



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, May 1, 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 | Taylor Cheney | (850) 545-4047 | Taylor.Cheney@em.myflorida.com |
| Duty Officer | Ben Mauro | (850) 566-4904 | Benjamin.Mauro@em.myflorida.com |
| Operations Officer- Day | Jay Griffin | (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 | 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 | Tim Kenyon | (850) 591-7732 | Tim.Kenyon@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 | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 2: Willie Bouie | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 3: Glen Hammers | Out of Service | Leave (See Coverage) |
| Region 4: James Carter | Out of State (OK) | EMAC Deployment |
| Region 5: Austin Beeghly | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 6: Paul Siddall | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 7: Cristian Rivera | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 8: Karen Kozac | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |
| Region 9: Theresa Hendry | Out of Service | Leave (See Coverage) |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker | Hillsborough | DEMES/FROC Training |



Region 3/4 Coverage Provided by RRC 4
 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

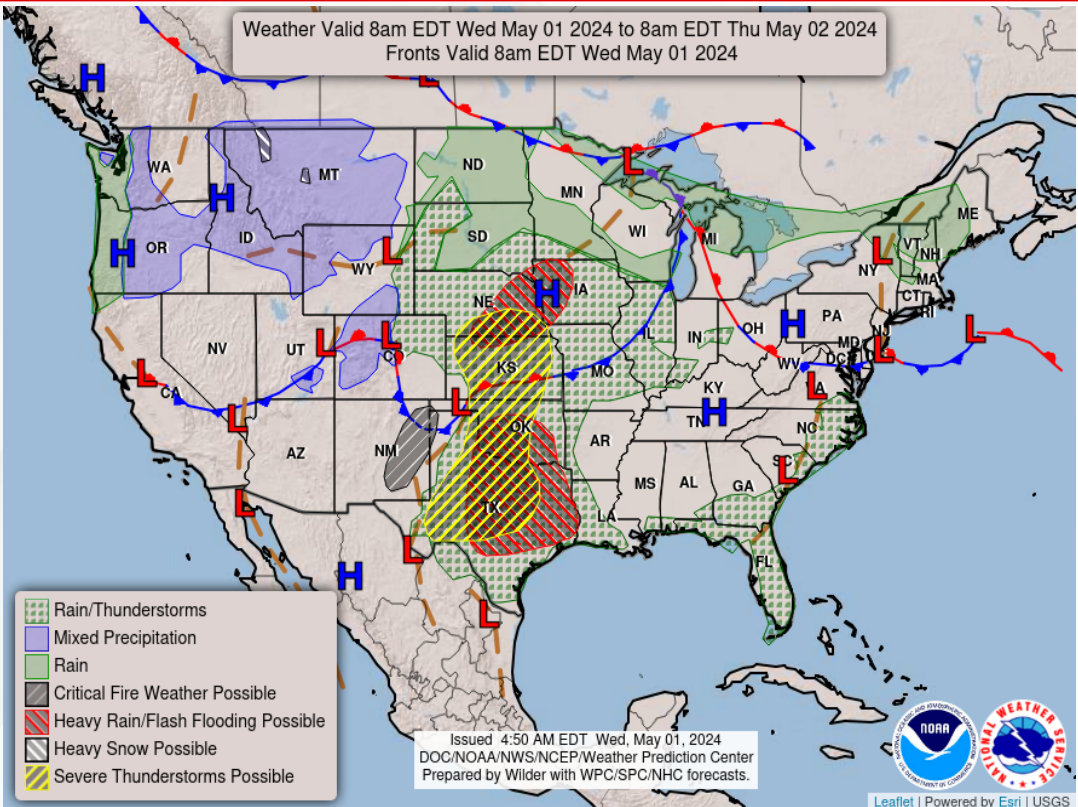
| Team | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 3: Patrick James | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 5: Elizabeth Caison | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| RRCT Manager | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell | | |
| Region 7: Vacant | N/A | N/A |
| Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 9: Kathryn Thompson | Hillsborough | FDEM Train-the-Trainer |
| Region 10: Dana McGeehan | Broward | County EM Meeting |

