



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office**

## **Morning Situation Report**

Tuesday, October 27, 2026



# State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

**Level 1: Full Activation**



# SERT On-Call Personnel

| Position                           | Personnel          | Phone          | Email                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Operations Chief                   | Amy Godsey         | (850) 519-8483 | <a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com</a>                 |
| Watch Officer                      | Woody Harvey       | (850) 591-7939 | <a href="mailto:Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com">Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com</a>         |
| Duty Officer                       | Jeremy Whitt       | (850) 755-8521 | <a href="mailto:Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com</a>             |
| Operations Officer- Day            | Scott Shafer       | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Operations Officer- Swing          | Joel Lalog         | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Operations Officer- Night          | Ian Danley         | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Meteorologist                      | Ian Mutschler      | (850) 688-2119 | <a href="mailto:Ian.Mutschler@em.myflorida.com">Ian.Mutschler@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Plans Chief                        | Claudia Riddle     | (850) 755-2924 | <a href="mailto:Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com">Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Logistics Chief                    | Christina Goetzman | (850) 519-8581 | <a href="mailto:Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com">Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com</a> |
| Human Services Branch Director     | Pam Hughes         | (850) 528-5638 | <a href="mailto:Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com">Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com</a>           |
| Emergency Services Branch Director | Tim Kenyon         | (850) 591-7732 | <a href="mailto:Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com">Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com</a>                 |
| Infrastructure Branch Director     | Paige Lay          | (850) 591-9933 | <a href="mailto:Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com">Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com</a>                   |
| ESF 8: Health & Medical On-Call    | Brandon Gore       | (866) 786-4673 | <a href="mailto:DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov">DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov</a>           |
| ESF 14: Public Information Officer | Stephanie Hartman  | (850) 570-3053 | <a href="mailto:Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com">Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com</a>   |
| Finance Chief                      | Jeremy Smith       | (850) 273-1273 | <a href="mailto:Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com</a>             |



# Response Regional Coordination Team

| Team                      | County Location        | Visits                                          |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Region 1: Jim Roberts     | Bay                    | County EM Visit / Isaias Follow-up              |
| Region 2: Enrique Gaston  | Gadsden                | County EM Meeting                               |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers    | Columbia               | Exercise Prep / LSA Follow-Ups                  |
| Region 4: Tara Kostich    | Clay                   | Partner Meeting                                 |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly  | Marion, Sumter         | County EM Meetings                              |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall    | Hillsborough, Pinellas | World Series EOC Support / Dengue Fever Meeting |
| Region 7: Brian Carey     | Polk                   | County EM Meeting                               |
| Region 8: Keila Puello    | St. Lucie              | RDSTF Meeting Presentation Prep                 |
| Region 9: Brittany Bremer | Glades                 | South Florida Fire Management Council Meeting   |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker  | Monroe                 | Healthcare Coalition Meeting                    |



## Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

| Team                       | County Location | Status / Activities                    |
|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins  | In Region       | Hurricane Isaias Recovery              |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara   | Jefferson       | County Stakeholder Meeting             |
| Region 3: Kevin Blom       | Walton          | Hurricane Isaias Recovery Liason       |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders  | Clay            | Recovery Meeting                       |
| Region 5: Elizabeth Caison | Not Available   | Leave                                  |
| Region 6: Rick Rogers      | Santa Rosa      | Hurricane Isaias Recovery Liason       |
| 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      | Keys Health Ready Coalition Annual HVA |

