



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Sunday, September 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	Connor Stolp	(850) 566-3044	Connor.Stolp@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Joel Lalog	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Ian Mutschler	(850) 688-2119	Ian.Mutschler@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	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 4: Tara Kostich	In Region	On-Call Status
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: Keila Puello	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 9 coverage provided by Response Coordinator 6
Region 10 coverage provided by Response Coordinator 7

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	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Out of Region	Not Available
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	Orange	Travel to Region 5

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

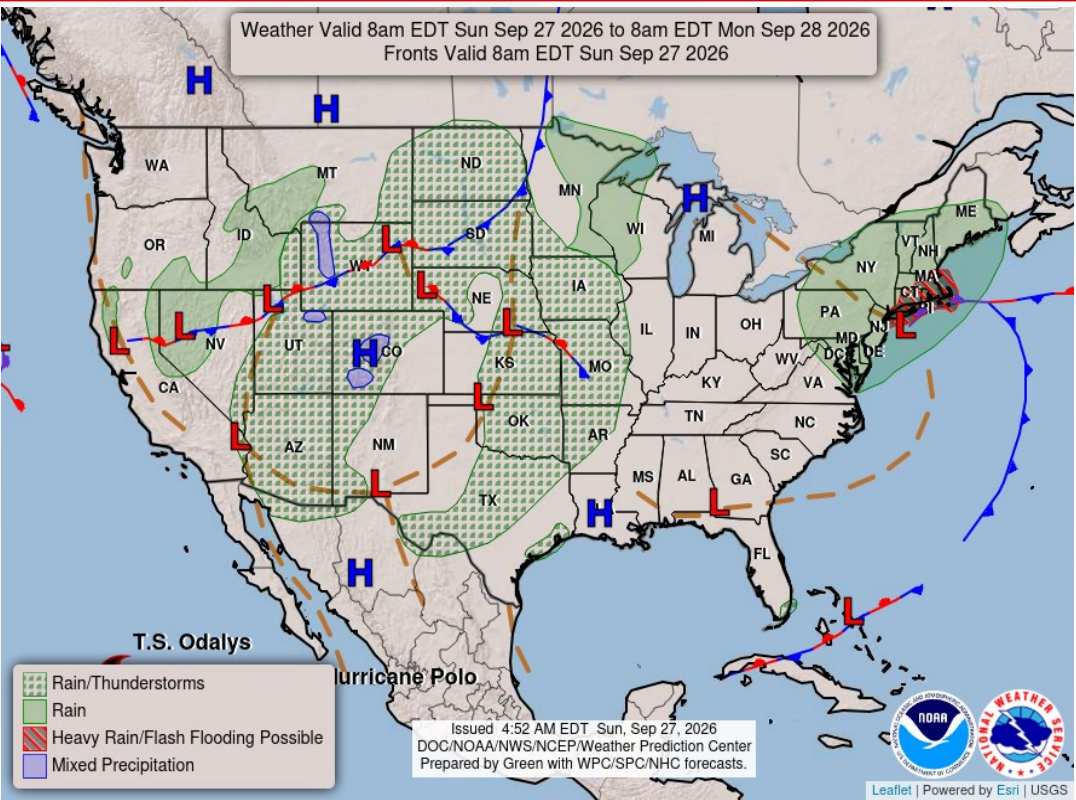
Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 6

