



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, July 30, 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Austin Johnson	(850) 296-5680	Austin.Johnson@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	Claudia Riddle	(850) 755-2924	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	Santa Rosa	County EM Visit / DOH All Hazards Meeting / Response Coordinator Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	County EM Meeting / Resposne Coordinator Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Response Coordinator Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval, Clay	Regional TTX Planning Meeting (NAS Jax) / G-141 Instruction Prep / RC Mtg
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	CPR/EVOC Course Admin Prep / Response Coordinators Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas	Hurricane Season Assissted Living Facility Readiness Meeting / RC Mtg
Region 7: Brian Carey	Leon	Response Coordinator Onboarding Orientation
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Sarasota	Community Preparedness Workshop
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6, 9

Region 8 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 5

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Flagler	Co Instructing G-205 Flagler
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Flagler	G-205 Training
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Alachua	F-ROC Tour
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Flagler	Instructing G-205
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Osceola	Instructing FL-393
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Out of Region	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 10: Brian Lee	Out of Region	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3

Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

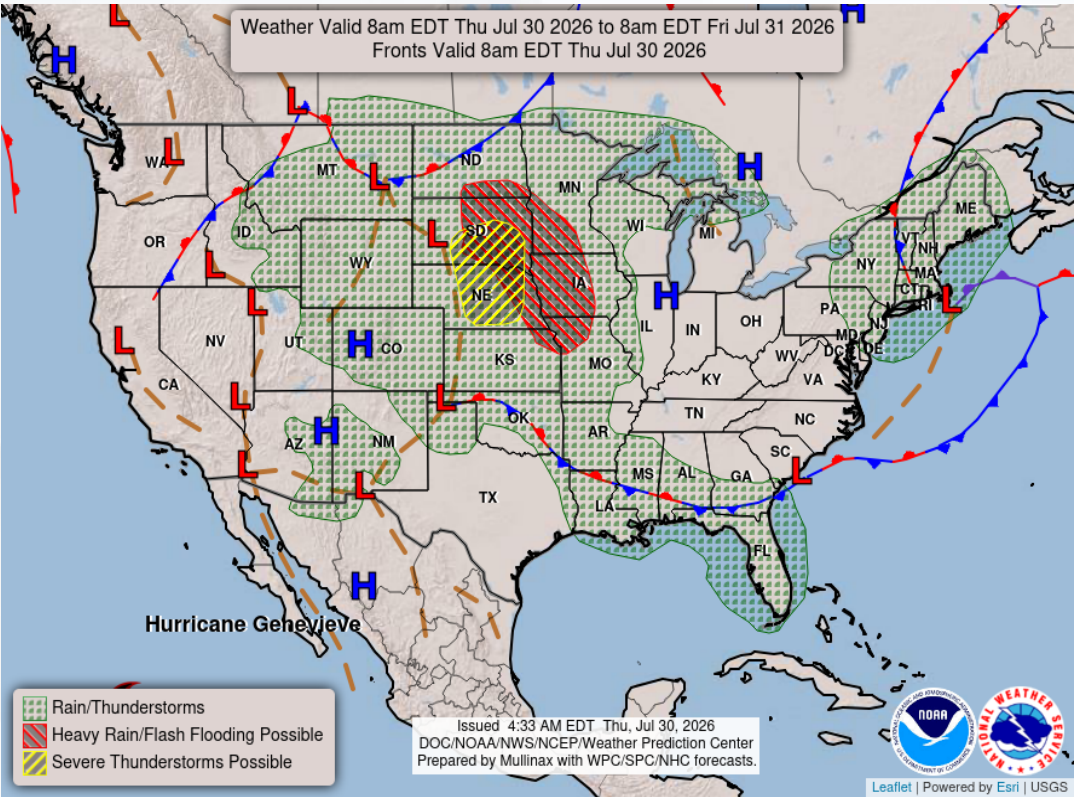
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

