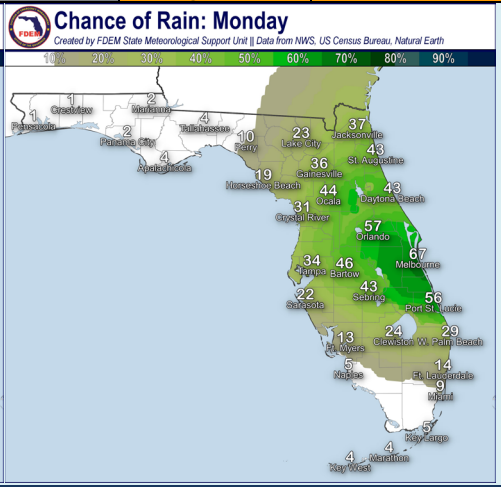
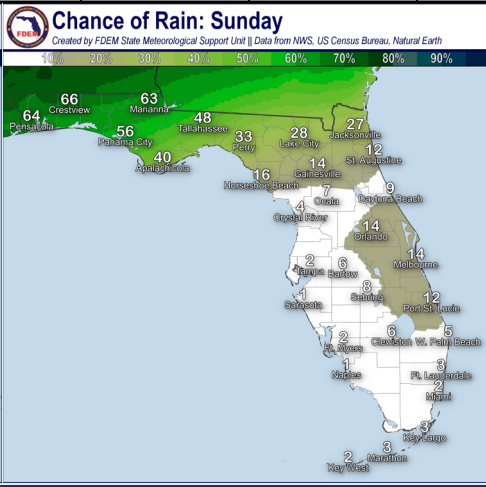
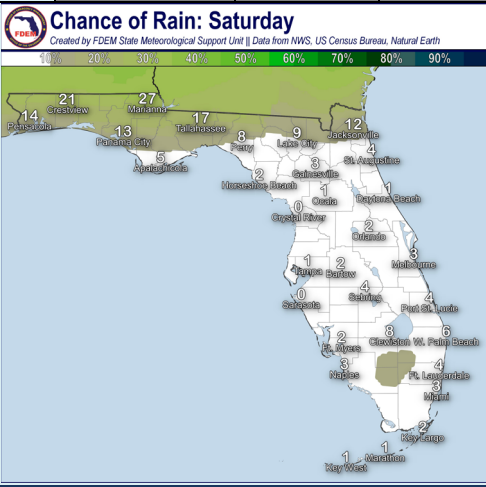


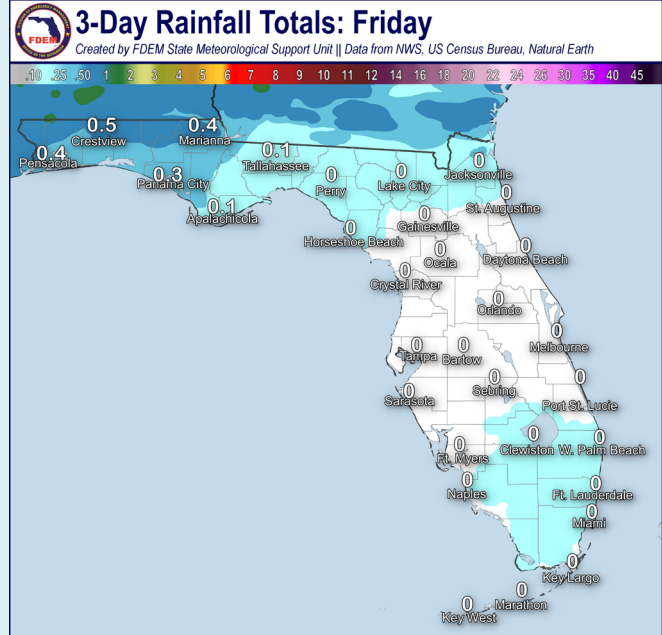
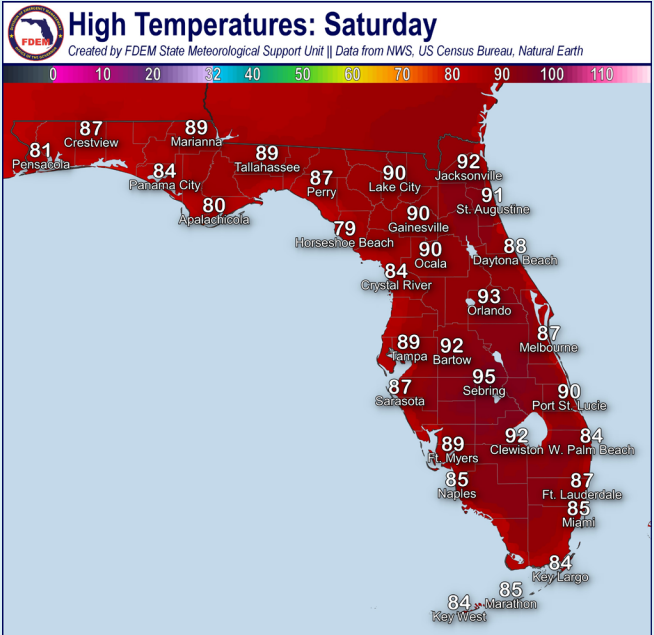
Friday, April 19, 2024

