



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, May 23, 2023



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Ian Guidicelli	(850) 354-3044	Ian.Guidicelli@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Jazmin Perkins	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Kelsey Walters	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Kennedy Tartt	(850) 567-6368	Kennedy.Tartt@em.myflorida.com
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com
Logistics Chief	Kenneth DeCastro	(850) 567-1943	Kenneth.DeCastro@em.myflorida.com
Human Services Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com
Emergency Services	Rob Dietrich	(850) 727-3414	Robert.Dietrich@em.myflorida.com
Infrastructure Branch Director	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com
ESF 8 On-Call	Brandon Gore	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Alecia Collins	(850) 591-9544	Alecia.Collins@em.myflorida.com
DEM Finance and Admin	Kaitlyn Hunt	(850) 694-0312	Kaitlyn.Hunt@em.myflorida.com



Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Leon, Gadsden	Regional Grants Mtg / Off & Monitoring
RC Manager	Leon	Region 2 Grants Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie		
Region 3: Pam Bergstrom	St. Johns	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 4: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Off (AM) / Hospital Surge Mtg (PM)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Brevard	NWS Meeting
Region 6: Glen Hammers	Lee	Natural Hazards Meeting
Region 7: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Office Admin



Region 3 Coverage Provided by RR3

RC Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Out of Region / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Vacant	N/A	Not Available
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Hamilton	County Stakeholder Hurricane Season Kickoff Mtg
Region 3: Joshua Saunders	Columbia	G2300 Training
RRCT Manager	Out of Region	Annual Leave
Region 4: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Pasco	Instructing FL-603
Region 6: Kathryn Thompson	Pasco	Instructing FL-603
Region 7: Dana McGeehan	Palm Beach	FROC Presentation

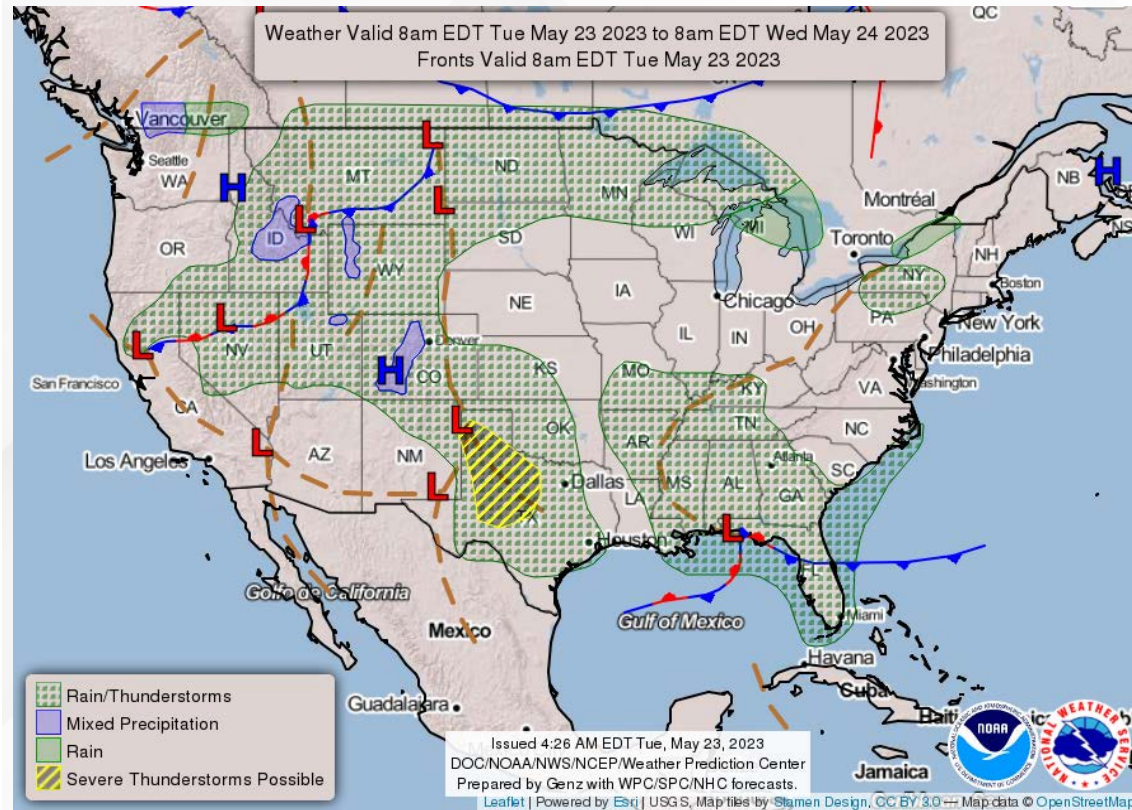
Region 1 Coverage provided by RRC 2

Region 4 Coverage provided by RRC 7

RRC Status
Normal Operations
In Region / Delayed Response
Deployed / Delayed Response
Out of Service / Unavailable