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

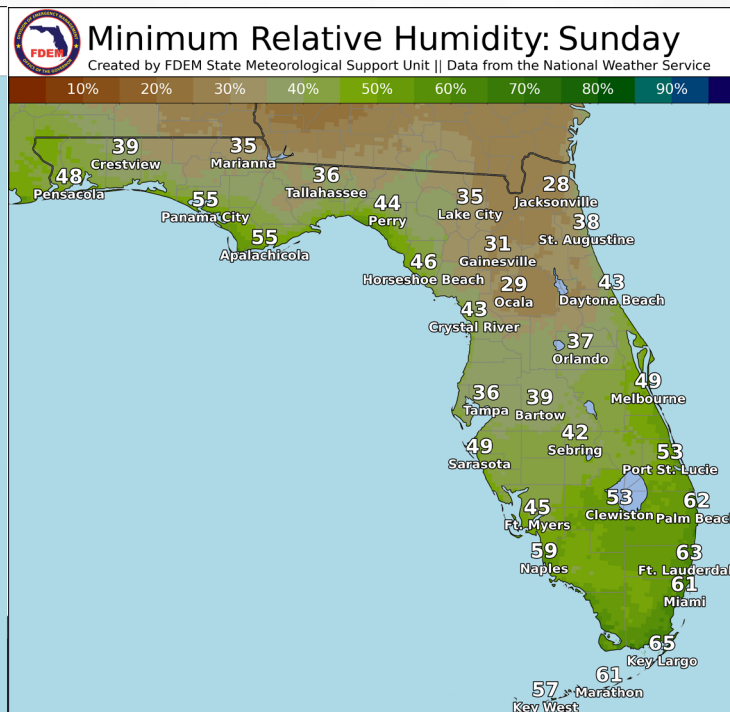
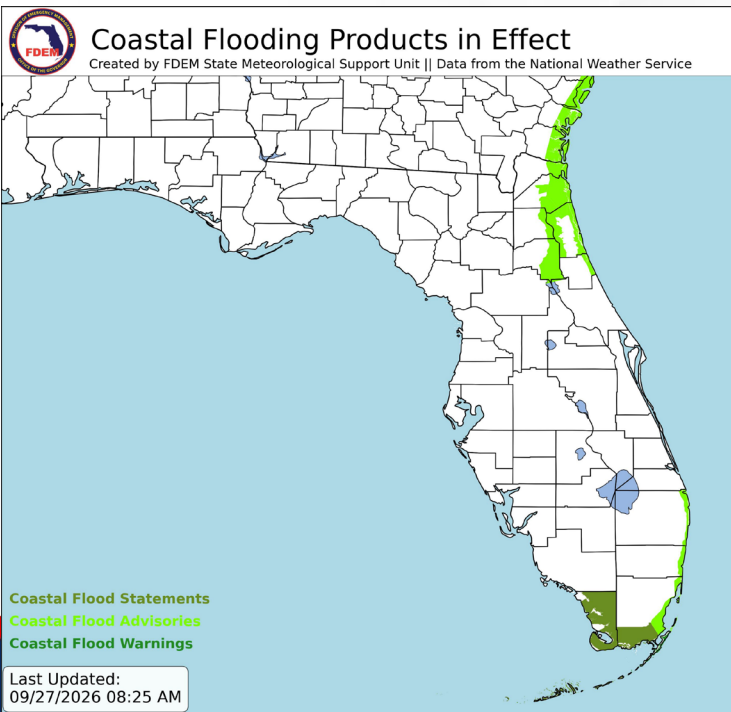


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L				
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.78 ft. (2.99 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	257 (+12) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dry and increasingly warm conditions are expected across the state today, with near-zero rain chance for the vast majority of the state (10-15% chance of rain in SE Miami-Dade County). Locations across North Florida are once again waking up to temperatures in the **mid to upper 50s**. Abundant sunshine will result in high temperatures rising into the low to mid 80s across the Peninsula and in the **middle to upper 80s** in North Florida. Low relative humidity will again result in a pleasant outdoor conditions today. However, these low relative humidity values, especially across the Florida Panhandle, Big Bend, and Interior North Central Florida will combine with northeasterly winds around 10 mph to produce **sensitive wildfire conditions**.

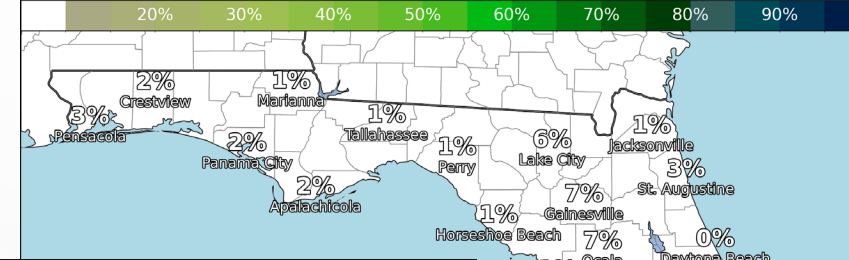
A **high risk of life-threatening rip currents** continues today along the entire Florida East Coast as high surf continues even as winds slowly diminish. **Major Coastal Flooding** is ongoing in portions of the Upper Keys, and a **Coastal Flood Warning** is currently in effect. **Moderate coastal flooding** is expected to continue today along the Palm Beach and Broward County coastlines with **minor coastal flooding** south of Broward County through the Florida Keys. **Minor coastal flooding** is expected to continue around the time of high tide within the tidal St Johns River from Duval County southward through Putnam County.

