



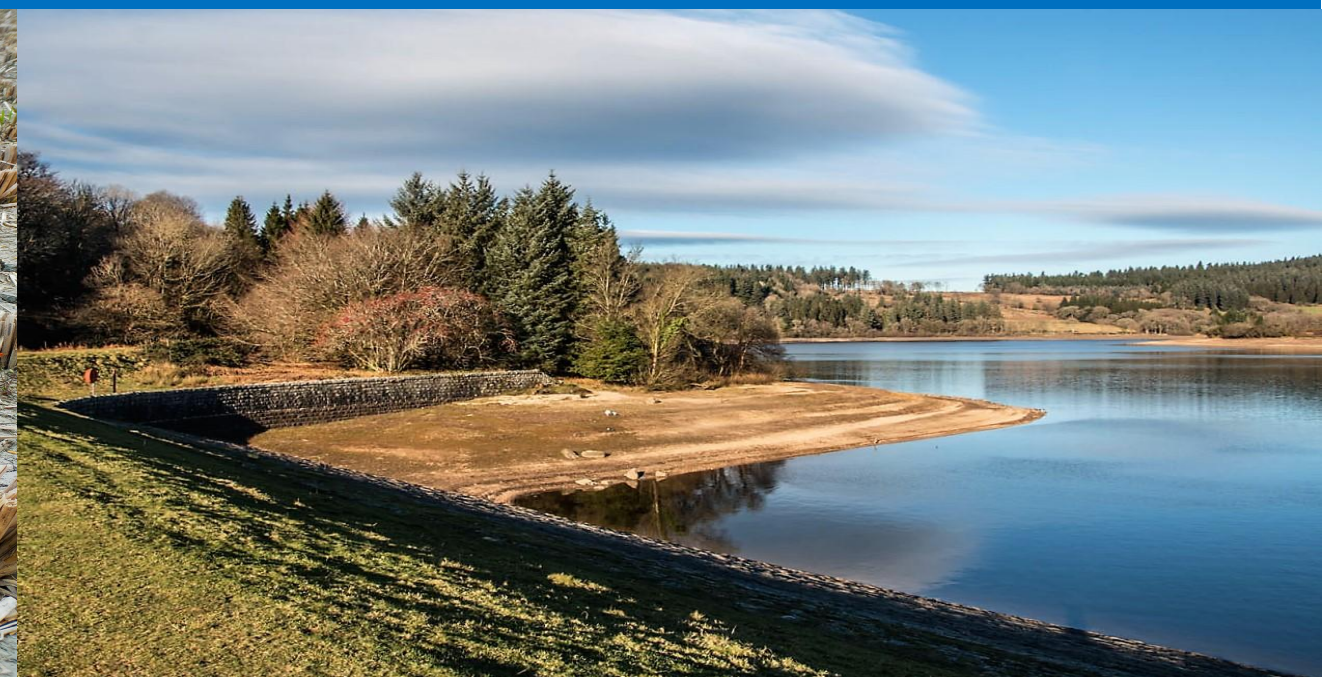
Drought Information Statement for South Florida

10 01 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

Contact Information: nws.miami@noaa.gov

- Gradual Improvement In Drought Across South Florida
- Please see all available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Visit our local interactive drought page at <https://nws-miami-drought-page-noaa.hub.arcgis.com/>





Drought Update - 10/01/2026

October 1, 2026
10:45 AM

Key Messages

→ Recent Rainfall Across South Florida

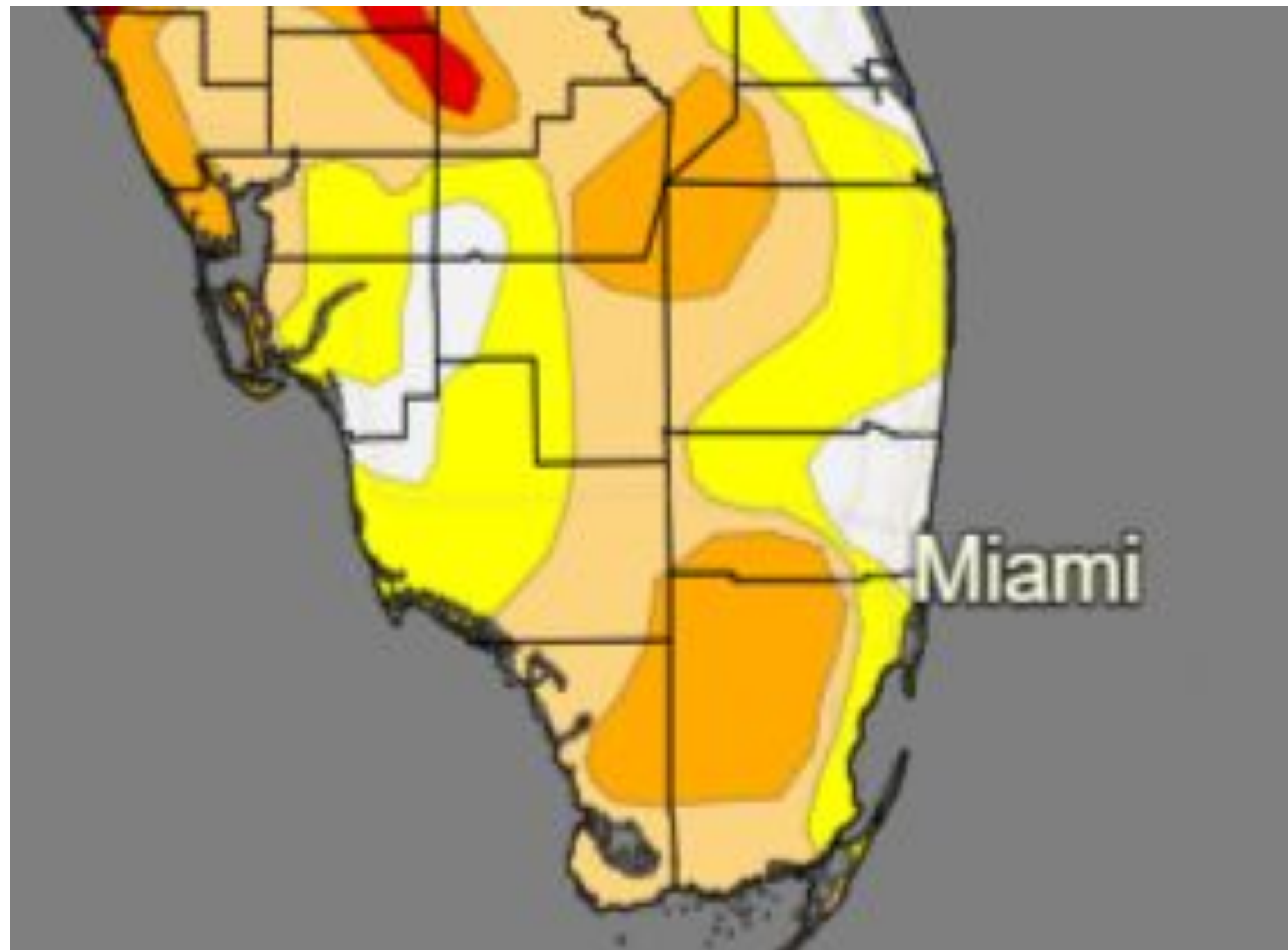
Scattered to numerous shower and storms activity over western areas of South Florida along with the metro areas of Palm Beach and Broward Counties have brought beneficial rainfall. This has help in reducing the drought over this area. Rest of South Florida saw only isolated to scattered showers and storms which kept the drought status steady.

