Florida Division of Emergency Management
State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, August 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	Connor Stolp	(850) 566-3044	Connor.Stolp@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Austin Johnson	(850) 296-5680	Austin.Johnson@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Lauren Warfield	(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	Leon, Polk	Logistics Support (Trailer Movement) / FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Marion, Leon	Logistics Support (Trailer Movement) / FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	Vehicle Maintenance / FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Marion, Sumter, Lake	Executive Director Support / County EM Meetings
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough, Hernando	Hospital Hurricane Prep Meeting / County EM Meeting
Region 7: Brian Carey	Polk	County EPAC Meeting / FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	FDEM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting/Quarterly Meeting Review/Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	FEDM Everbridge/IPAWS Meeting

Region 2 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 1
Region 8 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 5

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable

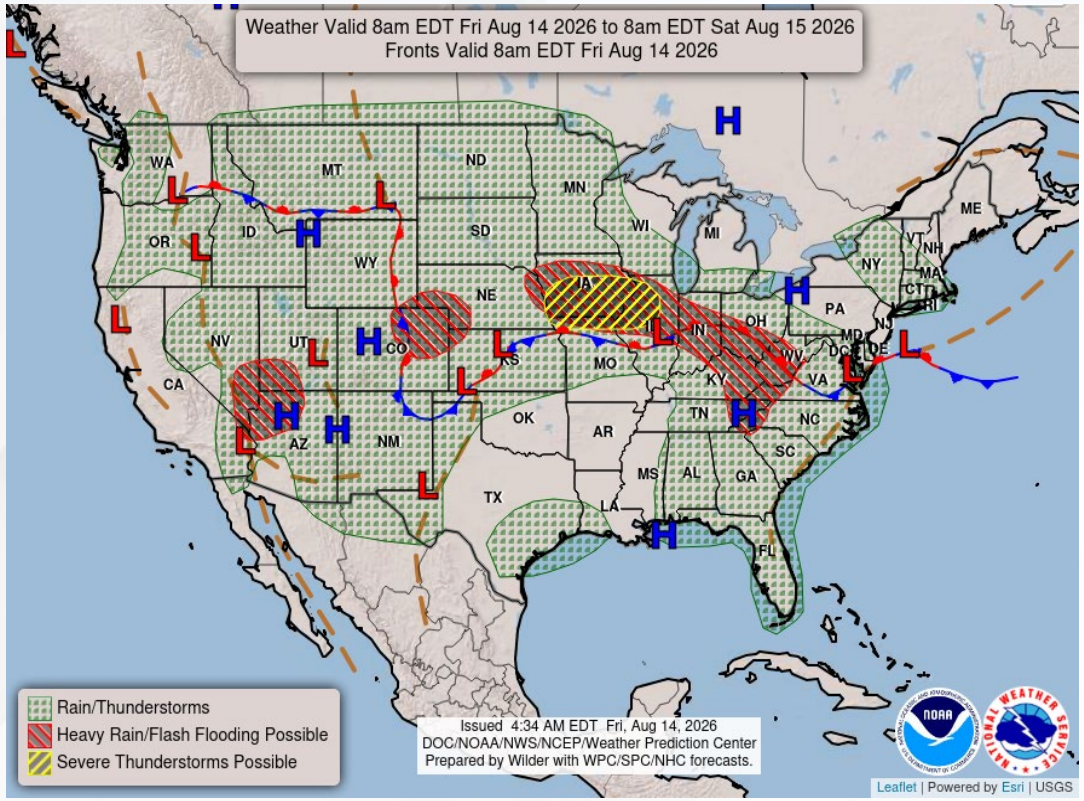
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Region 1: Allison Blevins	In Region	Leave
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	Off/Monitoring
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Alachua	LTRG/COAD Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Marion	Executive Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	FEPA Mitigation Meeting/ Executive Support Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Marion
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	Admin Duties

Region 1 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
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

