



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, May 21, 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	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Kaya Dungey	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Caitlyn Gillespie	(850) 688-2119	Caitlyn.Gillespie@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	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@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	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden	LSA Site Visit Follow-up
Region 2: Willie Bouie	Leon	Statewide Exercise / Mid-level Leadership / Interviews
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Gilchrist, Leon	FDACS Meeting / HQ Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	External Outreach
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Hillsborough, Pinellas	Environmental TF Meeting / FLNG Meeting / HCC Meeting
Region 8: Mason Kozac	Palm Bch, St Lucie, Ind River	County Partner Meetings / SLCFD Ribbon Cutting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Broward	LEPC Meeting / BioWatch Exercise Planning Meeting

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4
Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 7
Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

Status

Normal Operations

Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Bay	Instructing G-400
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Admin. Duties
Region 3: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	Exercise Planning Meetings
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Orange	Vehicle Maintenance
Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 6: Vacant		
Region 7: Antonio Zapata	Pinellas	National Guard Meeting
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Orange	NWS Meeting
Region 9: Jacob Ginsberg	Sarasota	Admin. Duties
Region 10: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage

Region 3 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2 & 4

Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 4

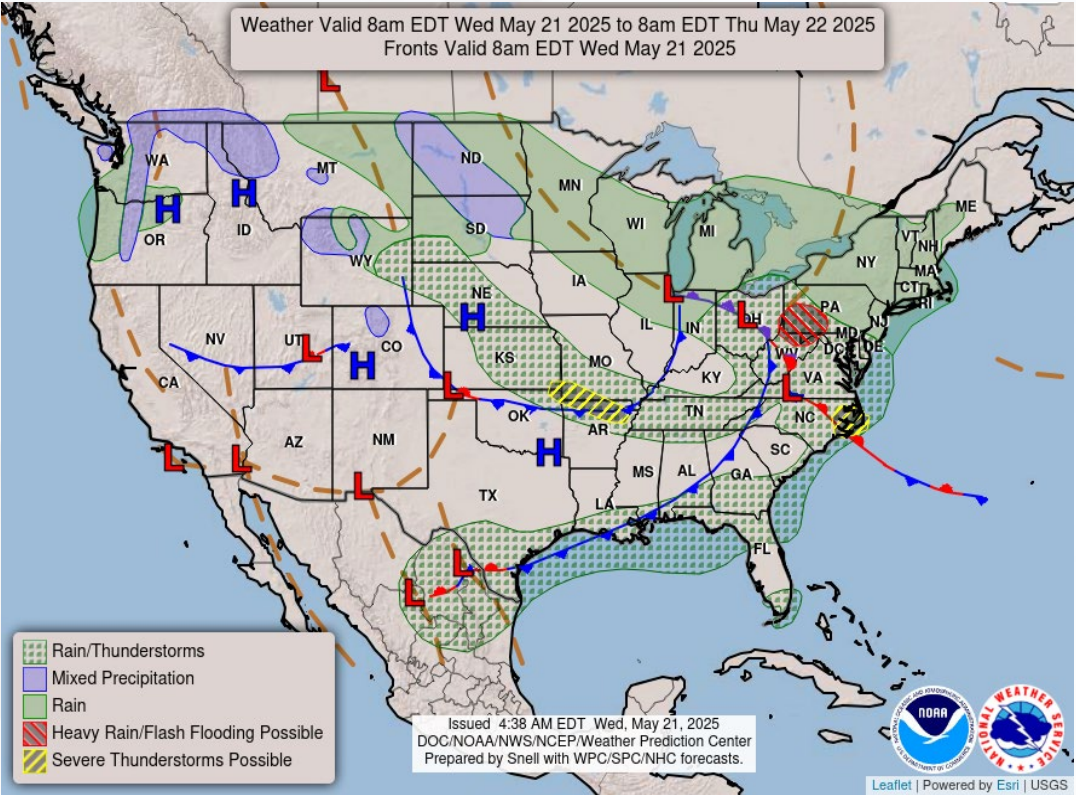
Region 6 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 10 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8