Region 7 Coverage Provided by RRC 6

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

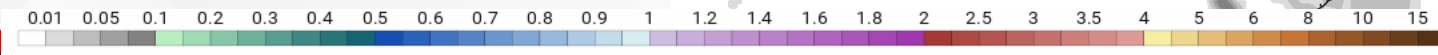


Meteorology Summary

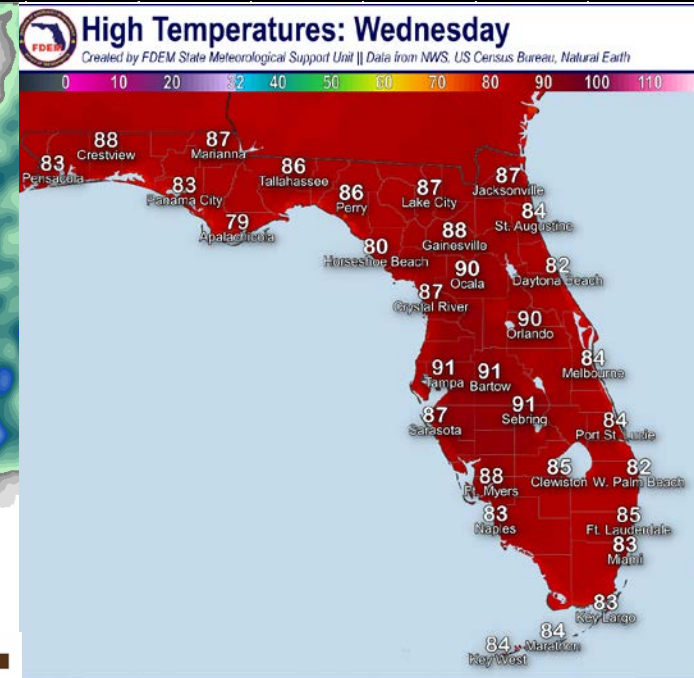
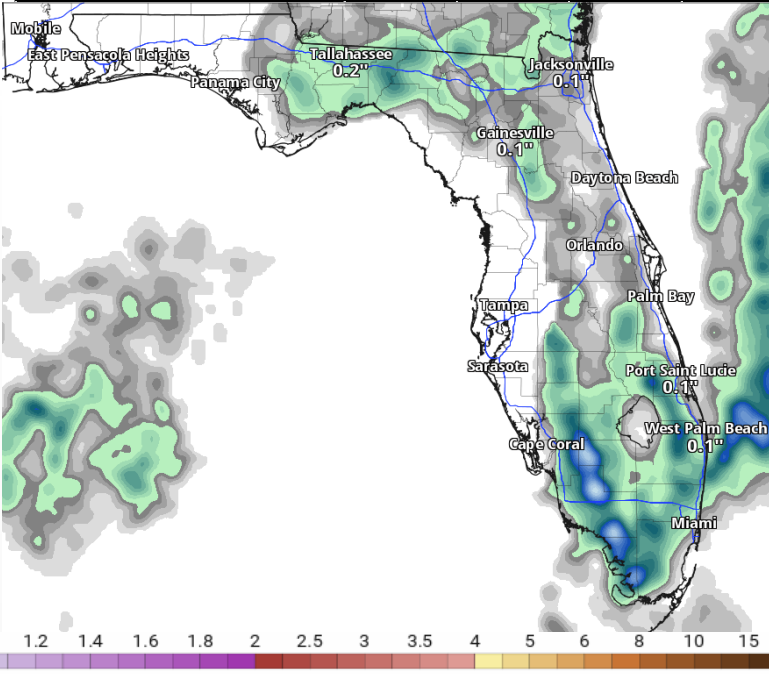


