



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Friday, August 28, 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 (Trailer Movement)
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Franklin	POD Training
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Gilchrist	County EM Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	SRT Assessment (Clay Co SO)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange, Seminole	FDLE Meeting / G-400 Course Instruction Prep
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Manatee	City of Bradenton Mid-Season Meeting
Region 7: Brian Carey	Polk	City of Lakeland EM Meeting
Region 8: Vacant	N/A	N/A (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Lee	End of Month Admin
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



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	Bay	EM Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Levy	EM Recovery Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	SRT Assessment
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Not Available	Leave (See Coverage)
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	Admin Duties

Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

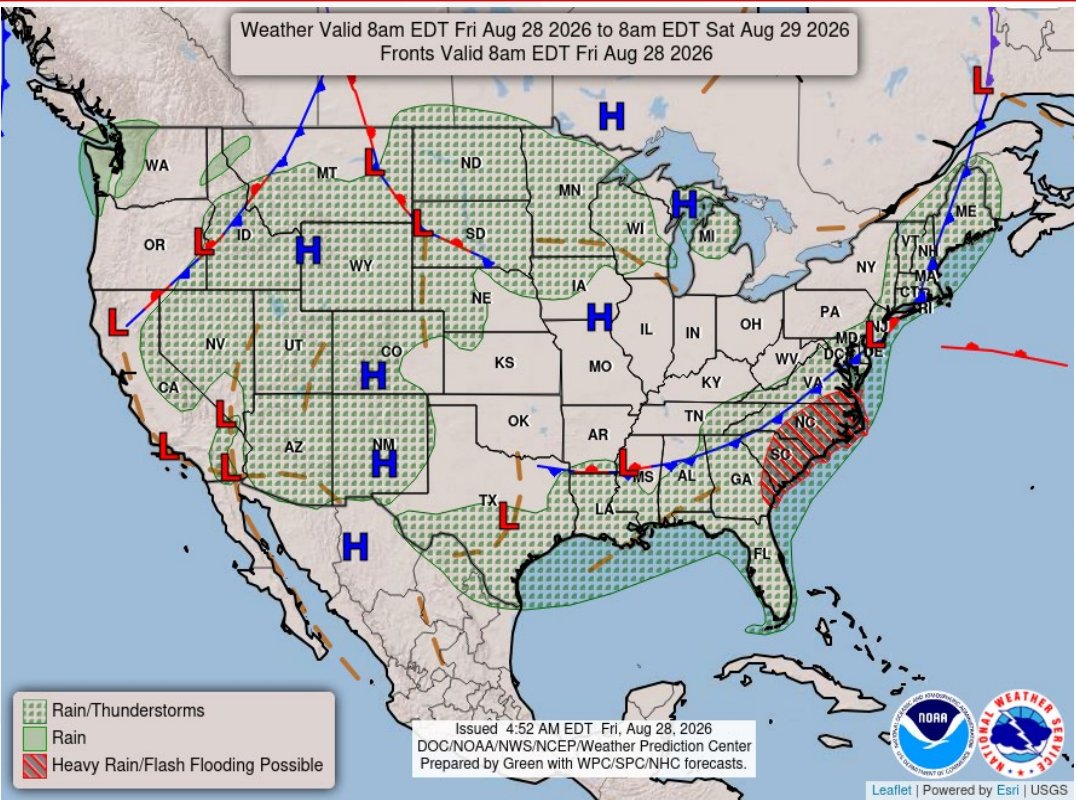
Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5, 10

