



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, April 16, 2025



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	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	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	Claudia Riddle	(850) 755-2924	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	Karen Kozac	(850) 759-6226	Karen.Kozac@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	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsen	Healthcare Coalition Meeting
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	R4 RC onboarding / Fleet/Inventory Power BI Dashboard UAT Session/Leads
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia, Lafayette	Vehicle Inventory / County EM Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Leon	Response Coordinator Onboarding Orientation
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Brevard	Capabilities Assessment
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas	City/County EM Meeting / Hospital Meeting
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Highlands, Polk	County EM Visit/ Hospital Preparedness Meeting
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Brevard, St. Lucie	Capabilities Assessment / Office Admin
Region 9: Theresa Hendry	Out of Service	Military Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	Monroe County SpNs/ FIU Walkthrough



Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	In State	Coalition Symposium / Travel to Bradford County
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Madison	Instructing FL601
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Madison	Instructing FL601
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Marion	LMS Meeting
Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 6: Vacant		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Polk	County EM Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Palm Beach	FAU / Stakeholders Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Dana McGeehan	Leave	See Coverage

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

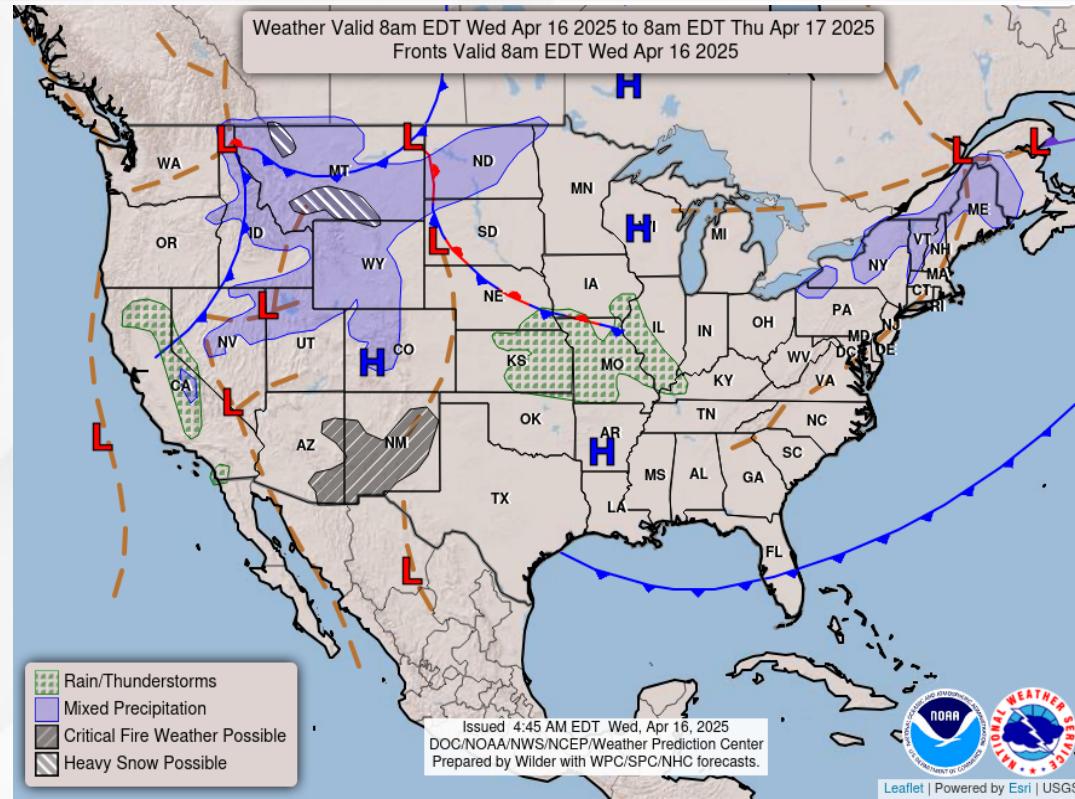
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

