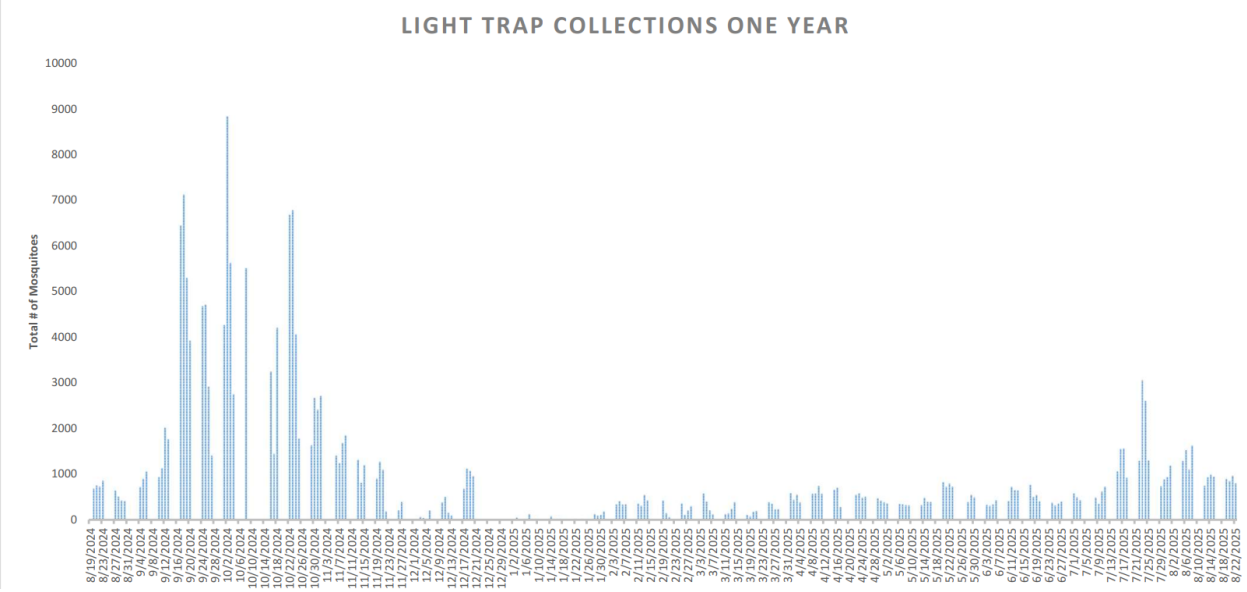
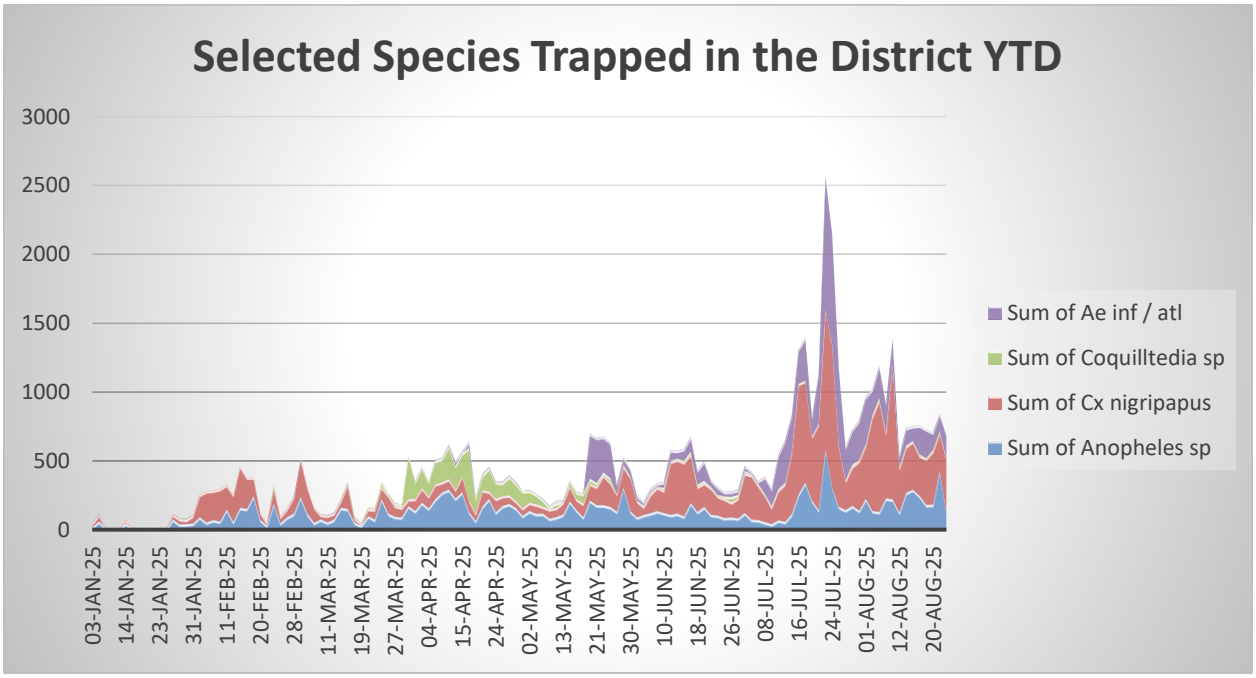
# Week of 8/18/2025 Operations Update (34)

