



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, May 8, 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	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	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	Escambia	LEPC Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	County EM Surveys
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Lafayette, Taylor	County EM Surveys
Region 4: James Carter	Out of State (OK)	EMAC Deployment / Not Available
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Lake	IMT Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hernando	EM Visit
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Hardee	SWFHCC Meeting
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Palm Beach	Region 8 & 10 Roundtable Meeting
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	County EM Surveys



Region 4 Coverage Provided by RRC 4
 Region 9 Coverage Provided by RRC 9

RC Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

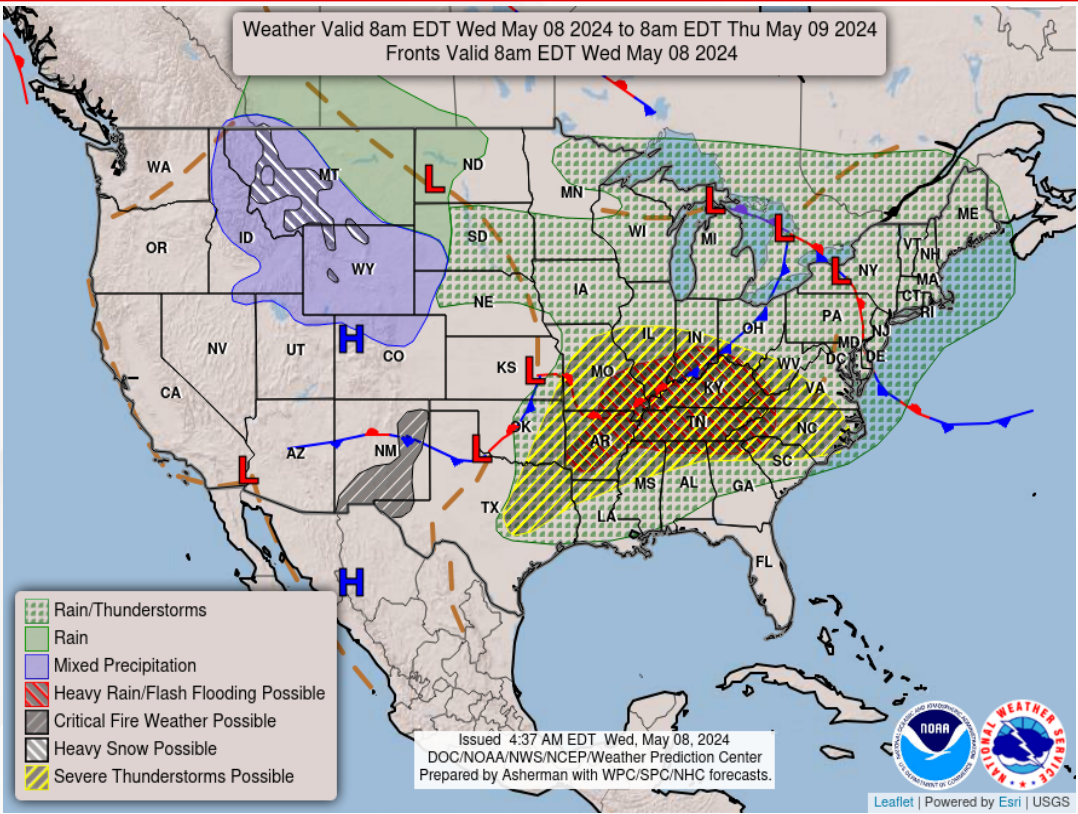
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Bay	County EM Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Out of Region	Leave
Region 3: Patrick James	Marion	FL Workshops
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Putnam	G-361 Training
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Marion	Instructing FL Workshops
RRCT Manager	Marion	Instructing FL Workshops
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Palm Beach	Region 8 Roundtable Meeting
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Lee	Administrative Duties
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Miami-dade / Palm Beach	Needs Assessment / Internal Stakeholders Meeting

