



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Sunday, April 21, 2024



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Zachary Remante	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Cassi Farestvedt	(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	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@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	Megan Hill	(850) 591-2496	Megan.Hill@em.myflorida.com
ESF 8 On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
Public Information Officer	Marnie Villanueva	(850)-591-9544	Marnie.Villanueva@em.myflorida.com
DEM Finance and Admin	Jeremy Smith	(561) 662-8028	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 2: Willie Bouie	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 4: James Carter	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 8: Karen Kozac	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)



Region 4 Coverage Provided by RRC 4
 Region 6 Coverage Provided by RRC 7
 Region 9 Coverage Provided by RRC 9
 Region 10 Coverage Provided by RRC 10

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

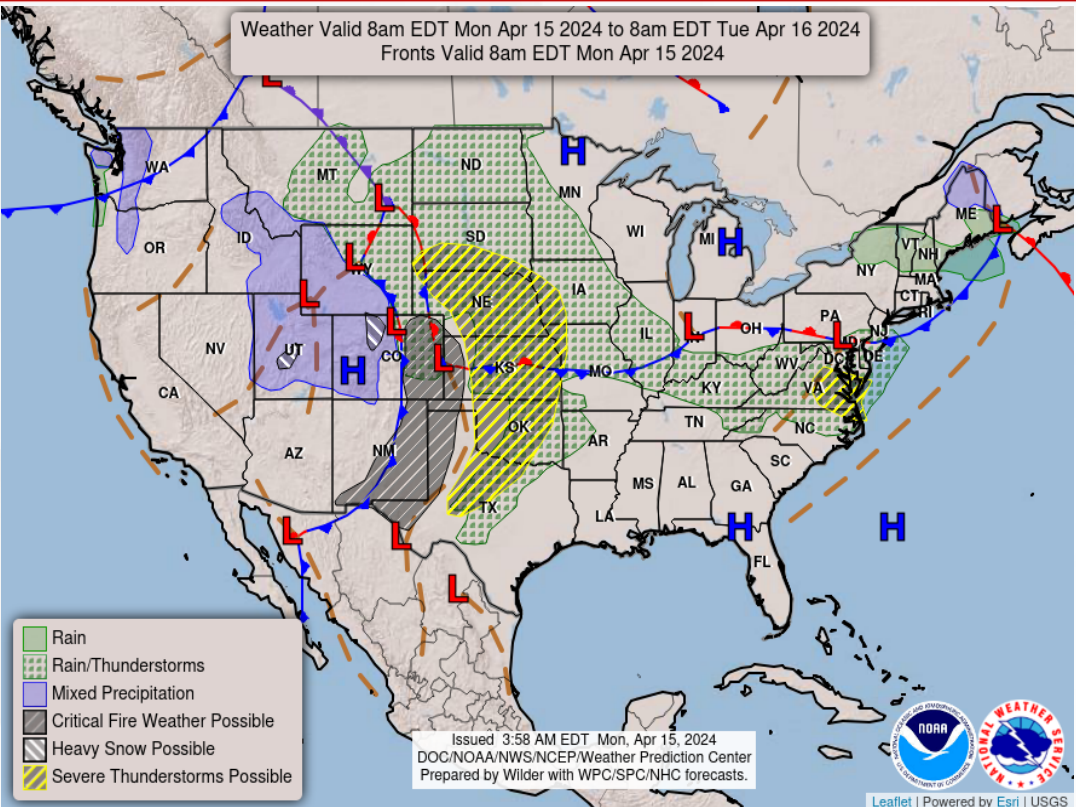
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 3: Patrick James	Out of Region	Leave
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	On Call Status for Region 4
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
RRCT Manager	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	In Region	On-Call Status for Region 9
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	In Region	Off & Monitoring

