



Drought Information Statement for South Florida

03 12 2026

Issued By: NWS Miami-South Florida

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

- Ongoing Extreme to Severe 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/>



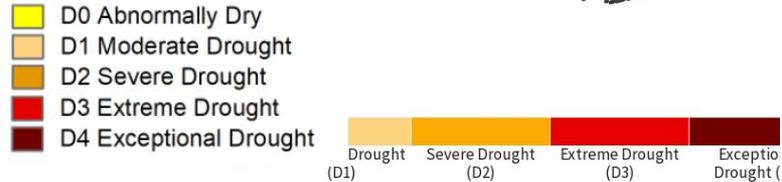
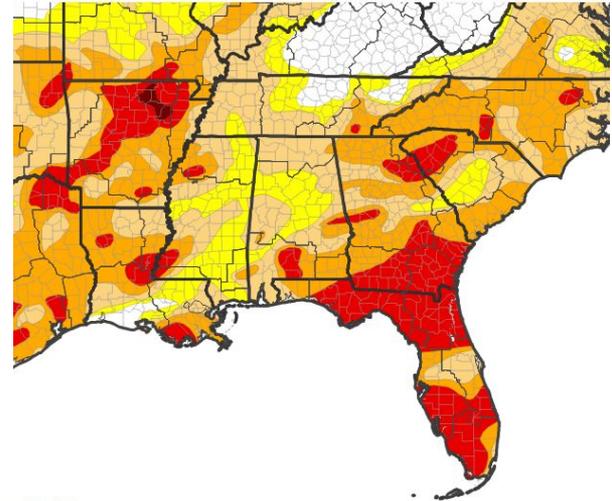


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- No major change this week, with a slight advancement of D3 (Extreme Drought) further east across the region.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Metro/Coastal Broward & Miami-Dade.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Southern Palm Beach County and inland Miami-Dade and Broward
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Inland and Western South Florida.

Drought Monitor



(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 0

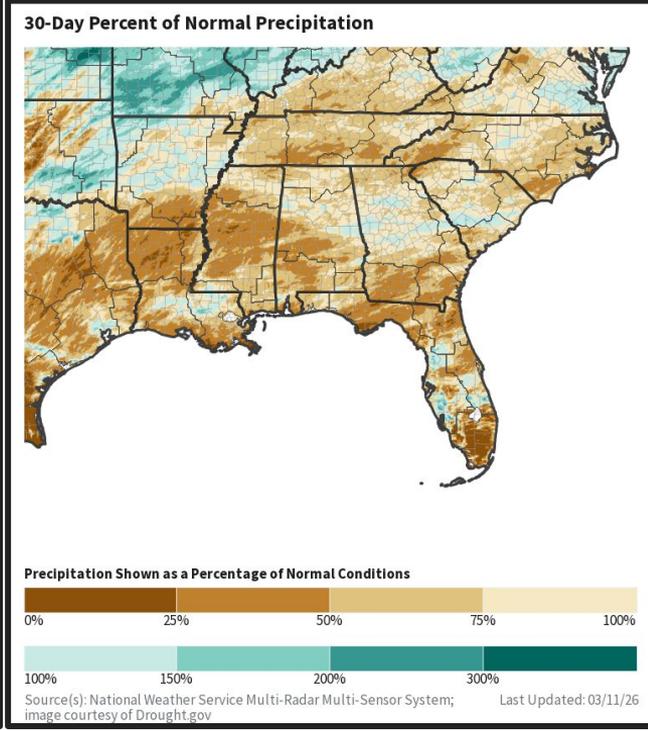
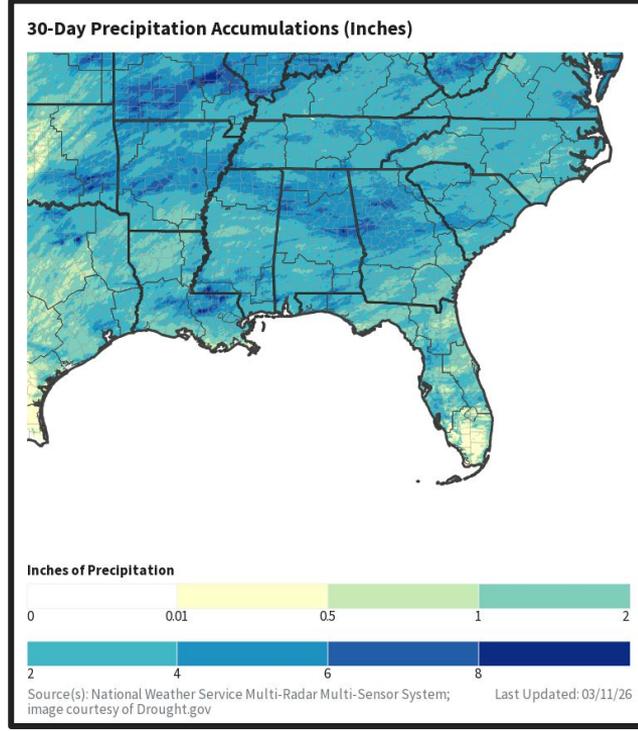
U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7AM EDT March 5th, 2026.





