



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, April 23, 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	Brandon Gore	(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	Walton, Leon	County EM Survey / State Exercise Planning Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Region 2 RDSTF FSE MSEL Meeting / FTEM Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Leon	Region 2 RDSTF FSE MSEL Meeting
Region 4: James Carter	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange, Osceola	Executive Director Support / Hurricane Expo
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Polk	NWS IWT Meeting
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Lake	Local News and Meteorology Communications Summit
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Office Admin



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

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



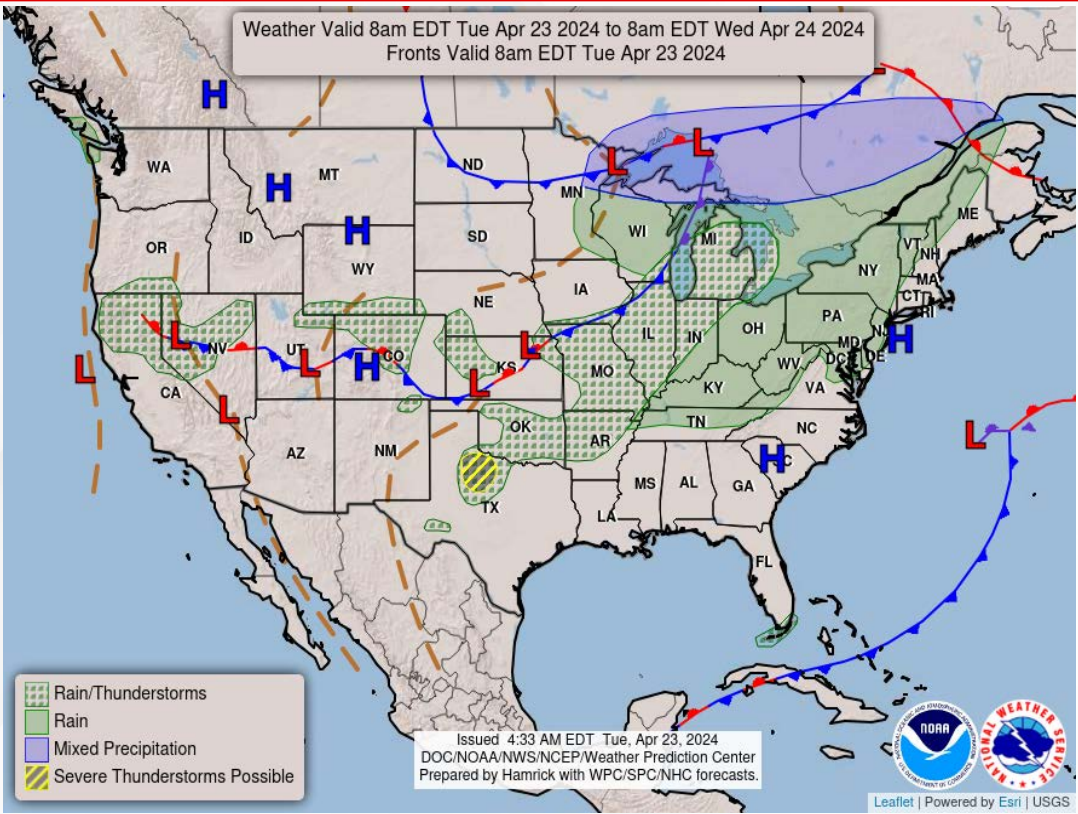
Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Santa Rosa	MGT-310 Training
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Jefferson	County EM Meeting
Region 3: Patrick James	Alachua	Administrative Duties
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Internal Stakeholder Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	G-2306 Training
RRCT Manager	Hernando	FEMA Meetings
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	Orange	FAB Meteorology Summit
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	St. Lucie	Administrative Duties
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Orange	FAB Meteorology Summit
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	In Region	Off & Monitoring

