



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Sunday, April 5, 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	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Swing	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	<a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(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	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 4: Tara Kostich	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	In Region	On-Call Status
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Leave	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6  
Region 10 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 9

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

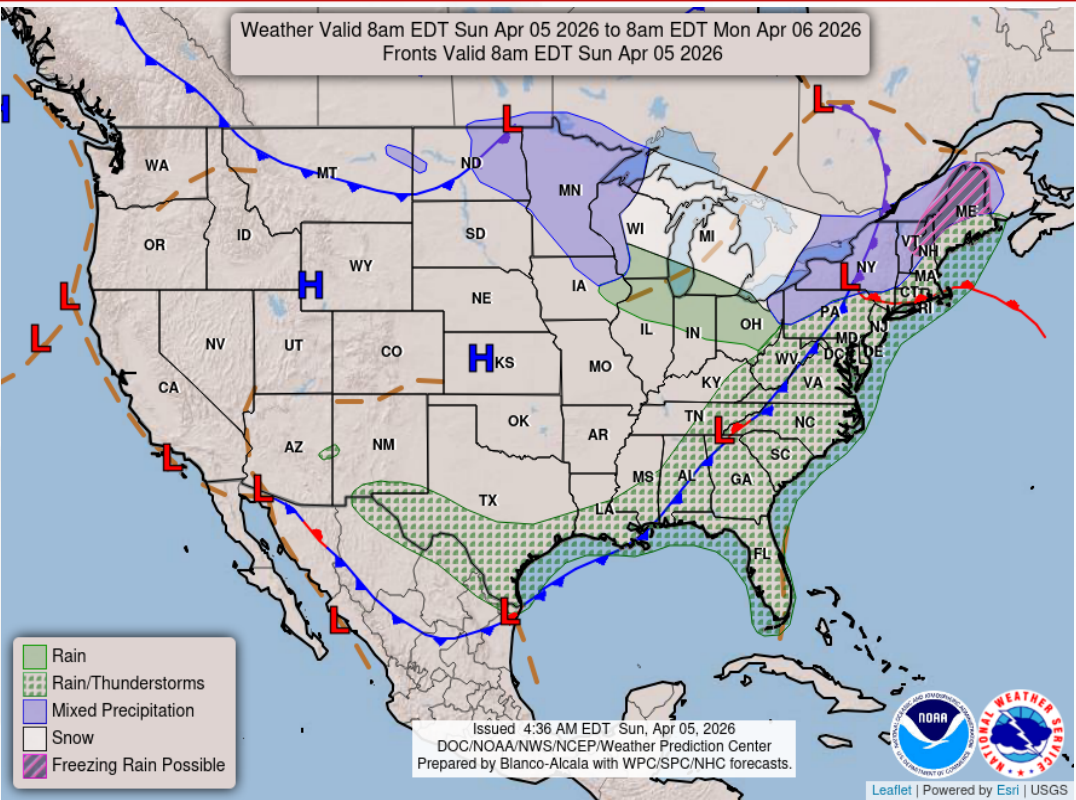
Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Out of Region	Not Available
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 3: Kevin Blom	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 6: Rick Rogers	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	In Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	N/A
Region 10: Brian Lee	In Region	Off & Monitoring