5-Day Statewide Weather Outlook

No Threat		Low Threat		Moderate Threat		High Threat		
Day	Lightning	Tornado	Damaging Wind/Hail	Flash Flooding	Excessive Heat	Wildfire	Riverine Flooding	Rip Currents
Fri						Central & N-Peninsula	Suwannee Valley & Big Bend	Locally Statewide West Coast
Sat	Locally I-10 Corridor		Locally Iso. I-10 Corridor			Central Florida Iso. N-Peninsula	Suwannee Valley & Big Bend	Panhandle East Coast West Coast
Sun	Panhandle N FL & South to I-4		Locally Iso. Panhandle & I-10 Corridor	W-Panhandle		Central Florida Iso. N-Peninsula	Suwannee Valley Big Bend	Panhandle East Coast West Coast
Mon	Locally N & Central Peninsula		Locally Iso. N & E Peninsula			Iso. Central FL	Suwannee Valley Big Bend	Panhandle East Coast West Coast
Tue						Iso. North & Central FL	Suwannee Valley Big Bend	Locally Statewide West Coast



Chance of Rain: Saturday, Sunday, Monday



Forecast High Temperatures: Saturday

Forecast Rainfall Totals: Friday through Sunday



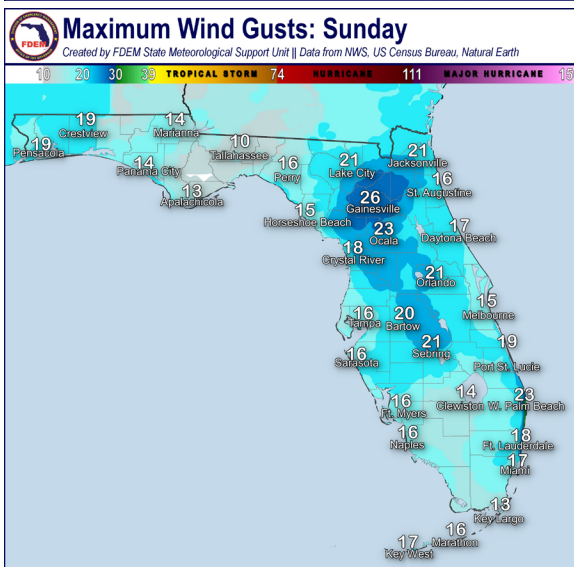
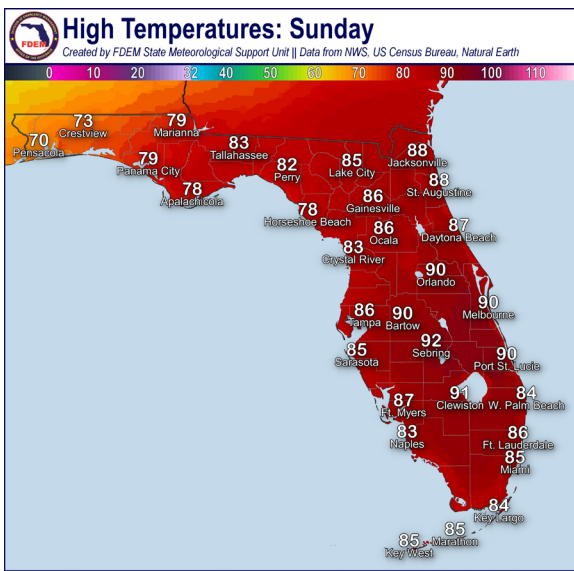
**...One More Day of Clear Skies And Dry Conditions Today...Rain Chances Return This Weekend Into Early Next Week As a Cold Front Sinks Through the State...Isolated Strong to Severe Thunderstorms Cannot Be Ruled Out...Marginal Risk for Flash Flooding Along the Western Panhandle Sunday...Cooler and Drier High-Pressure Airmass Moves In Behind the Cold Front Monday Night and Tuesday...Sensitive Wildfire Conditions Persist Across Interior Portions of North and Central Florida Over the Next 5 Days...Winds Begin Strengthening Sunday With Gusts Upwards of 15-25 MPH...Warming Trend Continues Into the Weekend, With Highs Reaching Up to The Middle 90s, Followed By Slight Cooling Across North Florida Behind the Cold Front...Moderate to High Risk For Rip Currents Along Panhandle and East Coast...River Flood Warnings Remain in Effect For Several Rivers Across the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley As Minor To Moderate Flooding Continues Into Next Week...**

**Friday-Sunday:**

One more day of mostly clear skies is expected across the state today and tonight as the area of high pressure shifts eastward (near 0-10% chance of rain). Rain chances begin to return along the Panhandle and I-10 corridor on Saturday (10-30% chance of rain) and Saturday night (5-15% chance