→ Update On Drought Intensity & Extent Across South Florida

D0 (Abnormally Dry): Metro areas of Palm Beach County, metro Miami-Dade County, and western/central Collier County, as well as central Glades and Hendry Counties.

D1 (Moderate Drought): Western Palm Beach, western metro areas of Miami-Dade and eastern Collier Counties, and portions of the Interior areas of South Florida.

D2 (Severe Drought): Most of the Everglades of Miami-Dade County into Mainland Monroe County along with the areas around Lake Okeechobee..



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce



@NWSMiami

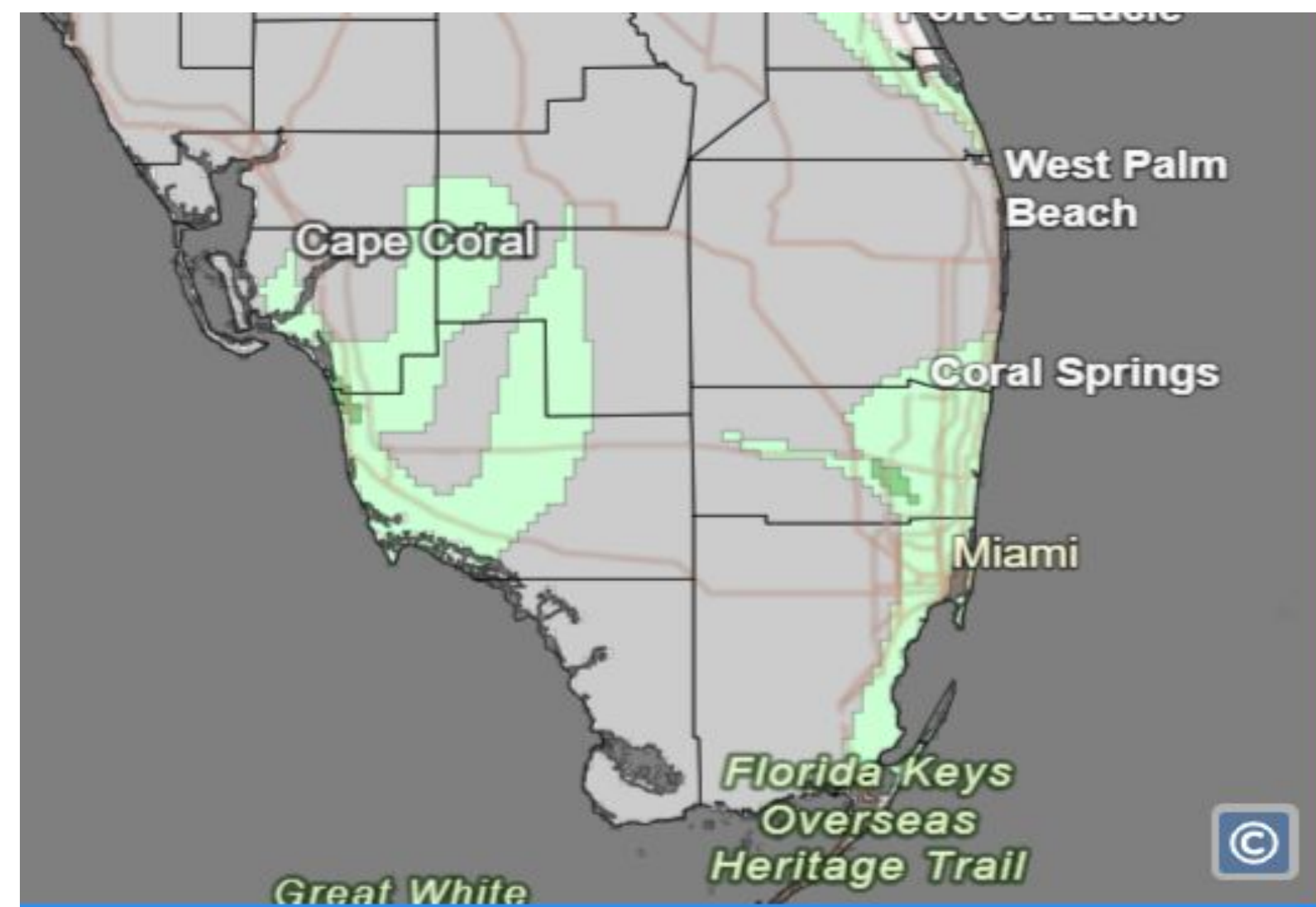
National Weather Service
Miami, Florida



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) and [1-week change map](#) for South Florida

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
 - Drought has improved slightly (+1) across metro areas of Miami-Dade, Broward, and Collier Counties.
- Coverage and placement of showers and thunderstorms over roughly this month (*conclusion of wet season is officially October 15th*) will dictate drought improvement or degradation across portions of South Florida.



Legend

Drought Change Since Last Week





Rainfall Totals, Percent of Normal and Departures (Since 05/01/2026)

