



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, March 31, 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	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Lauren Warfield	(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	Brandon Gore	(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	Gadsden	Office Admin
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Jackson	LSA Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	SRT Assessment (Lake City FR)
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	IMT Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Hospital FSE Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Office Admin
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	RDSTF Training / SWFLHCC TF Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade, Polk	FLCOCO Visit

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6

Region 8 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	Admin Duties
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Vehicle Maintenance/Wildfire Call
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	Career Development
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	EM Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	External Partners Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	Orlando Health Controller/Evaluator Briefing
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Martin/St. Lucie	FAU EM Meeting/REP Emergency Worker Decon
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	Admin Duties

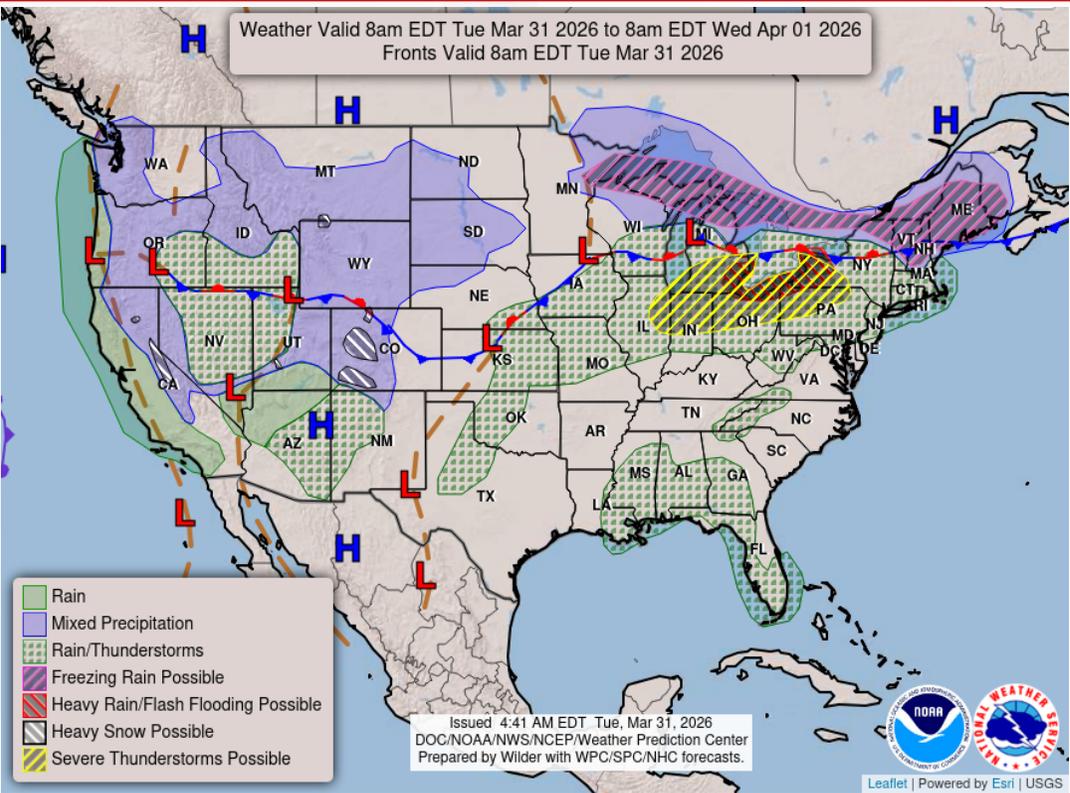
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 & 8

