



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Tuesday, April 7, 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	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	<a href="mailto:Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com">Sam.Walters@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	Hunter Stafford	(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	Washington & Walton EMPA/G Grant Meetings / Statewide Exercise FPM
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Jefferson	County EM Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Lafayette, Bradford	Statewide Exercise FPM / County EM Visits
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Baker	Statewide Exercise FPM
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole	Region 5 T&E Meeting / Statewide Exercise FPM
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Pasco	Prevention of Bombing Incidents/Response of Bombing Incidents Course
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 8: Amber Durden	St. Lucie	Statewide Exercise FPM
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Manatee	G-557 Course
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	MGT-475 Course



Region 7 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	Out of Region	Leave
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Recovery and Mit. Bureau Coordination Meeting
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Union	Stakeholders Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Not Available	Leave
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Seminole	Instructing FL Courses
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	Bomb Prevention Incidents
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Martin	County EM Meeting
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	MGT-475 Crowd Management

Region 1 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 2

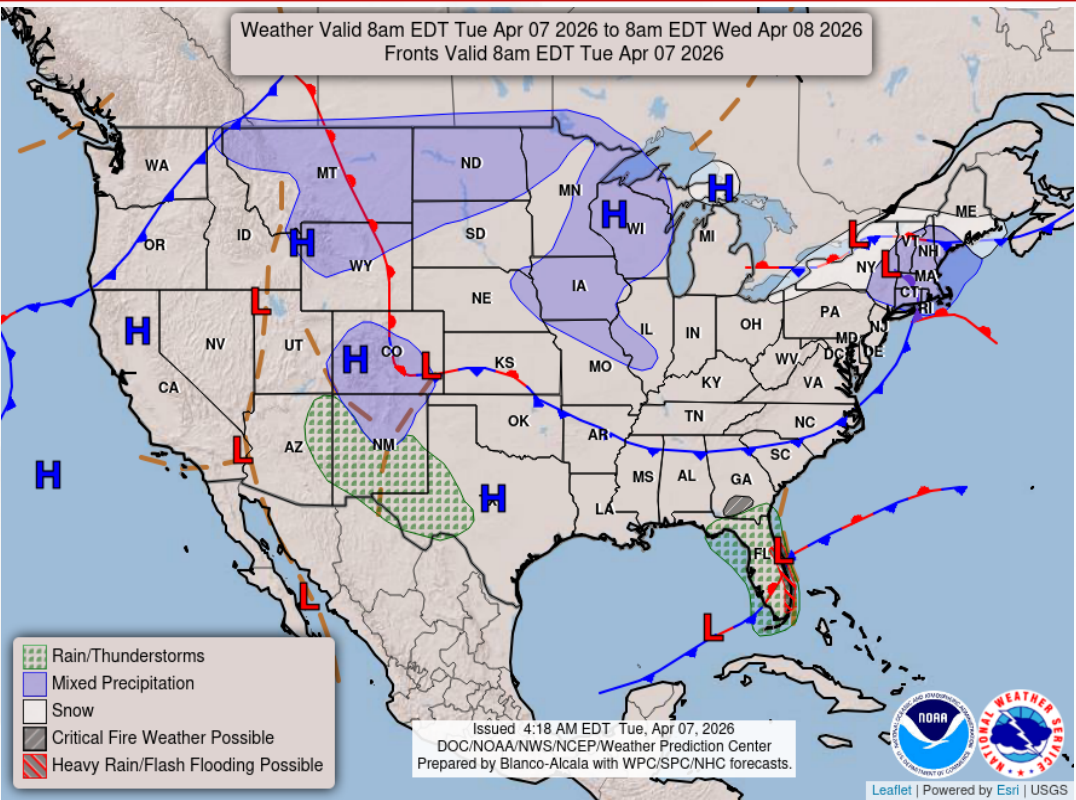
Region 4 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinator 5

