



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Saturday, March 14, 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	Cody Nowak	(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	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 4: Tara Kostich	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Martin, Hillsborough	Return to Region 6 Travel / On-Call Status
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Warehouse Fire Command Post

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	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Region	Leave
Region 3: Kevin Blom	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Rick Rogers	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	In Region	Off & Monitoring

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

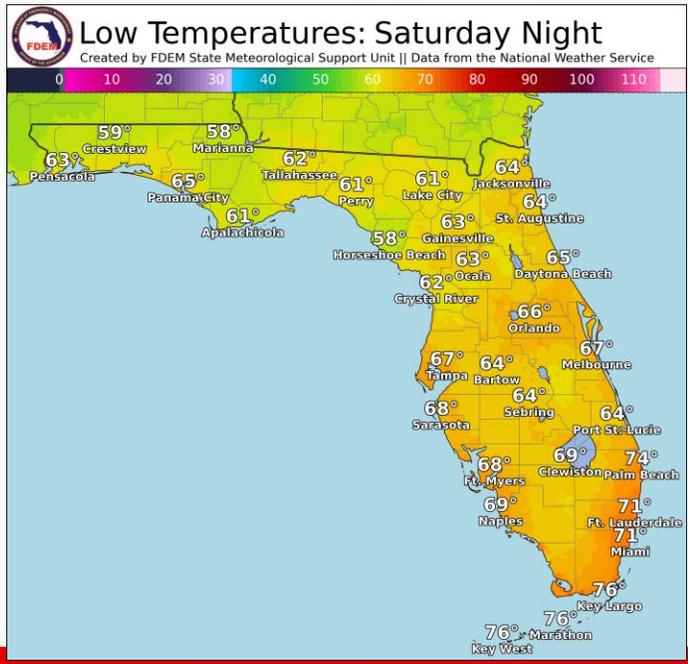
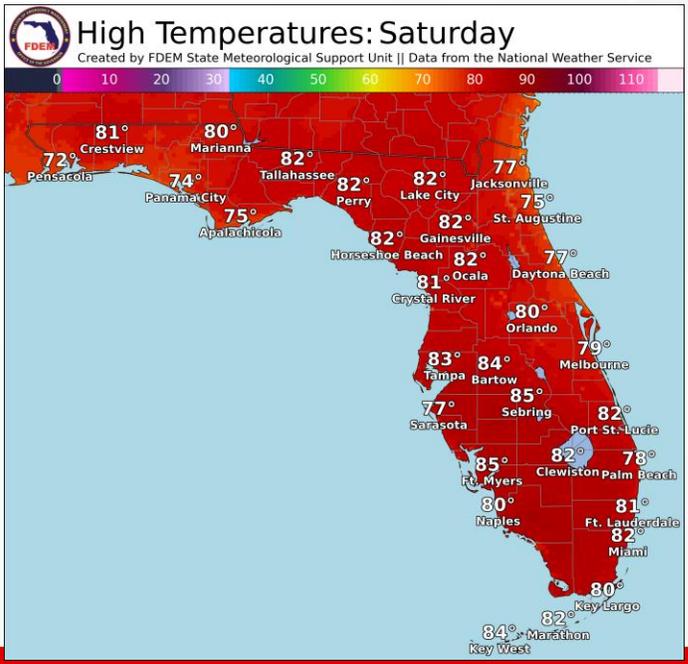
Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable



Meteorology Summary

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning					L	L	L	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind						L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding								L	L	L
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)			L	L	L	M	M	L	M	
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.16 ft. (2.30 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	510 (-1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									

