



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Saturday, August 8, 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	Austin Johnson	(850) 296-5680	Austin.Johnson@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	Daniel Leader	(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	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	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 7: Brian Carey	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 2 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 1
Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 3
Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
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	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	On Call Response R3
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	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	Miami-Dade	On Call Response R10

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

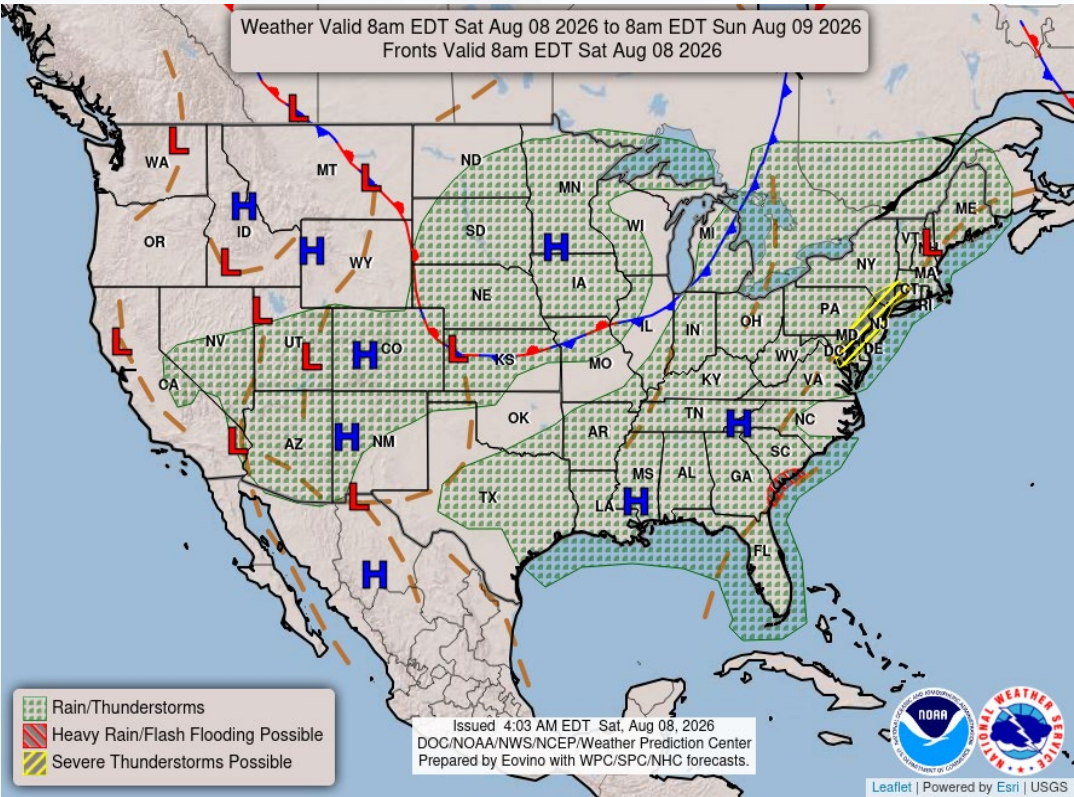
Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5, 10