Region 3 Coverage Provided by RRC 4

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

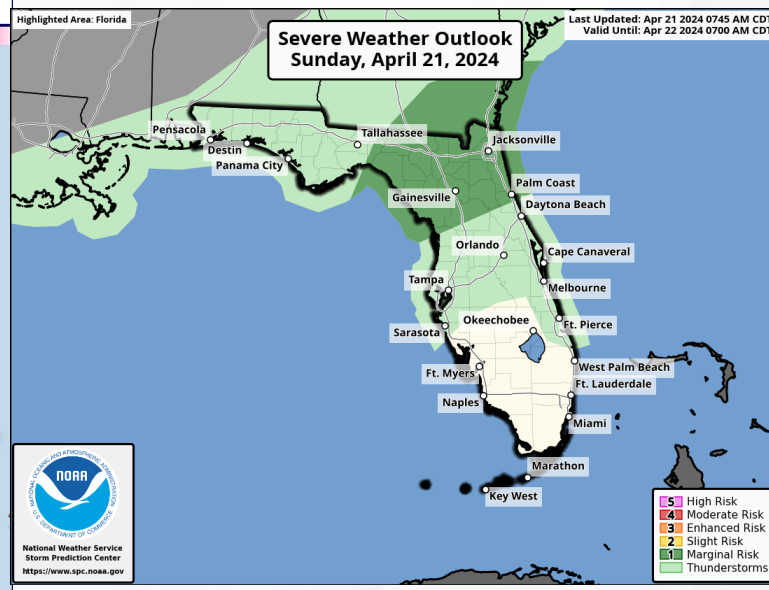
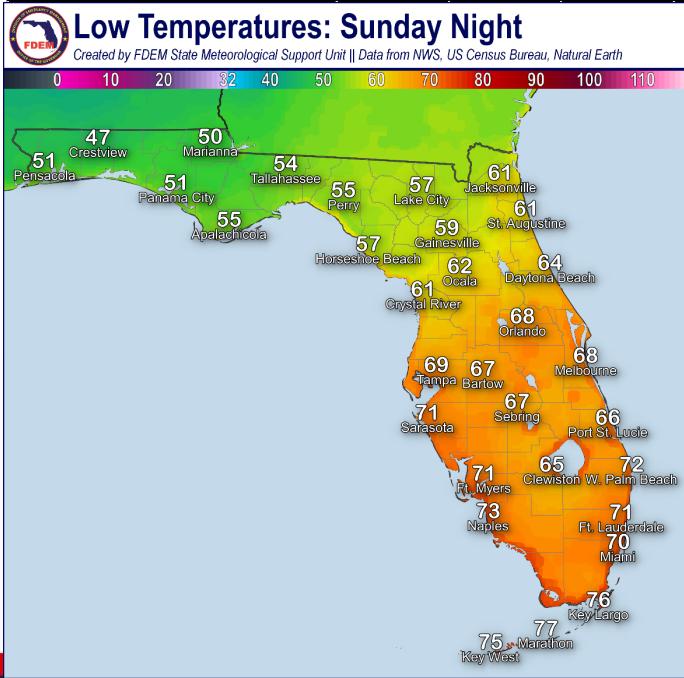


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L	M	M	M	L		L		
Tornado										
Damaging Wind		L	L	L	L					
Hail		L	L	L	L					
Flash Flooding										
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire				L	L	L	L			
River Flooding		L	M							
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.70 ft. (0.80 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	241 (+13) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



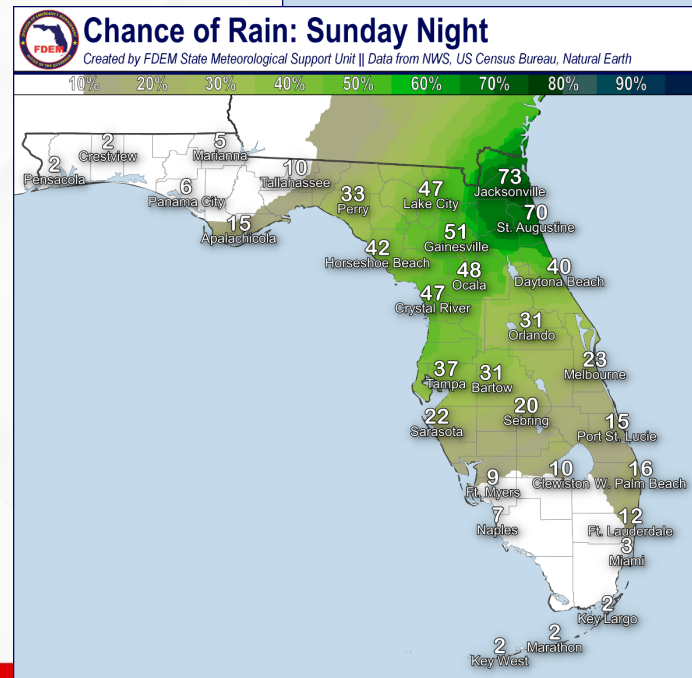
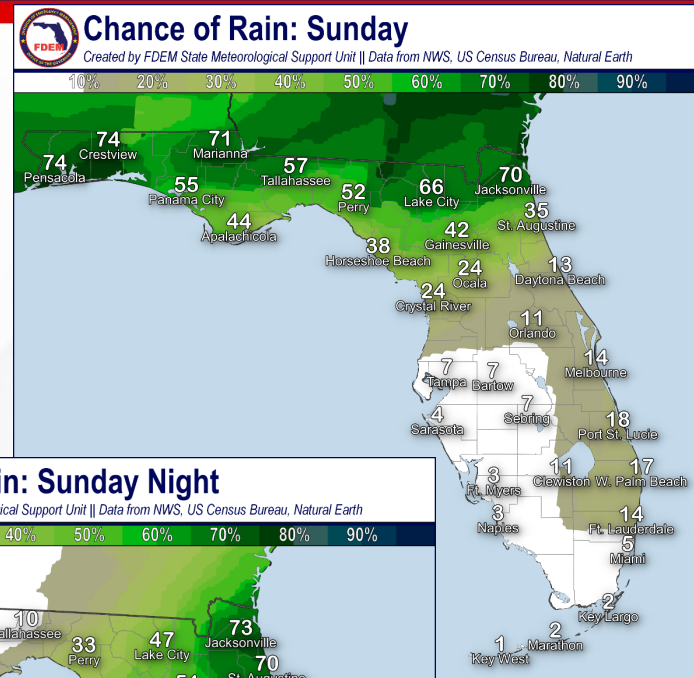


