



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, May 2, 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	Matthew Peloso	(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	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, Gadsden	DEMES/FROC Training / Return to R1 Travel
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Hillsborough, Leon	DEMES/FROC Training / Return to R2 Travel
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, Seminole	DEMES/FROC Training / Return to R5 Travel
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	DEMES/FROC Training
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Hillsborough	DEMES/FROC Training
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Hillsborough, St Lucie	DEMES/FROC Training / Return to R8 Travel
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

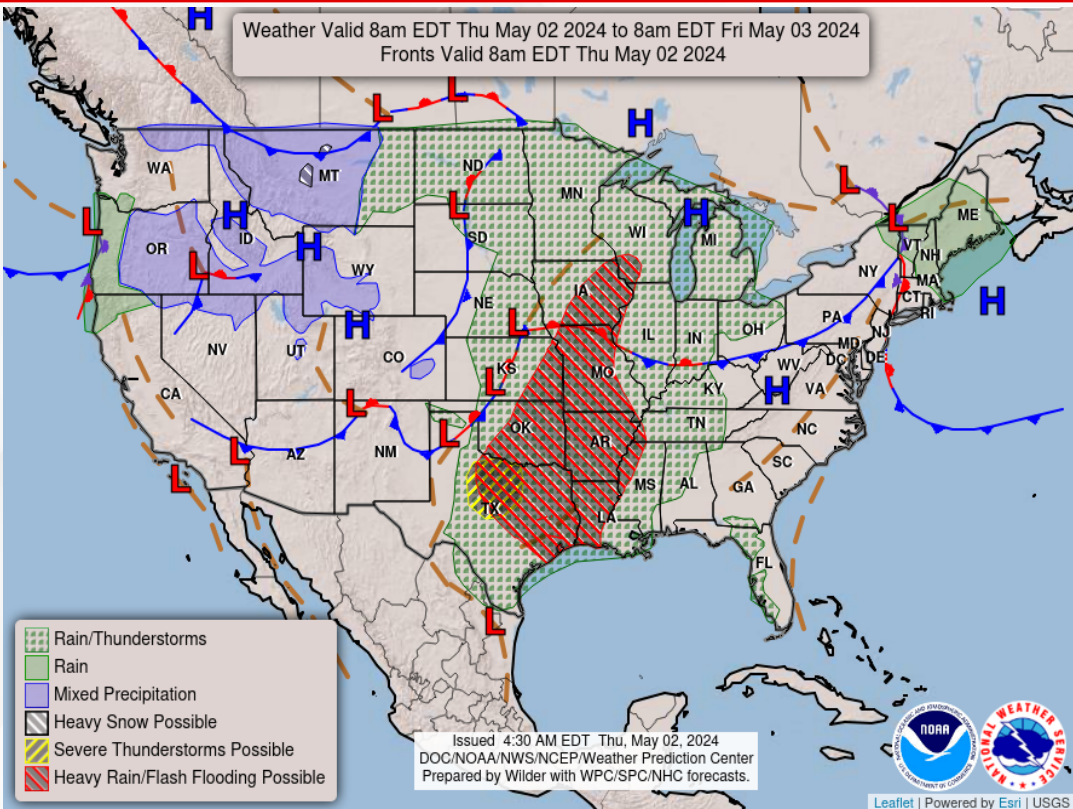
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Hillsborough	FDEM Train-the-Trainer
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Hillsborough	FDEM Train-the-Trainer
Region 3: Patrick James	Hillsborough	FDEM Train-the-Trainer
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Hillsborough	FDEM Train-the-Trainer
Region 5: Elizabeth 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	Recovery TTX

