



Drought Information Statement for South Florida

01 16 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

Contact Information: sr-mfl.webmaster@noaa.gov

- Severe Drought has returned to a portion of South Florida.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/mfl/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

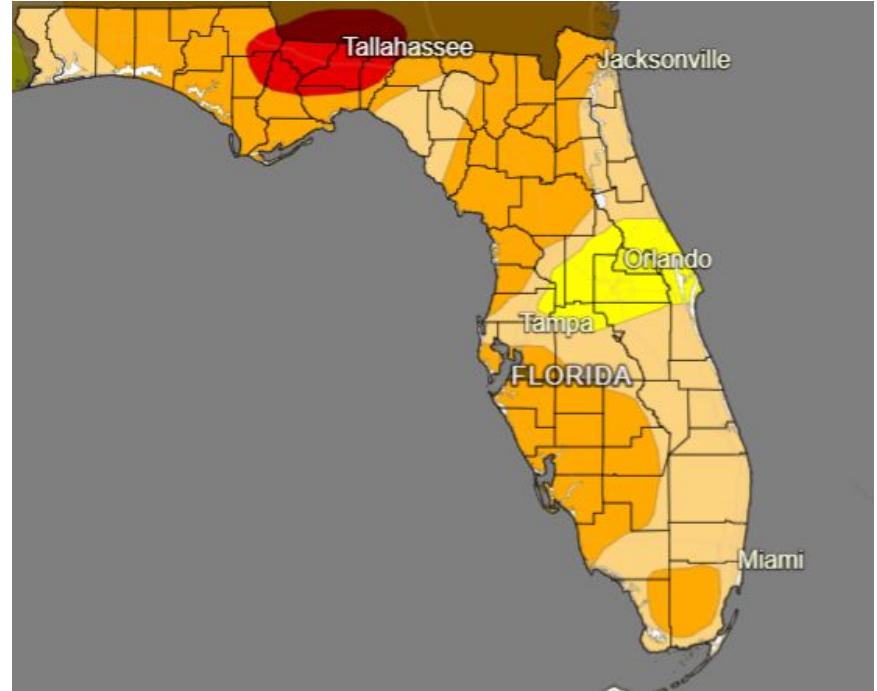




U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for South Florida

- Below-average rainfall across South Florida over the last several weeks has resulted in a worsening of drought conditions across the region. Widespread moderate conditions have developed across the majority of our area with the introduction of severe drought near Lake Okeechobee and Southern Everglades.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Portions of Southwestern Florida & The Everglades
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Rest of South Florida.



U.S. Drought Monitor valid 10AM EDT January 15th, 2026.





Precipitation

- Rainfall observed with the departure and percent of normal since November 1st, 2025

The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2025 to January 15th, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Palm Beach Intl	1.42	-7.31	16%
Naples Municipal	1.79	-1.53	53%
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	5.60	-2.06	73%
Miami Intl	3.52	-3.28	51%
Secondary Observation Sites			
Moore Haven (Glades)	1.00	-3.19	24%
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	3.43	-2.37	59%
HomeStead (Miami-Dade)	2.32	-2.70	46%
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	5.69	-2.07	73%
Palm Beach Gardens (Palm Beach)	1.75	-7.44	19%
North Miami Beach (Miami-Dade)	3.52	-4.68	43%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	0.76	-3.86	16%

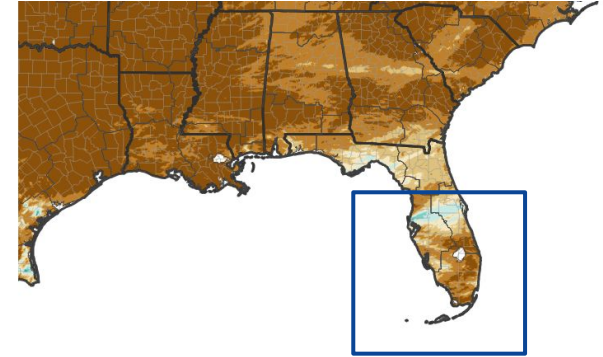
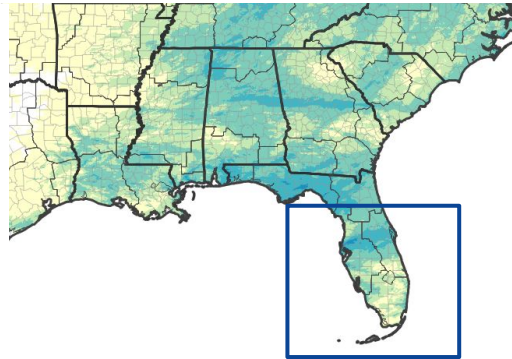


Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount for [area]
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for [area]
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending January 15th, 2025





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- **Lake Okeechobee level currently at 13.18 feet which is -1.53 feet below normal of 14.71 feet.**
- **Fisheating Creek is at 0.62 ft which is -1.83 feet below the normal level of 2.45 ft for this time of year.**
- The underground level water conservation area 1 in Interior Palm Beach County is at 16.58 feet and it should be at 17.01 feet which is **-0.43 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The Underground level water conservation area 2 in Interior Broward County is at 13.08 feet and its normal level is 11.26 feet which is **+1.82 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level water conservation area 3 in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 9.02 feet and its normal level is at 10.41 feet which is **-1.39 feet** below normal for this time of year.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI index is 600 to 650 over most of South Florida, except for Palm Beach County where it is in the 550 to 600 range and Broward County where it is in the 500 to 550 range.
- **This puts most of South Florida in a High risk of potential wildfire activity, except moderate for Palm Beach and Broward Counties.**
- **There is also a Burn Ban in effect for the counties of Glades and Hendry.**

Other Impacts

- N/A





Soil Moisture

- Soil moisture over South Florida is running below normal.
- Most of South Florida is running at 1 to 5 percentile, except for Glades and Hendry Counties where it is less than 1 percentile.

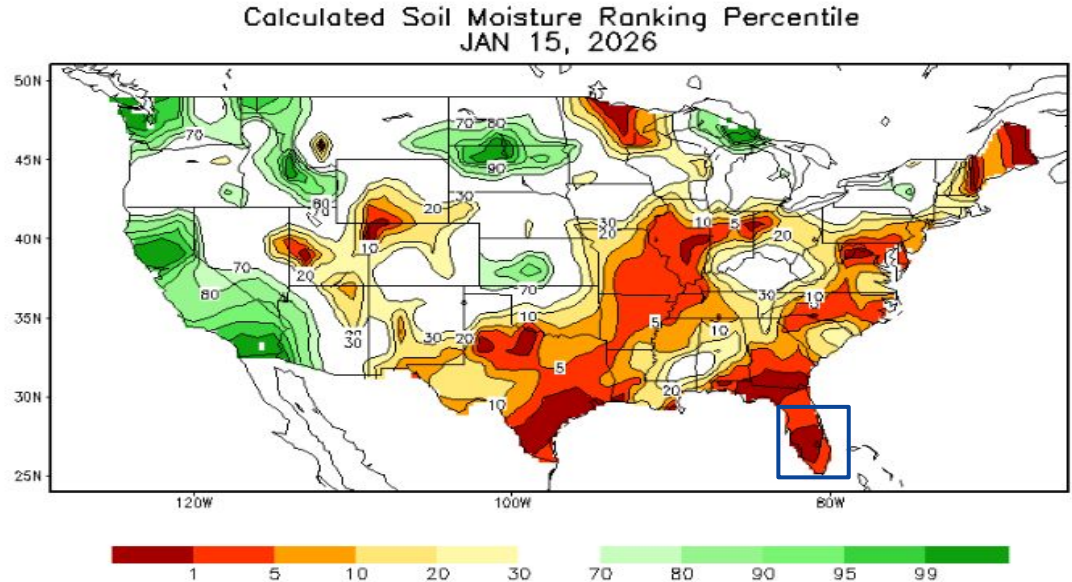


Image Captions:
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)
valid January 15th, 2026





Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Currently Glades and Hendry Counties are in a burn ban.
- South Florida has an above normal chance of wildfires for the month of February.

Latest FL Burn Ban map available [here](#).