Overnight lows begin an upward trend tonight, with areas in the Florida Panhandle, Big Bend, and NE Floride only bottoming out in the lower to middle 60s. Upper 60s can still be expected in inland locations as far south as Lake Okeechobee. Areas south of Lake Okeechobee and along Coastal locations in the Peninsula can expect lows in the lower to middle 70s.



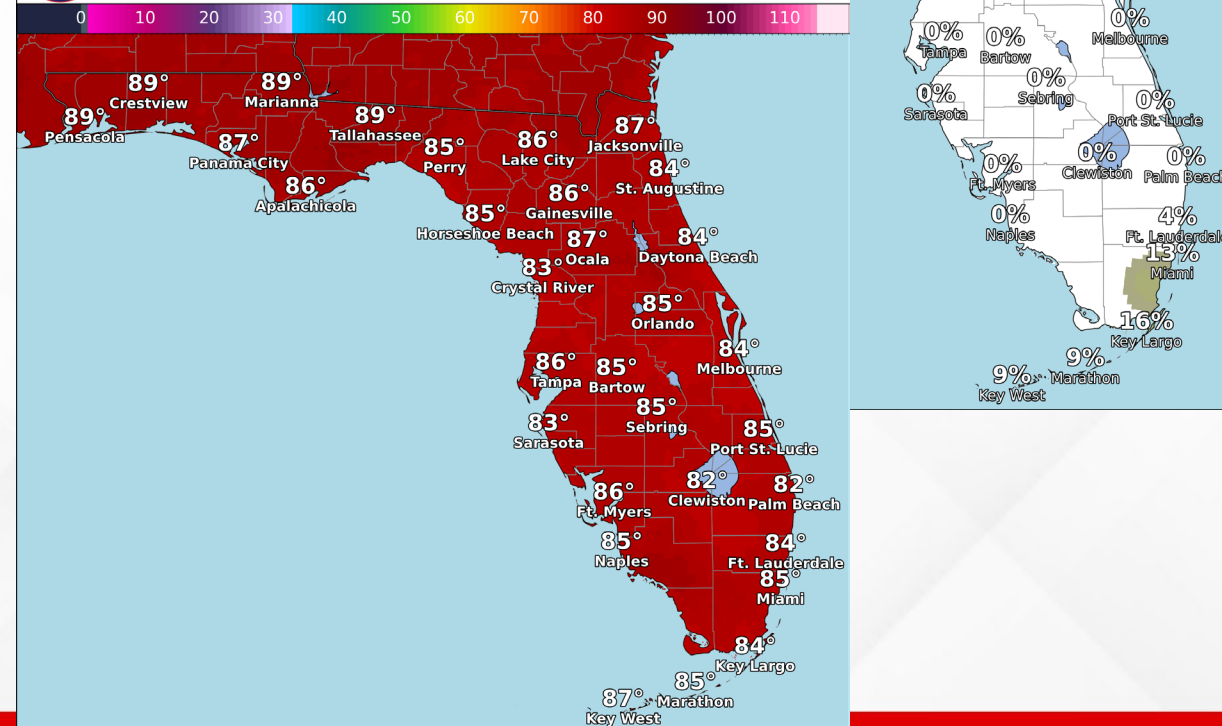
Chance of Rain: Sunday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service



High Temperatures: Sunday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service





