



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, April 24, 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	Ben Mauro	(850) 566-4904	Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Logan Qualk	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Zachary Remante	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Melissa James	(850) 566-6422	Melissa.James@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	Mobile AL	USCG Area Committee Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Region 2 RDSTF TTX
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Leon	Region 2 RDSTF TTX
Region 4: James Carter	Flagler	EM Visit
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	EM Partner Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	DeSoto, Hardee	LMS Meeting / Shelter Walkthrough
Region 8: Karen Kozac	St Lucie	Annual County Debris Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	USCG Mass Rescue Operations TTX / Exercise Planning Meeting



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

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

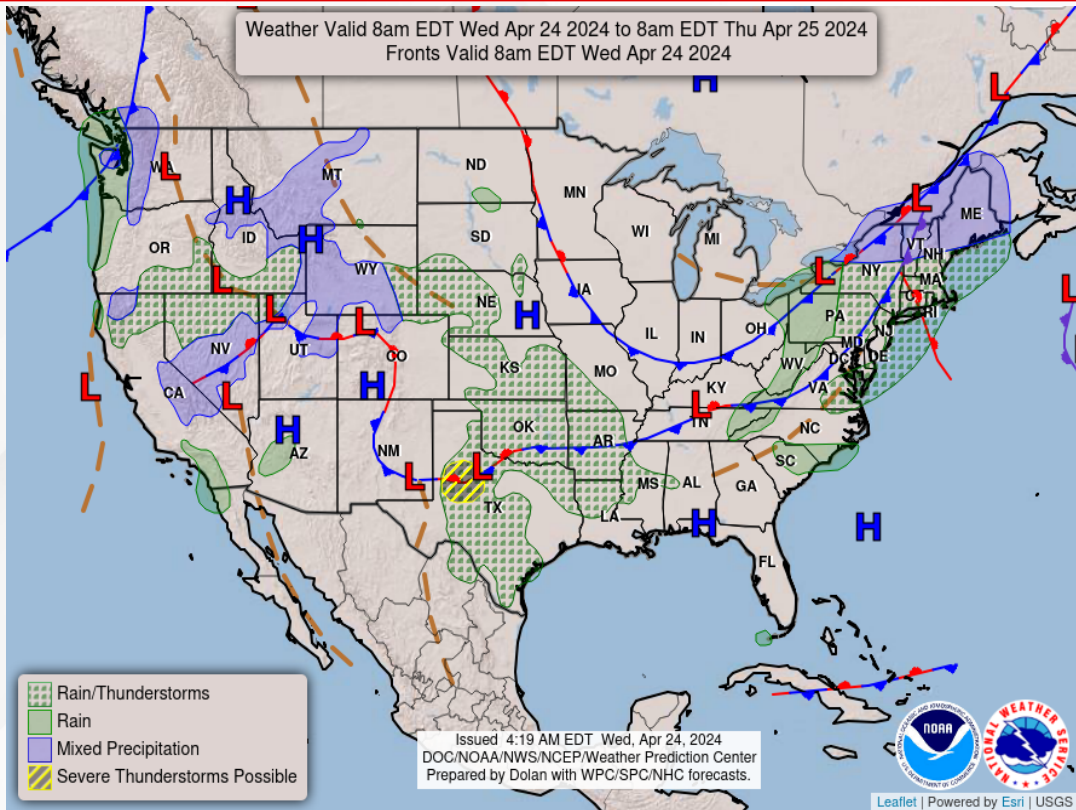
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Santa Rosa	MGT-310 Training
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Administrative Duties
Region 3: Patrick James	Taylor	External Stakeholders Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Instructing FL-601 & FL-603
RRCT Manager	Hernando	Administrative Duties
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Grant Goodwin	DeSoto	LMS Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Palm Beach	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Lee	Recovery Meeting
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Broward / Palm Beach	NWS Meeting / Internal Stakeholders Meeting