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

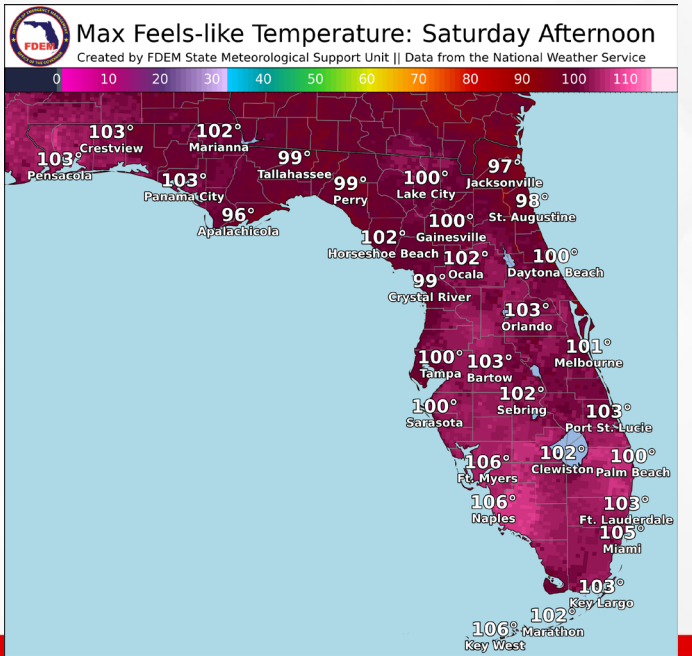
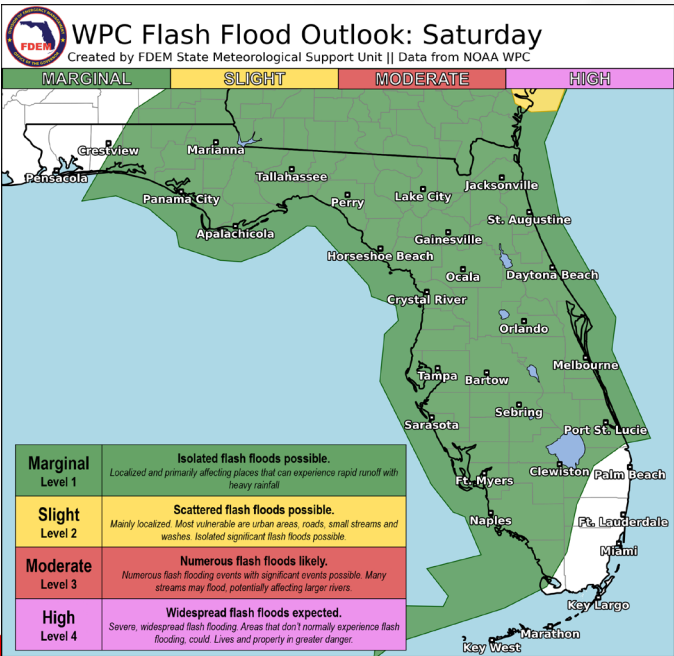


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

T hreat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	M	H	H	H	M	M	M	M	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Extreme Heat	L				L	L	L	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.01 ft. (2.85 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	253 (-24) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