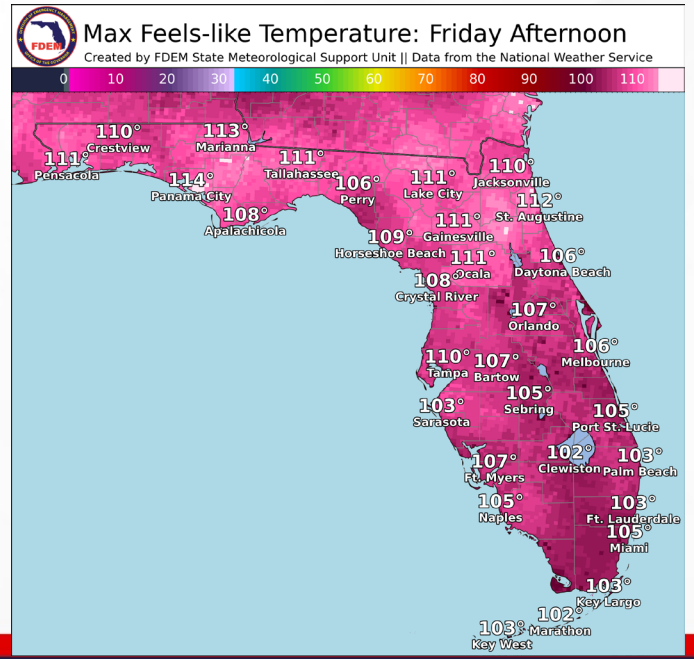
Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable

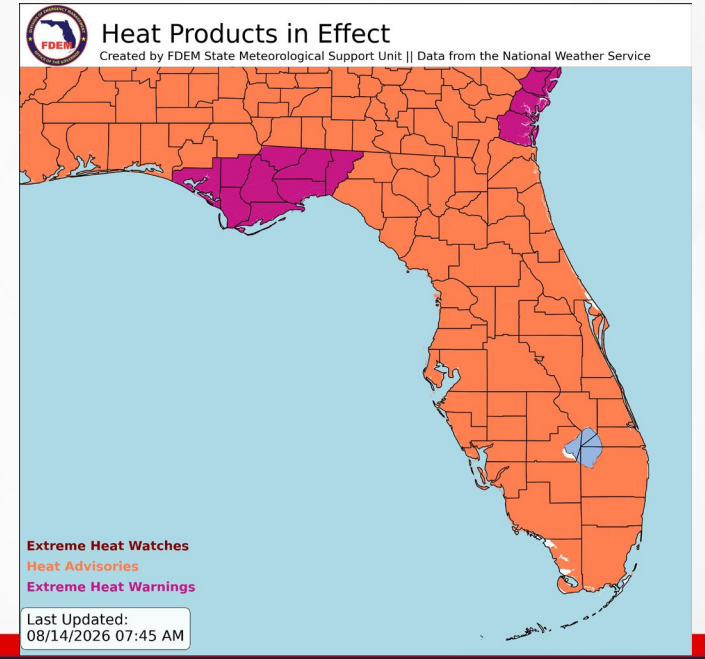
Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat	H	H	H	H	M	M	M	M	M	M
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	L	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.02 ft. (2.93 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	303 (+3) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