Region 7/9 Coverage Provided by Recovery Coordinators 6/8

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

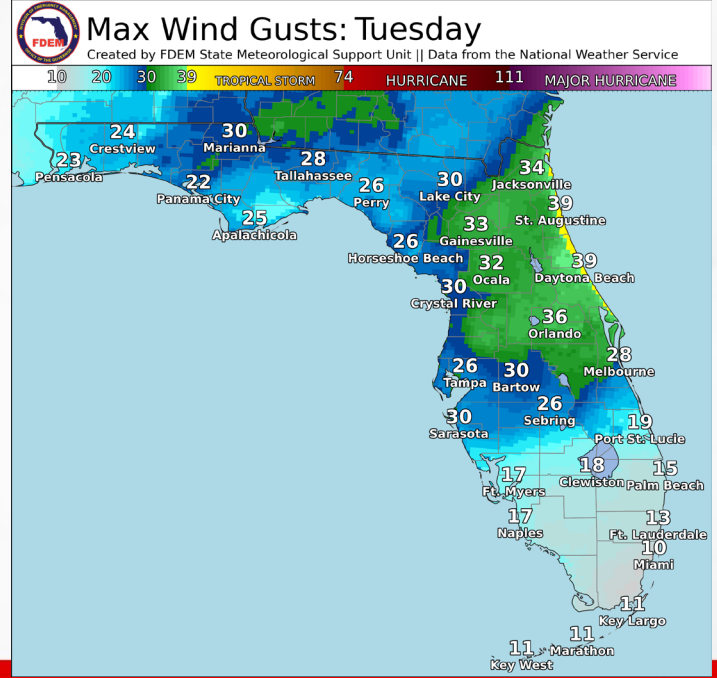
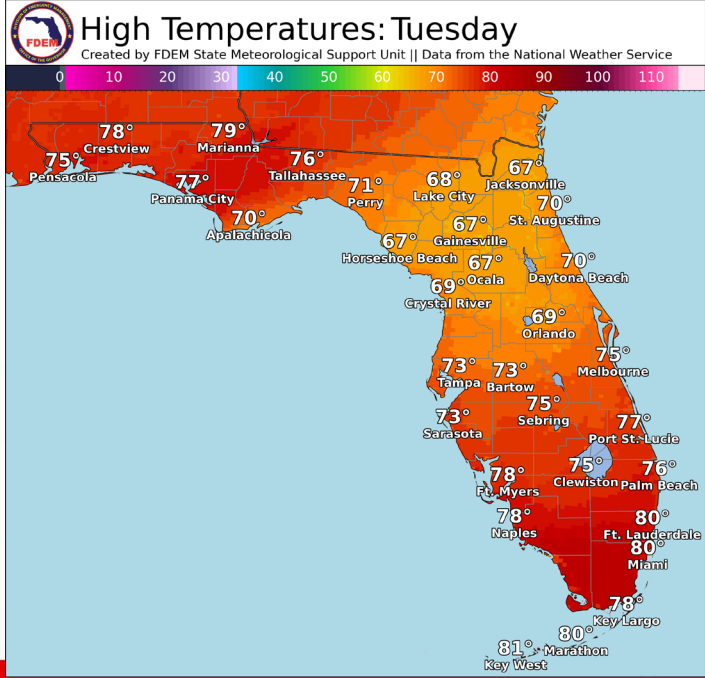


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning				L	L	L	M	M	M	L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind						L	L	L	L	L
Hail										
Flash Flooding				L	M	L	M	M	L	M
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire	H	H	M	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	M	H	L	H	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	12.00 ft. (2.18 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	491(-6) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