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

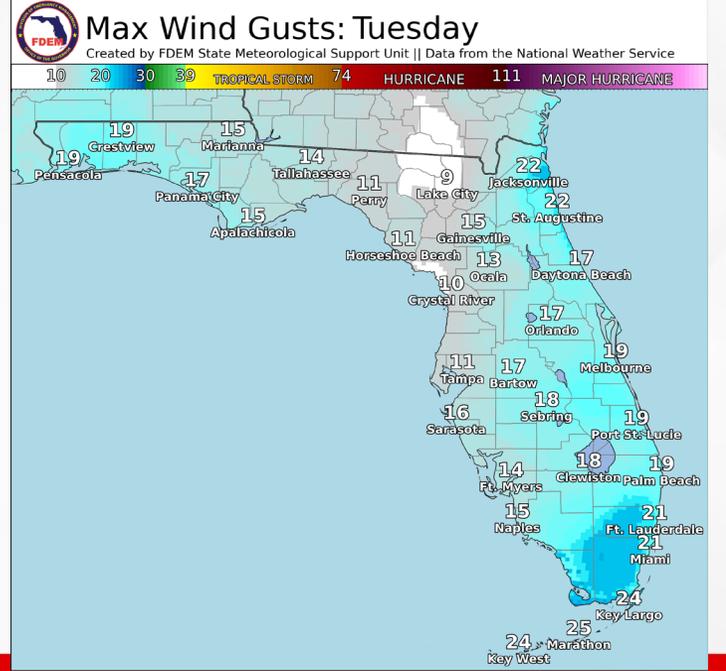
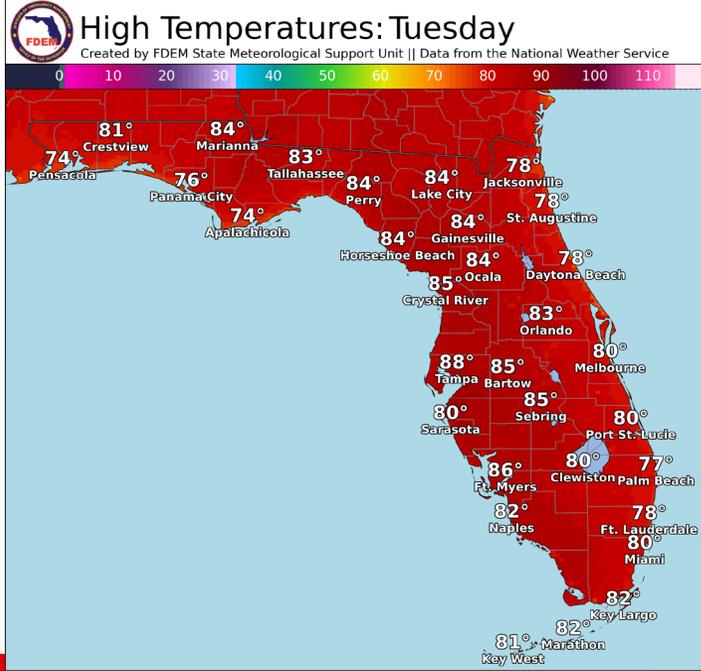


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L	L			L			L	
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Freeze (Overnight)										
Fog (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	L	L	L			
Wildfire	L	L	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.02 ft. (2.30 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	477 (-3) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



