



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Tuesday, March 24, 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	<a href="mailto:Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com">Sam.Walters@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	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Meteorologist	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	<a href="mailto:Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com">Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Gadsden	Vehicle Maintenance / Regional Meeting Prep
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Calhoun	Baker Rd Wildfire Response
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	SRT Assessment (Jacksonville FRD)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Polk, Brevard	EVOC Refresher / Artemis Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	TECO Utility Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Martin, Polk	Equipment Pickup & Drop-off (FLCOCO)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	HurrEx MPM / Online Cyber Threats Training
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	DHS Calls / Healthcare Coalition Meeting

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3  
 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	Escambia	Pensacola Airport Exercise
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Calhoun	Recovery Meeting
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Columbia	IS 300 Training
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	St. Johns	FL-393
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	FEPA Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	Javare Meeting
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	FEPA Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	FL COCO	Vehicle Training

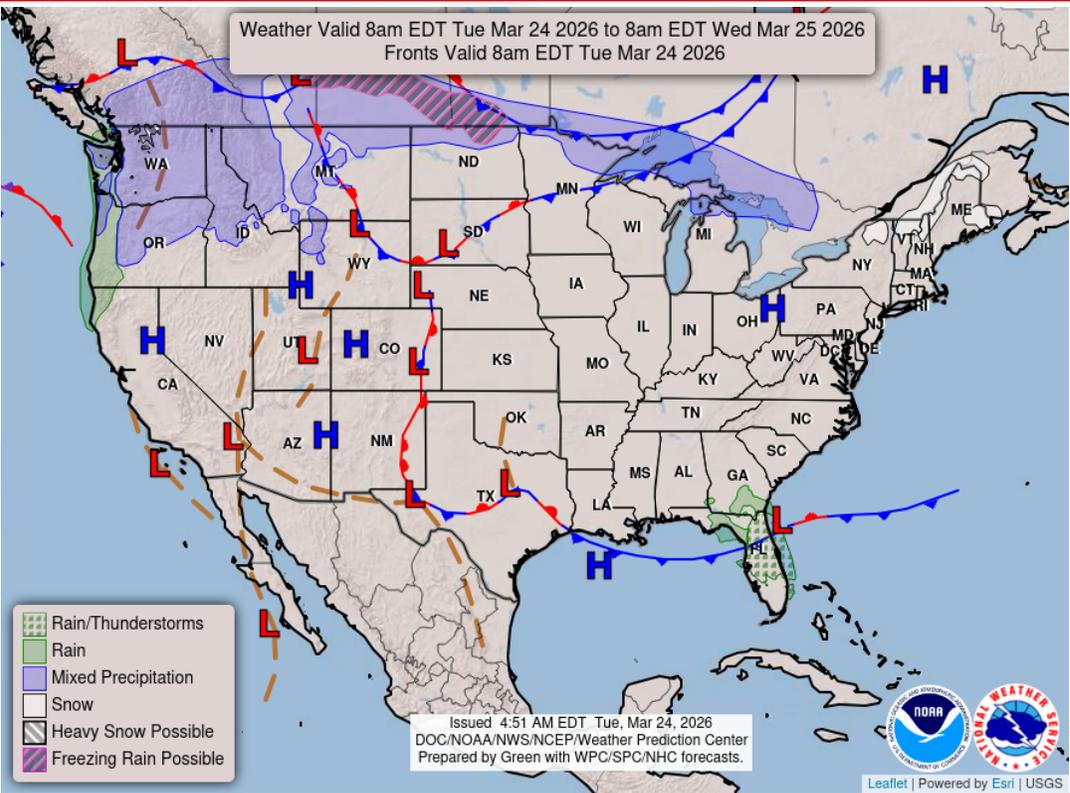
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6 & 8