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

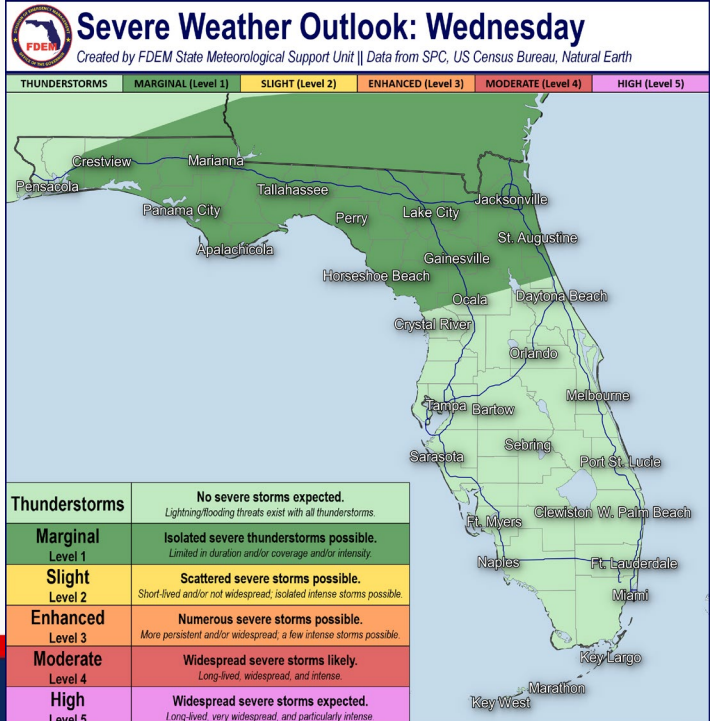
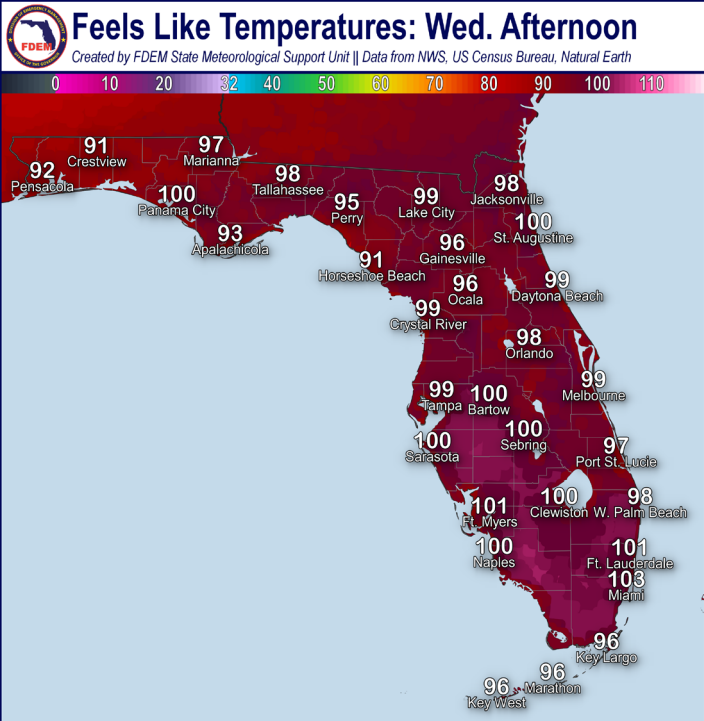


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	M	M	L						L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L	L	L	L						
Hail	L	L	L	L						
Flash Flooding										
Excessive Heat	L	L	L	L	L	L	M	M	M	M
Wildfire										
Fog (Overnight)		L	L	L	L	M	M	L	M	L
Rip Currents	M	H	L	L	L	L		L	L	L
Lake Okeechobee Elevation:	11.06 ft. (2.16 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index:	354 (+16) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



