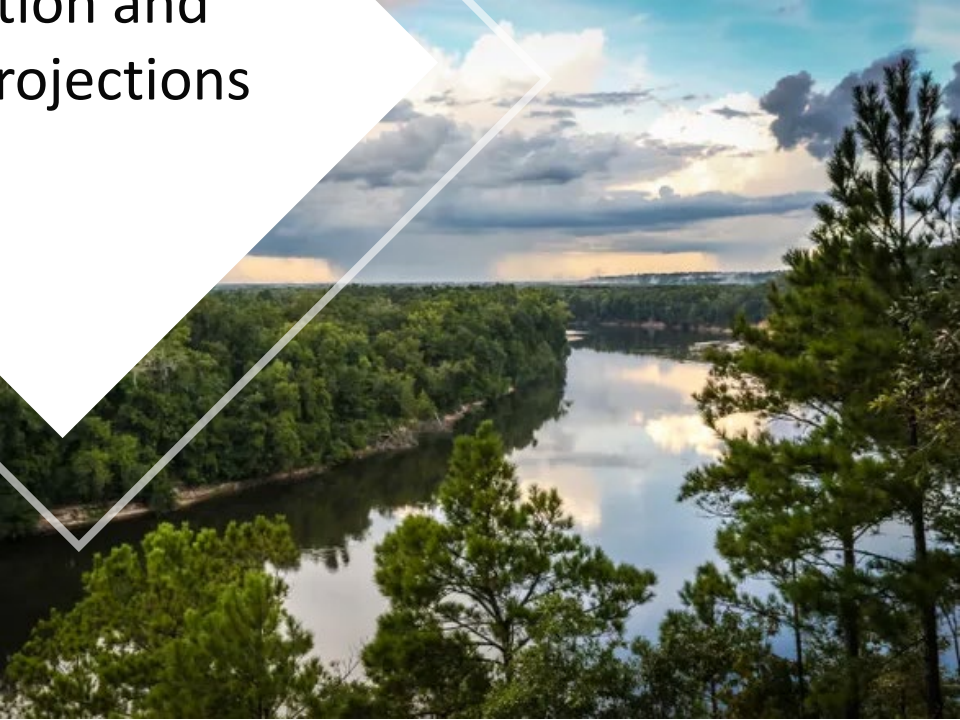




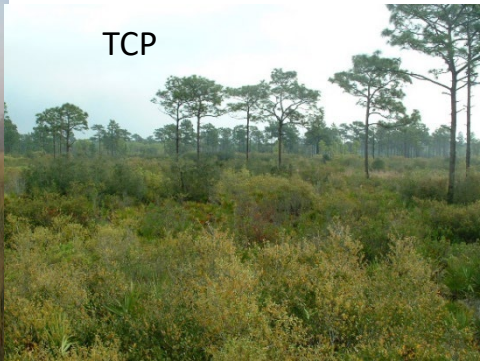
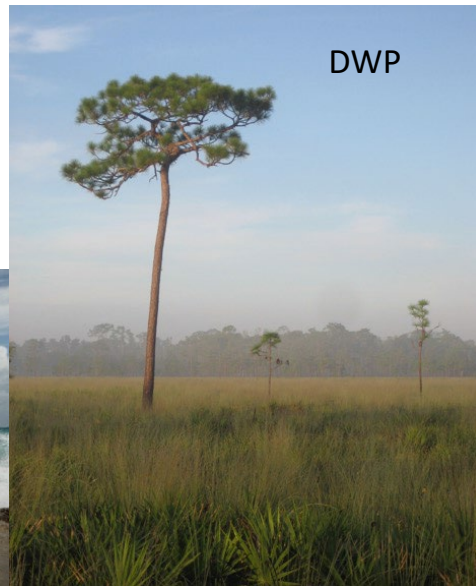
Climate Literature  
Information and  
Climate Projections



# Climate change in Florida - projected changes for temperature and rain

How are temperature and rain predicted to change by 2050?

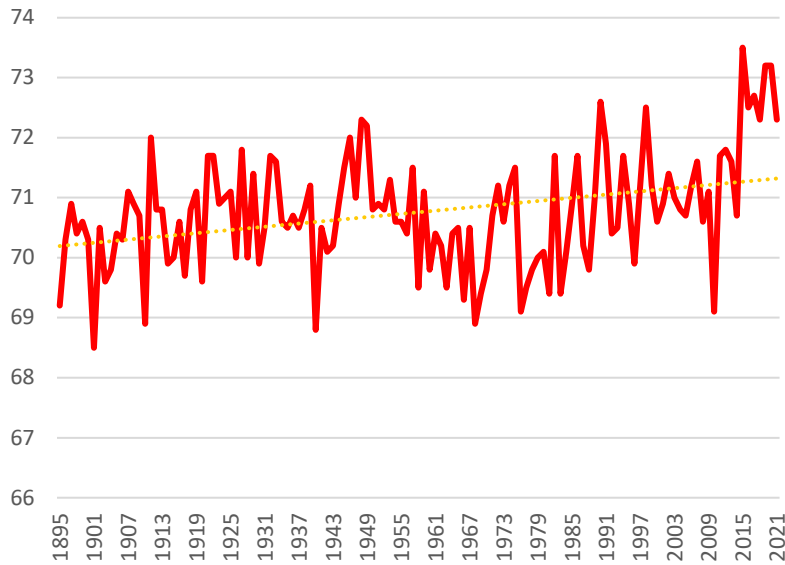
- For each of the four CCI campuses?