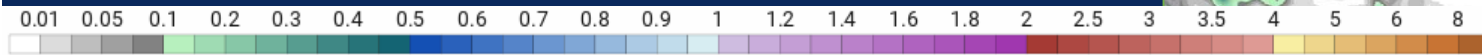


Meteorology Summary

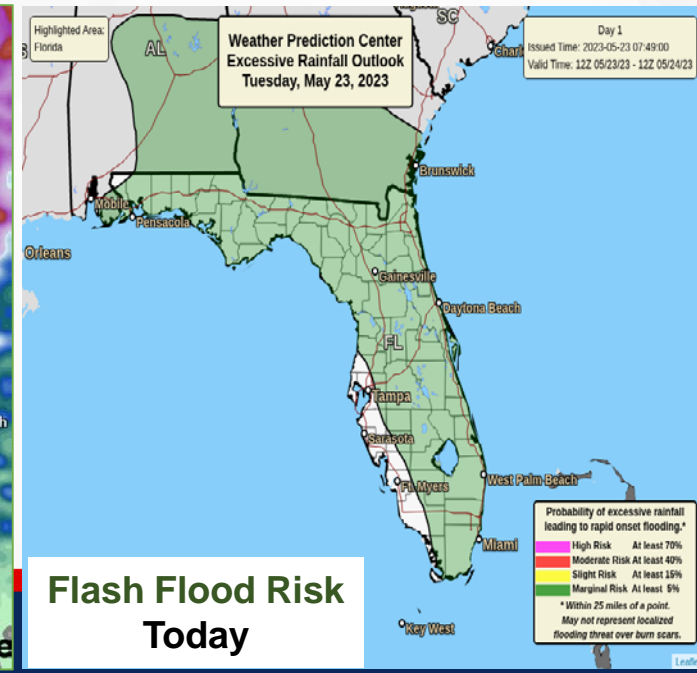
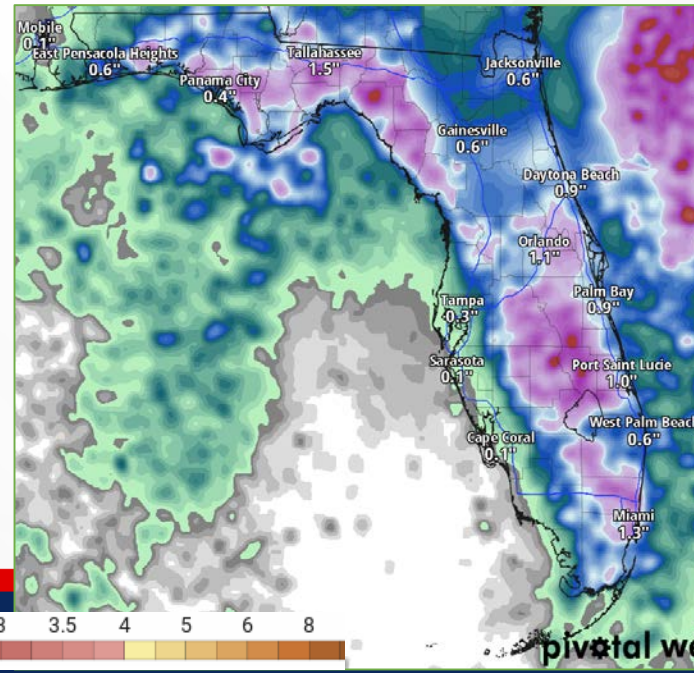


Today's Weather Map

24-Hour Rainfall Totals
Locally 4-6" Big Bend & Interior Peninsula



Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7
Lightning	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Tornado							
Damaging Wind	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Hail				L	L	L	L
Flash Flooding	L	M	M	L	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)							
Excessive Heat							
Wildfire							
Rip Currents	M	M	H	L	M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.72 ft. (0.53 ft. Above Normal)						
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	322 (-13) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)						