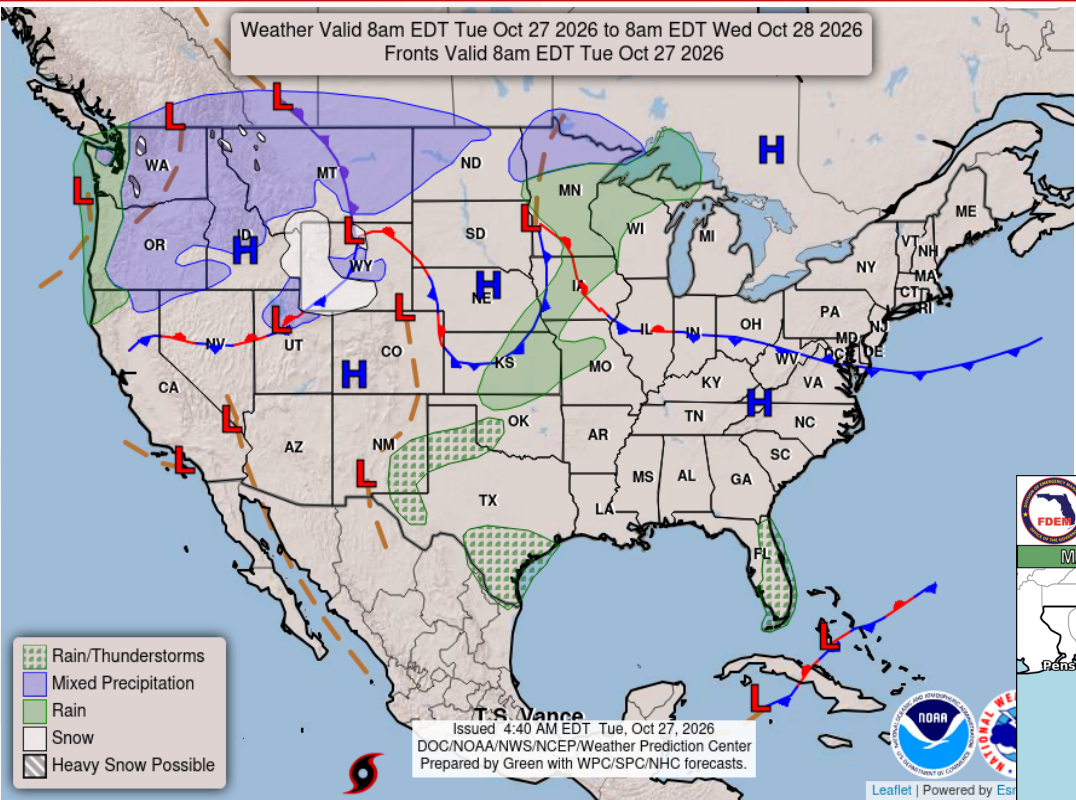
Region 5 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 7, 8, & 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 10

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

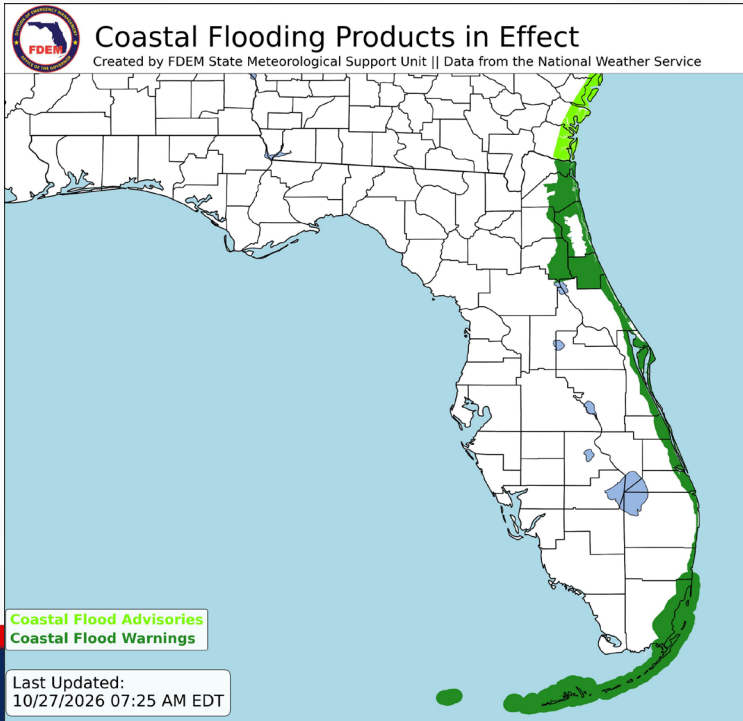
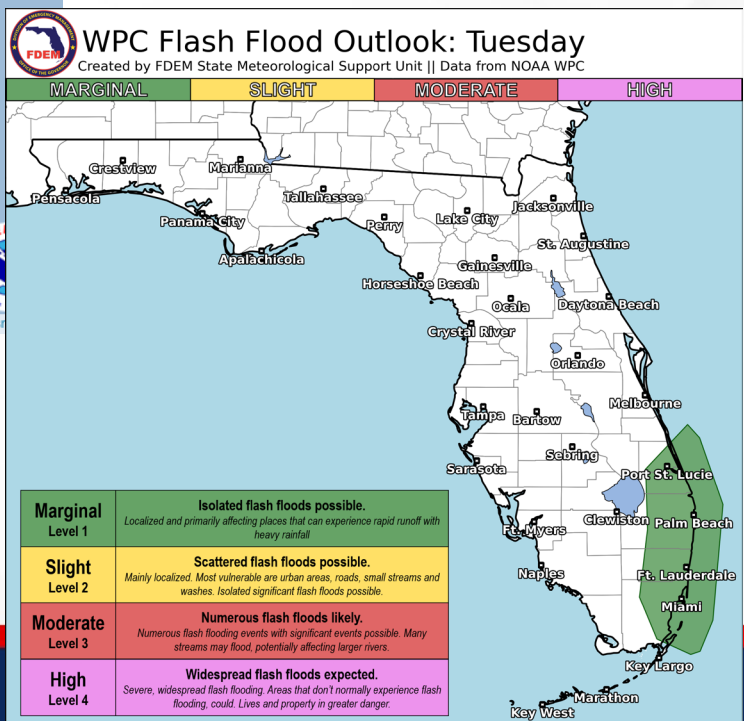