# Climate change– Florida mean temperature

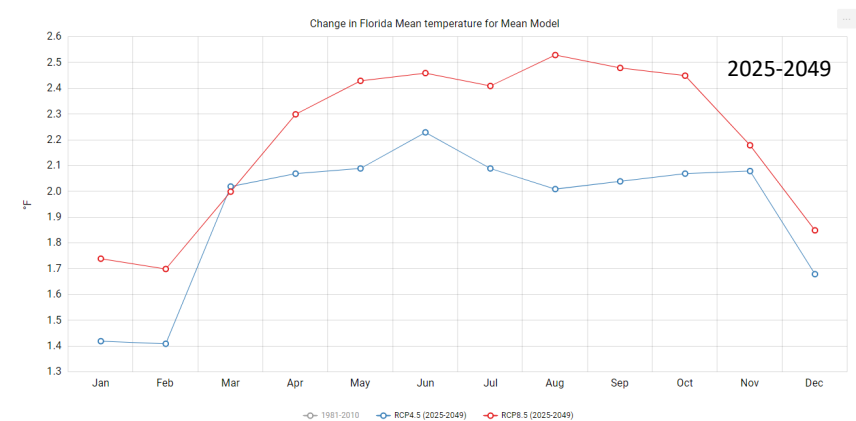
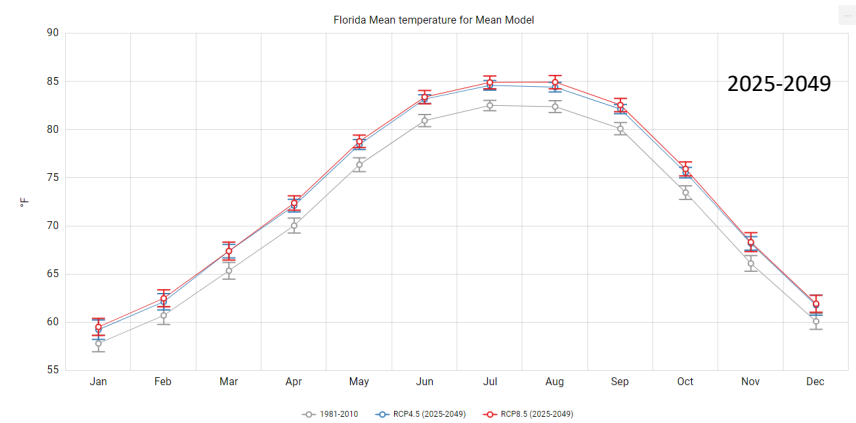
FL state-wide mean annual temp (°F)  
(1985-2020)

data from the National Climatic Data Center, Asheville NC



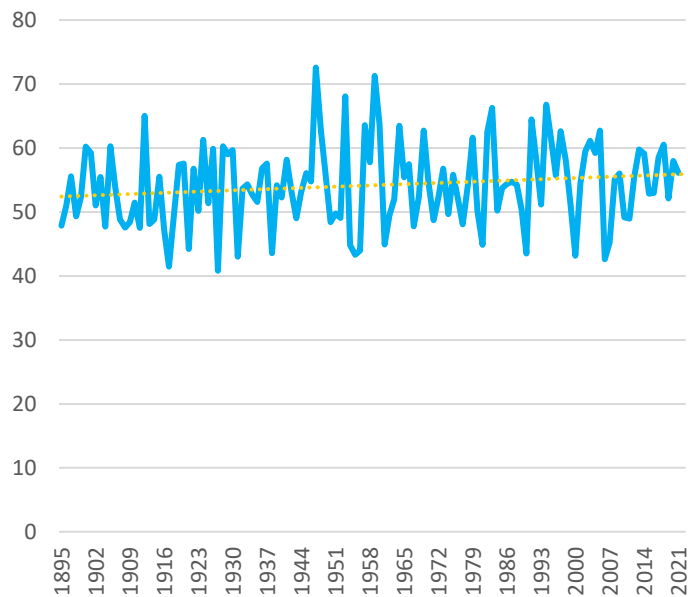
- Temperature has increased and will continue to increase
- Both mean highs and lows will increase