Region 1 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2

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

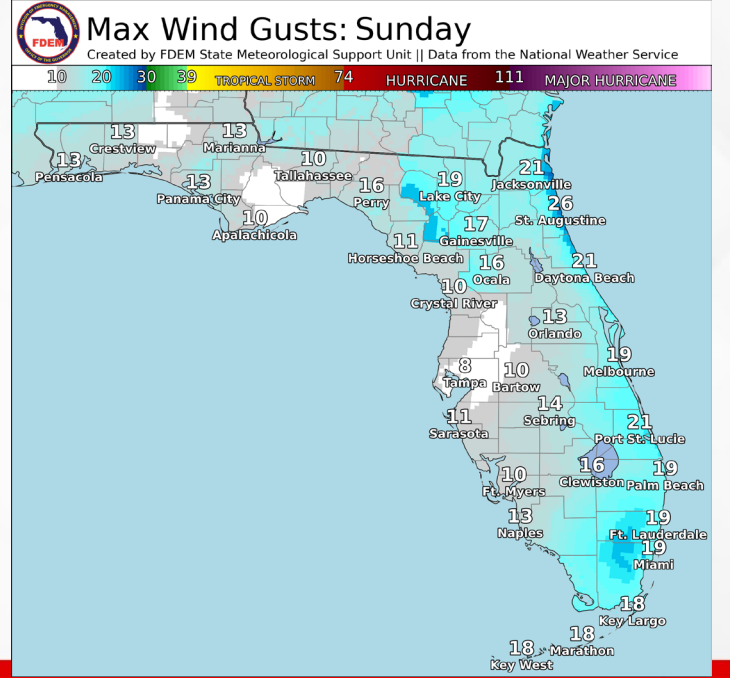
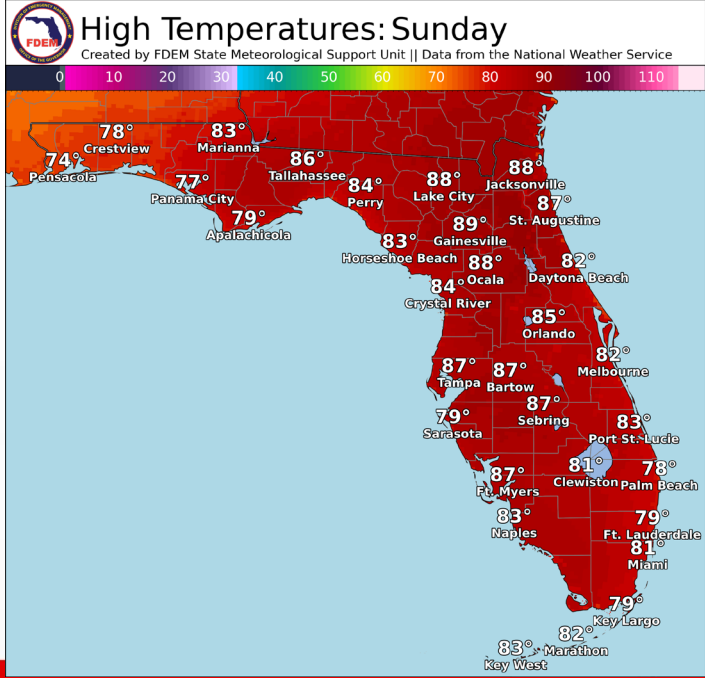


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind						L	L	L	L	
Hail										
Flash Flooding	L	L				L	L	L	L	
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)				L	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	12.01 ft. (2.21 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	491 (+3) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