Today's Weather Map





Meteorology Summary

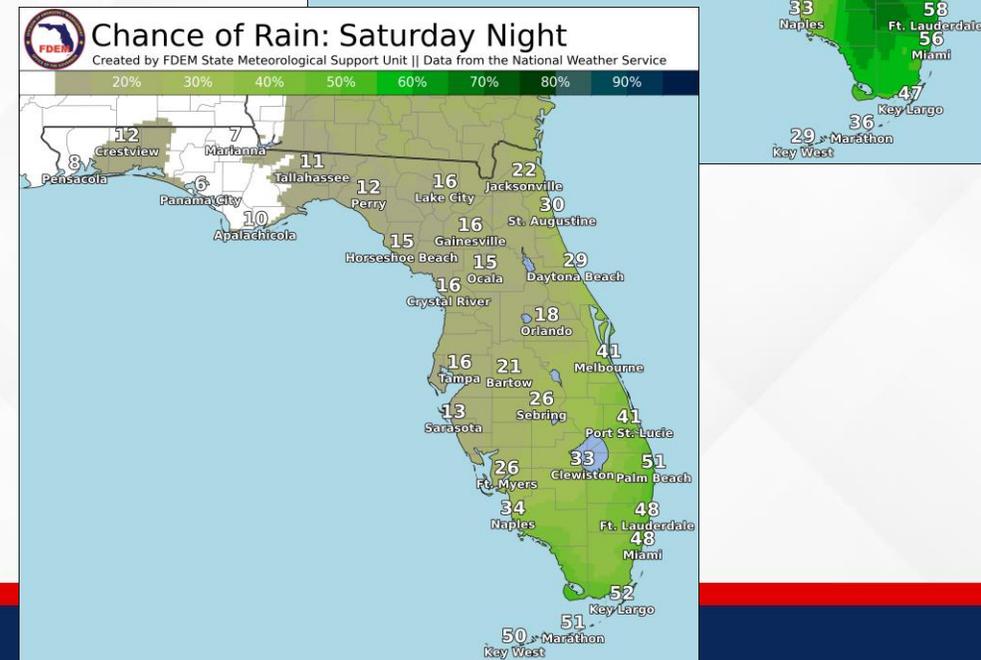
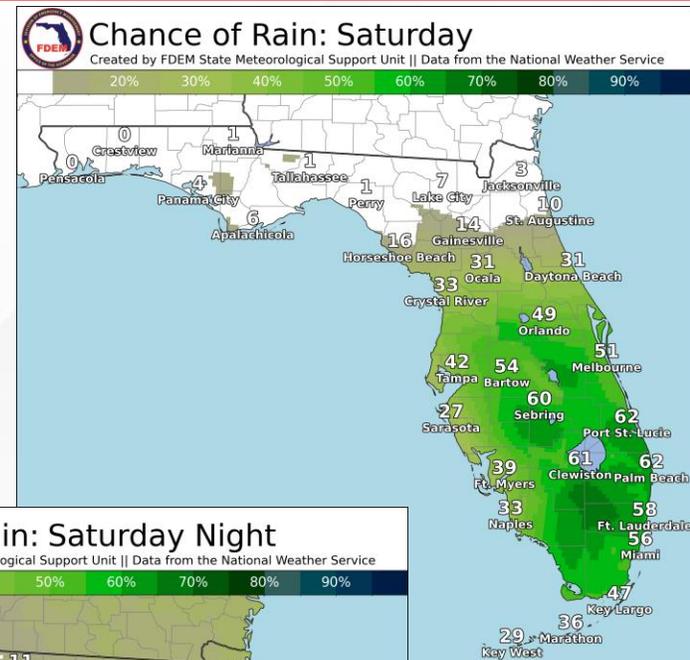
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of **patchy dense fog** have developed across interior South and Northeast Florida this morning and will be slow to lift and dissipate with sunrise. Otherwise, another mostly sunny and dry day will prevail across North Florida where **low relative humidities (35-40%)** will continue to promote **sensitive wildfire conditions**. Across Central and South Florida, a stalled frontal boundary will allow plenty of moisture to pool across the Peninsula for scattered shower and thunderstorm development this afternoon, mainly along and south of the I-4 corridor (50-65% chance of rain). Although there is no organized risk for severe weather or flash flooding, some of these slow-moving thunderstorms could become **locally strong to severe** and produce gusty winds, frequent lightning, and **locally heavy downpours**. Winds will remain generally light today outside of thunderstorm activity, however a few breezy gusts **upwards of 20-25 mph** are possible along the I-95 corridor.

High temperatures will warm into the lower to middle 80s throughout interior portions of the state today with coastal locations remaining in the 70s.

The frontal boundary draped across the Peninsula will slowly drift northward tonight, allowing for moisture and some isolated showers and thunderstorms to lift northward into Northeast Florida (15-25% chance of rain). Coastal showers will linger throughout the night across Southeast Florida and the Keys (40-55% chance of rain). Low-level moisture and calm winds will promote additional development of **fog and low clouds** tonight, mainly throughout the interior Peninsula, some of which could become **locally dense**.

Low temperatures will fall into the upper 50s to lower 60s across North Florida and middle to upper 60s throughout Central and South Florida. The Southeast Florida metro region and Keys will remain in the 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy winds and elevated surf will keep a **high risk for rip currents** for most East Coast beaches today, with a local **moderate risk** for Southeast Florida beaches. A **moderate risk** is also 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 continue to decline today along the East Coast, with wave heights returning back to **3-5'** this afternoon and overnight. Panhandle and West Coast beaches will see surf near 1' today.