Tropical Weather

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

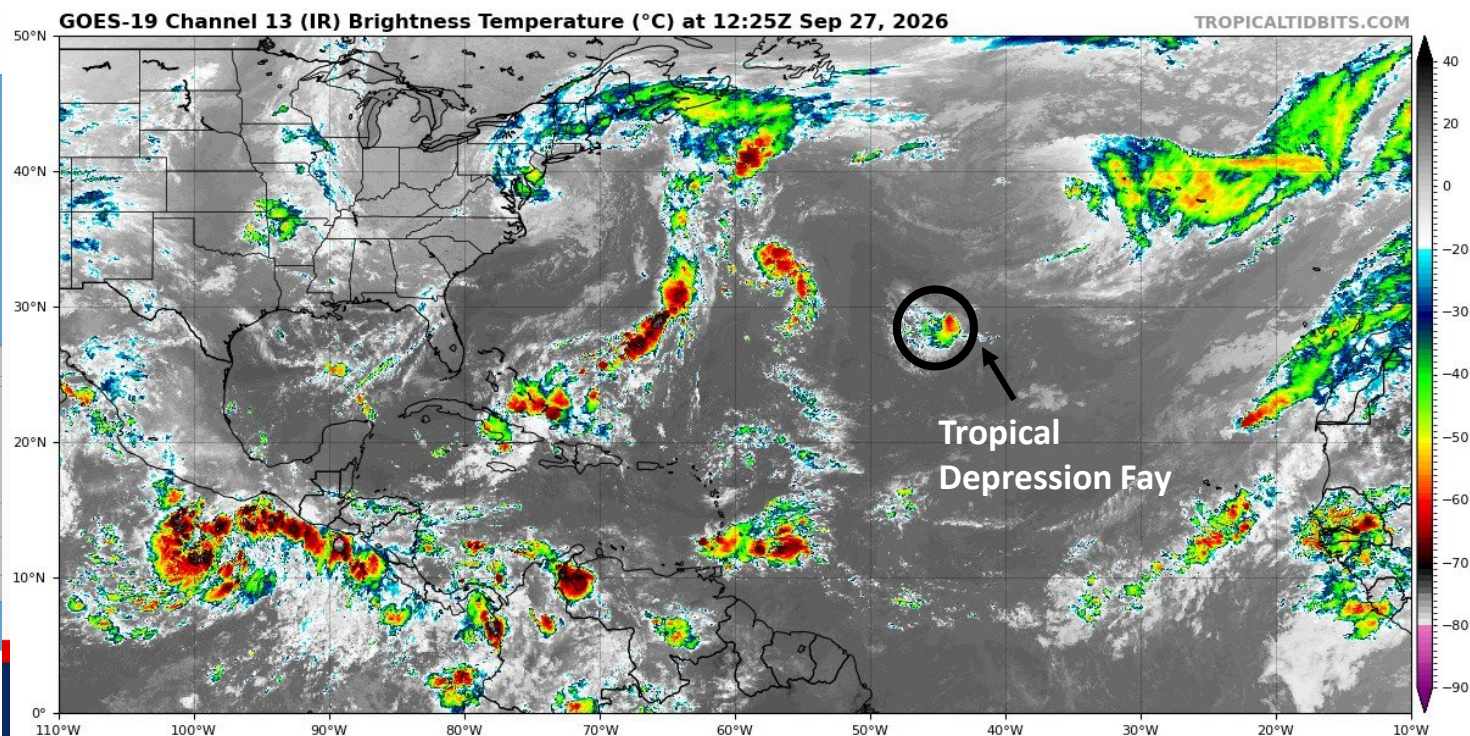
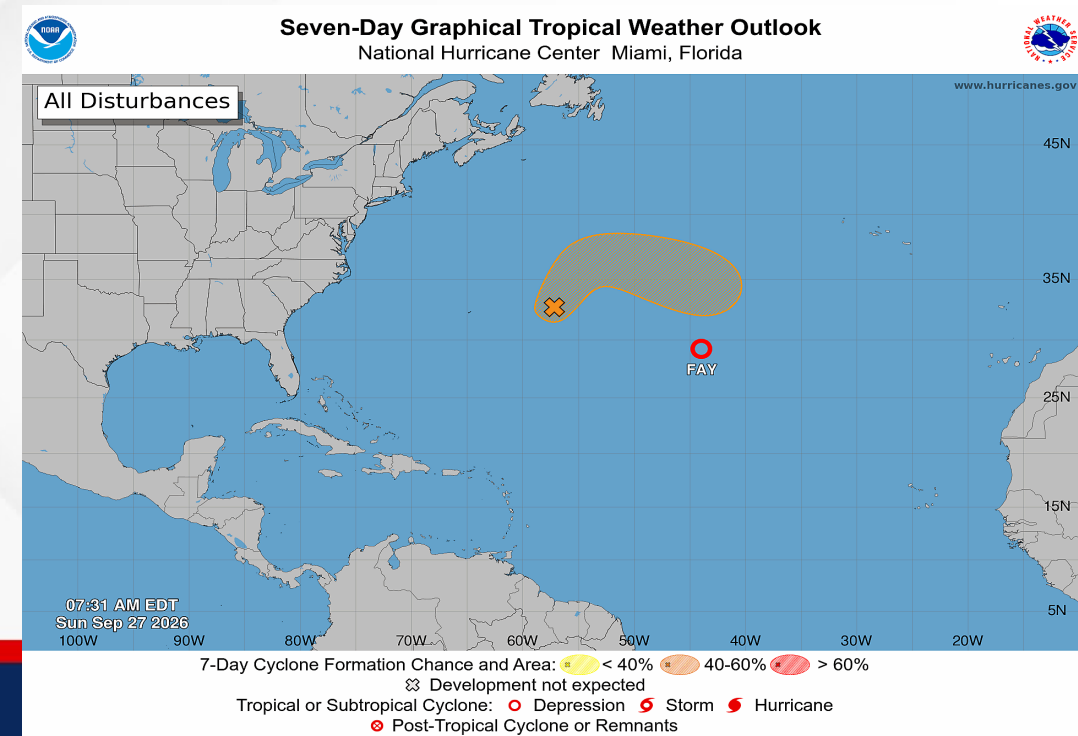
Tropical Depression Fay (Central Subtropical Atlantic):