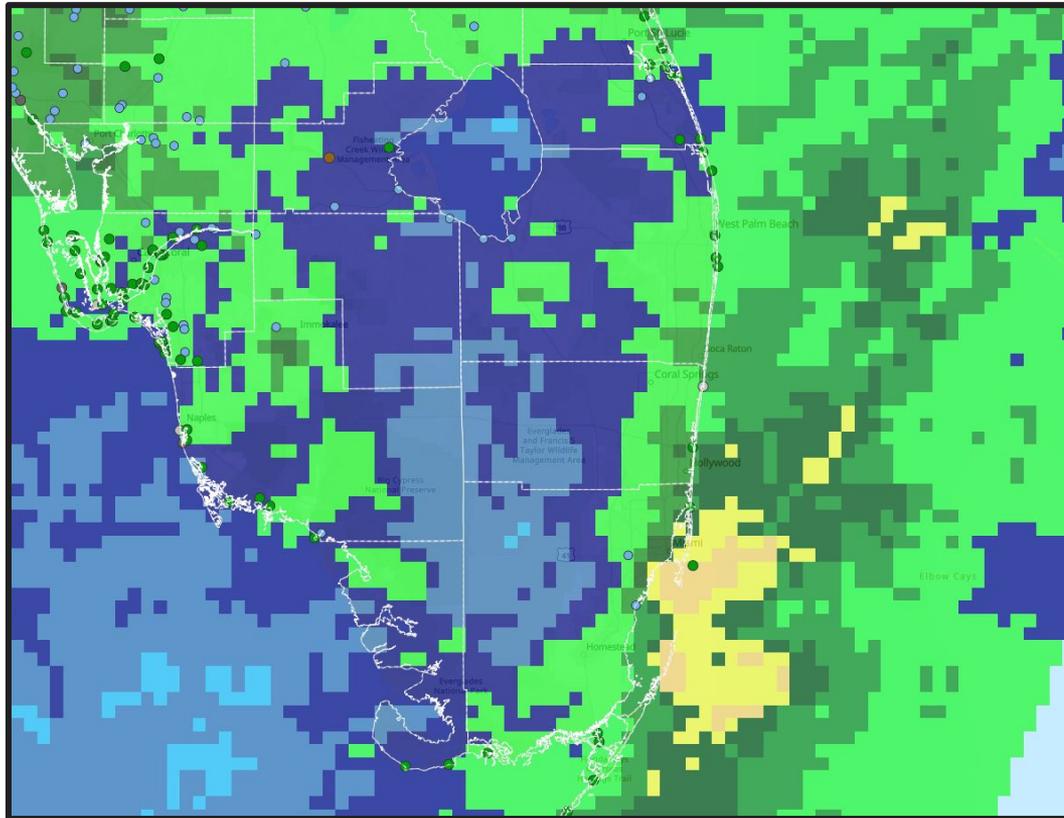
30 Day Observed Precipitation & Percentage of Normal

- Rainfall amounts across the region have remained below the **25th percentile** over the past 30 days.
- Inland locations have seen less than 0.50 inches of precipitation over the past 30 days.