Region 2 Coverage Provided by RRC 1
 Region 7 Coverage Provided by RRC 6

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

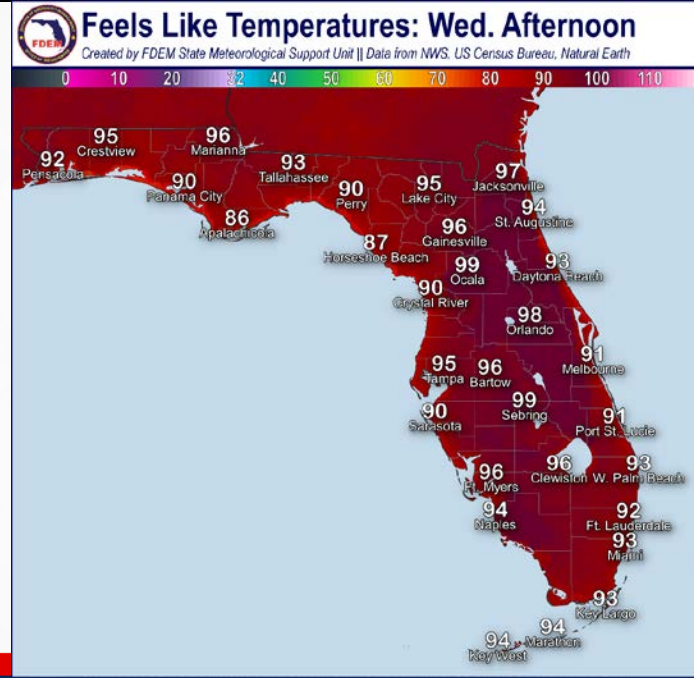
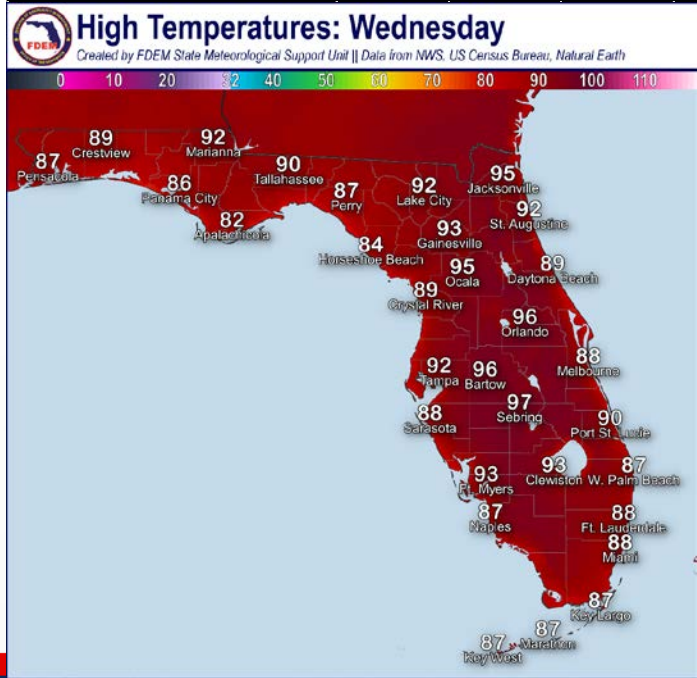


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning					L		L		L	
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Excessive Heat				L	L		L		L	
Fog (Overnight)		L	L							
Wildfire					L	L	L	L	L	
River Flooding			L							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	L		M	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.97 ft. (0.51 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	370 (+12) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