Region 7 Coverage Provided by RRC 6

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

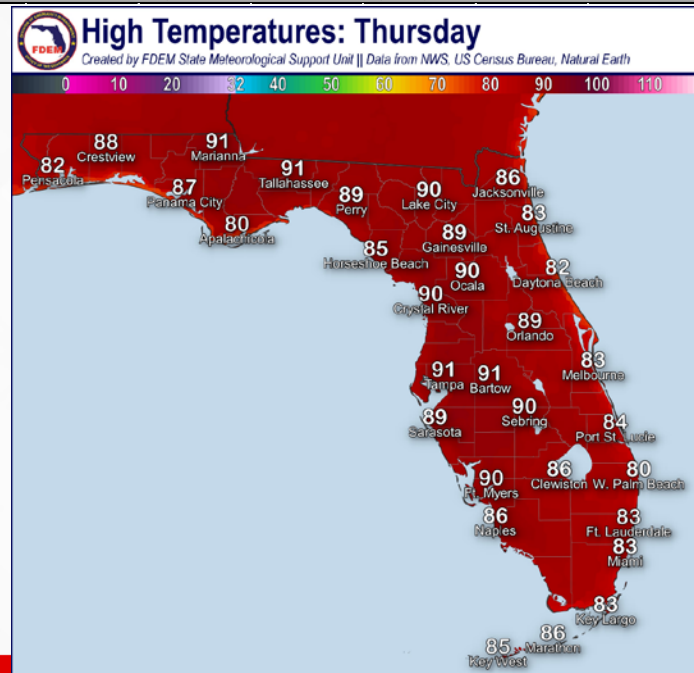
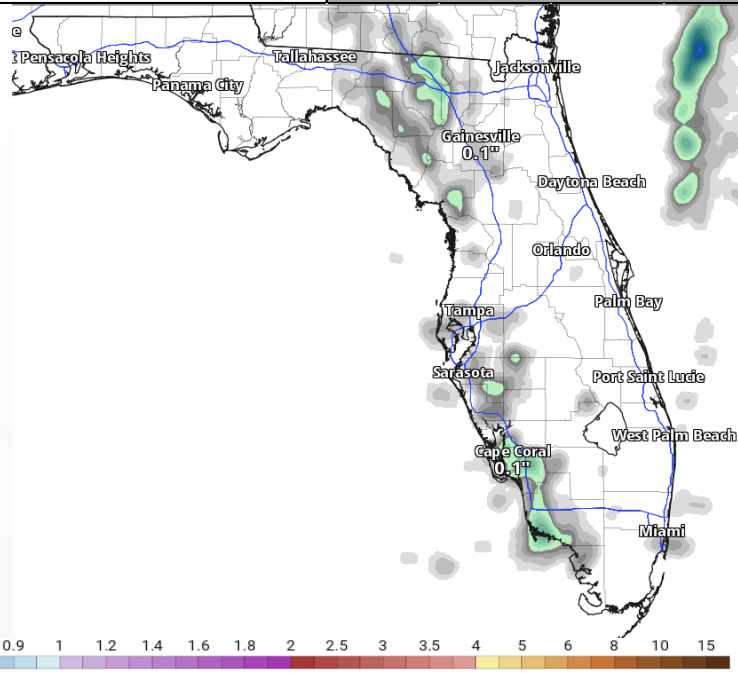


Meteorology Summary

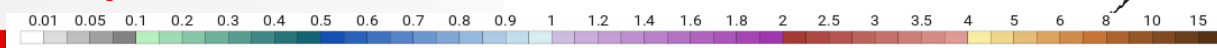


Today's Weather Map

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	
Fog (Overnight)	M	L	L	M	L	L	L		L	
Wildfire										
River Flooding			L							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	14.18 ft. (0.58 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	322 (-6) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