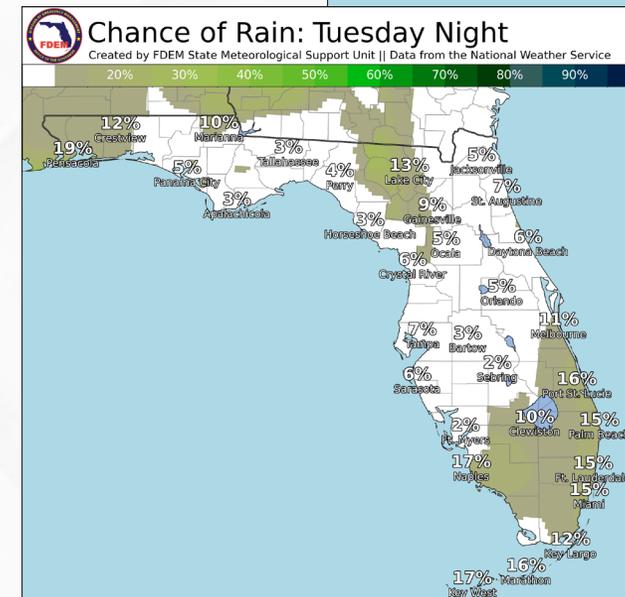
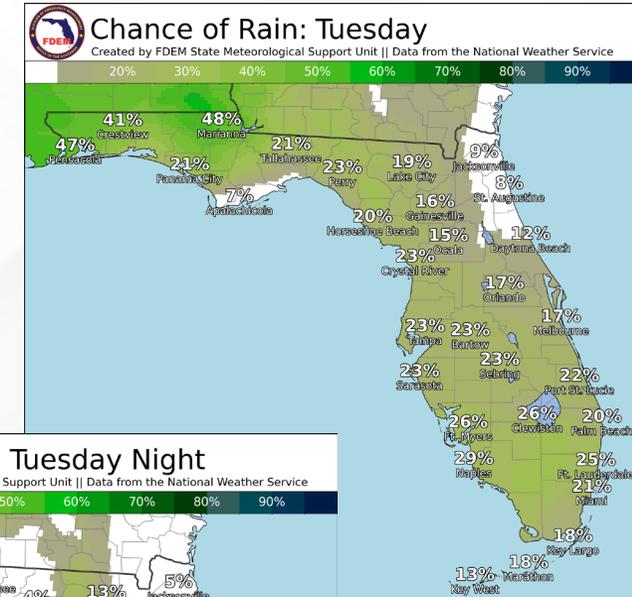


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A near rinse and repeat of yesterday is expected today as moist south and east flow continues around an area of high pressure over the western Atlantic promoting additional spotty chances for showers and thunderstorms across much of the state. A few onshore moving showers are ongoing this morning across Southeast Florida, and coverage will slightly increase this afternoon across the Peninsula along the east coast sea breeze as it pushes inland (15-30% chance of rain). The greatest chance of rain today, however, is across the northern Panhandle where increasing moisture and the sea breeze will help to initiate activity (35-50% chance of rain). Although there is no organized risk for severe weather, some of this activity could be accompanied by an occasional lightning strike or two and **locally heavy downpour**. Most activity throughout the state will diminish shortly after sunset, though a lingering shower or two cannot be ruled out across Southeast Florida (15-20% chance of rain). The easterly flow today will be accompanied by breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** along the I-95 corridor with locally higher gusts **upwards of 25 mph** across Southeast Florida. Relative humidities will remain above critical thresholds today, though ongoing drought will keep **locally sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** in place.

High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to middle 80s throughout much of the state this afternoon. Lows will reach the upper 50s to middle 60s throughout North Florida and middle 60s to lower 70s in Central and South Florida. With plentiful moisture sticking around overnight, areas of **fog and low clouds** are possible, especially throughout North and West-Central Florida. The greatest chances for **locally dense fog** will be across the western Panhandle and Northeast Florida





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy conditions will maintain elevated surf and dangerous swimming conditions to many Florida coastlines. A **moderate to high risk of rip currents** can be expected for all Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches, with low risk conditions residing along the Florida West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Marine conditions will continue slowly subsiding along the Florida East Coast today, with surf returning to **4-6'** for most beaches. A few waves **upwards of 7'** cannot be ruled out for Treasure Coast beaches. Florida Panhandle beaches can expect waves near **2-3'** this afternoon, with West Coast beaches around 1'.