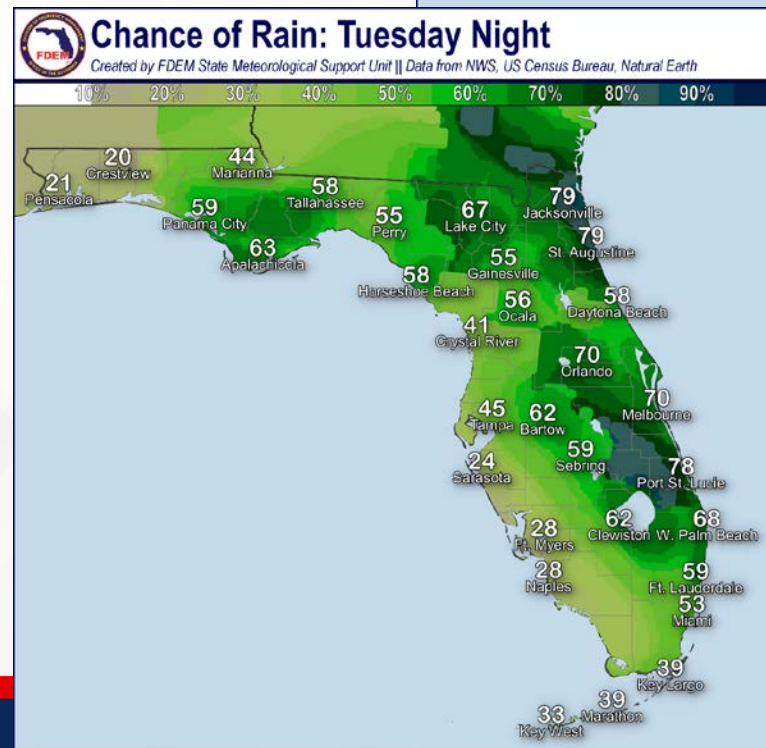


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

An active weather day can be expected across the Sunshine State once again today. Ample moisture will promote the development of numerous to widespread showers and thunderstorms through the day, maximizing in coverage during the peak heating hours of the day (60-90% chance of rain). The combination of a lingering stalled frontal boundary and the daily afternoon sea breeze will allow for **isolated strong to severe thunderstorms** to develop during the afternoon. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk for Severe Weather (level 1 of 5)** across Florida, spanning from the Panhandle to the Peninsula, as more organized thunderstorm activity may be capable of producing locally damaging wind gusts (45-60 mph), frequent lightning, heavy rainfall rates, and isolated hail up to 1" (or up to quarter size). Additional rounds of heavy rain and thunderstorm activity will largely occur on already saturated soils, leading to **isolated flooding** of urban and poor drainage/low-lying areas. A **Flood Watch** remains in effect for portions of the Panhandle and Big Bend through late tonight to account for any **flooding** due to rainfall runoff that may accompany this afternoon's heavy rain. Given the presence of the stalled frontal boundary, rain and thunderstorm activity will linger well into the overnight hours across the state (45-75% chance of rain); however, the overall severe weather threat will taper off later this evening.

The increased cloud cover and widespread rain chances will keep temperatures in the middle to upper 80s statewide this afternoon. Low temperatures tonight will remain in the 60s across North Florida, the 70s across the Peninsula, and near 80-degrees along the Florida Keys.