of rain) as the cold front meanders into North Florida, producing isolated showers and thunderstorms. These showers and thunderstorms will become more scattered to numerous and spread across the Florida Panhandle and I-10 corridor Sunday and across the Northern Peninsula and Big Bend Sunday night as the cold front sinks into the state (40-65% chance of rain). While there is no organized risk for severe weather within the state at this time, the Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal (level 1 of 5) risk for Severe Weather** just north of the Florida-Georgia line Saturday. **Isolated strong to severe thunderstorms** producing frequent lightning, gusty winds, and small hail cannot be ruled out over the weekend. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the Western Panhandle Sunday as heavy downpours may give way to instances of **flooding and ponding of water** over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas.

A warming trend will continue into the weekend with high temperatures in the middle 80s to **middle 90s** statewide. The sea breeze will develop along the coastlines with the help of daytime heating, which will help to keep coastal areas slightly cooler than inland areas. Light winds will persist today and Saturday with gusts near 10-15 mph possible across the state. Stronger **wind gusts upwards of 15-20 mph** will be possible at times along coastlines due to the sea breezes developing throughout the day. Winds will strengthen as the cold front moves in on Sunday with **gusts near 15-25 mph** anticipated. Behind the cold front Sunday, high temperatures will remain in the 70s along the Panhandle and low 80s in the Big Bend. Despite returning moisture, dry air will continue to linger



throughout interior portions of the Northern and Central Peninsula, bringing relative humidity values **near critical thresholds** during the afternoons (30-40%). Warm and ongoing dry conditions, combined with near critical relative humidity values, will allow for **sensitive wildfire conditions** to develop.