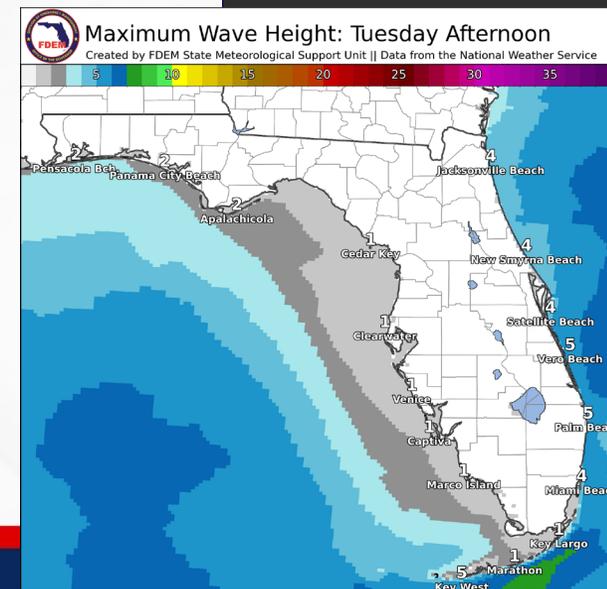
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in and offshore Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, and Gulf counties. It was also observed at very low concentrations in Brevard County (valid 3/27/26).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding across Florida today. Isolated to widely scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms will develop this afternoon throughout the state, some of which could be **locally heavy** and capable of producing a quick **1-2"** of rainfall. Areas of **ponding of water** cannot be ruled out, especially in urban and low-lying/poor drainage locations.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.02 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.30 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



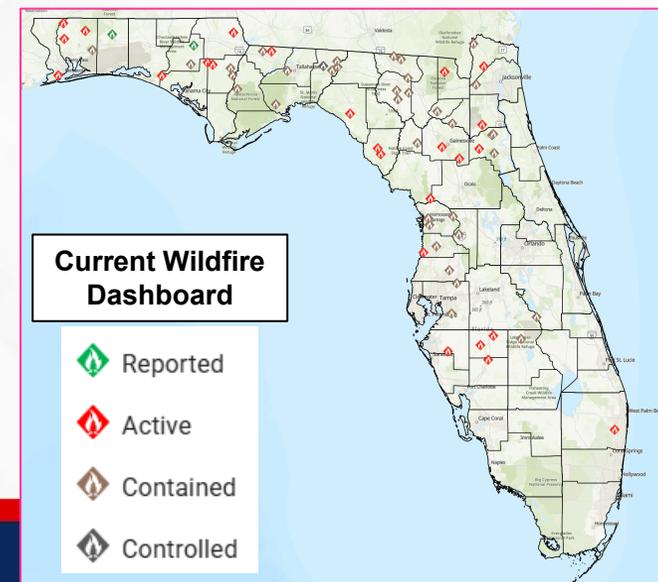
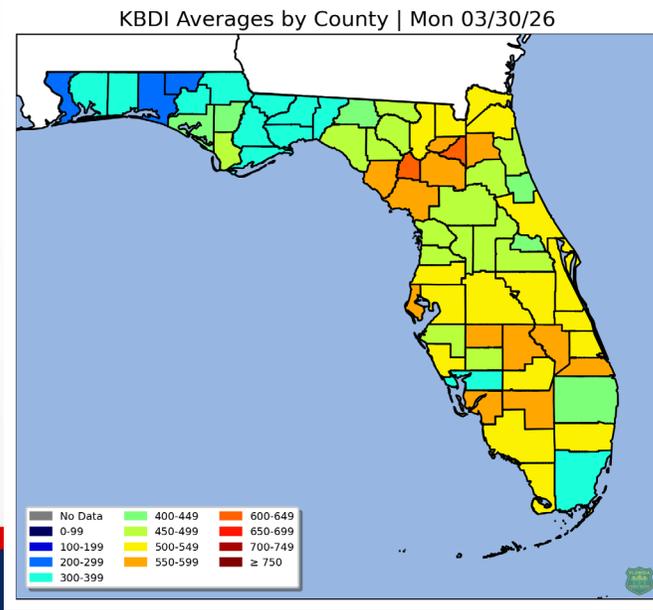
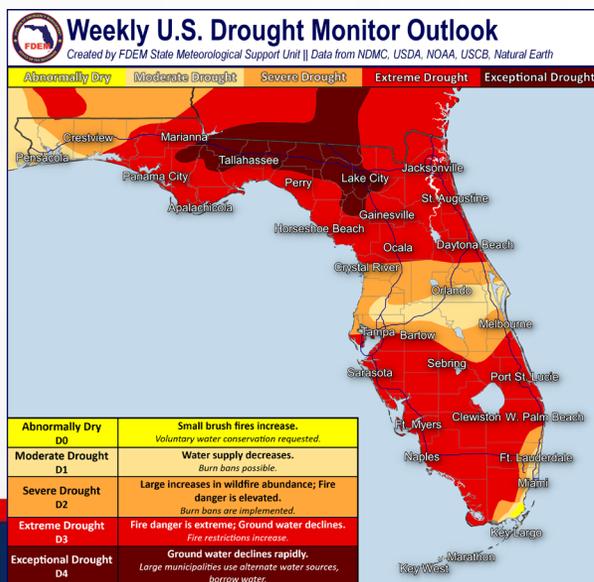