Temperature change projections  
From USGS National Climate Change Viewer



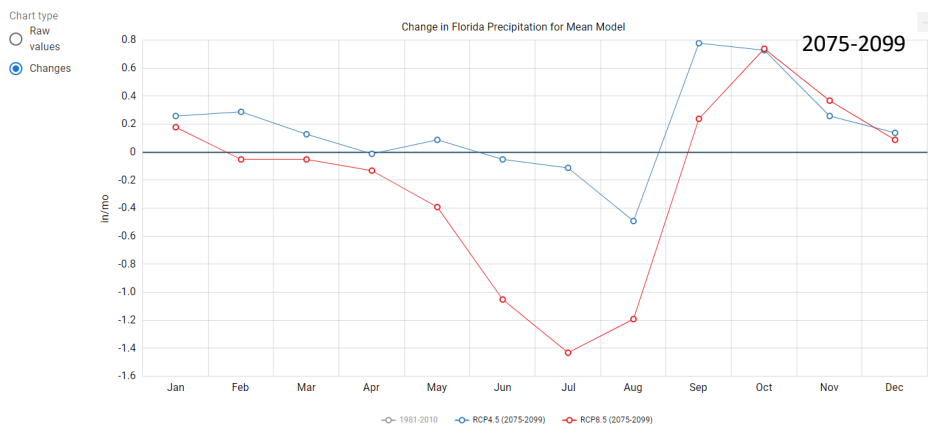
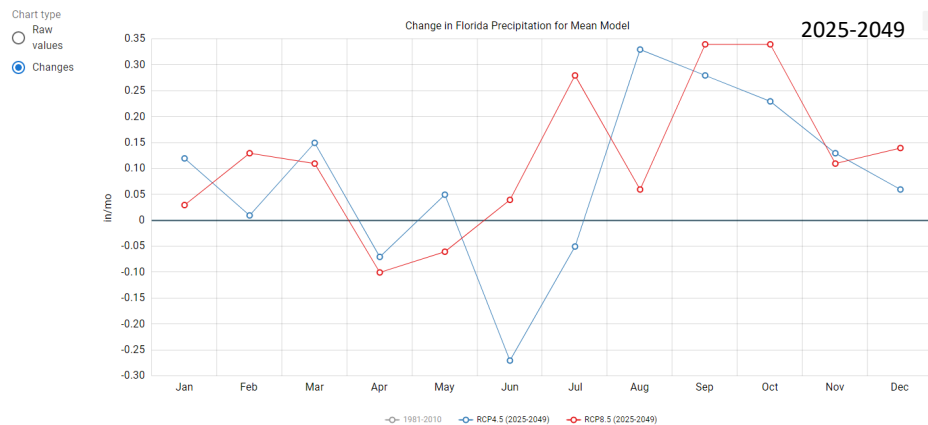
# Climate change projections – Florida mean precipitation

FL state-wide mean annual precipitation (in) (1985-2020)  
data from the National Climatic Data Center,  
Asheville NC

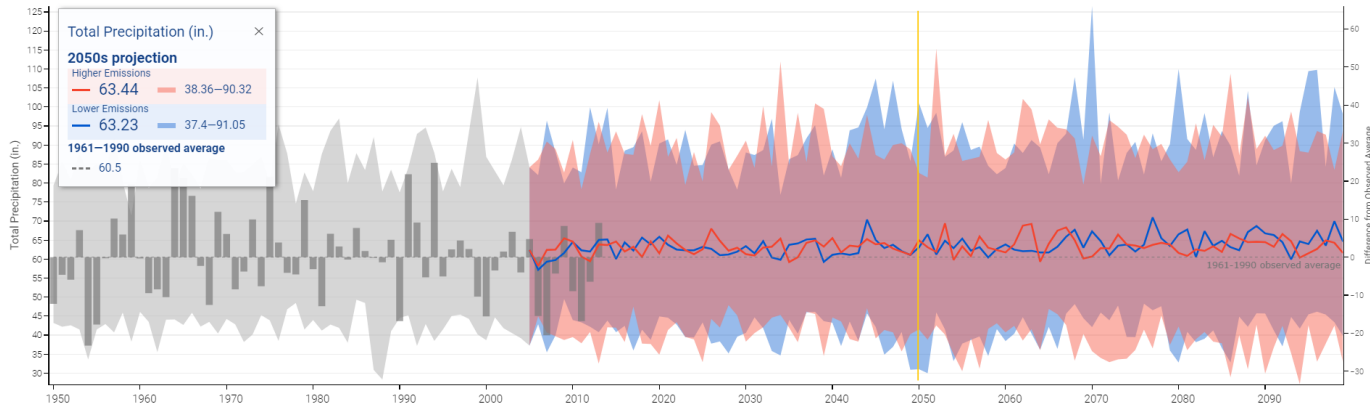


- Annual rain has slightly increased and will continue to increase
- Long-term rain pattern shift - less in summer and more in the fall
- Heavier rain, but less rainy days and hotter summers will lead to more drought
- More frequent and intense hurricanes

Precipitation change projections  
From USGS National Climate Change Viewer

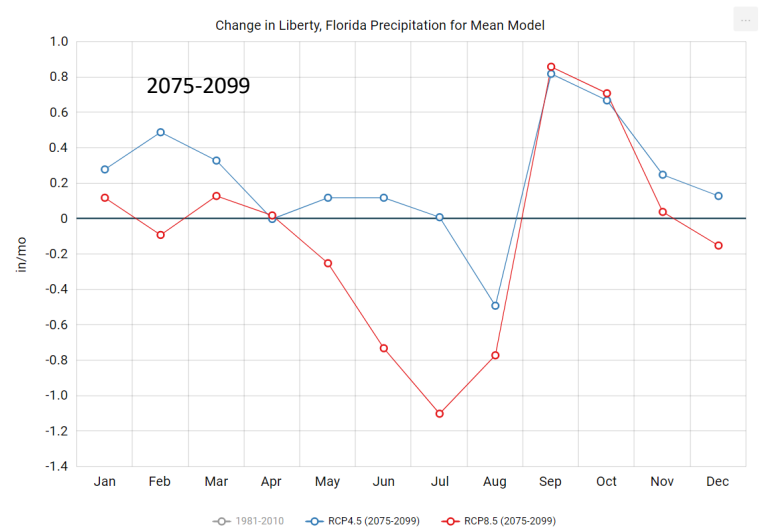
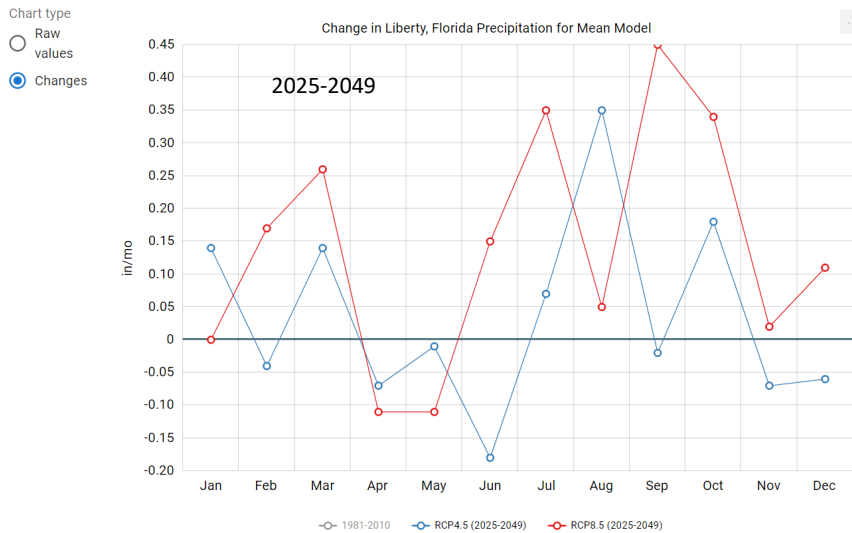