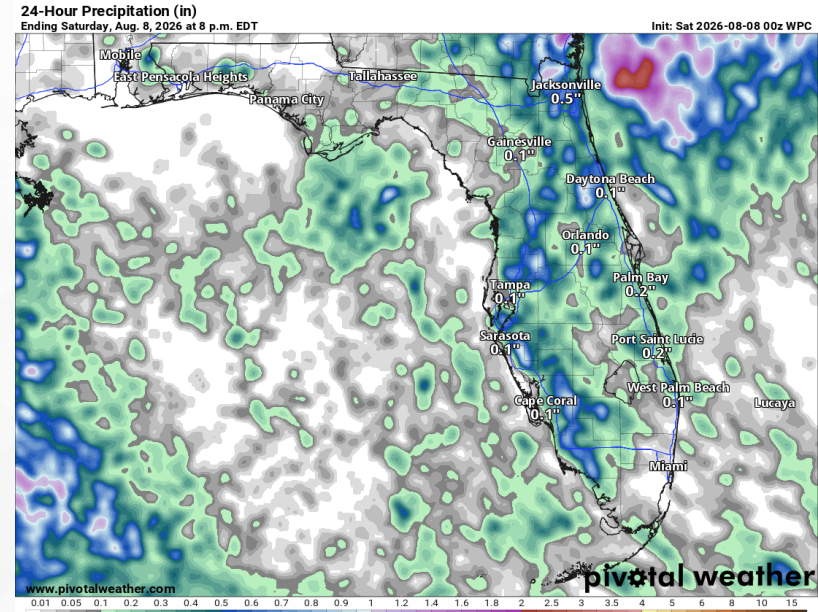
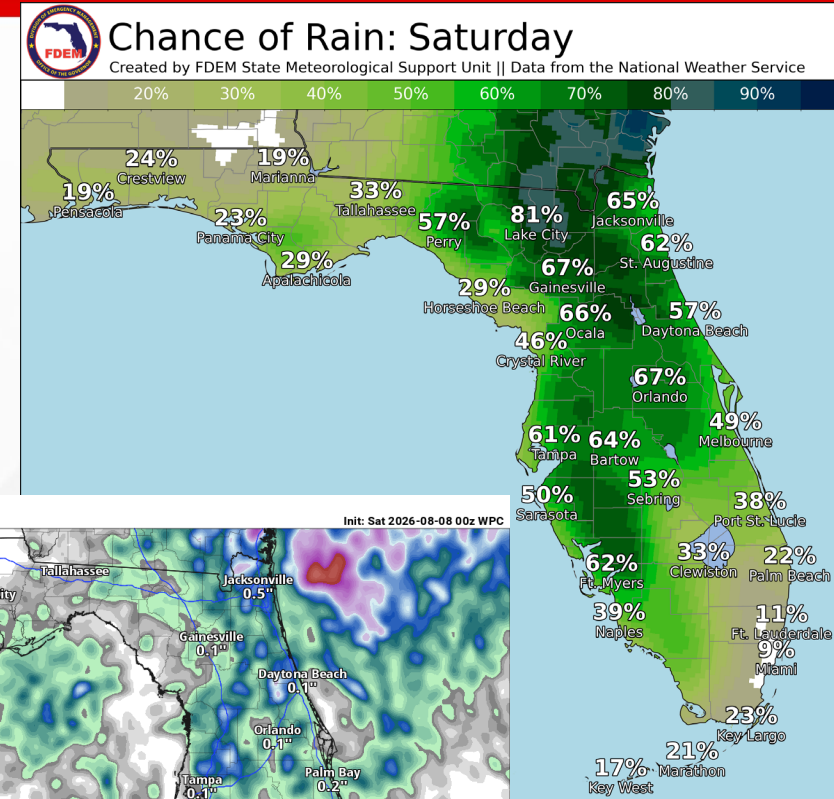
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Another rinse and repeat summer day is on tap across the state today with sea breeze driven afternoon showers and thunderstorms expected to continue. Area of high pressure over the western Atlantic will shift a bit further south today, bringing a return of predominate south to southeasterly flow across the state and a primary East Coast sea breeze across the Peninsula and Gulf sea breeze over the Panhandle and Big Bend. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected to develop around 10 AM – 12 PM across the eastern and central Peninsula (35-55% chance of rain), eventually spreading north and westward and increasing in coverage throughout the afternoon hours (50-80% chance of rain). A weak mid to upper-level disturbance will begin to depart the region today, though will still hold some influence across Northeast Florida where the highest rain chances exist. Drier air in the wake of this disturbance will begin to filter into South Florida where chances of rain will remain isolated today (15-30% chance of rain). Throughout the Big Bend and Panhandle, isolated to widely scattered showers and storms are expected this afternoon (25-40% chance of rain). A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked throughout much of the state today as any heavy shower and thunderstorm activity could contain hourly rainfall rates **upwards of 2-3" per hour**, which could lead to localized rainfall totals near **3-5"**. Areas of **flooding and ponding of water** are possible in areas that receive multiple rounds of **heavy downpours**. Any thunderstorm may also become **locally strong to severe** and capable of producing **frequent lightning** and **gusty winds (30-55 mph)**.

Highs will remain seasonably hot today, reaching the upper 80s to **middle 90s**. Feels-like temperatures will remain below Heat Advisory criteria today, only climbing into the **upper 90s** to **middle 100s** across the state. Still, any prolonged exposure to the heat without adequate cooling could lead to **heat-related illnesses**.

Tonight, showers and storms will generally begin to wane and push offshore before midnight. A few coastal showers or storms will linger overnight along the Panhandle given persistent onshore flow. Lows will fall into the 70s to lower 80s across the state.