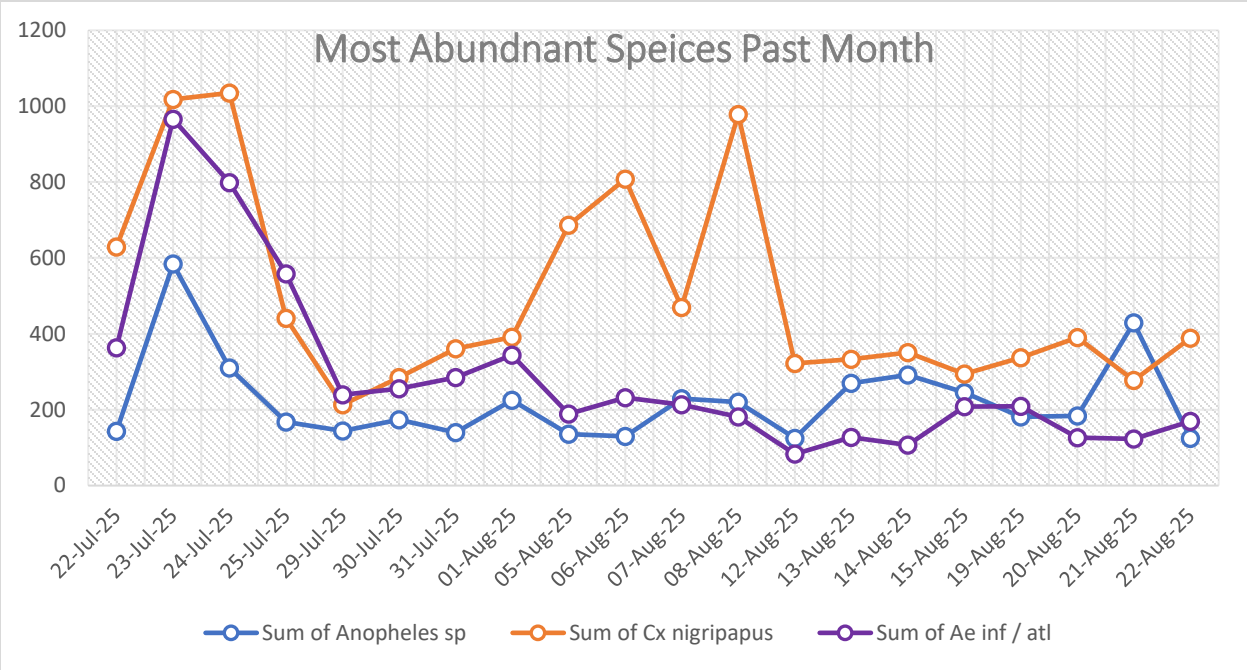
The mosquito population remained at low levels this week with no spraying for adult mosquitoes. The bar graph below shows the total number of adult mosquitoes from all traps in the District for the past year (TTM).



