Tuesday, April 16, 2024					5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook			
No Threat Low Threat					Moderate Threat		High Threat	
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind	Hail	Wildfire	Fog (Overnight)	River Flooding	Rip Currents
					Locally	Locally	Big Bend &	Panhandle &
ue					Int. Northeast, Central &	Panhandle & NE FL (I-95	Suwannee	Southeast FL East Coast
					Southwest FL	Corridor)	River Valley	West Coast
					Locally		Big Bend &	Panhandle &
Wed					Int. Northeast &	Panhandle &	Suwannee	Southeast FL
					Central Florida	NE Florida	River Valley	East Coast West Coast
					Locally		Big Bend &	Panhandle
Thu					Int. Northeast &		Suwannee	East Coast
					Central Florida		River Valley	West Coast
					Locally		Big Bend &	Panhandle
-ri					Int. Northeast & Central Florida		Suwannee River Valley	East Coast West Coast
					Locally		Big Bend &	Panhandle
Sat	Iso. Northern Panhandle				Int. Northeast &		Suwannee	East Coast
_	High Temperatures				Central Florida s: Friday rt Unit II Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Eart		River Valley mperatures: Sature ate Meteorological Support Unit Date from No	West Coast
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Major Flood

Moderate Flood

WPC Ice (chance) WPC Ice (likely)

WPC T-storm (Chance)

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Active or Forecast River Flooding Warnings



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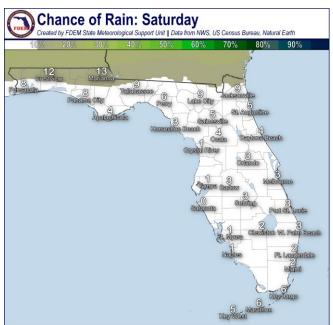
Forecast Weather Pattern: Saturday Morning

...Mostly Dry Conditions Statewide Through the Work Week...Next Chance of Rain Possible Along Northern Panhandle Later in the Day on Saturday...Temperatures Reaching the 90s Nearly Statewide By the Weekend...Sea Breeze Developing Along Coastlines to Help Keep Coastal Areas Slightly Cooler...Minor to Moderate Riverine Flooding Forecast Through the Weekend Along Big Bend and Suwannee River Valley...Drought Finally Removed Along West-Central Florida...Ongoing Dry Conditions and Lack of Rainfall to Create Sensitive to Locally Elevated Wildfire Conditions throughout Interior Northeast and Central Florida...

Tuesday – Saturday:

High pressure along the eastern Peninsula will continuously provide mostly dry conditions over the next 5 days across the Sunshine State (near 0-10% chance of rain). A few light sprinkles or very isolated showers cannot be completely ruled out along North Florida at times Wednesday and Thursday afternoon as an upper-level feature moves overhead and a weak cold front attempt to push through the Carolina's. High pressure will gradually shift eastward towards the western Atlantic later in the week but will continue to provide mostly dry conditions. The next best chance of rain will be Saturday evening as a weak frontal boundary dip southward into the Deep South, but even then, it won't be much (10-15% chance of rain). The highest chances for light sprinkles or spotty showers on Saturday will be north of and along the I-10 corridor, and few rumbles of thunder during the peak heating hours of the day cannot be ruled out at this time. Elsewhere across the state, rain chances will be near non-existent as dry air at the surface will limit any development (less than 5% chance of rain). Some computer model guidance is attempting to produce light showers along the immediate Florida East Coast with the help of the daily sea breeze late in the day on Saturday, but confidence remains low due to dry air near the ground level. Areas of **patchy fog** will be possible overnight Tuesday and Wednesday for portions of the Florida Panhandle and interior Northeast Florida with the help of calm conditions and recovering moisture.

temperatures will continue High to gradually warm up throughout the week courtesy of mostly dry conditions. By the afternoon hours on Tuesday and Wednesday, high temperatures across the state will be well within the 80s and some locations along the I-75 corridor and West-Central Florida near or at 90-degrees. By Friday, high temperatures across the state will be within the middle to upper 80s and low 90s. Saturday's high temperatures will remain in the upper 80s to low 90s with interior regions of Central Florida reaching the middle 90s. The sea breeze developing along the coastlines each day will help to keep coastal areas slightly cooler during the afternoons. Low temperatures will remain within the 60s and low 70s each evening through Saturday, with the Florida Keys only cooling down into the middle 70s.



Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk for flash or coastal flooding over the next 5 days. For the latest Flash Flood Outlooks, please visit the <u>Weather Prediction Center</u>.

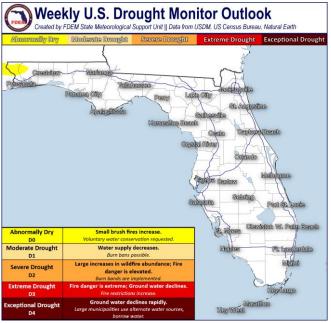
Several **River Flood Warnings** extend across the Big Bend and Suwannee River Valley as a result of last weeks severe weather and heavy rainfall. River Flood Warnings are in effect for the <u>St</u> <u>Marks River near Newport</u> and <u>Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates</u> until further notice as **moderate flooding** is forecast. Minor flooding is forecast to continue through late this week and over the





weekend for the <u>Ochlockonee River near Concord</u>, <u>near Havana</u> and the <u>Withlacoochee River near</u> <u>Pinetta</u>. The River Flood Warning for <u>minor flooding</u> at the <u>Aucilla River at Lamont</u> remains in effect until further notice. Forecast points along the Suwannee River including, <u>Luraville</u>, <u>Branford</u> and <u>Rock</u> <u>Bluff</u> are forecast to rise into <u>minor flood stage</u> tonight and early Wednesday morning and continue throughout the week. The <u>Santa Fe River at Hildreth</u> is also forecast to rise into <u>minor flood stage</u> later this evening. Dry conditions will help water levels to level out and slowly decline over the next 5 days, and little to no rainfall is expected to further increase water levels. For more details, please visit the <u>River Forecast Center</u>.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.83 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.84 feet <u>above</u> normal.