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

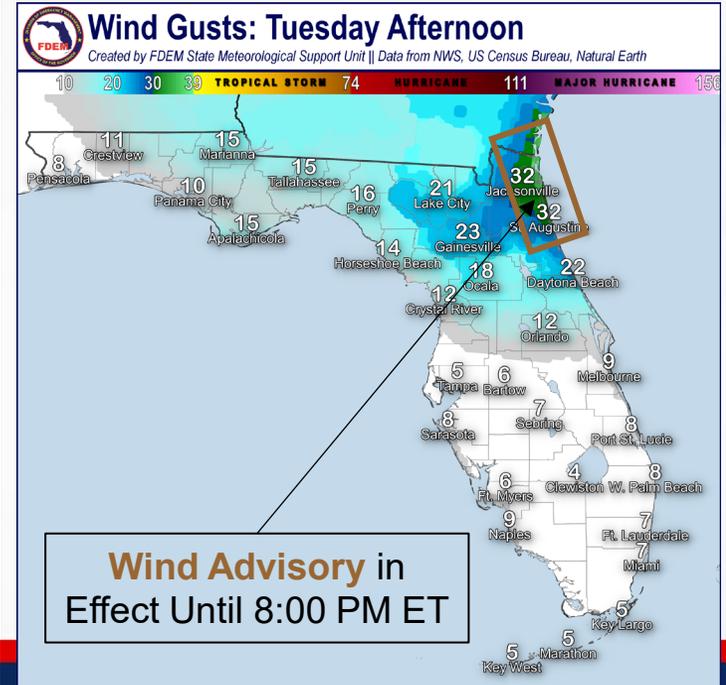
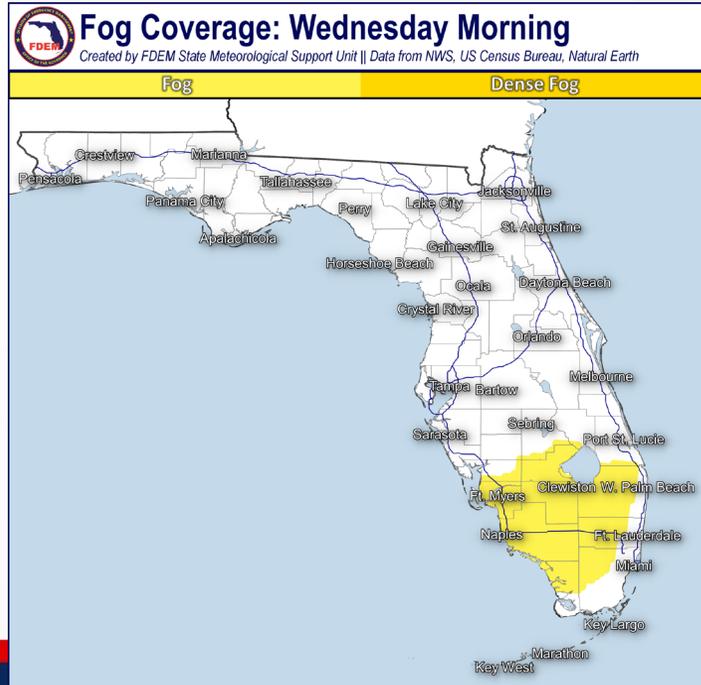


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning				L	L					
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)					L	L	M	M	M	M
Wildfire	M	L	L	L	L	L	M	M	M	M
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		M	L	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.04 ft. (2.32 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	452 (+7) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





