



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office**

## **Morning Situation Report**

Friday, April 3, 2026



# State Emergency Operations Center Activation Level

**Level 2: Partial Activation**



# SERT On-Call Personnel

Position	Personnel	Phone	Email
Operations Chief	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	<a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com</a>
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	<a href="mailto:Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com">Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com</a>
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Day	Ahnaya Benjamin	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Swing	Cody Nowak	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Meteorologist	Evan Newman	(850)-241-5606	<a href="mailto:Evan.Newman@em.myflorida.com">Evan.Newman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	<a href="mailto:Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com">Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com</a>
Logistics Chief	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	<a href="mailto:Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com">Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Human Services Branch Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	<a href="mailto:Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com">Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com</a>
Emergency Services Branch Director	Tim Kenyon	(850) 591-7732	<a href="mailto:Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com">Tim.Kenyon@em.myflorida.com</a>
Infrastructure Branch Director	Paige Lay	(850) 591-9933	<a href="mailto:Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com">Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com</a>
ESF 8: Health & Medical On-Call	Brandon Gore	(866) 786-4673	<a href="mailto:DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov">DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov</a>
ESF 14: Public Information Officer	Stephanie Hartman	(850) 570-3053	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com">Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com</a>
Finance Chief	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com">Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com</a>



# Response Regional Coordination Team



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Gadsden	Holmes EMPA/G Grants Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Vehicle Maintenance
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Taylor, Lafayette	Training Meeting / County EM Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Clay	Office Admin / Training Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pinellas, Pasco	Training Mtg /ESF 8 Call /Hillsborough Training Call /Exec Director Support
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Charlotte	G-400 Course
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Leave	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 5 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6  
 Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6  
 Region 8 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 8  
 Region 10 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 9

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Out of Region	Leave
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Administration Duties
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Hamilton	Internal Stakeholders Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Administration Duties
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Training Meeting
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Pasco	Fire Department Visit (USAR Team) with KG
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Indian River	Admin/ Training Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	Regional Coordination Team Meeting

Region 1 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2

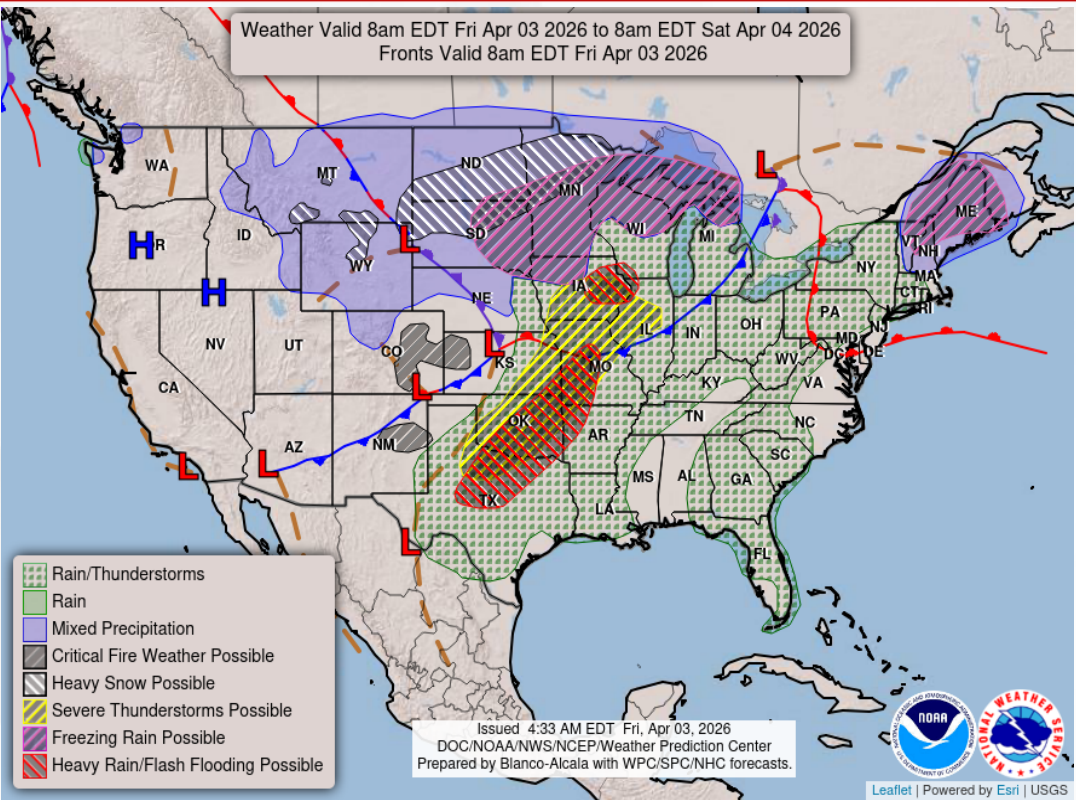
Region 7 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 & 8