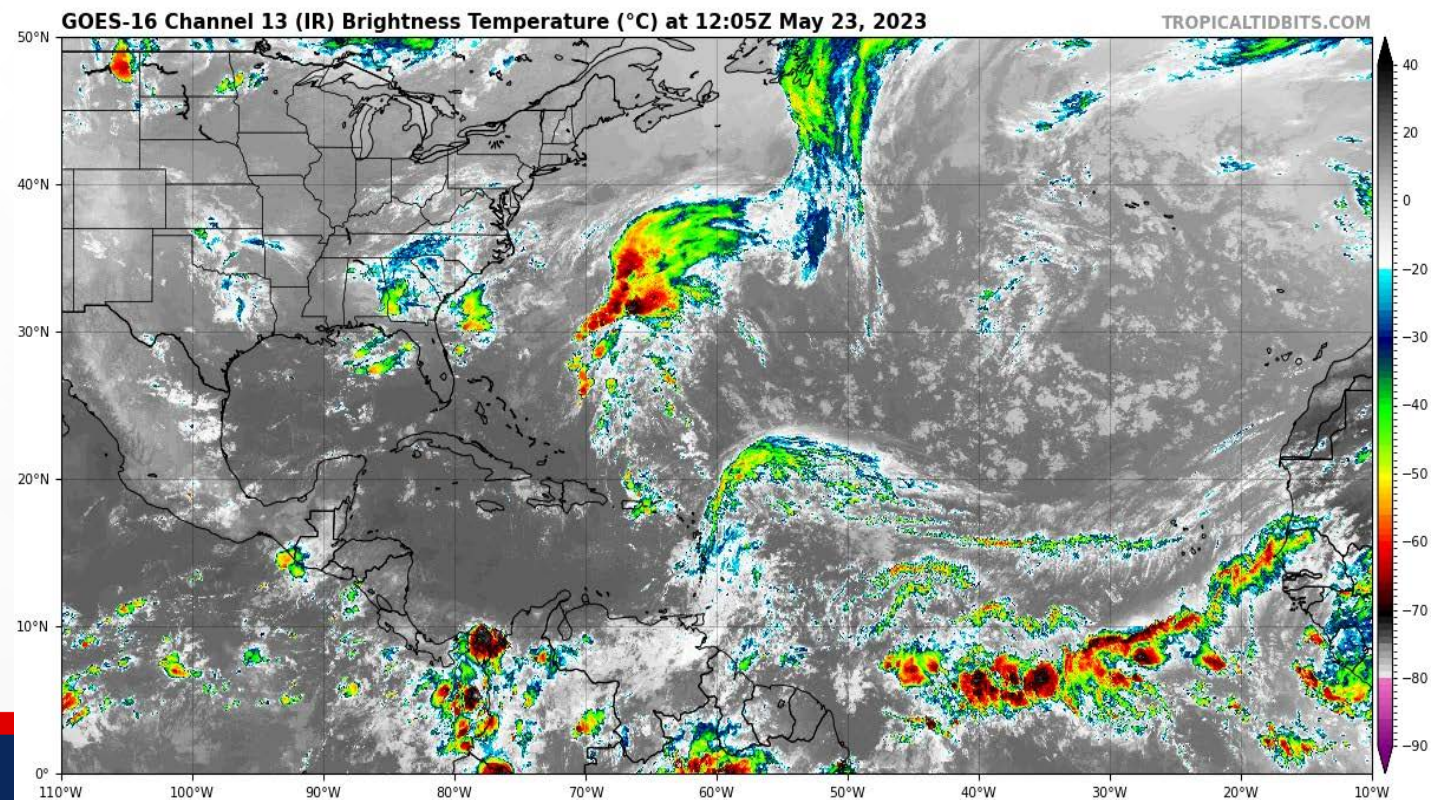
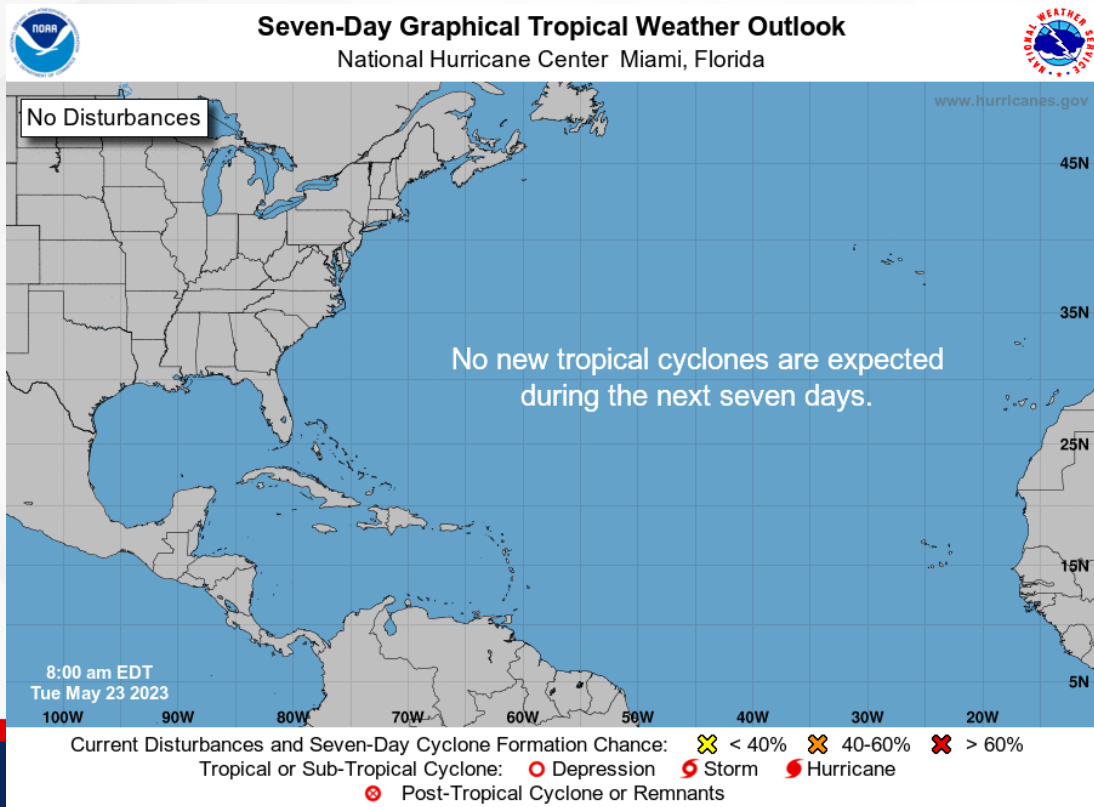