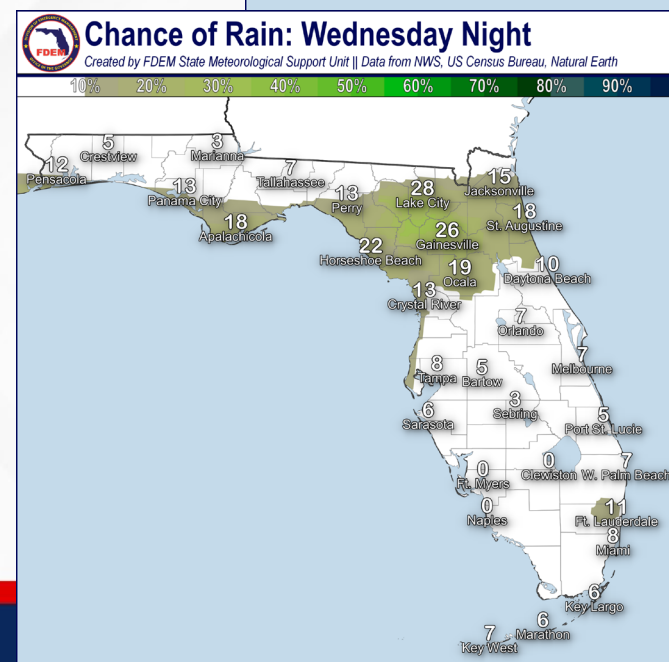
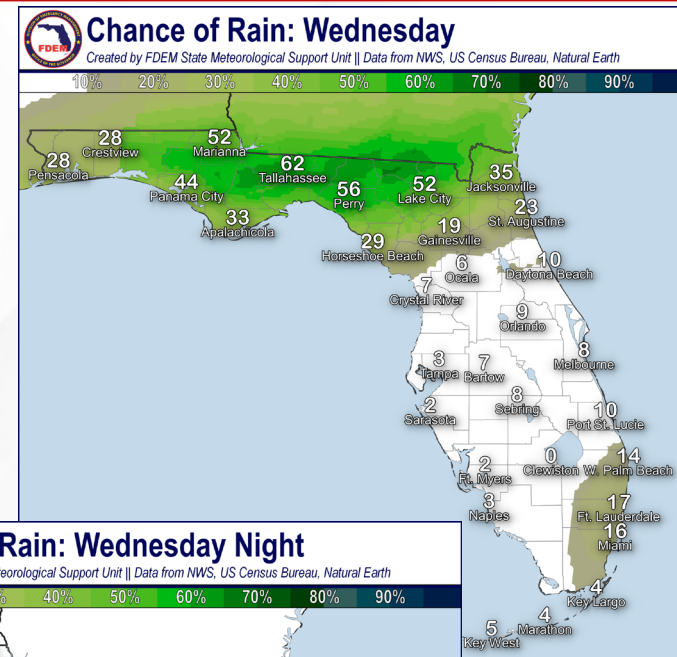


Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

North Florida: A weak frontal boundary will move across North Florida today, allowing for scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms to develop (50-70% chance of rain). A few thunderstorms, especially during the peak heating hours of the day, could become **strong to locally severe**. The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is outlooking a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 5) for Severe Weather** across North Florida as thunderstorms may be capable of producing gusty winds (45-60 mph), frequent lightning, isolated instances of hail (generally 1" in diameter or less, *quarter-size or less*), and heavy downpours. Despite increasing cloud coverage, **above normal** temperatures in the upper 80s to lower 90s can be expected with **heat index values** topping out in the **upper 90s to lower 100s (98 to 101-degrees)**. Rain chances along and ahead of the boundary will linger tonight over the Suwannee and Santa Fe River valleys (20-30% chance of rain), giving way to partly cloud skies overnight. Low temperatures tonight will remain mild in the 60s and 70s, with patchy areas of **fog and low clouds** possible for inland areas.