Region 9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6 & 8

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

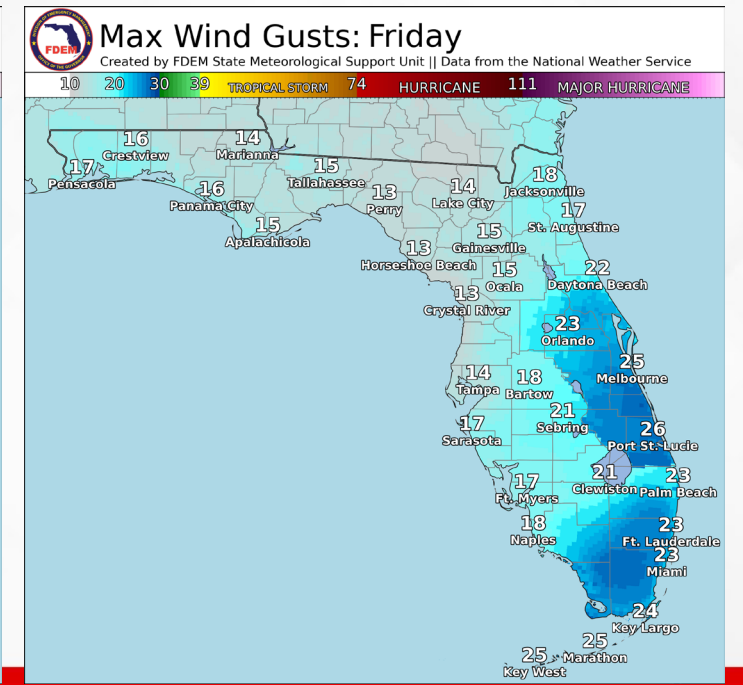
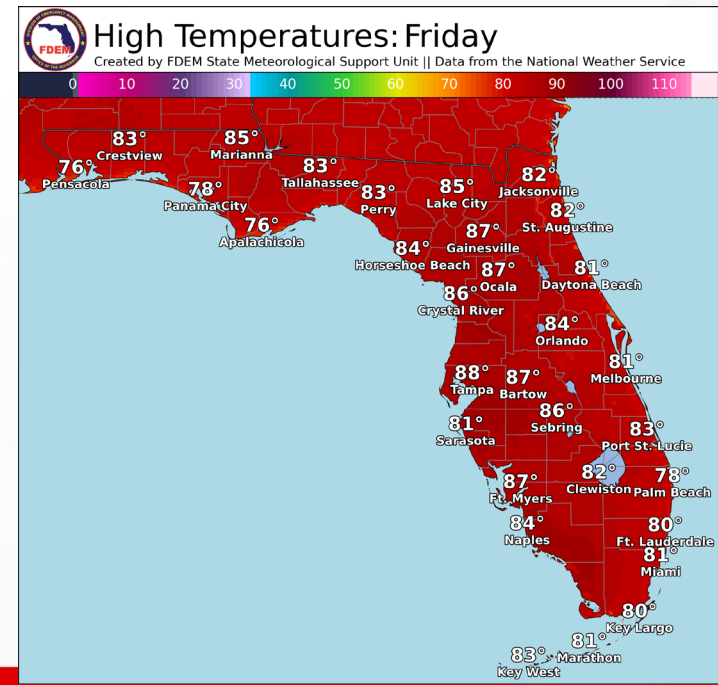