Tropical Weather

For the latest on the tropics, please visit the National Hurricane Center (NHC) at www.hurricanes.gov.

Tropical cyclone development is **not expected** during the next 7 days.

The National Hurricane Center has begun issuing regular Tropical Weather Outlooks for the 2023 hurricane season. These outlooks show areas of possible tropical cyclone development in the next 48 hours and next 7 days. Outlooks are issued every 6 hours at 8am, 2pm, 8pm, and 2am ET, or as conditions warrant. The Atlantic Hurricane Season officially begins June 1.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Persistent northeasterly flow will yield a **moderate to high risk of rip currents** along the Florida East Coast today, with a **moderate risk** residing along the Florida Panhandle. Low risk conditions continue along the Florida West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Northeasterly flow will influence a long-period ocean swell along the Northeast and East-Central Florida Coasts. **Wave heights** of 3-5' can be expected, with isolated breakers in the surf zone reaching 6'. Waves of 1' can be expected along all Gulf Coast beaches.

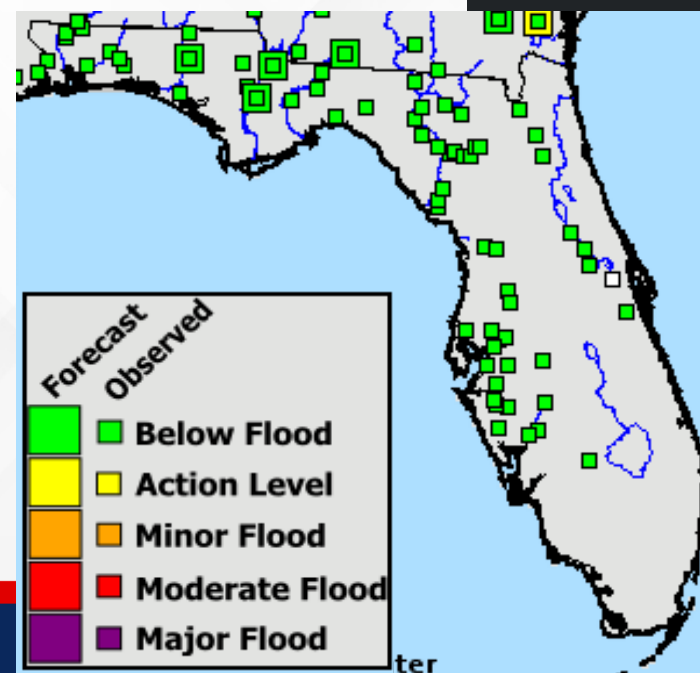
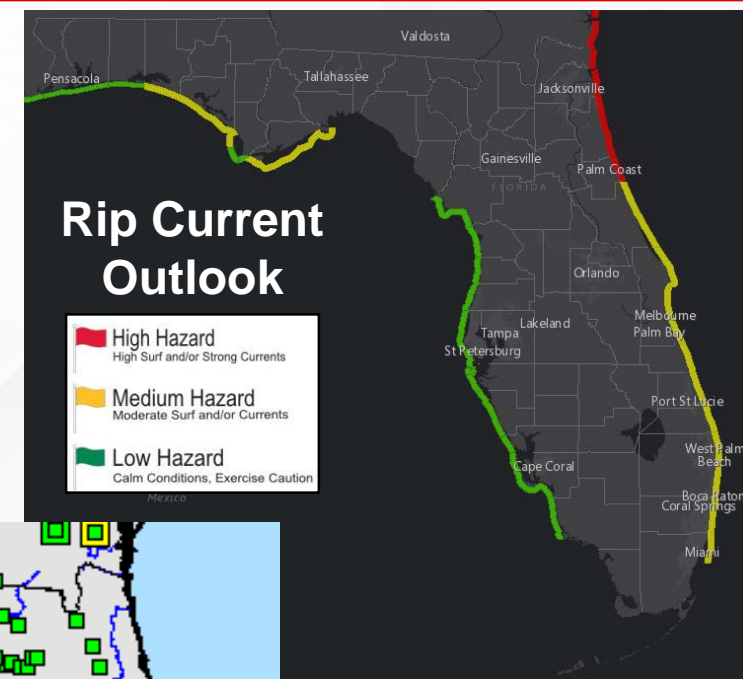
Red Tide has been observed above background levels along portions of the Florida West Coast.

