



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, May 14, 2024



State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

Level 2 Activation



SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@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	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	Gadsden	Office Admin / Weather Monitoring
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Severe Weather Response
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Madison, Taylor	Severe Weather Response
Region 4: James Carter	Out of State (OK)	EMAC Deployment / Not Available
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Palm Beach	GHC
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Hillsborough	Port Tampa Spill Meeting
Region 7: Cristian Rivera	Palm Beach	GHC
Region 8: Karen Kozac	Out of State (OK)	EMAC Deployment / Not Available
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Palm Beach	GHC



Region 4 Coverage Provided by RRC 4
 Region 5 Coverage Provided by RRC 5
 Region 7/10 Coverage Provided by RC 6
 Region 8 Coverage Provided by RRC 10
 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	Palm Beach	Governor's Hurricane Conference
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Region 2	Storm Recovery
Region 3: Patrick James	Region 3	Storm Recovery
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Region 3	Storm Recovery
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	External Stakeholders Meeting
RRCT Manager	Leon	Storm Recovery
Region 6: Jeremy O'Dell		
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Palm Beach	Governor's Hurricane Conference
Region 9: Kathryn Thompson	Palm Beach	Governor's Hurricane Conference
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Palm Beach	Governor's Hurricane Conference

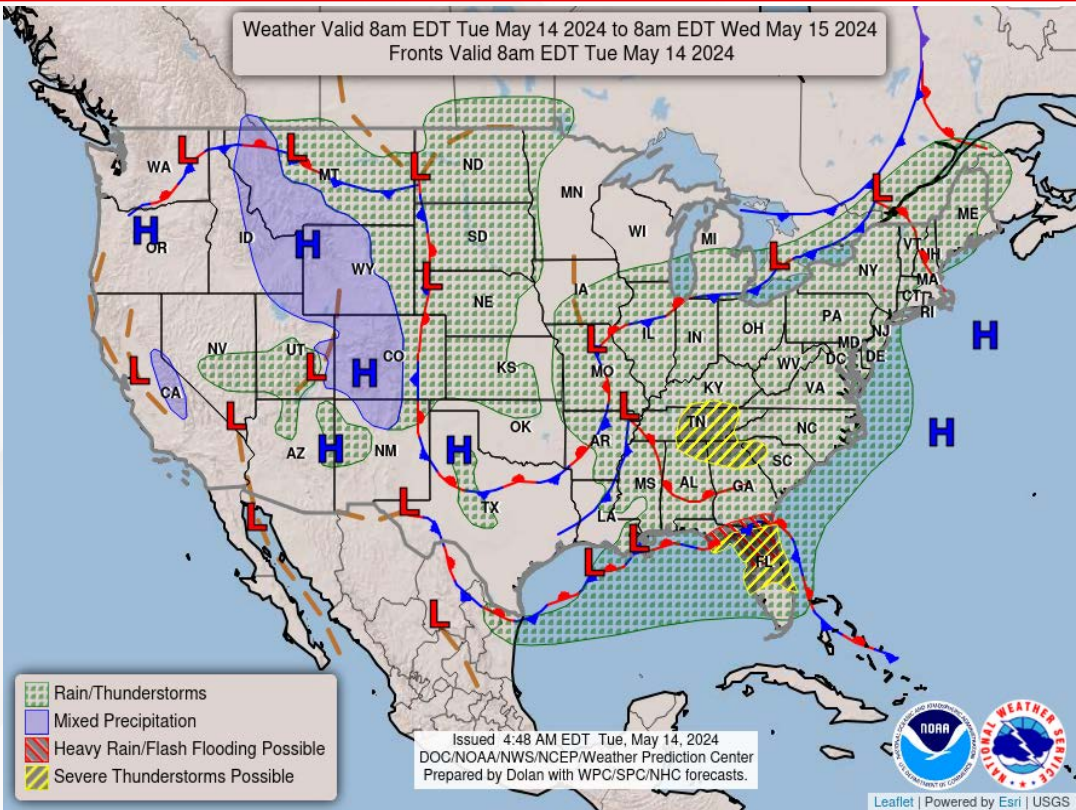
Region 6 Coverage Provided by RRC 5

Region 7 Coverage Provided by RRC 5

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

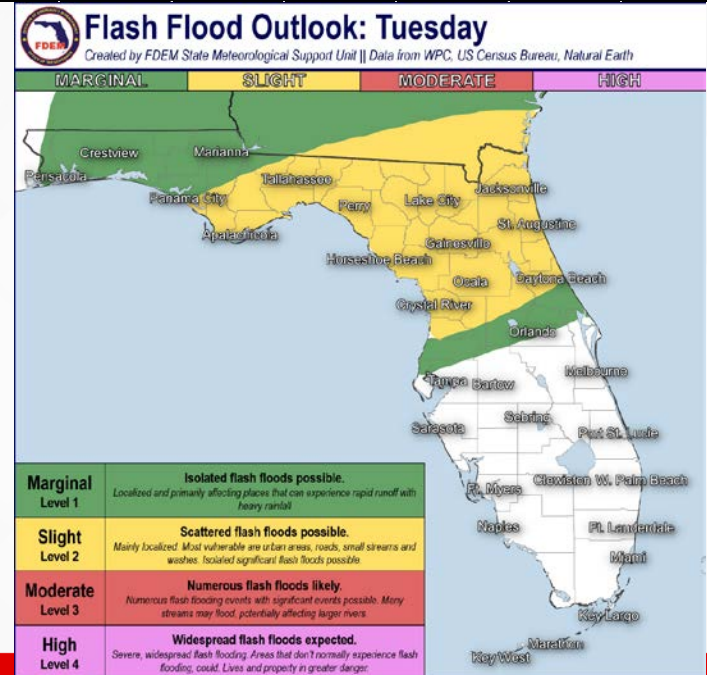
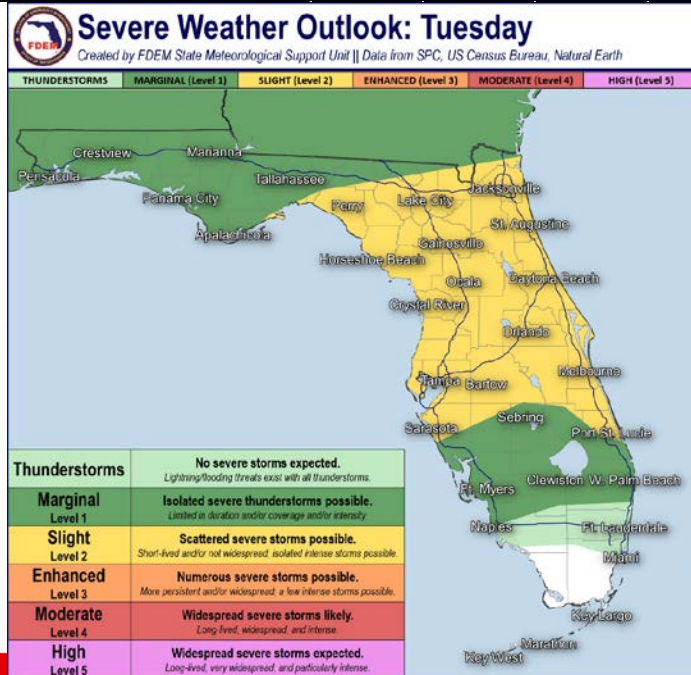


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	L
Tornado	L	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	
Damaging Wind	L	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	L	
Hail	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L		
Excessive Heat				L	L	L	L	L	L	M
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire							L		L	
River Flooding		L	L							
Rip Currents	H	H	L	M	M	H		H	M	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	13.72 ft. (0.40 ft. Above Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	393 (+9) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