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L	M	M	M	L	L	L		
Tornado										
Damaging Wind			L	L	L					
Hail										
Flash Flooding			L	L	L					
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)	M	M	M	M	L	L	L			
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	H	L		H	L	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.02 ft. (2.25 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	492 (+6) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									



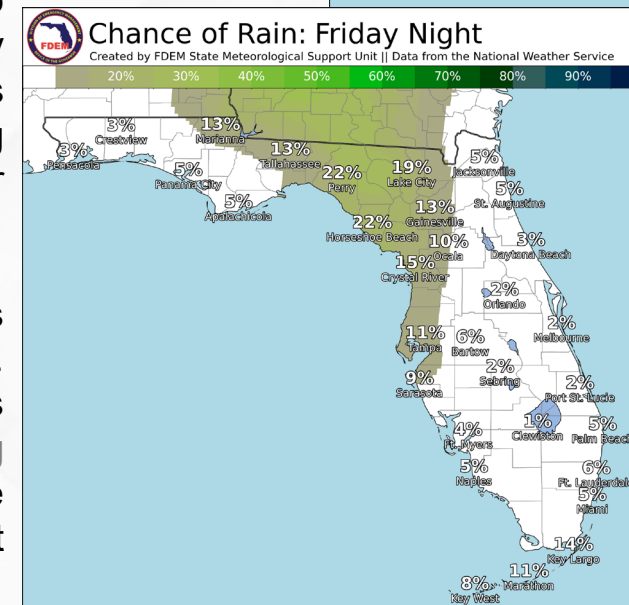
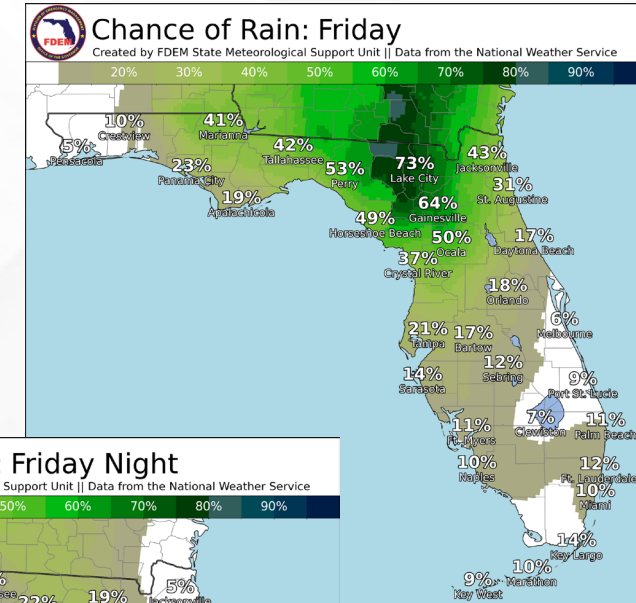


# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Any areas of **patchy fog** throughout North Florida this morning will quickly lift and dissipate shortly after sunrise. High pressure remains in place over the western Atlantic today with moist south and east flow continuing across the state. Pockets of drier air aloft in the atmosphere will limit shower and thunderstorm activity across Central and South Florida, however a weak upper-level disturbance passing across North Florida will encourage scattered showers and thunderstorms this afternoon. Coverage will be greatest across the Suwannee River Valley and Northeast Florida where a few storms could become **locally strong**. Frequent lightning, gusty winds (40-50 mph), and small hail will be the primary threats. Some of this activity could also bring **locally heavy downpours** capable of producing a **quick 1-3" of rain**. Low-lying/poor drainage areas will be most susceptible to **ponding of water** and **nuisance flooding**. The easterly flow today will be accompanied by breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** throughout the Peninsula with locally higher gusts **upwards of 25-30 mph** along the I-95 corridor and Southeast Florida. Given the ongoing drought, **locally sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** will persist statewide. Any shower or thunderstorm activity is expected to diminish shortly after sunset throughout the state.