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Patchy fog early this morning should dissipate shortly after sunrise and by the mid-morning hours, but reduced visibilities may be possible along the I-75 corridor. A cold front will push into the Florida Panhandle and through much of North Florida today bringing scattered showers, with a chance for isolated thunderstorms this afternoon (50-75% chance of rain). Showers will gradually move from west to east as the cold front advances along the I-10 corridor. As the cold front moves eastward during the peak heating hours of the afternoon, an increased chance for thunderstorm development will be possible east of the Apalachicola River. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** along the Big Bend and Northeast Florida as some of these thunderstorms may be **strong to severe** this afternoon. These **strong to severe thunderstorms** may be capable of producing frequent lightning, damaging wind gusts (50-60 mph), large hail (quarter to ping pong ball size) and heavy downpours. Breezy wind gusts *outside of thunderstorm activity* will reach upwards of **20-25 mph** across Northeast and Central Florida this afternoon, and areas along the East Coast could see wind gusts upwards of **25-30 mph** with the sea breeze developing this afternoon. Mostly dry conditions will continue to persist throughout the Peninsula, with a chance for an isolated showers, and maybe a thunderstorm or two, along portions of Southeast Florida this afternoon with the help of the sea breeze pushing inland (15-20% chance of rain). Should any activity develop, it will remain light and brief. Breezy winds and ongoing dry conditions will continue to create **sensitive wildfire conditions** across interior portions of East-Central Florida this afternoon. High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to low 80s across the Panhandle as the cold front moves through. High temperatures across Northeast Florida and throughout the Peninsula will reach the middle 80s to low 90s this afternoon.

Through the evening and overnight hours, the cold front will push through Northeast Florida and the lower Suwannee River Valley before moving towards the I-75 corridor (30-50%). Scattered showers and some possible thunderstorms will continue into the evening and overnight across these areas. Slightly cooler and drier air will move in behind the passing cold front overnight along the Florida Panhandle. Low temperatures will fall into the upper 40s to upper 50s across North Florida, middle to upper 60s and low 70s throughout Central and South Florida and middle 70s across the Keys.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected along Panhandle and East Coast beaches, with a **locally high risk** along Gulf County beaches. A low risk for rip currents continues for the West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Onshore winds ahead of an approaching cold front will give way to wave heights of 1-2' along West Coast beaches. Stronger offshore winds along the Florida East Coast will create wave heights of 1-3'.