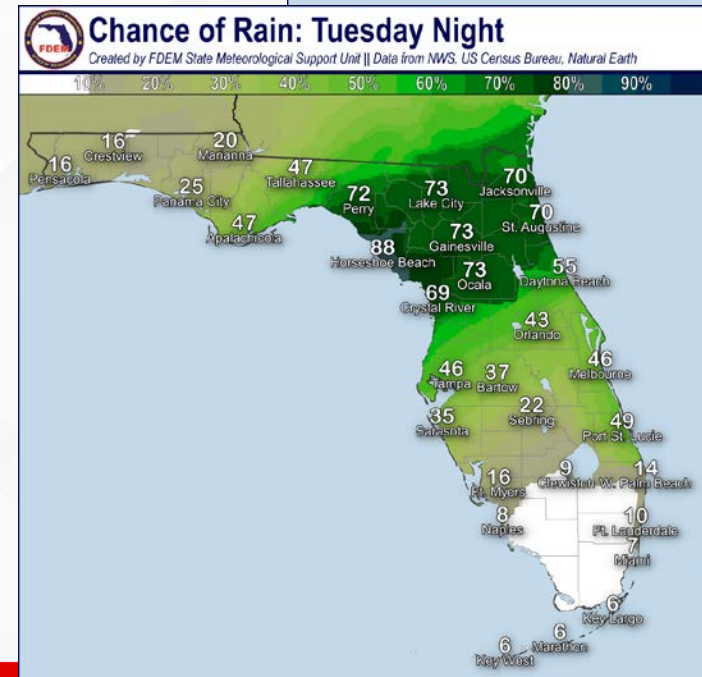
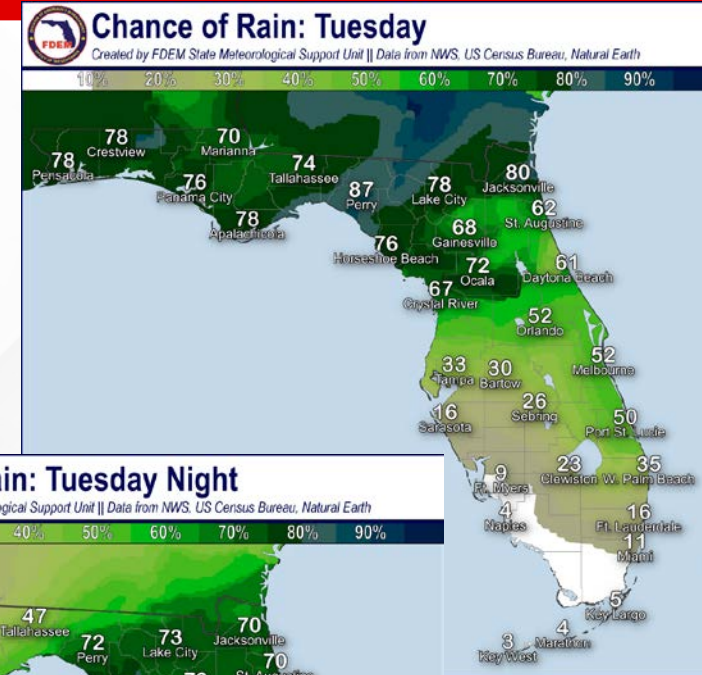
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Showers and thunderstorms that developed across portions of North Florida this morning continue to track southeastward through the Peninsula this morning (50-85% chance of rain). Showers and thunderstorms will move off the Florida East Coast later this morning; however, some residual showers and storms can be expected through the afternoon and evening hours across North and Central Florida. Another cluster of showers and thunderstorms will likely redevelop along and ahead of a frontal boundary associated with the system later this afternoon and this evening, moving through the Peninsula overnight and early Wednesday morning (45-75% chance of rain).