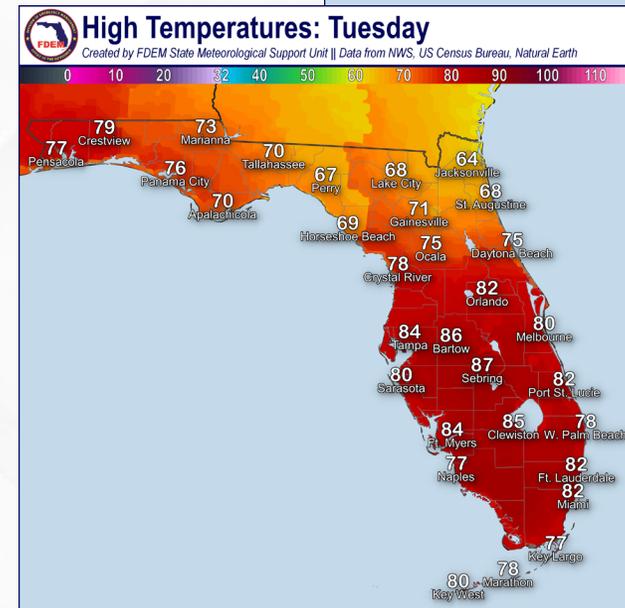
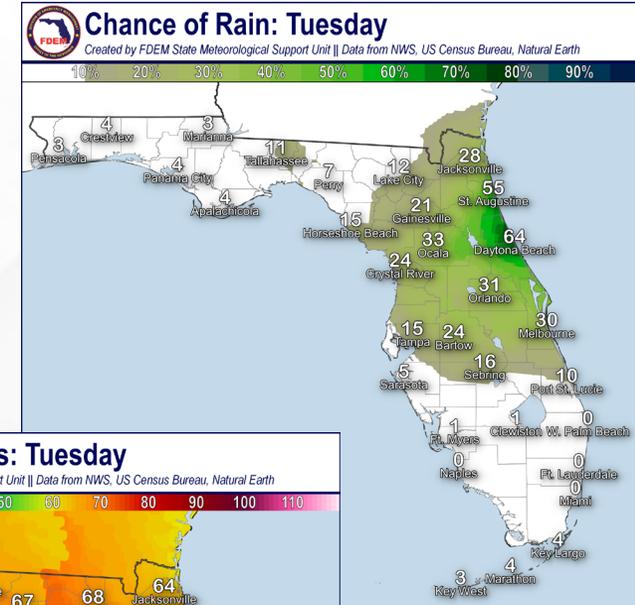
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A cold front, currently situated south of the I-10 corridor, will largely separate the weather story for North Florida and the Florida Peninsula today.

**North Florida:** Scattered showers and even a few thunderstorms develop along Florida's First Coast (45-75% chance of rain) along and ahead of the frontal boundary. **Locally heavy rainfall rates** will be possible within shower and thunderstorm activity later this afternoon and evening, especially along the coastal and urban Northeast Florida corridor where computer models are hinting at isolated pockets of 2-4" of rain. While certainly a welcomed sight to the drought-stricken region, **nuisance ponding water** cannot be ruled out. Outside of thunderstorm activity, a squeeze play between our frontal system and a building area of high pressure will yield windy conditions to Northeast Florida. **Wind Advisories** are in effect until 8:00 PM for frequent **wind gusts** of **35-45 mph** along coastal Nassau and Duval Counties. While not nearly as potent as last week's frontal system, the cold front will lead to quite a tricky temperature forecast for North Florida communities as many high temperatures may be realized this morning! The combination of cooler and drier air as well a thick cloud deck developing north of I-4 will likely cap our high temperatures in the 60s east of US-231 (*maybe at the 70-degree mark for areas closer to the Apalachicola River*). Rain chances gradually expand to additional portions of North Florida and the Space Coast tonight (30-60% chance of rain), with low temperatures dropping into the 50s.

**Florida Peninsula:** To the south of the I-4 corridor, another dry and mostly sunny day can be expected with afternoon high temperatures reaching the upper 70s to middle 80s. Rain chances associated with the aforementioned cold front may sneak southward along the Florida Space Coast tonight (25-45% chance of rain); otherwise, near-zero rain chances expected for the next 24-hour period. Low-level moisture will slowly reintroduce itself to the southern Florida Peninsula, with areas of **fog and low clouds** possible tonight into Wednesday morning. Temperatures tonight remain mild in the 60s.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Windy onshore flow will yield a **high risk of rip currents** for all Northeast Florida beaches today, with a **moderate risk** extending through the Space and Treasure Coasts. **Moderate rip current** conditions continue for most Florida Panhandle beaches, and a low risk persists along the Northwest Florida and West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** While wave heights remain at 1-2' along the Florida Gulf Coast, northerly to northeasterly winds quickly reintroduce **dangerous beach and marine conditions** along the Northeast Florida Coast today. **High Surf Advisories** will go into effect today until early Wednesday afternoon for breaking waves of **6-8'** within the surf zone at Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, and Flagler County beaches. The long-period ocean swell will migrate southward along the Florida East Coast this evening and tonight, bringing **wave heights** of **4-6'** to all Atlantic beaches by Wednesday morning.