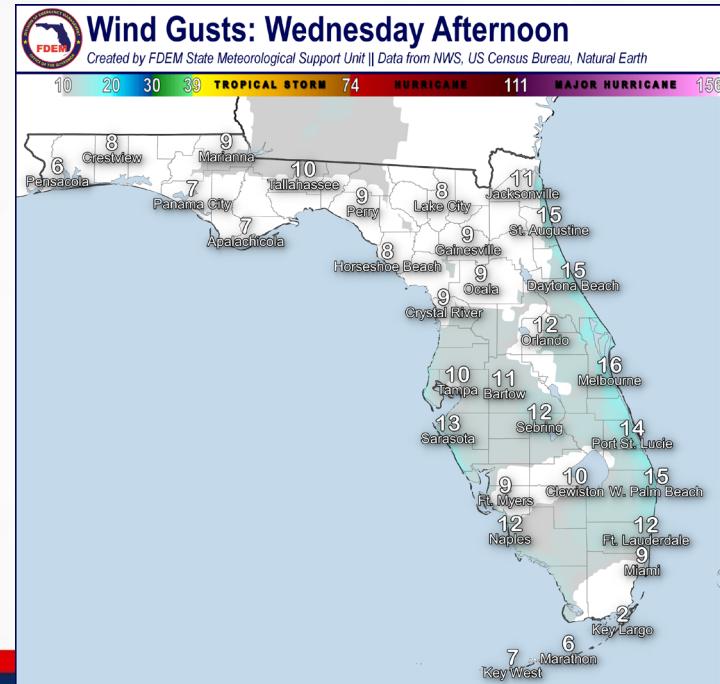
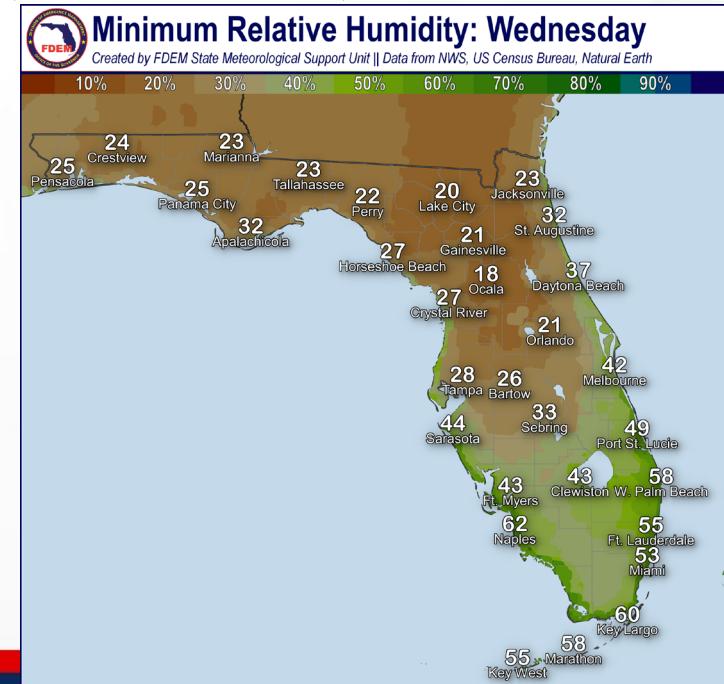


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Riverine Flooding										
Wildfire	L	L	M	M	M	M	M	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)										
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	M	M	M	L	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	12.00 ft. (1.99 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	375 (+8) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