24-Hour Forecast Rainfall Totals –
Locally 1-2" W-Peninsula





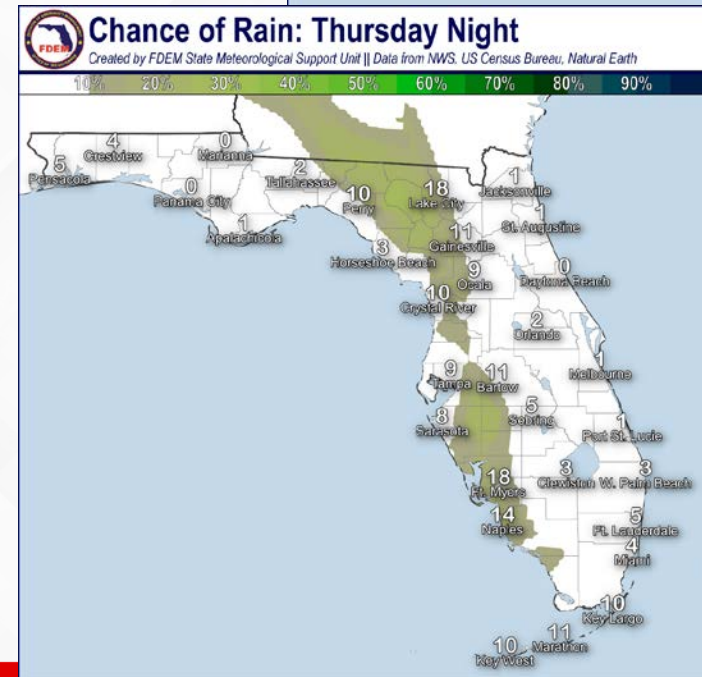
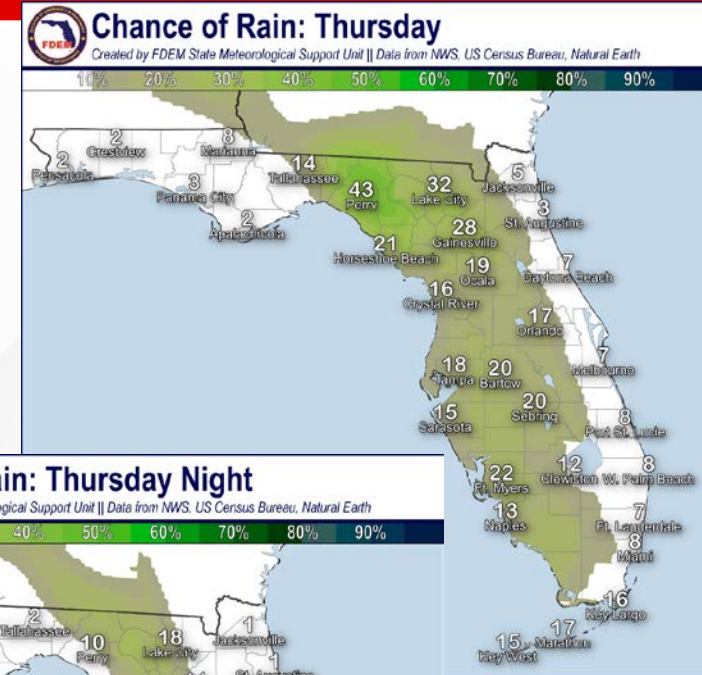
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Dense Fog Advisories are in effect across the Florida Panhandle through the mid-morning hours as areas of dense fog have developed, **reducing visibilities to ¼ mile or less**, which may create **hazardous driving conditions**. High pressure and easterly winds will dominate the weather pattern over the state today, promoting mostly sunny skies and warm conditions once the fog dissipates. A few isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms will likely develop today, primarily along the East Coast sea breeze this afternoon (15-45% chance of rain). Showers and thunderstorms will shift inland and towards the West Coast and into the Big Bend this afternoon and evening, becoming slightly more robust along the I-75 corridor later in the day as the East and West Coast sea breezes collide. While there is no organized risk for severe weather, a **few strong thunderstorms** capable of producing lightning, gusty winds, small hail, and heavy downpours cannot be ruled during the peak heating hours of the day. Locally heavy downpours may also lead to **localized instances of ponding of water** across urban and low-lying/poor drainage areas throughout the Western and Southern Peninsula, including the Southeast Metropolitan area.