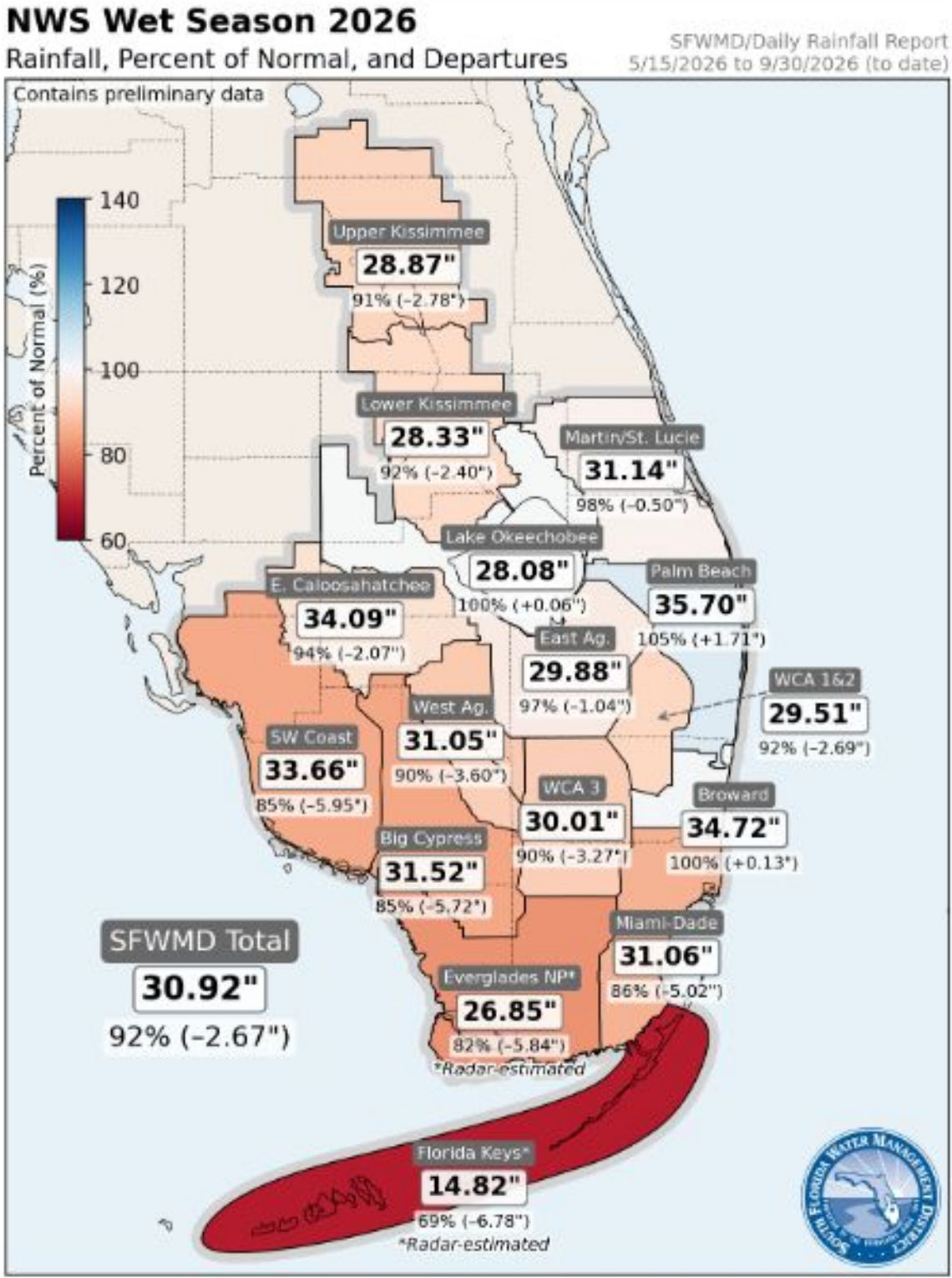
Wet Season 2026

- Rainfall observed with the departure and percent of normal since May 1st, 2026

The following table gives the rainfall from May 1st, 2026 to September 23rd, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Donald J. Trump International Intl.	32.17	-3.49	90%
Naples Municipal	28.38	-7.05	80% (7th driest wet season so far)
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	37.92	+1.49	104%
Miami Intl	26.64	-17.35	61% (17th driest wet season so far)
Secondary Observation Sites			
Moore Haven (Glades)	25.34	-8.21	76% (13th driest wst season so far)
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	40.65	+0.47	101%
Homestead (Miami-Dade)	36.60	-4.70	89% (8th driest wet season so far)
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	42.54	-4.76	90%
Miami Beach	34.95	+0.07	100%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	28.38	-9.13	76% (10th driest wet season so far)

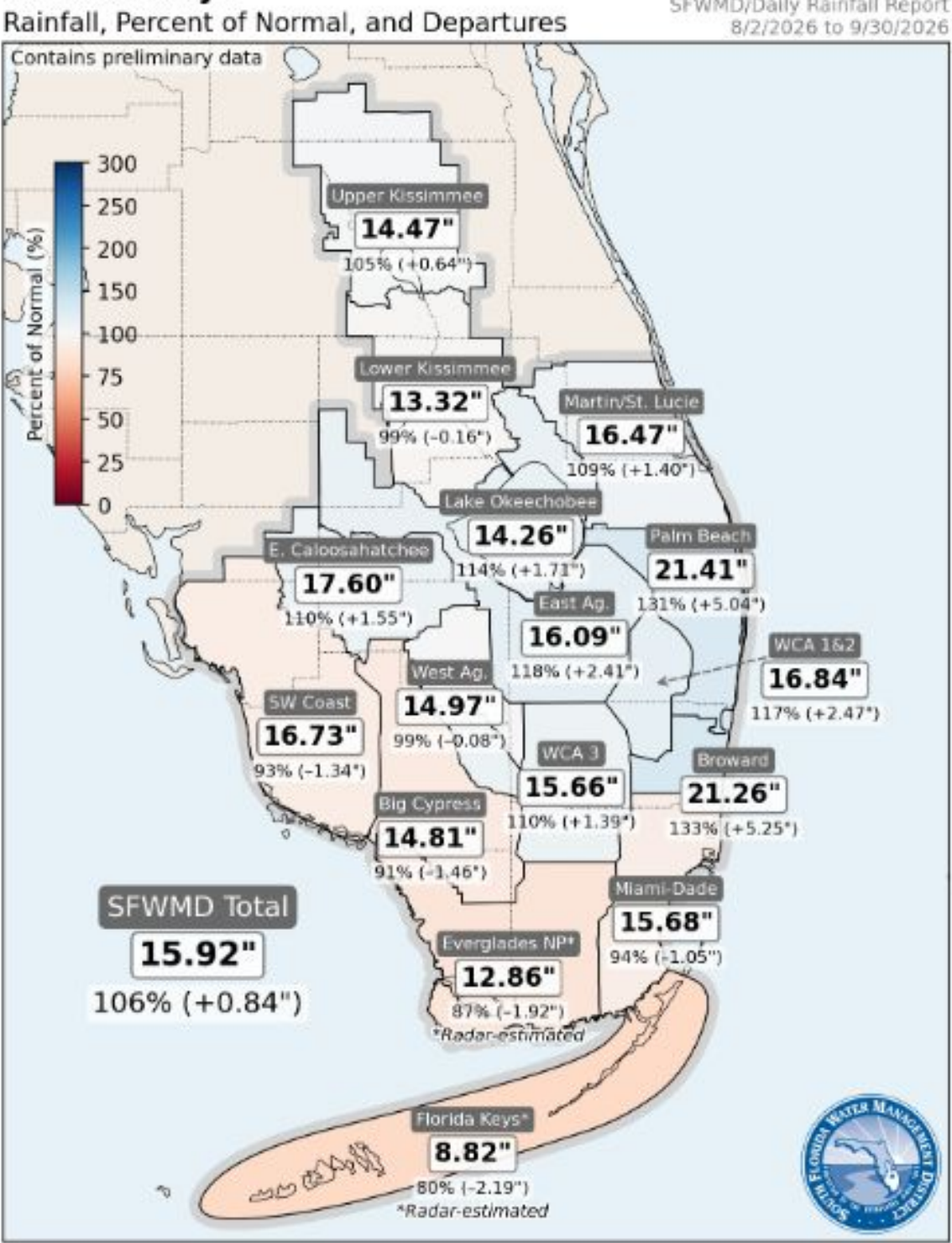
Image Captions:
Data Courtesy
South Florida
Water
Management
from May 15th
through
September
30th, 2026





Rainfall Totals, Percent of Normal and Departures (60 & 90 Days)