Coastal Flooding: There is no risk for coastal flooding today.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the state as numerous to widespread showers and thunderstorms develop through the day. The stalled frontal boundary will continue to promote very slow storm movement, leading to heavy rainfall rates for an extended period of time. Widespread rainfall totals of 1-2" can be expected across the state, with higher amounts of 2-4" residing over portions of the eastern Panhandle, Big Bend, and interior Peninsula. Isolated higher amounts of 4-6" cannot be ruled out, especially for locations that see multiple rounds of heavy rain and thunderstorm activity. A **Flood Watch** remains in effect for portions of the Panhandle and Big Bend through late tonight as additional rounds of rain and thunderstorm look to occur over already saturated ground. Excessive rainfall runoff may lead to **flooding** of poor drainage and low-lying areas.

Riverine Flooding: All Florida rivers, waterways, and tributaries are running below and are forecast to continue running below flood stage. With increased rain chances across the Panhandle and Big Bend, quick-response rivers may see slight rises in water levels; however, riverine flooding is not expected. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](http://www.flriver.com).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.72 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.53 feet above normal for this time of year.



Current & Forecast River Levels

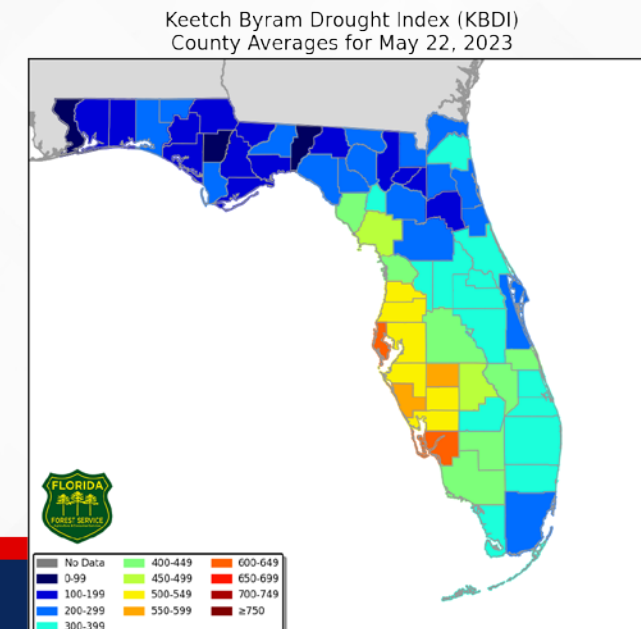
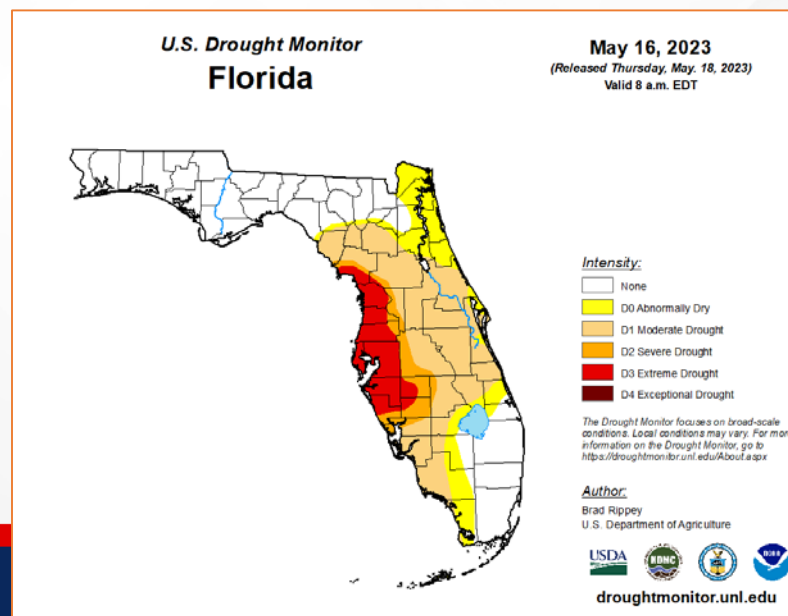
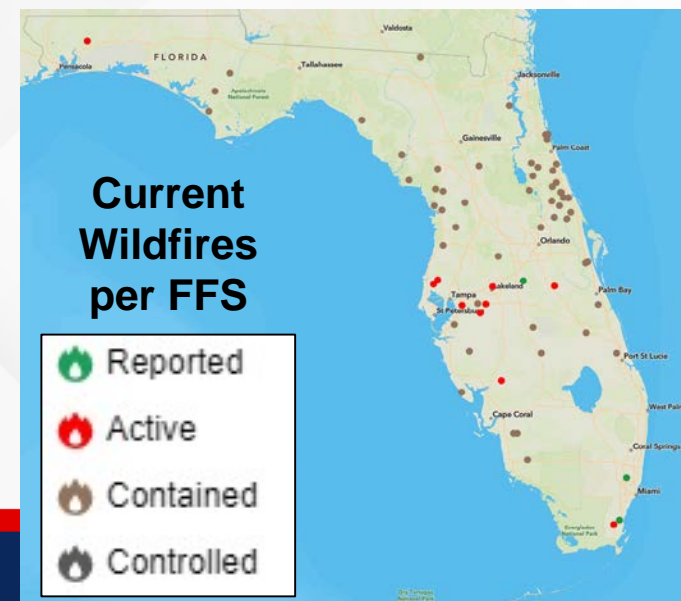