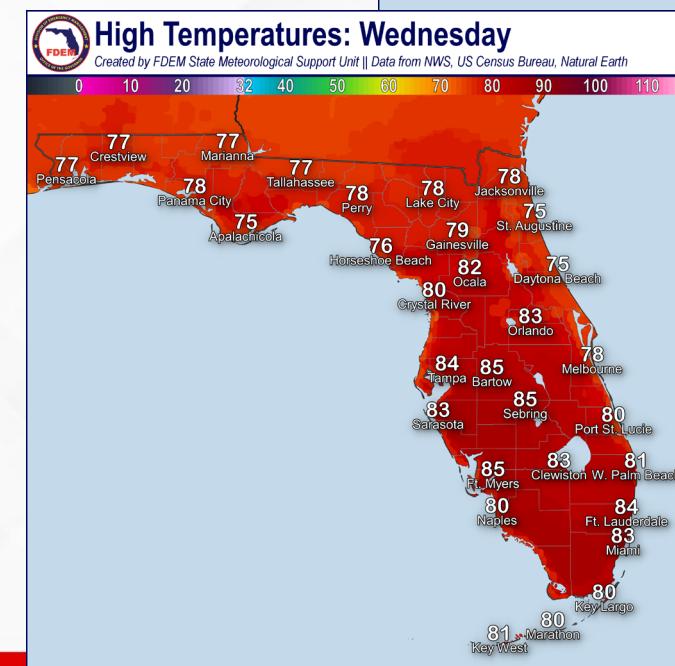
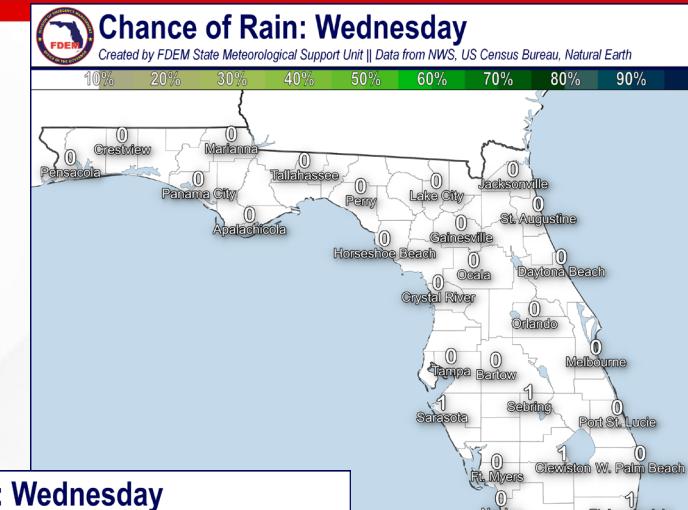
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Yesterday's cold front will continue to push through South Florida bringing a few more clouds as it passes through. Behind the cold front high pressure will return creating plenty of sunshine and calm conditions (near-zero chance of rain). As high pressure settles in, dry air will filter in behind the passing front allowing for relative humidity values to fall **near and below critical thresholds (15-35%)** this afternoon. Calmer wind gusts compared to yesterday will develop, peaking near 10-15 mph by the early to mid-afternoon hours, and this will keep conditions below Red Flag criteria despite critical relative humidity values. Regardless, **sensitive wildfire conditions** can be expected nearly statewide, with a **more elevated wildfire threat** throughout the Suwannee Valley and interior Central Florida.

High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to lower 80s across North Florida and lower to middle 80s across Central and South Florida.

Mostly calm and quiet conditions will persist into the overnight hours as high pressure settles in across the Gulf Coast.

Low temperatures will fall into the upper 40s to middle 50s across North Florida, middle 50s to lower 60s across Central Florida and 60s to lower 70s across South Florida overnight.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: A **moderate risk for rip currents** can be expected for numerous beaches across the state. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-3' can be expected across the state, with **breaking waves upwards of 4'** offshore along Space and Treasure Coasts beaches.

