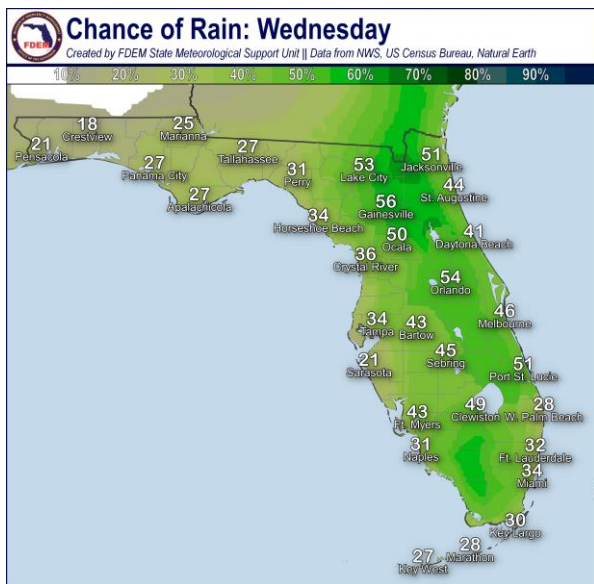


...Typical Summertime Pattern Continues With Showers and Thunderstorms Along Sea Breeze Boundary...Hot and Humid Conditions Each Day, Peaking Wednesday and Thursday...Cold Front Moving In from Northeast Later This Week Bringing Drier Conditions...Possible Complex of Thunderstorms Along Panhandle Late Friday or Saturday; High Uncertainty At This Time...Greatest Coverage of Showers and Thunderstorms Across South Florida Later This Week...Minor to Moderate Riverine Flooding Continues Across Big Bend, Suwannee Valley and West-Central Florida; Long-Term River Flooding Forecast for Santa Fe and Suwannee River Basins...Tropical Storm Ernesto To Stay Well East of Florida But Bring Dangerous Rip Currents and Ocean Swells to Beaches Late This Week and Into the Weekend...



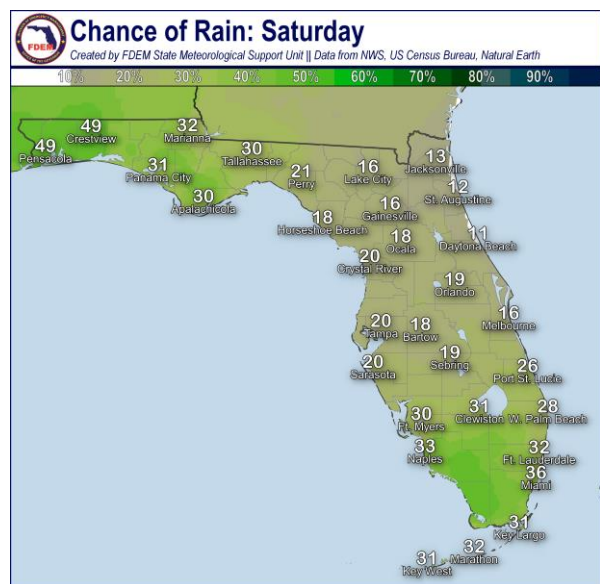
Tuesday – Saturday:

The near persistent stationary frontal boundary will linger along the Panhandle on Tuesday and into Wednesday morning before gradually dissolving. Slightly drier conditions that the typical summertime pattern can be expected as shower and thunderstorm activity will be more isolated to widely scattered throughout the afternoon and evening hours (20-55% chance of rain). These showers and thunderstorms that develop will mostly form along the sea breeze as it moves inland and collides. Any of these thunderstorms could be **locally strong to severe** at times, and be capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds (40-50 mph) and heavy downpours.

By mid-week, high pressure over the U.S. East Coast will develop and allow for a cold front to move southwestward across the state. An uptick in shower and thunderstorm activity can be anticipated ahead and

along the frontal boundary Thursday and Friday across portions of the Peninsula; however, widespread activity is not anticipated at this time. Showers and thunderstorms look to be more scattered in nature, especially with lingering dry air ahead of the frontal boundary arriving.