# Climate change projections –**ABRP** (Liberty County) mean precipitation



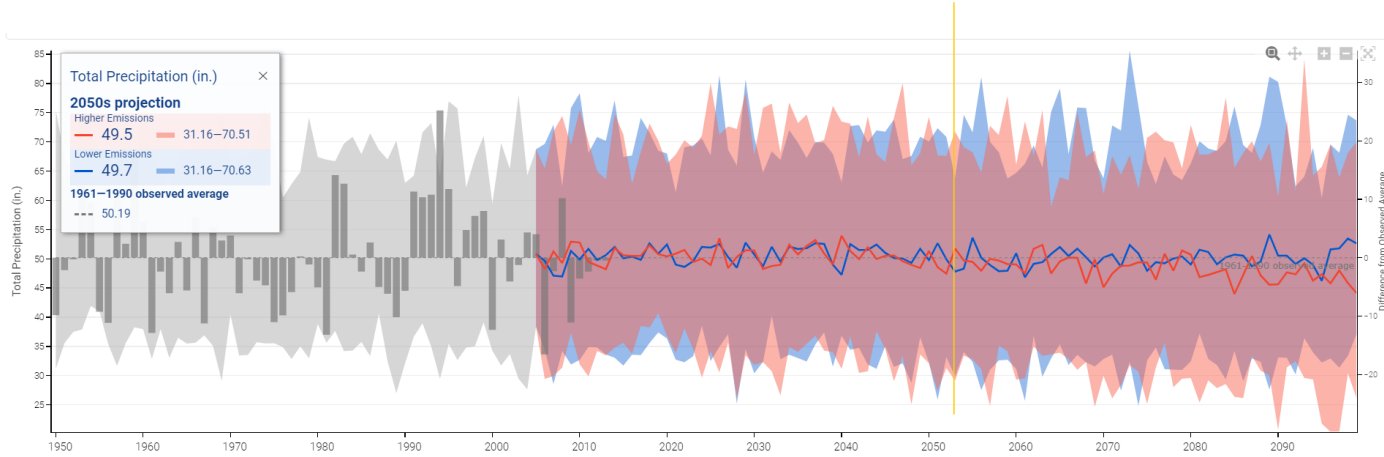
from the NOAA/NEMAC Climate Explorer

- Observations
- Modeled History
- Lower Emissions
- Higher Emissions

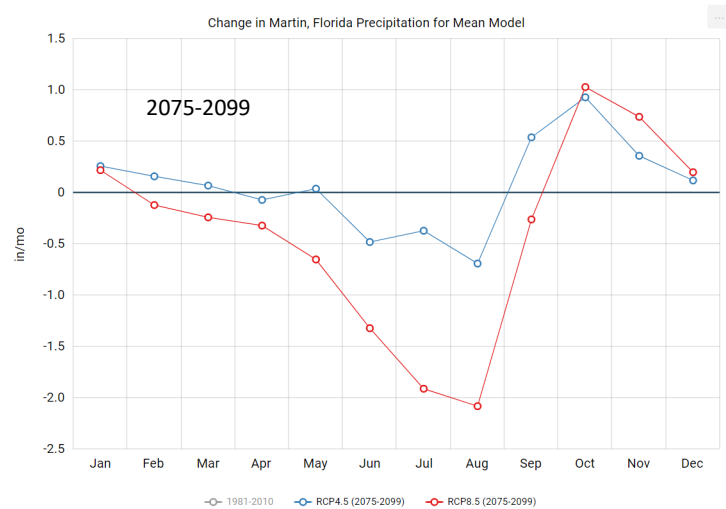
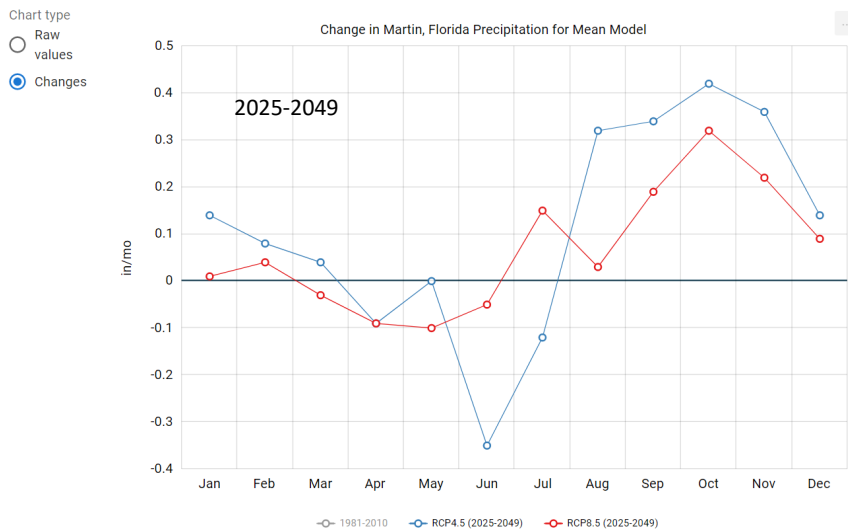