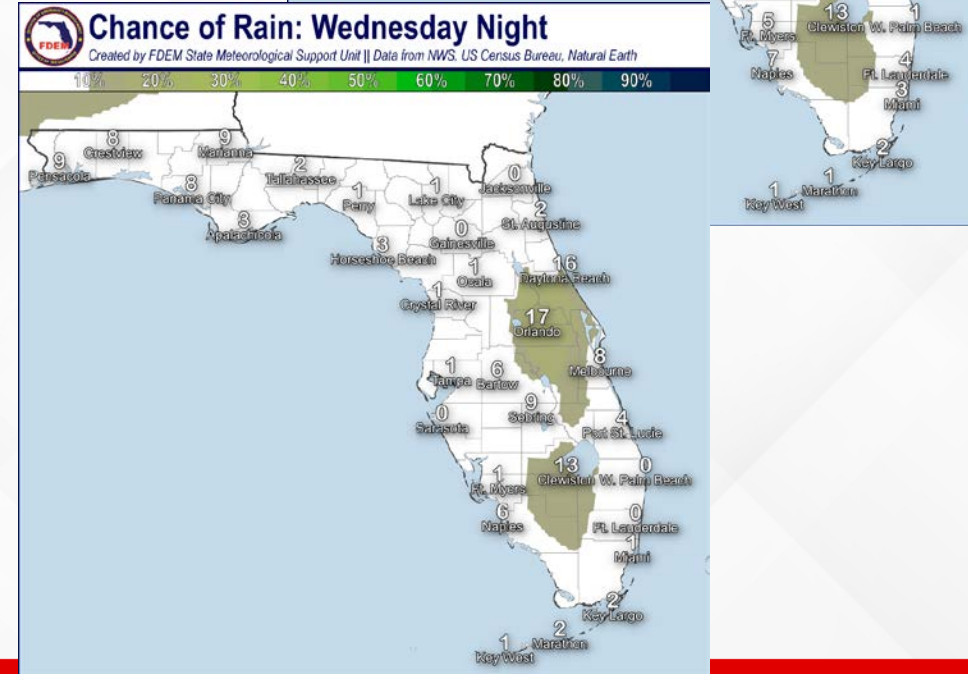
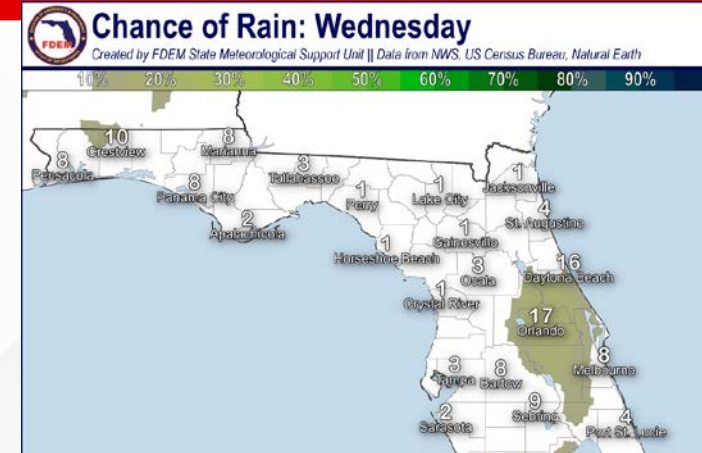


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Reduced visibility can be expected this morning along the I-10 corridor and Suwannee Valley as dense fog and low clouds have developed this morning. Foggy conditions will gradually lift and clear out by the mid-morning hours as the sun continues to rise. High pressure will dominate across the Sunshine State bringing warm and dry conditions throughout the day. High temperatures will warm up into the upper 80s to middle 90s across the state, with interior portions of Central Florida approaching the **upper 90s**. By the early to mid-afternoon hours, **heat index values or feels-like temperatures** will reach the middle 90s nearly statewide, with portions of the northeast and central Peninsula reaching the **upper 90s and near triple digits**. There is a limited chance later this afternoon and evening for isolated showers and possible rumbles of thunder along the sea breeze boundaries throughout the interior Peninsula (10-20% chance of rain). Confidence about rain chances, especially thunderstorm development are low due to dry air building over the state; however, it cannot be ruled out. The sea breeze developing throughout the day will help to keep areas along the immediate coastline a few degrees cooler compared to inland areas.