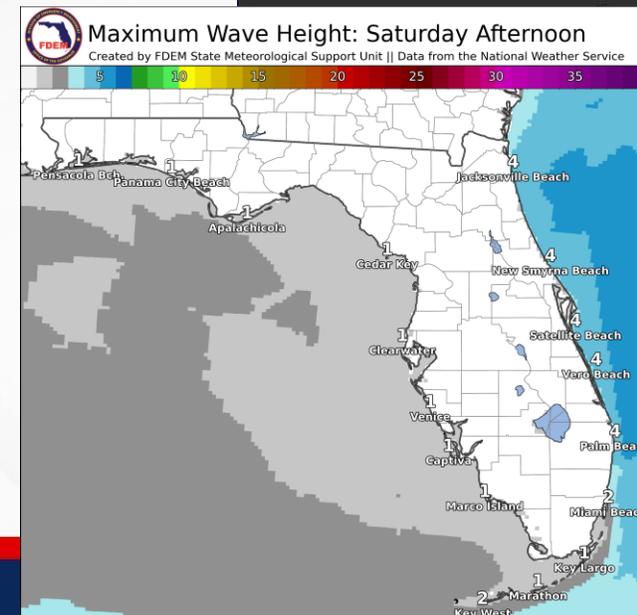
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in Walton, Bay, Escambia, Gulf, and Franklin counties in Northwest Florida. It was also observed at very low concentrations in Brevard County along the East Coast. It was not observed in Southwest Florida (valid 3/13/26).

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 and Central Florida sparked by sea breezes and daytime warming. Some of these showers and storms may bring **locally heavy downpours** capable of producing a quick **1-3" of rain**, and areas of **urban flooding** and **ponding of water** 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 12.16 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.30 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



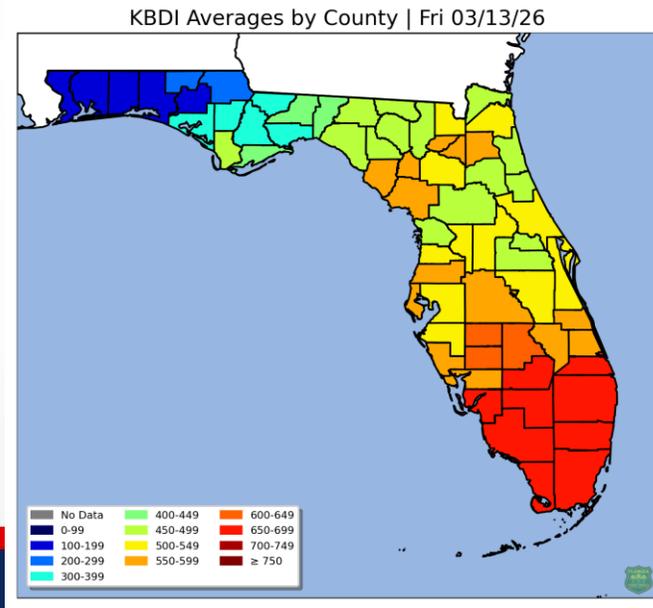
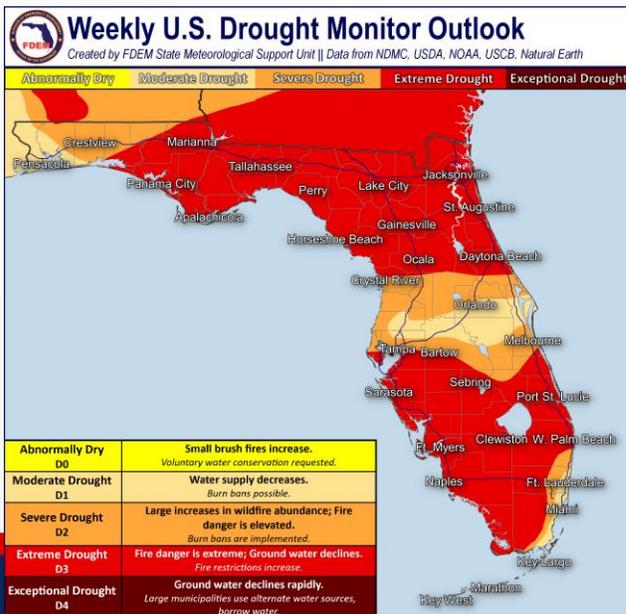


Drought & Fire Weather

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 two days ago (3/12). Across South and Central Florida, showers and storms will develop this afternoon along the sea breeze boundaries. A few wind gusts **upwards of 20-25 mph** are expected outside of thunderstorm activity today throughout the Peninsula, mainly along the I-95 corridor. *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 the interior Peninsula, which can further reduce visibilities in the vicinity of ongoing and active wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 46 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 4,247 acres.