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

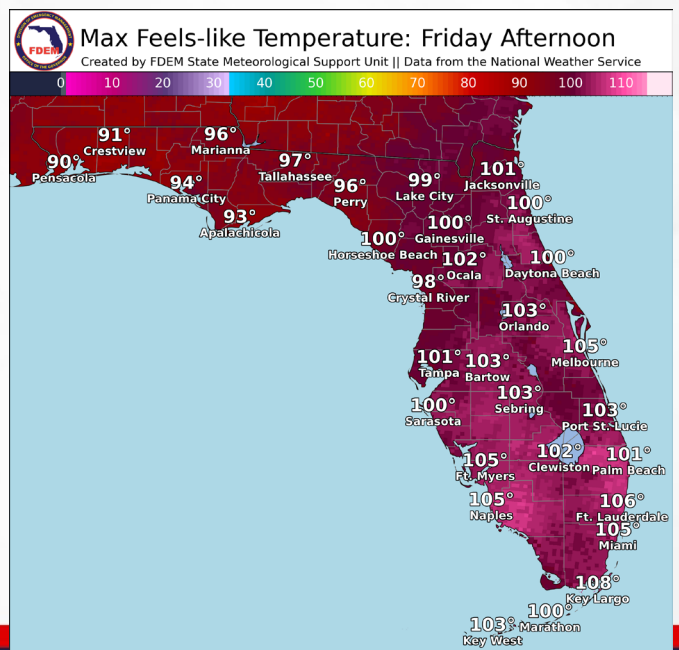
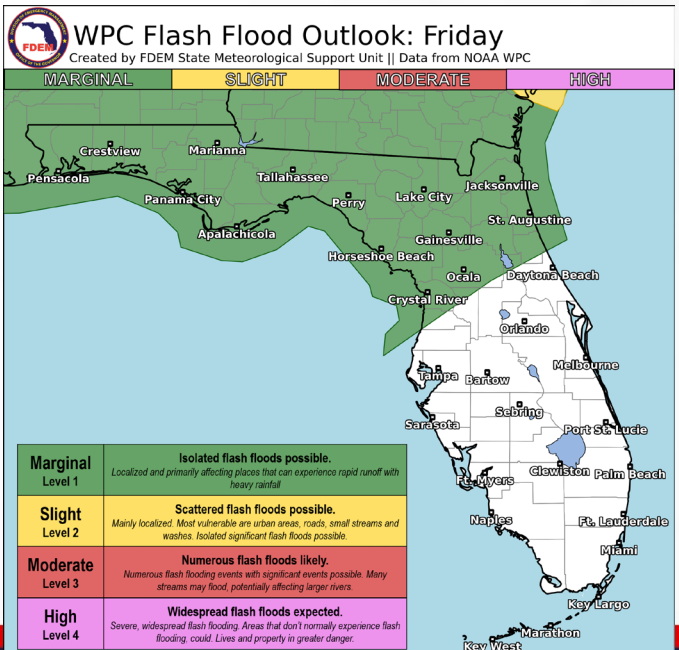


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	H	H	H	H	M	M	M	M	M	M
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	L	L	L	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	10.89 ft. (3.27 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	342 (-18) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