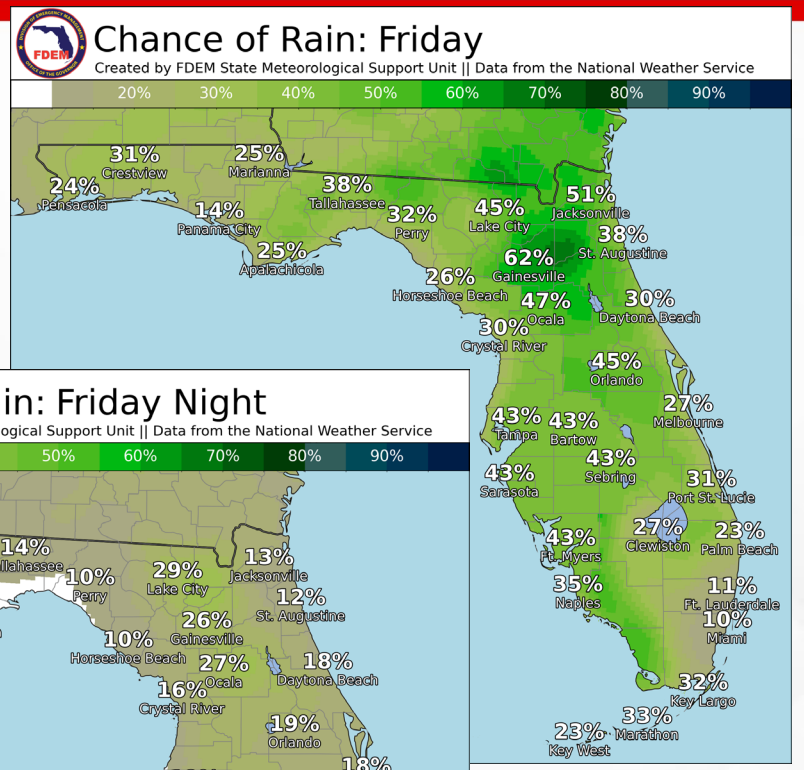
Meteorology Summary

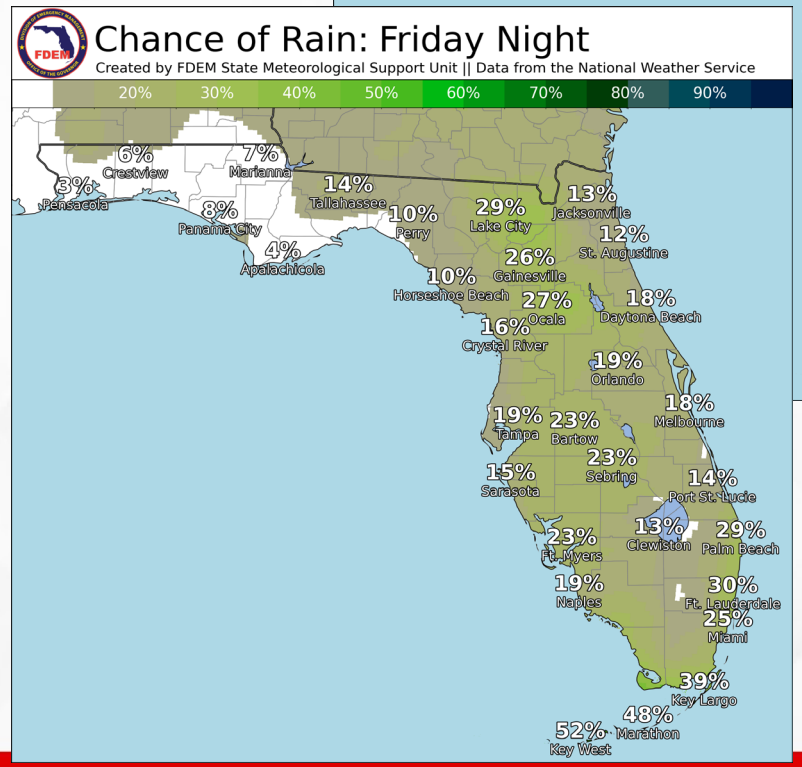
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

High pressure will continue to dominate the local pattern across the Southeast U.S., bringing another rinse and repeat day with isolated to widely scattered showers and storms developing between 1-3 PM EDT across much of the state along the sea breezes (30-45% chance of rain). A bit higher coverage of activity is expected throughout interior Northeast Florida and the Suwannee River Valley where sea breeze collisions and interactions will focus (40-60% chance of rain). Any thunderstorm activity could become **locally strong to severe** and capable of producing **lightning**, **gusty winds (30-50 mph),** and **torrential downpours**. Rainfall rates may reach upwards of **1-2" per hour** under the heaviest thunderstorm activity, which could lead to **nuisance flooding** in urban and poor drainage locations.

Another oppressively hot day is expected today with high temperatures climbing into the **middle to upper 90s** across interior locations with **lower 90s** along the coasts. Humidity levels will remain elevated, meaning afternoon **heat index values** will peak in the **middle 100s** to **lower 110s** for most locations. An **Extreme Heat Warning** is in effect for portions of the Big Bend and eastern Panhandle where feels-like temperatures could reach up to **115-degrees**. A **Heat Advisory** is in effect across the remainder of the state today. Any prolonged exposure to the heat without adequate cooling or safety precautions may lead to **heat related illnesses**.