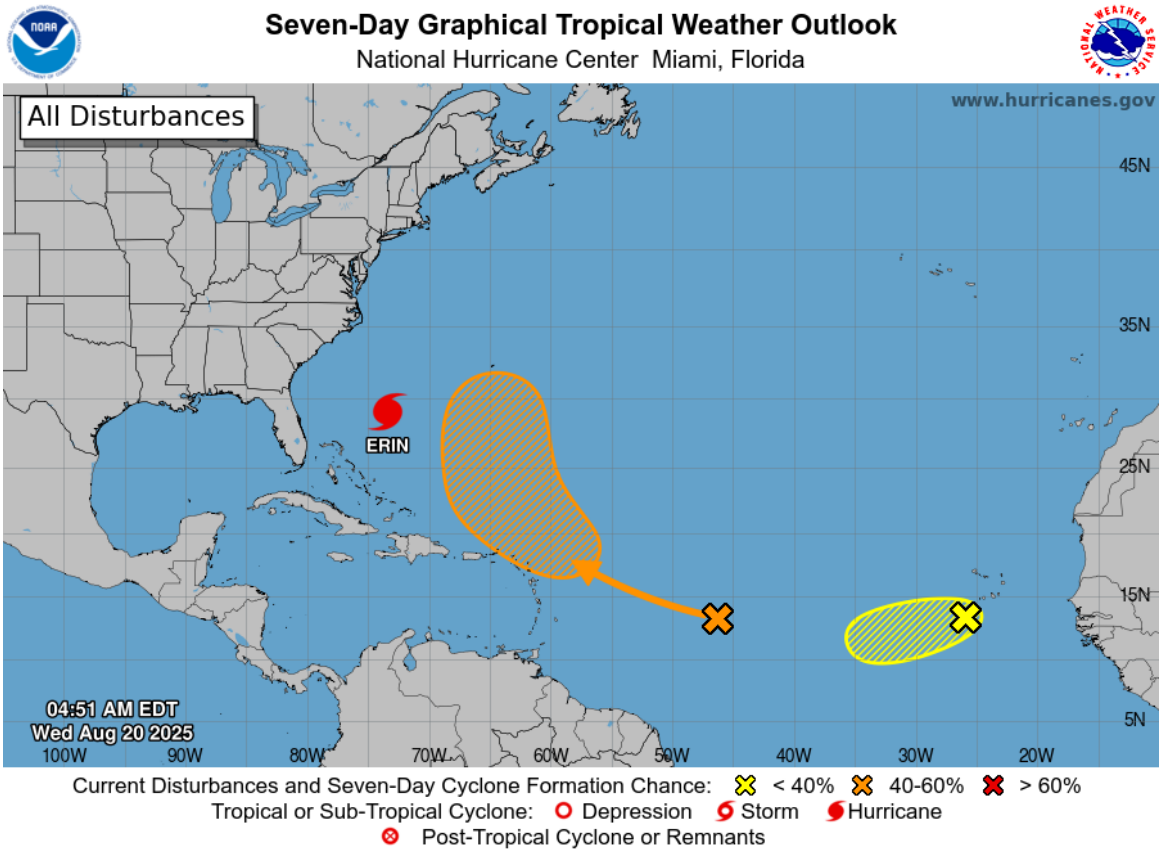

For most of 2025 the mosquito population has been at low levels. If you look at the graph above, we had about the same level of mosquitoes as we did in December. Rainfall was minimal the last two weeks, but we experienced high tides from Hurricane Erin passing by this week.



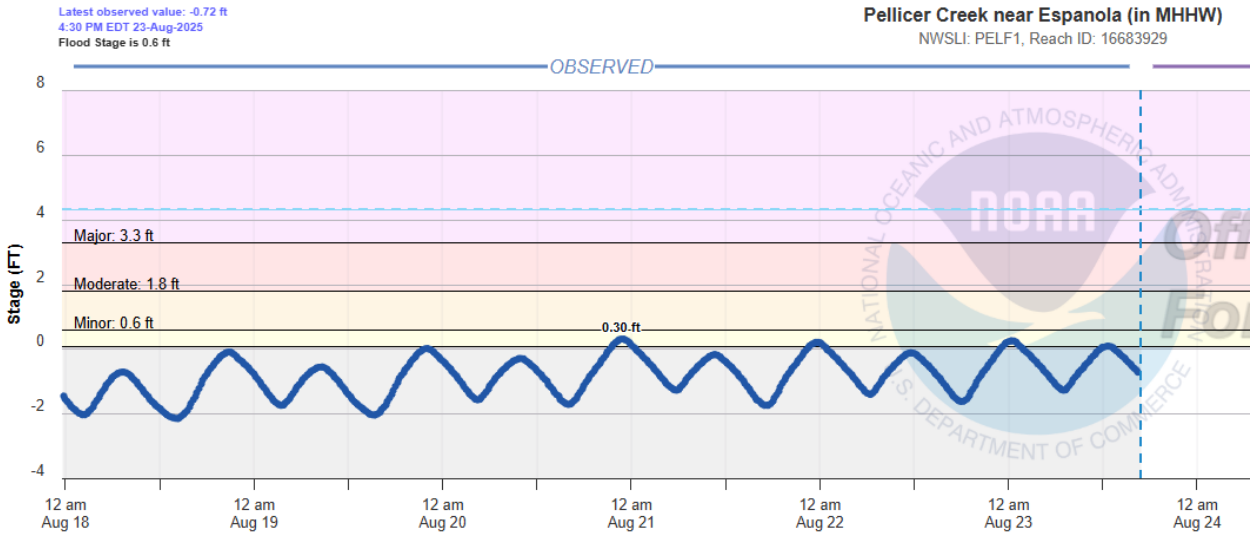
The three most abundant species of mosquito were essentially flat the past two weeks.