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

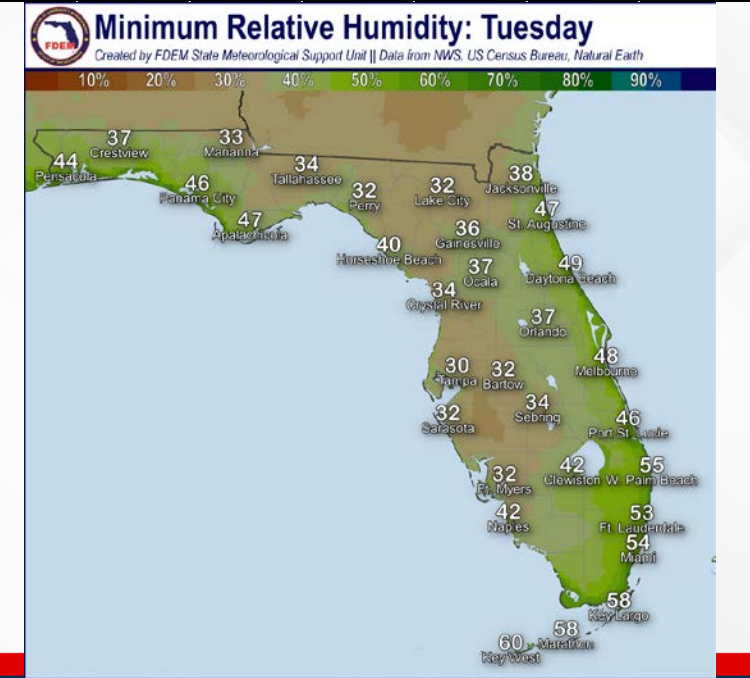
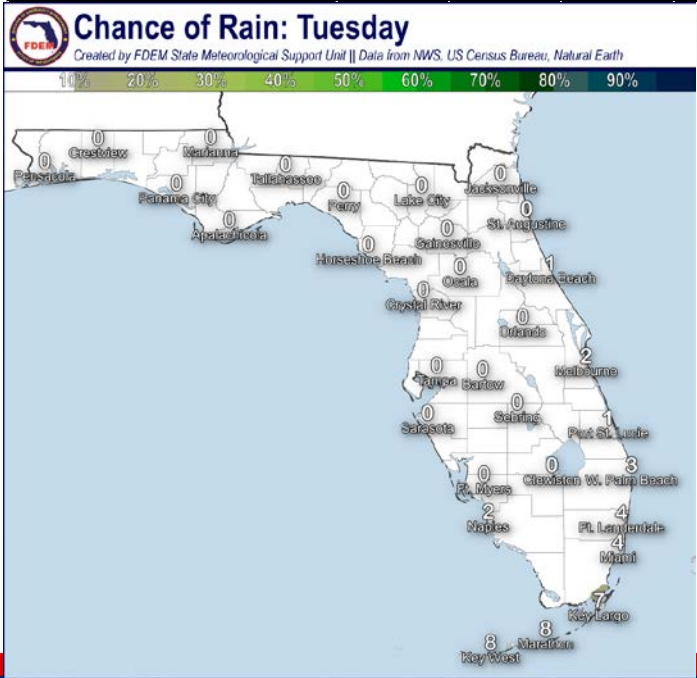


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire			L	L	M	L	M	L	L	L
River Flooding		L	M							
Rip Currents	M	H	L	H	H	L		H	M	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.60 ft. (0.79 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	253 (+2) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