Tonight, showers and thunderstorms will linger into the evening across the Peninsula waning after sunset and dissipating before midnight. Lows will fall into the middle 70s to lower 80s across the state.





Tropical Weather

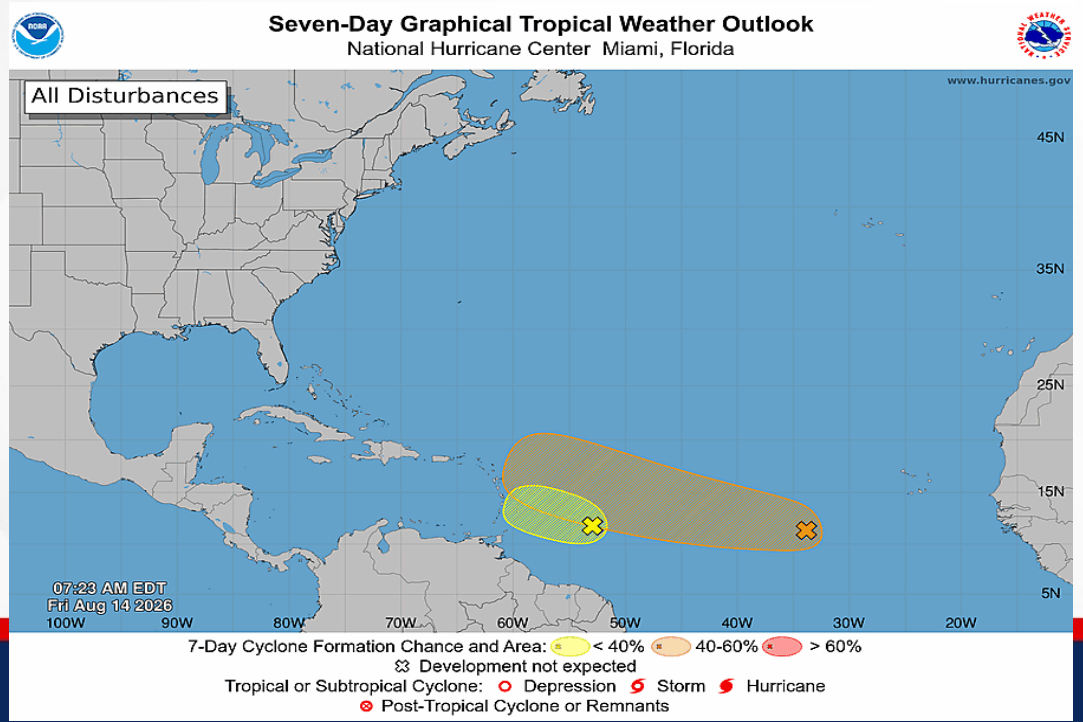
For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