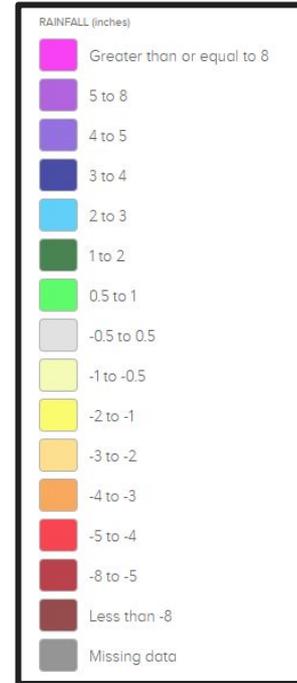
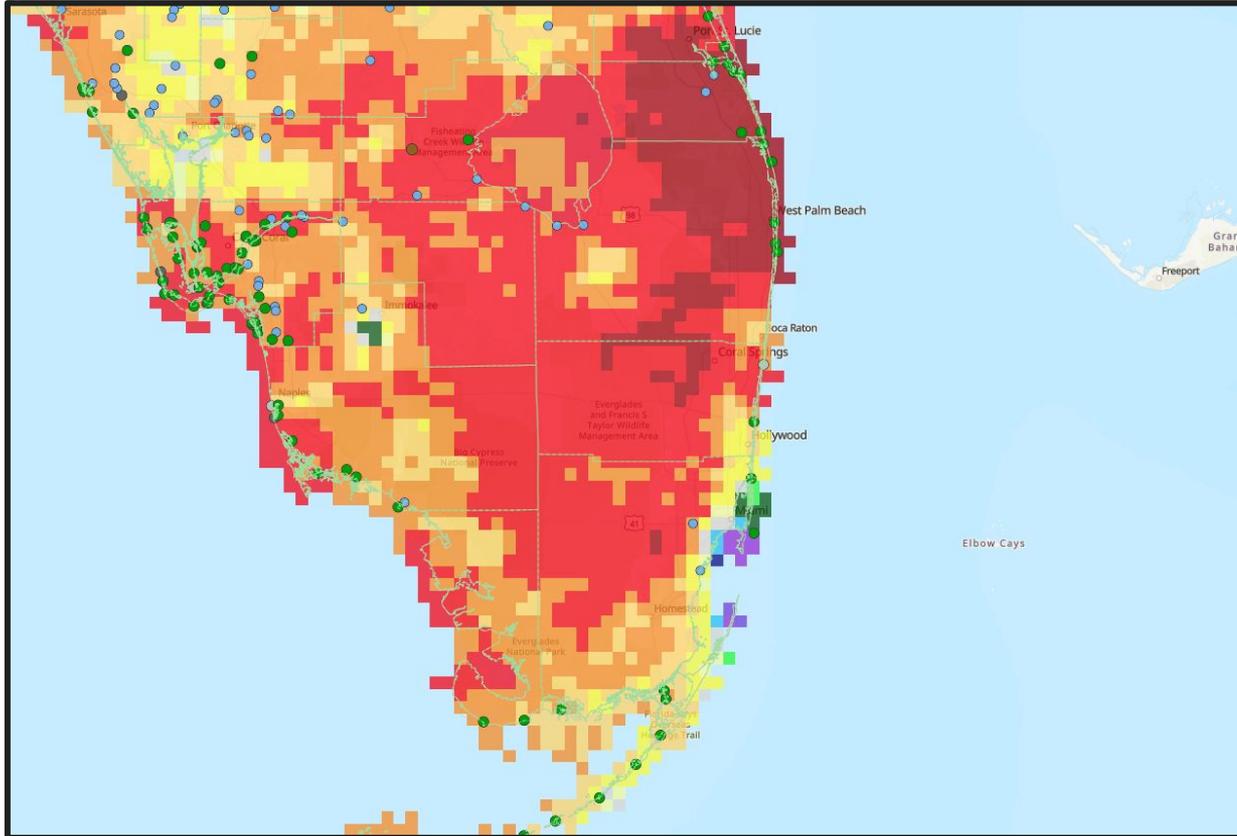


90 Day Observed Precipitation (Since 12/12/2025)





90 Day Rainfall Departure (Since 12/12/2025)





Hydrologic Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- (3/12/26) Lake Okeechobee water level is currently at 12.20 feet which is **-2.28 feet** below normal of 14.48 feet.
- The underground level water conservation area 1 in Interior Palm Beach County is at 15.89 feet and it should be at 16.42 feet which is **-0.53 feet** below normal for this time of year.
- The Underground level water conservation area 2 in Interior Broward County is at 12.18 feet and its normal level is 11.00 feet which is **+1.18 feet** above normal for this time of year.
- The underground level water conservation area 3 in Interior Miami-Dade County is at 8.21 feet and its normal level is at 10.09 feet which is **-1.83 feet** below normal for this time of year.



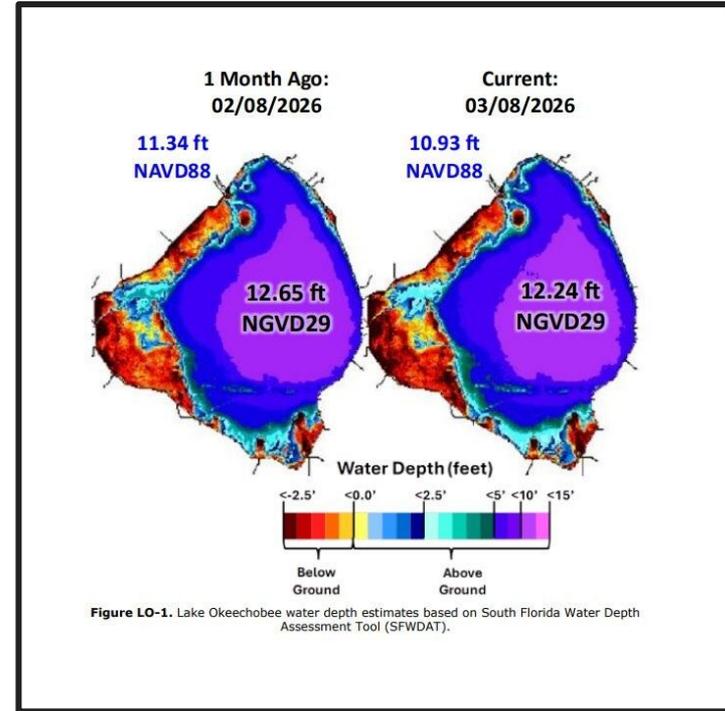


Hydrologic Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- (3/12/26) Lake Okeechobee water level is currently at 12.20 feet which is **-2.28 feet** below normal of 14.48 feet.
- For more information on daily water levels, please visit the US Army Corps of Engineers webpage with reported information [here](#).