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Moist onshore flow around an area of high pressure over the western Atlantic will continue to bring plentiful low-level moisture throughout the state, keeping relative humidities above critical thresholds. However, **sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** continue statewide, courtesy of **breezy easterly winds** and ongoing severe to extreme drought. **Wind speeds of 10-20 mph** look to develop through the day throughout the Florida Peninsula, with **wind gusts of 20-25 mph** likely along the immediate coast. Locally higher wind gusts reaching upwards of **30 mph** will be possible across Southeast Florida. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will be possible throughout the state this afternoon; thunderstorms may be capable of producing lightning strikes and gusty winds which may lead to new ignitions or erratic spread, respectively. Tonight, areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** are possible throughout the western Panhandle and Northeast Florida. *Fog may significantly reduce visibilities in the vicinity of active wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 64 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 4,030 acres.

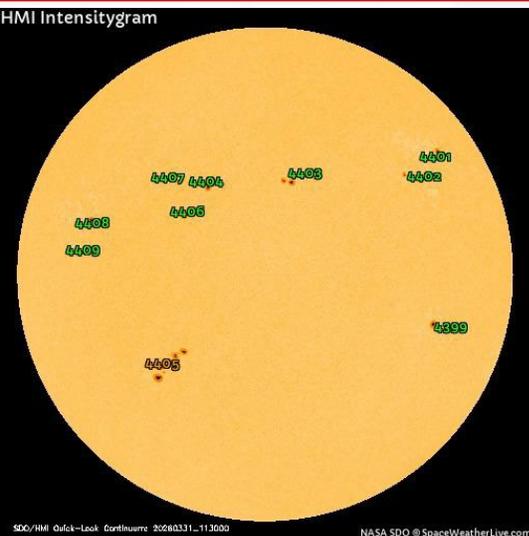
Drought (3/26/26): Very little in the way of any beneficial or meaningful rainfall was observed over the past week across the state with status quo drought conditions continuing. The heaviest rainfall over the past week was observed along the immediate Southeast Florida coastline and portions of East-Central Florida with totals upwards of 1-3". However, these totals were very localized with many locations seeing little to no rain. Widespread **severe (level 2 of 4) to extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** continues nearly statewide, with the largest change occurring across the Big Bend region. **Exceptional (level 4 of 4) drought** has been expanded across much of the I-10 corridor across the Big Bend and into the eastern Panhandle throughout northern Calhoun, Liberty, Gadsden, northern Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, Suwannee, Gilchrist, Columbia, and Union counties. Record low streamflows and precipitation **deficits of 5-8"** persist. Soil moisture levels deep into the ground have also worsened and water management districts statewide remain under some water shortage advisory or warning. Looking ahead, a widespread drenching rainfall is not expected over the next week. Mostly dry conditions will continue throughout North Florida where the afternoon sea breezes will have less of an influence. Throughout the Peninsula, daily shower or thunderstorm activity may return starting this weekend, though activity will be scattered in coverage and drought conditions are not expected to improve.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **477 (-3)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **31** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