The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 5) for Severe Weather** across the Coastal Big Bend, Northern Peninsula, and south to Sarasota, Sebring, and Port St. Lucie with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5)** along the Florida Panhandle and south to just south of Lake Okeechobee today. **Tornado Watch #240** is in effect across portions of the Northern Peninsula as scattered damaging wind gusts (50-70 mph), a couple of tornadoes, and instances of hail will be possible with this stronger, more organized activity. The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Big Bend and Northern Peninsula south to near the I-4 corridor with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending along the Panhandle as instances of **flooding** and **ponding of water** continue to be possible, especially over already saturated grounds, urban areas, and low-lying/poor drainage areas.

High temperatures will rise into the 80s across North Florida and 90s elsewhere this afternoon. **Heat Indices** will **approach or reach triple digits (97-103)** across much of the Peninsula and begin to near **Heat Advisory criteria** along the Keys (**100-105**). **Wind Advisories** are in effect along the Florida Panhandle as breezy winds with **gusts upwards of 20-30 mph** are anticipated statewide outside of thunderstorms. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** will continue to be possible this afternoon across interior Central Florida as lingering dry air brings **relative humidity values down to near critical thresholds (40-45%)** this afternoon. Low temperatures will fall into the upper 60s to low 70s across North Florida and middle 70s to low 80s elsewhere overnight. Localized areas of **patchy fog** cannot be ruled out statewide overnight.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate to high risk for rip currents** are expected along Panhandle, East Coast, and multiple West Coast beaches as locally elevated surf and breezy winds impact coastlines. A low risk for rip currents can be expected elsewhere. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Breezy winds will create **breaking waves near 4-6'** along the Florida Panhandle and East Coast today with 2-4' **wave heights** elsewhere across the state.

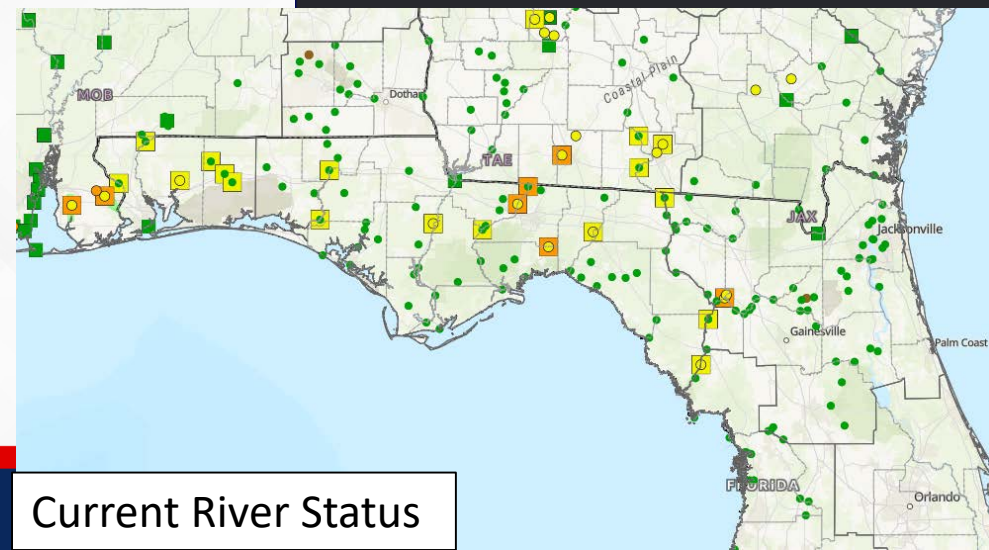
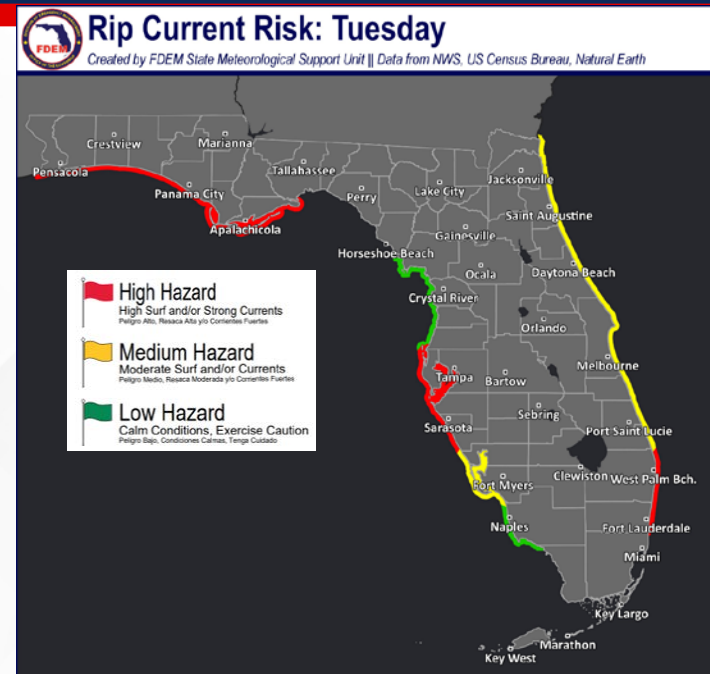
Red Tide has not been observed at or above background levels over the past week.