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat                     | R1                                                        | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning                  |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    | L  | L  | L   |
| Tornado                    |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Damaging Wind              |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    | L  |    | L   |
| Hail                       |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Flash Flooding             |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    | L  |    | L   |
| Extreme Heat               |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Fog (Overnight)            |                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Wildfire                   | L                                                         | L  | L  |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Rip Currents               | M                                                         | M  | L  | H  | H  | L  |    | H  | M  | H   |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation  | 12.56ft. (2.50 ft. Below Normal)                          |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index | 205 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |





# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Breezy to gusty conditions continue today as the state of Florida remains anchored between a developing area of low pressure over the Bahamas and a high pressure across the Eastern United States. Winds across the Central and South Florida will frequently gust to **35+mph**, and **25-30mph** across North Florida. Some locations, particularly along immediate coastal locations, may infrequently gust to **40mph+**. **Wind Advisories** are still in effect for East Coast and Metro locations from Miami-Dade northward to Volusia County extending inland to Osceola County today to highlight this risk. Rain chances are confined to Southeast Florida with chances of 70-90% today through this evening, elevated onshore flow will help produce persistent onshore-moving scattered showers and thunderstorms along the Southeast Coast today and tonight. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 out of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked along Coastal South Florida, where **1-2"** are expected with isolated spots potentially seeing **3"+**.

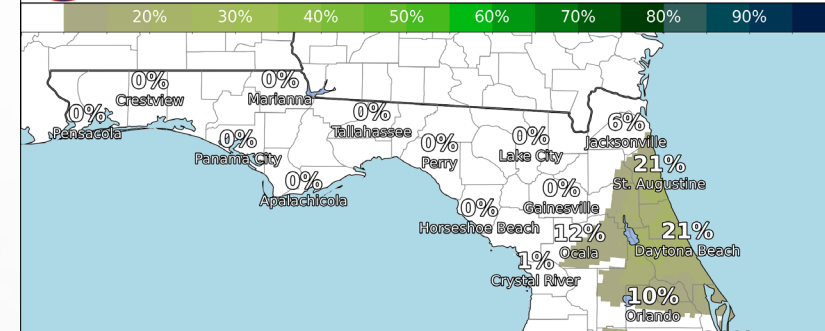
Across the Panhandle, another fair day is in store with highs in the lower 80s to lower 80s and overnight lows in the mid 50s to low 60s. A low-end fire weather threat is held today due to higher winds gusts and recent wildfire activity. Warmer temperatures are expected across Central and South Florida with highs generally in the lower to middle 80s and overnight lows in the upper 60s across Central Florida, and lower to mid-70s across South Florida.

A **Coastal Flood Warning** is effect for the entire Florida East Coast including the St. Johns Tidal Basin for **moderate** to **major** coastal flooding. **Dangerous Marine conditions** will continue today beginning this morning during high tide and remain elevated through Thursday. **High surf advisories** remain in effect for most of the Florida East Coast along with a **High Risk of Life-Threatening Rip Currents**.



