



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, March 13, 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	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@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 Branch Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com
Emergency Services Branch Director	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: Health & Medical On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
ESF 14: Public Information Officer	Stephanie Hartman	(850) 570-3053	Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com
Finance Chief	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Leon, Bay	L-449 Meeting / Document Pick up & Delivery
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Office Admin
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	MCI / Reunification Exercise
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Flagler	County EM Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	L-449 Course Instruction Prep
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	Lee	Office Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Fire Response / FIFA World Cup Meeting

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	Holmes	EM Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Region	Leave
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Columbia	Active Assailant Exercise
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Columbia	Active Assailant Exercise
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Volusia	LMS Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	FEPA Mitigation Group Meeting
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Osceola	External Partners Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	Administration

Region 2 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 1

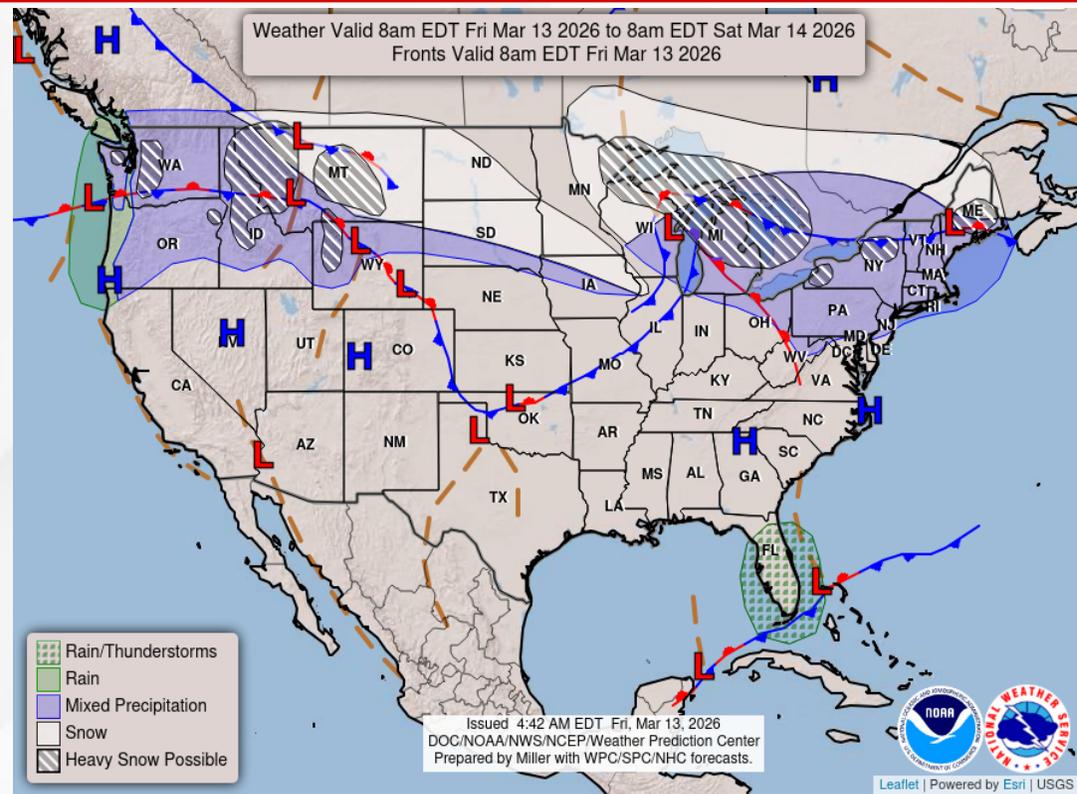
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 / 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 / 8