Coastal Flooding: Coastal flooding is not anticipated today; however, **elevated tides** along the vulnerable Big Bend and Nature Coast.

Flash Flooding: The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is outlooking a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the Big Bend and Northern Peninsula south to near the I-4 corridor with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4)** extending along the Panhandle today as instances of **flooding** and **ponding of water** continue to be possible, especially over already saturated grounds, urban areas, and low-lying/poor drainage areas. Widespread rainfall of 2-3" are expected across North Florida and into Central Florida with locally higher totals near 3-6" possible.

Riverine Flooding: Portions of several Big Bend and Suwannee Valley rivers (including several portions of the Suwannee River) remain in Action Stage (bank-full). Additional rivers and waterways across North Florida have begun to rise into Action Stage in response to Monday's heavy rainfall across the basins. Already elevated rivers and waterways along the Big Bend and Suwannee River may see water levels rise into **Minor Flood Stage**; however, the extent of water levels rises, and possible riverine flooding will remain dependent on where the heaviest rainfall occurs today. For more details, please visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 13.72 feet, which is within the operational band and 0.40 feet **above** normal for this time of year.



Current River Status



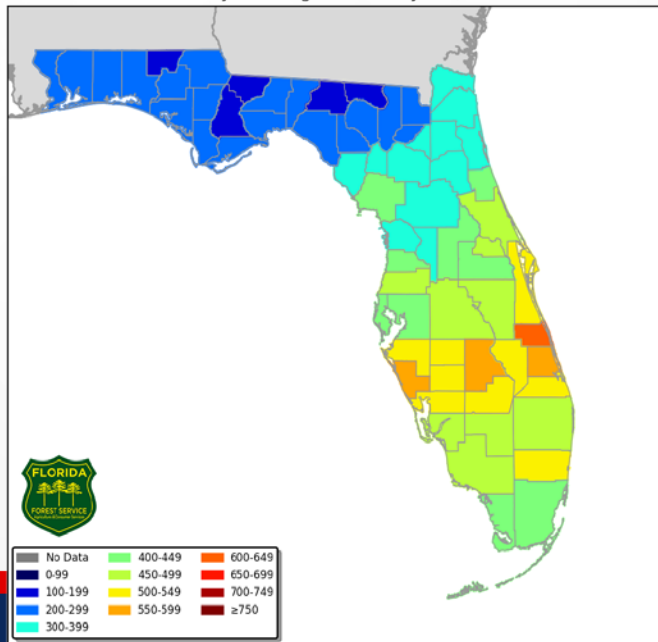
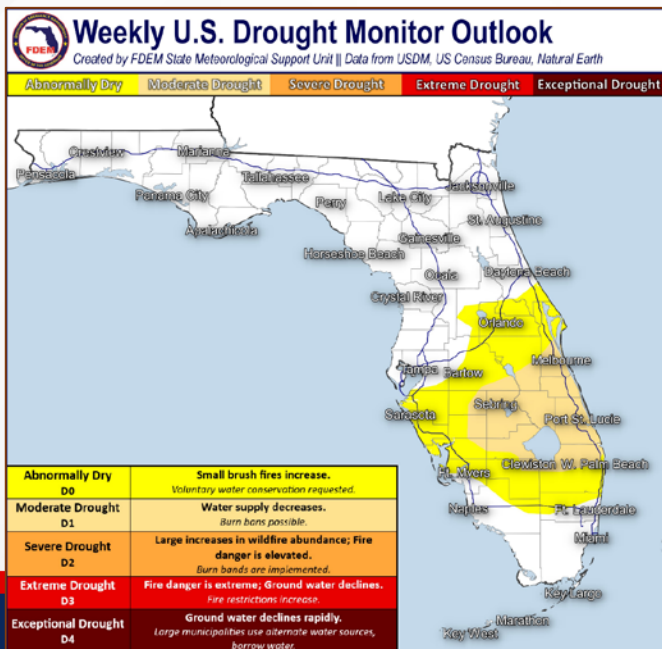
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms moving through North Florida this morning will move off the East Coast around mid-morning. Remnant showers and thunderstorms will linger across North and Central Florida into the afternoon. Showers and thunderstorms will redevelop along and ahead of a frontal boundary, moving eastward to southeastward through the Northern and Central Peninsula this evening and into Wednesday morning. *Erratic winds and lightning within thunderstorms may be capable of spreading existing fires or igniting new fires.