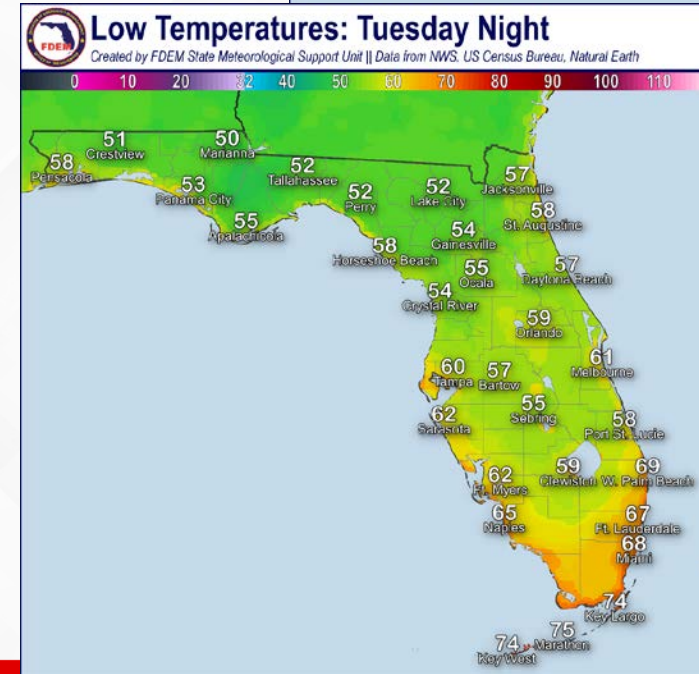
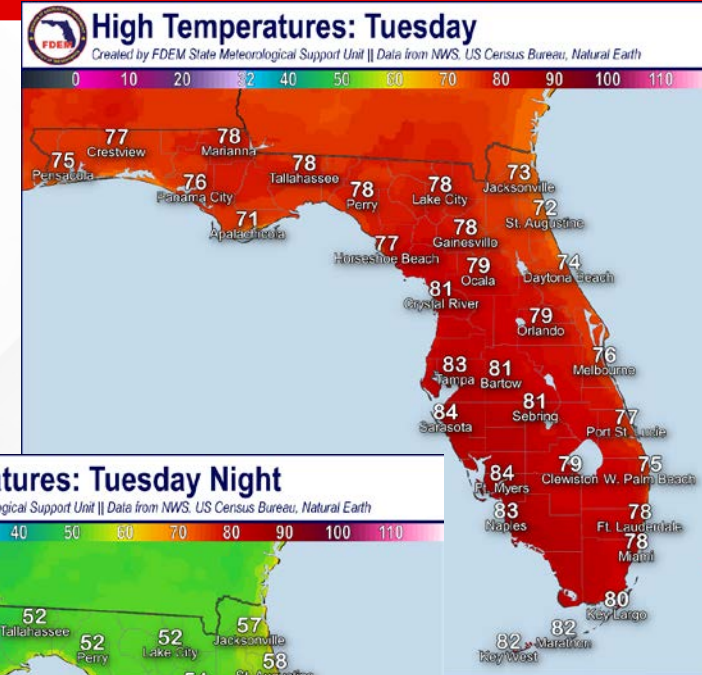


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

High pressure will gradually move over the Sunshine State helping to create pleasant conditions statewide throughout the day. Drier and slightly cooler air continues to move in behind a cold front that passed through earlier in the week, and mostly dry conditions can be expected (near 0-5% chance of rain). With drier air, relative humidity values will fall **near or below critical thresholds** (upper 20% to middle 30%) across the state today allowing for **sensitive wildfire conditions**, especially in places across the Peninsula where rainfall has been lacking. **Locally elevated wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out along portions of East-Central and Southeast Florida where emerging drought conditions have been introduced due to ongoing dry conditions. Lighter wind gusts of 10-15 mph should help to limit Red Flag Conditions; however, some wind gusts upwards of 20-25 mph cannot be ruled out along the coastline. High temperatures will reach into the middle 70s to middle 80s this afternoon with the help of mostly sunny skies.

Clear and dry conditions will continue through the evening and overnight hours statewide (near 0% chance of rain). Low temperatures overnight will fall into the upper 40s to middle 50s across North Florida, middle to 50s to low 60s across Central Florida and middle 60s to low 70s across South Florida.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected along all East Coast beaches due to onshore winds and a large ocean swell. A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** continues along Panhandle beaches as an ocean swell dissipates. West Coast beaches can expect a low risk for rip currents, with a **locally elevated risk** along portions of Southwest Florida. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: An ocean swell over the Southwestern Atlantic Ocean and along the Florida East Coast will create **wave heights** of 5-9' throughout the day. The ocean swell along the eastern Gulf of Mexico will dissipate in the wake of the passing cold front allowing for wave heights of 2-4' along West Coast beaches. Panhandle beaches will see wave heights return to 1-3'.