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

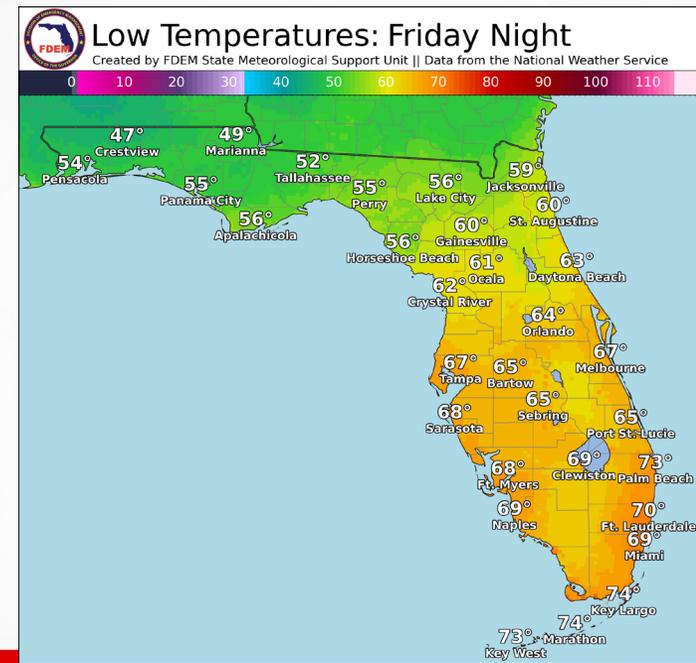
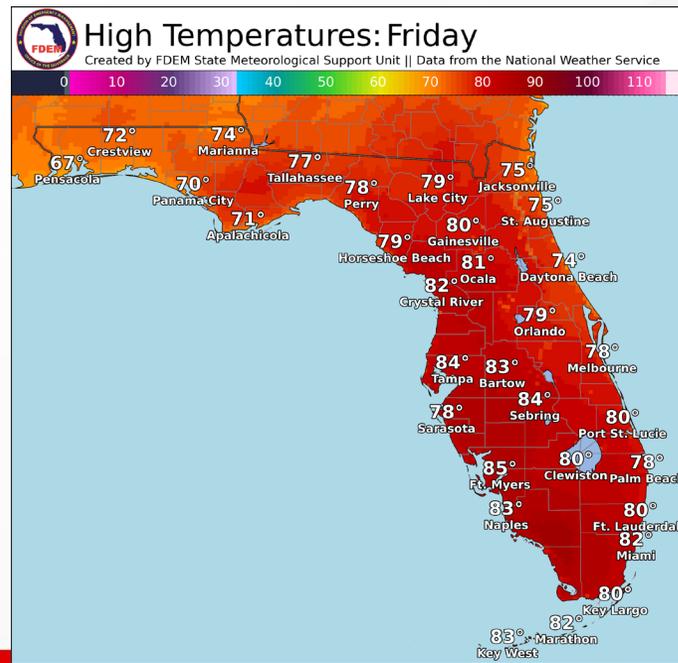


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning							L	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind								L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding								L	L	L
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)			L	L	L		L	L	L	L
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.18 ft. (2.27 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	511 (+6) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

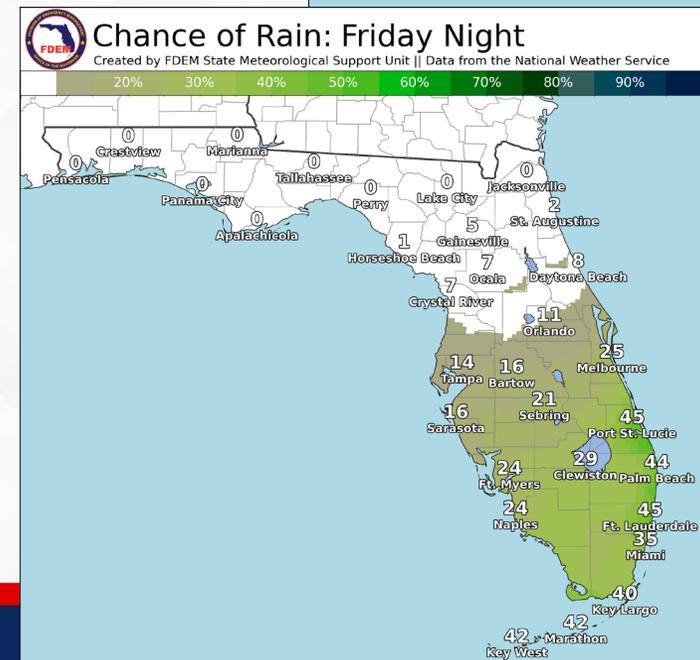
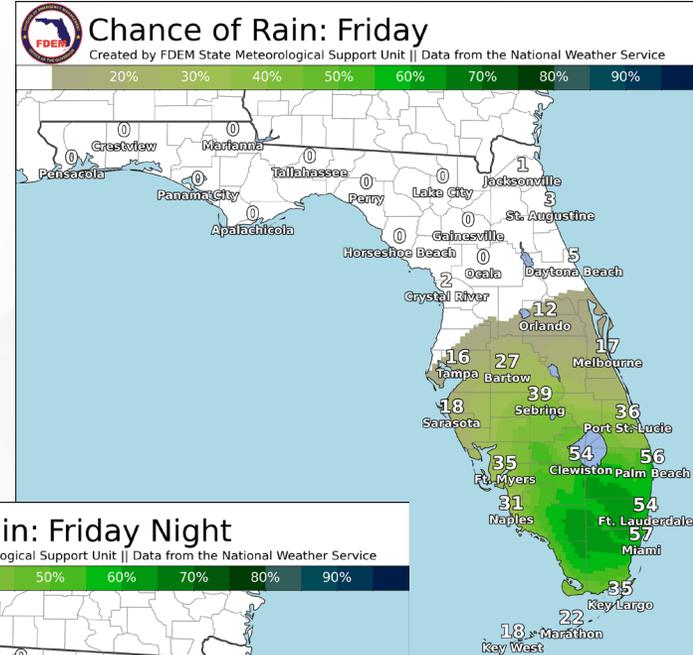
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