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

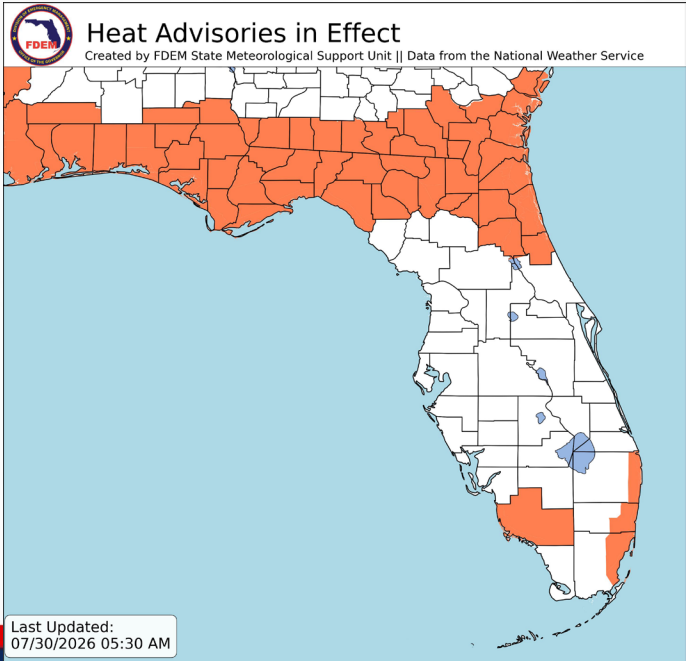
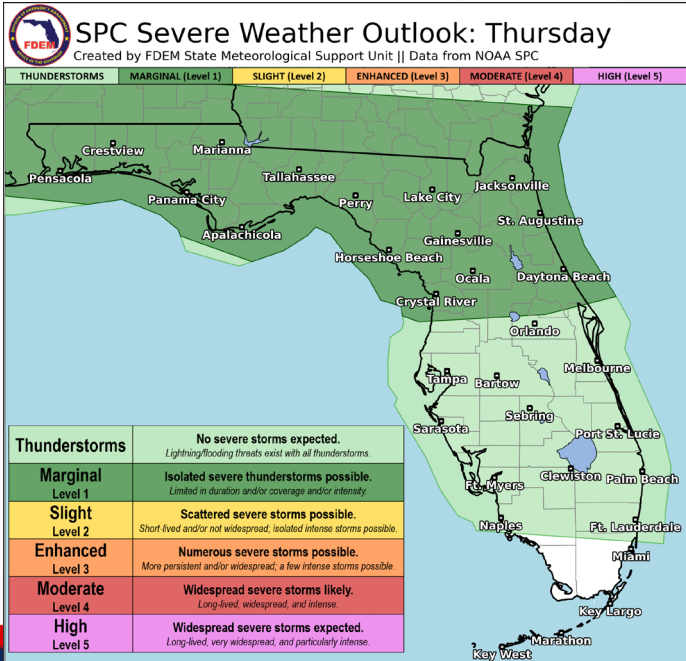


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L	L	L	L						
Hail										
Flash Flooding	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	
Extreme Heat	M	M	M	M	L	L	L	M	M	M
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire			L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	H	L	L	M	H		M	H	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	10.82 ft. (2.92 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	392 (+9) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