High temperatures will rise into the upper 80s to **low 90s** across North and Central Florida this afternoon with low to middle 80s across South Florida and the Keys thanks to increased cloud cover. Coastal areas will see slightly cooler temperatures than adjacent inland areas due to the sea breeze. 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 15-20 mph at times along the Eastern and Southern Peninsula and Keys.

Isolated showers will linger along and west of the I-75 corridor into the early overnight hours before gradually dissipating tonight (10-20% chance of rain). Low temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 60s across North and Central Florida and upper 60s to middle 70s across South Florida and the Keys overnight. Lingering moisture and calm winds overnight and early Friday morning will likely give way to **patchy to locally dense fog** across North and Central Florida.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** returns along the East Coast today with a **locally high risk** persisting along Palm Beach County beaches. A **high risk** persist along numerous Florida Panhandle beaches with a low risk elsewhere. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights will remain near 2-3' along the Florida Atlantic Coast today with locally 4' waves possible along Atlantic-facing Key beaches. All other beaches can expect wave heights near 1-2'.

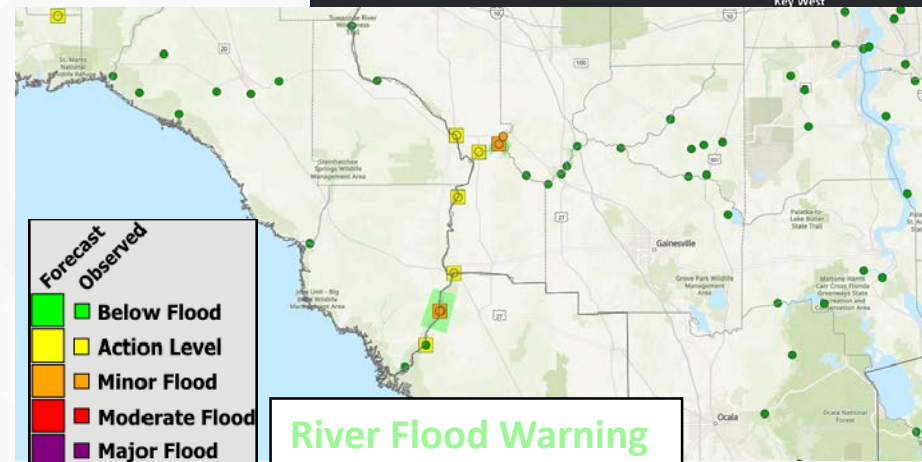
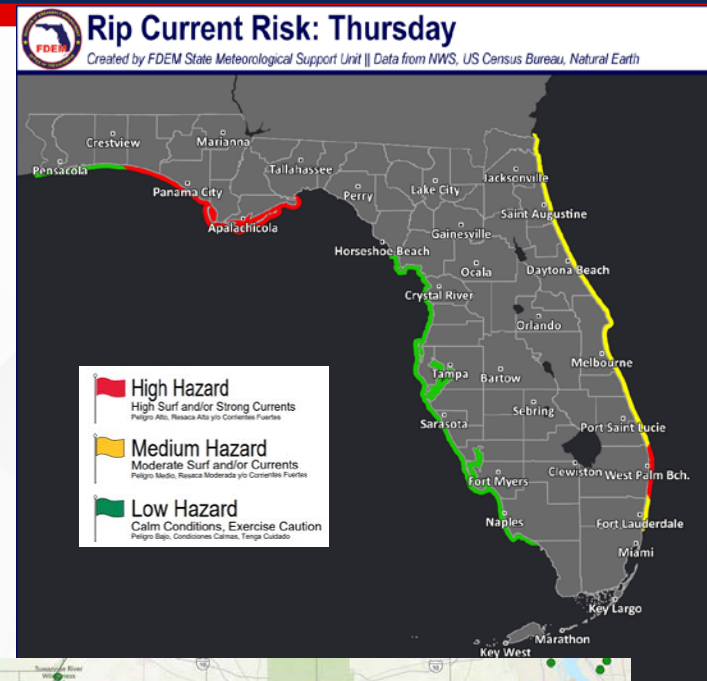
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in one sample collected from Northwest Florida (Escambia County) on 4/18.