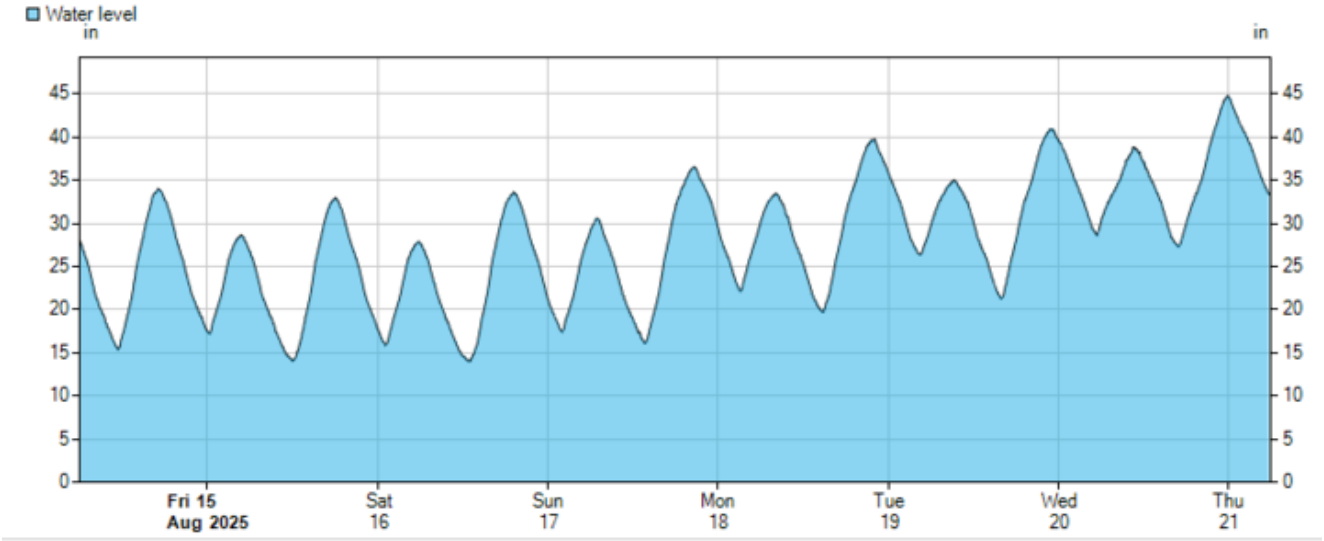

As Hurricane Erin passed by this week, well out in the Atlantic, it pushed up the tidal elevation, particularly on the back side of the storm.