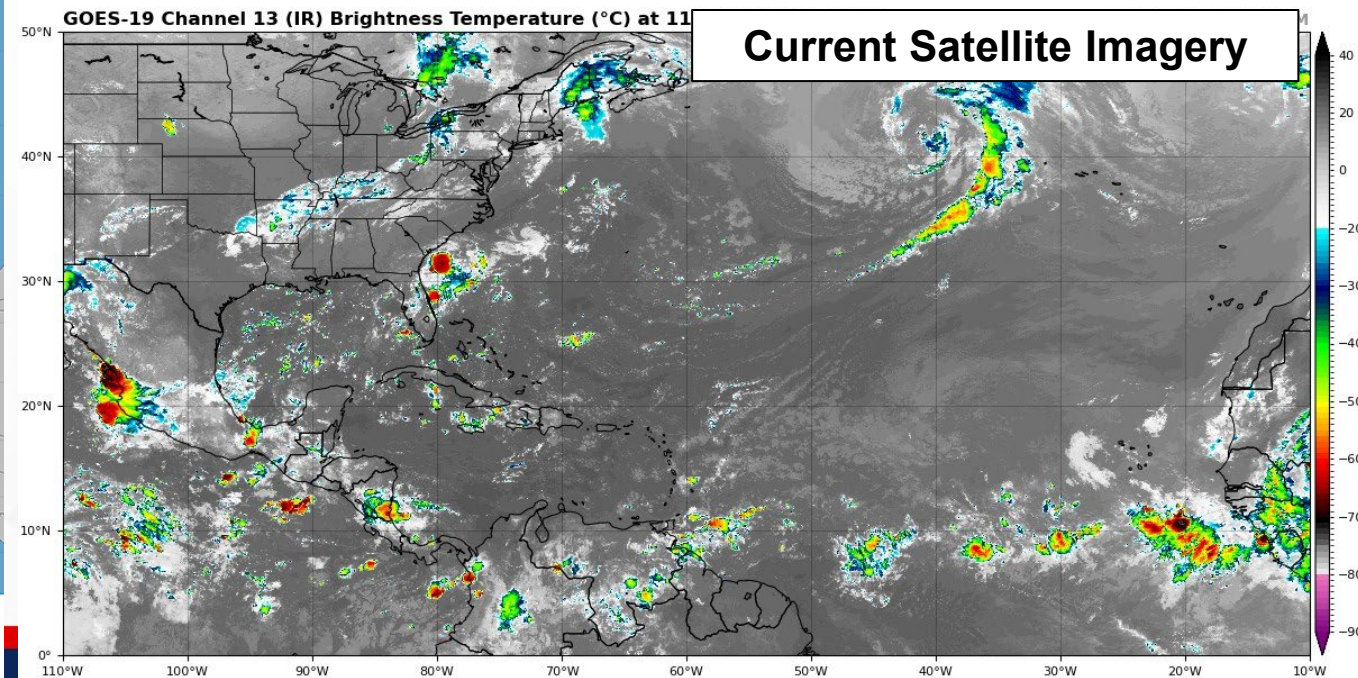
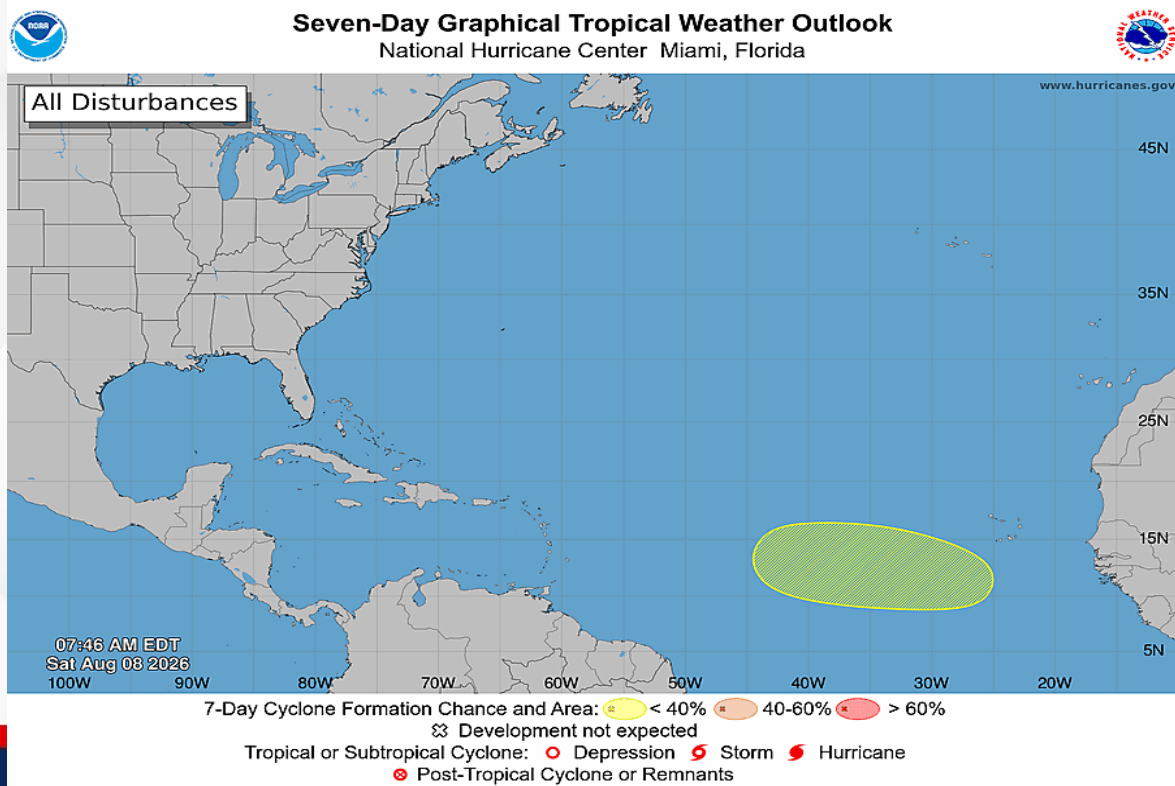