Courtesy of SFWMD





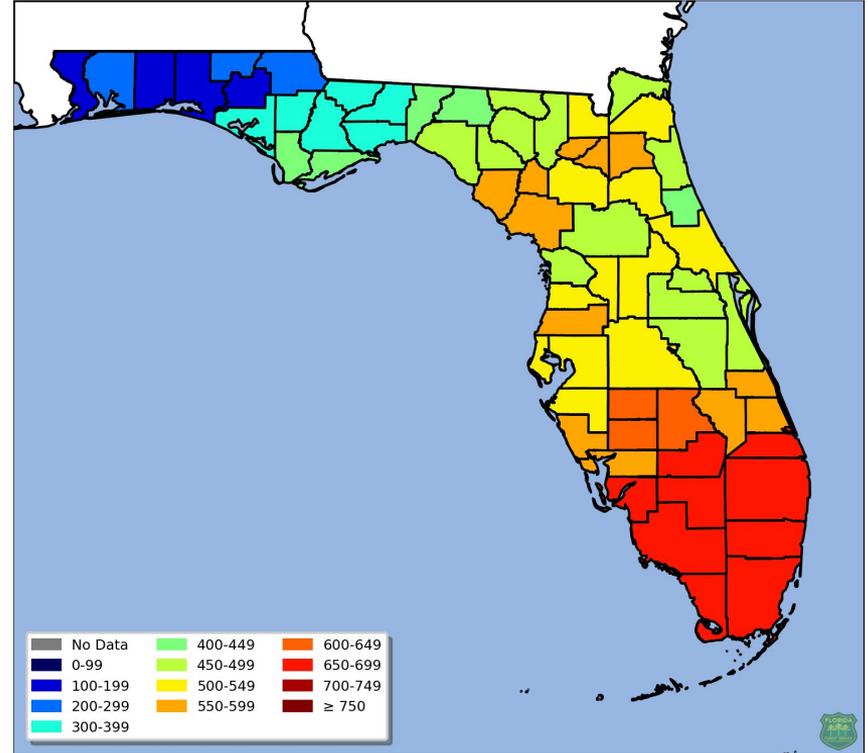
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

Fire Hazard Impacts

- KBDI index is 650 to 699 across all of South Florida.

KBDI Averages by County | Wed 03/11/26





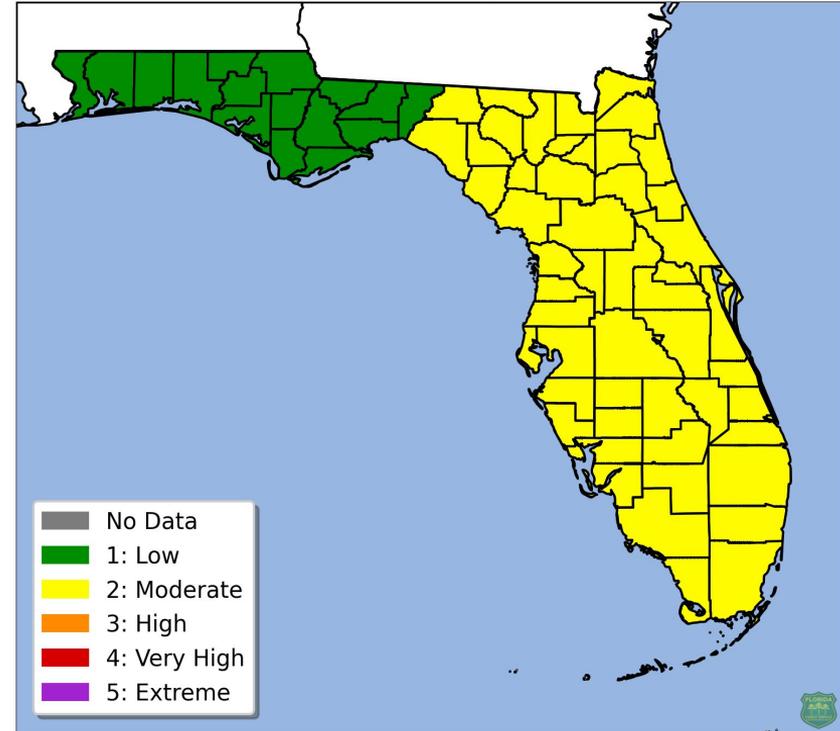
Fire Danger Matrix

[Fire Danger Risk](#)

Fire Danger Matrix

- A moderate fire (level 2 of 5) danger risk across all of South Florida.