Past 60 Days



Past 90 Days

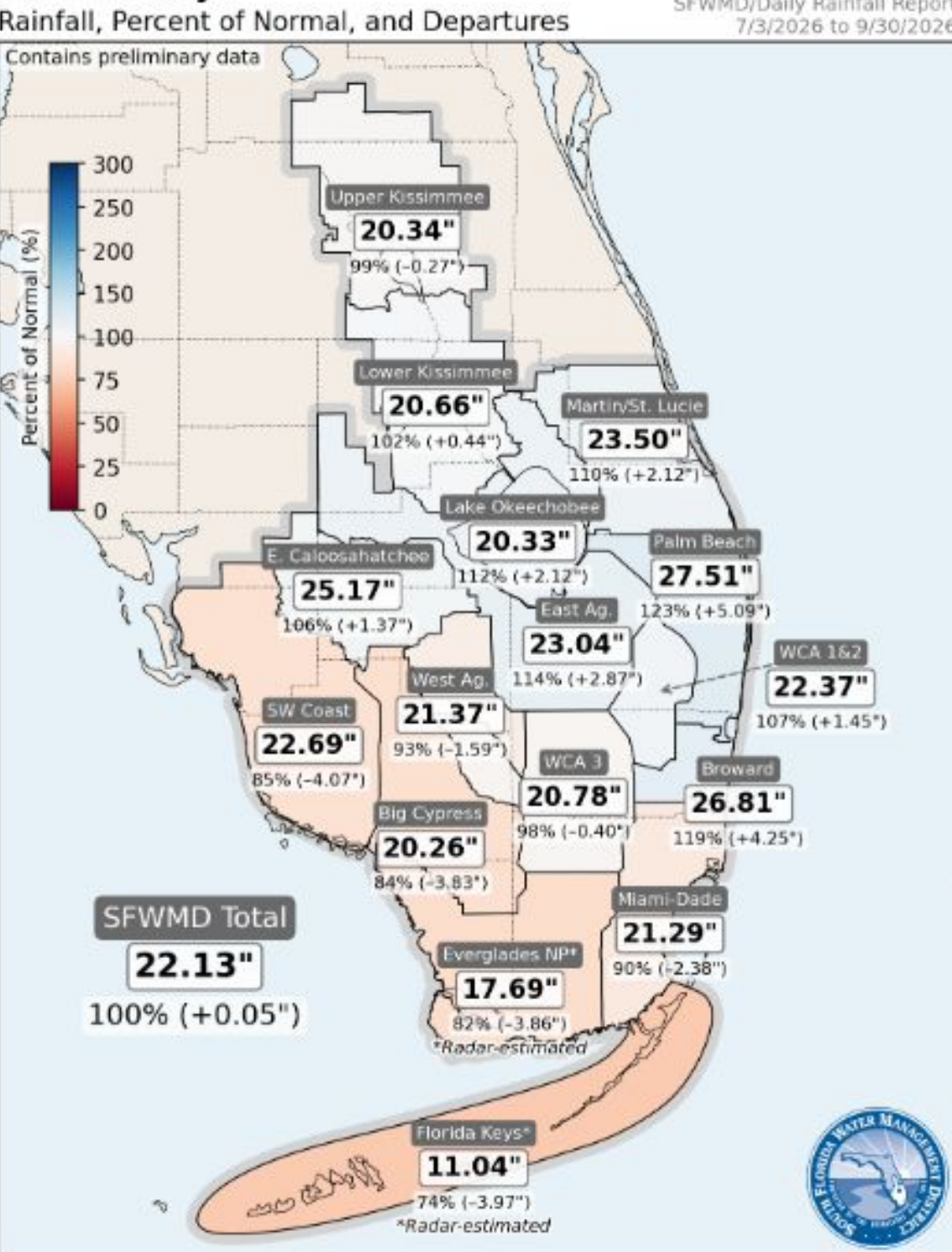


Image Captions:
Data Courtesy South
Florida Water
Management

- Past 60 Days (Since 8/02/2026)
- Past 90 Days (Since 7/03/2026)





180 Day Precipitation & Percent of Normal (Since 1/01/2026)

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

The following table gives the rainfall from November 1, 2025 to September 30th, 2026:

Airports:	Observed Rainfall	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Donald J. Trump International Intl.	48.69	-7.16	87%
Naples Municipal	35.74	-9.88	78%
Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood Intl	53.98	+0.40	101%
Miami Intl	38.55	-21.18	65%
Secondary Observation Sites			
Moore Haven (Glades)	33.00	-12.87	72%
Opa Locka (Miami-Dade)	49.85	-5.31	90%
Homestead (Miami-Dade)	47.45	-6.84	87%
Hialeah (Miami-Dade)	56.57	-8.37	87%
Devils Garden (Hendry)	35.31	-15.06	70%

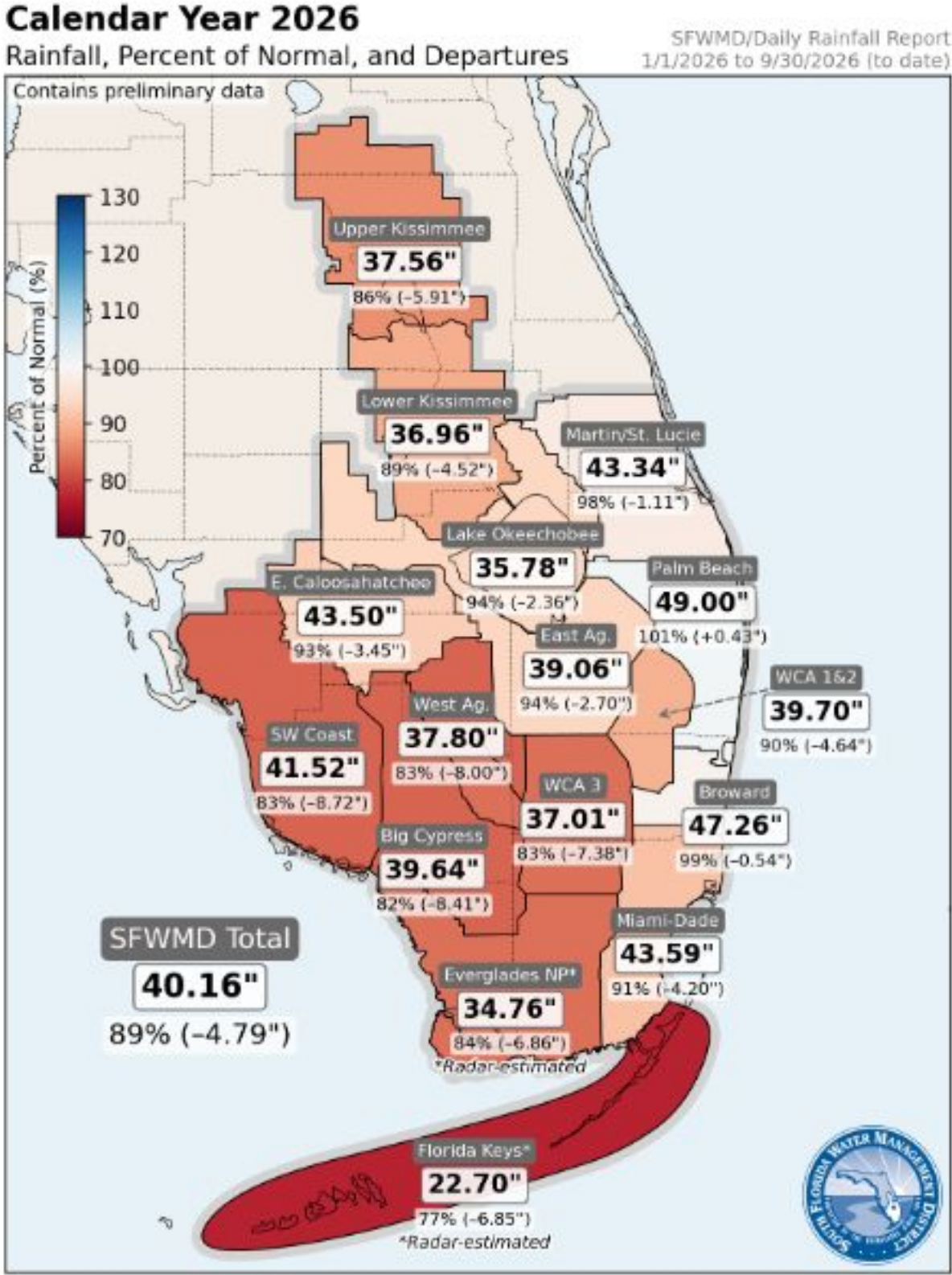
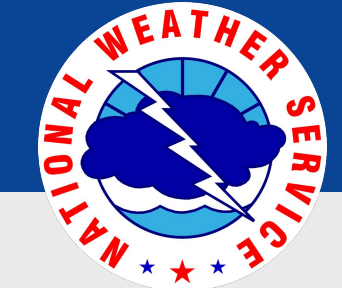


Image Captions:
Data Courtesy South Florida Water
Management
Data since beginning of January 1st,
2026



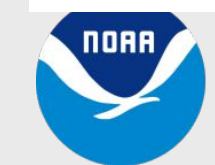


Hydrologic Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- (10/01/26) Lake Okeechobee water level is currently at 11.88 feet which is **-2.99 feet** below the normal value of 14.87 feet.
- The underground level for **Water Conservation Area 1** in Interior Palm Beach County is at 17.51 feet. Compared to the normal value of 17.50 feet, this is **+0.01 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level for **Water Conservation Area 2** in Interior Broward County is at 14.07 feet. Compared to the normal value of 13.00 feet, this is **1.07 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level for **Water Conservation Area 3** in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 9.41 feet. Compared to the normal value of 10.29 feet, this is **-0.88 feet** below normal for this time of year.





