



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, August 27, 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	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Cody Nowak	(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	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	Leon, Polk	Logistics Support / SR EM Mtg / NWS Mtg / Response Coordinator Mtg
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Franklin	Sheltering Training / Response Coordinator Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia	Response Coordinator Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	SRT Assessment (Clay Co SO) / FHA Roundtable Mtg / RC Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Palm Beach, Orange	FHA Roundtable Meeting / FIFA AAR / RC Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	FHA Roundtable Meeting / RC Meeting / Vehicle Maintenance
Region 7: Brian Carey	Polk	Response Coordinator Meeting / LEPC Mtg / County EM Director Mtg
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	Training & Exercise Task Force Mtg / Response Coordinator Mtg
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	FEPA Working Group Meeting / FHA Roundtable Meeting / RC Mtg



Region 8 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 5

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	EM Partner Meetings
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Franklin	ARC Shelter Training
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	LTRG Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	MGT-324 Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	FEPA Board Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	RFT Meeting
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	Monroe	F-ROC Training

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

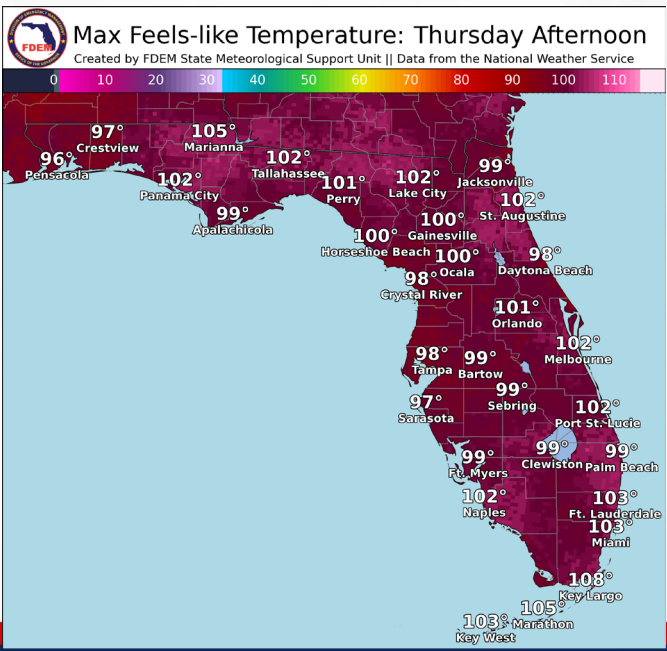
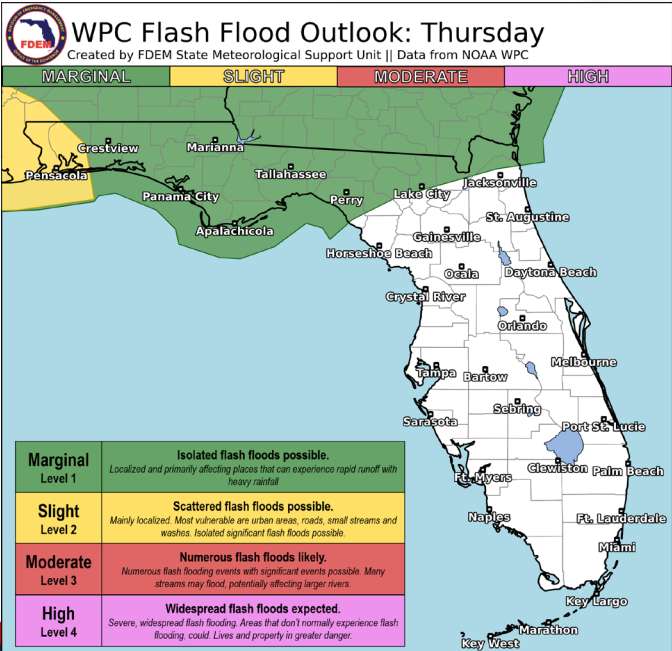
Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable



Meteorology Summary

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	H	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	H	H
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L	L	L						
Extreme Heat	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		M	L	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	10.87 ft. (3.27 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	360 (+1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									