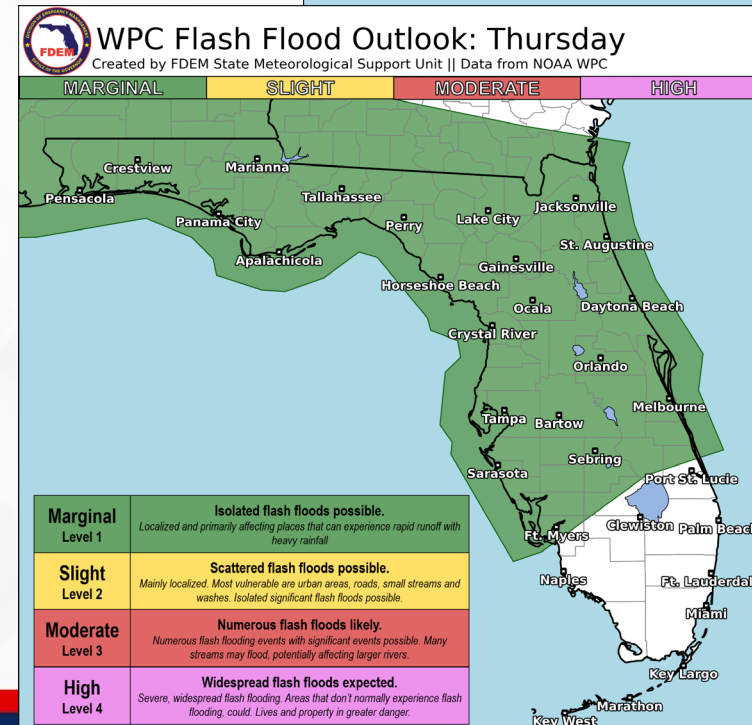
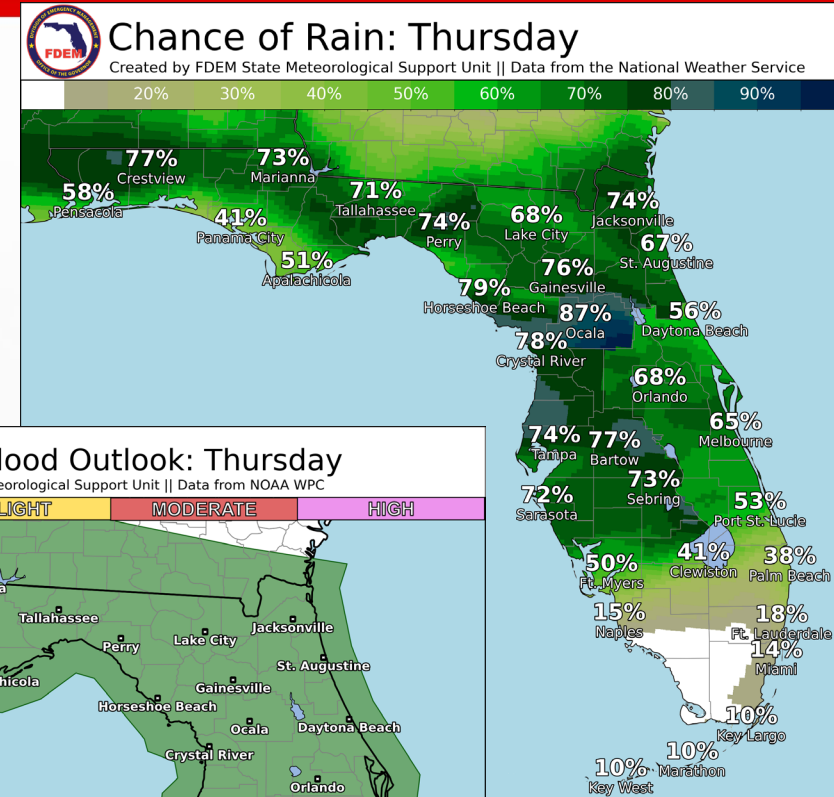
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

A few scattered showers and thunderstorms have already developed throughout North, North-Central, and West-Central Florida this morning with a frontal boundary still draped across South Georgia and an upper-level disturbance set to traverse across the state today. With ample tropical moisture remaining pooled along and south of this front, this upper-level impulse will help spark additional scattered to widespread showers and thunderstorms throughout the day across North and Central Florida (60-85% chance of rain). Computer forecast models this morning indicate activity may begin to wane across North Florida this morning and early afternoon before initiation around 3-5 PM occurs across South Georgia with activity tracking southward towards the I-10 corridor. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** is outlooked across all North and North-Central Florida where the greatest chance exists for a few **locally strong to severe storms** accompanied by **frequent lightning**, **locally damaging winds (40-60 mph)**, and **torrential downpours**. General west to southwesterly flow across the Peninsula will send enhanced sea breeze activity eastward across Central Florida today, with some activity likely back-building leading to training storms near the Nature Coast and I-4 corridor. Additionally, thunderstorm activity may be generally slow-moving, which could lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked throughout all North and Central Florida today for this risk. Any storms today into tonight will be capable of a **quick 1-3" of rain**, with locally higher totals in any training storms. Drier air will continue to filter into South Florida today, mainly south of Lake Okeechobee, where chances of rain will remain minimal (15-30% chance of rain).

Despite increasing cloud cover across North Florida today, humidity levels will increase further leading to heat index values in the **middle to upper 100s**. As such, a **Heat Advisory** is in effect for much of North Florida. Additional **Heat Advisories** have been issued for metro Southwest and Southeast Florida. Much of Central Florida will see feels-like temperatures peak in the upper 90s to lower 100s where plentiful cloud cover and rainfall is expected.