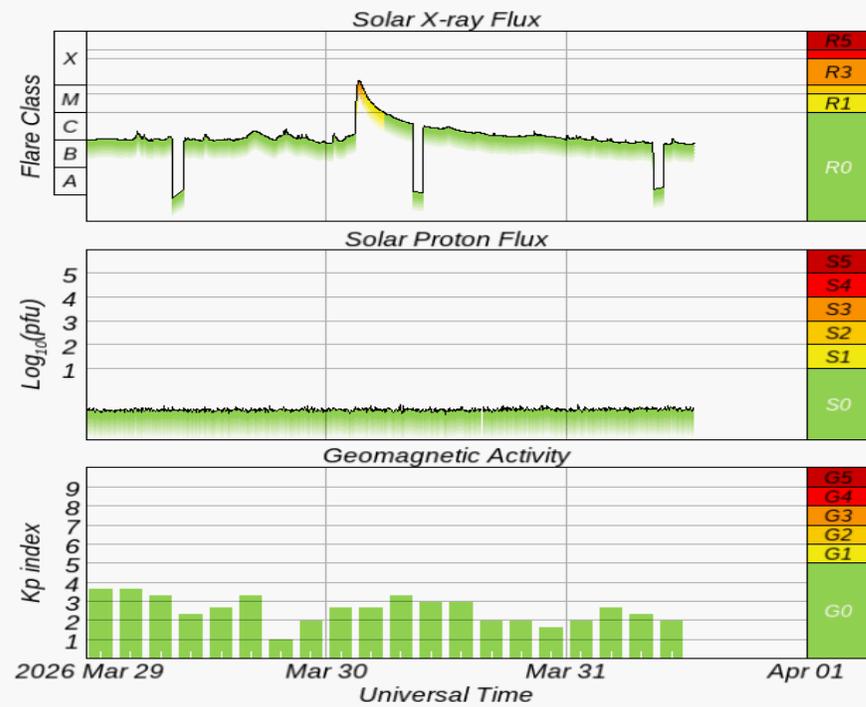




Space Weather

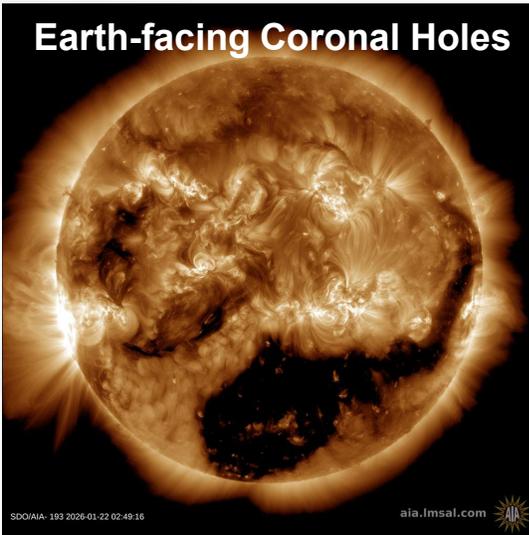


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: G2 Watch (3/31)	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R3 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
3/31	4/1
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 20%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%



Space Weather: Solar activity is likely to reach minor to moderate (R1-R2) levels today, with a slight chance for a significant (X-class) solar flare. Should an isolated X-class flare develop, strong (R3) radio blackouts would accompany. Enhanced solar wind conditions are likely through Wednesday due to recurrent coronal hole influences and possible Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) effects. Background conditions return on Thursday. Moderate (G2) geomagnetic storming is likely today, with a slight chance for isolated Strong (G3) conditions. Active to Minor (G1) conditions are expected on Wednesday before waning on Thursday to quiet to unsettled levels. The overall space weather threat to Florida remains very low.



SWO Communications Systems & Contact Information

Equipment	Contact	Status	Comments
Phone:	850-815-4001; 800-320-0519; 850-591-0071	Operational	
Fax:	850-815-4979	Operational	
Email:	SWP@em.myflorida.com	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	https://swo.floridadisaster.org	Operational	
SLERS:	DEM Statewide	Operational	
FNARS:	WGY974	Not Operational	System in Transition
Federal NAWAS:	State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
EMnet Message:	FL.000 - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
EMnet Voice:	FL SWP - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
IPAWS:	300006 - FL Florida Division of Emergency Management	Operational	
FIN:	SOFEOC	Not Operational	System in Transition
Satellite Phones:	MSAT 888-890-5178; Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	https://floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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