Today’s Weather Map





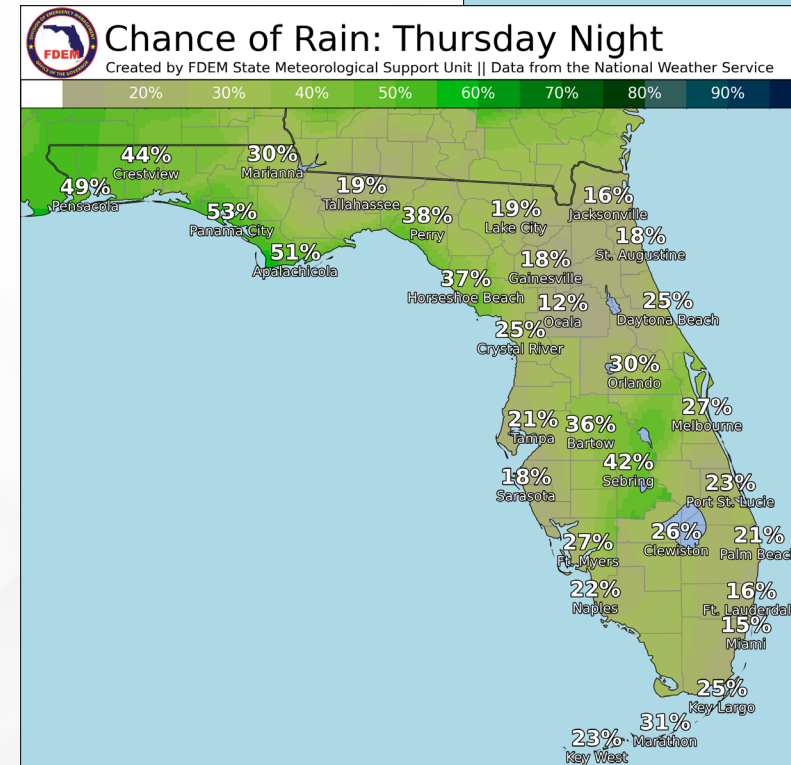
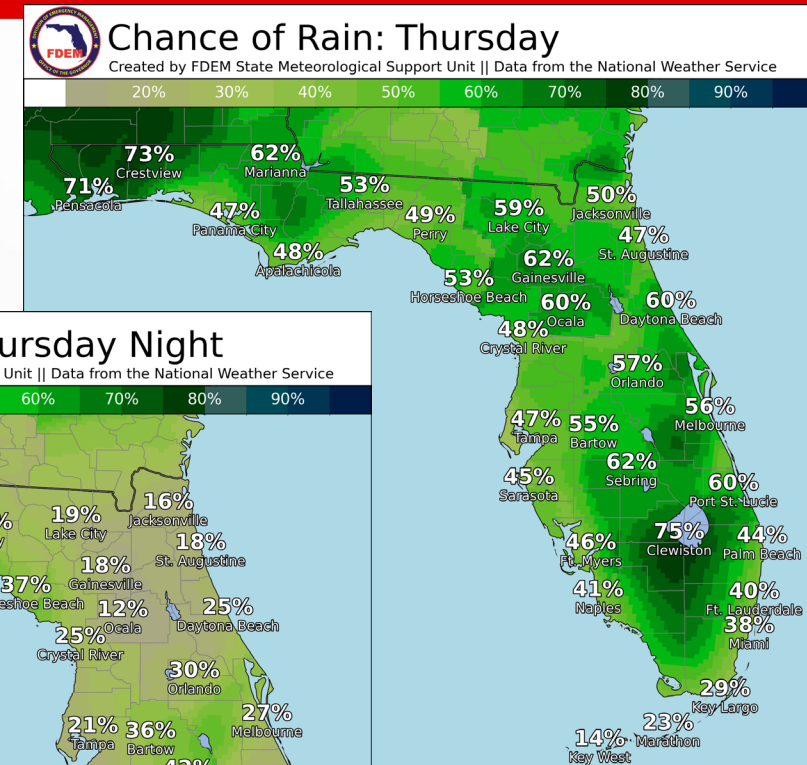
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Morning radar imagery indicates a few showers with embedded thunderstorms already spreading onshore across the Panhandle and Big Bend amidst moist southwesterly flow. Meanwhile, a large decaying thunderstorm complex is diving southward over the lower Mississippi River Valley associated with a mid to upper-level disturbance. This disturbance will serve as an additional source of enhanced lift across North Florida today with the current morning showers and storms spreading inland and increasing in coverage this afternoon (50-75% chance of rain). A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked throughout much of North Florida for multiple rounds of heavy downpours that may lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. A localized **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across the far western Florida Panhandle where an elevated risk for isolated **flash flooding** exists with closer proximity to this disturbance. Throughout Central and South Florida, typical sea breeze showers and storms are expected with activity developing along the sea breezes this afternoon and pushing towards interior locations while increasing in coverage (50-75% chance of rain). Despite there being no organized risk for severe weather today, any thunderstorm could become **locally strong to severe** and capable of producing **frequent lightning** and **gusty winds (40-60 mph)**.