Florida Peninsula: Ample sunshine and mostly dry conditions can be expected across the Florida Peninsula, with **well above normal temperatures** forecast again this afternoon. Afternoon highs will rise into the **lower to middle 90s**, with muggy conditions allowing for temperatures to **feel like the triple digits (99 to 103-degrees)** during the peak heating hours of the day. With the dominant southwesterly to westerly winds, the sea breeze will largely struggle to move onshore and provide any rain relief to the Florida Peninsula this afternoon. Only a slight chance of showers and an embedded thunderstorm is possible along the Southeast Florida coastline (10-20% chance of rain). Rain chances will subside after sunset, giving way to a warm and muggy night. Low temperatures will remain in the middle to upper 70s throughout the Florida Peninsula, with the Florida Keys looking to remain above the 80-degree mark! Areas of **locally dense fog and low clouds** will be possible along the spine of the Florida Peninsula tonight into Thursday morning.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Southerly to southwesterly winds will continue to build ahead of a weak frontal boundary, yielding a **moderate to high risk of rip currents** along all Florida Panhandle beaches. Low rip current risk conditions continue for all remaining Florida beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Wave heights of 1-2' can be expected along all Florida beaches today.

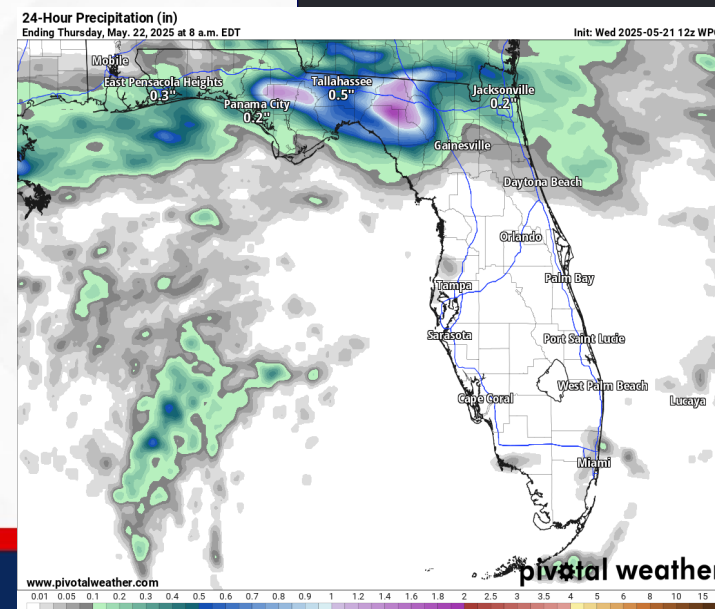
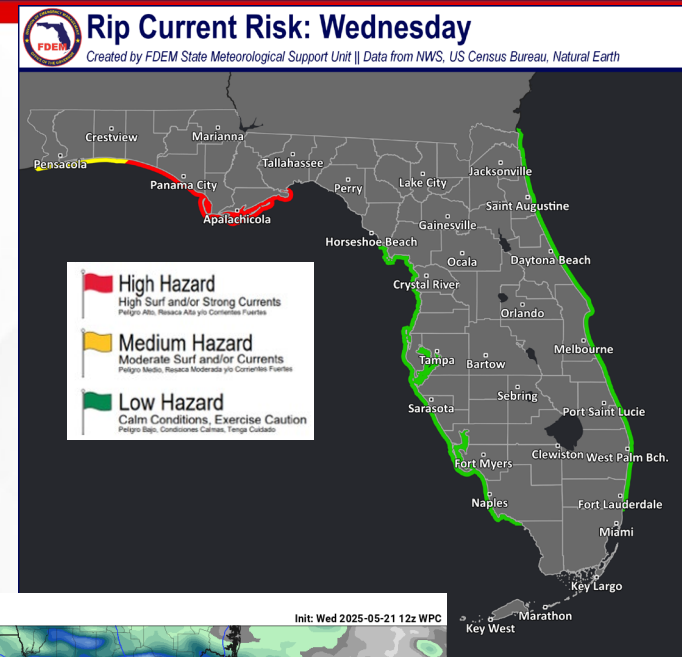
Red Tide has been observed at background levels in **3** samples collected from the Southwest Florida over the past week (valid 5/16). This includes the following counties: Manatee, Sarasota, and Charlotte.