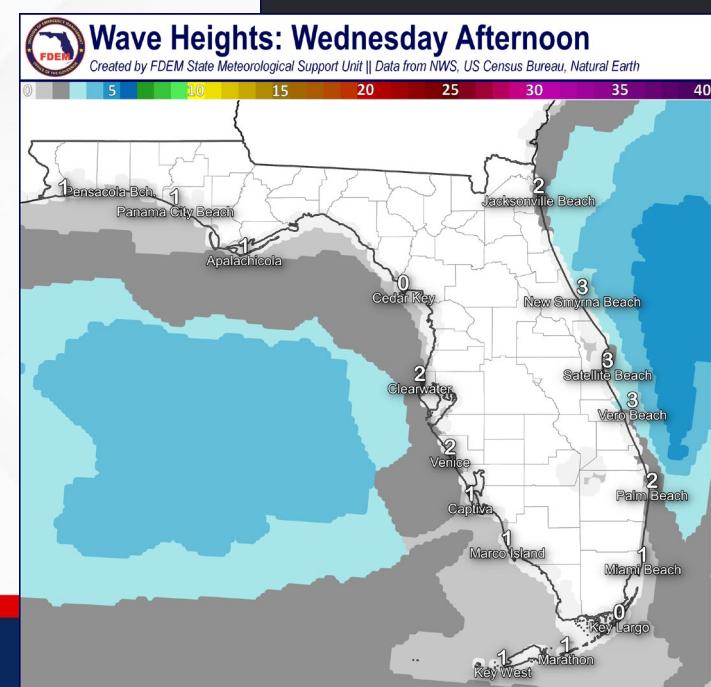
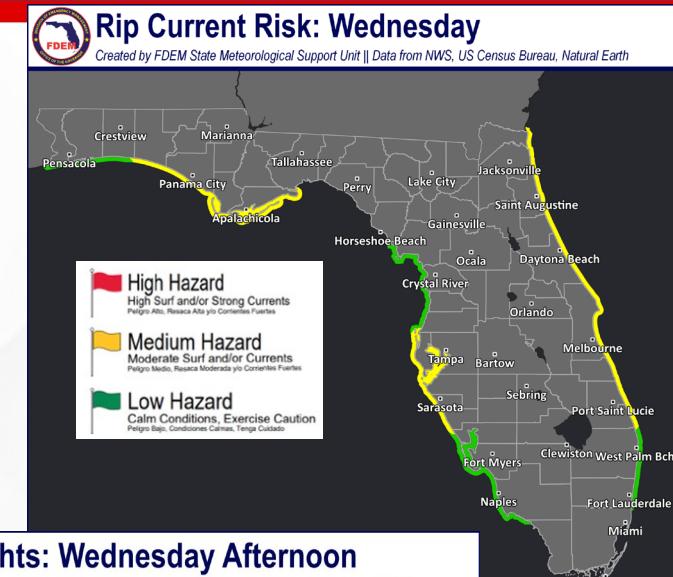
Red Tide has not been observed above background levels over the past week (valid 4/11).

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

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

Riverine Flooding: The Escambia River, Ochlockonee and Aucilla River remain within Action Stage (bank-full) as water levels continue to slowly decline. Dry