Hydrologic Impacts on Lake Okeechobee

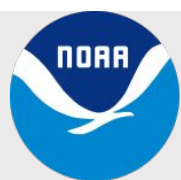
Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Locks that are closed due to low Lake Okeechobee water levels include:
 - S-135 Boat Lock J&S Fish Camp in Martin County
 - G-36 Boat Lock on Hendry Creek in Okeechobee County
 - S-127 Boat Lock at Buckhead Ridge in Glades County
 - S-131 Boat Lock in Lakeport in Glades County
 - S-193 Boat Lock in Okeechobee County is now open on weekends from 5:30 AM until 9 PM, but remains closed on weekdays.



Courtesy of SFWMD





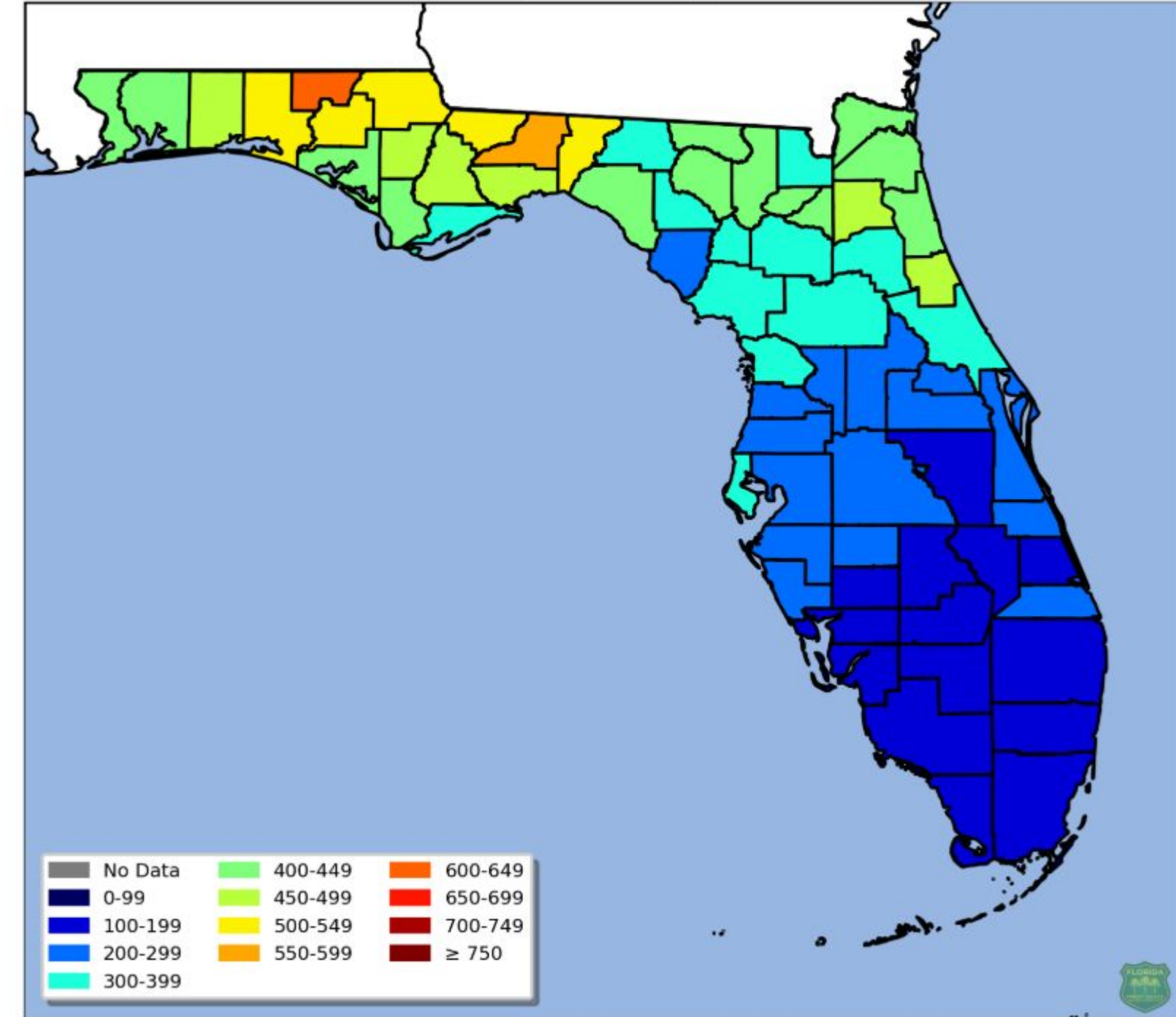
Fire Hazard Impacts

[Keetch-Byram Drought Index \(KBDI\)](#)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI values for all of South Florida remain in the 200-300 range.
- Vegetation currently remains thoroughly saturated thanks to recent rainfall.

KBDI Averages by County | Wed 09/30/26





Fire Danger Matrix

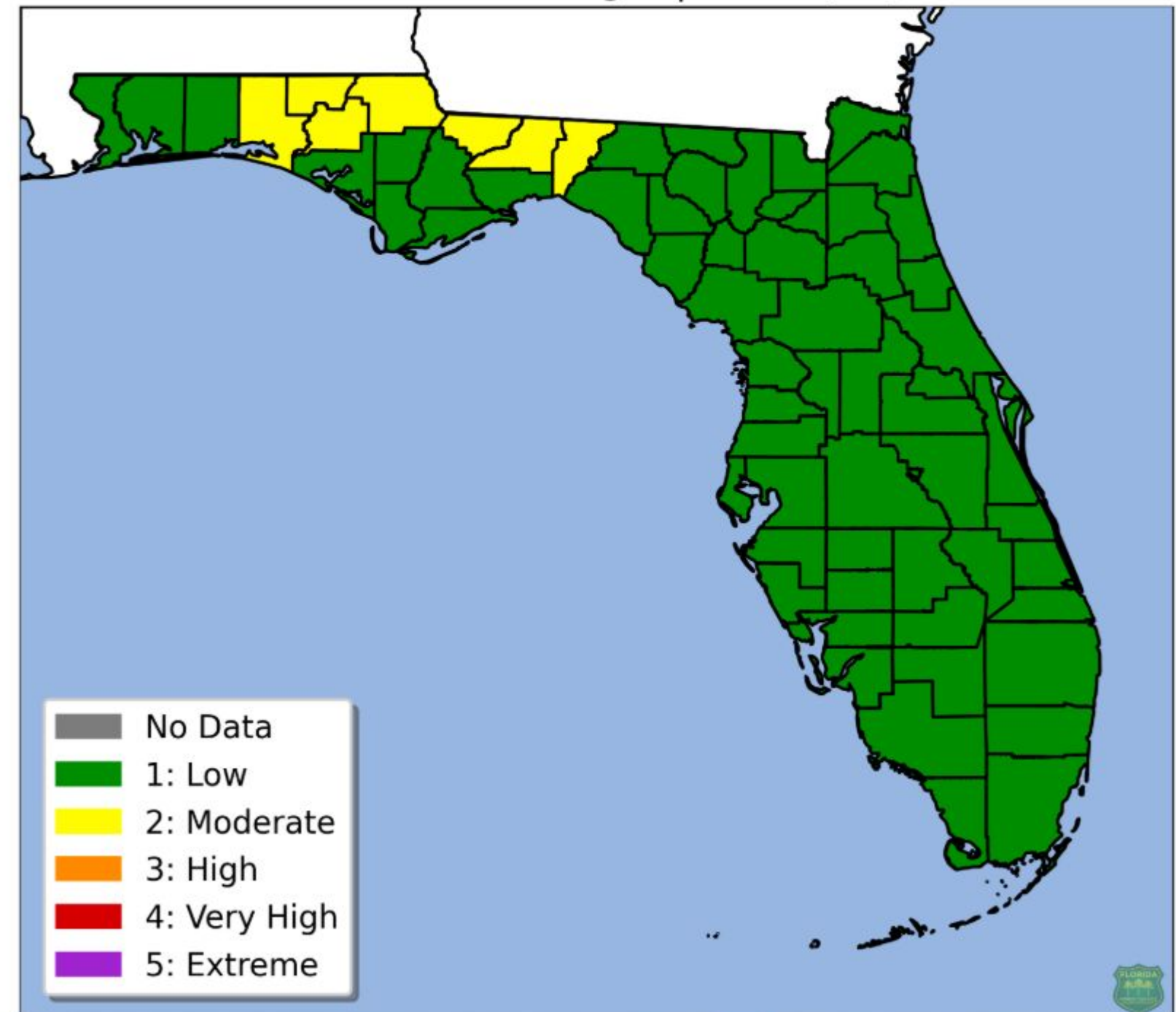
[Fire Danger Risk](#)