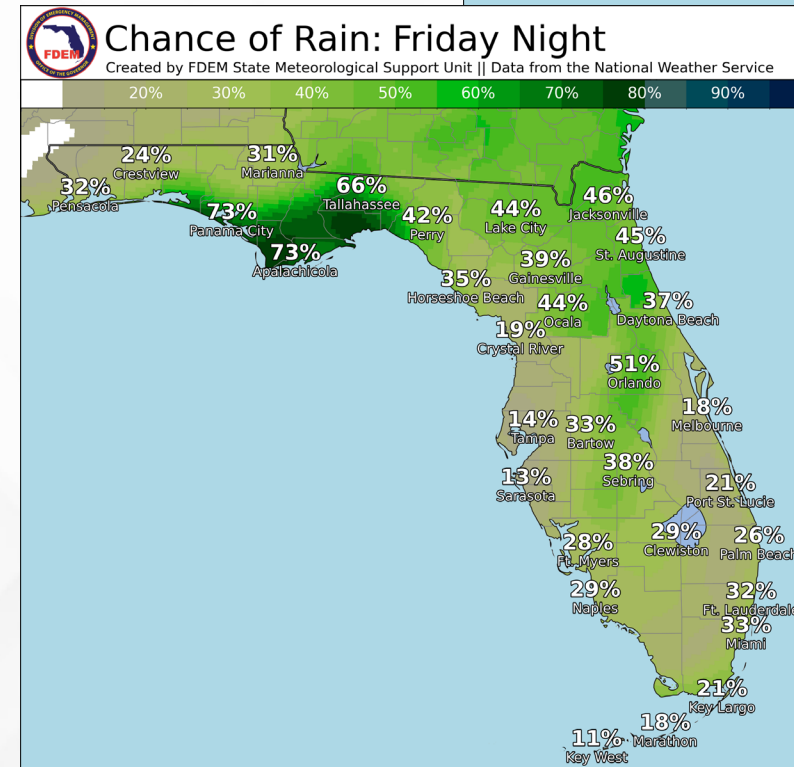
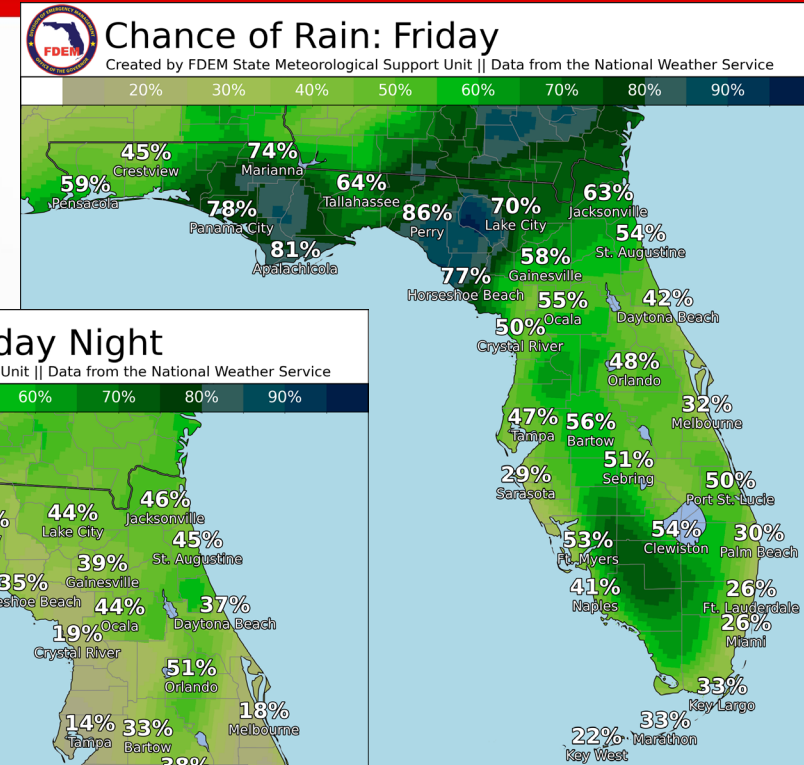
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Another wet and unsettled day is on tap across the state today as multiple sources of lift, ample moisture, and daytime heating all encourage multiple rounds of showers and thunderstorms (50-85% chance of rain). Morning radar and satellite imagery highlights scattered activity already beginning to push onshore across North Florida south of a stalled frontal boundary draped across Georgia and Alabama. Under moist southwesterly flow, this activity will continue to stream onshore and increase in coverage this afternoon with multiple rounds of **heavy downpours** expected; A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked throughout North Florida today for this risk. Typical sea breeze activity is expected throughout the Peninsula with showers and storms developing along the sea breezes, pushing inland throughout the morning and afternoon hours and increasing in coverage. Any thunderstorm that develops today may become **locally strong to severe** and accompanied by **frequent to excessive lightning** and **gusty winds (40-60 mph)**.

High temperatures are expected to remain seasonably hot today and reach into the upper 80s to **middle 90s**. Feels-like temperatures will remain below Heat Advisory criteria, peaking in the **upper 90s** to **middle 100s**.

Tonight, showers and storms throughout the state will begin to wane after sunset and dissipate or push offshore by midnight. However, under persistent southerly flow, coastal showers along the Panhandle and Big Bend coast will continue overnight and occasionally push onshore (50-70% chance of rain). Showers and storms may get off to an early start across North Florida on Saturday morning. Lows will fall into the middle 70s to lower 80s for much of the state.