From USGS National Climate Change Viewer

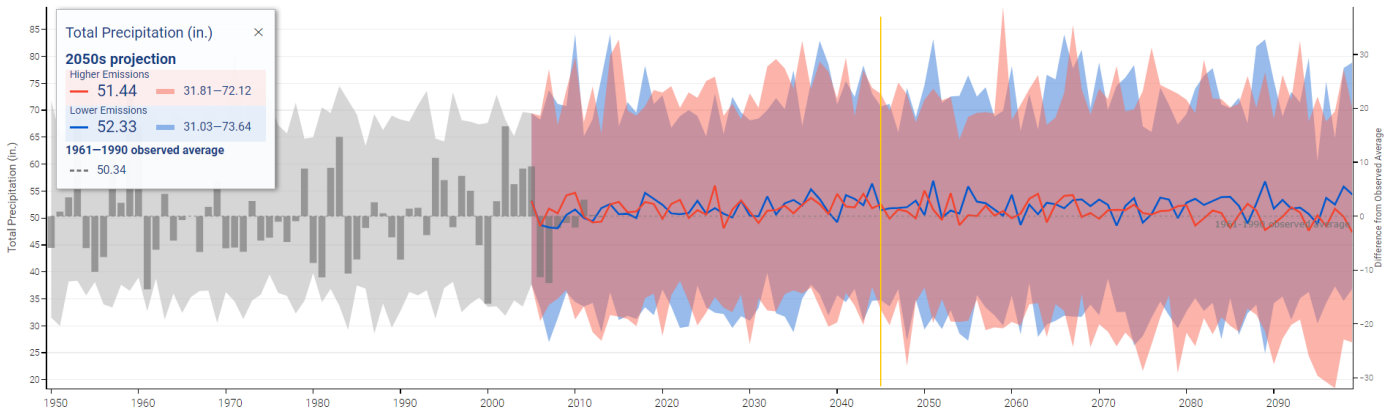
# Climate change projections –BRP (Martin County) mean precipitation



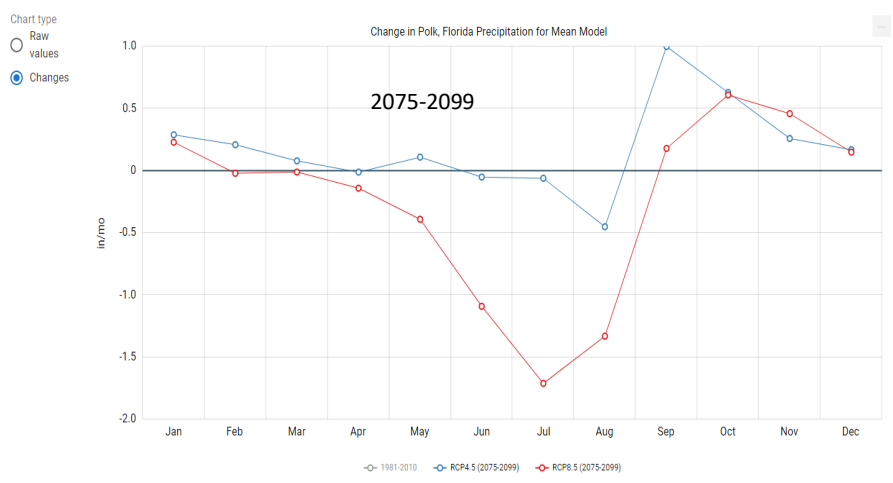
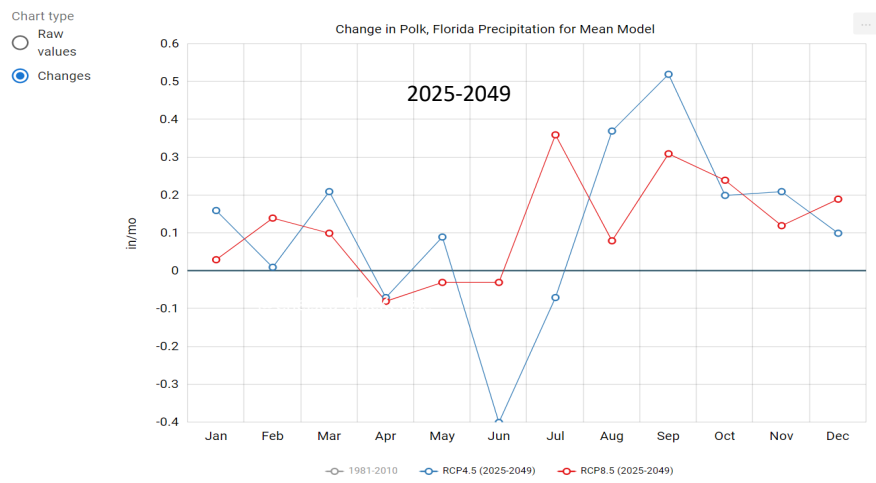
from the NOAA/NEMAC Climate Explorer Observations Modeled History Lower Emissions Higher Emissions