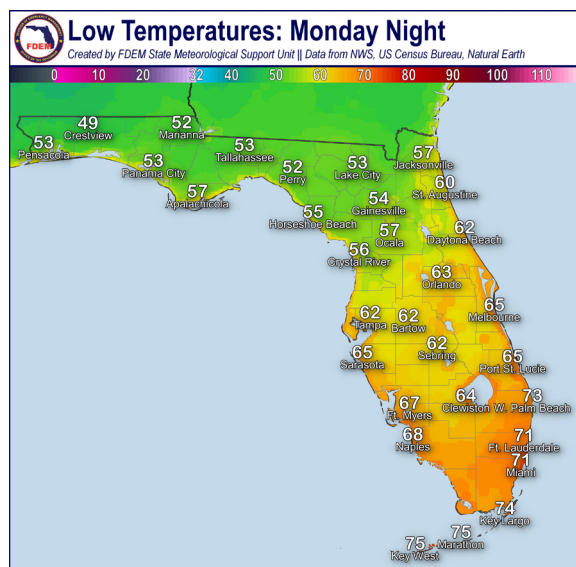
Low temperatures will remain in the 60s with upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys. Behind the cold front Sunday, low temperatures in the 50s can be expected along the Panhandle. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible along portions of state overnight and into the early morning hours each day.

### Monday – Tuesday:

The cold front moving through North Florida this weekend will push southward through the rest of the Peninsula before stalling near South Florida Monday, allowing scattered showers to persist across portions of the Northern and Central Peninsula (35-70% chance of rain). **Isolated strong to severe thunderstorms** producing frequent lightning, gusty winds, and small hail cannot be ruled out. High pressure will quickly fill back in behind the cold front Monday night through Tuesday night, allowing for only isolated showers to linger along the Peninsula (near 0-20% chance of rain).

High temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 70s Monday and upper 70s to middle 80s Tuesday across North Florida as cooler air settles in behind the cold front. The rest of the state will see high temperatures rise into the middle 80s to low 90s early next week. Dry air conditions will persist across interior portions of North and Central Florida, allowing for relative humidity values to fall **near critical thresholds** during the afternoons (30-40%). Warm and ongoing dry conditions, combined with near critical relative humidity values, will allow for **sensitive wildfire conditions** to develop. 10-15 mph winds with **higher gusts** are anticipated to develop along the Peninsula Monday and Tuesday as the cold front progresses through the state.

Low temperatures will fall into the low to middle 50s along the Florida Panhandle, middle 50s to low 60s across the Northern Peninsula, low to middle 60s across Central Florida, upper 60s to low 70s across South Florida, and middle 70s along the Keys Monday night. Similarly, low temperatures will reach the middle to upper 50s across North Florida, low to middle 60s across Central Florida, and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys Tuesday night.