Tropical Depression Fay remains resilient in the face of environmental conditions. Fay continues to produce intermittent convective bursts which has helped keep the circulation intact. For now, Fay is expected to remain at tropical depression strength over the next 2-3 days before eventually opening up into a remnant tropical wave. Still, the NHC has noted the overall resiliency of this storm and the degree to which models have struggled with it. Therefore, the system may continue to overperform by means of briefly reattaining tropical storm status or remaining a TD for longer than currently anticipated. ***This system poses no threat to Florida.***

Disturbance #1 (Central Subtropical Atlantic):

A surface trough of low pressure located several hundred miles east of Bermuda continues to produce an area of disorganized showers and thunderstorms. Environmental conditions appear somewhat favorable for gradual development of this system, and a tropical depression could form by the early to mid portion of this week as it initially moves northward before turning eastward early this week over the central Subtropical Atlantic. ***This system poses no threat to Florida.***

- Formation chance through 48 hours...**low...30 percent.**
- Formation chance through 7 days...**medium...40 percent.**





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: There is a **high risk for rip currents** along the Atlantic Coast Beaches for **especially dangerous and life-threatening rip currents** today. There is a **moderate risk for rip currents** for much of the Florida Panhandle today. A **low risk** is forecast across for all other FL beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Northeasterly winds will continue to relax today across the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Waters. Sustained winds of around 5-10 kts will be common. Wave heights also continue their downward trend today for Atlantic facing beaches, with most beaches seeing between **5-7'**. Gulf-facing beaches will see wave heights of 1-2'.

Red Tide: Red tide was observed at very low concentrations in two samples in NW Florida in Gulf County and background concentrations in five samples in SW Florida in Charlotte, Lee, and Monroe Counties (9/25).

Coastal Flooding: A **coastal flood warning** is in effect for the Upper Florida Keys for ongoing **major coastal flooding**. A **coastal flood advisory** is in effect from Palm Beach and Broward Counties for **moderate coastal flooding** around the time of high tide. A **coastal flood advisory** is also in effect along the tidal St Johns River from the Atlantic Coast in Duval County southward through Putnam County. **Minor coastal flooding** is expected around the time of high tide. A **coastal flood statement** is in effect for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, including the Florida Keys, for **minor coastal flooding** around the time of high tide.