High temperatures today will remain seasonably hot for much of the state in the upper 80s to **middle 90s** with feels-like temperatures peaking in the **upper 90s** to **middle 100s**.

Tonight, showers and storms will generally begin to wane after sunset and dissipate or push offshore by midnight. Some activity may linger across the Panhandle and Big Bend coasts overnight (25-40% chance of rain). Lows will fall into the middle 70s to lower 80s.



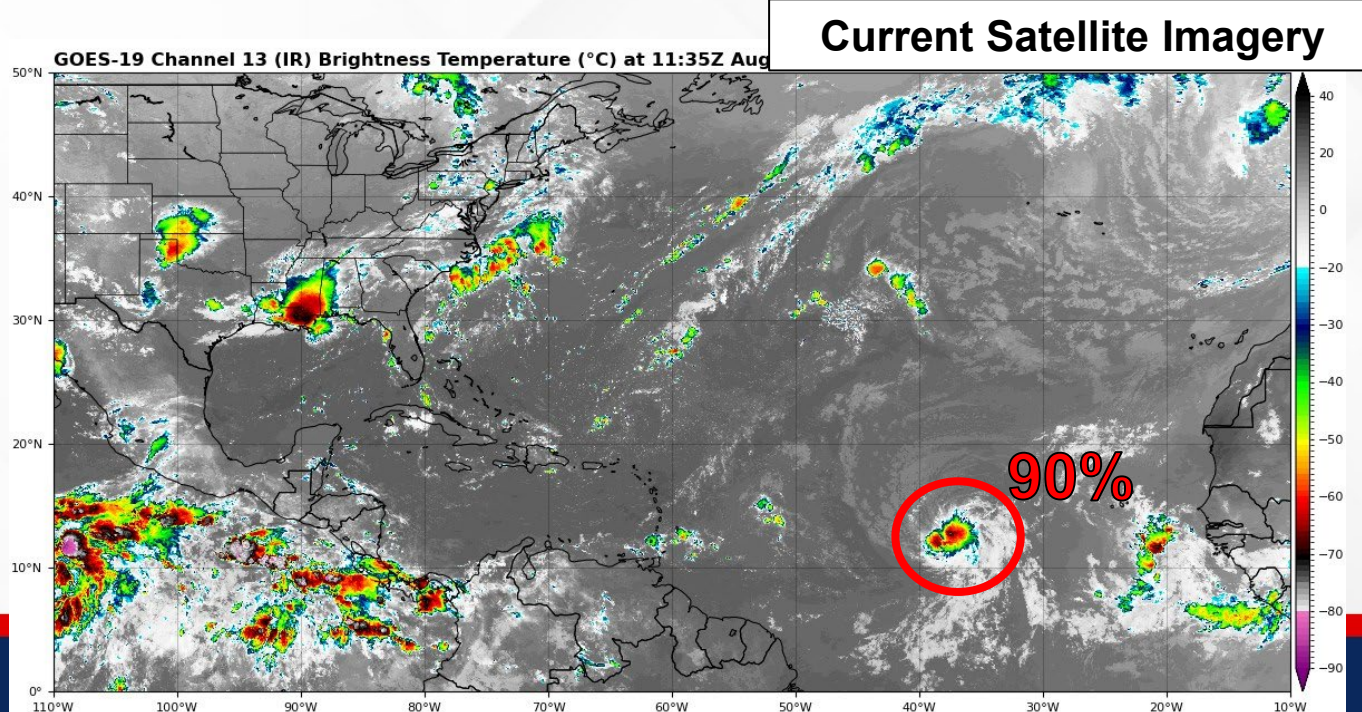
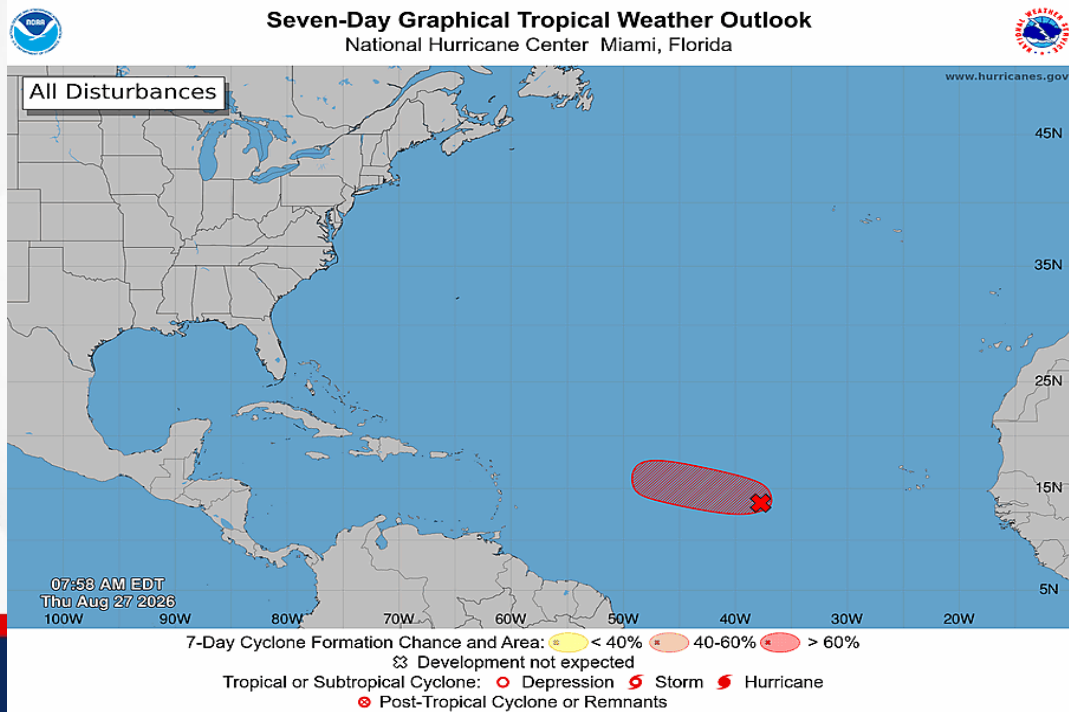