Tropical Weather

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

Eastern and Central Tropical Atlantic: A tropical wave is expected to move off the west coast of Africa on Tuesday. Some development of this system will be possible during the middle to latter part of next week while it moves westward across the eastern and central tropical Atlantic.

- Formation chances through 48 hours... **low... near 0%.**
- Formation chances through 48 hours... **low... 20%.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** is remains for all East Coast beaches today as elevated onshore winds and surf linger from a departing offshore disturbance. A **moderate risk for rip currents** persists for all Panhandle beaches, with a low risk along the West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Surf will begin to slowly diminish along East Coast beaches today, reaching near **3-5'** for most beaches. Surf near 1-3' is expected for all other statewide beaches.

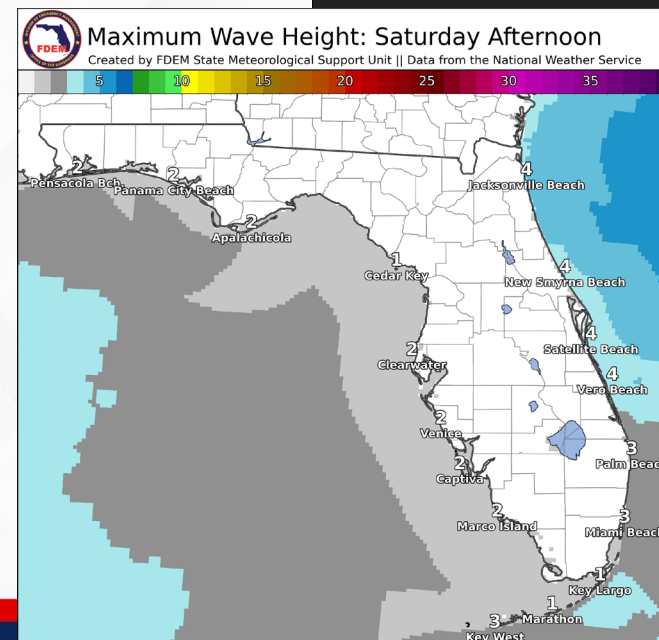
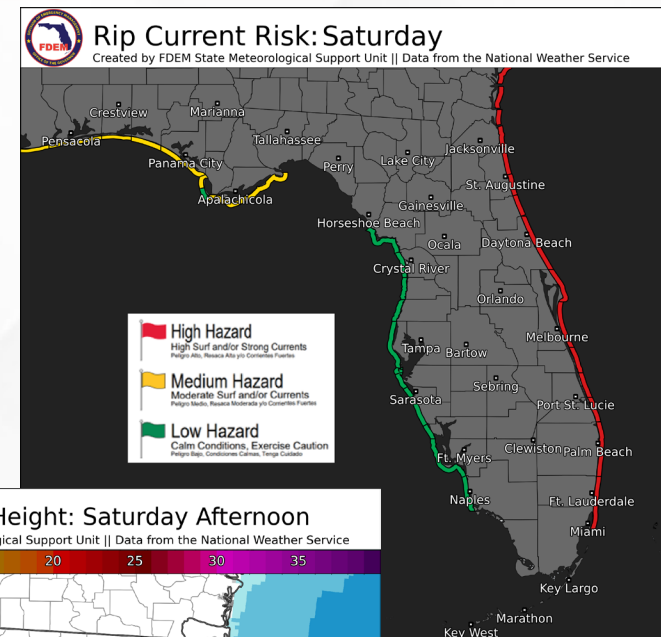
Red Tide: was observed at background concentrations in Hillsborough, Manatee, Charlotte, Collier, and Wakulla counties and background to low concentrations in Nassau and Duval counties (valid 8/7/26).