Drought & Fire Weather:

After numerous month of ongoing and long term drought conditions, drought was finally removed from the West-Central Peninsula on the latest Drought Monitor update. The last update that did not have West-Central Florida within drought conditions was February 14, 2023. The passing of multilpe weather systems have allowed for rainfall totals over the last 60 days have increase to 6-8" across the area, with locally higher totals upwards of 10" in some locations further north. Observed rainfall totals for the year are about 1-3" above normal, which have helped to steadily bring the area out of drought conditions. Abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions were introduced on the most recent update for central portions of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. Rainfall totals for the year are about 3-5" below normal; however, rainfall that was received late last week was not

taken into consideration for the latest update and the year-to-date rainfall totals. Following last week's severe weather and flooding event, about 3-5" were observed across the emerging drought areas, which will be reflected on the new update issued on Thursday.

The <u>Keetch-Byram Drought Index</u> average for Florida is **178** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are <u>zero</u> Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions can be expected throughout the interior Peninsula as dry air will cause relative humidity values to fall **near or below critical thresholds** (middle 20-30%) during the afternoons. While coastal regions will see relative humidity values above critical thresholds due to onshore winds and the daily sea breeze pushing moisture towards the coastlines, drier air will remain in place throughout the interior regions as moisture struggles to push inland. Red Flag Conditions are not expected as winds will remain light near 5-10 mph, with stronger winds along the immediate Florida East Coast upwards of 15 mph. Wind gusts will remain below Red Flag Criteria; however, the daily sea breeze along the coastlines may allow for breezy wind gusts of 15-20 mph to develop each afternoon. Areas south of the I-4 corridor and along Space Coast have rainfall totals that are approximately 1-3" below normal, which may also contribute to drier soils and fuels that contribute to the development and spreading of new or existing wildfires. Areas of **patchy fog** will also be possible during the overnight and early morning hours along the Panhandle and Northeast Florida overnight Tuesday and Wednesday as moisture recovers. According to the <u>Florida Forest Service</u>, there are 35 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 952 acres (as of 11:51 PM EDT).





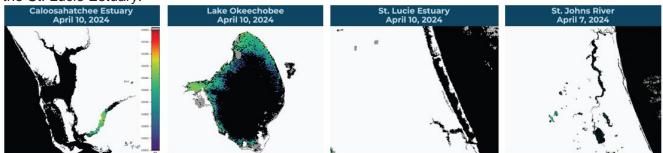
Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

Panhandle beaches can expect a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** beginning Tuesday and continuing throughout the rest of the week. Increasing surf and wave heights along Panhandle beaches will create a **high risk for rip currents** for all beaches by midweek. Weakening ocean swells and persistent onshore winds will continue to create an **elevated risk for rip currents** into the weekend. Southeast Florida beaches can expect a **high risk for rip currents** developing Tuesday and Wednesday due to elevated wave heights and breezy winds along the coastline. Later this week as the ocean swell subsides, Southeast Florida beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents**. All other East Coast beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** over the next 5 days. West Coast beaches can expect a low risk for rip currents. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit <u>www.weather.gov/beach</u>.

Calm winds and seas will give way to wave heights of 1-2' over the next 5 days due to calm seas. Panhandle beaches will see an increase of wave heights to 3' mid-week due to stronger onshore winds pushing wave heights closer towards the coast. All Panhandle and West Coast beaches will see wave heights of 1-2' return on Thursday and continue into the weekend. East Coast beaches will see wave heights of 2-3' throughout the rest of the week. Southeast Florida and Atlantic-facing Key beaches can expect wave heights of 3-5' beginning Tuesday evening and continuing into through Thursday due to stronger easterly winds. Breaking waves further offshore from Atlantic-facing Keys beaches could reach upwards of 6-7' at times on Wednesday. Wave heights will steadily decline through the end of the week allowing for waves of 1-2' to return by the weekend.

Red Tide was not observed in samples collected across the state this past week.

<u>Blue-Green Algae</u> conditions were observed by samplers at 12 sites of the 33 sites visited during the week of 4/5 to 4/11. Low to moderate bloom potential was observed by satellite imagery on 4/10 for Lake Okeechobee in nearshore waters around the lake, expect for the southeastern shorelines, as well as within the Caloosahatchee Estuary from Fort Myers and downstream to Shell Point. The best satellite imagery for the St. Johns River on 4/7 shows highly scattered low to high bloom potential from Lake George downstream to Jacksonville. No visible bloom potential was observed by imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary.



NWS Mobile Daily Hazards NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards

AWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards NWS Key West Daily Hazards

For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities: <u>Pensacola</u> • <u>Panama City</u> • <u>Tallahassee</u> • <u>Gainesville</u> • <u>Jacksonville</u> • <u>Daytona Beach</u> <u>Orlando</u> • <u>Tampa</u> • <u>Fort Myers</u> • <u>West Palm Beach</u> • <u>Miami</u> • <u>Key West</u> <u>Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service</u> For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click here.

Have a wonderful rest of the week! Kennedy Tartt, Assistant State Meteorologist Florida Division of Emergency Management <u>www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather</u>