Tonight, the front across Georgia will hardly budge keeping chances of rain elevated through the nighttime hours across North and North-Central Florida (50-80% chance of rain). A few lightning storms will remain possible overnight in these areas. Lows will fall into the middle 70s to lower 80s statewide tonight.

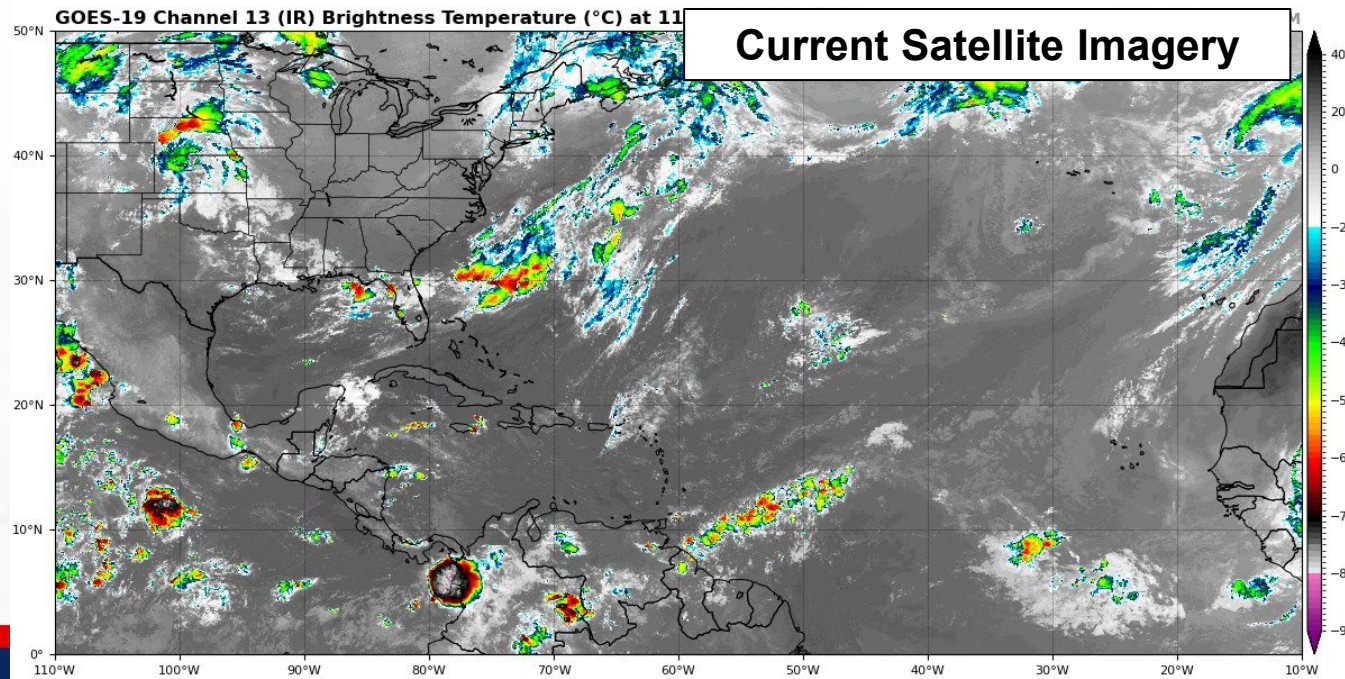
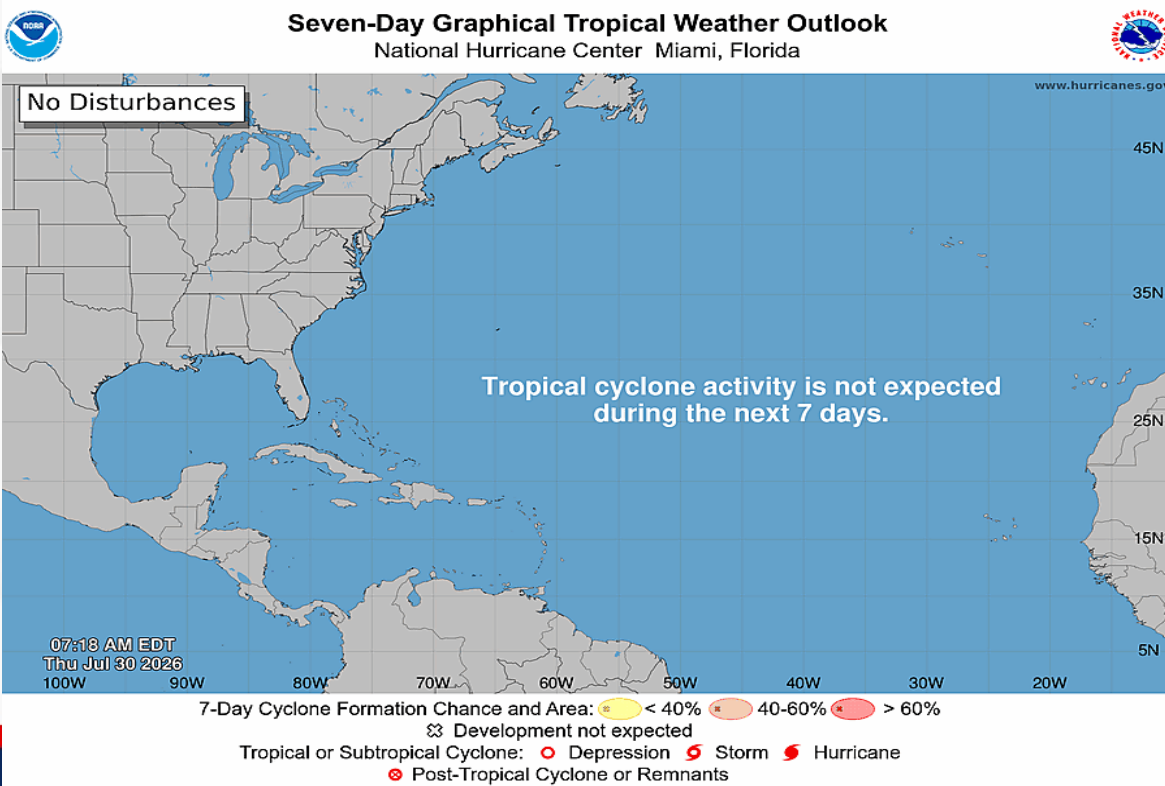




Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

*Tropical cyclone activity is **not expected** during the next 7 days in the Atlantic.*





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate** to **high risk for rip currents** is expected at all Panhandle and West Coast beaches today as breezy west to southwesterly flow increases south of an approaching front. A **moderate risk for rip currents** is also outlooked for East-Central Florida beaches today with a low risk across Northeast and Southeast Florida. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Surf will remain near **2-4'** for all statewide beaches today. Locally calmer surf near 1-2' is expected for the Florida Keys and Southeast Florida.

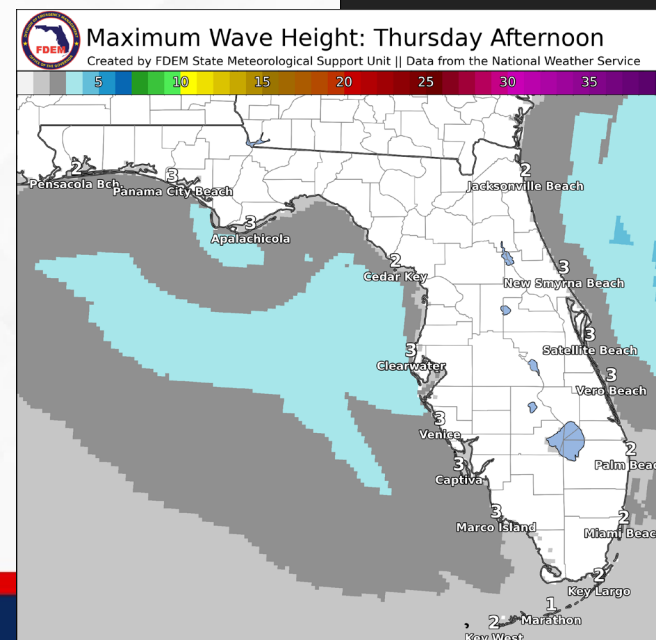
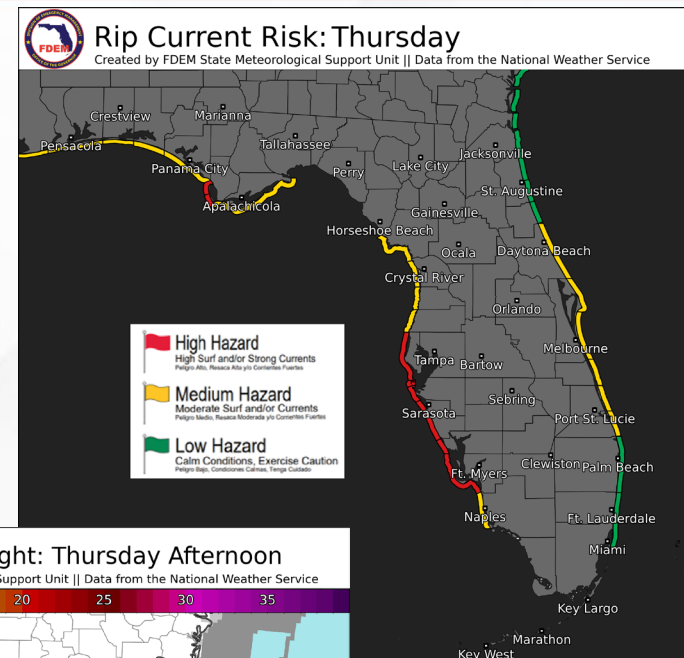
Red Tide: was observed at background concentrations from offshore Sarasota County (valid 7/24/26).