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

Flash Flooding: A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked throughout much of the state today as another day of heavy afternoon showers and thunderstorms is expected. Activity will begin to develop along the sea breezes as they advance inland later this morning, spreading north and westward across the Peninsula and Big Bend. Rainfall rates in the heaviest activity may reach **upwards of 2-3" per hour** at times, which could lead to localized **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. Instances of **flash flooding** cannot be ruled out. For more information, visit the [Weather Prediction Center](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

Riverine Flooding: The [Fenholloway River at Foley](#) remains in Action Stage (*bank-full*) this morning in response to the recent days of heavy rainfall, though is slowly diminishing back towards nominal levels. No other riverine concerns exist across the state. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

[Lake Okeechobee's](#) average elevation is 11.01 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.85 feet below normal for this time of year.



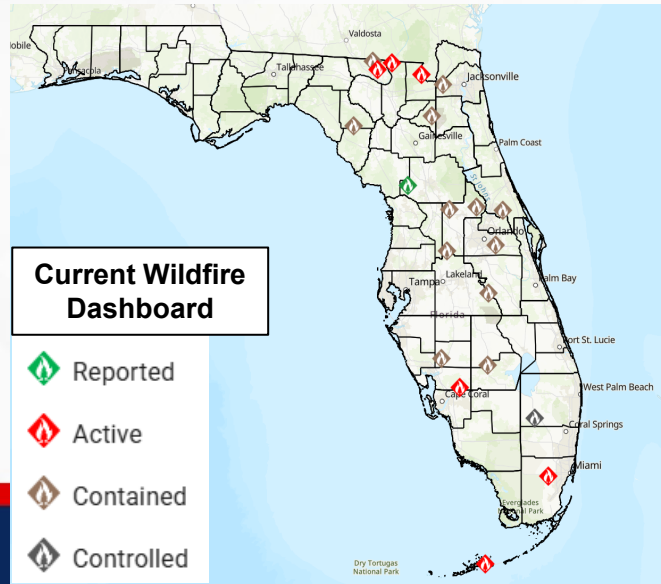
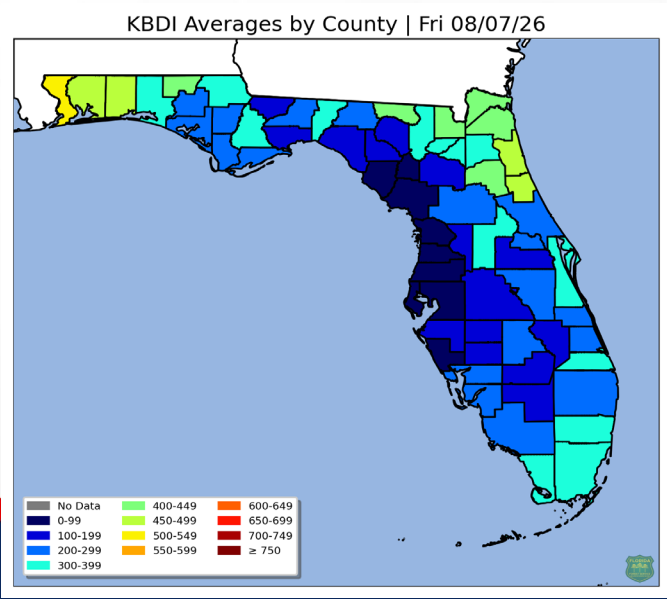
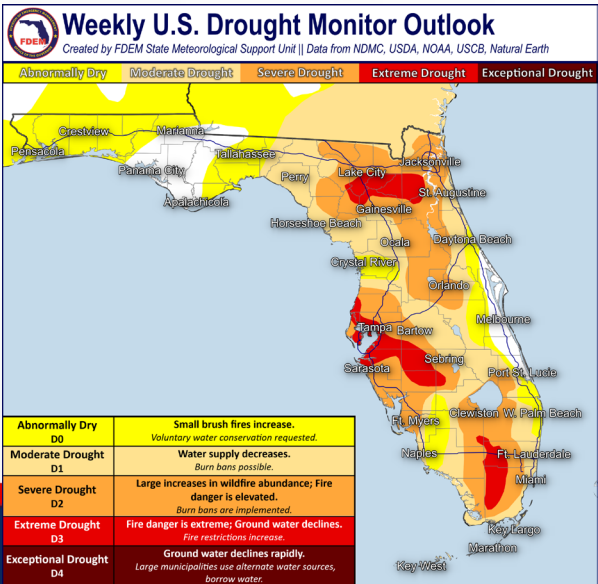