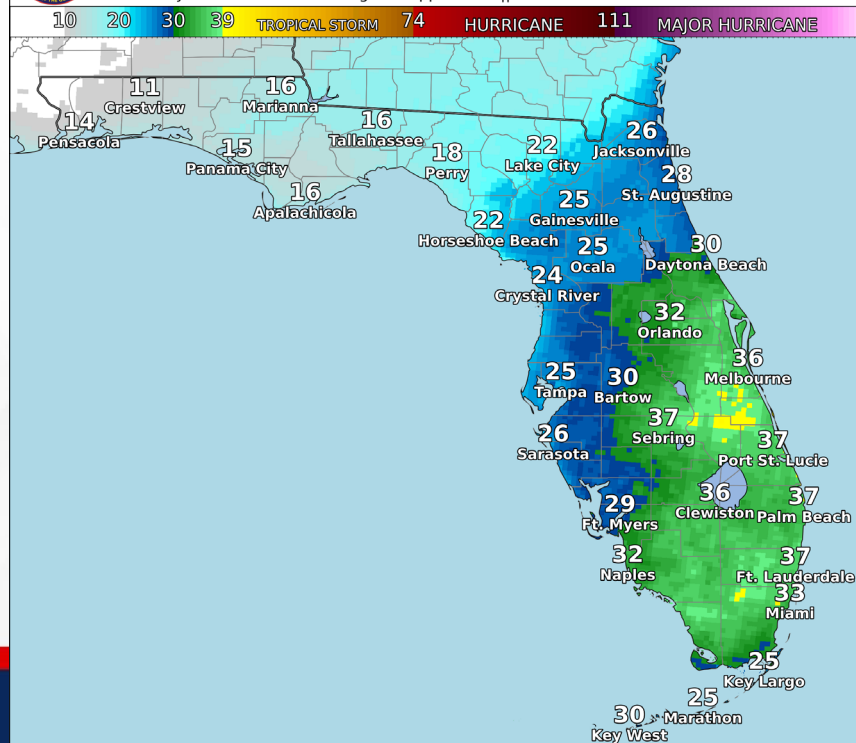
### Chance of Rain: Tuesday

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



### Max Wind Gusts: Tuesday

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

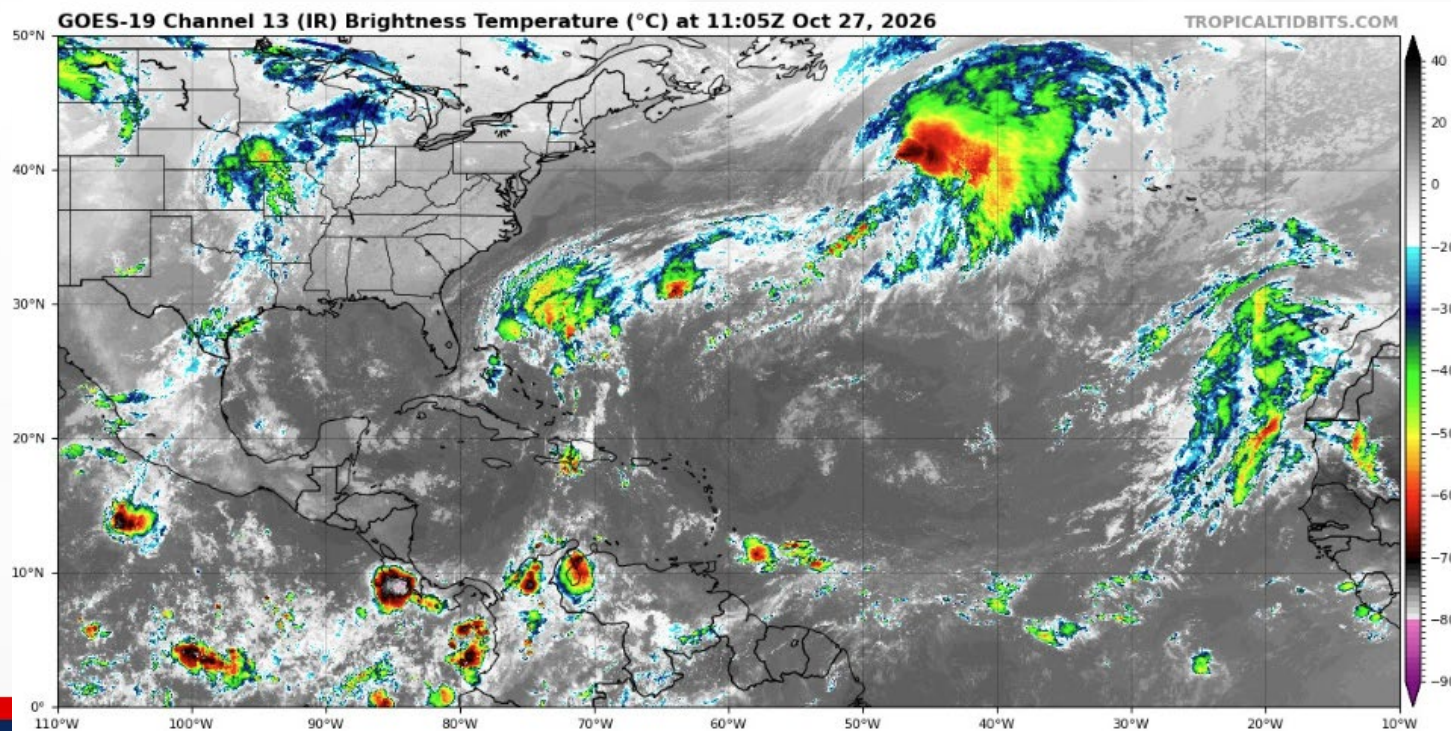




# Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at [www.hurricanes.gov](http://www.hurricanes.gov).

***Tropical Cyclone Development is NOT EXPECTED over the next 7-days***





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** There is a **High Risk for Rip Currents** today across all East Coast Beaches. A **Moderate Risk for Rip Currents** is outlooked the Florida Panhandle and some Southwest beaches. A low risk for rip currents is outlooked for Northwest beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** **Dangerous marine conditions** continue today with easterly-northeasterly winds of **25-30 knots** along the Atlantic Coast. A **Gale Warning** is in effect across all Atlantic Waters, extending south and east to include the FL Keys. Additionally, a **Small Craft Advisory** is in effect for all Gulf Coast Waters from Coastal Southwest FL to the Panhandle. Wave heights will be highest across East Coast FL today, at **10-13'**. Wave heights of **2-4'** are expected for all other Florida beaches as northeasterly winds remain across the state. Offshore marine conditions along East Coast Beaches remain **Life Threatening**.