Estimated Fire Danger | Thu 03/12/26



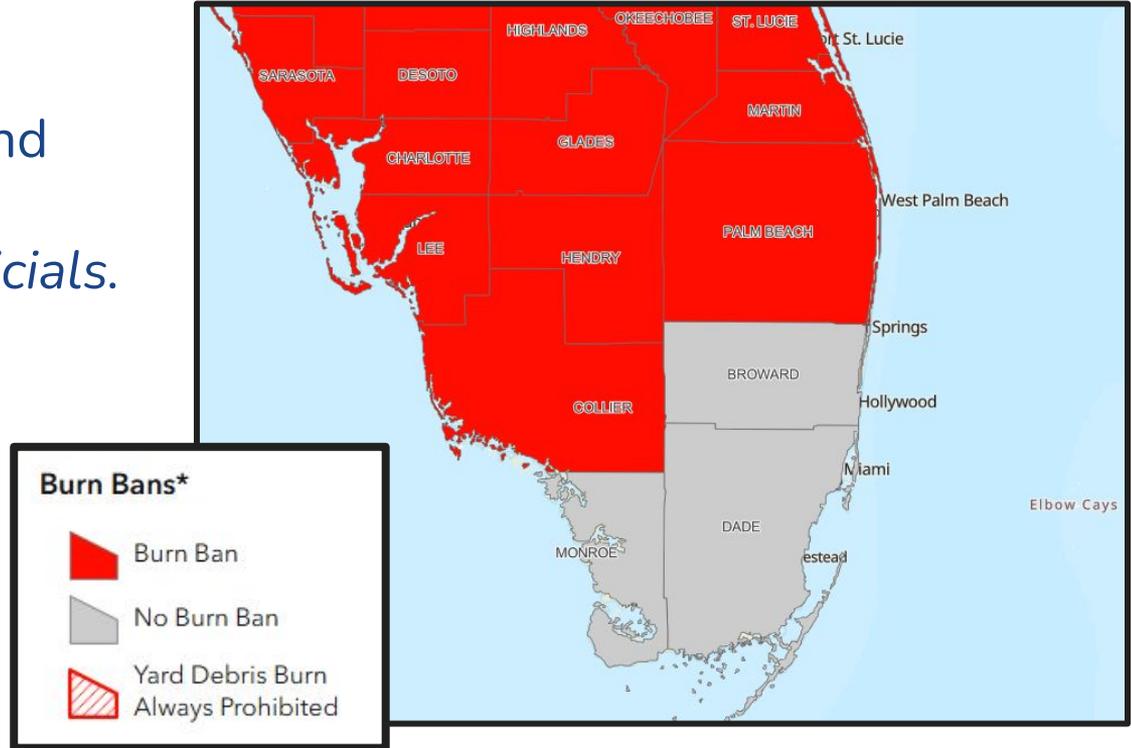


Burn Bans

Link: [County Burn Bans](#)

Current Burn Bans

- Collier, Hendry, Glades, and Palm Beach Counties.
- *Issued by local county officials.*