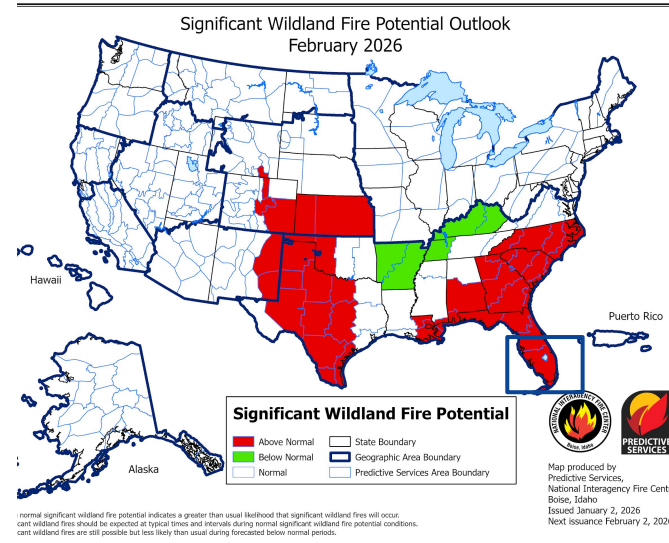
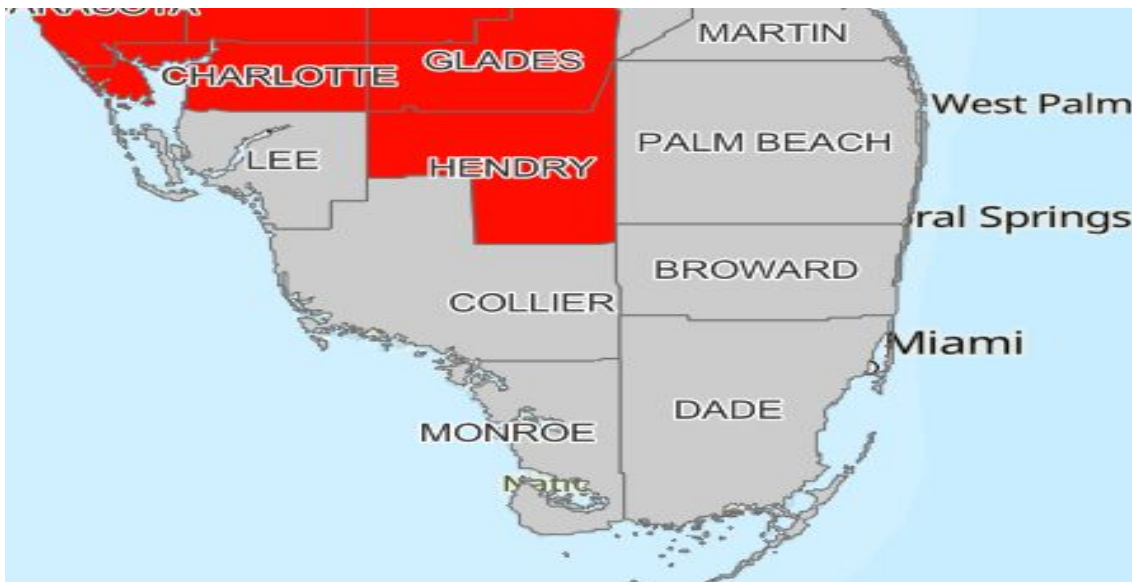


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for December 2025



Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Climate Prediction Center is forecasting above normal temperatures for Feb 2026 - Apr 2026.
- Climate Prediction Center is forecasting below normal rainfall for Feb 2026 - Apr 2026.