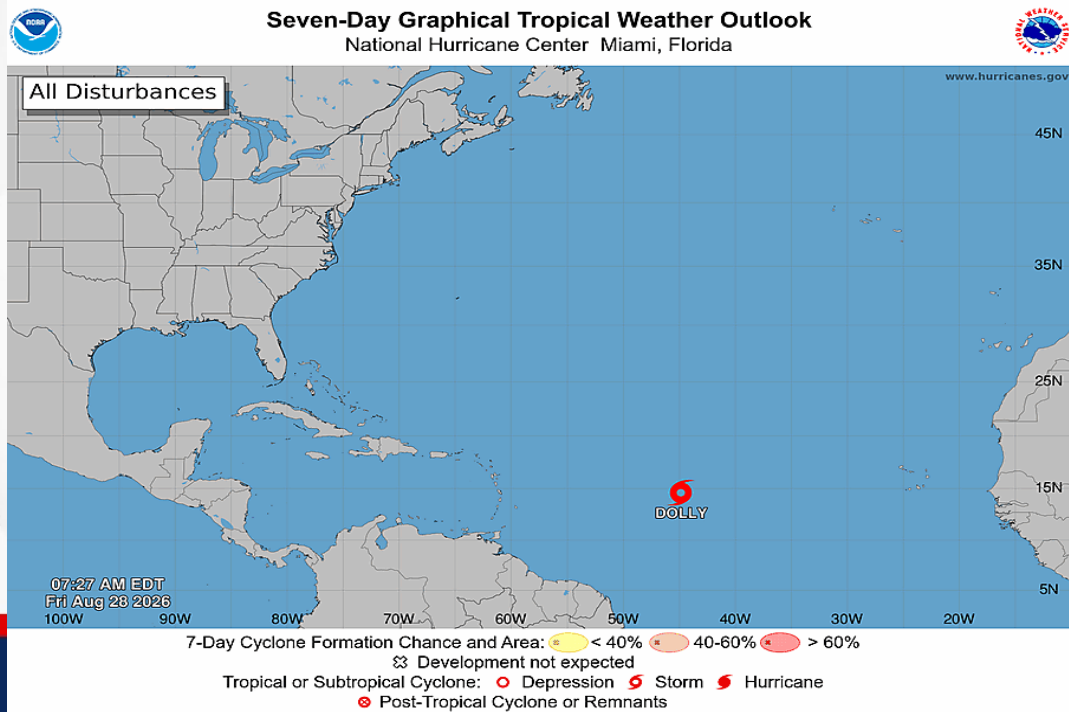




Tropical Weather

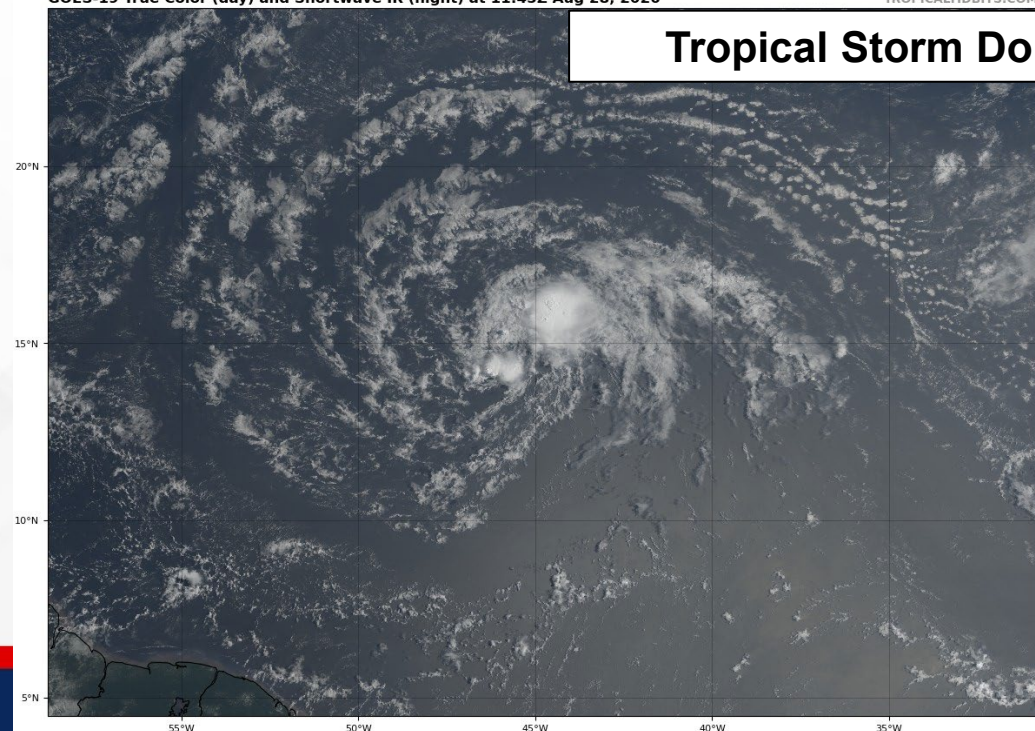
For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