Fire Danger Matrix

- A **Low fire** (level 1 of 5) danger risk continues for South Florida.

Fire Danger Maps and Fire Danger Index (FDI) Report

Estimated Fire Danger | Thu 10/01/26



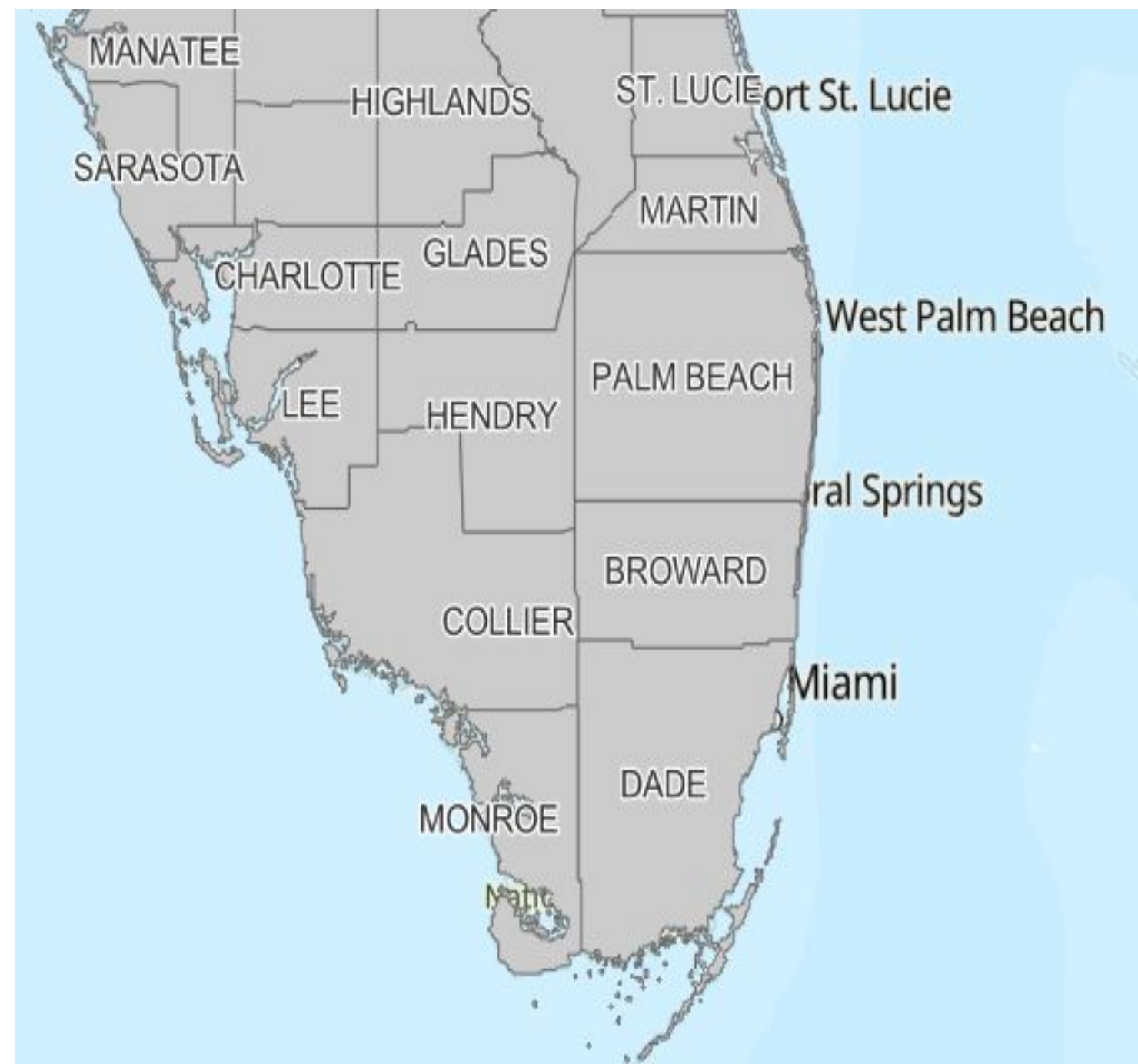


Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans](#)

Current Burn Bans

- *No burns are currently in effect for South Florida.*





Soil Moisture

- Soil moisture values have decreased a little compare to last week over South Florida.
- Soil moisture values are now in the 50th-95th percentile.