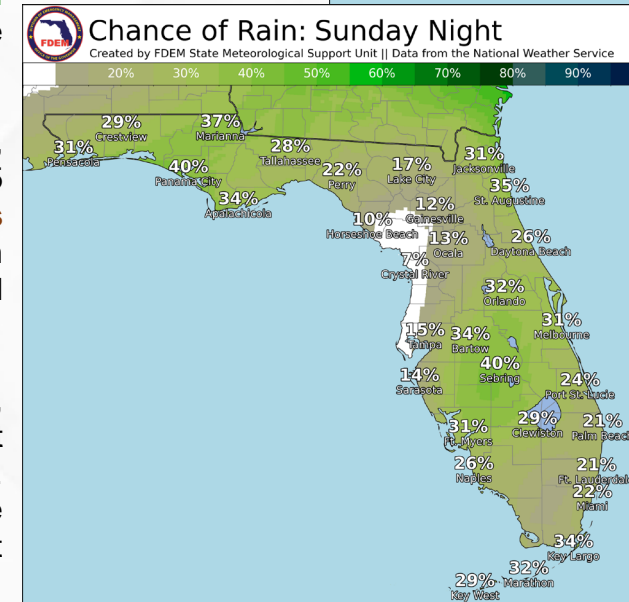
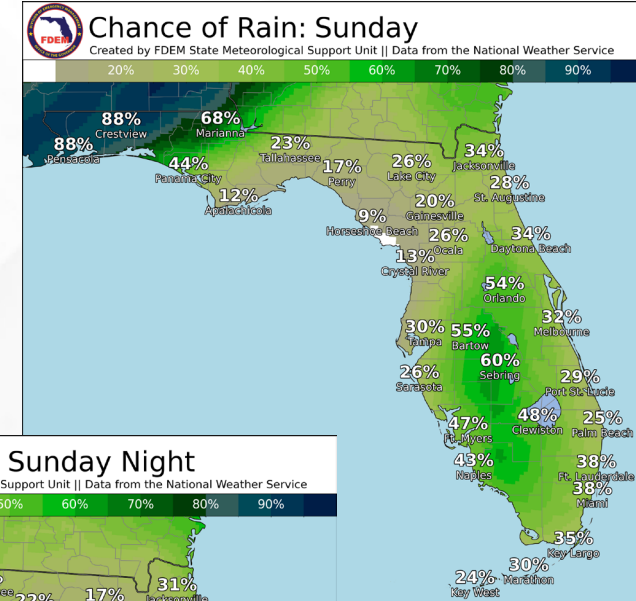
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of **patchy fog**, some of which is **locally dense**, will slowly lift and dissipate through the morning hours across the Panhandle and Northeast Florida. Showers with embedded thunderstorms are also ongoing across the far western Panhandle this morning ahead of and along our next frontal system. This cold front is expected to mostly lift north of the state, bringing with it the greatest chances of rain as well. However, this broken line of activity ahead of the front will traverse the Panhandle this morning before dissipating as it approaches the Big Bend region (50-90% chance of rain). Mostly dry conditions will prevail throughout the Big Bend and Suwannee River Valley today, though an isolated shower or storm cannot be ruled out (15-25% chance of rain). Across the Peninsula, winds will shift out of the southeast today ahead of the frontal system. This will help to send the east coast sea breeze inland across the interior Peninsula this afternoon helping to spark scattered showers and thunderstorms (40-60% chance of rain). Although there is no organized risk for severe weather today, a few storms throughout the Peninsula could become **locally strong** and capable of producing frequent lightning, gusty winds (40-50 mph), and small hail. Additionally, a few **locally heavy downpours** could lead to a quick **1-3"** of **rain** and areas of **ponding of water** and **nuisance flooding** cannot be ruled out in low-lying/poor drainage locations.

Winds will generally subside from their elevated conditions seen in recent days throughout the Peninsula. Still, the onshore flow will still be accompanied by a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20-25 mph** along the I-95 corridor and Southeast Florida. Given the ongoing drought, **locally sensitive to elevated wildfire conditions** will persist statewide despite relative humidities remaining above critical thresholds. 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**.

Any shower or thunderstorm activity is expected to diminish shortly after sunset throughout the state. However, some lingering showers may redevelop across the Panhandle and Big Bend after midnight as the cold front passes through (25-40% chance of rain). Lows will reach the 60s to lower 70s throughout the Peninsula tonight. In the wake of the front, cooler overnight temperatures are expected with lows in the 50s throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend. Areas of **patchy fog** and **low clouds** may develop across Central Florida overnight and before daybreak Monday, some of which could become **locally dense**.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Breezy onshore winds will maintain elevated surf and dangerous swimming conditions to many Florida coastlines. A **moderate to 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 of **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'.