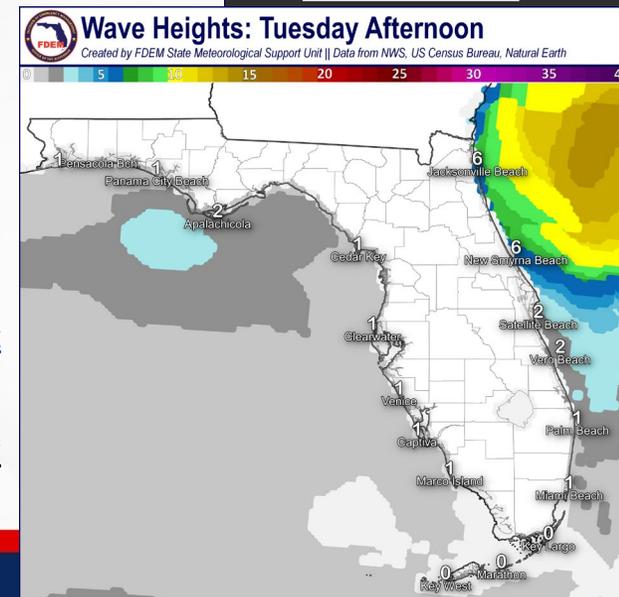
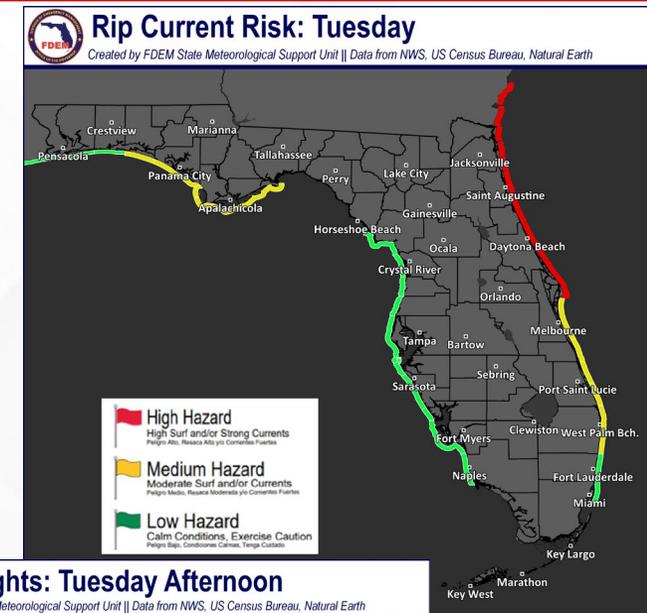
**Red Tide** was not observed statewide over the past week (valid 3/20/26).

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

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding across Florida today. **Locally heavy rainfall rates** will be possible within shower and thunderstorm activity later this afternoon and evening along the Northeast Florida coastal and urban corridors; while certainly a welcomed sight to the drought-stricken region, instances of **nuisance ponding water and flooding** cannot be ruled out. Isolated pockets of 2-4" of rainfall look to accompany showers and thunderstorms today.

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

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 12.04 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.32 feet below normal for this time of year.