High temperatures will reach the middle 70s to middle 80s throughout much of the state this afternoon. Portions of the I-75 corridor will approach the upper 80s or even **90-degrees**. Lows will reach the lower to middle 60s throughout North Florida and middle 60s to lower 70s in Central and South Florida. With plentiful moisture sticking around overnight, areas of **fog and low clouds** are possible, especially throughout North and West-Central Florida. The greatest chances for **locally dense fog** will be across the western Panhandle and Northeast Florida by daybreak Friday.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Breezy conditions will maintain elevated surf and dangerous swimming conditions to many Florida coastlines. A **high risk of rip currents** can be expected for all Florida Panhandle and East Coast beaches, with low risk conditions residing along the Florida West Coast. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** Marine conditions will remain elevated along the Florida East Coast today, with surf returning to **3-5'** for most beaches. A few waves **upwards of 6'** cannot be ruled out for Treasure Coast beaches. Florida Panhandle beaches can expect waves near **2-3'** this afternoon, with West Coast beaches around 1'.

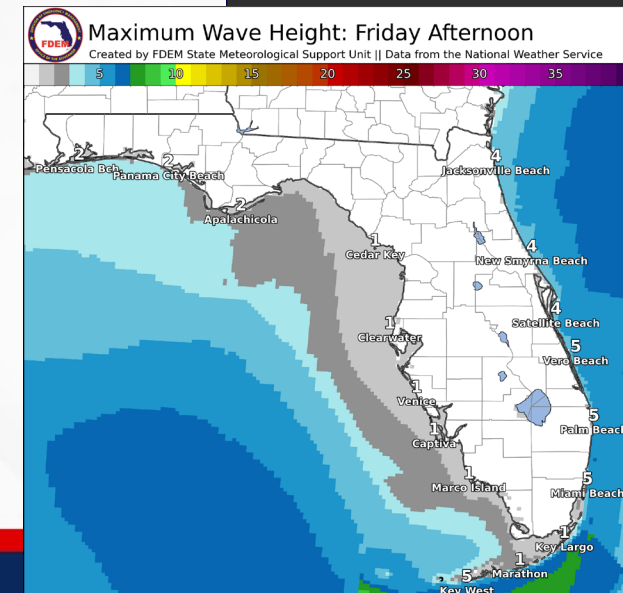
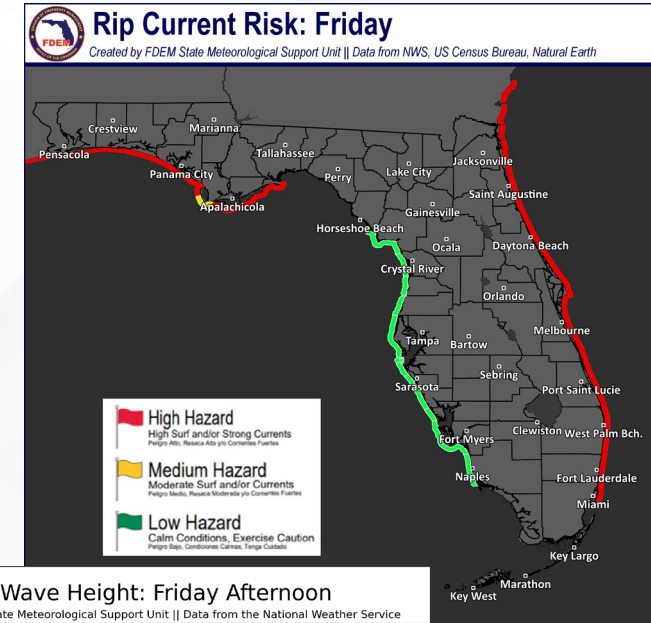
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations in and offshore Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, and Gulf counties. It was also observed at very low concentrations in Brevard County (valid 3/27/26).

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

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding across Florida today. Scattered to numerous showers and embedded thunderstorms may develop this afternoon across the Big Bend and Northeast Florida, some of which could be **locally heavy** and capable of producing a quick **1-3"** of rainfall. Areas of **ponding of water** and **nuisance flooding** cannot be ruled out, especially in urban and low-lying/poor drainage locations.

**Riverine Flooding:** There are no riverine concerns across Florida. For more information, visit the [River Forecast Center](#).

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 12.02 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.25 feet below normal for this time of year.