Region 4 Coverage Provided by RC 5

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

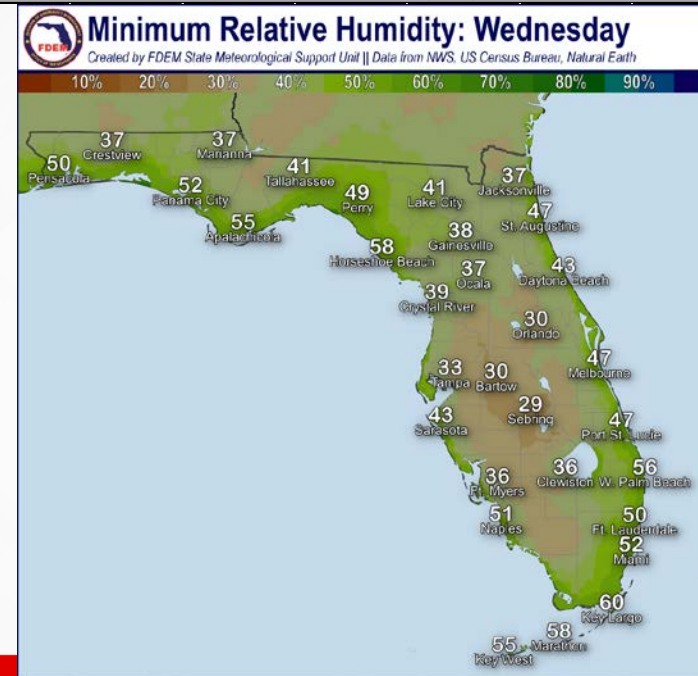
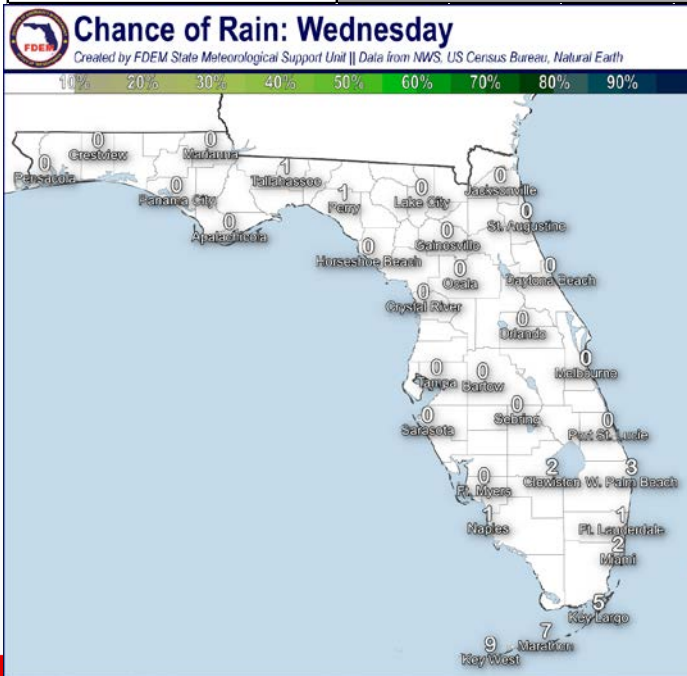


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Fog (Overnight)	L	L	L							
Wildfire				L	L	L	L	L	L	
River Flooding		L	M							
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		M	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.54 ft. (0.76 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	259 (+7) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