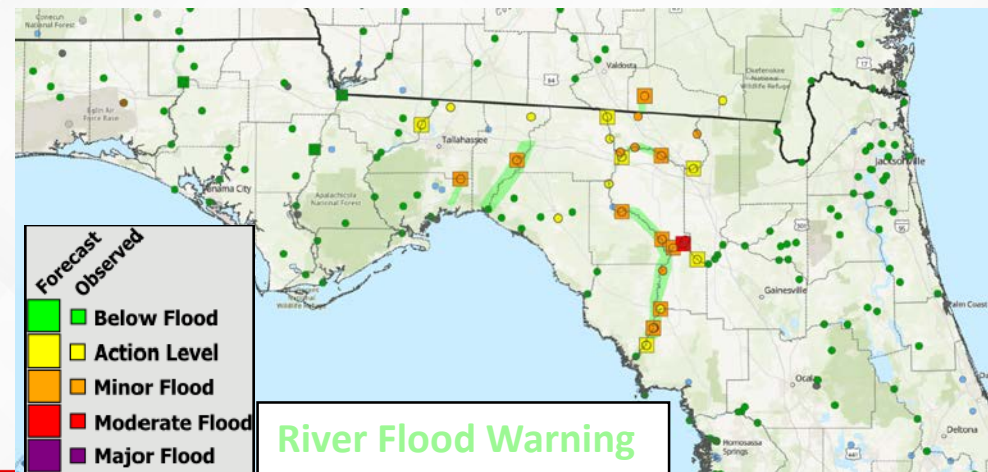
Red Tide has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week.

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 remain there over the next several days. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#), [Aucilla River at Lamont](#), Suwannee River (near [Suwannee Springs](#), at [Manatee 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. The [Suwannee River near Wilcox](#) has risen into Action Stage (bank-full) and will continue to slowly rise into **minor flood stage** by midweek. 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**. No additional riverine flooding is expected at this time. Dry conditions over the next several days will help elevated waters to level out or prevent further flooding. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.60 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.79 feet above normal for this time of year.





