STATE EOC ACTIVATES TO LEVEL 2 TO MONITOR PANHANDLE FLOODING

TALLAHASSEE – As of 8 a.m. Eastern time today, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Tallahassee has activated to a Level 2, or partial activation, in response to the severe weather and flooding conditions in the Panhandle and Big Bend regions of the state.

Select Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) including Transportation, Health, Law Enforcement and the Florida National Guard will join Operations, Plans and Meteorology staff to follow the severe weather threats and coordinate local requests for state assistance during this event. The SEOC will operate from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily until further notice.

Most North Florida rivers from the Ochlockonee River westward to the Alabama line remain above flood stage from heavy rains during the past weekend and again on Tuesday. Heavy rains are forecast through Thursday with projected rainfall totals in excess of 5 inches and locally heavier amounts expected. Another storm system is expected late this weekend.

Florida emergency management officials are urging residents and visitors in the Panhandle and North Florida regions to have disaster plans in place and be prepared to follow local evacuation orders. All residents in the region should remember to “Turnaround, Don’t Drown” if faced with a flooded roadway.

For more information on the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to GET A PLAN!, please visit: www.FloridaDisaster.org.

All students, teachers and parents can find educational information and free downloadable materials at: www.KidsGetAPlan.com.

And for the latest daily situation and flash reports go to: www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT.

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