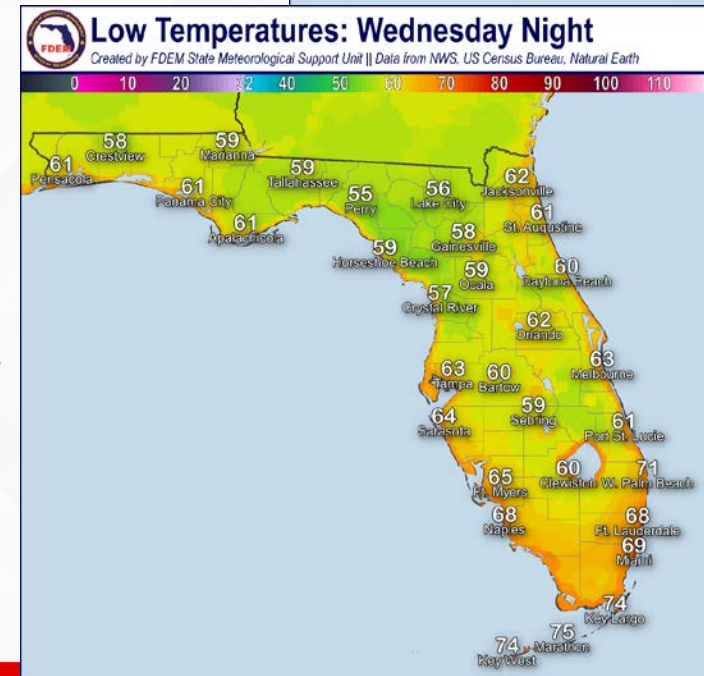
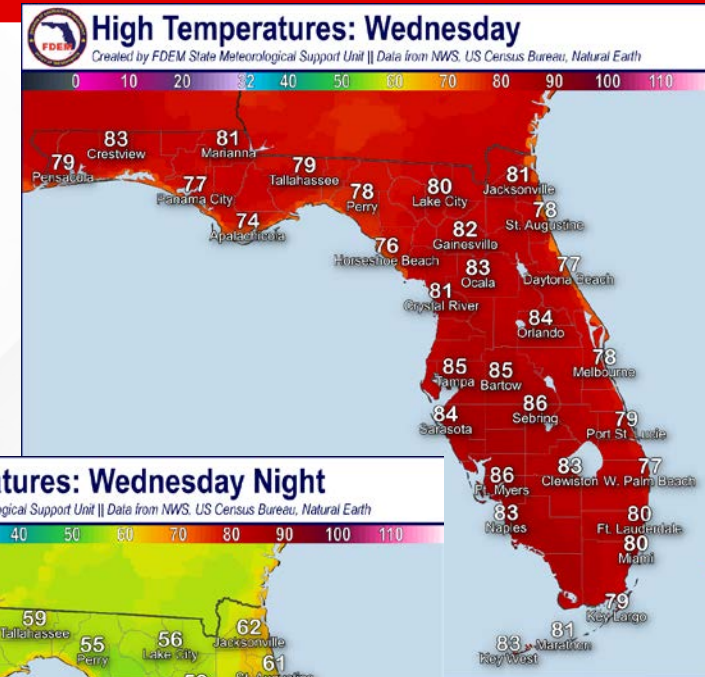


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Warm and dry conditions will continue across the Sunshine State as high pressure dominates (near 0% chance of rain). Dry air will settle into the interior Peninsula allowing relative humidity values to fall below critical thresholds this afternoon (upper 20%) creating **sensitive wildfire conditions**. **Locally elevated wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out across portions of interior East-Central and Southeast Florida where emerging drought conditions have been recently introduced. Winds will remain light throughout the day, with gusts increasing to 10-15 mph mainly east of the I-95 corridor and along the coastlines as the sea breeze develops and moves in throughout the afternoon. Temperatures will continue to gradually warm up, reaching the upper 70s to middle 80s across the state with plenty of sunshine.

Clear and calm conditions will continue through the overnight hours, which will help for **patchy fog** to develop along the Panhandle and coastal Big Bend as moisture slowly recovers. Low temperatures in the middle to upper 50s across be expected across North Florida, with areas along the coastlines in the low 60s. Low temperatures throughout Central Florida will reach the low to middle 60s, while low temperatures in South Florida will reach the upper 60s to middle 70s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Southeast Florida beaches can expect a **high risk for rip currents** due to onshore winds and a lingering ocean swell. Panhandle and East Coast beaches can expect a **moderate risk for rip currents** due to onshore winds. A low risk for rip currents returns to the West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Calming seas will allow for wave heights near 1-2' along all Panhandle and West Coast beaches. A lingering ocean swell and onshore winds will give way to **wave heights** of 2-5' along East Coast beaches. The largest of these waves will be along portions of Treasure Coast and Southeast Florida through the late afternoon hours.

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.