* **Wind Advisories** are in effect along the Florida Panhandle as breezy winds with **gusts upwards of 20-30 mph** are anticipated statewide outside of thunderstorms. Relative humidity values this afternoon will fall **near critical thresholds (40-45%)** across interior Central Florida this afternoon. **Locally sensitive wildfire conditions** will persist across portions of the Central Peninsula where ongoing warm and dry conditions have led to drought conditions. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 55 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2009 acres.

Drought: Dry conditions and above normal temperatures have generally persisted statewide over the last week under the influence of high pressure, leading to further decreases in streamflows and soil moisture. **Abnormally dry (emerging drought)** conditions have expanded further northward and southward across Central and Southern portions of the Peninsula on this week's drought monitor update and now stretch from just north of the I-4 southward to the I-75 and from the West to the East Coast. **Moderate Drought** conditions have also expanded and are now present north of Lake Okeechobee to Sebring and Melbourne, east of the lake to the East Coast, West of the lake to Hardee and DeSoto County, and along southern portions of the lake as short-term rainfall deficits continue to increase. Widespread rainfall expected across the state over the next 5 days may help to improve short-term rainfall deficits and provide some relief from drought conditions.

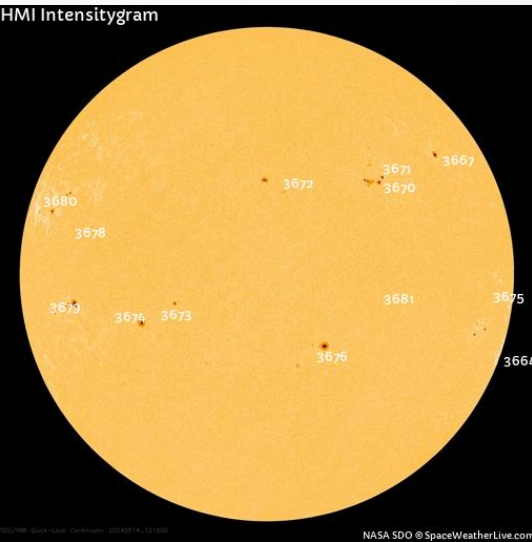
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **393 (+9)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **13** Florida counties (Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Highlands, Indian River, Manatee, Martin, Okeechobee, Sarasota and St. Lucie) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for May 13, 2024