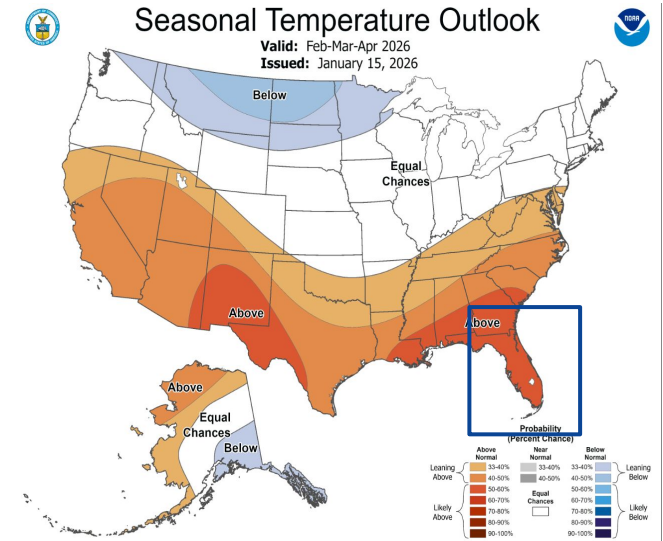
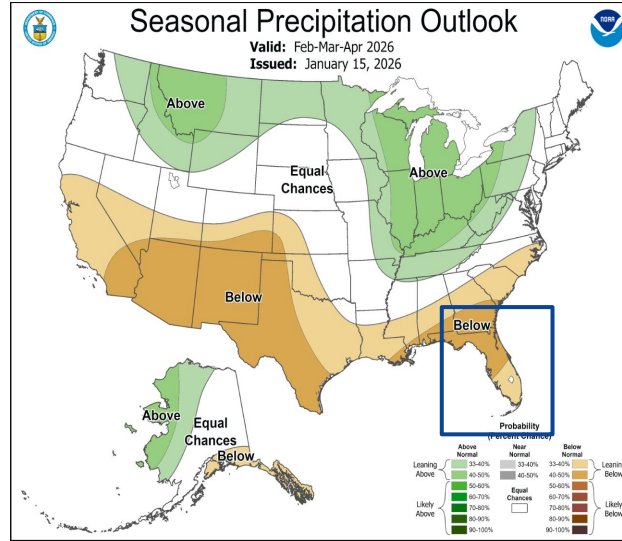


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid Feb 2026 - Apr 2026

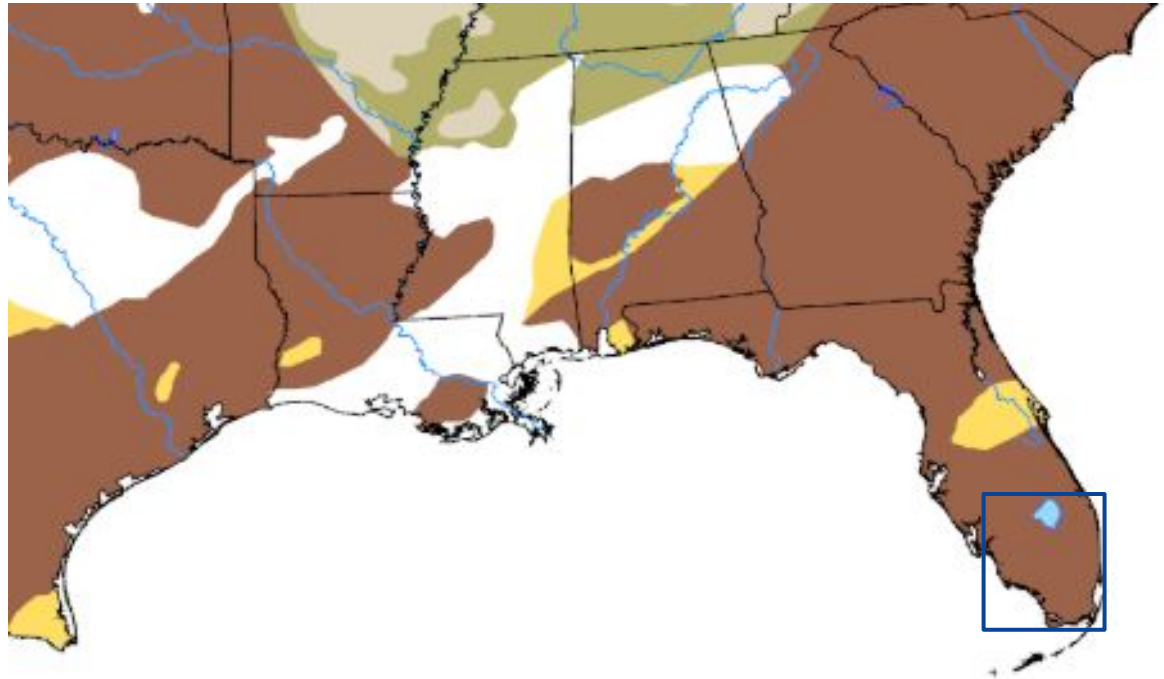




Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The drought over South Florida should continue through the spring of 2026.



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released 01 15, 2026 valid through April 30, 2026.