Tropical Storm Dolly: As of 5 AM EDT, Tropical Storm Dolly was located in the central tropical Atlantic moving quickly towards the west at 24 mph. This motion is expected to continue for the next couple days. On the forecast track, this system, or its remnants, should be nearing the Leeward Islands this weekend. Maximum sustained winds remain near 40 mph with higher gusts. Little change in strength is expected, and Dolly is forecast to degenerate into a tropical wave before it reaches the Leeward Islands on Saturday. ***Dolly currently poses no direct threat to Florida.***



GOES-19 True Color (day) and Shortwave IR (night) at 11:45Z Aug 28, 2026

TROPICALDDBITS.COM





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.

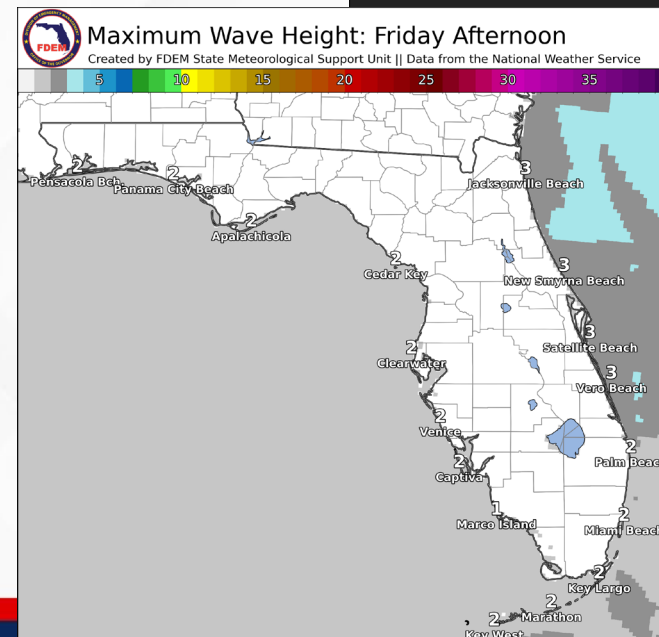
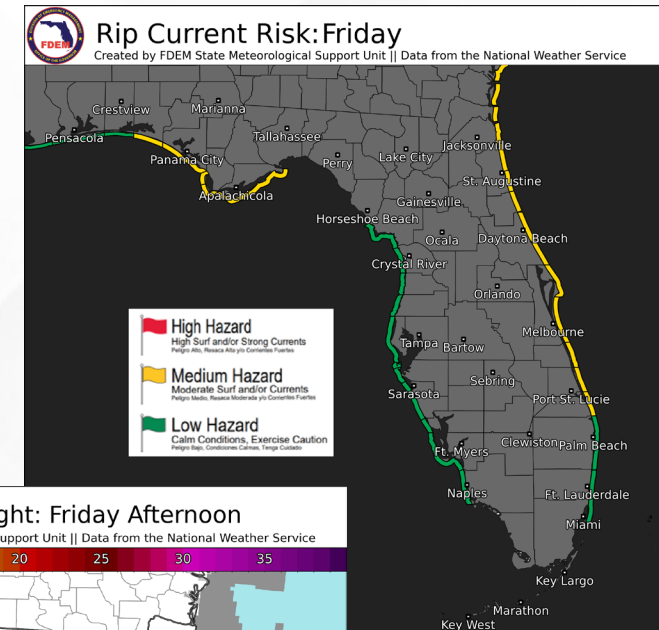
Red Tide: was observed at background concentrations in Pinellas County, in background to medium concentrations in Nassau County, background to low concentrations in Duval County, and background to very low concentrations in St. Johns County (valid 8/21/26).

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 North Florida today where multiple rounds of heavy downpours may lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. Isolated cases of flooding cannot be ruled out throughout the Peninsula as well. Rainfall amounts will generally add up to 0.5-1.5" in most locations, though locally higher totals **upwards of 2-4"** are possible in areas that receive training storms or multiple rounds of heavy thunderstorms. 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 10.89 feet, which is 3.27 feet below normal for this time of year and in the water shortage management band.