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

Flash Flooding: While there is no organized risk for flash flooding, heavy rainfall rates and downpours will be possible within shower and thunderstorm activity that develops across North Florida today. Rainfall totals will generally remain less than 1-2", with isolated rainfall totals upwards of 3-4" possible. Given recent dry conditions, only **nuisance ponding water and street flooding** may accompany the stronger and more organized thunderstorm activity.

Riverine Flooding: There are no river flooding concerns across Florida today. For more information, visit the River Forecast Center.

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.06 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.16 feet below normal for this time of year.





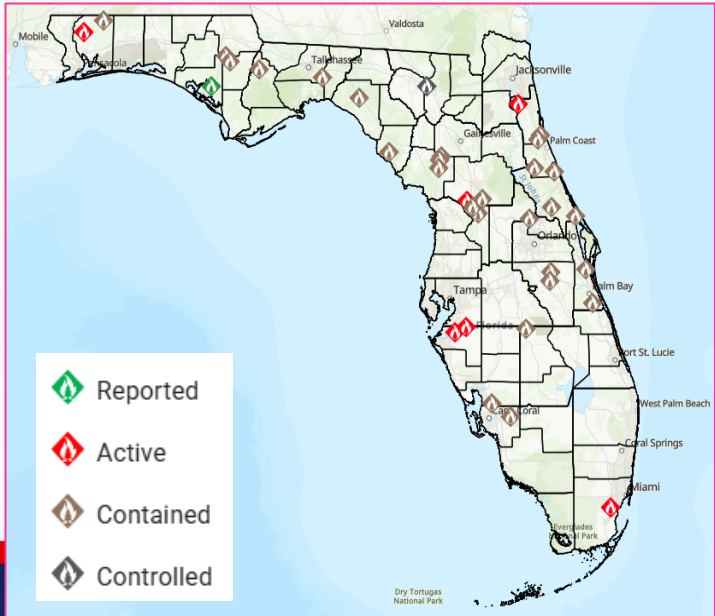
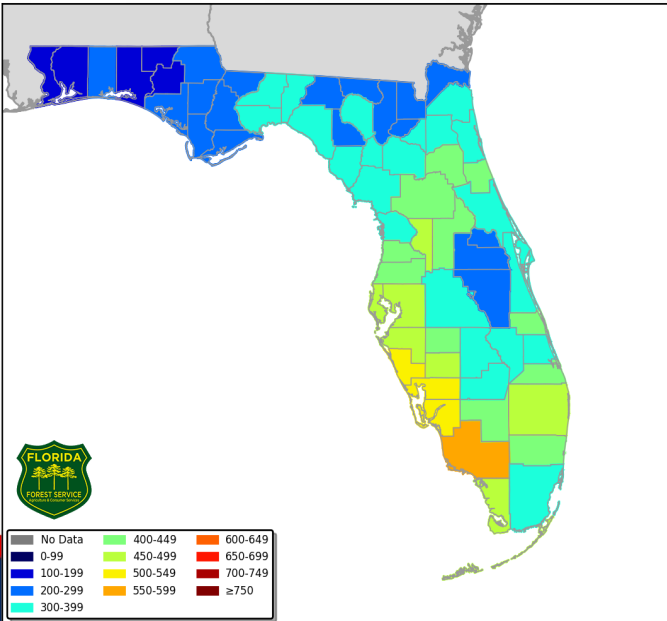
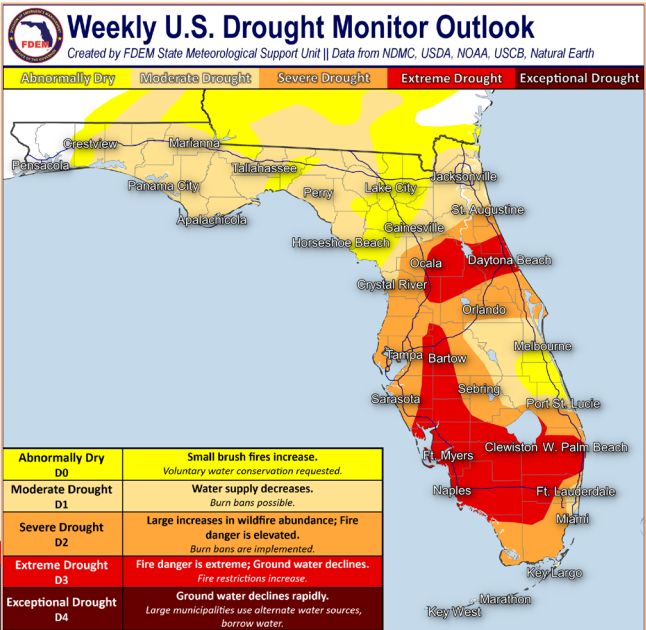
Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Areas of **fog and low clouds** have developed across the Sunshine State this morning, leading to pockets of reduced visibility. Moisture continues to return ahead of an approaching frontal boundary, with increasing rain chances developing along the I-10 corridor this afternoon (40-70% chance of rain). A few thunderstorms may be strong to locally severe and capable of producing gusty winds and lightning; wind gusts near and in thunderstorms may be gusty and erratic. Relative humidity values look to remain above critical thresholds statewide, with only pockets of East-Central Florida dropping into the lower to middle 40s. Winds of 10-15 mph can be expected to build through the daytime hours, with gusts of 15-25 mph possible. The overall wildfire threat will remain **locally sensitive** today statewide. **Mandatory Burn Bans** are in effect for **14** counties in the Florida Peninsula (Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Duval, Glades, Hendry, Hillsborough, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota). Areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** will be possible across portions of the state overnight into Thursday morning. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 35 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 2,210 acres.