# Climate change projections – DWP/TCP (Polk and Osceola Counties) mean precipitation



from the NOAA/NEMAC Climate Explorer



From USGS National Climate Change Viewer

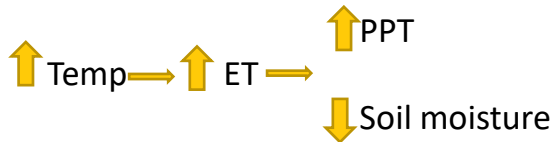
# Climate change projections – Preserve summaries

| Projected Changes (2025-2049) |           |        |        |           |        |        |           |        |        |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|
|                               | Max T     |        |        | Min T     |        |        | Rain      |        |        |
|                               | 1961-1990 | RCP4.5 | RCP8.5 | 1961-1990 | RCP4.5 | RCP8.5 | 1961-1990 | RCP4.5 | RCP8.5 |
| ABRP                          | 78.7      | +3.4   | +4.3   | 56.1      | +3.4   | +4.3   | 60.5      | +2.73  | +2.94  |
| BRP                           | 83        | +3.6   | +4.7   | 64.4      | +3.4   | +4.5   | 50.19     | -0.49  | -0.69  |
| DWP/TCP                       | 83.7      | +3.4   | +4.5   | 61.7      | +3.5   | +4.6   | 50.34     | +1.99  | +1.1   |



# Climate change projections –Drought

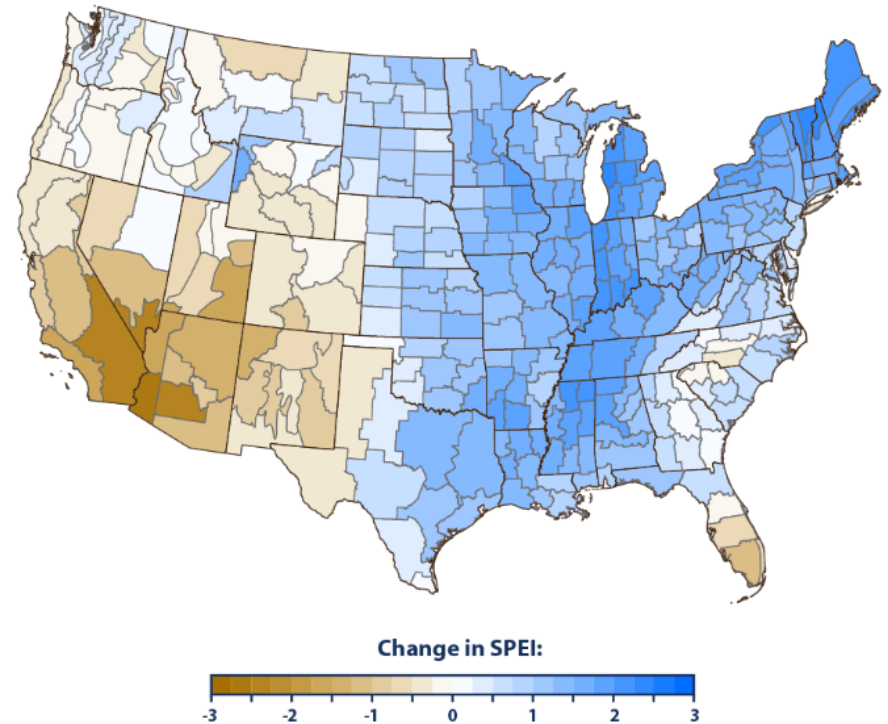
Droughts may be more frequent and of longer durations



Notes from SECASC

- Heavier rain events with more dry spells in between
- Higher temps will lead to fewer wetting rain days, high VPD, and increased frequency of flash drought

Figure 3. Average Change in Drought (Five-Year SPEI) in the Contiguous 48 States, 1900–2020



## SPEI – standardized precip – ET index

This map shows the total change in drought conditions across the contiguous 48 states, based on the long-term average rate of change in the five-year SPEI from 1900 to 2020. Data are displayed for small regions called climate divisions. Blue areas represent increased moisture; brown areas represent decreased moisture or drier conditions.