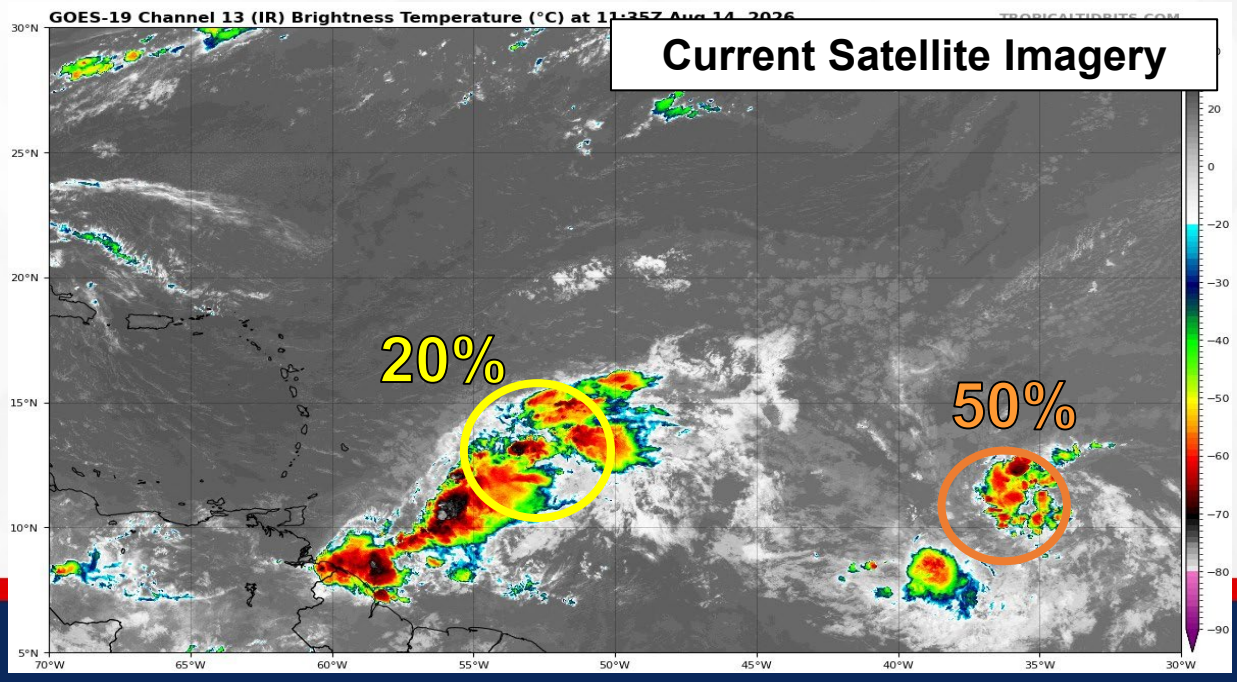
Central Tropical Atlantic (Invest 92L): A tropical wave located about 400 miles east of the Windward Islands is producing gusty winds and a large area of showers and thunderstorms. This system is moving into a region of increasing upper-level winds and dry air, and the potential of development continues to decrease.

- Formation chances through 48 hours... **low... 20%.**
- Formation chances through 7 days... **low... 20%.**

Eastern Tropical Atlantic (Invest 94L): A tropical wave over the central tropical Atlantic, located more than 1000 miles west of the Cabo Verde Islands, continues to produce disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions are forecast to be generally conducive for gradual development, and a tropical depression could form this weekend or early next week while the wave moves westward or west-northwestward across the central tropical Atlantic.

- Formation chances through 48 hours... **low... 30%.**
- Formation chances through 7 days... **medium... 50%.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** is expected for eastern Panhandle, East-Central, and Southeast Florida beaches today with a low risk for all other statewide beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Surf near 1-3' is expected for all statewide beaches today.

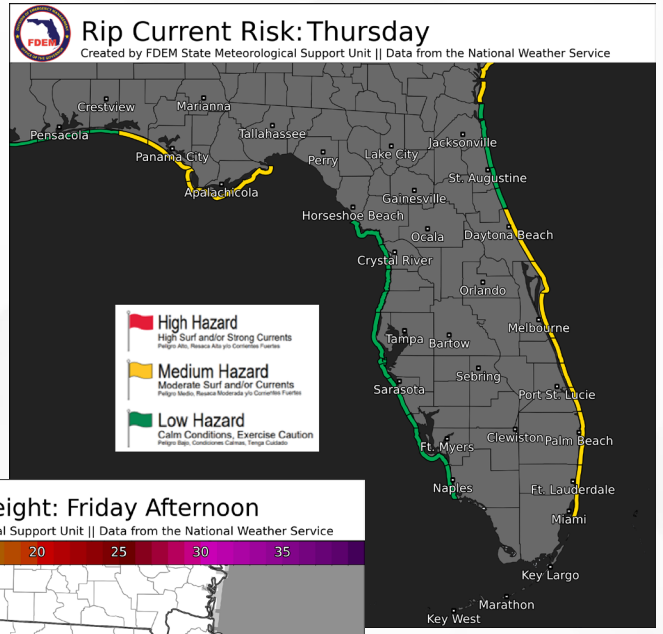
Red Tide: was observed at background concentrations in Hillsborough, Manatee, Charlotte, Collier, and Wakulla counties and background to low concentrations in Nassau and Duval counties (valid 8/7/26).