Heading into the weekend the frontal boundary will then stall across South Florida but allow for drier conditions to filter in behind it as the area of high pressure over the Mid-Atlantic builds. Showers and thunderstorms that are able to develop will likely be along the sea breeze boundaries closer towards the coastlines in the afternoon and evening hours (15-40% chance of rain). There is the potential for a thunderstorm complex moving southward into North Florida late in the afternoon and evening hours of Saturday from the Tennessee Valley; however, there is still some uncertainty regarding this solution. Computer model guidance is hinting towards the possibility, but it will depend on if these thunderstorms are able to hold themselves together and maintain the structure as they move towards the I-10 corridor. If they are able to maintain structure and strength, there is potential for **isolated strong to severe thunderstorm** late in the day on Saturday. Any of these **strong to severe**

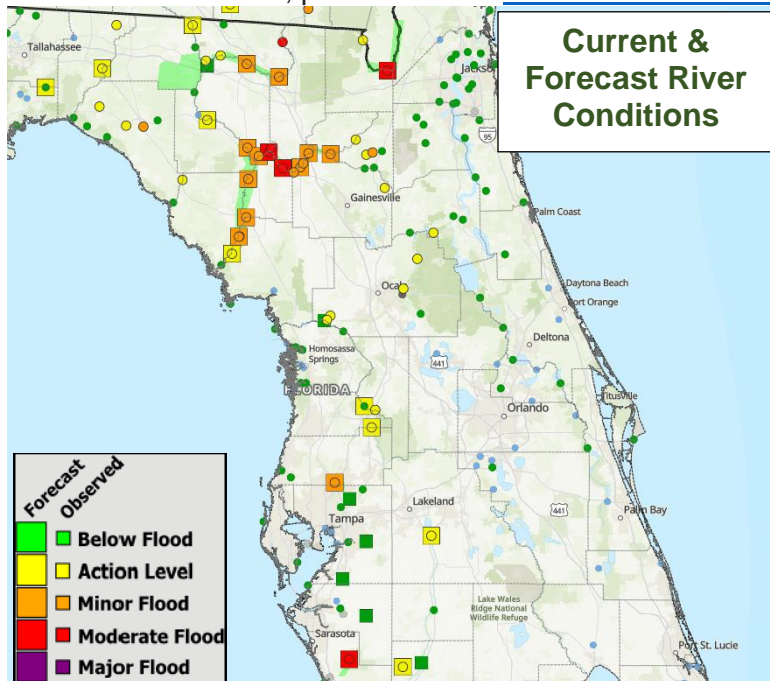


thunderstorms could produce frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (40-60 mph) and heavy downpours. With the uncertainty of these potential thunderstorms, conditions and trends within computer model guidance will continue to be monitored over the next couple of days.

Hot and humid conditions can be expected as daily high temperatures will reach the 90s each afternoon, especially with less widespread shower and thunderstorm activity. Heat index values will reach **triple digit heat index values** statewide through Thursday. Once the frontal boundary pass through Central Florida on Friday and into Saturday and high pressure builds along the U.S. East Coast, heat index values will reach the middle 90s to middle 100s, with the greatest heat index values along the Panhandle and western Peninsula Friday and Saturday. **Heat Advisories** will likely be needed throughout Northeast Florida and the western Peninsula Tuesday through Thursday, then across portions of West-Central and South Florida Friday and Saturday for those **triple digit heat index values upwards of 115-degrees**.

Hydrology & Flooding:

The **Areal Flood Warning** remain in effect along Madison County where standing water from rainfall from Hurricane Debby. Flooding is likely to continue throughout at least the rest of this week due to the saturated grounds and soils slowly intaking flood waters. Any additional heavy rainfall over the area could exacerbate the potential for additional flooding in a short amount of time. There is no organized risk for flash flooding through the next 5 days; however, any heavy downpours over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas could lead to **instances of localized flash flooding or ponding of water**. With grounds and soils being saturated due to rainfall from Hurricane Debby, the onset of flash flooding could be quicker. Rainfall totals of 0.5-1.5" are possible across the state throughout the next 5 days, with locally higher totals upwards of 2-4" possible for portions of South Florida. For the latest Flash Flood Outlooks, please visit the [Weather Prediction Center](#).



Numerous **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect throughout the Suwannee Valley, Northeast and West-Central Florida due to ongoing minor to moderate riverine flooding from Hurricane Debby. **Moderate flooding** is ongoing and forecast to continue for the [St. Mary's River at Macclenny](#), the [Santa Fe River near Fort White](#) and [at Three Rivers Estates](#) and the [Myakka River at Myakka River State Park](#). As moderate flooding is forecast to continue for the Myakka River and flow downstream through the basin over the next couple of days, allowing for downstream flooding along the river. An **Areal Flood Warning** for extended portions of the Myakka River remains in effect. While the Santa Fe River is no longer forecast to reach major flood stage, the long-term flooding concern

still persists due to backwater flooding along the intersecting waterways of the Santa Fe and Suwannee basins. These water levels are forecast to fall below flood stage later this month and into early September pending no additional heavy rainfall. **Minor riverine flooding** is ongoing and forecast to continue for Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens, the [Santa Fe River at Worthington Springs](#), [O'Leno State Park](#), [High Springs](#) and [Hildreth](#). As well, **minor flooding** is ongoing and forecast to continue along the Suwannee River including, [White Springs](#), [Suwannee Springs](#),



[Branford](#), [Rock Bluff](#), [Wilcox](#) and [Manatee Springs](#). While water levels continue to crest and slowly decline, extended **minor to moderate riverine flooding** is forecast to continue through the end of the month at least. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.94 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.01 feet above normal.