Flash Flooding: Near-zero rainfall chances are forecast for most locations across the state today. There are no flash flooding concerns. For more information, visit the [Weather Prediction Center](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

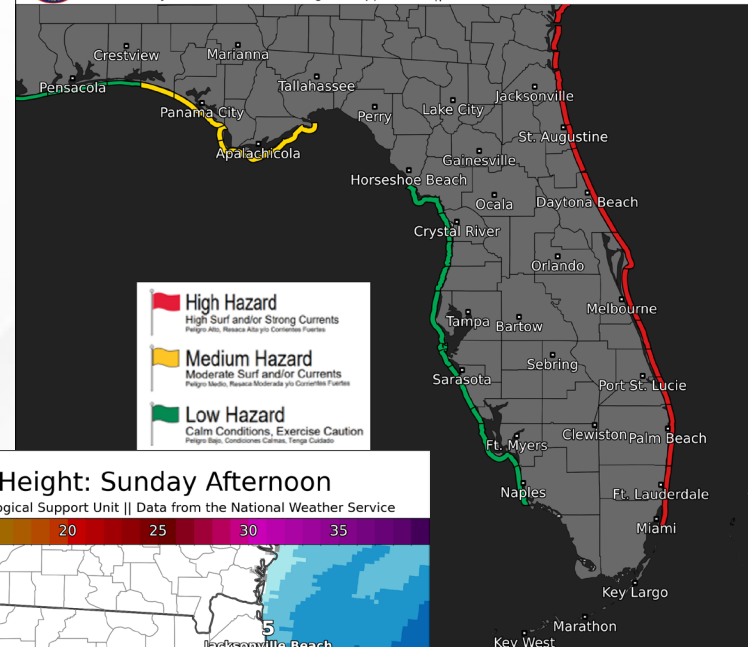
Riverine Flooding: The [St. Johns River at Astor](#) is in **Minor Flood Stage** due to northeasterly winds backing up the St. Johns River. This location is likely to remain above flood stage at least into the middle of next week. The [Withlacoochee River at Dunnellon](#) remains at action stage and is slowly falling as is [Fisheating Creek at Palmdale](#). For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.78 feet, which is 2.99 feet below normal for this time of year and in the water shortage management band.



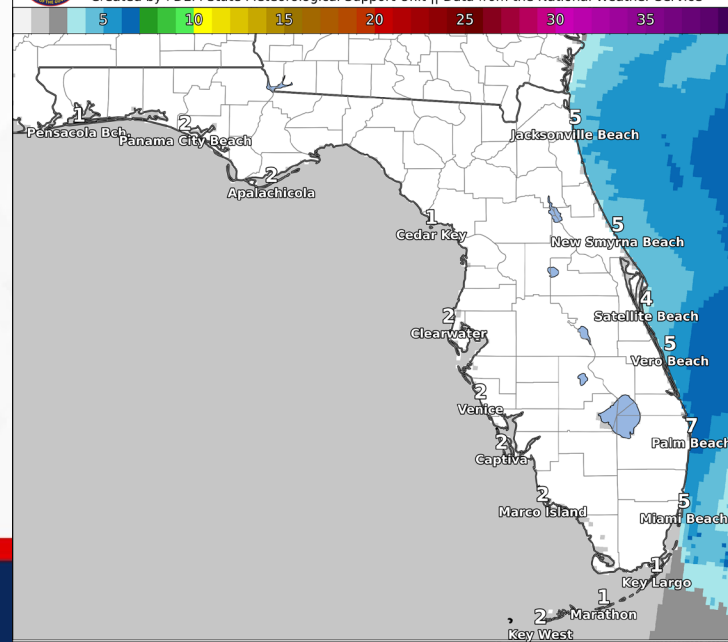
Rip Current Risk: Sunday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service