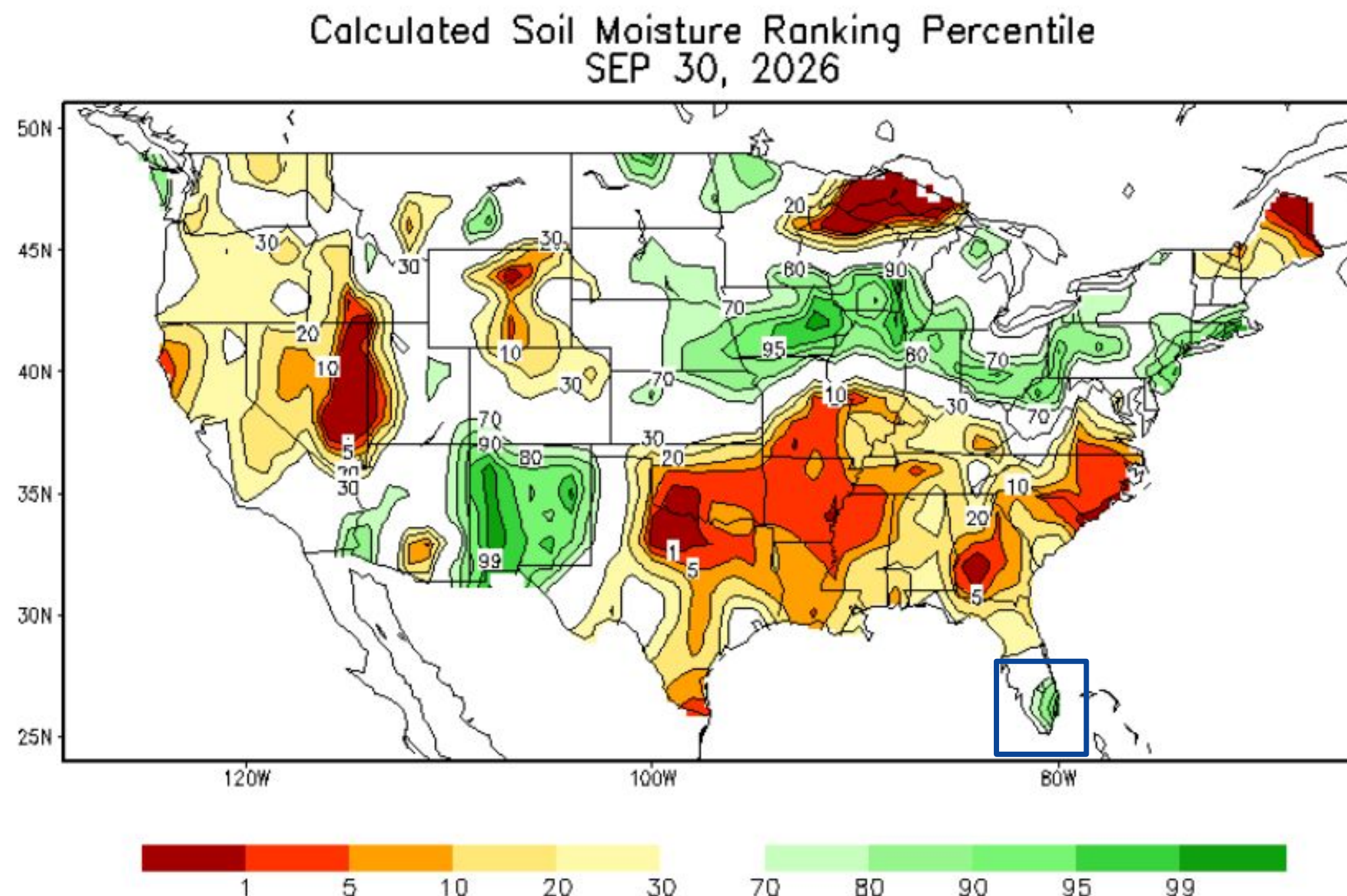
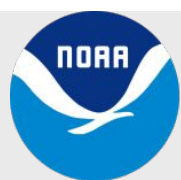


Image Captions:
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)
valid September 30th, 2026





Precipitation Outlook

6-10 Day Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Outlook

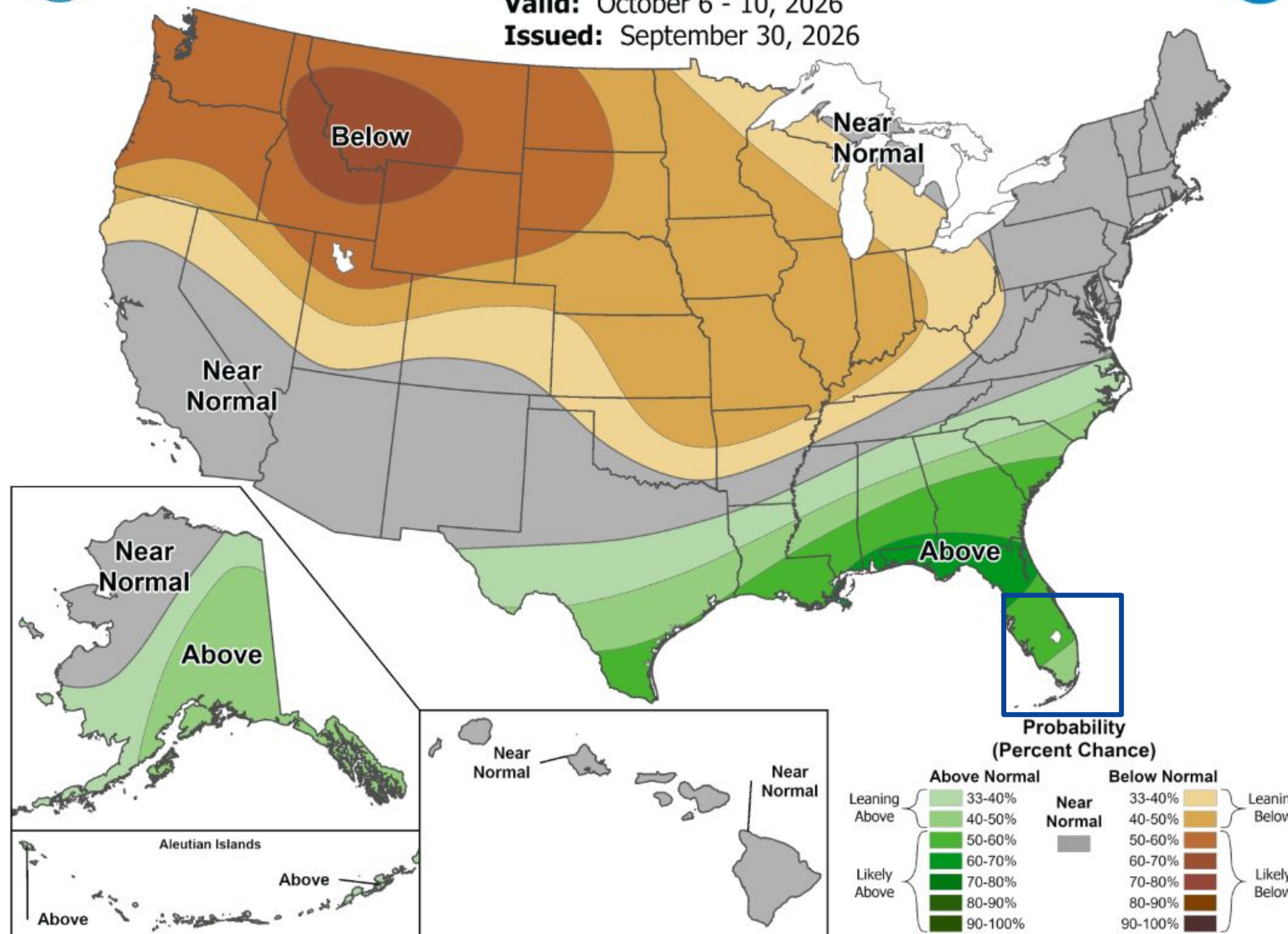
- Ridge of high pressure will build from the Atlantic waters into Central Florida this weekend before dissipating early next week. This will allow for a frontal boundary to sink into Northern Florida early to middle of next week.
- This pattern will lead to scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms this weekend with the focus over the interior and west coast areas. Numerous showers and storms will then return to all of South Florida early to middle of next week.
- The **Climate Prediction Center** forecasting **“Leaning above normal rainfall” (40 to 50 percent)** for our area over the next 6-10 days.