Drought: Heavy rainfall of 2" or more led to some decrease in *Abnormal Dryness (Emerging Drought)* and **Moderate Drought** conditions on last week's Drought Monitor update (valid 5/8). However, through 5/6, drought intensified across the Florida Peninsula with many areas depicted in the **Severe to Extreme Drought** categories. This widespread **Severe to Extreme Drought** coverage is supported by the 60-day soil moisture deficits, below normal streamflows, and agricultural impact reports. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is outlooking near to above normal temperatures statewide with above normal rainfall along the Peninsula over the next week or so which may allow drought conditions to improve slightly. Near to below normal rainfall outlooked along the Florida Panhandle may allow drought conditions to hold steady over the next week.

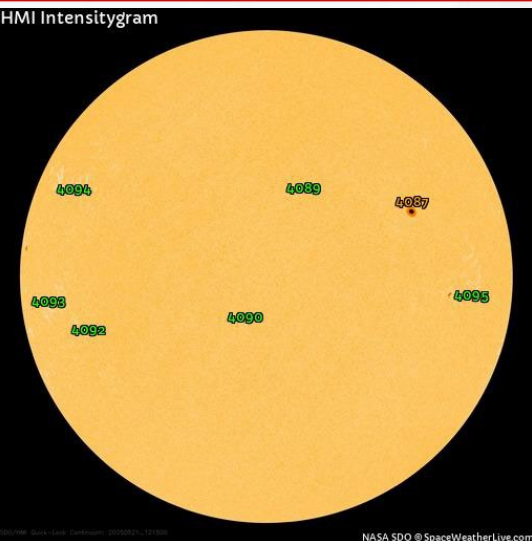
The Keetch-Byram Drought Index average for Florida is **354 (+16)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **4** Florida counties (Charlotte, Collier, Lee, and Sarasota) with an average KBDI over 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