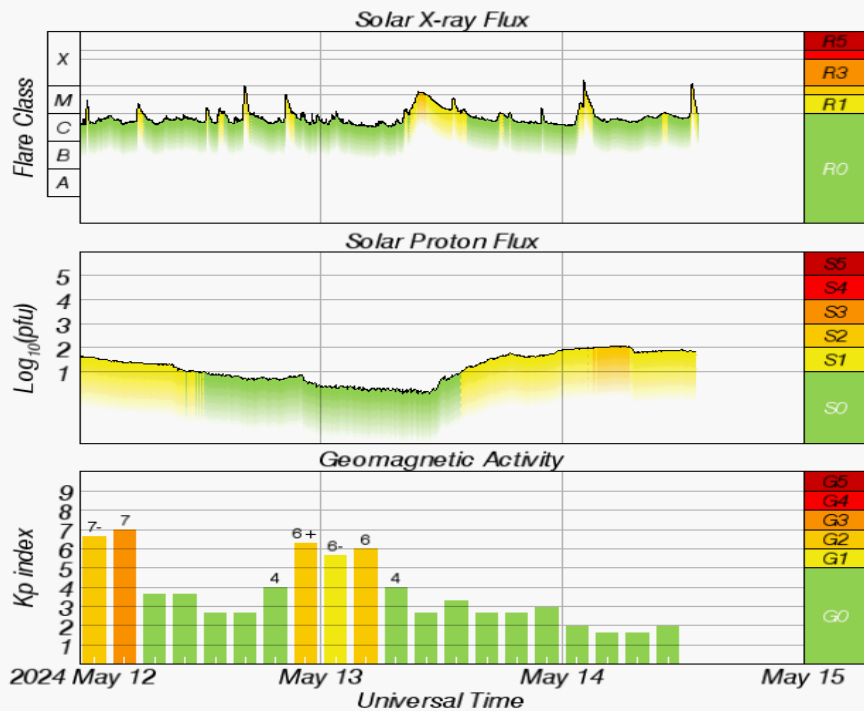
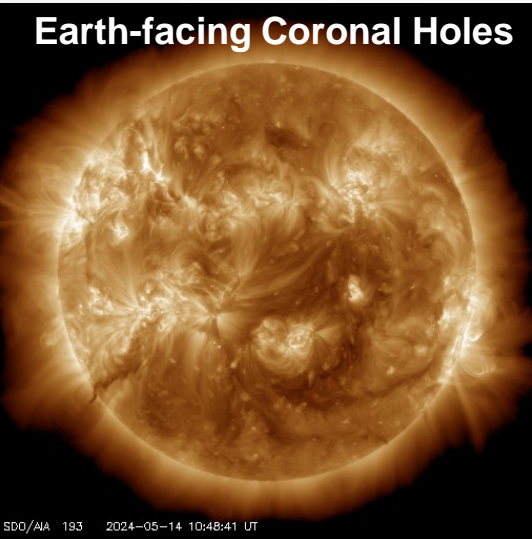




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 80%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	X1 Solar Flare
X-class: 40%	Radiation Storm: None	R3 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/14	5/15
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 35% severe activity = 25%	Chance of minor activity = 30% severe activity = 15%

Space Weather: Solar activity remains at high levels due to strong (M-class) solar flare activity. Previously active sunspot #3664 is no longer facing Earth; however, significant (X-class) solar flares cannot be ruled out as sunspot #3676 has developed a magnetic field that harbors energy for X-class flares. Minor to Moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany M-class flare activity with strong (R3) radio blackouts possible in the event of an X-class solar flare. Minor (S1) radiation storm levels persist today with a chance for moderate (S2) radiation storms. An enhanced solar wind environment with Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) influences from a filament eruption from 5/12, another CME from 5/12, and a weak Coronal Hole High Speed Stream (CH HSS) are anticipated over the next day or so. A return to quieter conditions is anticipated towards the end of the work week. Minor to moderate (G1-G2) geomagnetic storming is likely to persist today due to the CH HSS and possible CME effects. G1 geomagnetic storming is likely with any glancing effects from the filament eruption and CME from previously active regain #3664. 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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