Maximum Wave Height: Sunday Afternoon

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service



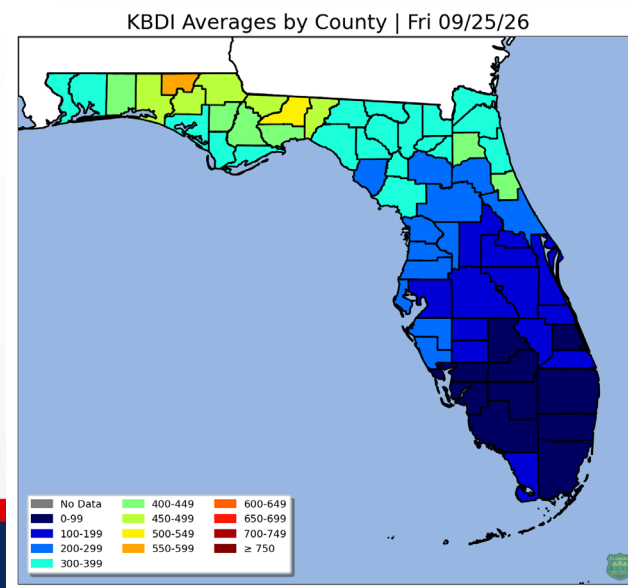
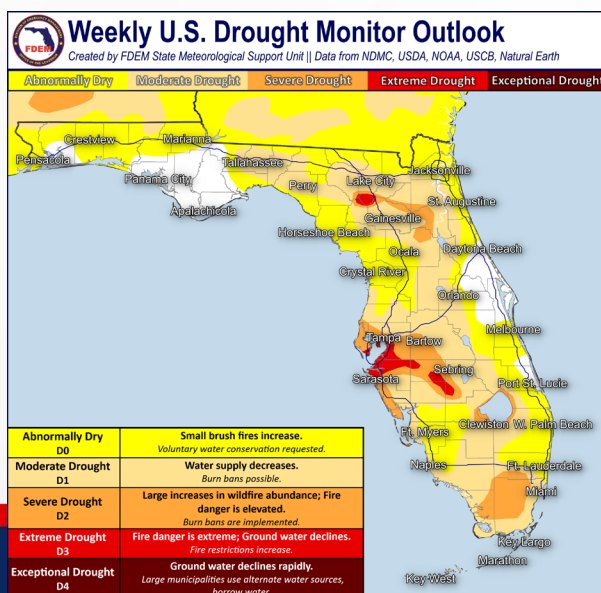


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The fire danger is increased today across North Florida, especially from Okaloosa County eastward to the I-75 corridor as far south as the I-4 Corridor. Relative humidity values this afternoon could drop into the **middle to upper 20s**, especially across interior North-Central FL. Northeasterly winds up to 10 mph will combine with low relative humidity to support **sensitive wildfire conditions**. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 6 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 21 acres.