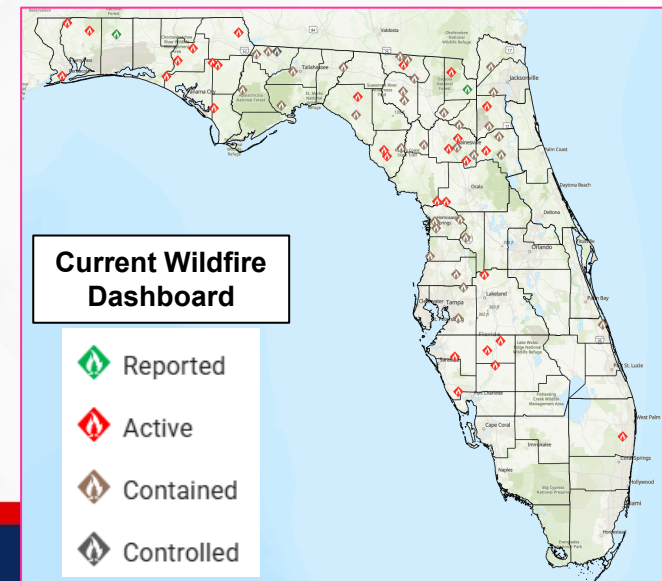
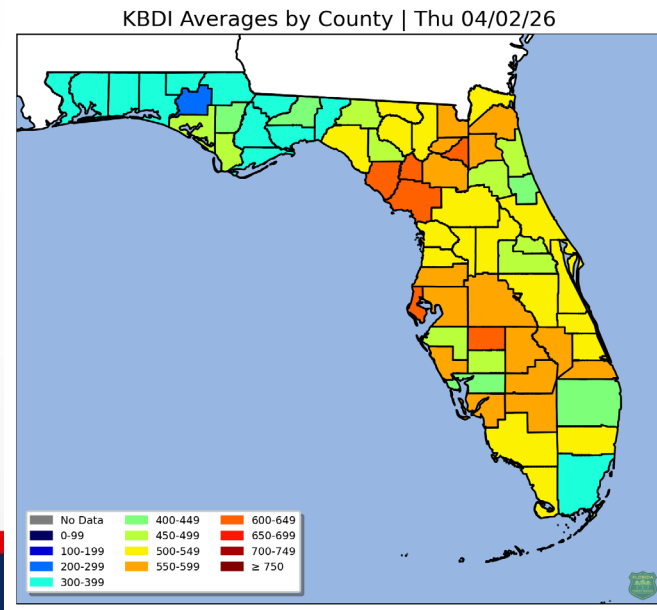
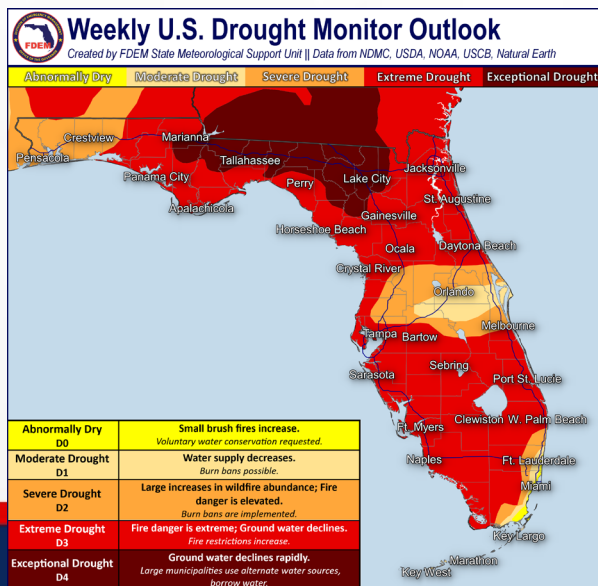


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Moist onshore flow around an area of high pressure over the western Atlantic will continue to bring plentiful low-level moisture to much of North Florida this afternoon. Scattered to widespread showers and thunderstorms are expected along the sea breeze boundaries this afternoon throughout the Big Bend and Northeast Florida. Thunderstorms may be capable of producing lightning strikes and gusty winds which may lead to new ignitions or erratic spread. Locally **sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** are expected, however, given the ongoing drought. **Wind speeds of 10-20 mph** look to develop through the day throughout the Florida Peninsula, with **wind gusts of 25-30 mph** likely along the immediate coast and Southeast Florida. Tonight, areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** are possible throughout the western Panhandle and Northeast Florida. *Fog may significantly reduce visibilities in the vicinity of active wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 75 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 3,961 acres.