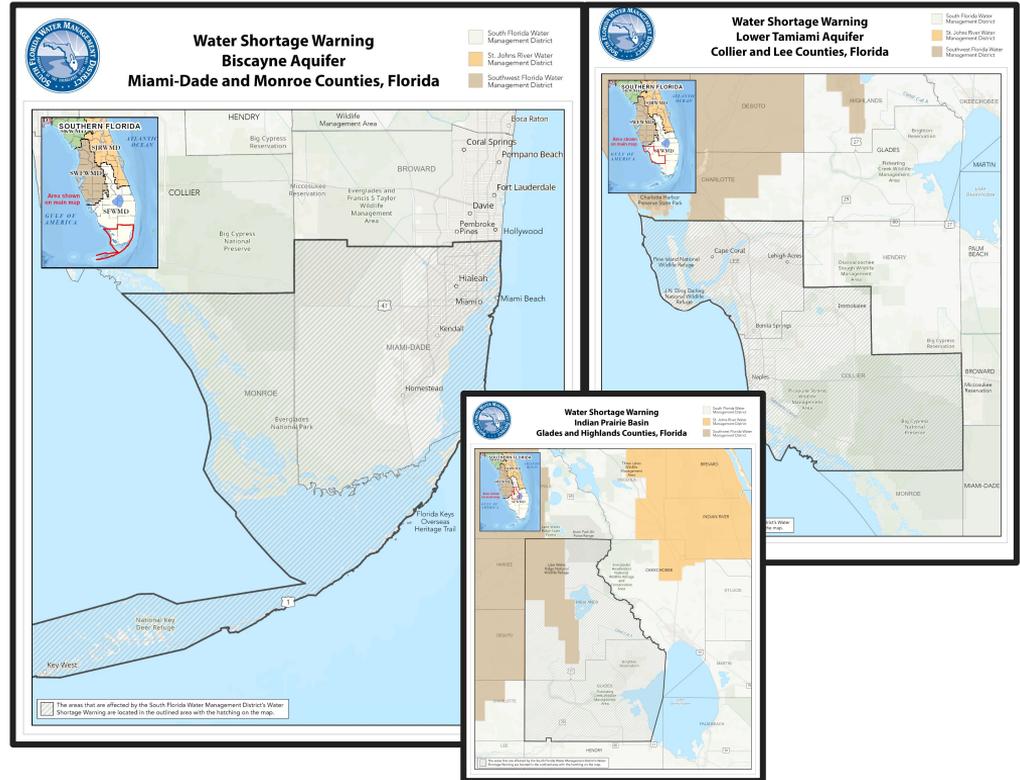


Water Shortage Warnings

Link: [South Florida Water Management District Water Shortage Page](#)

Water Shortage Warnings

- Collier, Glades, Miami-Dade Counties
- *Issued by the South Florida Water Management District.*





Soil Moisture

- South Florida continues to remain between the 1 to 5 percentile for soil moisture.

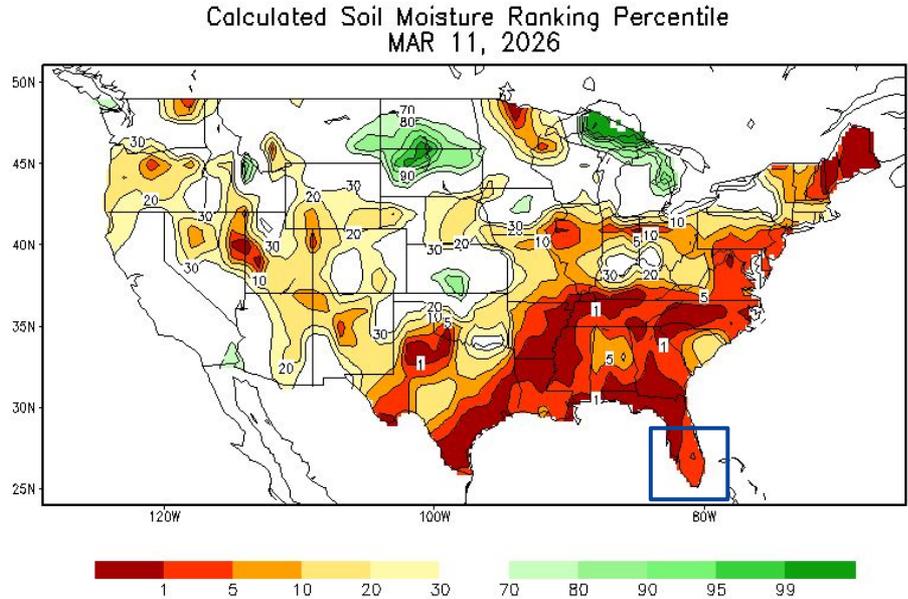


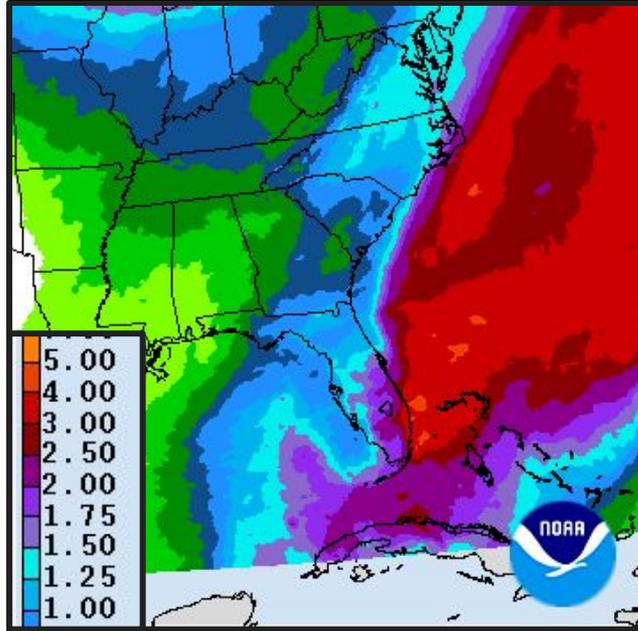
Image Captions:
CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#)
valid March 11th, 2026