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The overall wildfire threat will remain low today given relative humidities staying well above critical thresholds and winds remaining light. Scattered to numerous shower and thunderstorm activity is expected throughout much of the state today. Any thunderstorm activity may 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 15 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,799 acres.

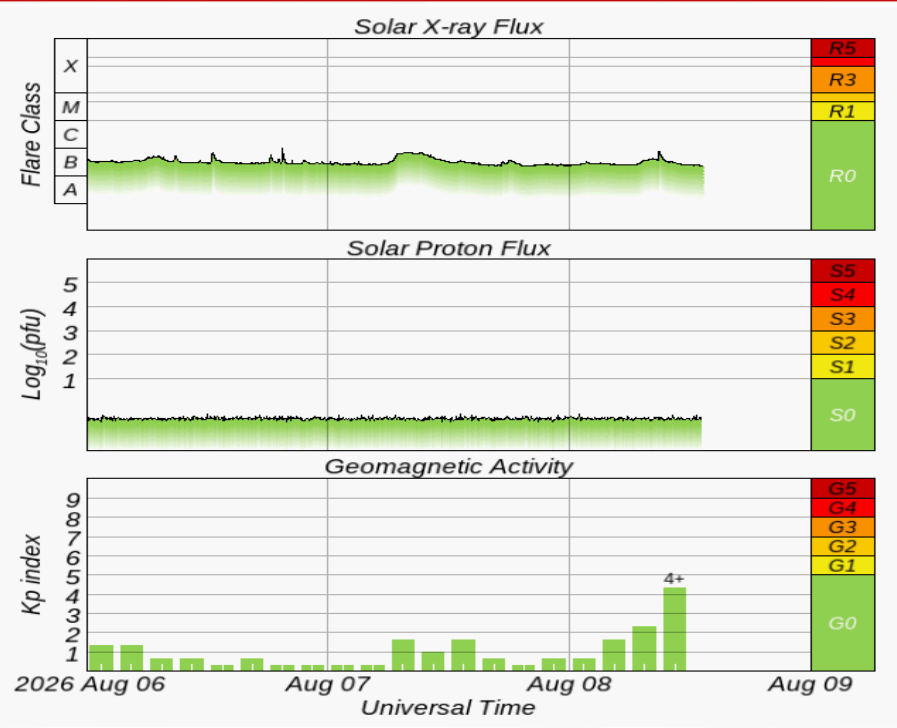
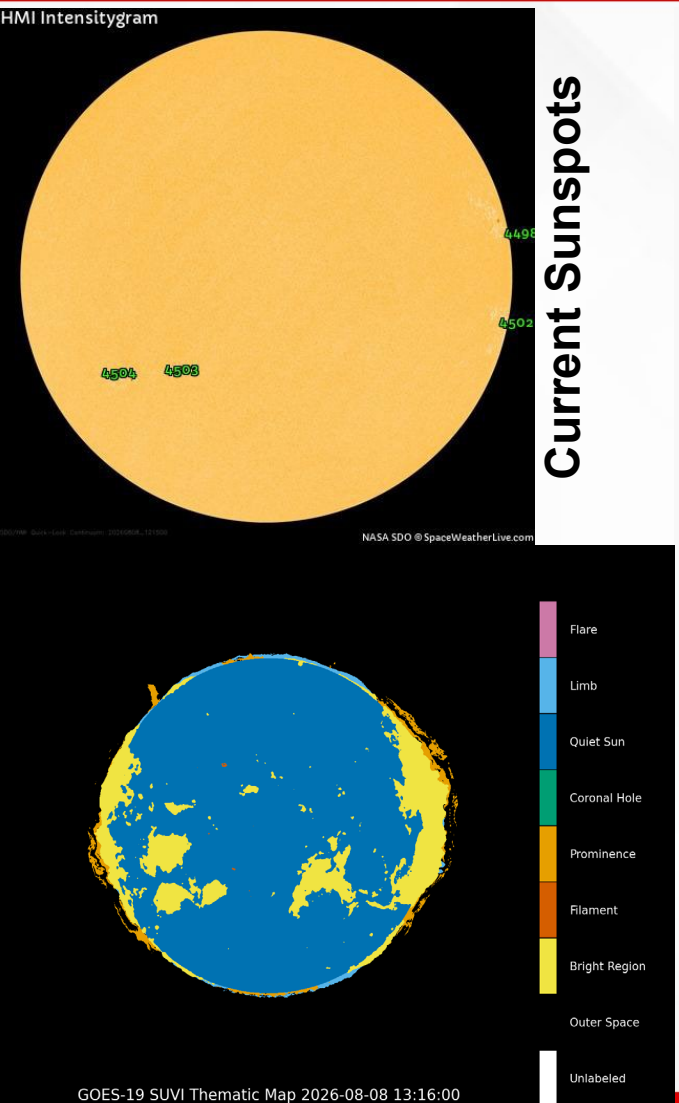
Drought (8/4/26): Notable categorical drought improvements were observed for many across the state this week as a slow-moving frontal boundary interacted with richly moist air to promote widespread heavy rainfall over the weekend. Widespread categorical improvements were observed within the Big Bend, with nearly all counties seeing a decrease of one categorical drought level. Large areas of the **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** within North-Central Florida was reduced to a **moderate to severe drought (level 2 of 4)** - particularly along the western edge of its area. The area of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** along the West Coast was trimmed down to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** in areas of Pasco, Hillsborough, Polk, and Sarasota counties. Localized areas of Nassau, Okeechobee, Highlands, and Glades counties saw a reduction from **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Drought designation was removed entirely for areas along the Apalachicola River basin. D0 (*abnormally dry*) remains in place for the rest of the Florida Panhandle. The **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** was increased to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** within localized areas of Orange and Osceola counties. Little-to-no categorical drought changes were made elsewhere within the Eastern and Southern Peninsula where a more seasonable distribution of rainfall occurred over the past 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. 9% of the state remains in an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**, a ~5% reduction from last week. 10% of the state is now under no drought designation, a ~6.5% increase from last week. Looking ahead, the state will settle into a more typical pattern of daily showers and thunderstorms, with most activity focused along the West Coast as easterly flow prevails. Drought improvements within this pattern will likely be minimal (if at all), with localized areas likely seeing gradual categorical drought degradations (*worsening drought*), especially along the East Coast and Western Panhandle.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **253 (-24)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **1 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 10%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	B7 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
8/8	8/9
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to remain at very low levels with a decreasing chance for M-class flares as sunspot regions 4498, 4499, and 4502 begin to rotate off the western limb of the Sun. Any isolated M-class flares will be accompanied by minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions may remain slightly enhanced today as CME and coronal hole influences linger. An additional glancing CME may bring more enhancements on Sunday. Quiet to unsettled geomagnetic conditions are expected today before active conditions arrive on Sunday due to the glancing CME. A return to mostly quiet conditions is outlooked for Monday. 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