Today's Weather Map

24-Hour Forecast Rainfall Totals – *Locally*
1-2" Interior Peninsula & South Florida



| Threat | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|-----------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning | | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L | L |
| Tornado | | | | | | | | | | |
| Damaging Wind | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hail | | | | | | | | | | |
| Flash Flooding | | | | | | | | | L | L |
| Fog (Overnight) | M | M | M | L | L | M | L | | L | |
| Wildfire | | | | | | | | | | |
| River Flooding | | | L | | | | | | | |
| Rip Currents | M | H | L | H | H | L | | M | L | M |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation: | 14.19 ft. (0.56 ft. Above Normal) | | | | | | | | | |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index: | 328 (+8) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) | | | | | | | | | |



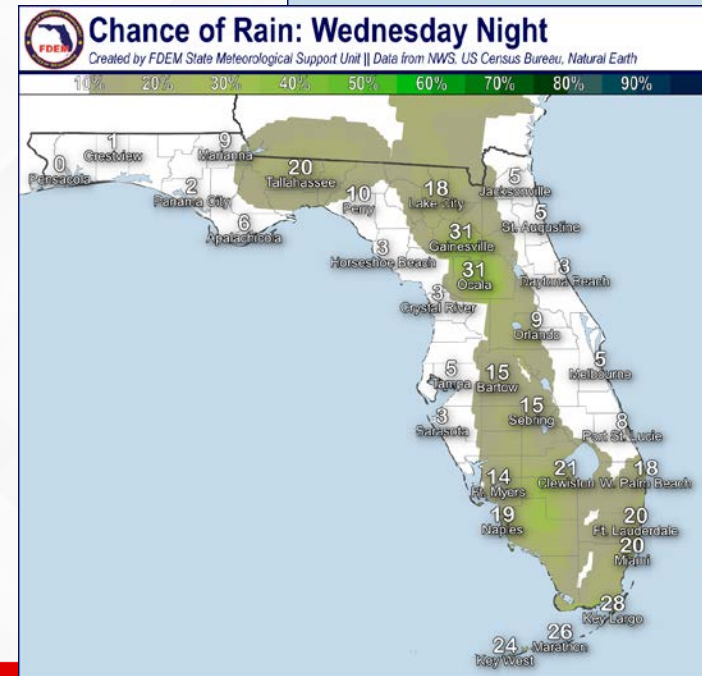
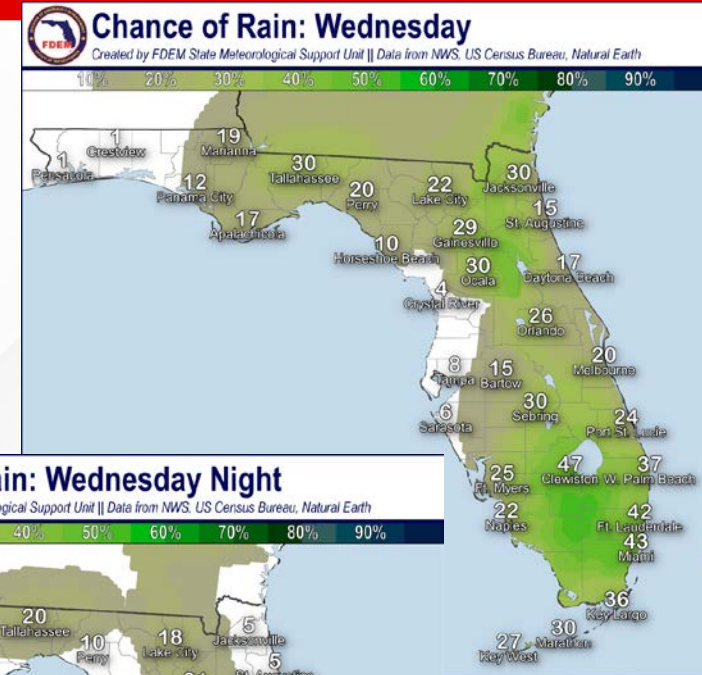