conditions over the next few days will continue to allow for water levels to decline, and these rivers should fall below Action Stage by the end of the week. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 12.00 feet, which is within the operational band and is **1.99 feet below** normal for this time of year.



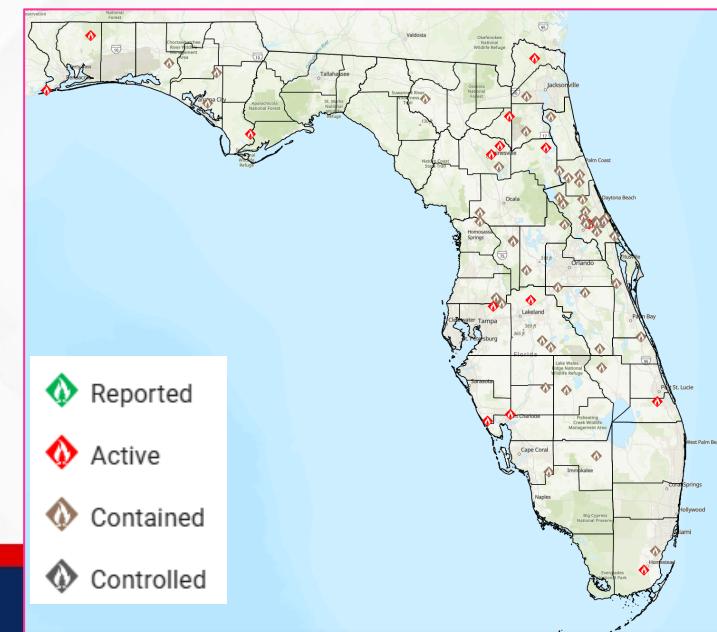
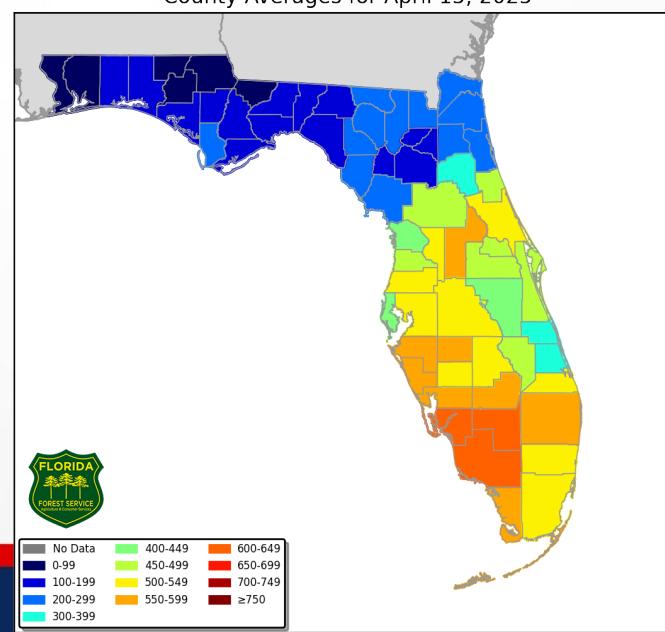
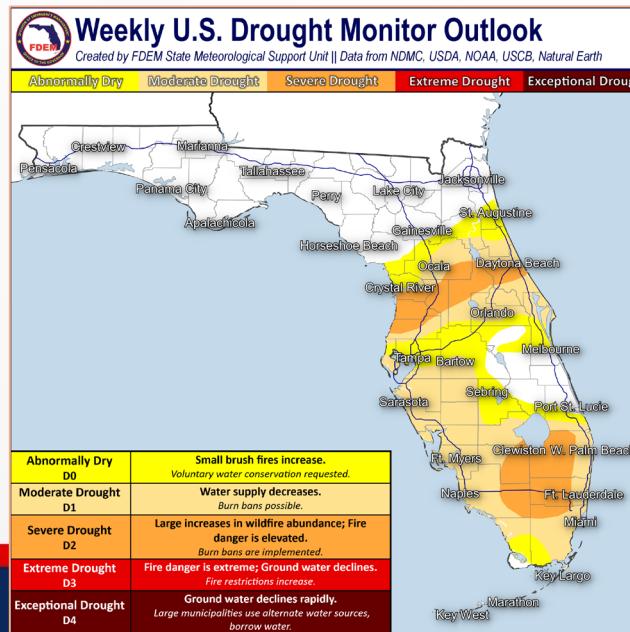