Any shower or possible thunderstorm that develops later this evening will linger into the early overnight hours before dissipating and moving towards the adjacent coastal waters (10-15% chance of rain). **Patchy fog** may develop late overnight and early Thursday morning along the Suwannee Valley and northern I-75 corridor with the help of light winds and clear skies. Low temperatures will fall into the upper 60s to middle 70s overnight throughout the state. Low temperatures across the Florida Keys will only fall into the upper 70s and near-80 degrees, giving little relief from daytime high temperatures.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Southerly winds will create onshore winds along the Panhandle will create a **high risk for rip currents**. East Coast beaches will see a **moderate risk for rip currents**, with a high risk along Palm Beach County beaches. A low risk for rip currents continues along West Coast beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected for all beaches statewide. **Isolated breaking waves** along Atlantic-facing Key beaches will reach upwards of 4' within the surf zone.

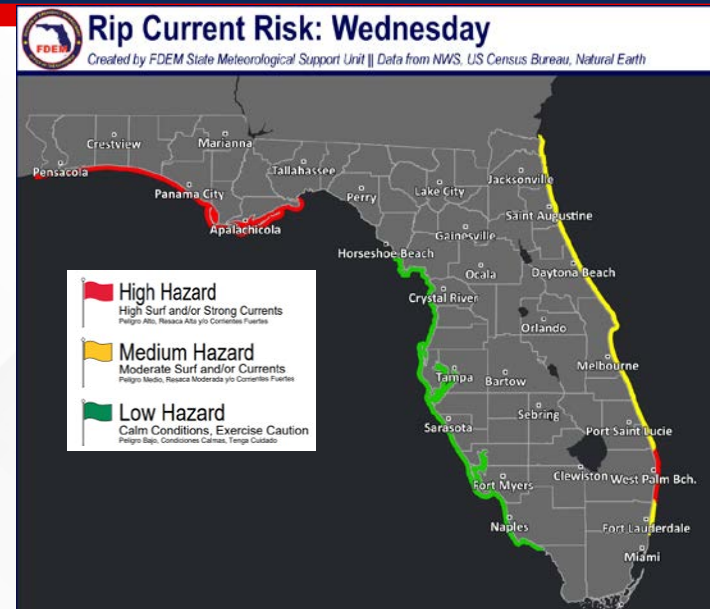
Red Tide has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week.

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today. Limited shower and thunderstorm activity is expected across the Peninsula sea breeze boundaries this afternoon and evening and warm and dry conditions develop. Isolated showers and possible rumbles of thunder may develop along the sea breeze collision later in the day, mainly along the eastern I-4 corridor and interior central and south Peninsula areas. Rainfall totals are forecast to be less than 0.5".

Riverine Flooding: A **River Flood Warning** remains in effect along the [Santa Fe River at Three Rivers Estates](#) as **minor flooding** is occurring and is forecast to continue through the end of this week. Portions of several Big Bend and Suwannee Valley rivers (including several portions of the Suwannee River) remain in Action Stage (bank-full); however, water levels are continuing to fall. There are no additions riverine flood concerns at this time. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.97 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.51 feet above normal for this time of year.