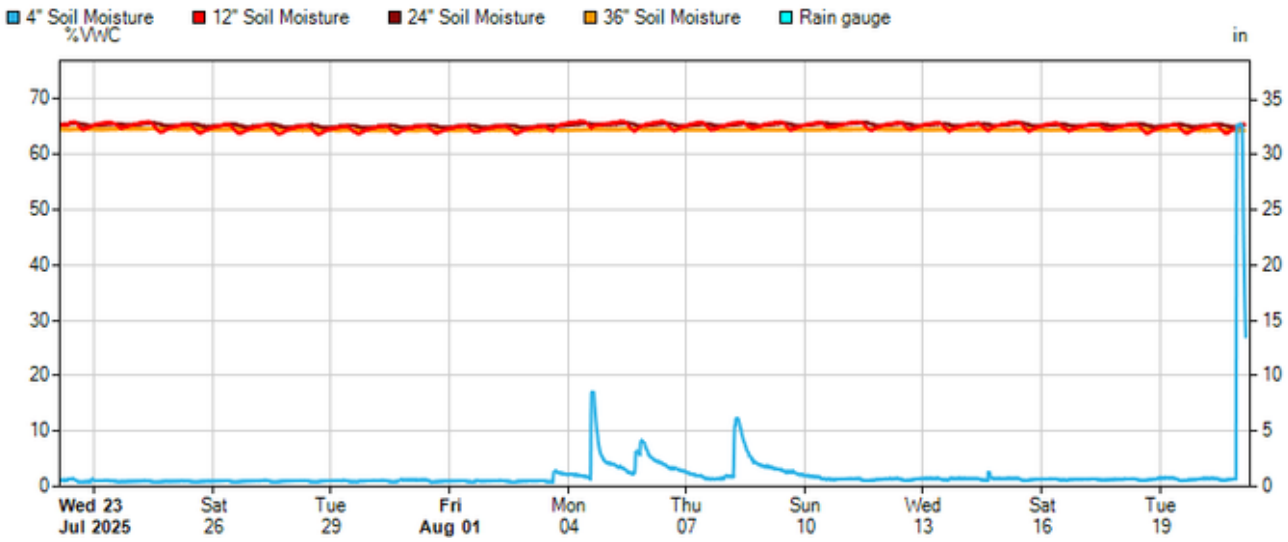
NOAA tide data from Pellicer Creek below.



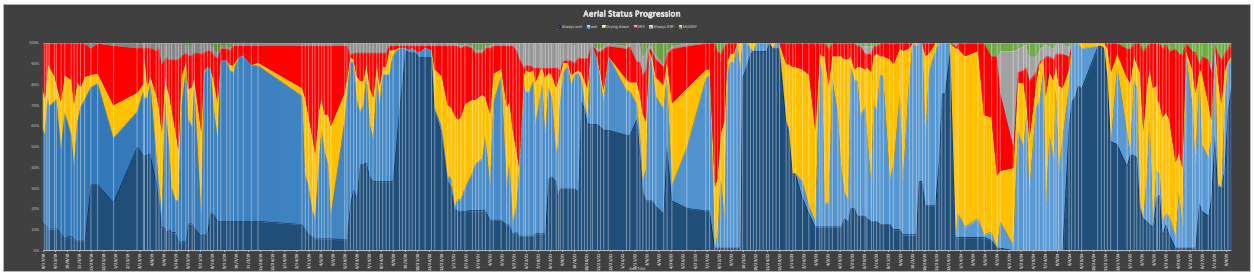

The District measures water level in the high saltmarsh areas where saltmarsh mosquitoes breed. A reading above 38” will flood some of these mosquito breeding areas.



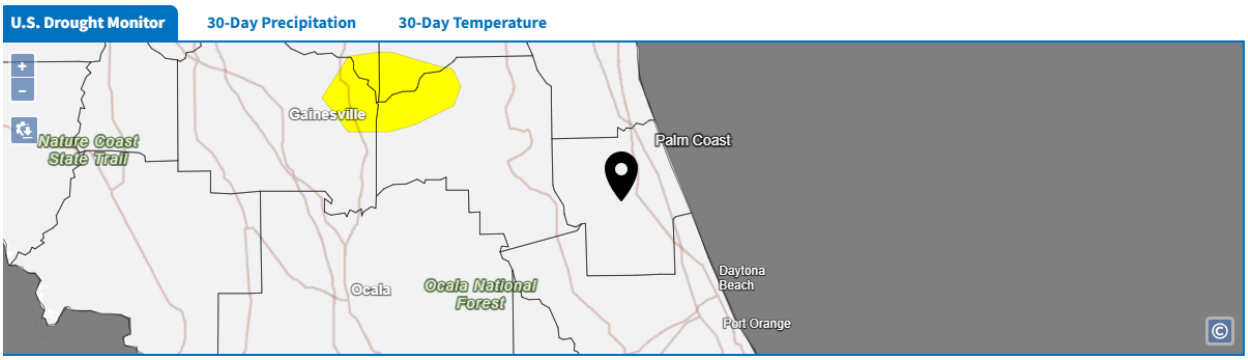

We can correlate the increase in tidal elevation to flooding at monitored sites instantaneously using soil moisture probes. The data below shows the sensor at surface level becoming inundated with flood water at the high tide mark. Once mosquito breeding sites flood, eggs laid in the soil previously will hatch and begin the lifecycle. However, these areas are treated with larvicide in advance of flooding to prevent this from happening.