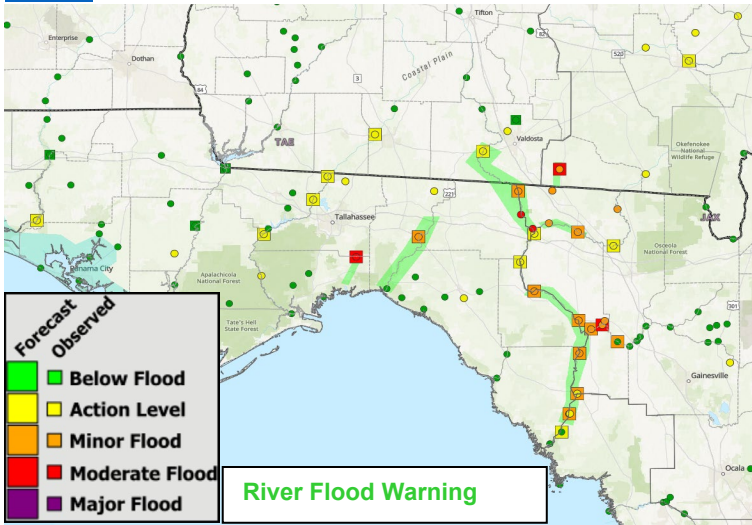


### Hydrology & Flooding:

There is no risk of Flash Flooding today and Saturday. High pressure will promote relatively dry conditions across the state as it shifts further eastward over the Atlantic ahead of the next cold front today and Saturday, with only a few isolated to scattered showers possible. An **Areal Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Capitola, Chaires and Baum areas east of northeast Tallahassee near I-10 as there is still deep standing water and road closures associated with heavy rainfall last week. Conditions will be reassessed later this afternoon and may extend the flood warning. Showers and thunderstorms will become more numerous and spread across portions of North Florida Sunday and Sunday night as the cold front sinks into the state. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the Western Panhandle Sunday as abundant moisture giving way to heavy downpours may result in instances of **flooding** and **ponding of water** over urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will continue to make their way through the Florida Peninsula Monday with the cold



front; however, ongoing dry conditions will minimize the risk of flooding. Isolated showers will linger across the state Tuesday as a cool and dry high-pressure air mass builds in behind the cold front. Widespread rainfall totals are expected to remain well below 1" over the next 5 days with locally higher totals near 1". For the latest Excessive Rainfall Outlook, please visit the [Weather Prediction Center](#).



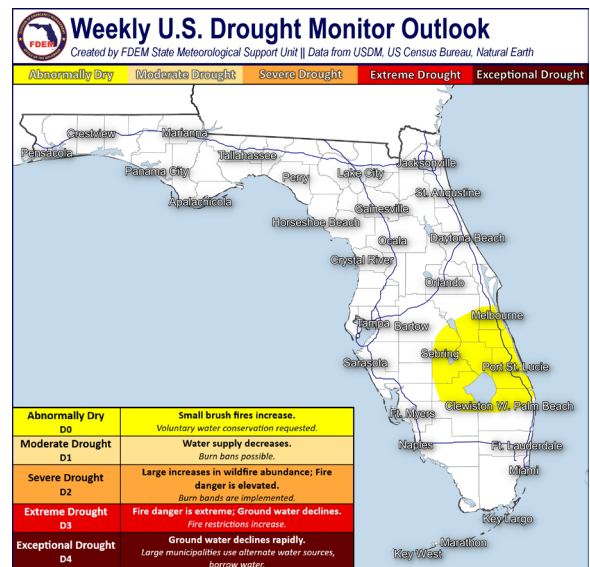
**River Flood Warnings** are in effect for numerous rivers and creeks along the Florida Big Bend and Suwannee Valley as water levels rise following widespread heavy rainfall last week. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#) is forecast to remain within **moderate flood stage** through the rest of today and the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) is forecast to reach **moderate flood stage** by this evening. The [Withlacoochee River near Pinetta](#), [Aucilla River at Lamont](#), Suwannee River (near [Suwannee Springs](#), [at Luraville \(SR-51\)](#), [at Branford \(US-27\)](#), and [at Rock Bluff near Bell \(CR-340\)](#)), and [Santa Fe River](#)

[at Hildreth](#) remain within **minor flood stage** through this week and into the weekend. The Suwannee River (near [Wilcox](#) and [at Manatee Springs](#)) have seen water levels rise into Action Stage (bank-full) and are forecast to reach **minor flood stage** this weekend and into next week. **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect along these forecast points as water levels remain above flood stage. An additional **River Flood Warning** cannot be ruled out along the [Santa Fe River near Fort White](#) as flooding along the Suwannee causes waters to back up into the basin, likely pushing water levels into **minor flood stage**. There are no additional river flood concerns at this time. Limited rainfall over the region through the next 5 days will help to allow for water levels to level out. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.72', which is within the operational band and 0.80' above normal. Lake elevations have fallen approximately 0.26' over the past week and approximately 0.92' over the past 30 days. Limited rainfall anticipated over the next 5 days will likely allow water levels to continue falling.