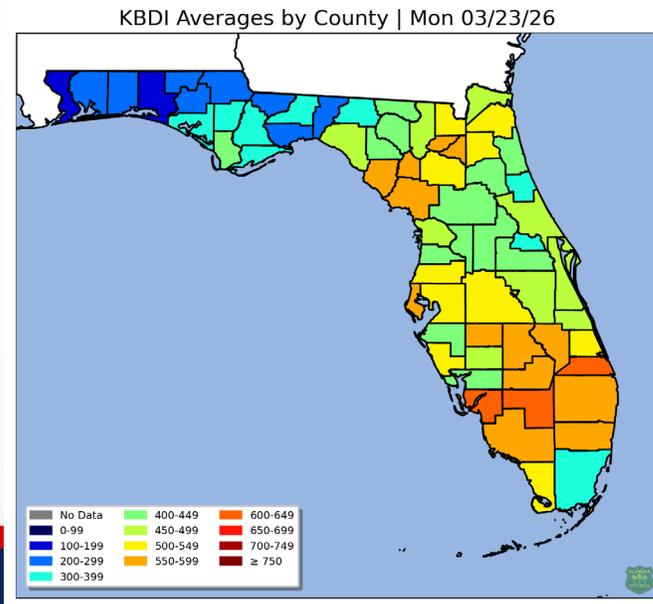
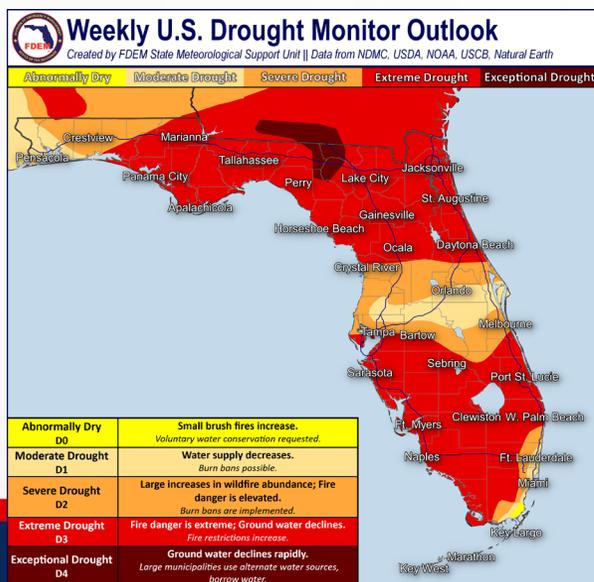


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** A slight pattern change can be expected, courtesy of a weak frontal boundary moving through North Florida this morning. Improving relative humidity values can be expected across much of North and Central Florida as rain chances increase through the forecast period; however, dry conditions persist along the western Florida Panhandle and southern Florida Peninsula today, with **relative humidity values** falling to **near critical thresholds (30-45%)** this afternoon. While the breezy to windy conditions will remain concentrated over Northeast Florida, prolonged drought and extremely dry soils/vegetation will maintain a **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire** threat. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** can be expected tonight throughout the southern Florida Peninsula; *a further reduction in visibility can be expected where fog develops near any ongoing wildfires or burns*. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 78 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,888 acres.

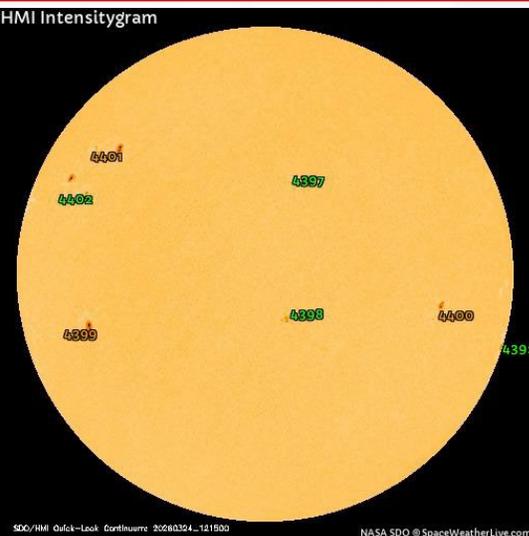
**Drought (3/19/26):** Very little changes were made to this week's Drought Monitor update, even despite much of the Sunshine State seeing beneficial wetting rains earlier in the period. As previously mentioned, the rainfall associated with the potent springtime cold front helped Florida locations in the near-term, as observed in improved KBDI values; however, observed rainfall totals were still not enough to alleviate long-term drought and dry soils/vegetation. Widespread **severe (level 2 of 4) to extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** continues nearly statewide, with the largest change occurring along the northern reaches of the Suwannee River. **Exceptional (level 4 of 4) drought** has been introduced over eastern Madison, Northern Gilchrist, western Suwannee, and Hamilton counties; portions of the Florida-Georgia state line saw worsening soil moisture and precipitation deficits and several streamflow gauges moved into record-low territory for mid-March. Very heavy rain fell in parts of Miami-Dade County, resulting in some improvements to drought conditions, though the benefit of the heavy rain was likely limited given runoff and very low water levels in the Everglades.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **452 (+7)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **26** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