Tropical Outlook:

Tropical Storm Ernesto: As of 2:00 PM EDT, Tropical Storm Ernesto was located about 175 miles east-southeast of San Juan, Puerto Rico and moving west-northwestward at 18 mph. This general motion is expected to continue through tonight. A motion toward the northwest and then north at a slower forward speed is expected on Wednesday and Thursday. On the forecast track, the center of Ernesto should pass near or over the Virgin Islands this evening, then pass just to the northeast and north of Puerto Rico tonight and on Wednesday. Ernesto should then move over the western Atlantic later in the week. Data from Air Force Hurricane Hunter aircraft has indicated that maximum sustained winds have increased to near 60 mph with higher gusts. Additional strengthening is forecast, and Ernesto is expected to become a hurricane by early Wednesday. *There is no direct threat to Florida but long-period ocean swells and dangerous rip currents will develop along the Florida East Coast later this week and into the weekend.*

For more details, please visit the [National Hurricane Center](#).

Drought & Fire Weather:

Nearly all drought conditions have been removed following widespread and heavy rainfall from Hurricane Debby at the beginning of the month. Rainfall totals of 10-20" were observed throughout areas across Northeast and West-Central Florida as Debby moved northward along the eastern Gulf of Mexico and into the Big Bend region last Sunday and Monday. The most recent [Drought Monitor](#) update (8/9) shows a small area of abnormally dry (emerging drought) to **moderate drought conditions** along southern Brevard County where rainfall struggles to improve conditions across the area. Warm and mostly dry conditions along the far western Panhandle have developed over the last several days, which could lead to isolated areas experiencing abnormally dry conditions on the latest update to be released Thursday (8/15).

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **149 (-2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **no** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Portions of North Florida could see relative humidity values approaching **near critical thresholds** during the afternoons courtesy of drier conditions develop. The recent heavy rainfall and saturated grounds should help to limit the wildfire threat across the region, as well as potentially isolated showers and thunderstorms developing at times. Across the rest of the state, relative humidity values and the typical summertime thunderstorm pattern will create a low wildfire threat each day. *Thunderstorms will be capable of producing frequent lightning and erratic winds. Breezy wind gusts of 15-25 mph* could develop later this week as the frontal boundary pushes southward, especially along portions of the eastern Peninsula. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 11 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 827 acres (as of 12:56 PM EDT).

Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:



A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected to persist along several Panhandle and North Florida beaches throughout the week. While Tropical Storm Ernesto will stay several miles away from the Florida East Coast, long-period ocean swells and onshore winds will develop later this week. A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected to develop along the Florida East Coast beginning Thursday and continue through the weekend. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.



Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected along beaches across the state Tuesday through Thursday. Panhandle and West Coast beaches will continue to see wave heights of 1-2' throughout the rest of the week and into the weekend. **Long-period and dangerous ocean swells** from distant Tropical Storm Ernesto will begin to develop along the southwestern Atlantic waters and move towards the Florida East Coast late Thursday night and into the early Friday morning hours. These wave heights will continue to increase Friday and through the weekend, with **large breaking waves upwards of 5-7'** along the coastline and **waves upwards of 7-9' offshore** in the surf zone through Space Coast beaches. Southeast Florida beaches will likely see **wave heights** of 2-5'.

Coastal flooding is not expected over the next 5 days; however, conditions will continue to be monitored along vulnerable beaches of the Florida East Coast later this week and into the weekend due to elevated surf from distant Tropical Storm Ernesto moving northwestward along the western Atlantic waters. Elevated surf, especially near and during times of high tide, could lead to **localized beach and coastal erosion** for already vulnerable beaches.

Red Tide has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week (as of 8/9). There have been no reports of fish kills or respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide.

Blue-Green Algae was observed by samples at eight of the site visits out of the total 32 samples collected from 8/2 to 8/8. The most usable satellite imagery from 8/6 to 8/8 shows low to **moderate bloom potential** across visible portions of Lake Okeechobee and Lake George downstream to Hastings and in Doctors Lake. No bloom potential was observed along visible portions of the Caloosahatchee or St. Lucie Estuary's.

[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:

[Pensacola](#) • [Panama City](#) • [Tallahassee](#) • [Gainesville](#) • [Jacksonville](#) • [Daytona Beach](#)

[Orlando](#) • [Tampa](#) • [Fort Myers](#) • [West Palm Beach](#) • [Miami](#) • [Key West](#)

[Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service](#)

For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click [here](#).

Have a wonderful rest of the week!

Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist

Florida Division of Emergency Management

www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather