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 developing along the sea breeze boundaries this afternoon and evening will bring locally heavy downpours at times, especially as the East and West Coast sea breezes collide along and near the I-75 corridor. Rainfall totals are forecast to remain below 1", but **locally higher totals** could reach upwards of 1-2" across portions of the Western Peninsula 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 and Santa Fe Rivers following heavy rainfall from the early April severe weather event. **Minor riverine flooding** continues for the [Suwannee River at Manatee Springs](#), but water levels are forecast to fall below flood stage Friday. The [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) 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 14.18 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.58 feet **above** normal for this time of year.





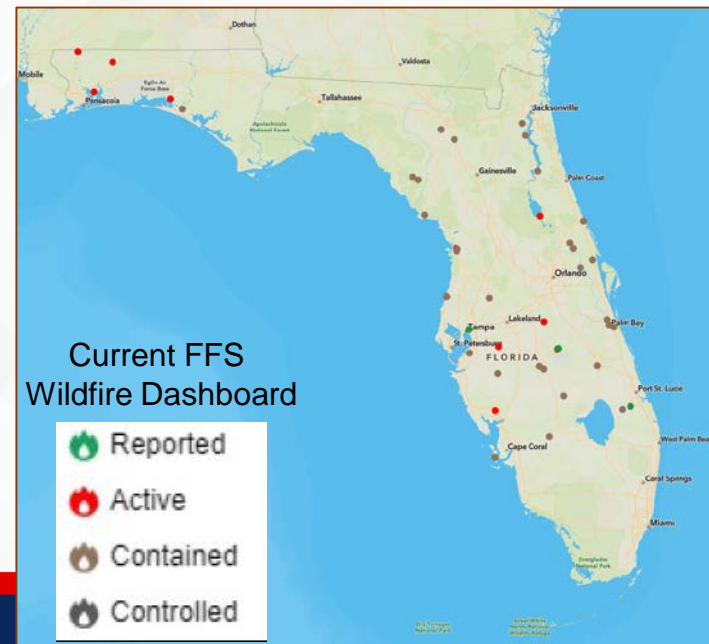
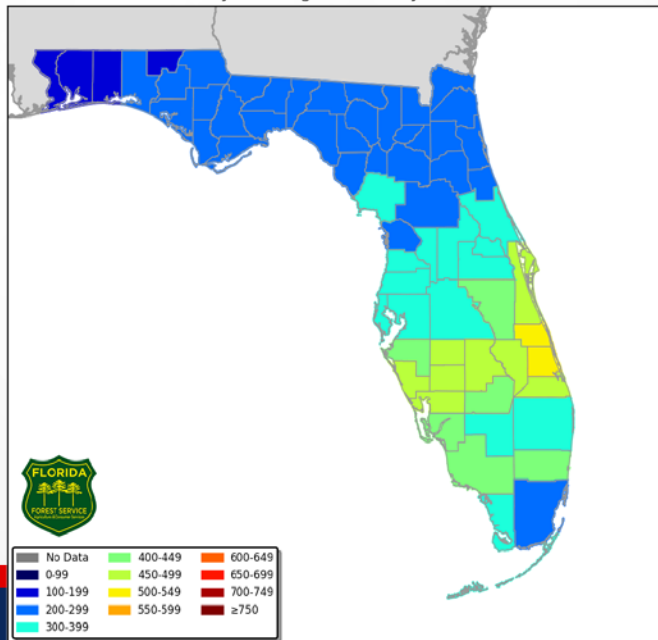
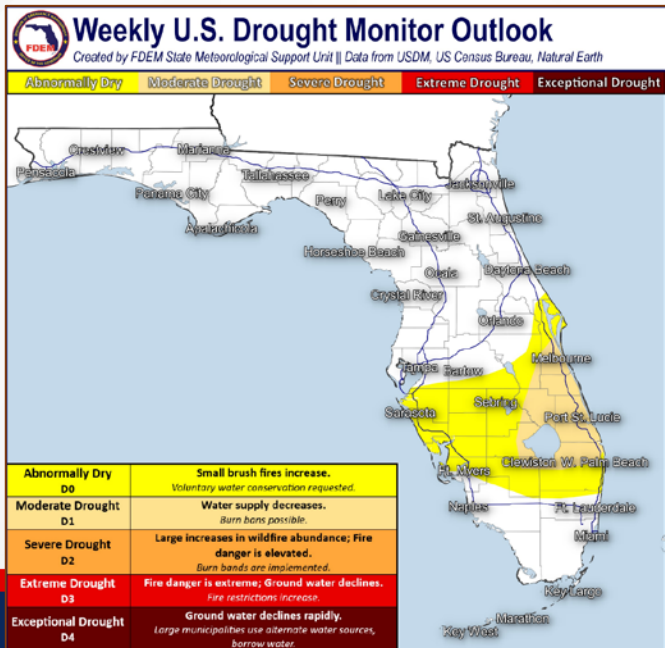
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dense Fog has developed this morning along the Florida Panhandle reducing visibility to ¼ mile or less at times and creating hazardous driving conditions. Foggy conditions may further reduce visibility where there are any ongoing wildfires. Dry air remains settled within areas along the I-75 corridor, interior West-Central Florida, and interior Florida Panhandle which will allow for relative humidity values to fall near critical thresholds this afternoon (35-40%). 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 15-20 mph at times along the Eastern and Southern Peninsula and Keys. With the collision of the sea breeze boundaries, isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms can be expected this afternoon and 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 Friday morning throughout much of North and Central Florida. According to the Florida Forest Service, there are 45 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2521 acres.

Drought: High pressure has continued to yield relatively dry conditions and near to above normal temperatures statewide over the last week, leading to high evaporative demand and locally decreasing streamflow. Several recent brush fires have been noted and there has been an increased concern for more as short-term dryness and drought continue. Abnormally dry (emerging drought) conditions have expanded along further northward and southward across Central and Southern portions of the Peninsula on this week's drought monitor update and now stretch from the from the I-4 and south to the I-75 and from the West to the East Coast. Moderate Drought conditions have been introduced to eastern portions of the region from Brevard County to Palm Beach County and surrounding Lake Okeechobee as rainfall deficits continue to increase. 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. Above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall expected across the region over the next week will likely exacerbate drought conditions.

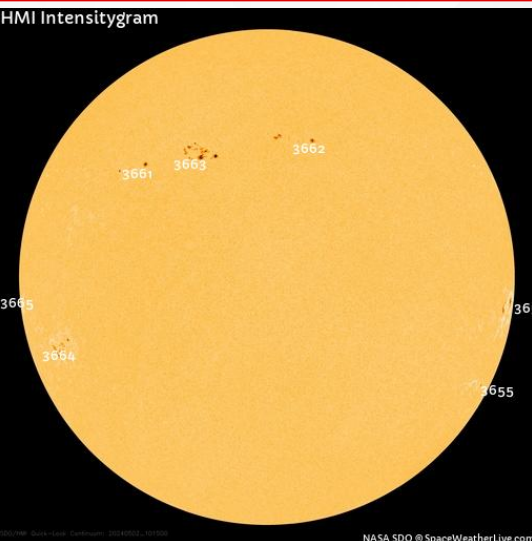
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is 322 (-6) on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are two Florida counties (Indian River and St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for May 01, 2024