Data sources: WestWide Drought Tracker, 2021;<sup>10</sup> PRISM, 2021<sup>11</sup>

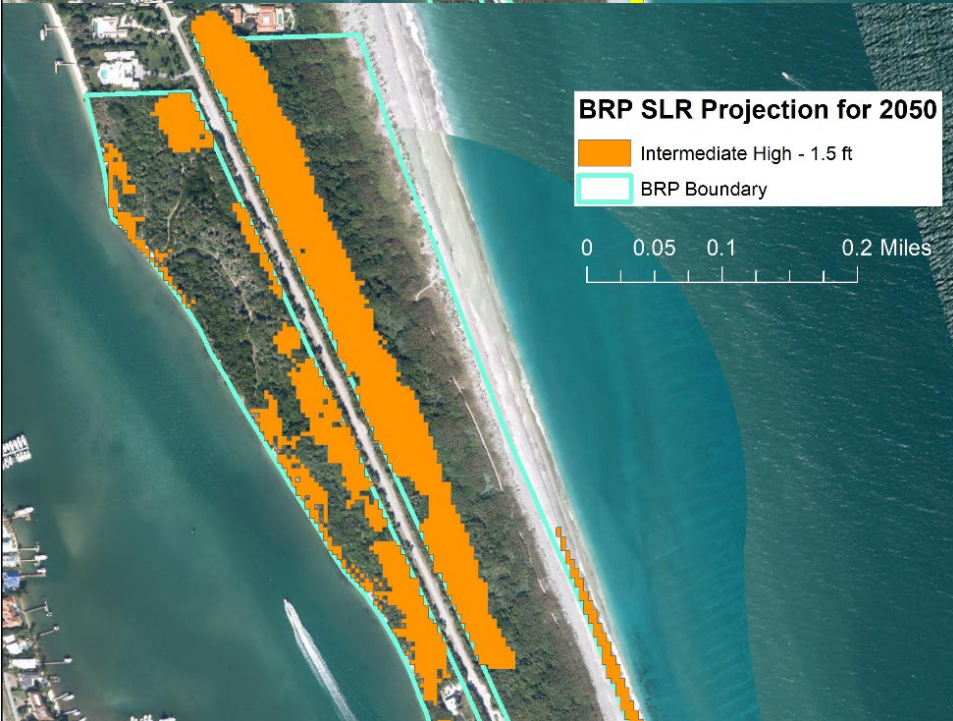
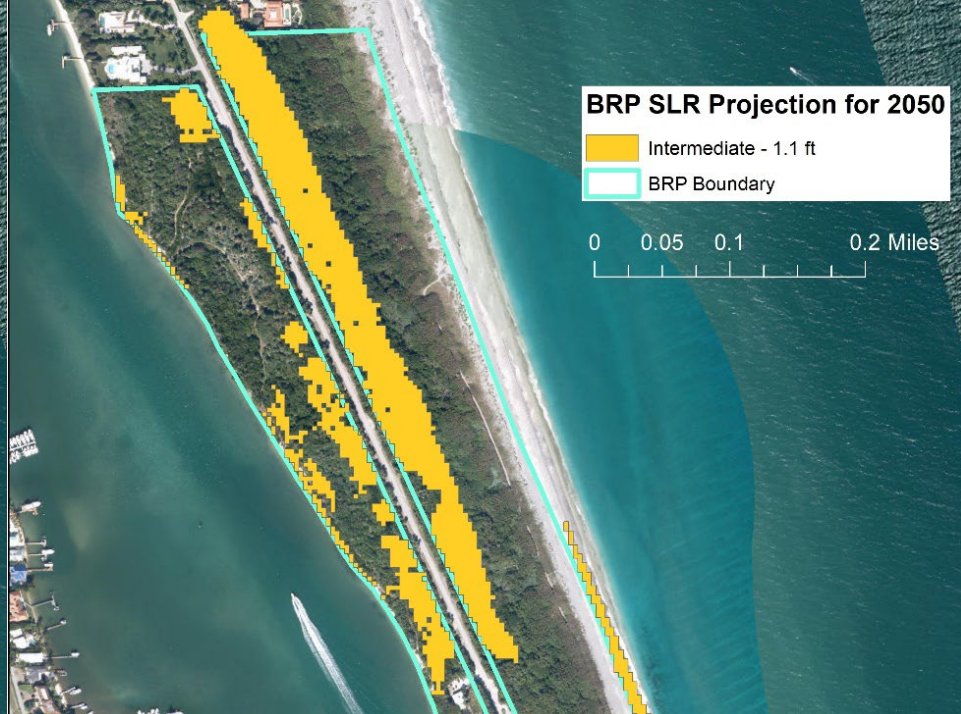
Web update: April 2021

# SLR Projections

- NOAA's 2017 Martin County SLR GIS data
- NOAA's 2022 projections for SLR in the Southeast
  - Intermediate to Intermediate High are most likely scenarios

| NOAA 2022 Report – 2050 Projections  |
|--------------------------------------|
| Low = 0.92 feet                      |
| <b>Intermediate = 1.18 feet</b>      |
| <b>Intermediate High = 1.41 feet</b> |
| High = 1.61 feet                     |