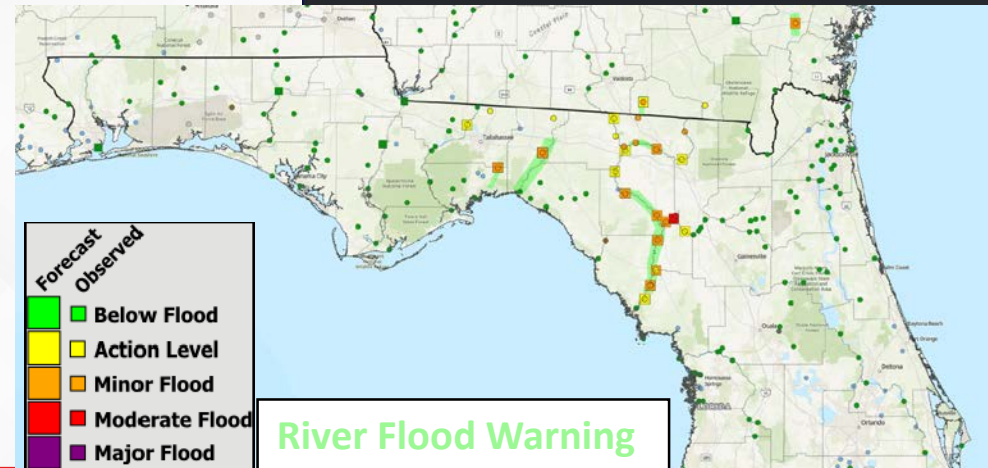
Flash Flooding: There is no risk for flash flooding today.

Riverine Flooding: **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect for several rivers and waterways along the Big Bend and Suwannee Valley. **Moderate river flooding** continues for the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) as water levels are forecast to level out over the next few days. The [St. Marks River near Newport](#), [Aucilla River at Lamont](#) and [Suwannee River near Suwannee Springs](#) continue to slowly fall through **minor flood stage** and are forecast to fall below flood stage later this week and over the weekend. Additional forecast points along the Suwannee River including, [at Luraville](#), at [Branford](#), [near Hildreth](#), at [Rock Bluff](#), [near Wilcox](#), and at [Manatee Springs](#) as water flows downstream through the river basin allowing for **minor riverine flooding** to continue. Dry conditions over the next few days will help to allow elevated water levels to peak and slowly decline. No additional riverine flooding is expected and there are no other riverine concerns at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.54 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.76 feet **above** normal for this time of year.

Rip Current Risk: Wednesday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from NWS, US Census Bureau, Natural Earth