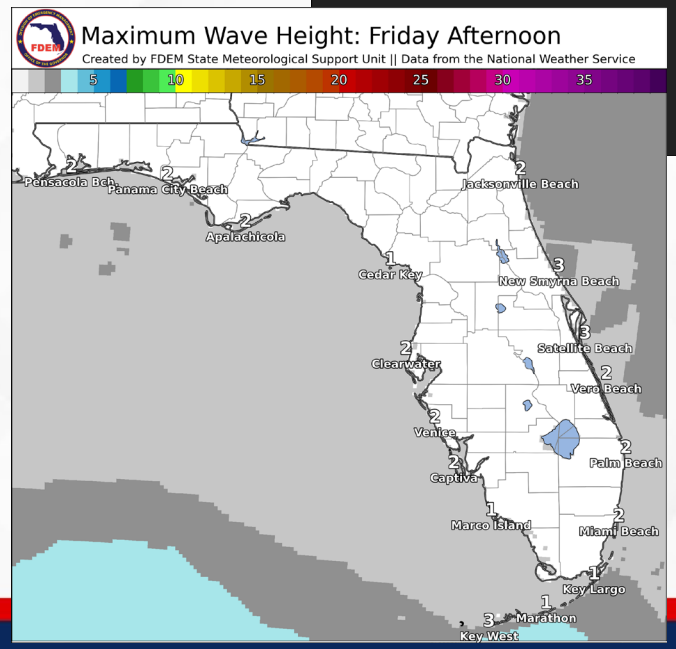
Coastal Flooding: A **Coastal Flood Statement** remains in effect for the Lower and Middle Florida Keys for instances of **minor saltwater flooding** near and during times of high tide.

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Isolated to widely scattered showers and thunderstorms across the state this afternoon may contain localized rainfall rates **upwards of 1-2" per hour.** Instances of **nuisance flooding and ponding of water** cannot be ruled out, especially in urban and poor drainage locations that receive multiple rounds of heavy downpours. Total rainfall amounts through tonight will generally add up to 0.5-1" in areas that do receive rainfall, though locally higher totals **upwards of 2-3"** cannot be ruled out. For more information, visit the Weather Prediction Center.

Riverine Flooding: There are no riverine concerns across the state. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.02 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.93 feet below normal for this time of year.