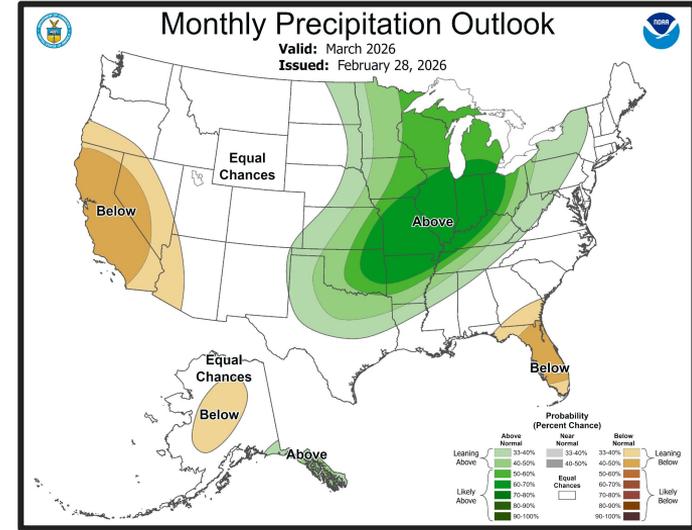


Precipitation Outlook

- Widespread rainfall accumulations will range between 1-3 inches of rainfall over the next seven days with higher isolated amounts possible.
- CPC's [March monthly precipitation outlook](#) is forecast to be 33 to 40 percent below normal.



168 Hour Day 1-7 Rainfall Accumulations -
Weather Prediction Center
(Through 8am March 19th, 2026)



Monthly Precipitation Outlook
Climate Prediction Center
Valid March 2026

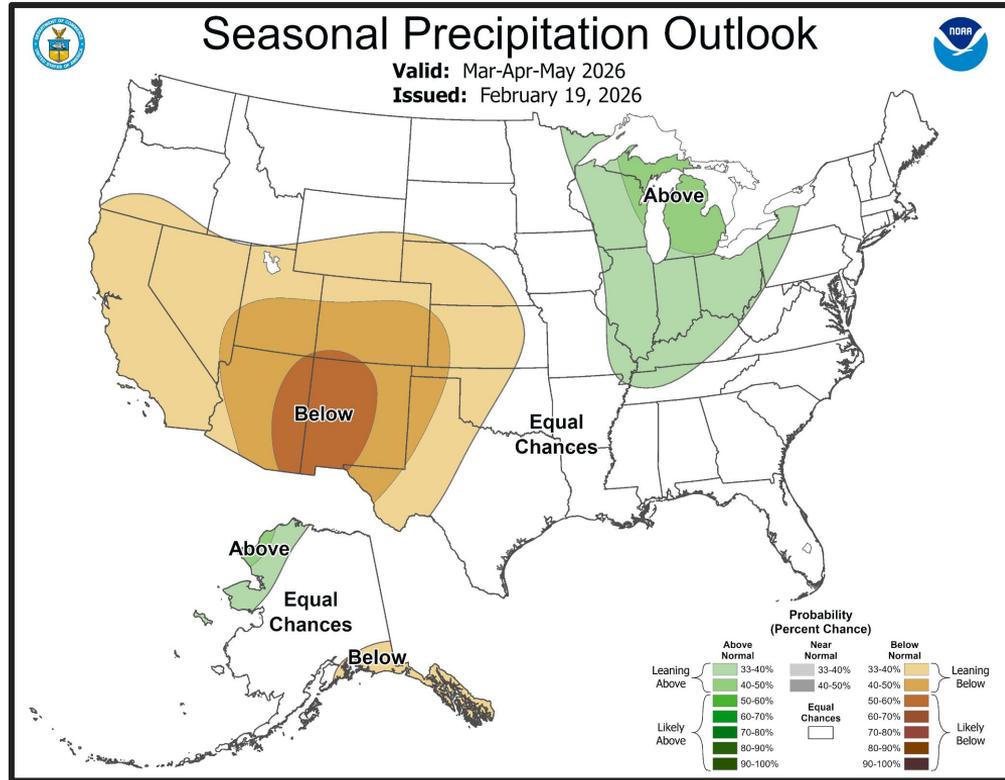




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The Climate Prediction Center depicts an equal chance of seeing below or above normal rainfall.
- The Climate Prediction Center depicts a 40-50% chance (“leaning above normal”) of higher than normal temperatures.