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Dry air filtering in behind a passing cold front will allow for relative humidity values to fall **near and below critical thresholds (15-35%)** this afternoon nearly statewide. Wind gusts will remain near 10-15 mph through the early to mid-afternoon hours, which will keep conditions below Red Flag criteria. **Sensitive wildfire conditions** can be expected to develop nearly statewide, with **more elevated wildfire conditions** throughout the Suwannee Valley and interior Central Florida. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 63 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,139 acres.

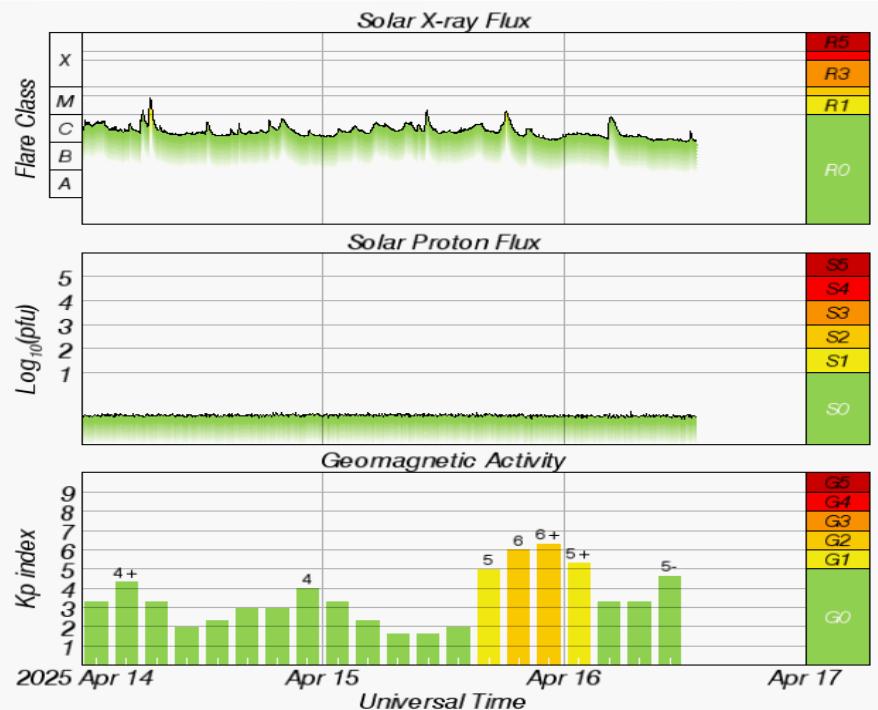
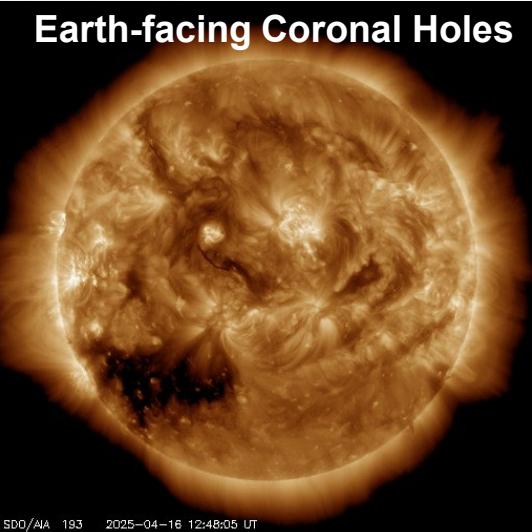
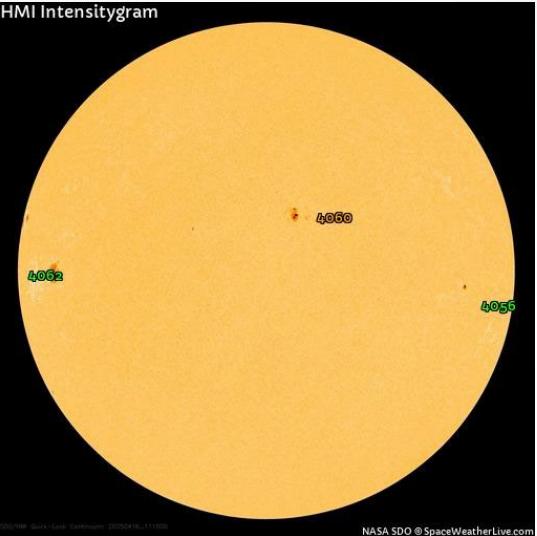
Drought: During the past week, above normal temperatures and light-to-moderate rainfall accumulations were observed across the region, with the heaviest accumulations (ranging from 5-8") occurring in the Florida Panhandle. Conversely, short-term dryness (3-6" of rainfall deficits during the past 60-day period) in East-Central Florida led to the expansion on **Severe Drought and Moderate Drought** areas (along and north of the I-4 corridor) in this week's Drought Monitor update (valid 4/10). **Abnormally Dry (Emerging Drought)** to **Moderate Drought** conditions remain relatively unchanged across the rest of the Peninsula with a pocket of with another pocket of **Severe Drought** across much of South Florida. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall across the Peninsula over the next week or so which may lead to worsening drought conditions.

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **375 (+8)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **21** Florida counties (Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Sarasota, Sumter, and Volusia) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).





Space Weather



Space Weather: Sunspot #4055 has rotated off the western limb but sunspot #4060 contains a magnetic field that harbors energy for M-class solar flares. Low to moderate solar activity can be expected with the chance for strong (M-class) solar flare and a slight chance for significant (X-class) solar flares. Any M-class solar flares that develop will be capable of producing minor to moderate (G1-G2) radio blackouts and any X-class solar flares will be capable of producing X-class solar flares. The solar wind environment will remain enhanced through today due to ongoing impacts from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that struck the Earth's magnetic field yesterday. Another CME may arrive later today, which could enhance solar wind parameters. Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds will return tomorrow (4/17). Minor (G1) geomagnetic storming will be possible through today, with an increasing chance for moderate to strong (G2-G3) geomagnetic storming possible with the arrival of the second CME. A G3 Watch has been issued for today. Lingering CME influences will continue into tomorrow and create a chance for minor (G1) geomagnetic storms. The overall threat to Florida remains low.

Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 80%	Geomagnetic Storm: G3 Watch – 4/16	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 15%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/16	4/17
Max Kp= 7 (G3)	Max Kp= 5 (G1)
Chance of minor activity = 40% severe activity = 20%	Chance of minor activity = 25% severe activity = 15%



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:	MSAT 888-890-5178 or Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	http://www.floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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