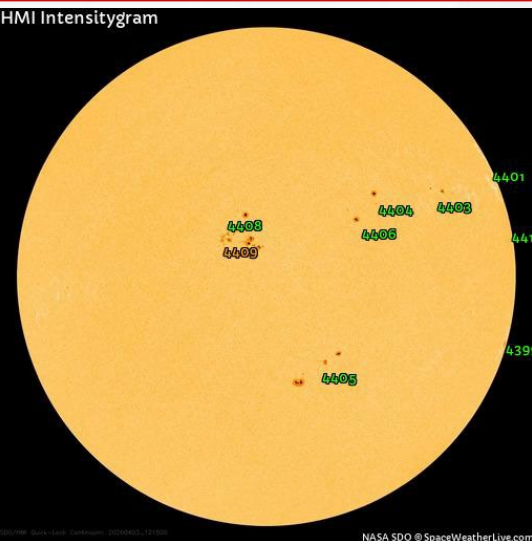
**Drought (4/2/26):** Over the past week, mostly dry conditions were observed throughout much of the state which has resulted in very little improvements on the latest Drought Monitor update. In fact, outside of immediate coastal Southeast Florida where a cold front brought widespread rainfall of 1-3" this past weekend (3/28-3/29), there was no beneficial rainfall to be found. The last remaining area of moderate drought (level 1 of 4) across the western Panhandle has been upgraded to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** due to recent dryness and worsening soil moisture levels. One of the biggest changes this week was additional expansion of the **exceptional drought (level 4 of 4)** across the Big Bend, Suwannee River Valley, and eastern Panhandle. Now, additional areas of Columbia, Baker, Union, Lafayette, Wakulla, and Jackson counties are under this level 4 of 4 drought. Over the past 6 months (October 1 – March 31), Tallahassee has seen record dryness with a total rainfall departure over that time reaching **13.51 inches below normal**. Areas of **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** have remained throughout the rest of Northeast Florida and North-Central Florida, including a new area along the coast of Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco counties. Jacksonville has also seen record dryness over the past 6 months, with the rainfall deficit of **9.98 inches below normal** in that time. The area of **moderate to severe drought** along the I-4 corridor continues to shrink as well as the area rainfall deficits continue to worsen. **Extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** also persists across much of South Florida, outside of the immediate Southeast coastline where rainfall has brought some drought relief. Throughout the state, streamflows remain significantly low and soil moisture levels deep into the ground have also worsened with water management districts statewide remaining under some water shortage advisory or warning. Looking ahead, a widespread drenching rainfall is not expected over the next week. Mostly dry conditions will prevail, though afternoon spotty showers and embedded thunderstorms will be possible each day. Any areas that see the heaviest activity could see a quick 1-3" of rain, though will not be enough to put much of a dent in the drought. There remains some uncertainty regarding a possible Gulf low-pressure system developing next Tuesday, which could bring some beneficial rains to the state. Trends in that system will continue to be monitored.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **492 (+6)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **39** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