Tropical Weather

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

Eastern Tropical Atlantic (Invest 96L): Satellite and microwave imagery indicates that showers and thunderstorms associated with an area of low pressure, located several hundred miles west-southwest of the Cabo Verde Islands, have become better organized overnight. If the current trends continue, advisories could be initiated on a short-lived tropical depression or storm later today. However, environmental conditions are expected to become hostile beginning on Friday, likely ending its chances for development.

- Formation chance through 48 hours... **high... 90%.**
- Formation chance through 7 days... **high... 90%.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** is outlooked across eastern Panhandle and East Coast beaches. A low risk for rip currents remains outlooked for the western Panhandle, West Coast, and Southeast Florida. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

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

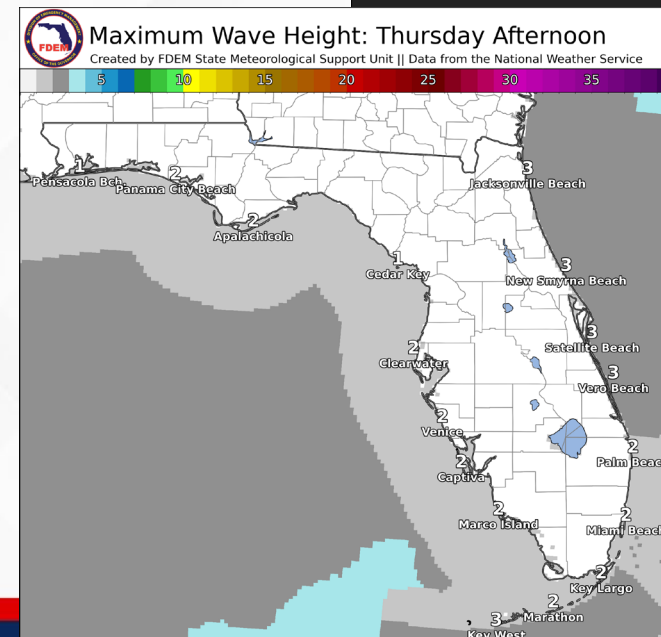
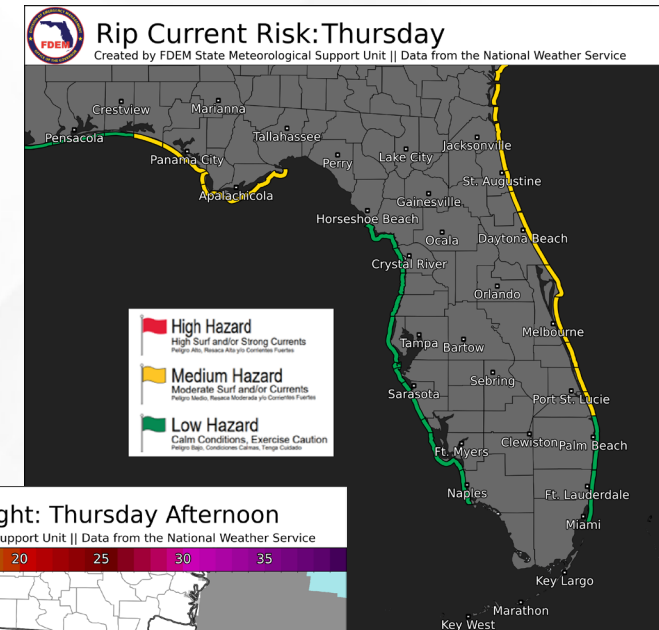
Red Tide: was observed at background concentrations in Pinellas County, in background to medium concentrations in Nassau County, background to low concentrations in Duval County, and background to very low concentrations in St. Johns County (valid 8/21/26).

Coastal Flooding: There are no coastal flooding concerns across the state.

Flash Flooding: A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across much of North Florida today with scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms developing ahead of a mid to upper-level disturbance and along the sea breezes. Any areas that receive multiple rounds of **heavy downpours** may experience **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. A localized **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked for the far western Florida Panhandle where an elevated risk for **flash flooding** will exist in closer proximity to the mid to upper-level disturbance. Rainfall amounts will generally add up to 0.5-1" in most locations, however locally higher totals **upwards of 2-4"** are possible. For more information, visit the Weather Prediction Center.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 10.87 feet, which is 3.27 feet below normal for this time of year and in the water shortage management band.



