FFCA Fire Service Liaison Officer’s Information Dissemination for March 31, 2020
Submitted by Brett Pollock

Current Situation:

- DMS evaluating the availability of reusable gowns and drapes.
- The Storm Prediction Center has just upgraded the threat for severe weather, particularly tornadoes, for the Florida Panhandle. As of 1222, an Enhanced Risk (Level 3 of 5) of severe weather. A Tornado Watch is in effect for the Panhandle until 3 PM CT, and additional watches may be issued for the rest of North Florida later today. In addition, the Marginal Risk (Level 1 of 5) of severe weather has been extended south to the I-4 corridor. This threat is only for damaging winds (45-65 mph) and will be this evening into the overnight hours.
- Florida Forest Service developed guidance for Emergency Response and How to Work Safely During the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- On-going: ESF-8 working on hospital surge plan to determine need for field hospital(s)
- On-going: Test Kits have arrived. State EM Director to determine distribution
- On-going: Counties with 100 or greater cases will be analyzed to the Zip Code with several overlays to include testing sites and hospital data to evaluate effectiveness of testing locations
- On-going: Waiting on guidance from Surgeon General on first responder passive exposure
- On-going: Wildfire contingency plan still being developed
- Currently 87 active wildfires
- 6,338 COVID-19 cases in Florida with 77 deaths with 60k test performed
- Current number of SEOC Missions: 9,508

Important takeaways for this document:

- Evaluating reusable gowns and drapes
- Upgraded Severe Weather and wildfire information.
- FFS guidance for emergency response and work safety.
- Cases will continue to increase
- Maintain a sense of urgency on all aspects of this crisis


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