6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: October 6 - 10, 2026

Issued: September 30, 2026





Monthly Outlook

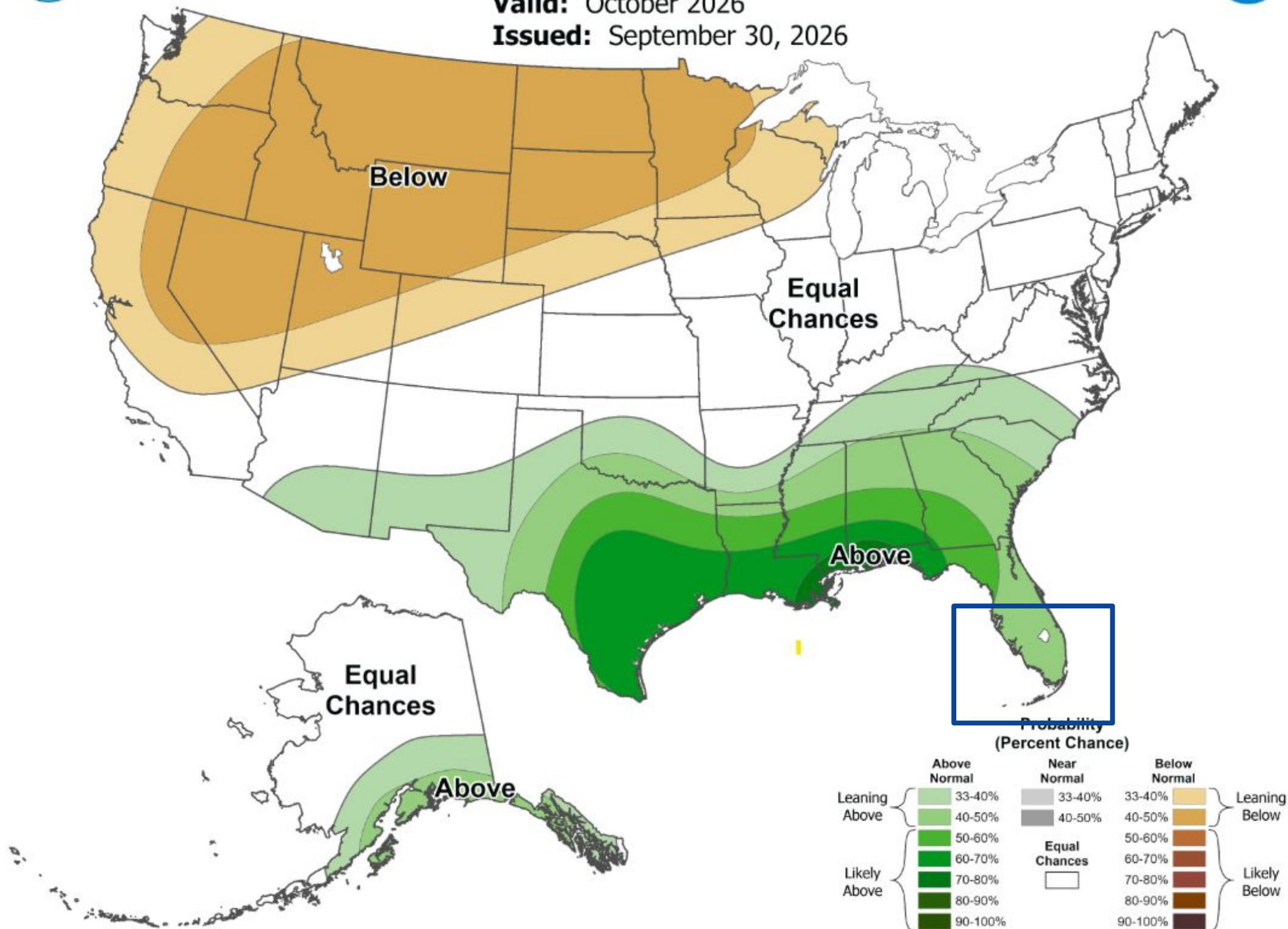
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The *Climate Prediction Center* is forecasting “**Leaning above normal rainfall**” (40 to 50 percent)” for South Florida for October.



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

Valid: October 2026
Issued: September 30, 2026



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Miami-South Florida



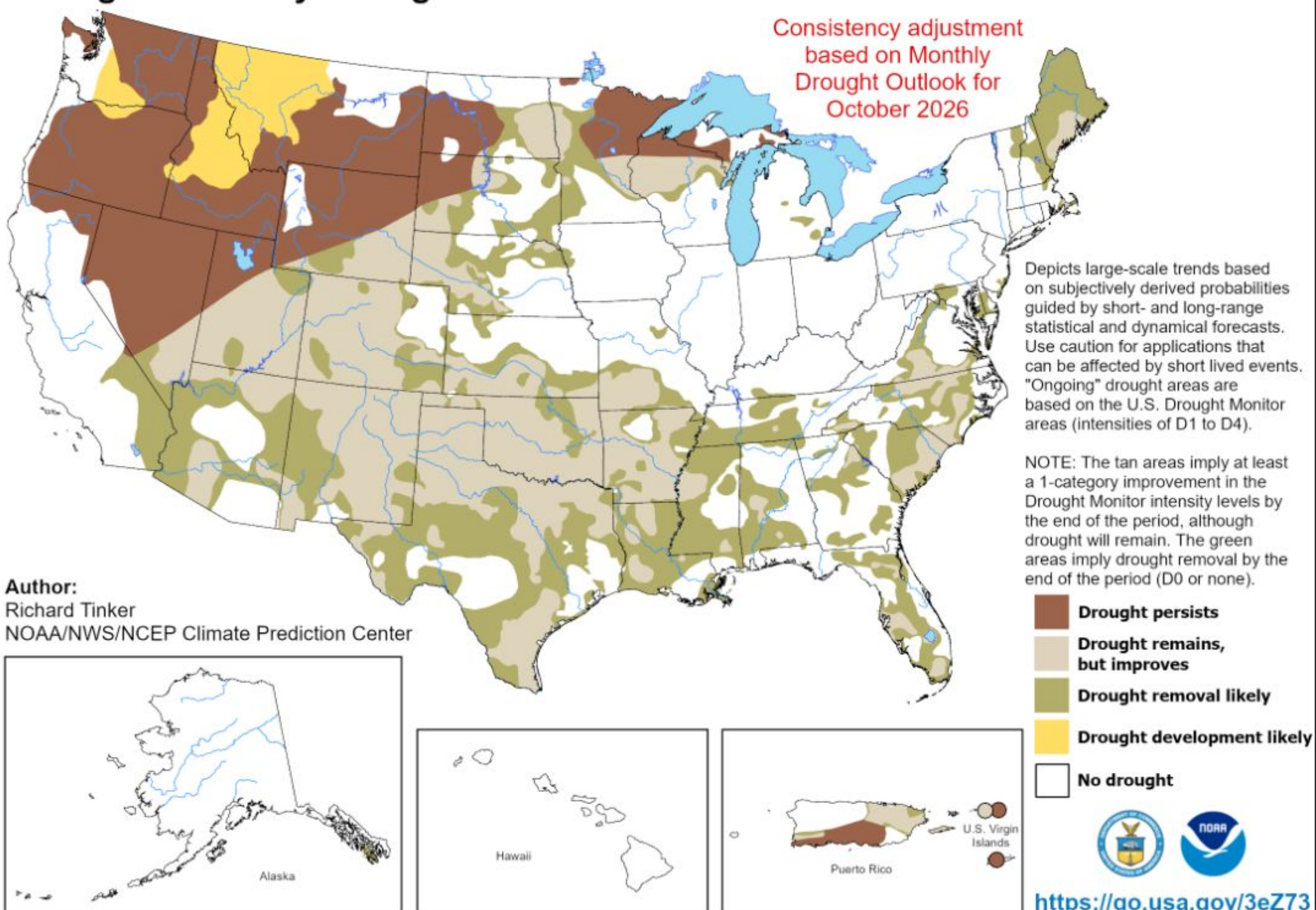
Drought Outlook

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

- Drought has persisted for the duration of the wet season with oscillations in severity. The latest seasonal outlook continues to forecast drought removal over most of South Florida, except for the Everglades where drought could continue.
- Continued heavy rainfall will be needed to fully alleviate the drought across the region.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

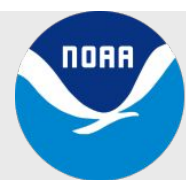
Valid for October 1 - December 31, 2026
Released September 30, 2026



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Miami-South Florida