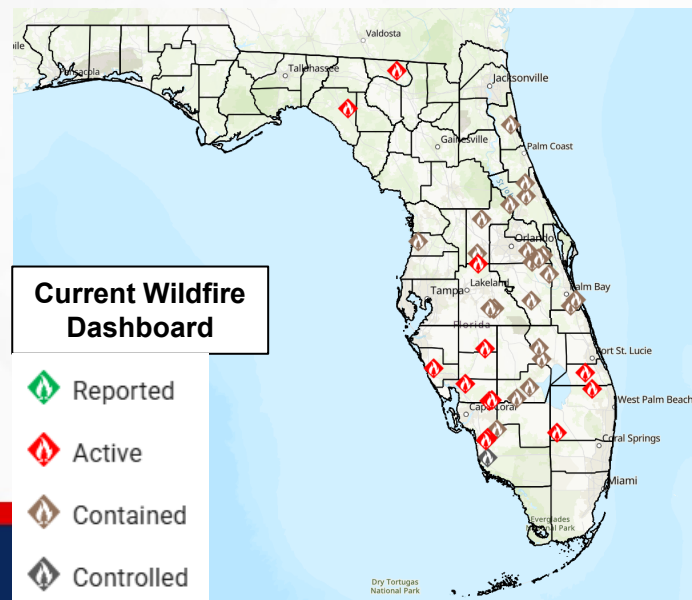
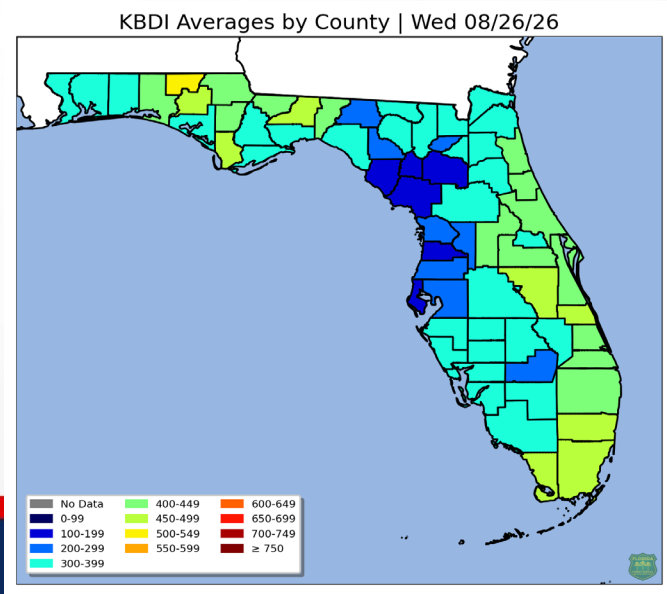
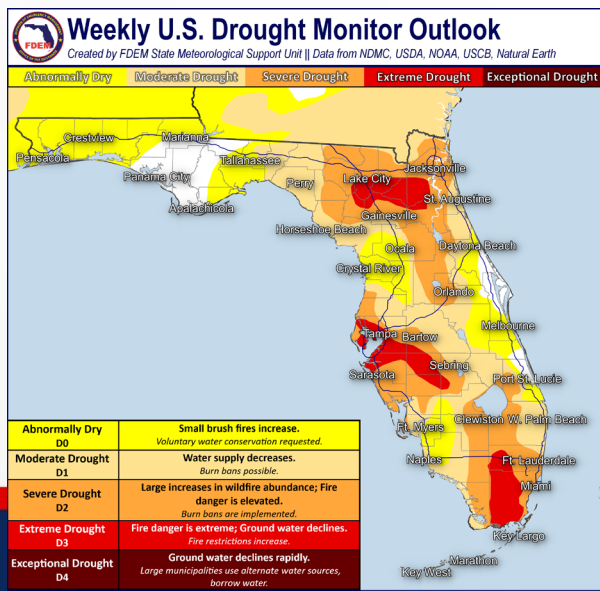


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The overall wildfire threat will remain low today given relative humidities staying well above critical thresholds and winds remaining light. Scattered to widespread 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 40 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,369 acres.

Drought (8/25/26): Very little change was made on this week's drought update, with only minor degradations (*worsening drought*) observed in isolated locations. Areas within **severe (level 2 of 4)** to **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** in South Florida have been locally expanded in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. The northern extent of the area of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** across West-Central Florida along coastal Pasco County has been reduced to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)**. Portions of west-central Suwannee County have been upgraded to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)**. Small areas of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** have been expanded across coastal Collier County, northeastern Palm Beach County, and central Leon and Jefferson counties. D0 (*abnormally dry conditions*) has been locally expanded in Indian River and Brevard counties. No other categorical drought conditions were made elsewhere across the state on this week's drought update. Areas in Northeast FL, West-Central FL, and South FL remain in a **severe to extreme drought (level 2-3 of 4)**. Nearly 10% of the state remains in an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**. 9% of the state remains under no drought designation. Looking ahead, a wet and unsettled pattern will continue with daily rounds of scattered showers and thunderstorms across the state. Minimal drought improvements are expected outside of areas that receive multiple rounds of heavy downpours.