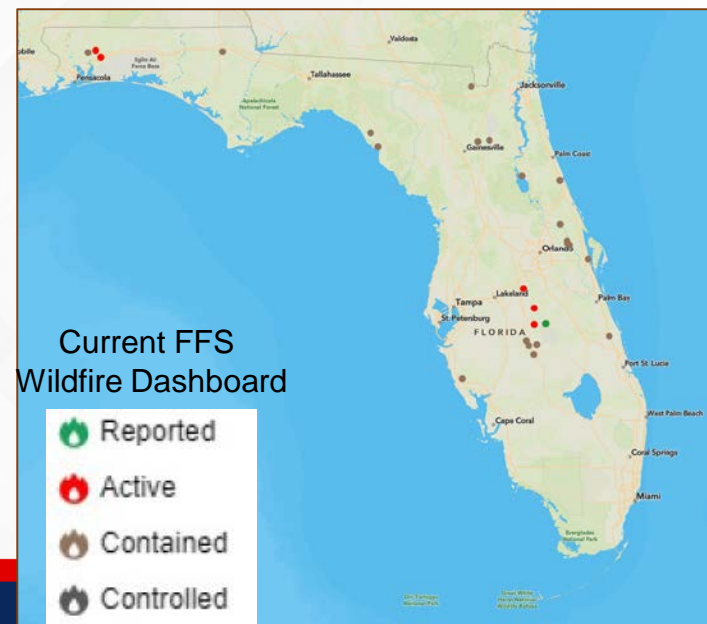
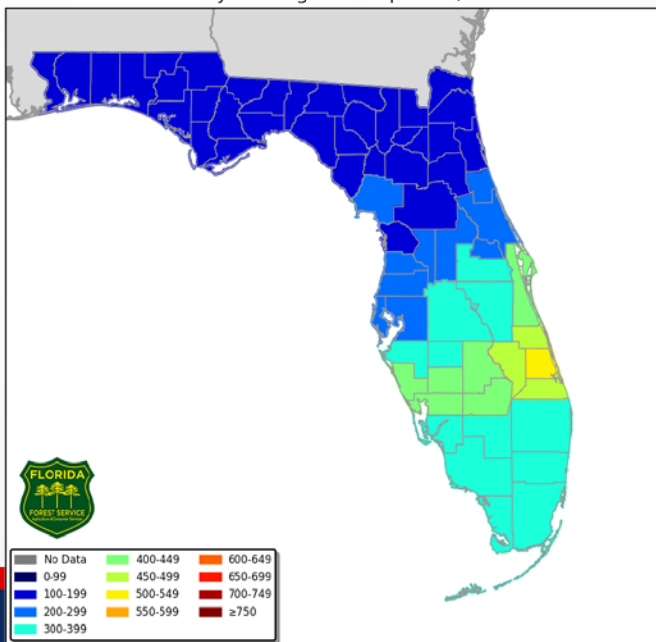
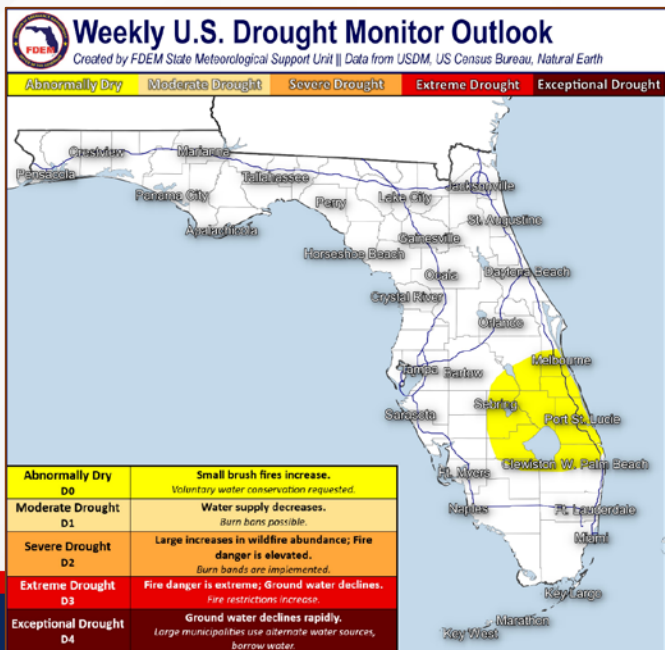
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: High pressure across the Sunshine State will allow for dry air to settle in across the interior Peninsula. Relative humidity values will fall **below critical thresholds**, especially along the western Peninsula this afternoon (upper 20% to low 30%) allowing for **sensitive wildfire conditions**. **Locally elevated wildfire conditions** cannot be ruled out along portions of East-Central and Southeast Florida where there are emerging drought conditions. Portions of the Big Bend and Northeast Florida will see relative humidity values fall near critical thresholds, with isolated areas locally below critical thresholds (middle 30%). Winds should remain light (below 10 mph) throughout interior areas, with wind gusts increasing to 10-15 mph along the coastlines this afternoon as the sea breeze develops and moves inland. Light winds should help to preclude Red Flag Conditions. Onshore winds along the Panhandle and Big Bend coastline will allow for moisture to slowly recover overnight and over the next few days. Calm and clear conditions may allow areas of **patchy fog** to develop overnight and early Thursday. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 28 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 801 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.

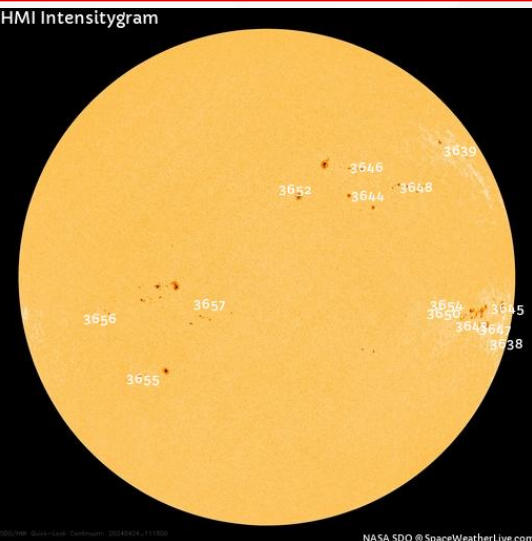
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **259 (+7)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There is **one** Florida county (St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for April 23, 2024