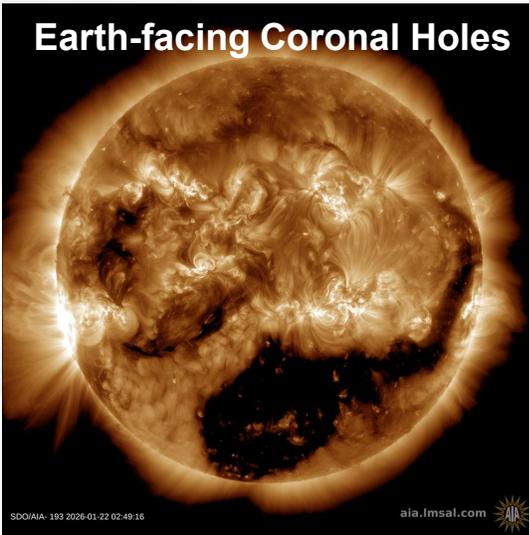
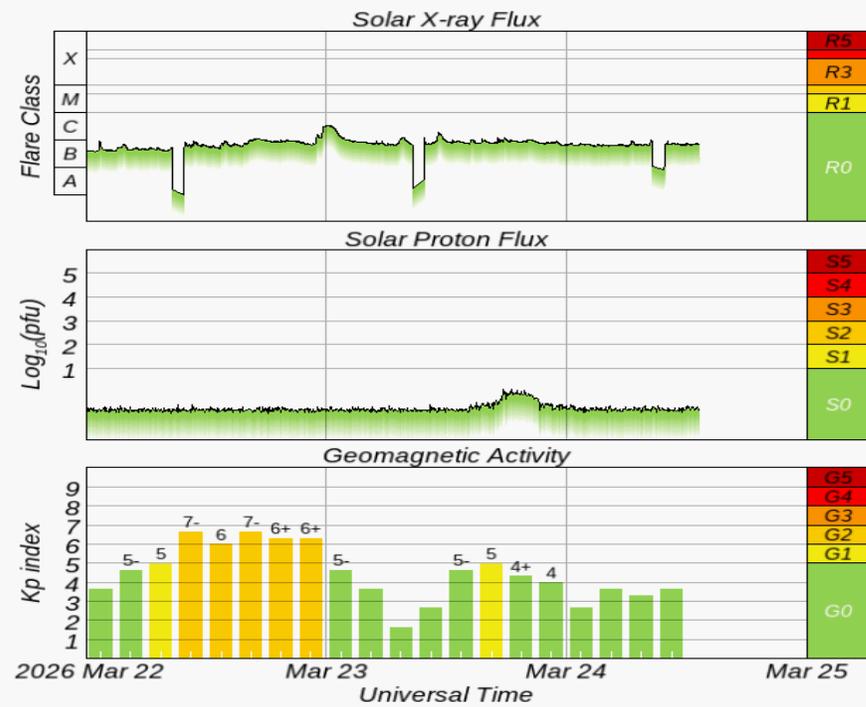




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 25%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/24	3/25
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 10%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

**Space Weather:** Solar activity is forecast to remain low, with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares primarily from nw sunspot #4400. Should organized flare activity occur, minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts cannot be ruled out. The solar wind environment is expected to remain enhanced through the forecast period due to coronal hole influences; however, the elevated regime looks to continue a downward trend. Periods of minor (G1) geomagnetic storming are expected today in response to these coronal hole effects; however, the overall space weather threat to Florida remains 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	

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=Morning\\_SITREP](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=Morning_SITREP)