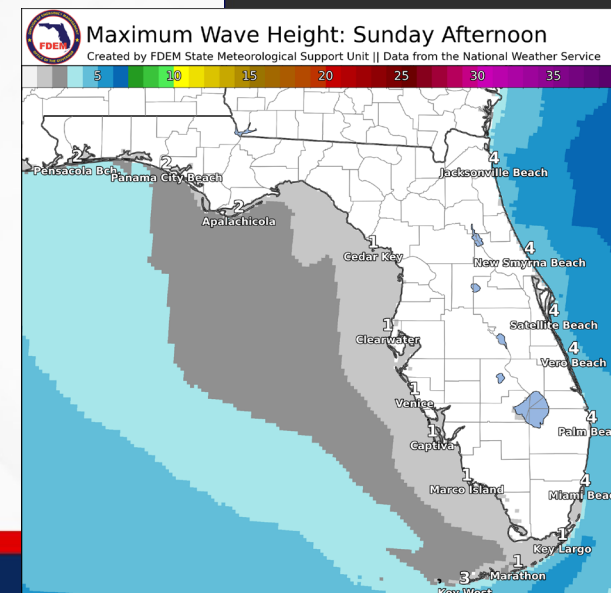
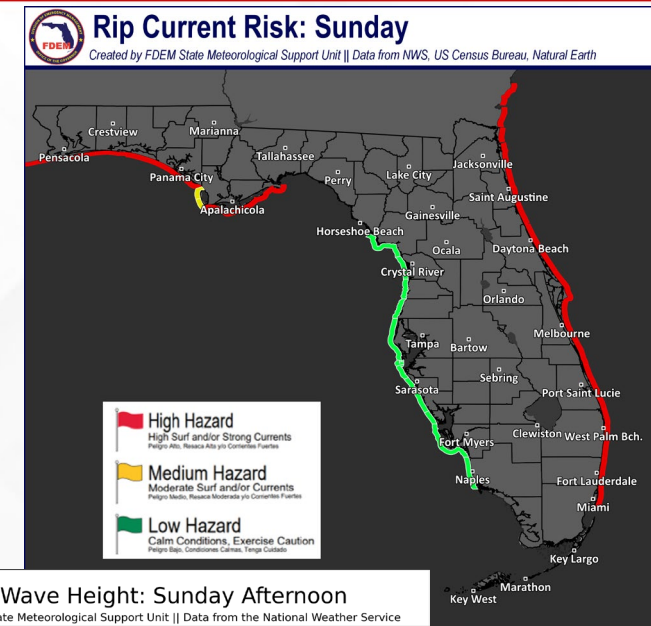
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations offshore Monroe County (valid 4/3/26).

**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. A decaying cold front with scattered showers and thunderstorms will traverse across the Panhandle this morning and early afternoon with a few **locally heavy downpours**. Additionally, slow-moving scattered showers and storms are expected throughout the interior Peninsula this afternoon along the sea breeze boundaries during peak heating hours. Any of these storms throughout the Panhandle and Peninsula may be capable of producing a quick **1-3" of rainfall** in a short amount of time. 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 12.01 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.21 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