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Numerous to widespread showers and thunderstorms can be expected across Florida today, courtesy of a stalled frontal boundary. Relative humidity values will remain well above critical thresholds statewide, with a general northeast flow developing along the Florida East Coast. Wind gusts may reach 15-25 mph along the Northeast Florida coastline this afternoon. The overall wildfire threat is very low today; however, lightning may ignite new wildfires especially over the drought-ridden western Florida Peninsula. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 66 active wildfires across the state, burning approximately 5,896 acres.

Drought: Central Florida remained a drought hotspot, with the expansion of **moderate to extreme drought** noted on last week's Drought Monitor update. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Florida led the Southeast U.S. with statewide topsoil moisture rated 49% very short to short on 5/14. Parts of Florida continued to experience a significant risk of wildfire activity, with the Sandy Fire in Big Cypress National Preserve having burned nearly 20,000 acres of vegetation by mid-May. In recent days, Florida's drought areas have endured extremely hot weather, with Naples reporting 5 consecutive days with 90-degree heat from 5/11-5/15. Naples endured a month-long dry spell from 4/17-5/16, without a drop of rain during that period. Through 5/16, year-to-date rainfall totaled less than 4 inches in Florida locations such as Tampa (3.90 inches, or 34% of normal), Brooksville (3.52 inches, or 30%), St. Petersburg (2.21 inches, or 22%), and Naples (1.99 inches, or 23%). In stark contrast, year-to-date rainfall on the Atlantic Coast in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, totaled 37.33 inches (289% of normal).

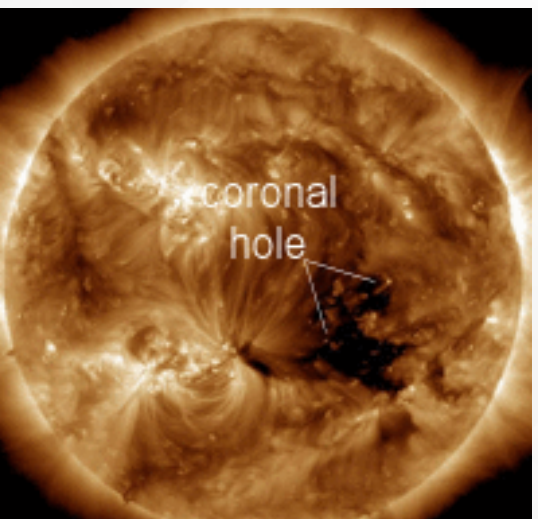
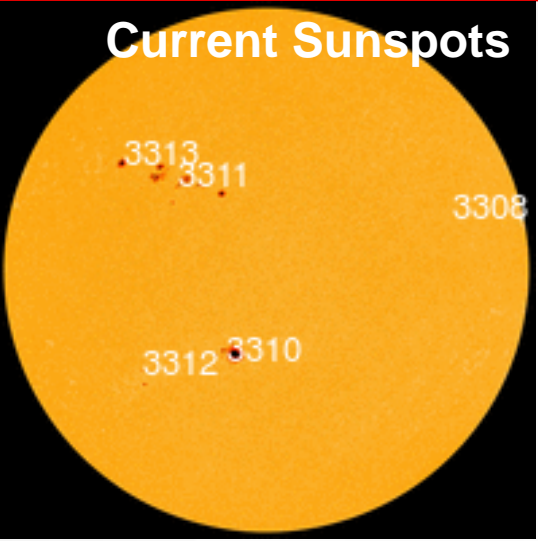
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is 322 (-13) on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **ten** counties (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).