### Drought & Fire Weather:

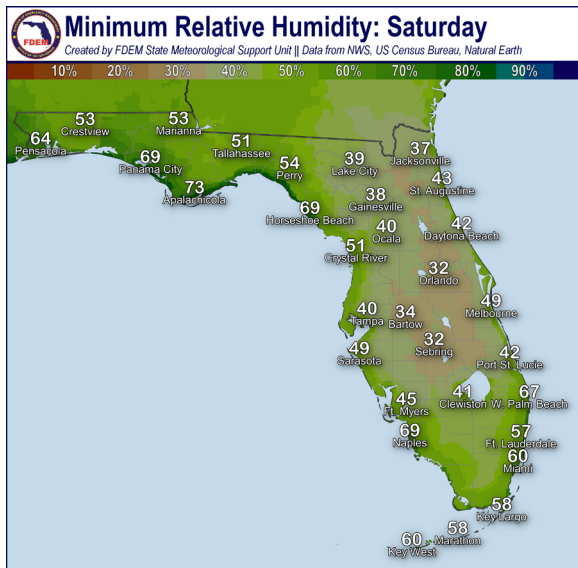
The latest [Drought Monitor](#) update shows the removal of all drought conditions along the Panhandle and the introduction of drought conditions to eastern portions of Central and South Florida. Widespread heavy rainfall with passing frontal boundaries last week has helped to alleviate and remove abnormally dry (*emerging drought*) conditions along the Western Panhandle. Meanwhile, abnormally dry conditions have emerged along eastern portions of the Central and Southern Peninsula, surrounding and north of Lake Okeechobee, where drier weather over the last 30 days has led to rainfall deficits of 1-3" below normal for this time of year. Little to no rainfall expected across the region over the next week may exacerbate drought conditions.



The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **228 (+14)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **zero** Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

High pressure shifting eastward over the Atlantic will continue to provide one more day of warm and dry conditions across the state. Scattered showers and thunderstorms along a cold front will move through North Florida this weekend and through the Peninsula early next week with the cold front. Despite returning moisture, dry air will continue to linger throughout interior portions of North and Central Florida over the next 5 days, allowing for relative humidity values to fall **near critical thresholds** during the afternoons (**30-40%**). Warm and ongoing dry conditions, combined with near critical relative humidity values, will allow for **sensitive wildfire conditions** to develop. Light winds

will persist today and Saturday with gusts near 10-15 mph possible across the state. Stronger **wind gusts upwards of 15-20 mph** will be possible at times along coastlines due to the sea breezes developing throughout the day. Winds will strengthen as the cold front moves in on Sunday with **gusts near 15-25 mph** anticipated. As the cold front moves into North Florida, 10-15 mph winds with **higher gusts** are anticipated to develop along the Peninsula Monday and Tuesday as the cold front progresses through the state. Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible along portions of state overnight and into the early morning hours each day. *Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are ongoing wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service fire dashboard](#), there are 22 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 52 acres (as of 2:20 PM EDT).