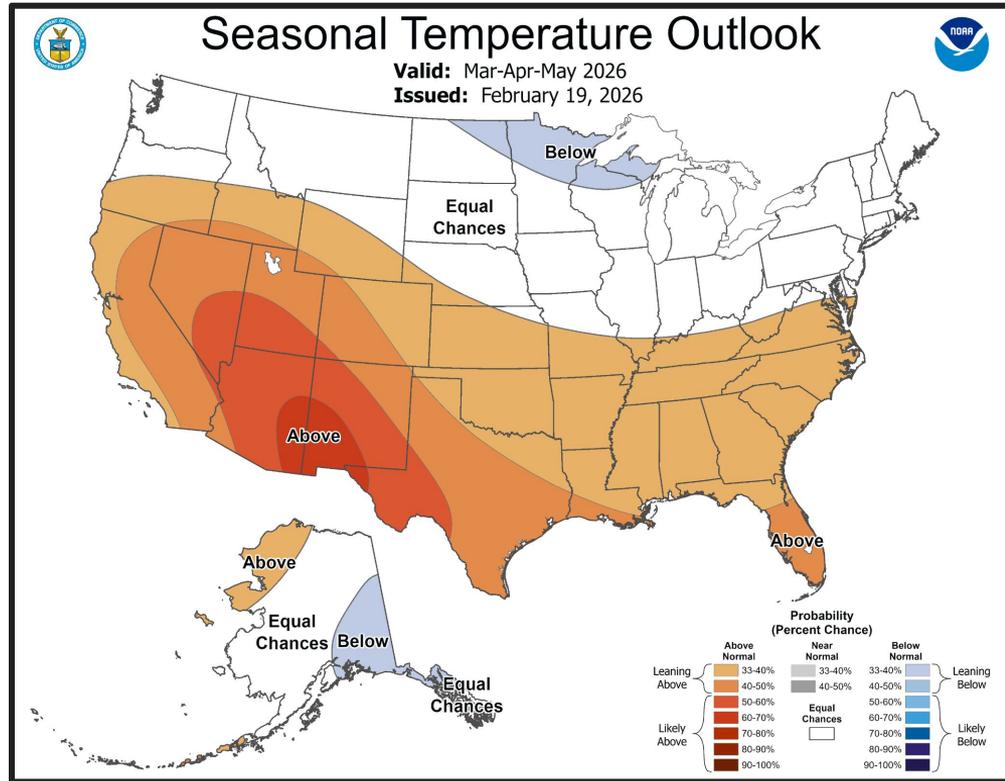




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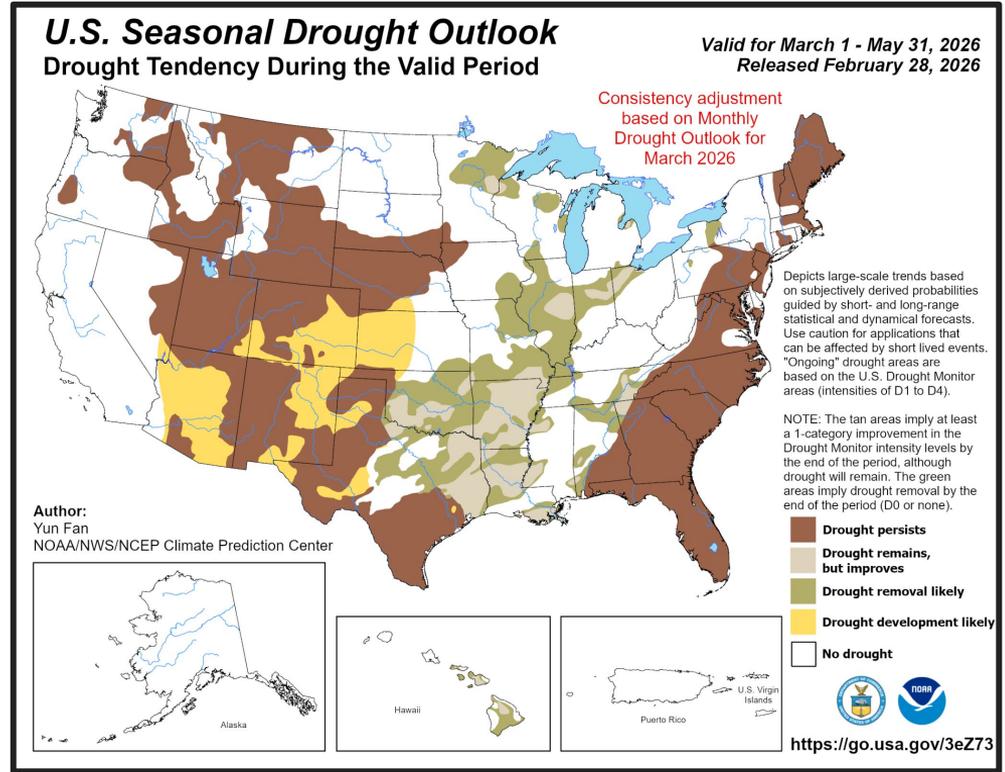




Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist across the region into the start of the wet season as rainfall deficits remain even with the prospect of equal chances of below, above, or near normal rainfall.



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