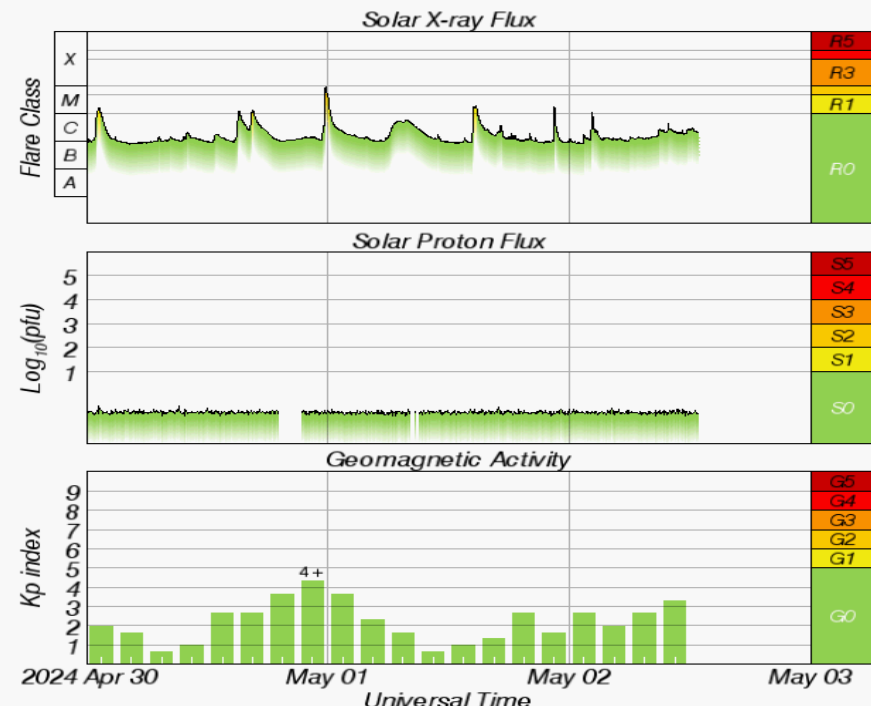




Space Weather

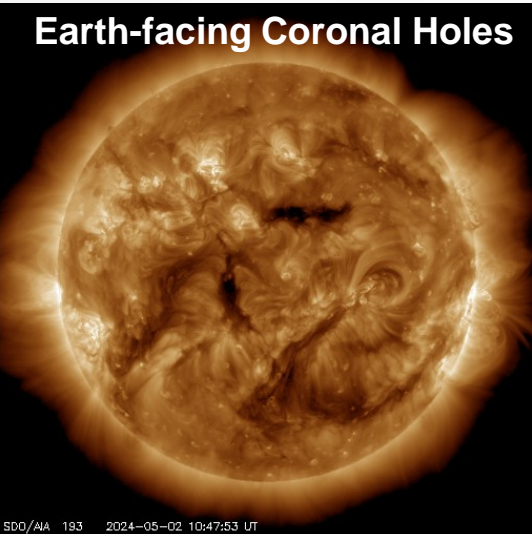


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/2	5/3
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%



Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to remain moderate with strong (M-class) solar flares likely and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares today due to the complexity and continued flare activity from region #3654. Active sunspot #3663 also possess a magnetic field that harbors energy for M-class solar flares. 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. There is a slight chance for minor (S1) solar radiation storms as a result of a slight risk of an energetic particle event from the favorably located region #3654. Solar wind conditions will likely begin to settle today as transient Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) passage influences likely wane. Quiet to active geomagnetic levels are anticipated today with transient and Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) influences. Active levels with a chance for minor (G1) geomagnetic storms may be possible Friday depending on the transit and path of a CME that left the sun on 5/1. The overall space threat to Florida remains 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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