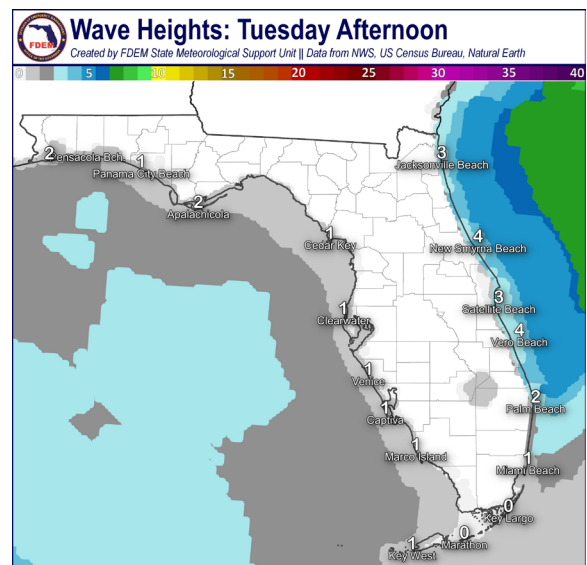


### Rip Currents & Marine Hazards:

A **moderate risk for rip currents** extends along Panhandle and East Coast beaches today with a **locally high risk** along Walton County, Bay County, Gulf County state park beaches. A low risk can be expected elsewhere. A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** can be expected to continue along Florida Panhandle beaches through the next 5 days. A **moderate to locally high risk** will generally persist along the East Coast as long-period swells gradually dissipate while the West Coast continues to see a low to **locally moderate risk**. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

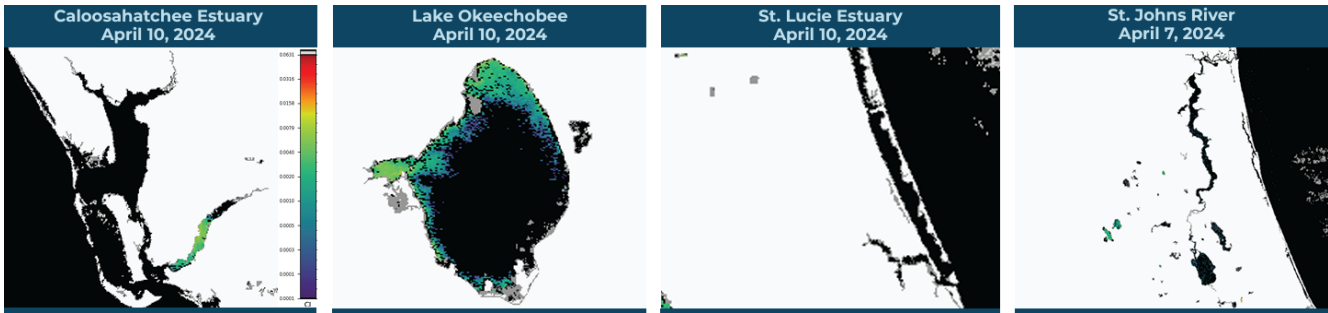
Wave heights near 1-2' are anticipated along the Florida Panhandle and Atlantic-facing Keys this afternoon with around 1' waves along the West Coast and Gulf-facing Keys. The Florida East Coast can expect to see wave heights near 1-3'. 1-2' waves will generally persist along the West Coast and Keys over the next 5 days with 1-3' waves likely along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast. As breezy winds develop early next week, ocean swells will build in the Western Atlantic, raising **wave heights** along the Northeast and Central-East Florida coastlines to 3-5' Tuesday afternoon.

There is no risk of coastal flooding over the next 5 days.



[Red Tide](#) has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week. There have been no reports of fish kills or respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide.

[Blue-Green Algae](#) was observed via satellite on 4/10 at low to **moderate bloom potential** in nearshore waters around Lake Okeechobee, except for the southeastern shore. Satellite imagery of the St. Johns River from 4/7 showed highly scattered low to **high bloom potential** throughout the mainstem of the river from Lake George downstream to the city of Jacksonville. The best available satellite imagery from 4/10 showed **moderate bloom potential** throughout the Caloosahatchee Estuary from Fort Myers downstream to Shell Point. Satellite imagery from 4/10, although partially obscured by cloud cover, showed no visible bloom potential along the St. Lucie Estuary.



[NWS Mobile Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Jacksonville Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tampa Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Key West Daily Hazards](#)

[NWS Tallahassee Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Melbourne Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

[NWS Miami Daily Graphical Hazards](#)

**For the official National Weather Service forecast, please click on the following cities:**

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[Click here for the latest watches, warnings, and advisories from The National Weather Service](#)

For coastal and offshore forecasts throughout Florida and Georgia, please click [here](#).

Have a wonderful weekend!

Melissa James, Assistant State Meteorologist

Florida Division of Emergency Management

[www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather](http://www.FloridaDisaster.org/Weather)