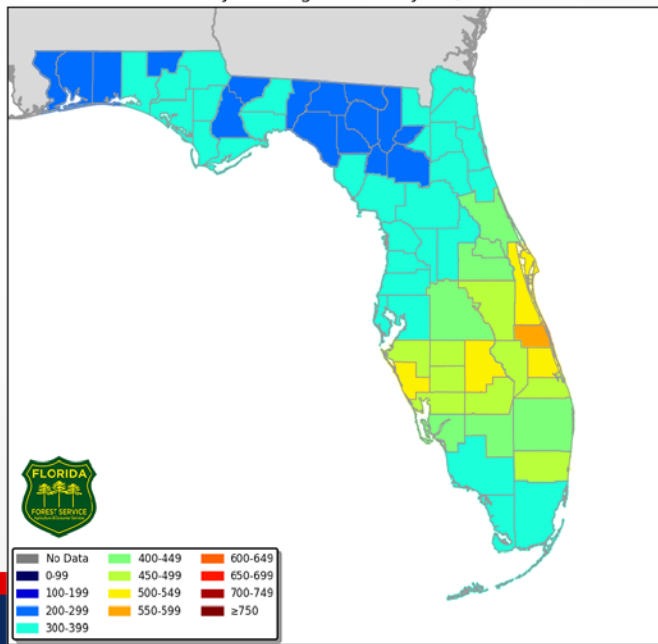
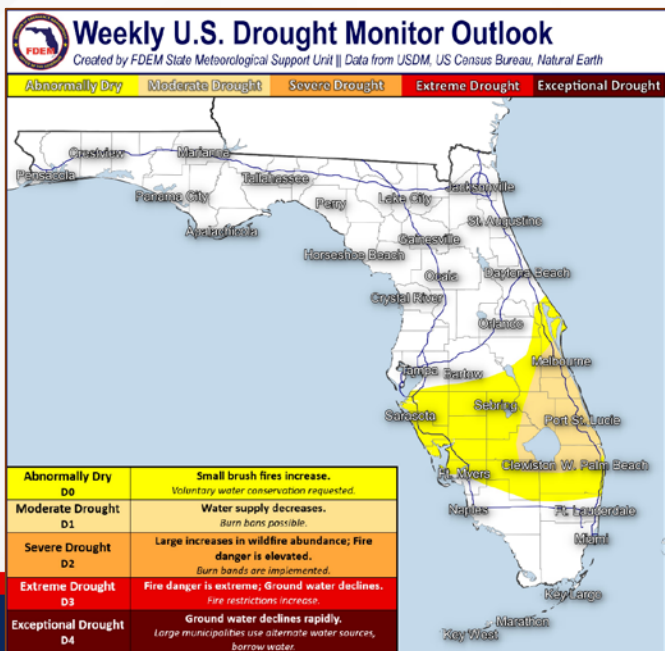
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Foggy conditions and low clouds this morning extend along the I-10 corridor and into the Suwannee Valley. Warm and dry conditions will develop statewide as high pressure dominates the weather pattern. **Near critical relative humidity** values can be expected late this afternoon and into the evening will develop along the interior Peninsula, mostly along Central and South Florida (middle to upper 30%). Winds will remain below Red Flag conditions across the Peninsula, and wind gusts will remain below 15 mph. Isolated breezy wind gusts along the sea breeze may develop at times. Above normal temperatures developing, combined with ongoing dry conditions will create **sensitive wildfire conditions** across central and southern portions of the Peninsula, especially where short-term drought conditions have emerged. There is potential for **patchy fog** early Thursday morning along the Suwannee Valley, but confidence is low. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 49 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 1199 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. Above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall expected across the region over the next week will likely exacerbate drought conditions.

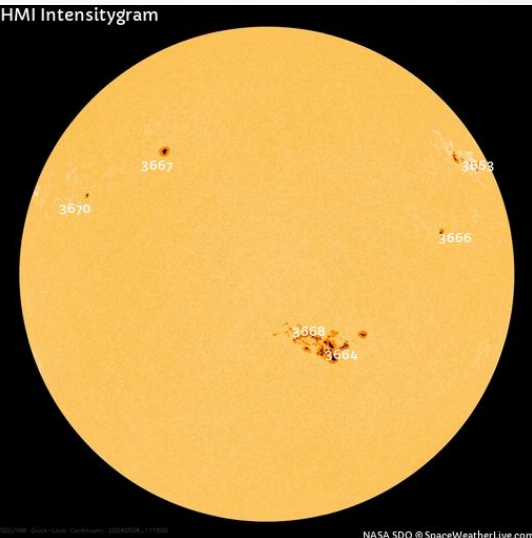
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **370 (+12)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **five** Florida county (Brevard, Highlands, Indian River, Sarasota and St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for May 07, 2024