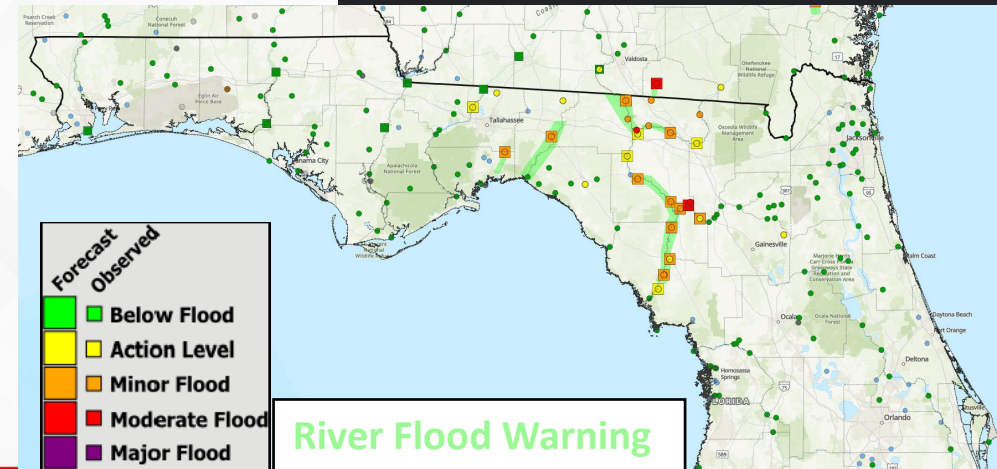
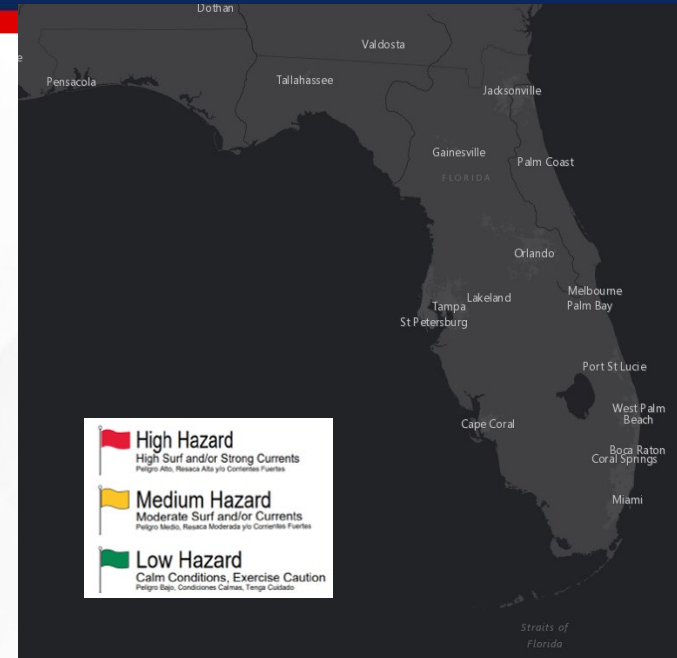
Red Tide has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week.

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

Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today.

Riverine Flooding: 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 during the early April severe weather event. The [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) has risen into **moderate flood stage** and water levels are forecast to continue rising into next week. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#), [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 continue to reside 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**. Forecast rainfall totals today and tomorrow may allow for these elevated rivers and waterways to see additional rises within them; however, no additional riverine flooding is expected at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.70 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.80 feet **above** normal for this time of year.