**Red Tide:** Red tide was observed at background concentrations in Hillsborough and Sarasota Counties and medium concentrations in Gulf County. (10/23).

**Coastal Flooding:** A **Coastal Flood Warning** is in effect for all East Coast Beaches and the Tidal St. Johns River Basin today for **Moderate to Major Coastal Flooding**. Inundation of low-lying areas along coastal locations is expected around the time of high tide.

**Flash Flooding:** Elevated onshore flow will help produce persistent onshore-moving showers and thunderstorms along the East Coast today and tonight. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 out of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked for Coastal Southeast Florida today. Rainfall accumulations of **1-2"** are expected across these areas, with isolated locations potentially seeing **3"+**. For more information, visit the [Weather Prediction Center](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

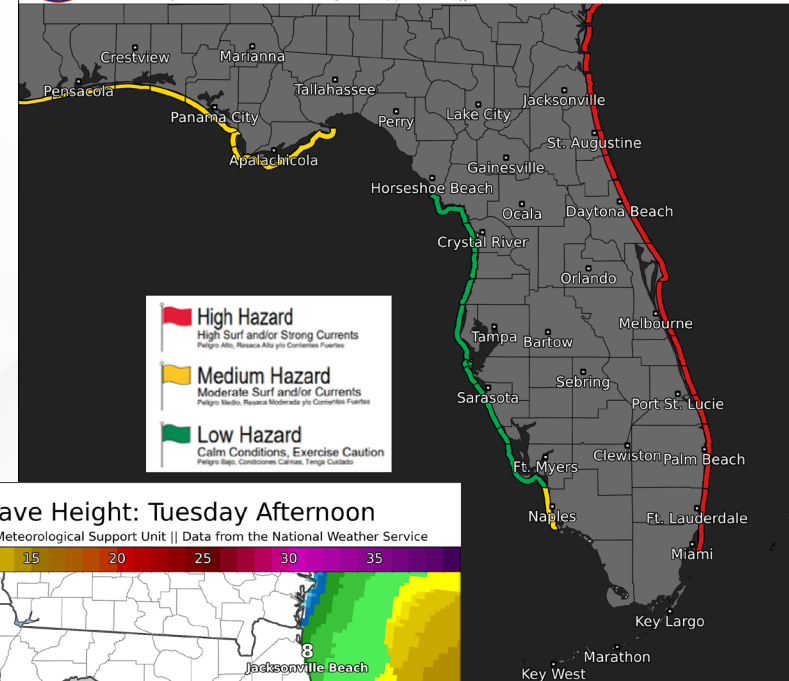
**Riverine Flooding:** The [St Johns River at Astor](#) remains in **moderate flood stage** and is expected to rise further later this week from increasing northeasterly winds this weekend. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 12.56 feet, which is 2.50 feet below normal for this time of year and in the water shortage management band.