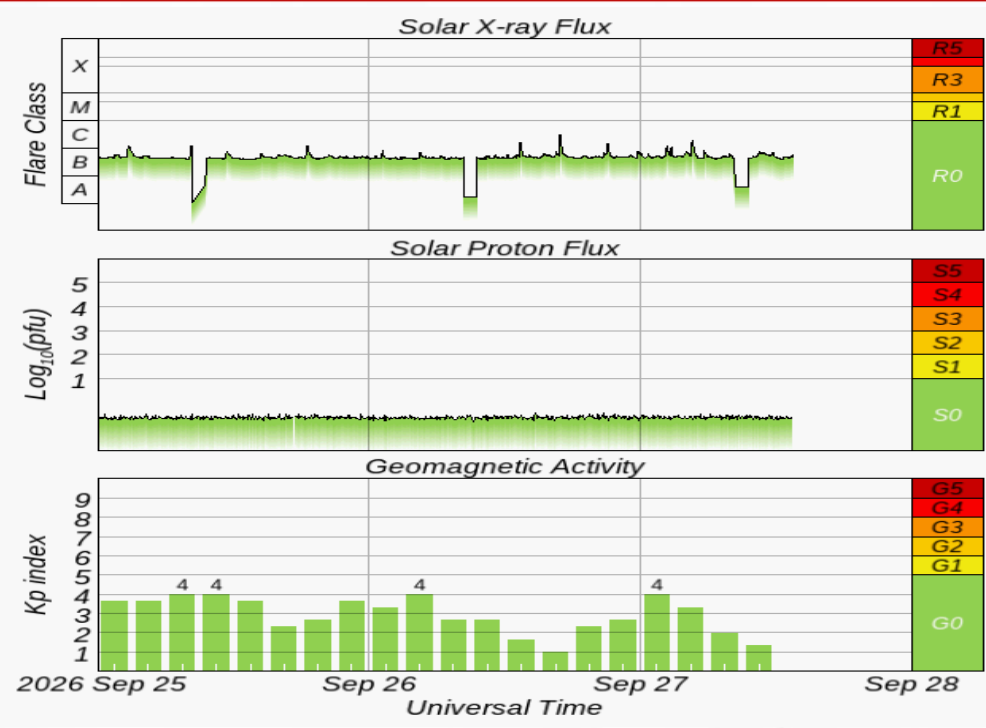
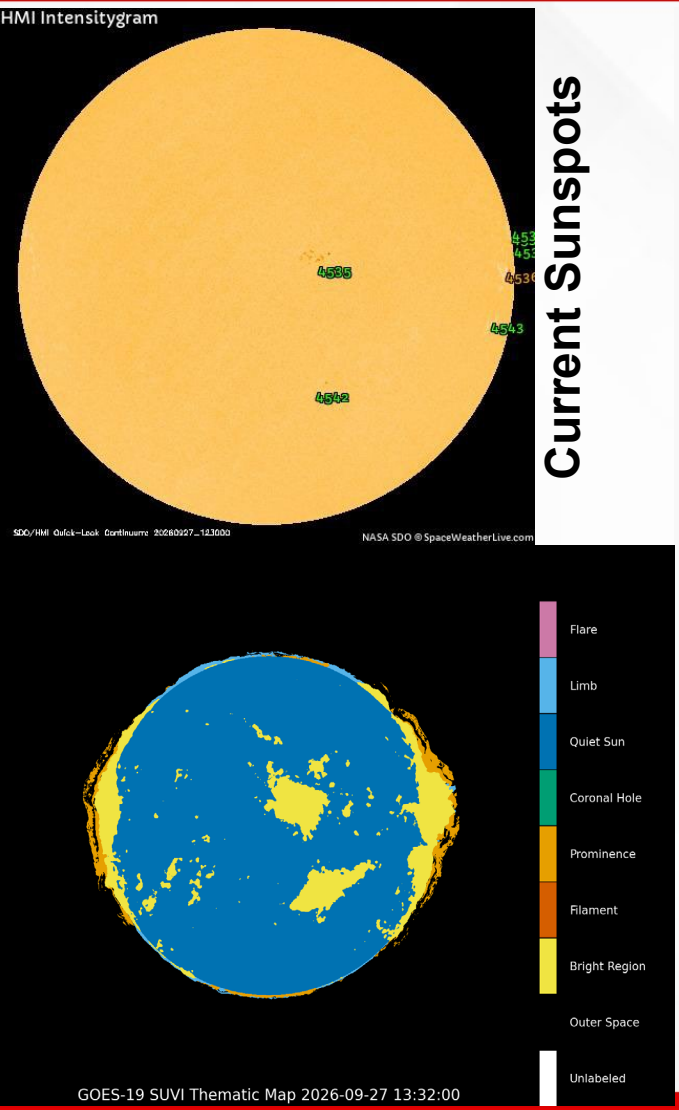
Drought (9/22/26): Some localized improvements occurred across South Florida this week with widespread rainfall along the I-95 corridor. Otherwise, drought conditions remain largely unchanged statewide. All areas of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** were unchanged from the previous week. Small areas of **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** remain across the Santa Fe River Basin in Northeast Florida with other areas around the Tampa Bay metro area, around Lake Okeechobee and in southern portions of the Everglades. Most of the remainder of the interior portion of the Peninsula is in moderate drought (**level 1 of 4**) with abnormally dry conditions present along the East Central Florida Coast from Brevard County southward to Broward County. The Florida Panhandle is largely within the abnormally dry category with localized areas of moderate drought (**level 1 of 4**). With limited rain chances across the northern portion of the state, drought conditions could locally worsen next week.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida on Saturday was **257 (+12)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **2 out of 67** Florida counties (Holmes and Leon) that has 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	C3 Solar Flare
X-class: 1%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
9/27	9/28
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 2 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to continue at low levels through Monday, decreasing to very low levels by mid-week. Background solar wind conditions should be reached by today and persist through Tuesday. Quiet to unsettled geomagnetic conditions today will decrease to mostly quiet conditions by Monday. The overall space weather threat to Florida is 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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Jeremy Whitt

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