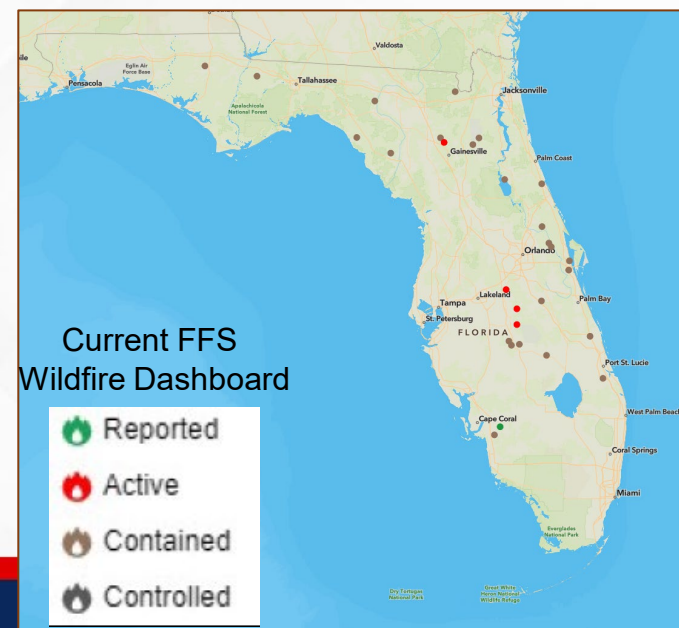
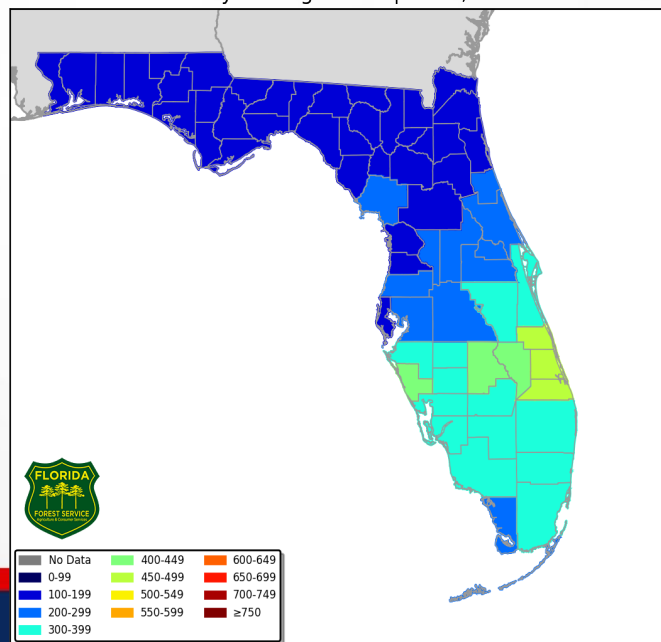
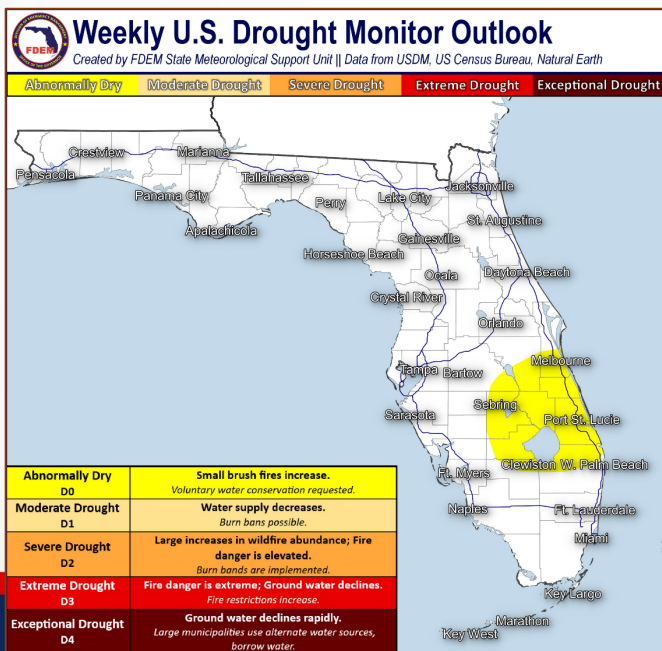
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Any areas of patchy fog that developed early this morning will quickly dissipate and lift shortly after sunrise but may cause reduced visibilities at times. Pockets of dry air will continue to linger throughout interior portions of East-Central Florida allowing for relative humidity values to fall near critical during the afternoon (middle to upper 30%). Breezy southerly to southwesterly winds upwards of 10-15 mph across the Suwannee River Valley and through Central Florida, with wind gusts upwards 20-25 mph during the late afternoon ahead of an approaching cold front. The sea breeze along the East Coast may create locally gusty winds upwards of 25-30 mph at times during the peak heating hours of the day. Near Red Flag Conditions can be expected along portions of East-Central Florida, with sensitive wildfire conditions throughout the Peninsula, following warm and dry conditions, especially where areas of emerging drought have seen little rainfall recently. According to the Florida Forest Service, there are 29 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 571 acres.

Drought: Widespread heavy rainfall along the Florida Panhandle last week has helped to alleviate and remove drought conditions along the Western Panhandle on this week's drought monitor update. Meanwhile, abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions have emerged along eastern portions of the Central and Southern Peninsula, surrounding and north of Lake Okeechobee, where drier weather over the last 14-30 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.