Coastal Flooding: There are no coastal flooding concerns across Florida.

Flash Flooding: A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** has been outlooked for all North and Central Florida today as a frontal boundary stalled across South Georgia and an upper-level disturbance both aid in scattered to widespread shower and thunderstorm development by this afternoon and evening. Thunderstorm activity will be generally slow-moving and accompanied by **torrential downpours** which could lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. Isolated cases of **flash flooding** cannot be ruled out. Any storm will be capable of producing a quick **1-3" of rainfall**, with locally higher amounts under any training bands of storms. For more information, visit the Weather Prediction Center.

Riverine Flooding: All rivers are below flood stage across Florida. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 10.82 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.92 feet below normal for this time of year.



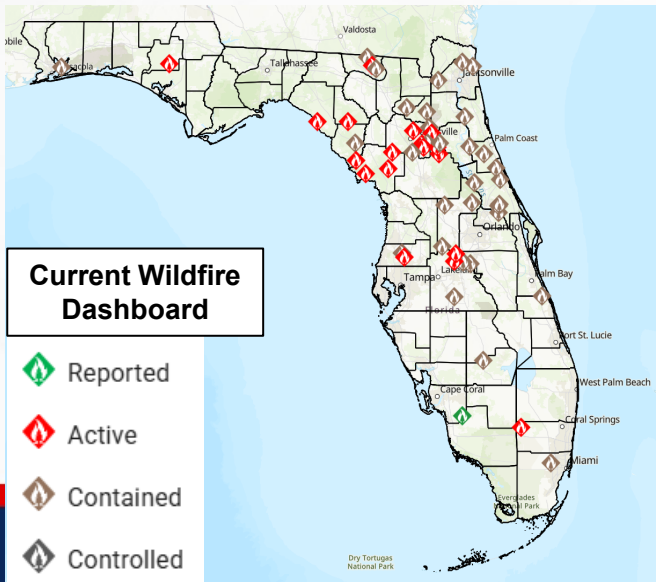
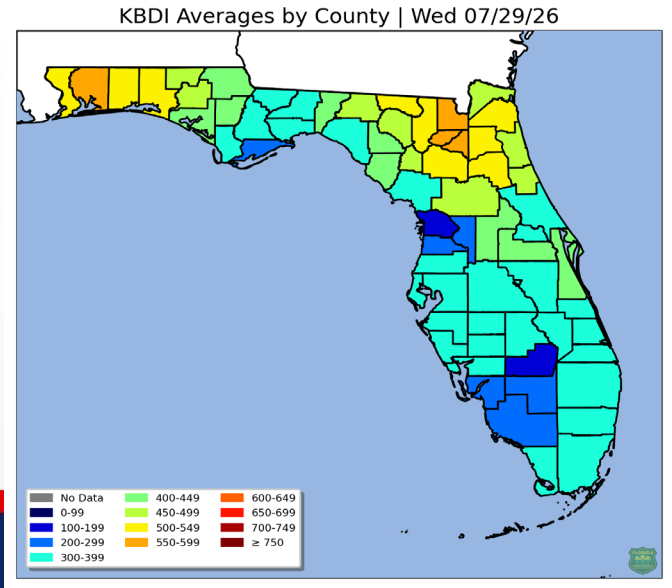
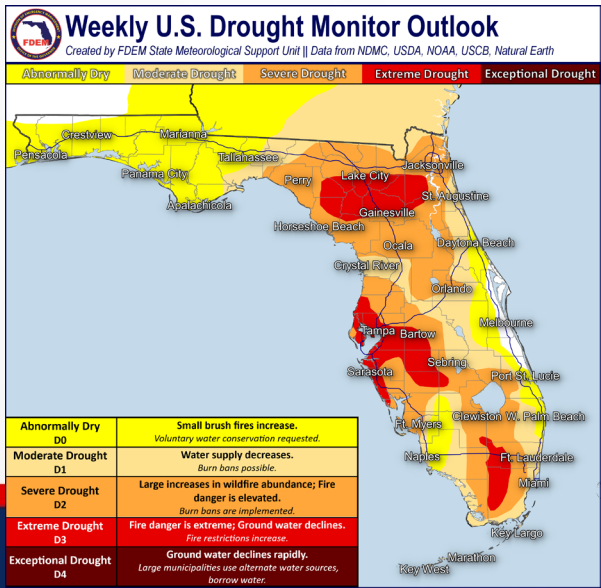