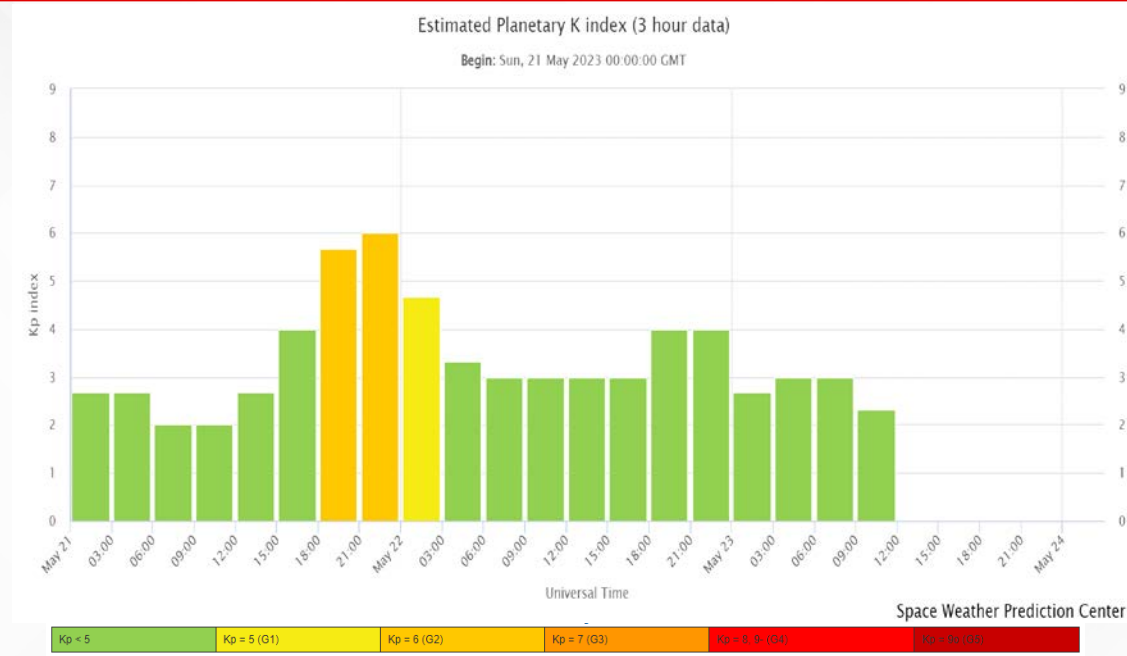


Space Weather

Current Sunspots



Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 60%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackouts

48 Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/23	5/24
Max Kp= 5 (G1)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 15%

Space Weather: Solar activity is likely to be moderate to high over the next several days due to the flare potential of sunspot #3311. Enhanced solar wind conditions are expected to persist through midweek due to coronal hole influences. The geomagnetic field is expected to remain unsettled today, and isolated minor geomagnetic storms (G1) are possible through midweek courtesy of an enhanced stream of solar wind flowing from the Earth-facing coronal hole. The overall space weather threat to Florida remains very low.



SWO Communications Systems & Contact Information

Equipment	Contact	Status	Comments
Phone:	800-320-0519, 850-815-4001, 850-591-0071 (Backup Cell)	Operational	
Backup Landline:	850-487-3234, 850-487-3228	Operational	
Fax:	850-815-4979	Operational	
Email:	SWP@em.myflorida.com	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	https://apps.floridadisaster.org/SWO/	Operational	
SLERS:	DEM Statewide	Operational	
FNARS:	WGY974	Operational	
Federal NAWAS:	State Watch Office	Operational	
EMnet Message:	FL.000- State Watch Office	Operational	
EMnet Voice:	FL SWP- State Watch Office	Operational	
IPAWS:	LP.1 Stations via Emnet	Operational	
FIN:	SOFEOC	Operational	
Satellite Phones:	888-890-5178 or 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	http://www.floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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