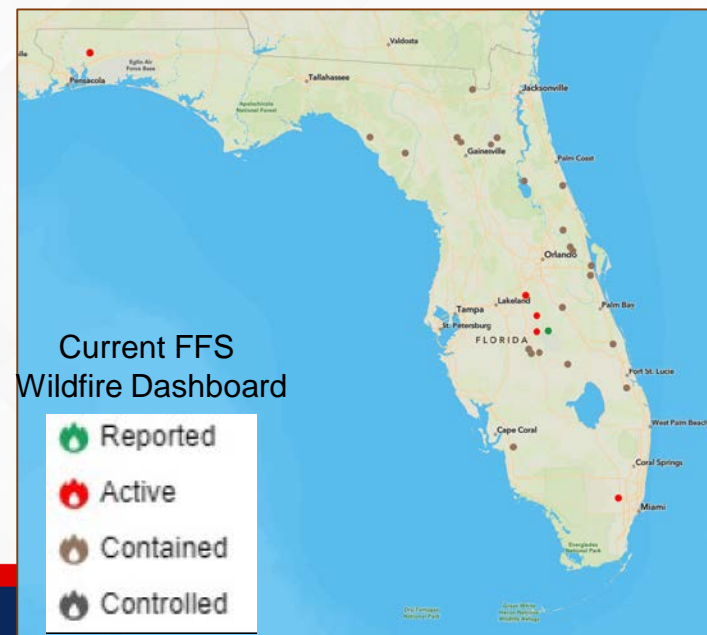
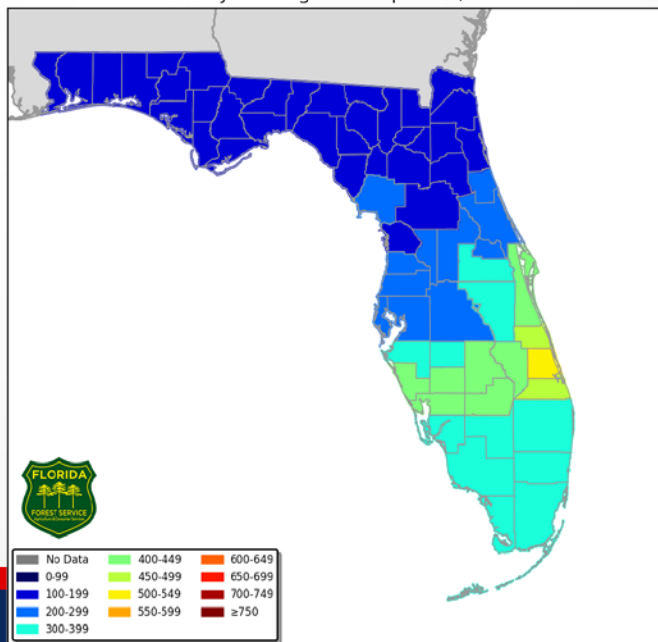
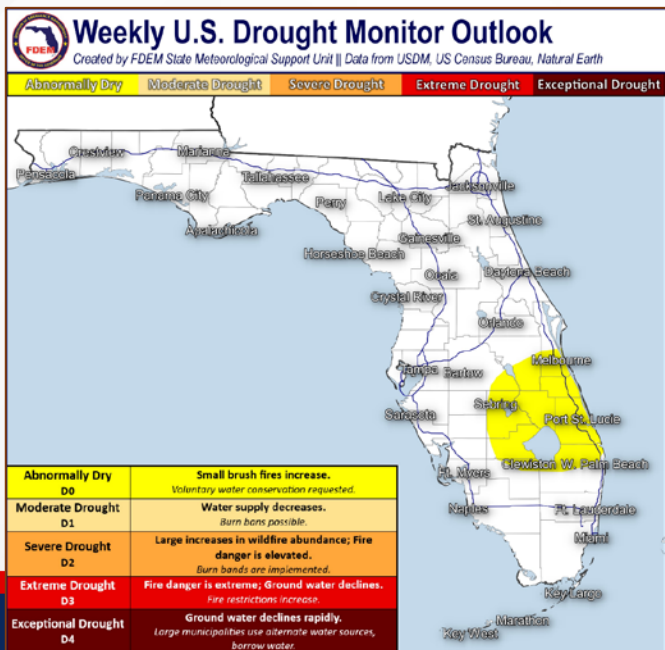
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: In the wake of a passing cold front, drier air will filter southward with the help of northerly to northwesterly winds. Relative humidity values nearly statewide will fall **near or below critical thresholds** by the afternoon hours (upper 20% to middle 30%). Light wind gusts of 10-15 mph can be expected throughout the day, helping to limit Red Flag Conditions. Possible wind gusts upwards of 20-25 mph cannot be ruled out along the coastline where the sea breeze develops during the day. **Sensitive wildfire conditions** will continue across the Peninsula due to lack of significant rainfall and recent warm and dry conditions. **Locally elevated wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out along portions of East-Central and Southeast Florida where emerging drought conditions have been introduced. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 25 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 545 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 **253 (+2)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **one** Florida county (St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

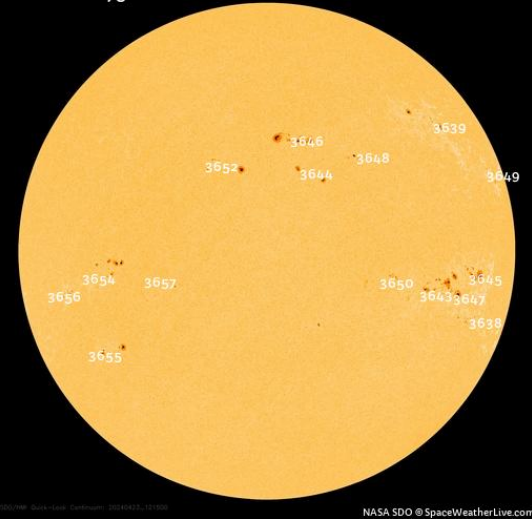
Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for April 22, 2024