The cold front associated with yesterday's frontal passage has stalled and begun to dissipate across South Florida, evident as a few lingering showers this morning. Tropical moisture will pool along and south of this front today with scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms expected to develop this afternoon, mainly south of Lake Okeechobee (45-60% chance of rain), and isolated activity extending northward to the I-4 corridor (15-40% chance of rain). A few of these storms could be **locally strong to severe** and capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds, and small hail. A few **locally heavy downpours** can also not be ruled out, capable of producing a quick **1-3" of rain**. North of the I-4 corridor, a sunny and dry day is expected. Relative humidities will remain low today across North Florida (35-40%), with **sensitive wildfire conditions** expected given the ongoing drought. A few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** are expected across the Peninsula this afternoon.

High temperatures will remain in the lower to middle 70s across the Panhandle today, with upper 70s to middle 80s elsewhere statewide. Onshore winds may keep temperatures a few degrees cooler along the East Coast.

Tonight, activity across South Florida will linger and may start to drift northward into Central Florida after midnight with isolated showers (25-40% chance of rain). A few coastal showers will also linger along the Southeast Florida coastline (40-50% chance of rain). A mostly dry night is expected elsewhere, though low-level moisture and calm winds may promote **low clouds and fog** across Northeast and interior South Florida.

Lows will fall into the middle 40s and 50s in the Panhandle and Big Bend, with 60s and lower 70s throughout the Peninsula and Keys.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy winds and elevated surf will bring a return of a **high risk for rip currents** to all East Coast beaches today. A **moderate risk** is expected for most Panhandle beaches. West Coast beaches can still expect a low risk. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Surf will gradually subside throughout the day along the East Coast, with wave heights of **4-6'** this afternoon decreasing to **2-4'** overnight. Panhandle and West Coast beaches can expect surf of 1-2' through tonight.

