes begin to wake up amidst warmer temperatures, though widespread drenching rains are not expected.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **497 (+7)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **33** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

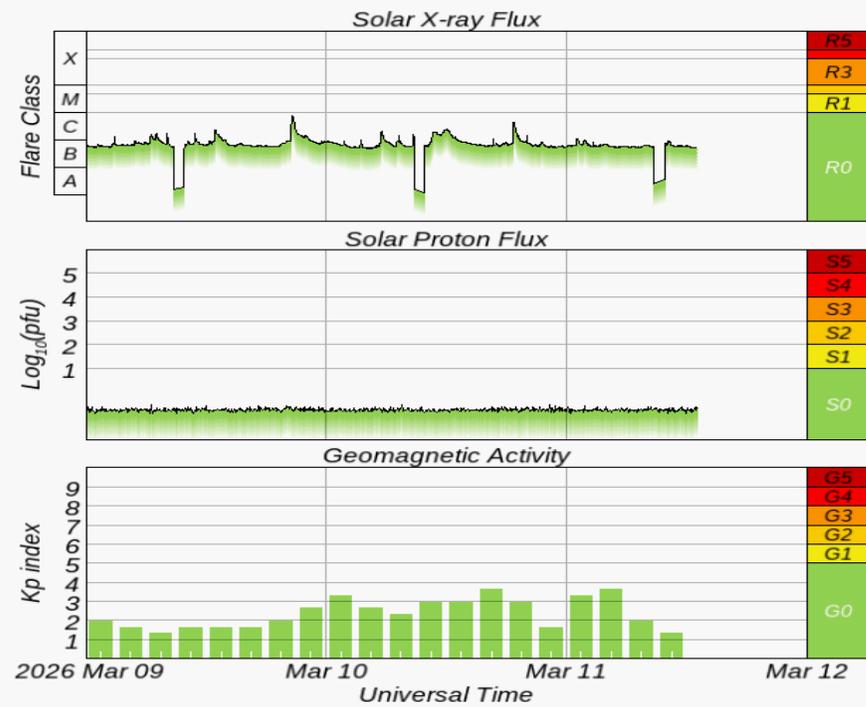




# Space Weather

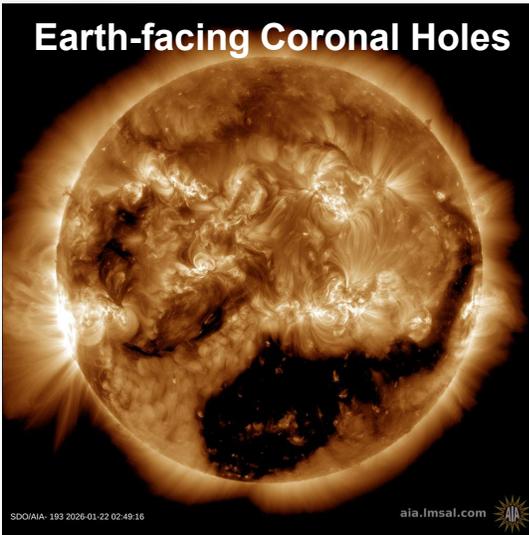


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 20%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C4 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/11	3/12
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 2 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%



**Space Weather:** Solar activity remains low with a slight chance for strong (M-class) solar flares if any of the current sunspots or new ones that develop become active. Should an M-class flare develop it will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions will remain slightly enhanced today before returning to nominal levels on Thursday. Enhancements are expected again by Friday with the return of additional coronal hole influences. The Earth's geomagnetic field is expected to be mostly quiet today and Thursday before active conditions return on Friday paired with the coronal hole influences. 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:	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	<a href="https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/">https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/</a>	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:	<a href="http://www.floridadisaster.org">http://www.floridadisaster.org</a>	Operational	

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