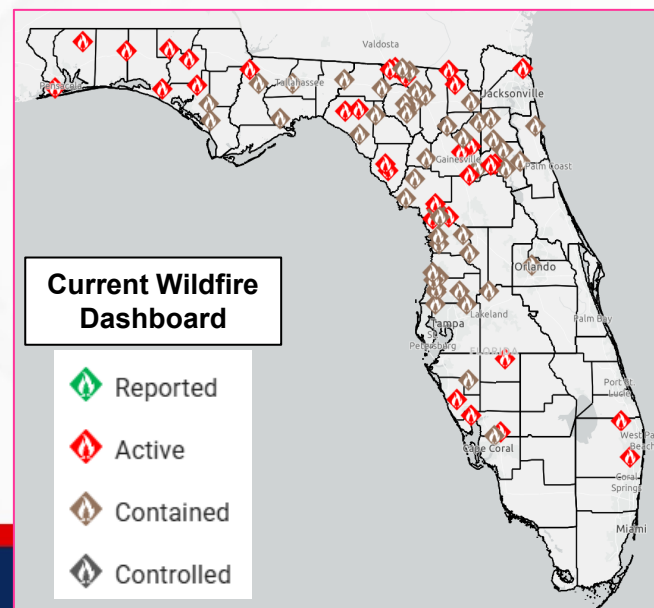
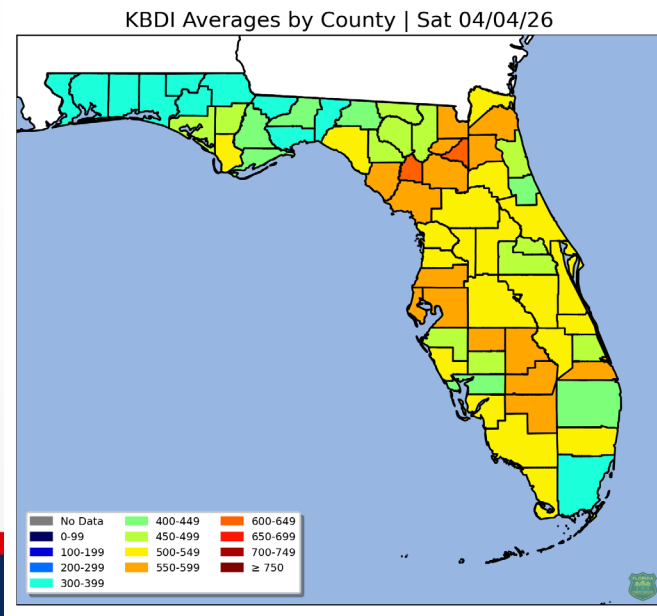
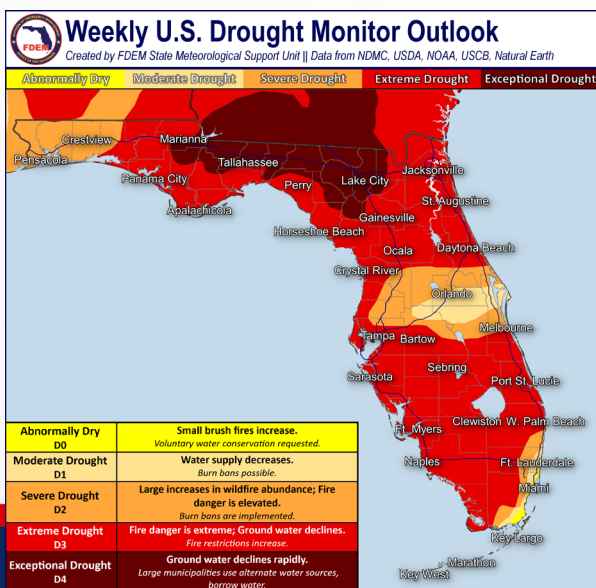


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Moist southerly flow ahead of our next frontal system will keep relative humidities well above critical thresholds this afternoon. The cold front will bring scattered showers and embedded thunderstorms to portions of the Panhandle this morning before dissipating as it treks eastward into the Big Bend region. Additionally, scattered showers and thunderstorms will develop along the sea breeze boundaries throughout the Peninsula this afternoon. *Thunderstorms may be capable of producing lightning strikes and gusty winds which may lead to new ignitions or erratic spread.* Even amidst a wetter pattern, **sensitive to locally elevated wildfire conditions** will persist given the ongoing long-term drought. Winds will turn lighter today compared to the past week, though breezy winds with gusts **upwards of 20-25 mph** will still persist along the I-95 corridor. Tonight, areas of **patchy to locally dense fog** are possible along the Nature Coast and throughout Central Florida. *Fog may significantly reduce visibilities in the vicinity of active wildfires.* According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 81 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 5,984 acres.

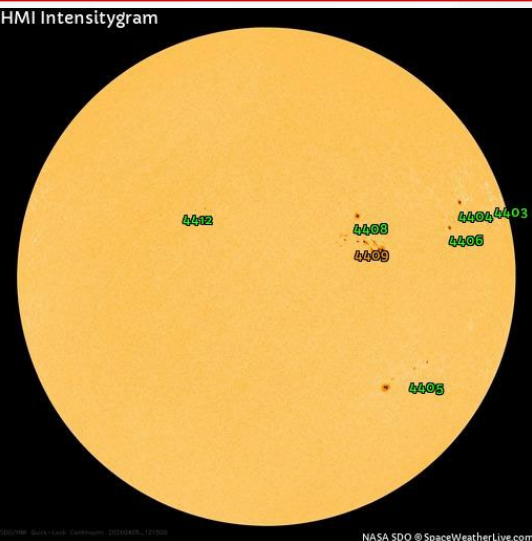
**Drought (4/2/26):** Over the past week, mostly dry conditions were observed throughout much of the state which has resulted in very little improvements on the latest Drought Monitor update. In fact, outside of immediate coastal Southeast Florida where a cold front brought widespread rainfall of 1-3" 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 **491 (+3)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **37** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