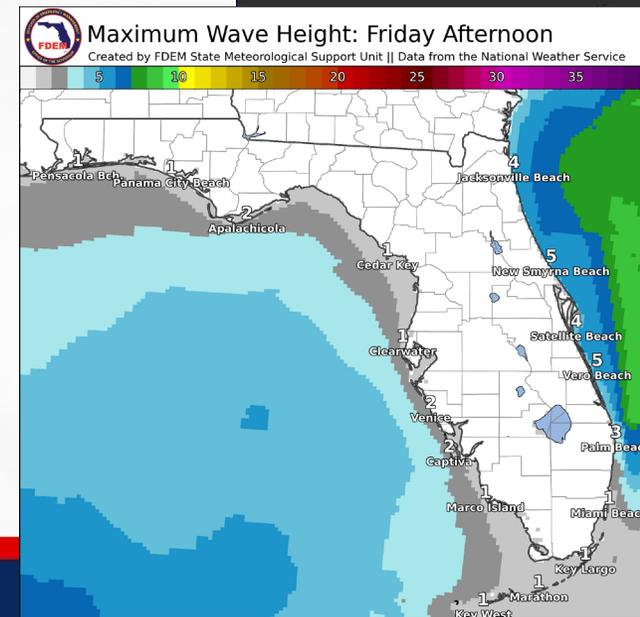
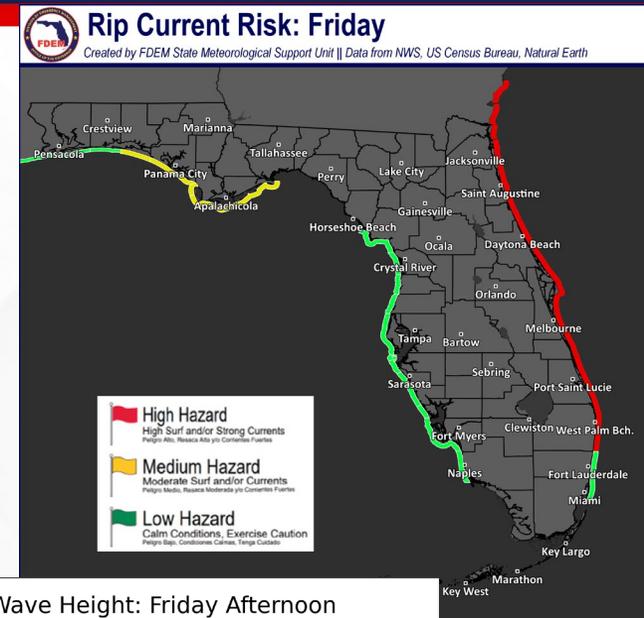
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in Walton and Bay counties in Northwest Florida. It was also observed at background concentrations from Flagler County and low concentrations in Brevard County along the East Coast. It was not observed in Southwest Florida (valid 3/6/26).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will develop this afternoon across South Florida sparked by sea breezes. Some of these showers and storms may bring **locally heavy downpours** capable of producing a quick **1-3" of rain**.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.18 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.29 feet below normal for this time of year.



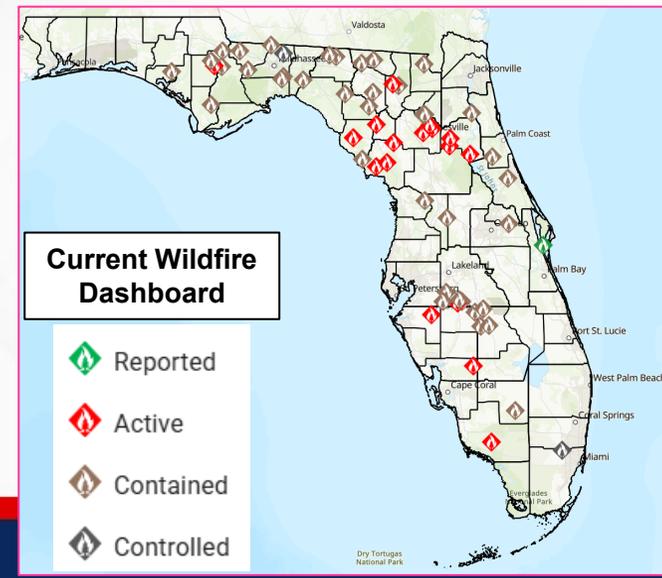
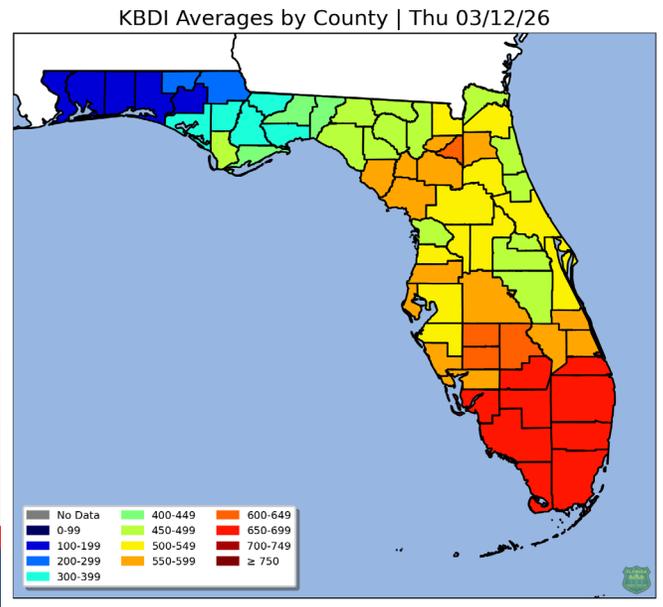
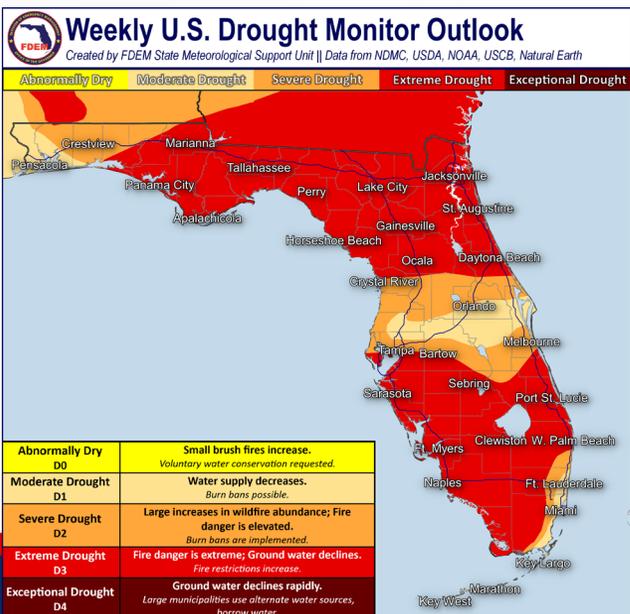