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog Advisories are in effect through the mid-morning hours along the Florida Panhandle and western Big Bend due to foggy conditions **reducing visibility to ¼ of a mile or less** at times. Clearing foggy conditions will give way to partly cloudy to mostly sunny conditions through the afternoon as high pressure develops over the Carolina's. Throughout the day, both the Atlantic and Gulf sea breeze boundaries will push inland and collide with one another, allowing for isolated to widely scattered showers and thunderstorms to develop from the Big Bend and throughout the Peninsula (20-40% chance of rain). While there is no organized risk for severe weather, a **few strong thunderstorms** capable of producing lightning, gusty winds and heavy downpours cannot be ruled during the peak heating hours of the afternoon and evening. Locally heavy downpours may also lead to **localized instances of ponding of water** across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas throughout South Florida, including the Southeast Metropolitan area. High temperatures will reach the middle to upper 80s and **low 90s** statewide, with coastal areas seeing slightly cooler temperatures due to the sea breeze.

Shower and thunderstorm activity will linger through the evening hours before slowly dissipating overnight (15-30% chance of rain). As shower and thunderstorm activity weakens and dissipates it will move towards the coastlines and the adjacent waters, which may allow for lingering activity overnight. Isolated showers and a few rumbles of thunder cannot be ruled out over the waters and near the coastlines overnight. Lingering moisture and calm winds overnight and early Thursday morning will give way to areas of **patchy to locally widespread fog** developing throughout North Florida and along interior portions of Central and South Florida. Low temperatures overnight will remain in the middle to upper 60s across North and Central Florida and low to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys. Warmer low temperatures across South Florida and the Keys will give little relief from daytime highs.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **high risk for rip currents** can be expected for several Panhandle and East Coast beaches due to persistent onshore winds and lingering ocean swells. A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected for the far western Panhandle and Southeast Florida beaches. A low risk for rip currents continues for West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: A lingering ocean swell along East-Central Florida will bring **wave heights** of 3-4' through the morning hours. The rest of the East Coast will see wave heights of 2-3' due to persistent onshore winds along the coastlines. Weakening wave heights of 1-2' can be expected for Panhandle and West Coast beaches due to calming seas.

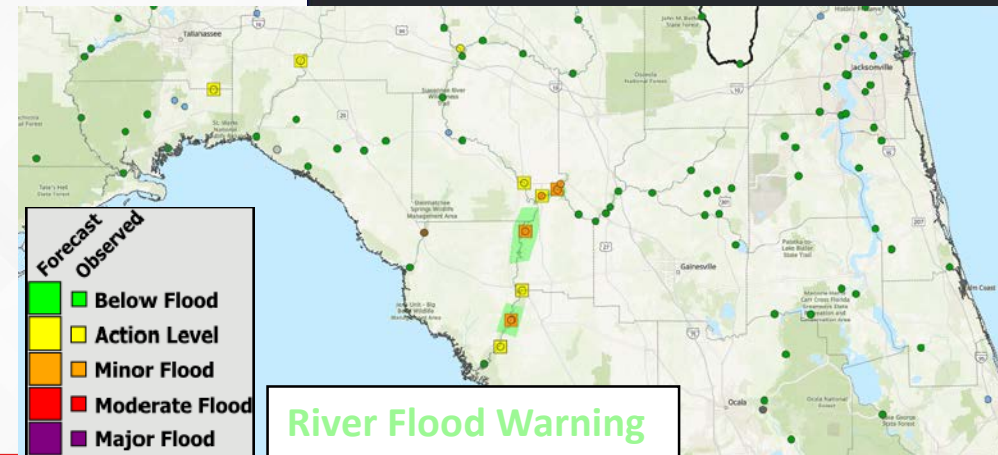
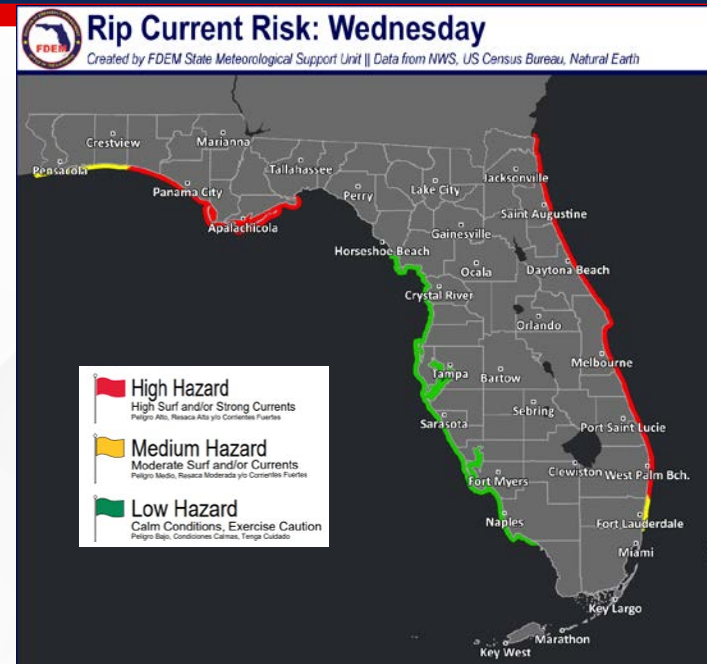
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in one sample collected from Northwest Florida (Escambia County) on 4/18.