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The overall wildfire threat will remain low today given relative humidities staying well above critical thresholds. Widespread showers and storms are expected throughout much of the state today, focused across North and Central Florida. Drier air will largely limit any rainfall chances south of Lake Okeechobee in the Peninsula. Breezy winds will develop out of the west to southwest today across the Peninsula, gusting **upwards of 20-25 mph** at times. Any thunderstorm could be accompanied by lightning and gusty/erratic winds, which can spark new wildfires or reignite existing ones. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 51 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 11,474 acres.

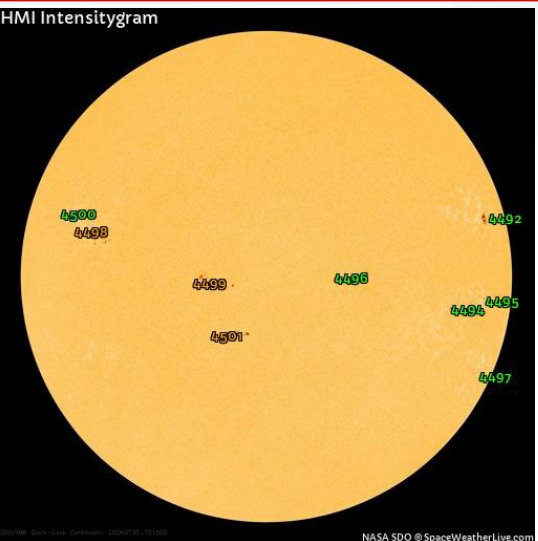
Drought (7/28/26): Some minor drought improvements have been noted across portions of the Big Bend this week, with areas of moderate to severe drought in Leon, Wakulla, and Franklin counties reduced one category to abnormally dry (*receding drought*) or **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. This area has seen a general 1-3" of rainfall over the past week, with additional rains in recent weeks courtesy of Tropical Storm Bertha and other sea breeze activity. Across the Panhandle, however, areas of abnormally dry conditions (*emerging drought*) have returned. 60-day rainfall departures along the Panhandle coast have now reached near 2-4" below normal, with above normal rainfall departures still evident across the northern Panhandle counties from June's Tropical Storm Arthur. Throughout the Peninsula, very few changes were observed this week. Rainfall departures over the past 2 months remain below to well below normal in many locations, including interior Northeast Florida, West-Central Florida, and interior South Florida where pockets of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** remain with **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** generally surrounding that. Portions of northern Duval and southern Nassau counties have returned to a **severe drought (level 3 of 4)** with coastal St. Johns and Flagler counties upgraded to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Higher rainfall totals of 2-5" in the past week across Citrus and Sumter counties has led to severe drought being reduced to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Some slight drought improvements were also observed across interior Collier, Hendry, and Glades counties. 14% of the state remains in an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** with only 3% of the state now under no drought designation, a ~7% decrease from last week. Looking ahead, a frontal boundary and a few upper-level impulses in the atmosphere will help to spark daily rounds of heavy showers and thunderstorms across much of North and Central Florida through this weekend. Some drought improvements are expected in areas that receive the heaviest rainfall. Moisture will also begin to make a return to South Florida by this weekend, encouraging scattered shower and thunderstorm activity. Any areas that fail to receive rainfall, however, may see drought conditions endure or even worsen, especially with hot summertime temperatures persisting.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **392 (+9)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **13 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