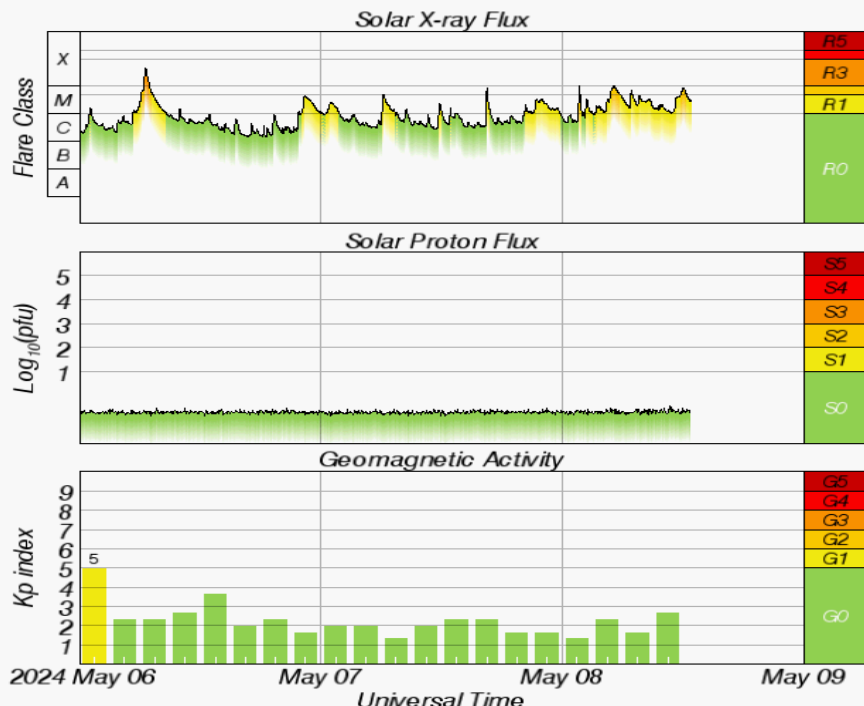
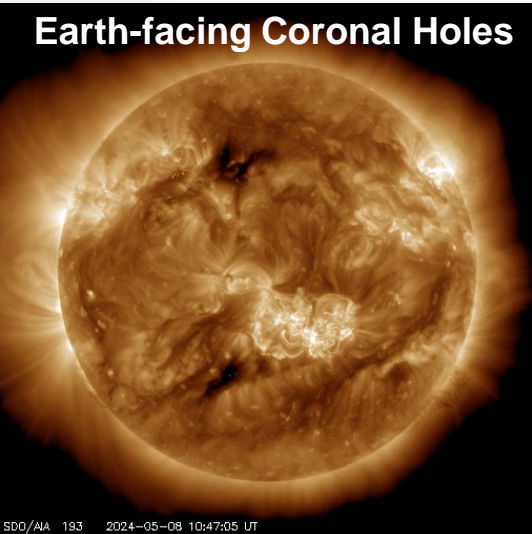




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 90%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	X1 Solar Flare
X-class: 50%	Radiation Storm: None	R3 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/9	5/10
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity will continue at moderate to high levels through the rest of this work week as strong (M-class) solar flares are expected and there's a high chance for significant (X-class) solar flares due to flare potential from active sunspots #3663 and #3664. Both of these sunspots contain magnetic fields that harbor energy for X-class solar flares within their magnetic fields. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts can be expected with any M-class solar flare, and strong (R3) radio blackouts can be anticipated with possible X-class solar flares. Elevated solar wind conditions are likely to diminish through today as Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds diminish. Possible solar wind enhancements are likely tomorrow following glancing effects from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that departed to sun of 5/6. Waning CH HSS influences will bring quiet to unsettled levels across the Earth's geomagnetic field thought the early hours of that day. Later today, the approaching CME will create unsettled to active levels. 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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