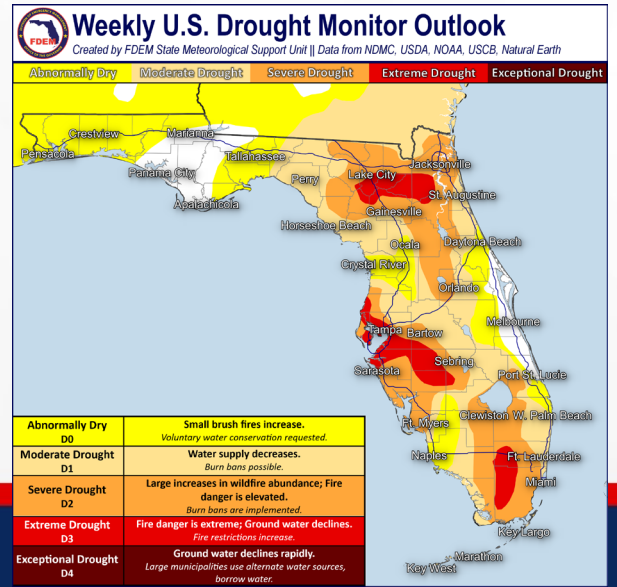


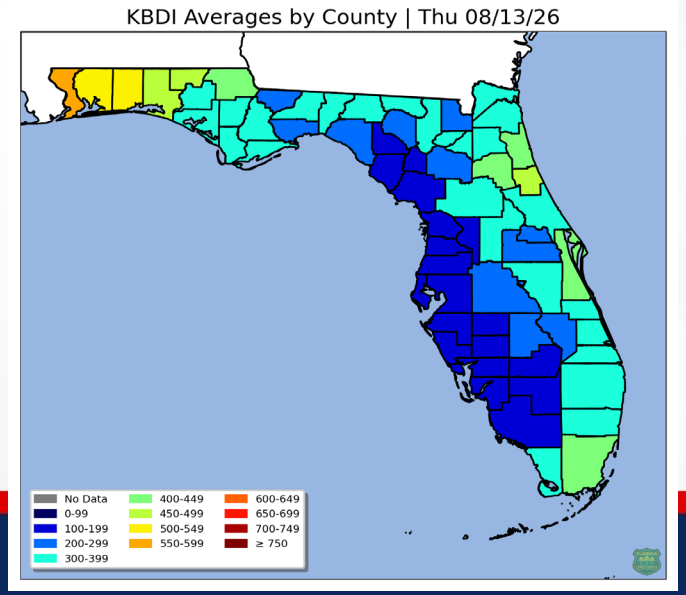
Drought & Fire Weather

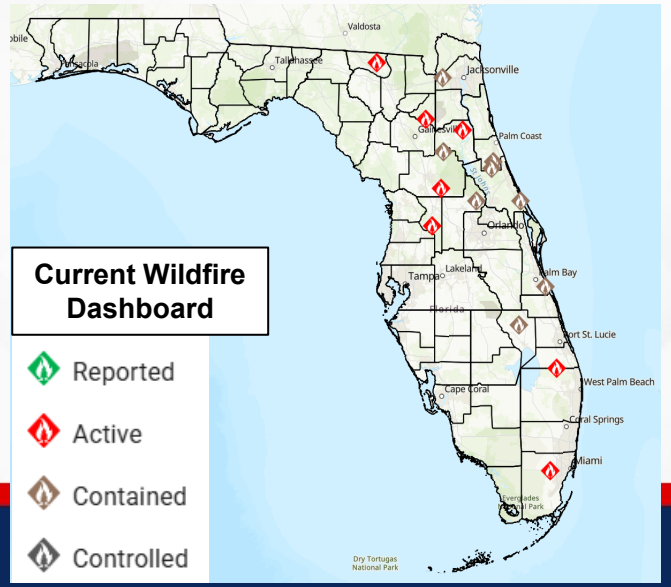
Fire Weather: The overall wildfire threat will remain low today given relative humidities staying well above critical thresholds and winds remaining light. Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected throughout much of the state today. Any thunderstorm activity may be accompanied by 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 378 acres.

Drought (8/11/26): Only minor improvements were observed on this week's Drought Monitor update with daily scattered sea breeze showers and storms bringing largely near to below normal rainfall to much of the state. The biggest changes were observed across portions of Central Florida, with much of the severe drought (level 2 of 4) across northern Osceola County and central Orange County trimmed to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Portions of northwestern Hillsborough, central and eastern Pasco, southern Hernando, and western Lake counties also saw a one category improvement back down to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Abnormally dry (*receding drought*) conditions have also replaced the moderate drought across eastern portions of Volusia, Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties as well as interior Marion, Sumter, and Citrus counties. Across portions of Southeast Florida, the **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** has expanded back towards the coast to cover more of Palm Beach County, and the **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** has expanded to include coastal Miami-Dade county. No other significant changes were observed this week. Areas of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** are still found across portions of the lower Suwannee River Valley, West-Central Florida, and interior South Florida with **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** largely surrounding those areas. Portions of the Panhandle and Big Bend remain under abnormally dry to **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** conditions. Nearly 9% of the state remains in an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**. 10% of the state remains under no drought designation. Looking ahead, the state will remain in a more typical summertime pattern of daily showers and thunderstorms, with most activity focused throughout the Peninsula. Drought improvements within this pattern will likely be minimal (if at all) and focused in areas that receive daily rounds of heavy thunderstorms. Localized areas will likely see gradual categorical drought degradations (*worsening drought*), especially if they miss out on the scattered rainfall with hot summertime temperatures expected.