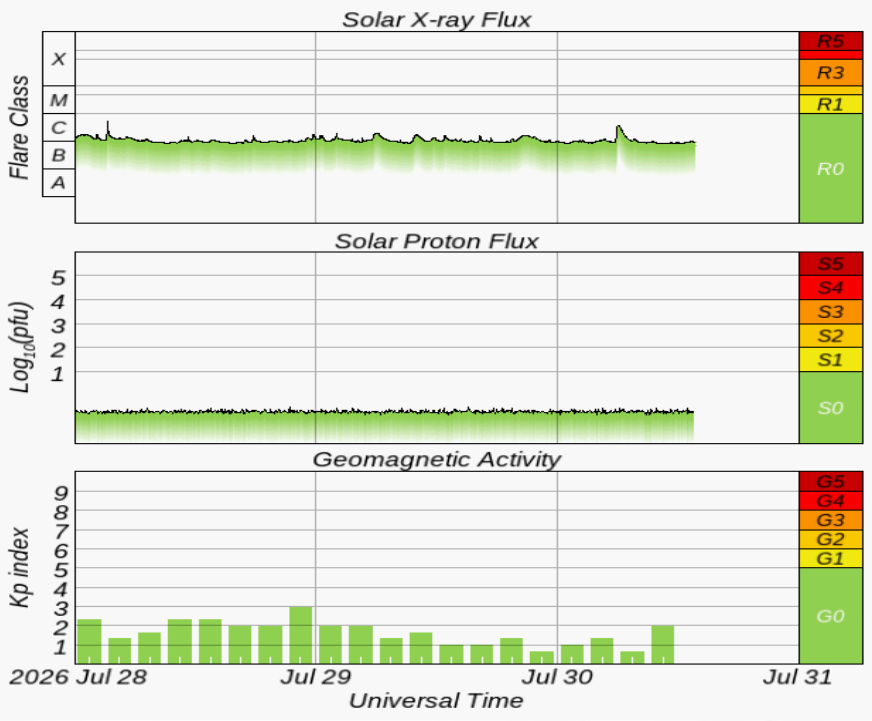
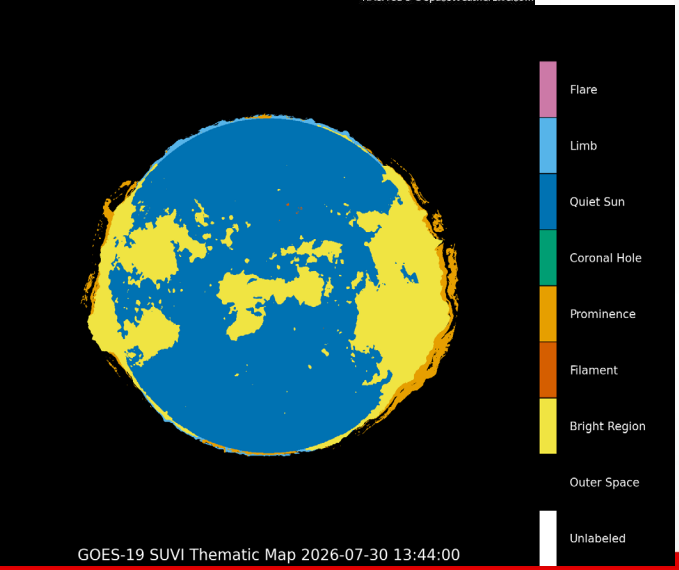




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 25%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
7/30	7/31
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to remain at low levels with a chance for M-class flares. Any M-class flares will be accompanied by minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. A disturbed solar wind environment will likely return today due to the combined effects from a Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) and glancing Coronal Mass Ejection (CME). An additional disturbance is likely on Saturday with another CME that left the sun late on Monday. Quiet to unsettled geomagnetic field conditions will largely prevail, with isolated active periods and a slight chance for G1 (Minor) storming with the arrival of the CMEs later this week. 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	

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

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=Morning_SITREP