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Shower and thunderstorm activity develop later this afternoon and evening will bring locally heavy downpours at times, especially along the sea breeze boundaries. Rainfall totals are forecast to remain below 1" along the Big Bend and South Florida, but **locally higher totals** could reach upwards of 1-2" across portions of the interior Peninsula and South Florida with heavier rainfall. **Localized ponding of water** cannot be ruled out with heavier downpours this afternoon and evening across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas.

Riverine Flooding: **River Flood Warnings** remain in effect along portions of the Suwannee River following heavy rainfall from the early April severe weather event. **Minor riverine flooding** continues for the Suwannee River [at Rock Bluff](#) and [Manatee Springs](#) as water levels are forecast to fall below flood stage by the middle to latter portions of this week. **Minor riverine flooding** is ongoing for [Santa Fe River at Hildreth](#) as water levels are forecast to fall below flood stage by midweek. The [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) has fallen below moderate flood stage but remains within **minor flood stage** and is forecast to remain there into next week. There are no additions riverine concerns at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 14.19 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.56 feet above normal for this time of year.





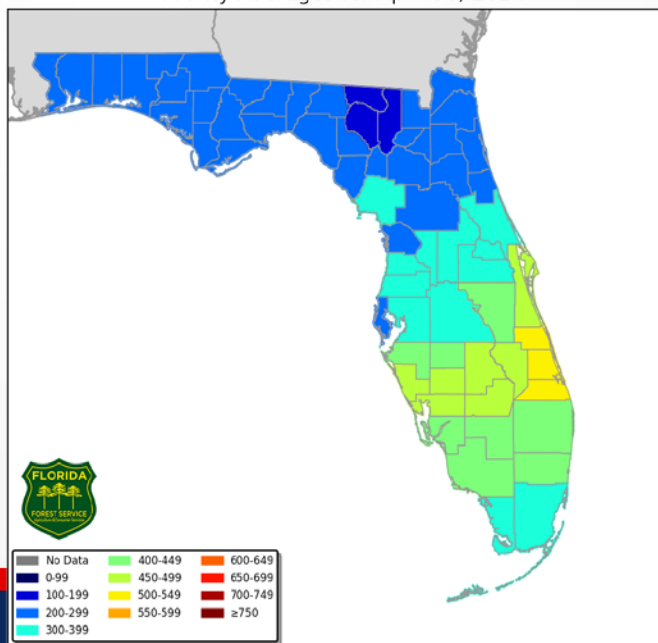
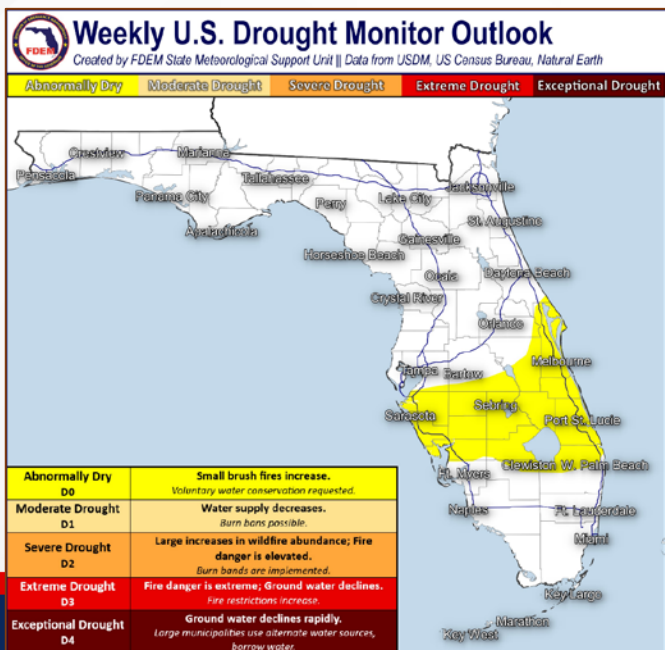
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dense Fog has developed this morning along the Florida Panhandle reducing visibility to ¼ of a mile or less at times. *Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are any ongoing wildfires.