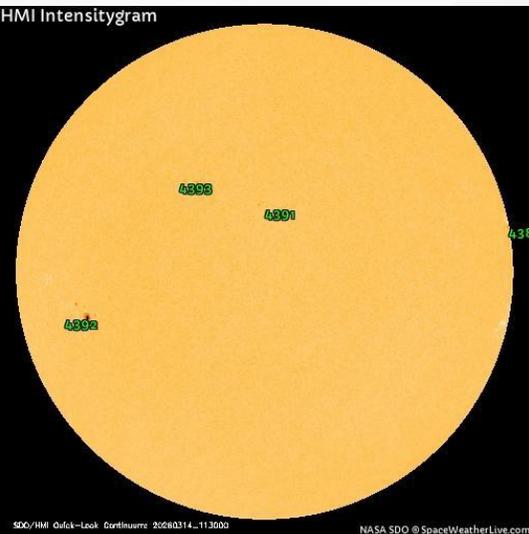
Drought (3/12/26): Very little changes were made to this weeks Drought Monitor update as much of the state struggled to see any meaningful rainfall enough to put a dent in the ongoing drought. The heaviest rains over the past week fell across portions of West-Central Florida with pockets of 2-4" of rainfall. 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 **510 (-1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **37** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

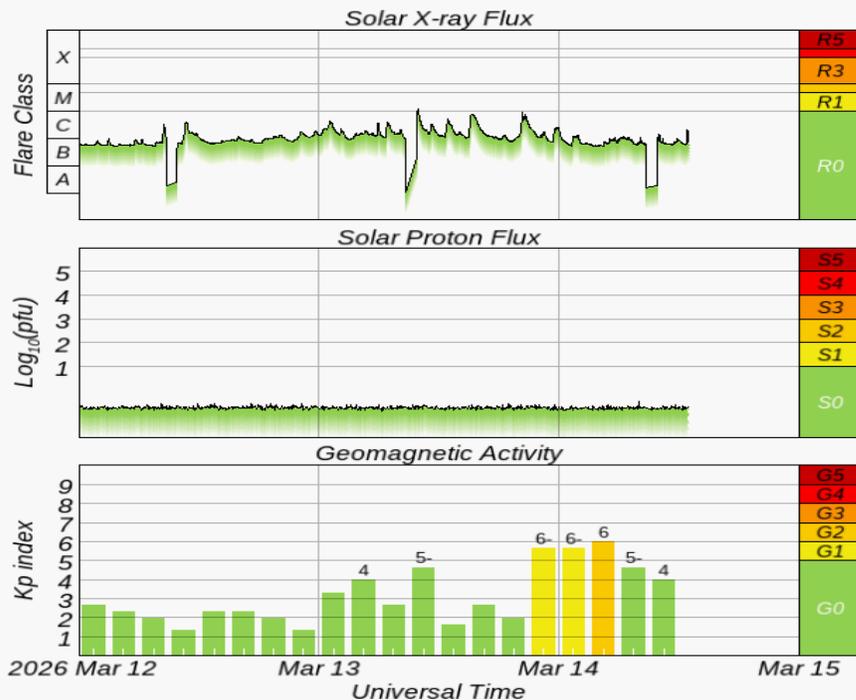




Space Weather

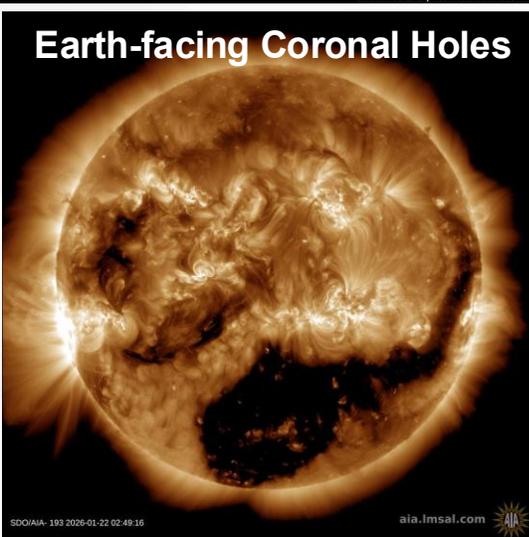


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 25%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C9 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/14	3/15
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%



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 persistence of coronal hole influences. Periods of active geomagnetic storming are expected as well, with minor (G1) to moderate (G2) conditions likely. 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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