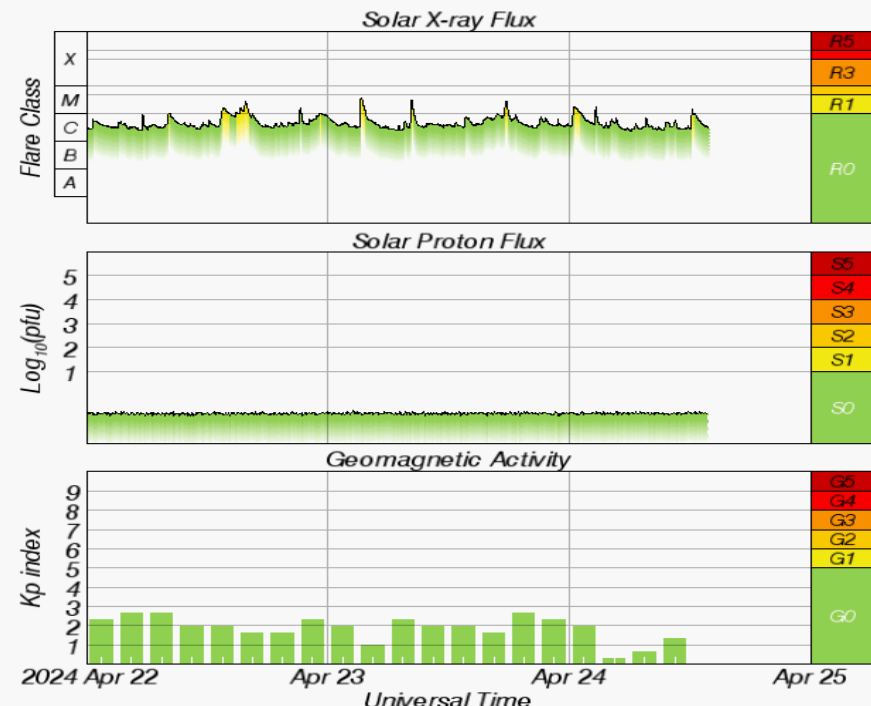
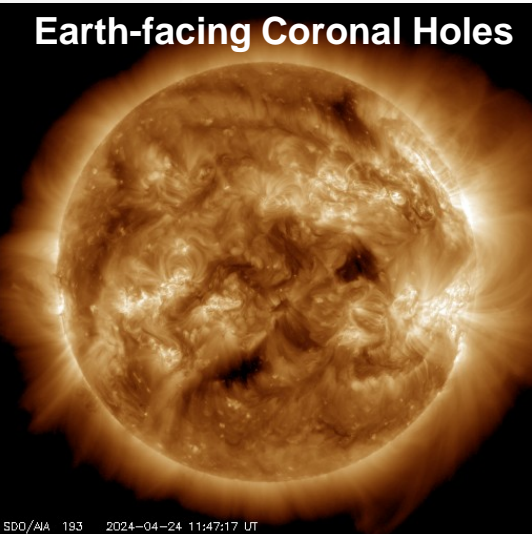




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 75%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M2 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/24	4/25
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 5%

Space Weather: Moderate to high levels of solar activity can be expected due to the potential for strong (M-class) solar flares and a slightly chance for significant (X-class) solar flares over the next couple of days. Active sunspot complex #3638-47 continues to produce M-class solar flares, and there are several other active sunspots on the Earth-facing side of the sun. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany stronger solar activity, and strong (R3) radio blackouts will be possible with any X-class solar flares that develop. There is a slight chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms over the next few days due to several active sunspots on the sun. Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) wind conditions will continue through today, allowing for enhanced solar wind conditions. Quiet to unsettled levels within the Earth's geomagnetic field can be expected through today due to CH HSS conditions and will likely persist through tomorrow. Several Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) have left the sun this week, but they are forecast to travel south of the Earth. Should one of these CMEs graze the Earth's magnetic field later this week it could spark minor (G1) geomagnetic storms. 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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