* Dry air remains settled within areas along the I-75 corridor and West-Central Florida, which will allow for relative humidity values to fall **near critical thresholds** this afternoon (upper 30%). Light winds can be expected throughout much of the day before the sea breeze and gulf breeze move inland and collide with one another creating wind gusts of 10-15 mph at times. With the collision of the sea breeze boundaries, isolated to widely scattered showers and possible thunderstorms can be expected this evening throughout the Peninsula. Any thunderstorm activity that develops will be capable of producing lightning, gusty winds and heavy downpours. *Lightning and gusty winds from thunderstorms, especially over emerging drought areas across the Peninsula, may result in the ignition or further spreading of wildfires.* Another round of **patchy fog to locally widespread** can be expected overnight and early Thursday morning throughout much of North Florida and into interior portions of the Peninsula. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 50 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2870 acres.

Drought: High pressure has yielded dry conditions and above normal temperatures nearly statewide over the last week, leading to deteriorating soil moisture and streamflow conditions. **Abnormally dry (emerging drought)** conditions have expanded along portions of the Central and Southern Peninsula on this week's drought monitor update and now stretch from the coast to the coast south of I-4 and north of I-75, surrounding and north of Lake Okeechobee. 60-day rainfall deficits have reached 4-6" below normal along eastern portions of Central and South Florida, east and northeast of Lake Okeechobee, with isolated pockets of 6-8" below normal. North and northwest of Lake Okeechobee to the West Coast, 60-day rainfall deficits have reached 2-4" below normal. Little to no rainfall expected across the region over the next week may exacerbate drought conditions.

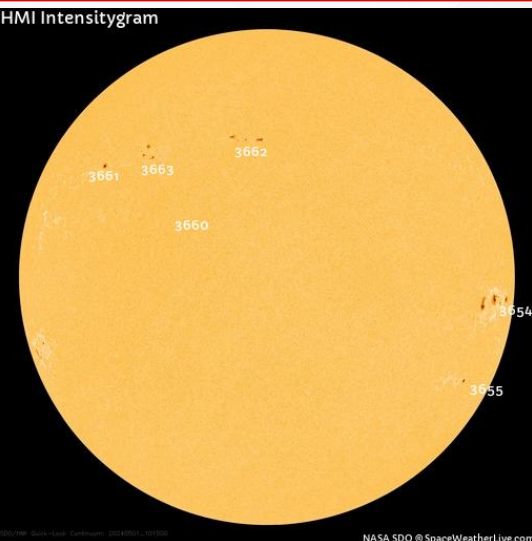
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **328 (+8)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **three** Florida counties (Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for April 30, 2024