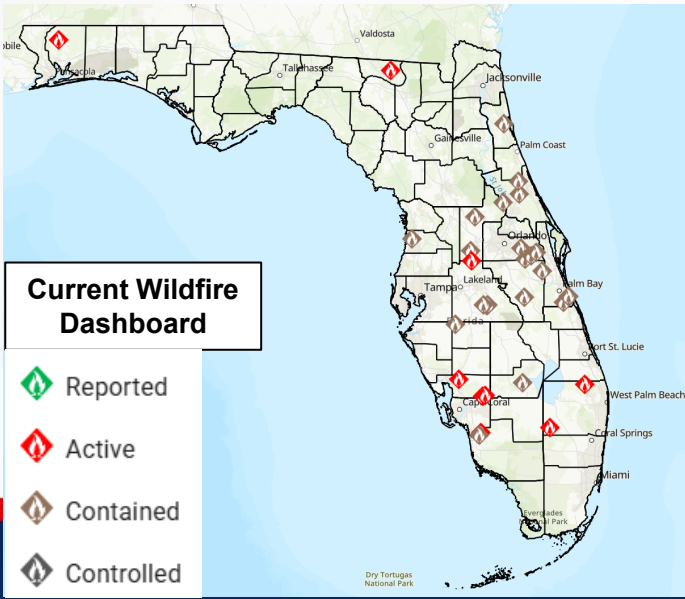
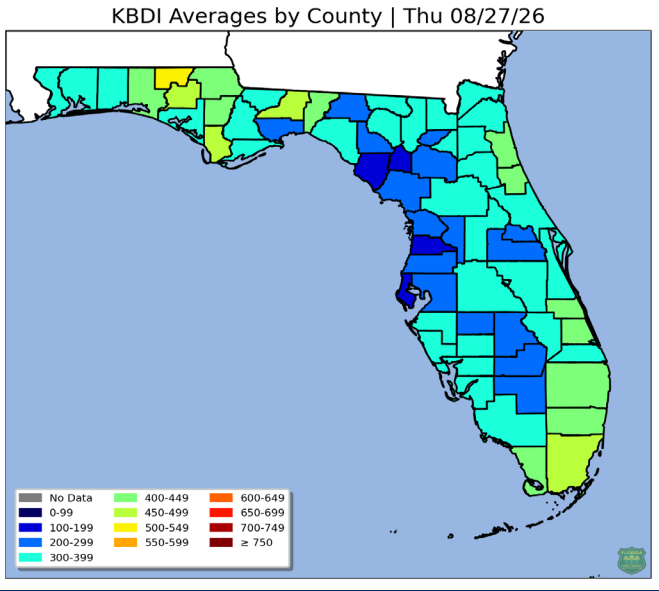
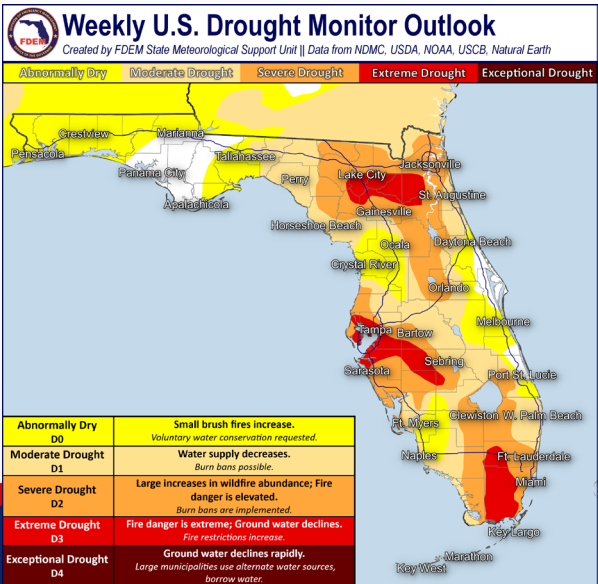


Drought & Fire Weather

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 31 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,218 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.