Conditions in the saltmarsh can ebb and flow significantly. Every time there is a dry down followed by a flood, saltmarsh mosquitoes can proliferate. The chart below spans nine years and is data gathered by helicopter surveillance flights of the major breeding sites. In between helicopter surveillance and the very specific monitoring done by remote monitoring devices, including cameras, are on-site inspections conducted by field technicians. This is how we evaluate mosquito breeding in our own saltmarsh. However, since this species of mosquito can fly twenty miles, we often see migration from other areas into Flagler County.



Rainfall in the District ranged from 0.1” to 0.7”. The percentage of Flagler County that is abnormally dry (D0) remained at zero.




'he U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the location and intensity of drought across the :ountry using 5 classifications: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going nto or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1–D4).

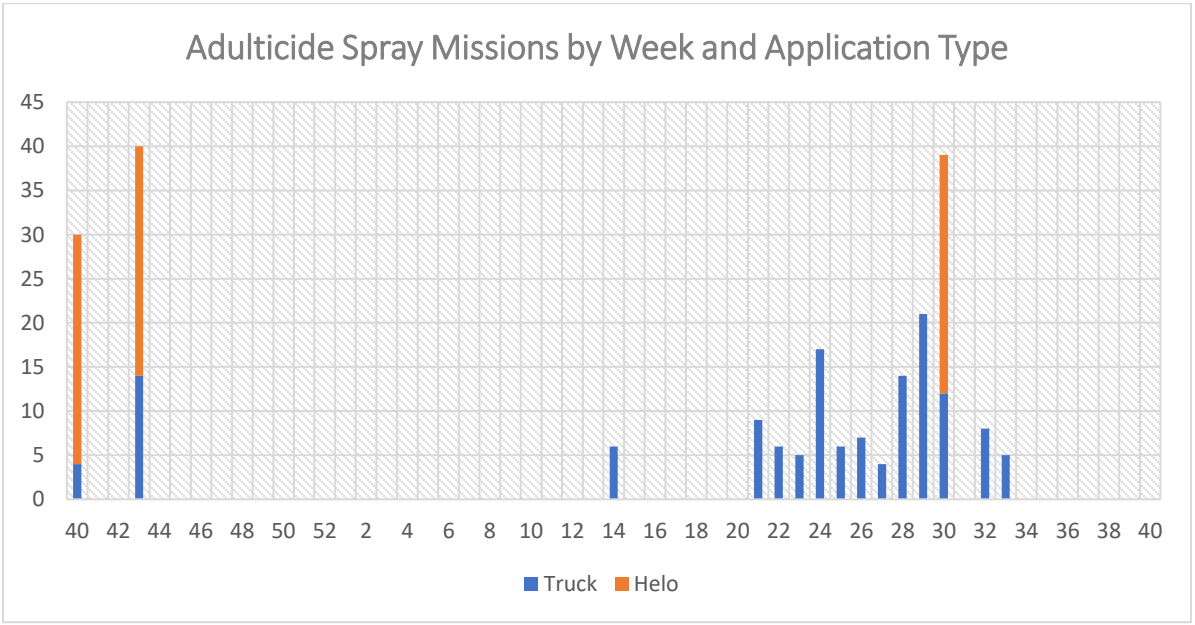
'he U.S. Drought Monitor is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. )epartment of Agriculture, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