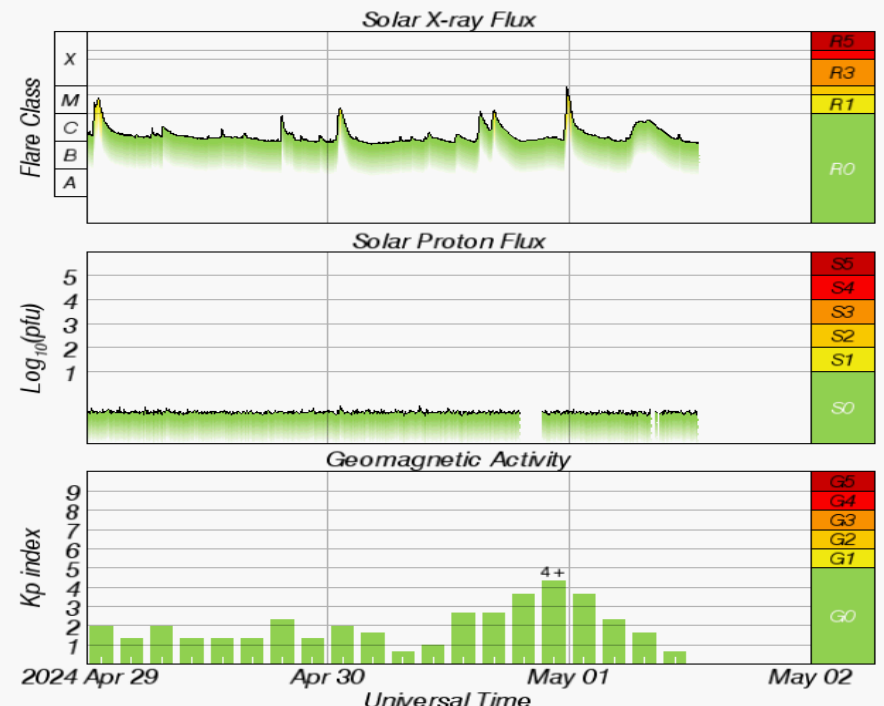
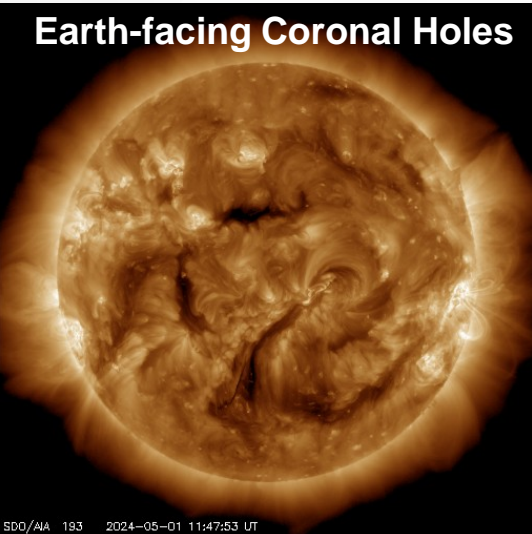




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



| Solar Flare Risk | Active Watches & Warnings | Past 24 hours |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| M-class: 55% | Geomagnetic Storm: None | M9 Solar Flare |
| X-class: 10% | Radiation Storm: None | R2 Radio Blackout |

| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast | |
|--|--|
| 5/1 | 5/2 |
| Max Kp= 5 (G1) | Max Kp= 4 (G0) |
| Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1% | Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1% |

Space Weather: Active sunspot #3654 produced a large M-class solar flare that was almost X-class flare level, and sparked moderate (R2) radio blackouts. This active sunspot continues to maintain a magnetic field that harbors energy for X-class flares. Solar activity is expected to be moderate with a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares through today. As the sunspot continues to rotate towards the western limb of the sun, it will undergo slow weakening and decrease the chance for M-class solar flares tomorrow and Friday. Any M-class or X-class solar flares that develop will be capable of producing minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts with a slight chance for strong (R3) blackouts. Enhanced solar wind conditions will continue through today due to transient Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) influences. Instances of minor (G1) geomagnetic storming are possible during the early morning hours due to CH HSS transient effects. The overall space threat to Florida remains 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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