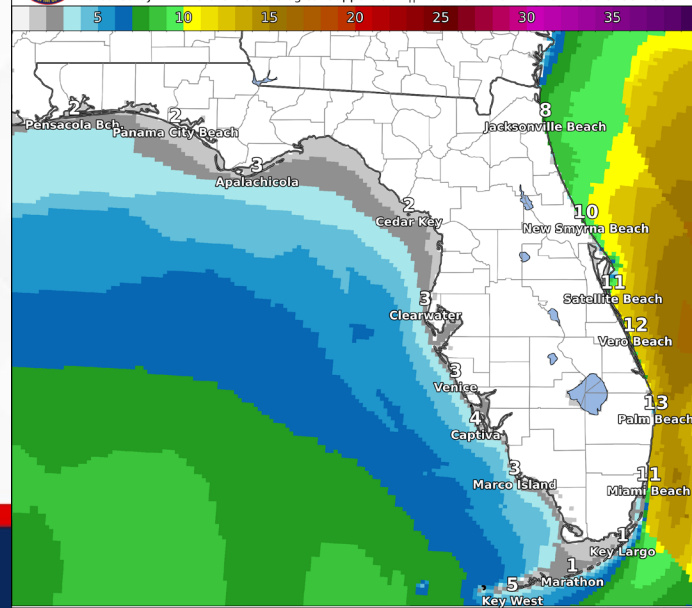
## Rip Current Risk: Tuesday

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



## Maximum Wave Height: Tuesday Afternoon

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



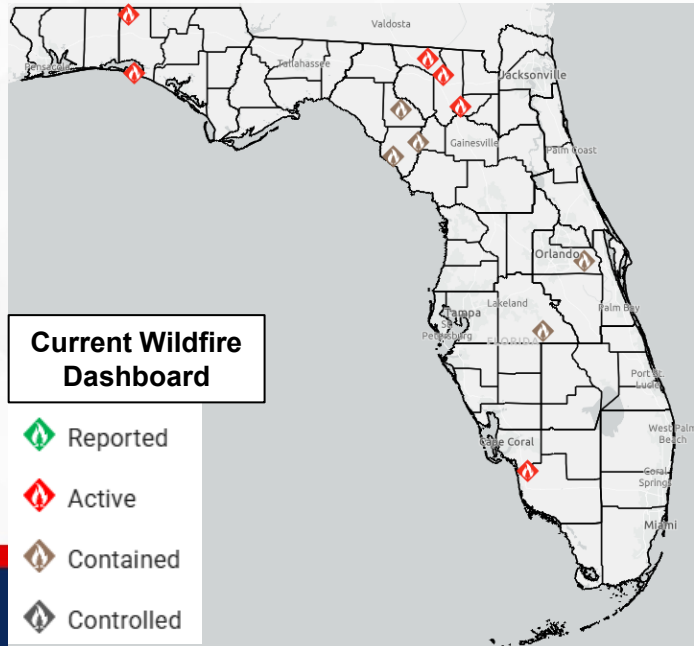
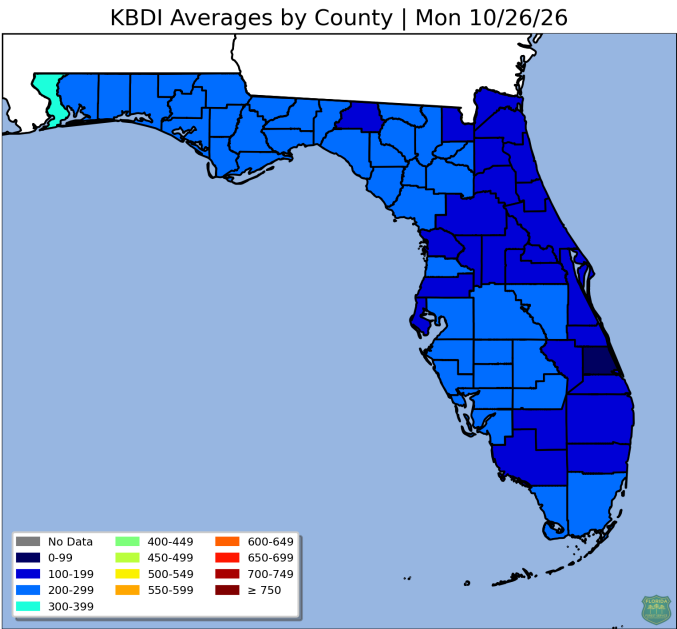
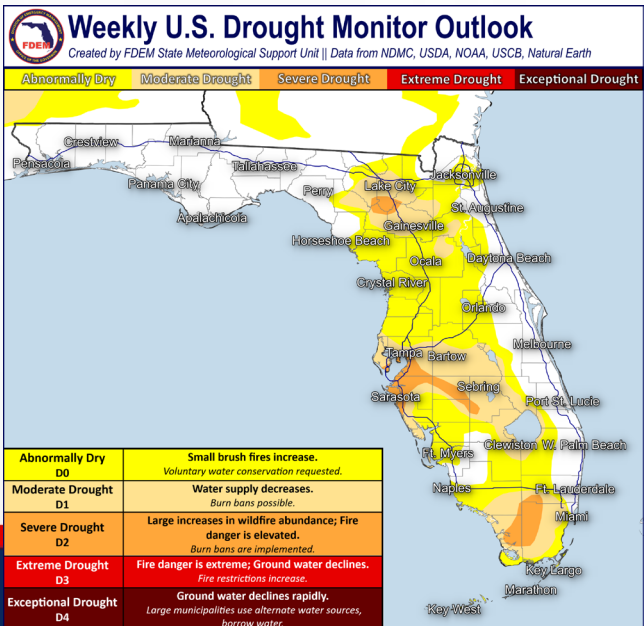