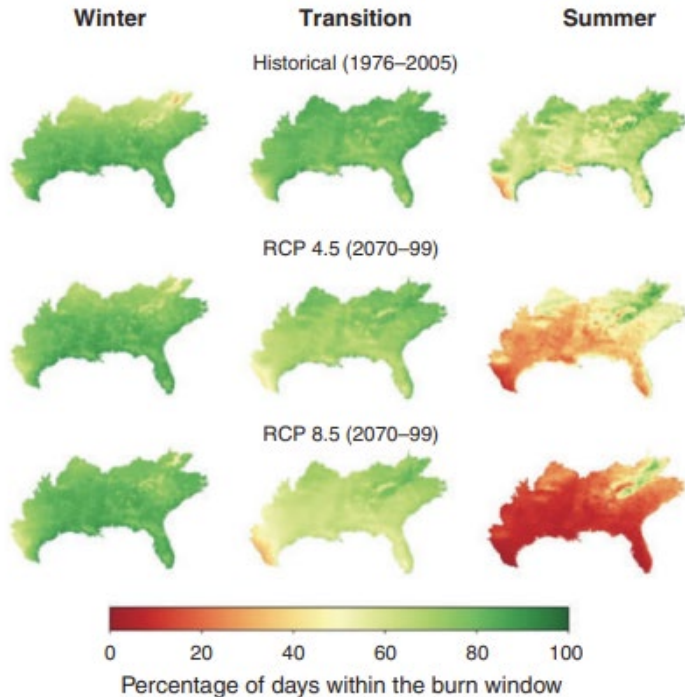




# Prescribed Fire

- Future of prescribed burns:
  - Less often
  - More complex
  - More intense burns = riskier
  - More costly
  - Suitable burn days to decline from ~15 to < 2-6 per month from May – August
  - Burning in fall may compensate for the loss of burn days in the summer
  - Conduct early morning burns
  - Take advantage of days that are suitable even if they're during weekends/holidays
  - Urbanization and smoke management
  - Flash drought
  - Wildfires
- Variables to consider:
  - temp
  - humidity
  - wind speed
    - will vary depending on understory density and height and canopy tree density
  - fire behavior
  - targeted fire effects to meet predetermined objectives
  - moisture dynamics of forest fuel
  - rate of fire spread
  - vertical transmission of heat

# Prescribed Fire



Kupfer et al. 2020

- > Relative humidity = less fuel combustion = lower fireline intensity = patchier burn
- Increase in fire frequency:
  - Reduce carbon stock
  - Shift from soil carbon to tree carbon as dominant pool
  - Reduce carbon storage
  - Reduce understory plant productivity
- Increase in fire frequency  $\neq$  increase in any of the carbon pool sizes or flux rates
- Relative plant stress may or may not impact the post-fire effects, especially with mortality due to drought stress

Carbon sequestration: is the process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide

Carbon storage: is the total amount of carbon contained in a forest

Carbon stock/pool: is a system that has the capacity to store or release carbon

Flux: Processes that transfer carbon from one pool to another



# Invasive Species

- Climate change and invasives are highly interconnected
  - Managing for one most likely will benefit the other
- Climate change will potentially exacerbate negative impacts to ecosystems that are already occurring due to invasives
- Combined effect of climate change and invasives may be no worse than invasions alone
- Preventing new invasive species from being established will aid in our goal to make our preserves climate resilient
- Climate change can facilitate invasions and invasions can increase magnitude of climate impacts on people
- Be aware of potential invasives and what conditions they need to thrive
- Due to uncertainty it's important to do a model ensemble

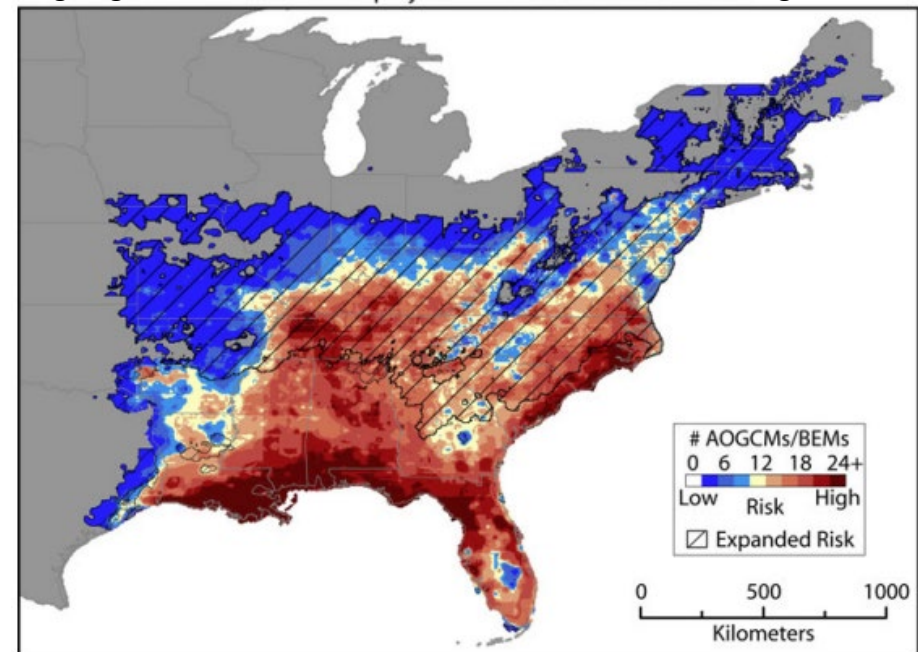
# Invasive Species

- Some invasive species of current and future concern:
  - Cogon grass
  - Kudzu
  - Privet
- Privet & kudzu have similar spatial extents
- Cogon grass is very high risk all throughout FL
  - Current risk concentrated in more southern portions of SE then is the case for privet and kudzu
- Risk of kudzu invasion is high across SE
  - Not as much all over FL
  - somewhat in North & Central FL
- Privet invasion high across SE US
  - Medium risk of privet invasion throughout North FL
  - Privet may already exist in northern states – used in landscaping – causing more rapid expansion with climate change
- Risk assessments
  - Species specific risk assessments = critical to land management

BEMs: bioclimatic envelope models

AOGCM: atmosphere-ocean general circulation models

Cogon grass climatic habitat distribution with climate change



Ensemble of AOGCM and BEM projections at 95% occurrence level  
B. A. Bradley et al.