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: A mostly dry day is on tap across North Florida where relative humidities will dip to **near critical thresholds (35-40% RH values)**. Given the ongoing drought, this will continue to promote **sensitive wildfire conditions**, especially in any areas that received little rainfall from our frontal passage yesterday. However, most vegetation should remain saturated enough from recent rains to keep the larger wildfire risk lower. Portions of South Florida saw little rainfall yesterday; however, scattered showers and storms will develop this afternoon along the sea breeze boundaries. A few wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** are expected outside of thunderstorm activity today throughout the Peninsula. *Thunderstorms can produce gusty/erratic winds which can influence ongoing wildfire behavior, and lightning can spark new or reignite existing wildfires.* Areas of **low clouds and fog** may develop tonight across Northeast Florida, which can further reduce visibilities in the vicinity of ongoing and active wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 58 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 7,882 acres.

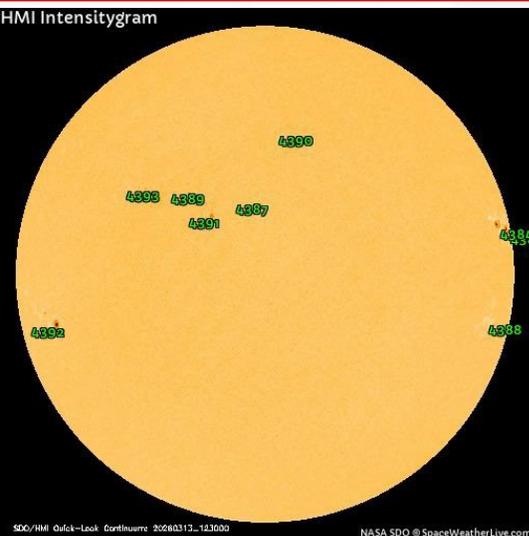
Drought (3/12/26): Very little changes were made to this weeks Drought Monitor update as much of the state struggled to see any meaningful rainfall enough to put a dent in the ongoing drought. The heaviest rains over the past week fell across portions of West-Central Florida with pockets of 2-4" of rainfall. A few localized pockets of heavier totals fell across Northeast Florida as well, though general amounts below 1" were found statewide. An **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place across much of North Florida and South Florida. In fact, some expansion of the extreme drought was seen across interior Palm Beach and Broward counties closer to the coastline. Throughout Central Florida, and small pocket of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** remains, though it shrunk with **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** expanding to include all of southern Sumter, Lake and Seminole counties. A **moderate drought** also remains in place for the very far western Panhandle. As of this outlook, 90% of the state is under a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** or worse and 72% of the state under an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**. Rainfall departures still remain well below normal across much of the state as recent warm and dry conditions have led to further drying of vegetation and grounds. Streamflows continue to drop to extremely low levels in some waterways across North and Central Florida, and some have completely dried up. Looking ahead, scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms will be a theme each afternoon across much of the Peninsula, especially South Florida, through the weekend (3/13-3/15) as warm temperatures and the sea breeze boundaries promote afternoon development. Some of this rainfall could lead to localized amounts enough to put a good dent in the local drought (4-6" amounts through the weekend). However, a widespread drenching rainfall is not currently anticipated. Trends in the weekend rainfall will continue to be monitored to see if it will be enough for meaningful drought alleviation.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **511 (+6)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **38** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