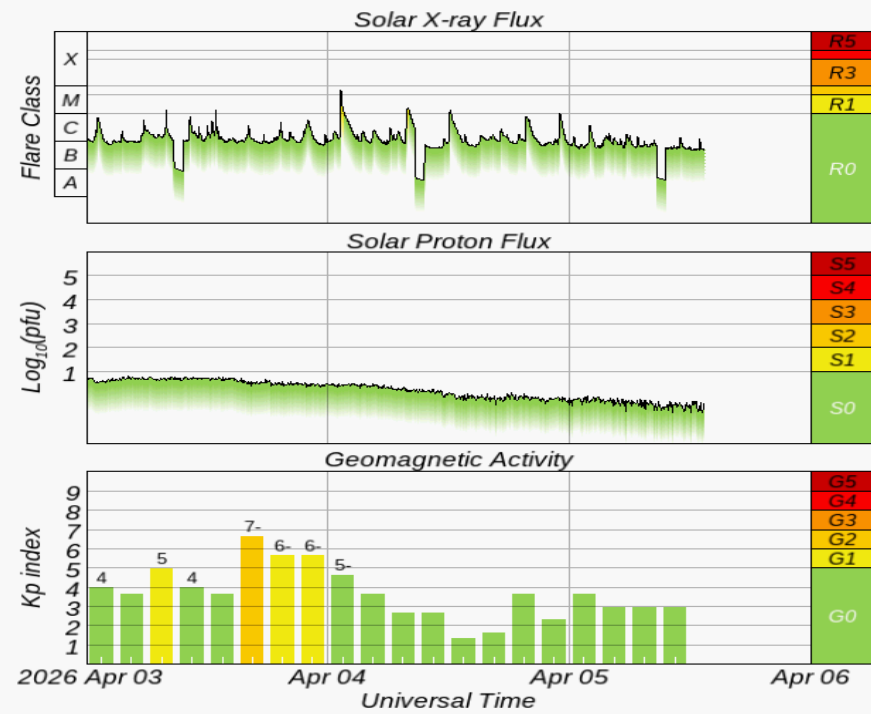
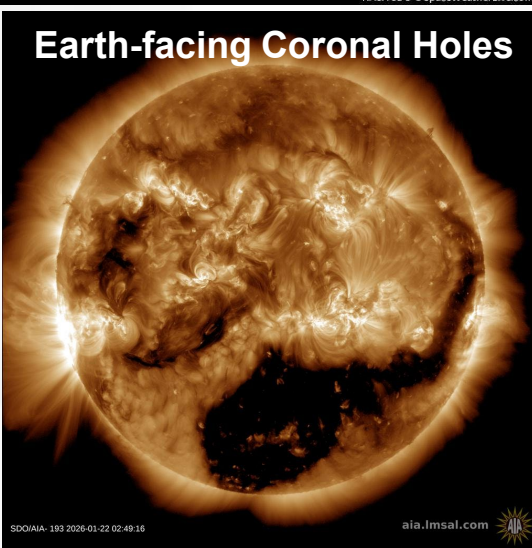




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 55%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/5	4/6
Max Kp= 3 (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 is likely to reach moderate levels primarily due to sunspot region #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 Tuesday with waning effects from recurrent coronal hole influences. The Earth's geomagnetic field is expected to remain at active levels early today before diminishing to quiet to unsettled levels to start the week as coronal hole influences wane. The overall space weather threat to Florida remains very 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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