;ource(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA

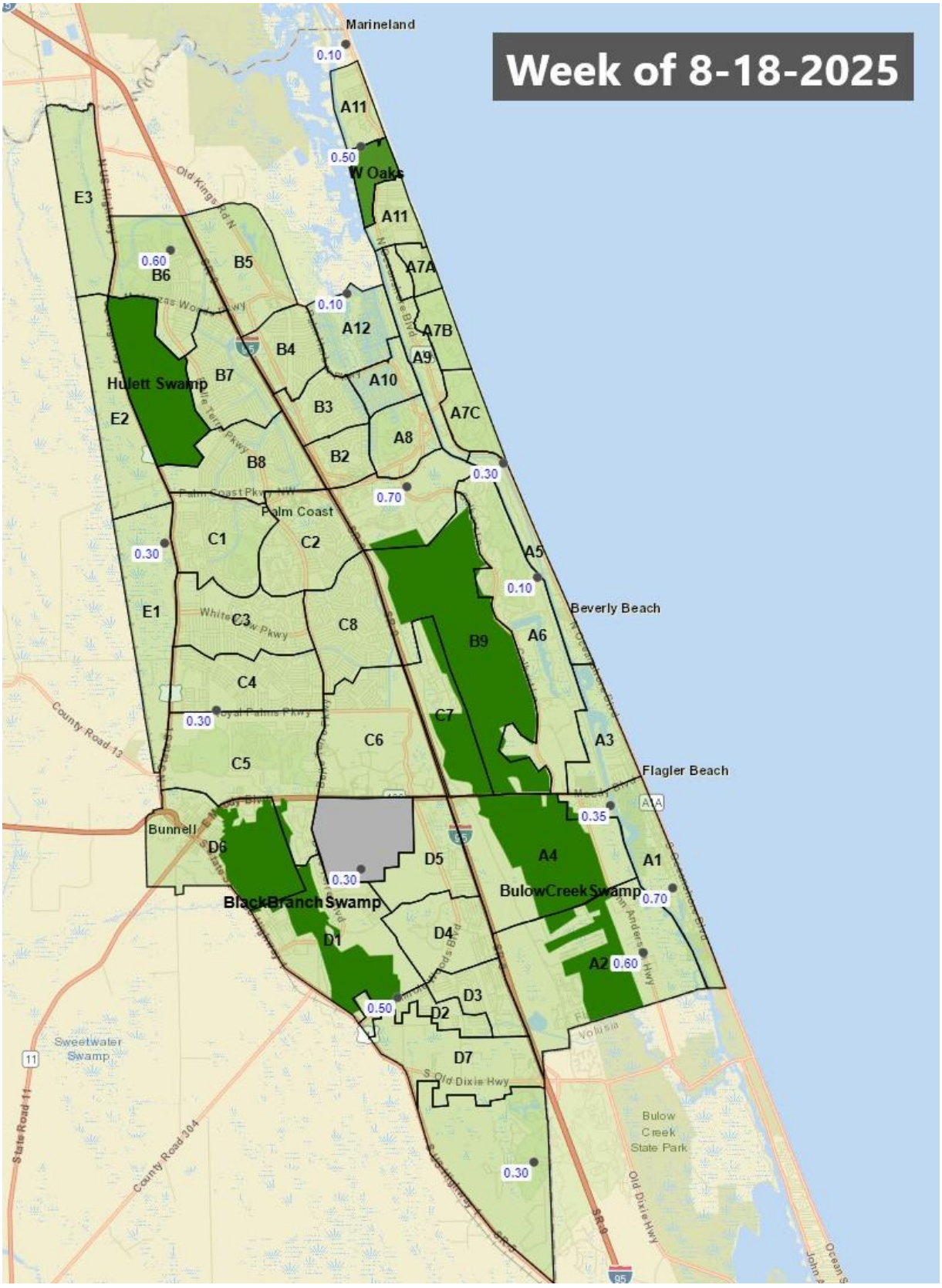
**Legend**

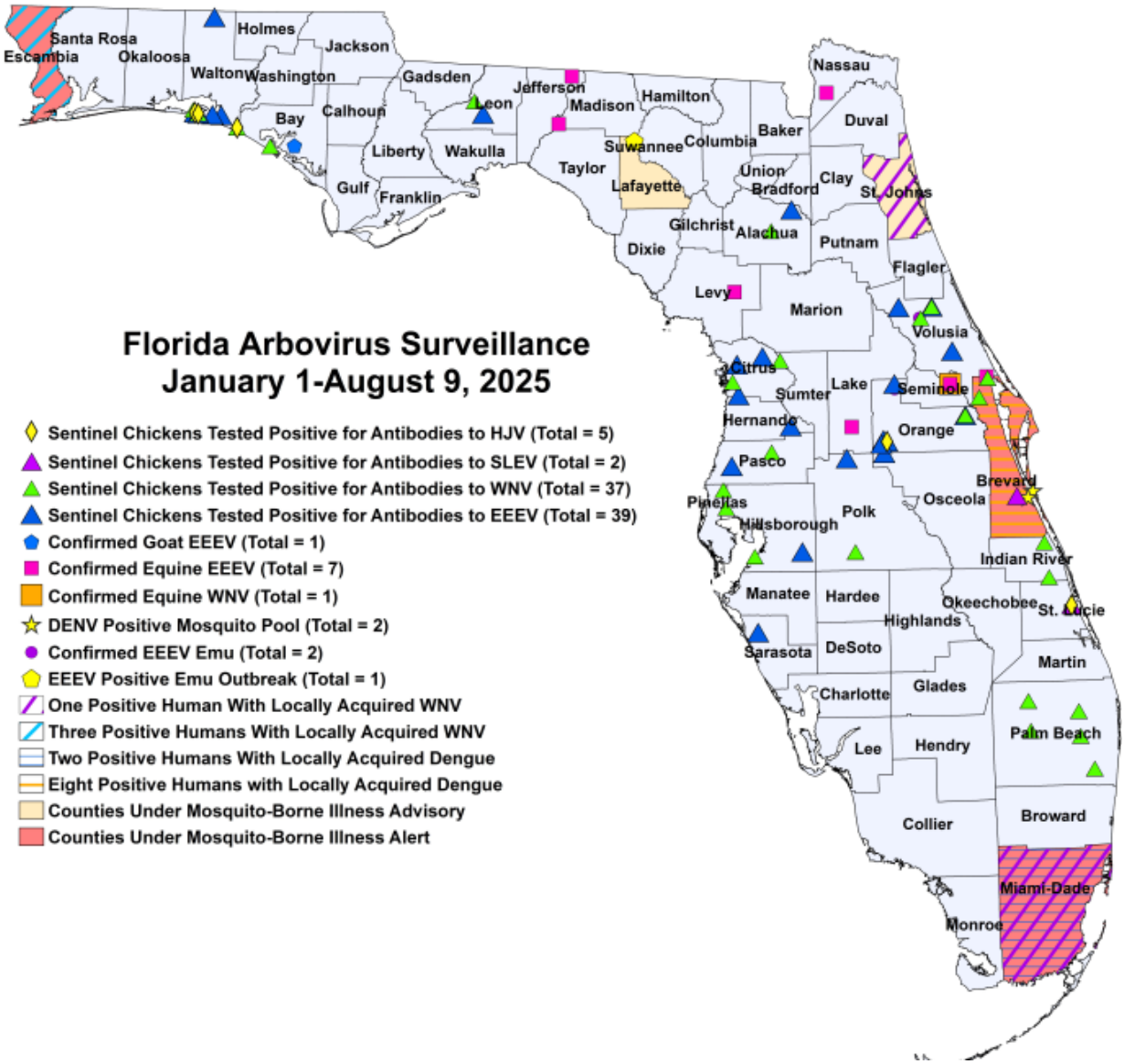
| Drought & Dryness Categories | % of Flagler County |
|---|---|
| D0 - Abnormally Dry | 0% |
| D1 – Moderate Drought | 0% |
| D2 – Severe Drought | 0% |
| D3 – Extreme Drought | 0% |
| D4 – Exceptional Drought | 0% |
| Total Area in Drought (D1–D4) | 0% |

No spraying this week (34).



Rainfall totals for the week by manual rain gauge location in blue.






**Advisories/Alerts:** Lafayette and St. Johns counties are currently under a mosquito-borne illness advisory. Brevard, Escambia, and Miami-Dade counties are currently under a mosquito-borne illness alert. No other counties are currently under a mosquito-borne illness advisory or alert. See the full DOH Report

*Explainer- Mosquito-borne diseases are routinely spread by many species of mosquitoes in Florida. Mosquito control programs work to keep the population of mosquitoes at low numbers to minimize disease spread. A higher likelihood of disease transmission exists when mosquito populations are allowed to persist for a long enough time to become infected and spread diseases. The more mosquitoes there are, the greater the chances of encountering an infected mosquito. The strategy is simple: monitor the mosquito population for increases and knock them down quickly, either before they become adults or before they have a chance to spread diseases.