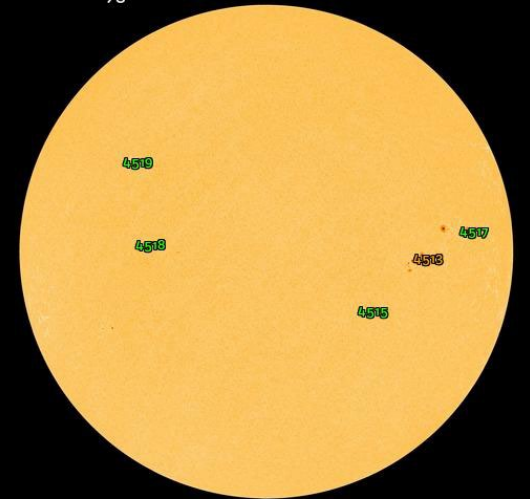
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **342 (-18)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **1 out of 67** Florida County (Holmes) that has an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather

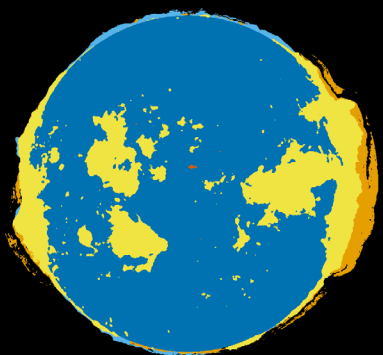
HMI Intensitygram



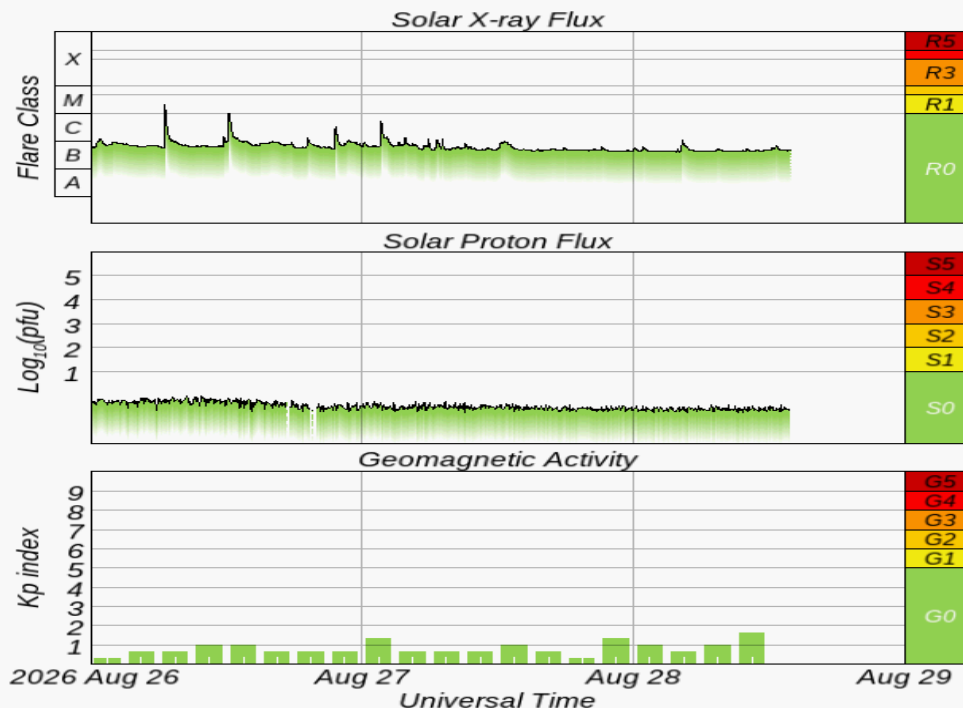
NASA SDO @ SpaceWeatherLive.com

Current Sunspots

GOES-19 Sun-UVI Thematic Map 2026-08-28 13:52:00



GOES-19 SUVI Thematic Map 2026-08-28 13:52:00



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 45%	Geomagnetic Storm: G2 Watch (8/28)	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
8/28	8/29
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 6 (G2)
Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 25%	Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 15%

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. Positive polarity coronal hole influences are expected by mid-day Friday bringing enhanced solar wind conditions. Additional solar wind disturbances, with increased solar wind densities, are also likely through Saturday due to the impact of a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that left the Sun on Tuesday. Unsettled to G1 (Minor) geomagnetic storming is expected by mid-day Friday due to the coronal hole influences and CME. G2 (Moderate) storming levels may arrive late in the day on Friday or early Saturday. G1 to G2 storm levels will likely persist through Saturday before waning on Sunday. 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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