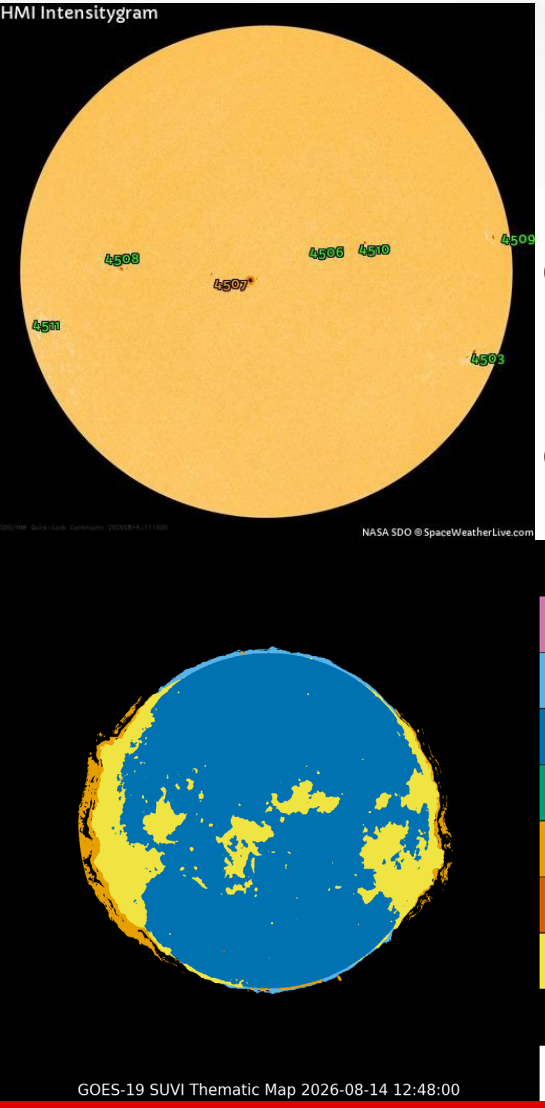
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **303 (+3)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **3 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).



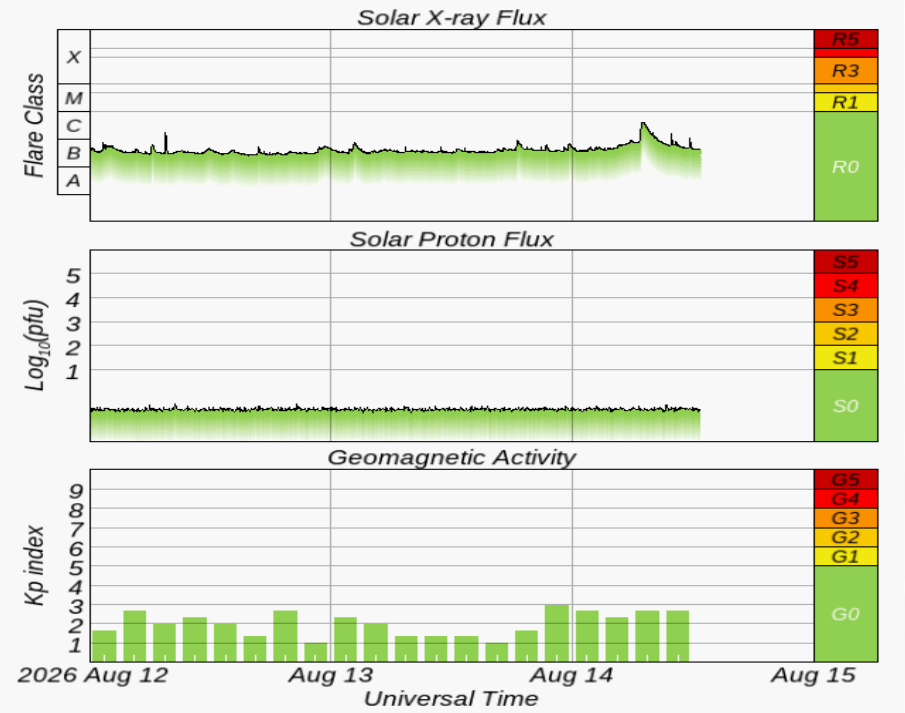




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 10%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C4 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast

8/14	8/15
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to remain at low levels with a negligible chance for M-class (R1-R2/Minor-Moderate) flares through the end of the week. Solar wind conditions will remain enhanced through the weekend under the influence of a positive polarity Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS). Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at remain near active levels in response to the +CH HSS influences with a chance for G1 (minor) storming. Conditions will begin to wane back towards unsettled levels on Sunday. 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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Austin Johnson

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