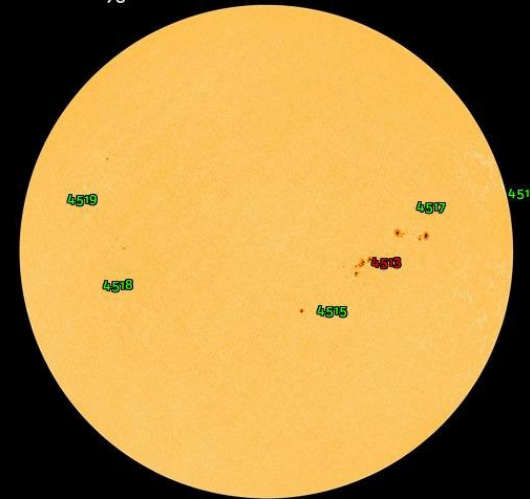
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **360 (+1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **1 out of 67** Florida County (Holmes) that has an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather

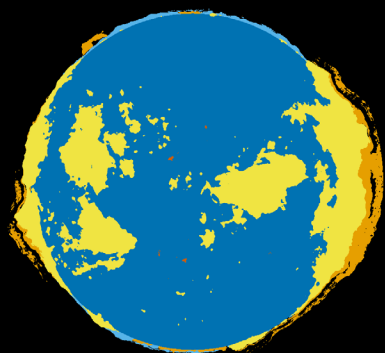
HMI Intensitygram



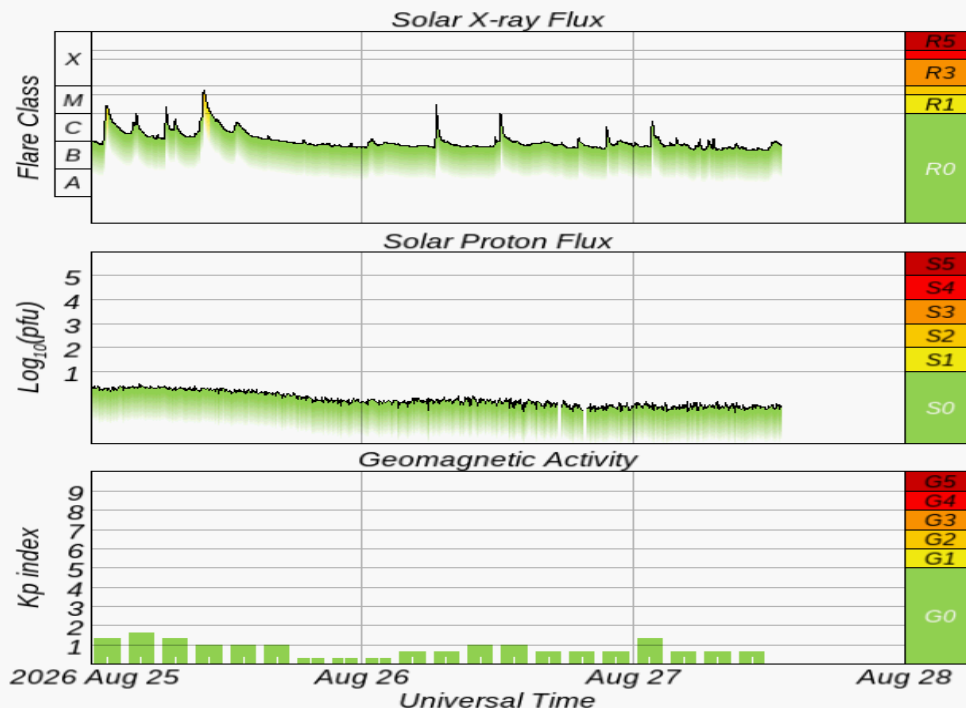
NASA SDO @ SpaceWeatherLive.com

Current Sunspots

GOES-19 Sun-192A (20260827-1100)



GOES-19 SUVI Thematic Map 2026-08-27 13:04:00



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: G1 Watch (8/27) & G2 Watch (8/28)	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 15%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout
48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast		
8/26		8/27
Max Kp= 5 (G1)		Max Kp= 6 (G2)
Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 1%		Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 25%

Space Weather: Solar activity will likely remain at low to moderate levels with a medium chance of M-class (R1-R2) solar flares, and a slight chance of X-class (R3) solar flares. Nominal solar wind conditions are expected to continue until mid-day today when the onset of positive polarity coronal hole influences is anticipated. Additional solar wind disturbances are expected into Friday due to an arriving Coronal Mass Ejection (CME). The geomagnetic field is expected to be at mostly quiet levels through mid-day today as well, increasing to unsettled to G1 (Minor) levels due to the impact of the coronal hole influences and CME. Periods of G2 (Minor) storming are possible Friday and Saturday. The overall space weather threat to Florida is 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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