Keetch Byram Drought Index (KBDI)
County Averages for May 20, 2025

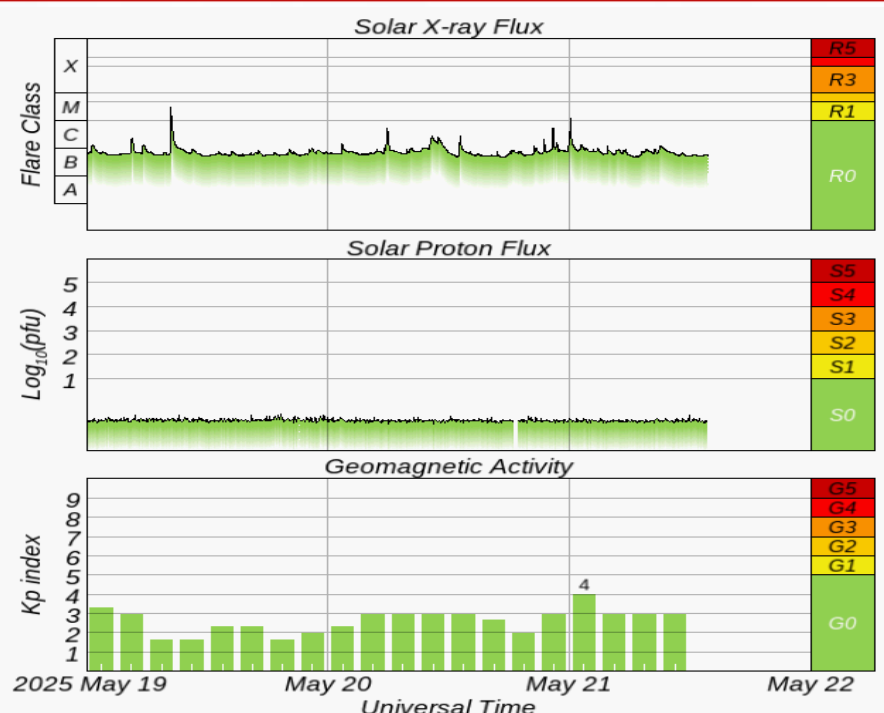
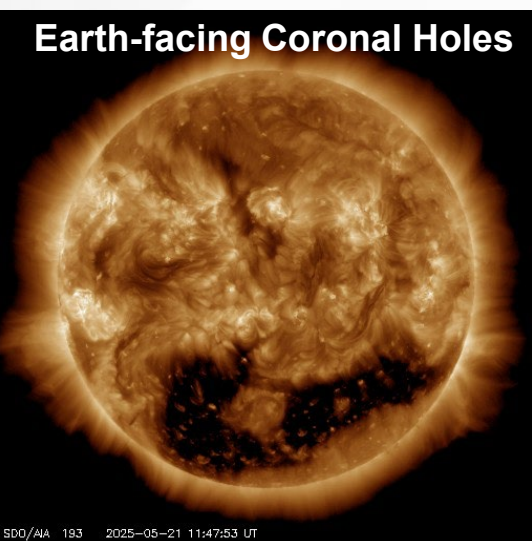




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 35%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/21	5/22
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity continues to remain low as most of the active sunspots on the surface of the sun have weak magnetic fields. The most recent active sunspot, #4087, continues to decay and no longer poses a threat for significant (X-class) solar flares. Strong (M-class) solar flares may be possible through today and through the rest of the week with any lingering activity from sunspots, which may bring minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts with them. A large coronal hole over the southern hemisphere of the sun will bring continue to bring elevated solar wind conditions with Coronal Hole High Solar Stream (CH HSS) winds. There is a chance for an additional enhancement to the solar wind field later in the week following a glancing impact from a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) that left the sun on 5/17, as well as a pair of co-rotating CH HSS winds. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are likely to persist today and tomorrow (5/22) with ongoing CH HSS conditions. Enhanced conditions later in the week will allow for instances of minor (G1) geomagnetic storming. 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:	MSAT 888-890-5178 or Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	http://www.floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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