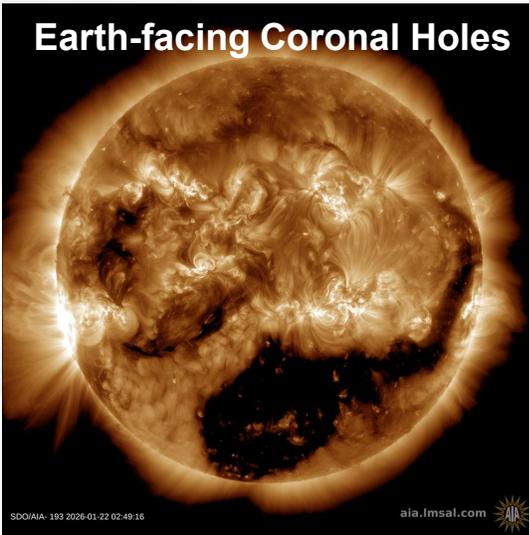
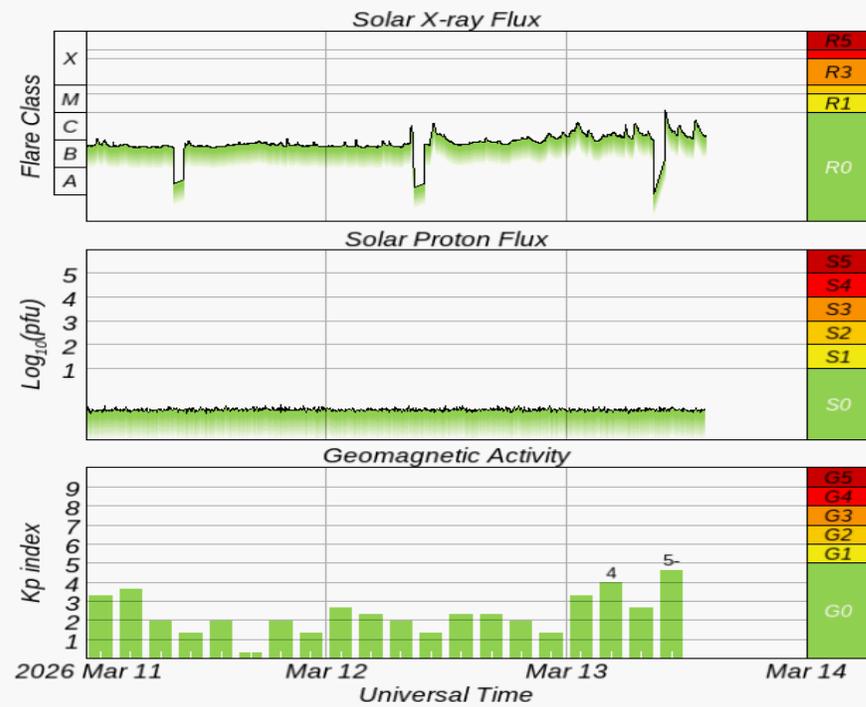




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 20%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/13	3/14
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to remain at low levels through the weekend, with a chance for a strong (M-class) solar flare mainly from sunspot region #4384. Should an M-class flare develop it will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Enhanced solar wind conditions will prevail through the weekend due to the onset of coronal hole influences. Periods of active geomagnetic storming are expected as well, with minor (G1) conditions possible. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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