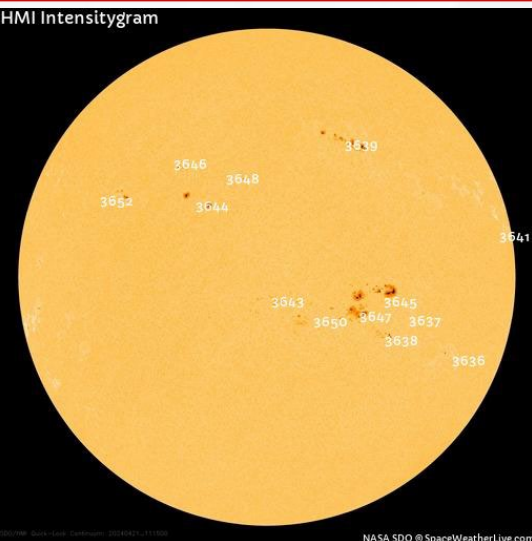
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is 241 (+13) on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are zero Florida counties with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for April 20, 2024

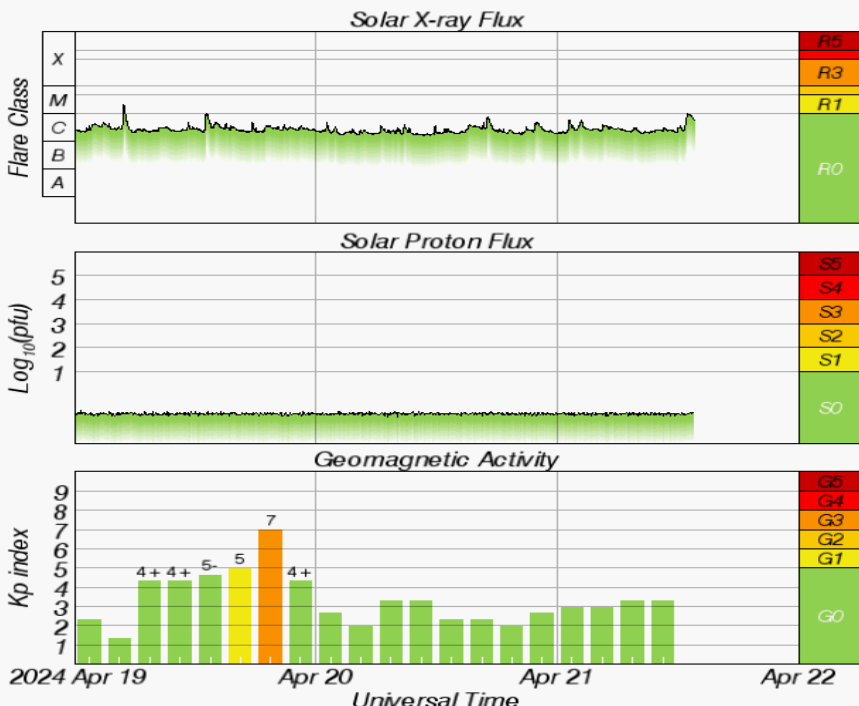
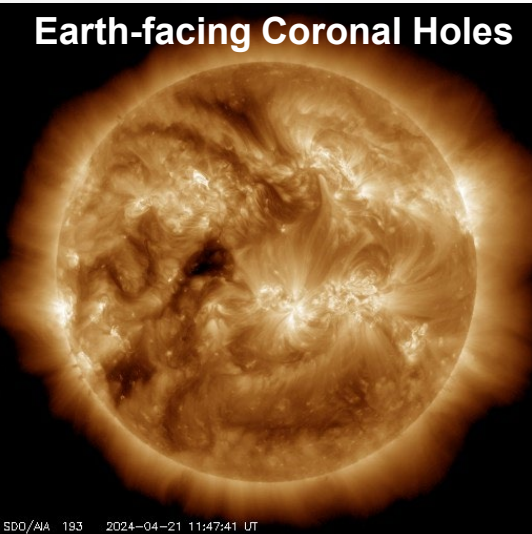




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 75%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C7 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/21	4/22
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to reach moderate levels through the early part of this upcoming week and strong (M-class) solar flares are expected, with a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares. The elevated chance for solar activity is due to the flare potential from several active sunspots facing the Earth. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected for any M-class solar flares, with strong (R3) radio blackouts possible for any X-class flares. As well, there is a chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms due to flare potential from the several active regions. Combined impacts from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) and Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds will continue to create enhanced solar wind conditions over the next few days. The Earth's geomagnetic field will continue to see unsettled to active levels through today due to the combined CME and CH HSS conditions. No minor (G1) or greater geomagnetic storms are expected. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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