Space Weather

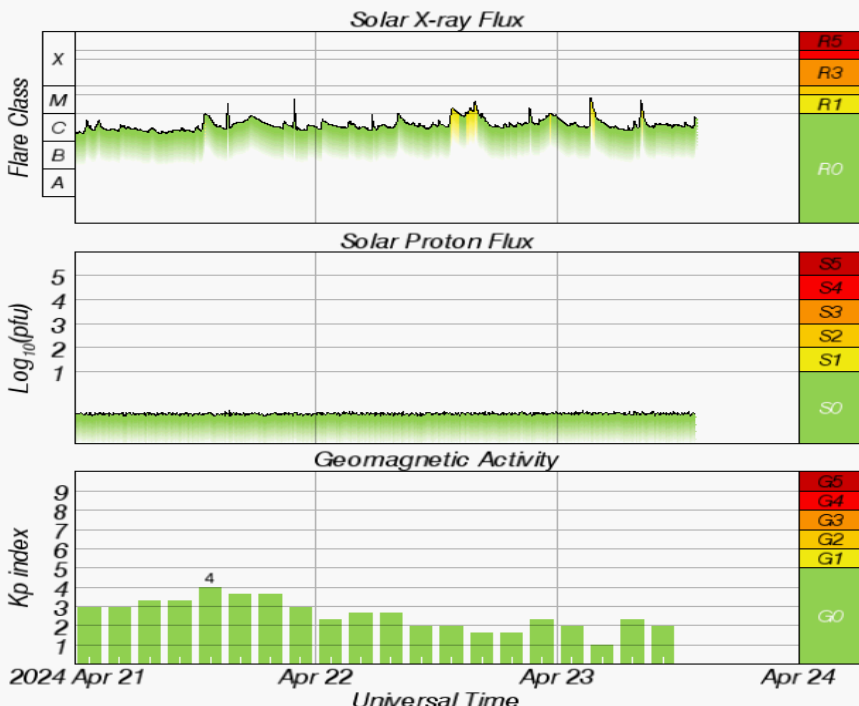
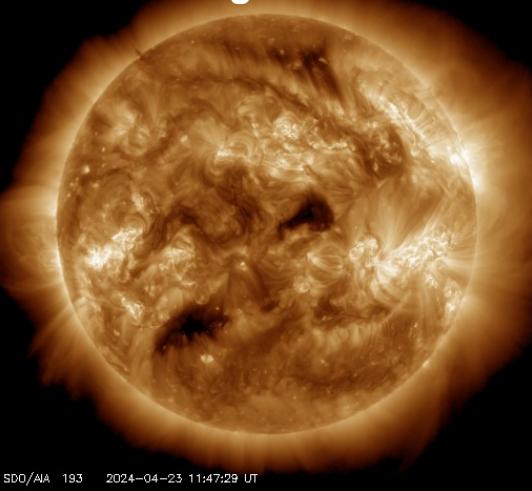
HMI Intensitygram



NASA SDO @ SpaceWeatherLive.com

Current Sunspots

Earth-facing Coronal Holes



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 75%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M3 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/23	4/24
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity will increase to moderate levels today as numerous Earth-facing sunspots remain active. Strong (M-class) solar flares can be expected, with a slight chance for (X-class) solar flares, over the next few days. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with any M-class solar flare activity that develops, and strong (R3) radio blackouts cannot be ruled out for X-class solar flare development. Several Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) have left the Earth in the last 24 hours; however, most of them are forecast to move just south of Earth. Should one of these CMEs graze the Earth's geomagnetic field, it could spark minor (G1) geomagnetic storms later this week. Active sunspot complex #3638-47 is crackling with M-class solar flares and will continue to create a chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms. The solar wind environment remains disturbed due to the arrival of weak CMEs, as well as lingering Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) wind conditions. The Earth's geomagnetic field can expect unsettled conditions, with periods of active levels over the next few days. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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