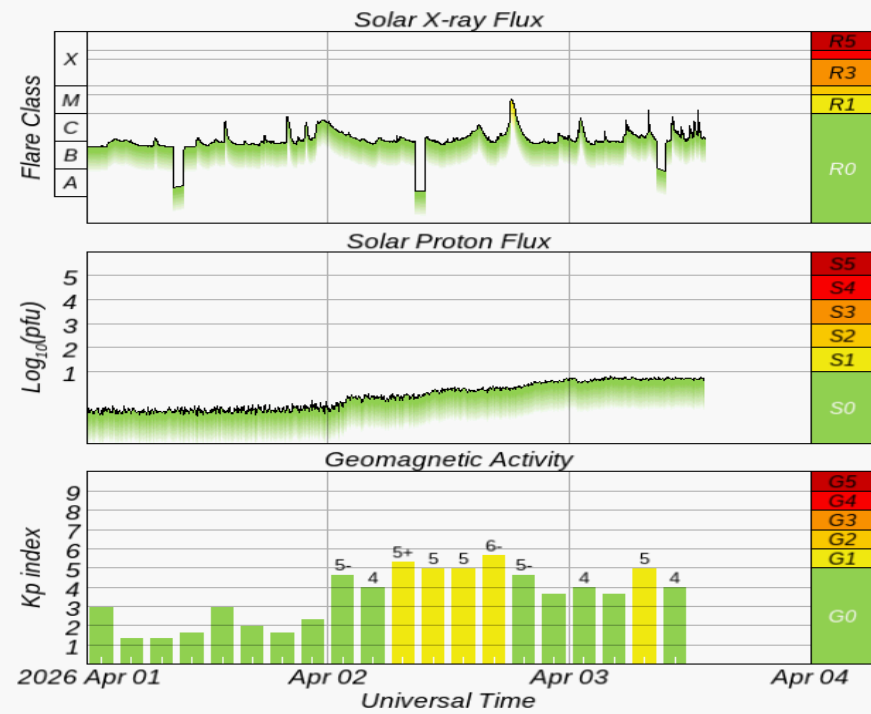




# Space Weather

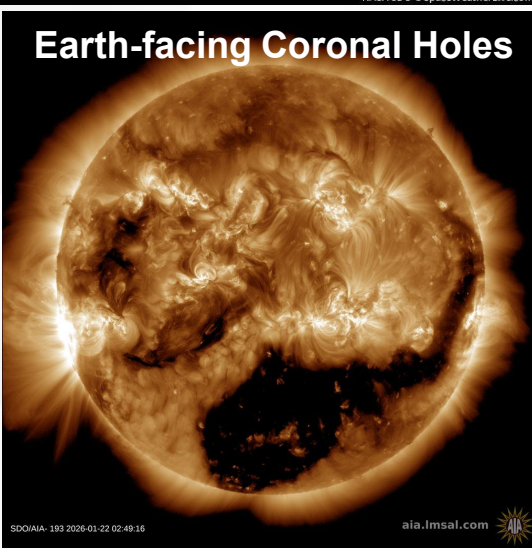


Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: <b>G2 Watch (4/3-4/4)</b>	M3 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/3	4/4
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 6 (G2)
Chance of minor activity = 40% severe activity = 30%	Chance of minor activity = 45% severe activity = 25%



**Space Weather:** Solar activity is likely to reach moderate levels due to sunspot regions #4404, #4405, and #4409 with minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts accompanying any organized solar flare activity. An isolated significant (X-class) solar flare cannot be ruled out, and R3 radio blackout conditions would occur should one develop. Enhanced solar wind conditions will persist through the weekend due to recurrent coronal hole influences and a glancing blow Coronal Mass Ejection (CME). The geomagnetic field is expected to reach G1 (Minor) levels today with periods of G2 (Moderate) storming likely. G1-G2 storming is likely on Saturday, with a chance for G3 (Strong) storms due to continued coronal hole influences and the anticipated passage of a CME from 4/1. The overall space weather threat to Florida remains low.



# SWO Communications Systems & Contact Information

Equipment	Contact	Status	Comments
<b>Phone:</b>	850-815-4001; 800-320-0519; 850-591-0071	Operational	
<b>Fax:</b>	850-815-4979	Operational	
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>	Operational	
<b>SWO Tracker:</b>	<a href="https://swo.floridadisaster.org">https://swo.floridadisaster.org</a>	Operational	
<b>SLERS:</b>	DEM Statewide	Operational	
<b>FNARS:</b>	WGY974	Not Operational	System in Transition
<b>Federal NAWAS:</b>	State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
<b>EMnet Message:</b>	FL.000 - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
<b>EMnet Voice:</b>	FL SWP - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
<b>IPAWS:</b>	300006 - FL Florida Division of Emergency Management	Operational	
<b>FIN:</b>	SOFEOC	Not Operational	System in Transition
<b>Satellite Phones:</b>	MSAT 888-890-5178; Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://floridadisaster.org">https://floridadisaster.org</a>	Operational	

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