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Fire weather concerns remain marginally elevated today across North Florida courtesy of the ongoing dry spell, increasing winds, lower relative humidity values, and recent wildfire activity. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 11 active wildfire across the state burning approximately 2099 acres.

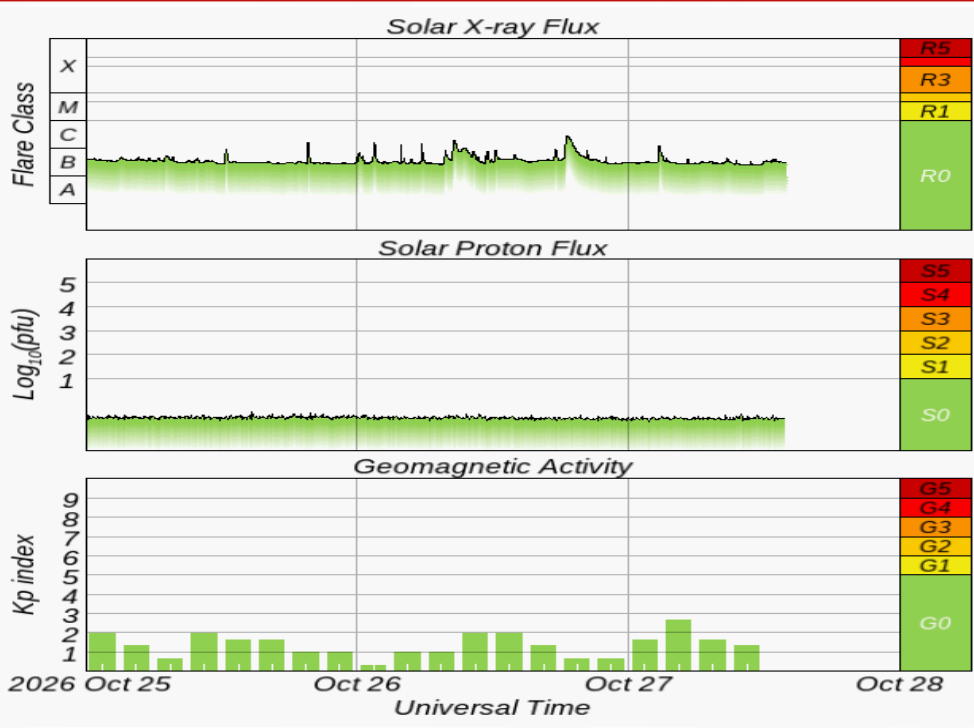
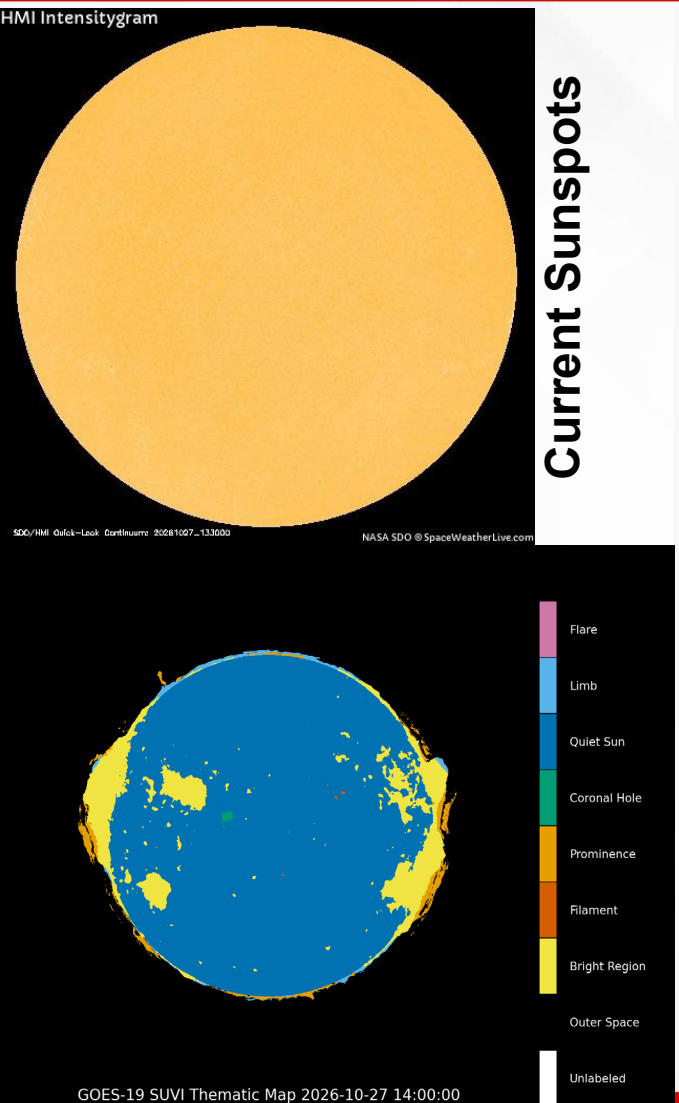
**Drought (10/22/26):** Minimal drought improvements were made this week across much of the state. 1 category improvement in pockets of Hendry and Collier county led to a smaller area of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** in the region. Only a small remaining spot of **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** is in place across the lower Santa Fe Basin, surrounded by an area of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)** across the remainder of the Santa Fe River Basin. Along the Florida West Coast, no category drought improvement was designated through the Tampa metro southward to Fort Myers, resulting in only a small area of **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** from Tampa southward to Sarasota and just south of Sebring. Surrounding this area over the Florida interior along the Kissimmee River into Lake Okeechobee is an area of **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Much of the state remains unchanged this week. Only about 5% of the state remains in **severe drought (level 2 of 4)**. About 42% of the state has no drought designation.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida on Tuesday was **205 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). Most increases occurred across the Florida Panhandle and Southwest Florida. There are **0 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   | C2 Solar Flare     |
| X-class: 1%      | Radiation Storm: None     | No Radio Blackouts |

| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast                          |                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/27                                                 | 10/28                                                 |
| Max Kp= 2 (G0)                                        | Max Kp= 2 (G0)                                        |
| Chance of minor activity = 5%<br>severe activity = 1% | Chance of minor activity = 5%<br>severe activity = 1% |

**Space Weather:** Solar activity is still expected to be at low levels through 28 Oct, with low chances for M-class flares (R1-R2, Minor-Moderate). Solar wind conditions decreased and are expected to be normal through 28 Oct. Mostly quiet to very quiet conditions return today through 29 Oct. 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:            | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                | Operational     |                      |
| SWO Tracker:      | <a href="https://swo.floridadisaster.org">https://swo.floridadisaster.org</a> | 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:          | <a href="https://floridadisaster.org">https://floridadisaster.org</a>         | Operational     |                      |

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Jeremy Whitt  
Digitally signed by Jeremy Whitt  
Date: 2026.10.27 10:12:02 -04'00'