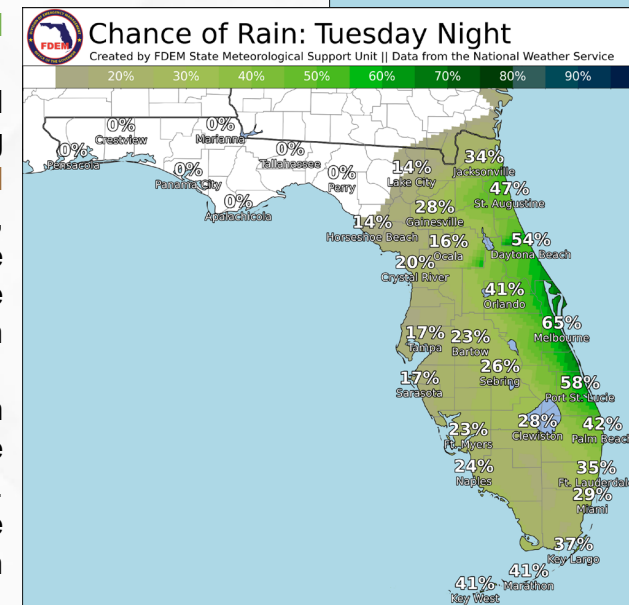
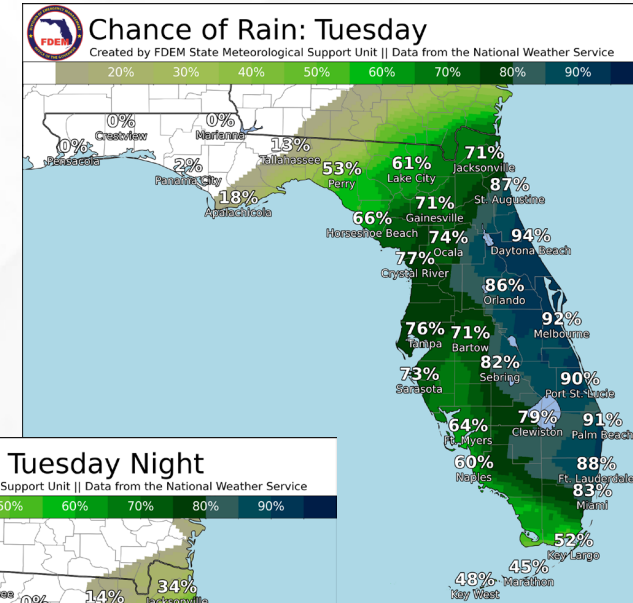
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Scattered to numerous showers and embedded thunderstorms are ongoing this morning across the Peninsula as an upper-level disturbance traverses across the state along a stalled frontal boundary. This disturbance will help to enhance the activity across the entire Peninsula this afternoon, with the I-95 corridor the most probable focus for the heaviest rainfall (65-90% chance of rain). The Weather Prediction Center has outlooked a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the East Coast from Volusia County to Miami-Dade County where saturated soils from recent rains may encourage instances of **flooding and ponding of water** today, especially in urban and poor drainage locations that receive additional repeated rounds of **heavy downpours**. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across much of the rest of the interior central and southern Peninsula. A **Flood Watch** is in effect along the coast from Volusia to Miami-Dade counties where rainfall totals generally between 2-4 inches are expected, however locally greater amounts **upwards of 5-7 inches** will be possible in areas that see repeated rounds of heavy downpours. Although there is no organized risk for severe weather today, a few **locally embedded thunderstorms** could produce frequent lightning, gusty winds (40-50 mph), and small hail.

Breezy to windy conditions are expected to develop beginning this afternoon across Northeast Florida and surging southward overnight along the East Coast. Wind gusts **upwards of 35-45 mph** are expected along the immediate coast with gusts of **25-35 mph** throughout interior portions of North and Central Florida. **Wind Advisories** are in effect across the eastern Peninsula through tonight. Across the Panhandle and Big Bend, a local pocket of dry air is expected to filter into the area in the wake of the frontal activity across the Peninsula. Relative humidities will dip **well below critical thresholds (15-25%)** which, paired with the breezy conditions, will promote **elevated to locally critical wildfire conditions**. A **Red Flag Warning** is in effect for portions of the eastern Panhandle and Big Bend this afternoon for this wildfire risk.

Isolated to scattered showers are expected to last through the overnight hours along the East Coast with easterly winds pushing activity onshore (40-65% chance of rain). High temperatures today will remain in the middle to upper 60s across Northeast and North-Central Florida with abundant cloud cover and rainfall. Middle 70s to lower 80s are expected throughout the Panhandle and South Florida. Lows will dip into the middle to upper 50s across North Florida tonight, with middle 60s to lower 70s across Central and South Florida.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Breezy to windy conditions and increasing choppy surf will bring a **moderate** to **high risk for rip currents** to all East Coast and Panhandle beaches today. A **moderate risk for rip currents** is also expected along the Sun Coast where surf will begin to increase later this afternoon. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** Very dangerous beach and marine conditions will begin to develop today along the East Coast as strong northeasterly winds and active weather build a large ocean swell offshore. Surf will increase from **4-6'** this morning to **8-10'** by this evening across all Northeast Florida and Space Coast beaches. Waves will remain near **3-5'** for Treasure Coast beaches through this afternoon and around 1-3' for all Southeast Florida and Florida Keys beaches. Elevated surf is also expected across all Panhandle and West Coast beaches today, with waves reaching **2-4'**. Surf will surge southward along the East Coast tonight, with waves increasing to **10-13'** for all First, Space, and Treasure Coast beaches. A **High Surf Advisory** is in effect for Northeast and East-Central Florida starting this afternoon and for the Treasure Coast beginning tonight.

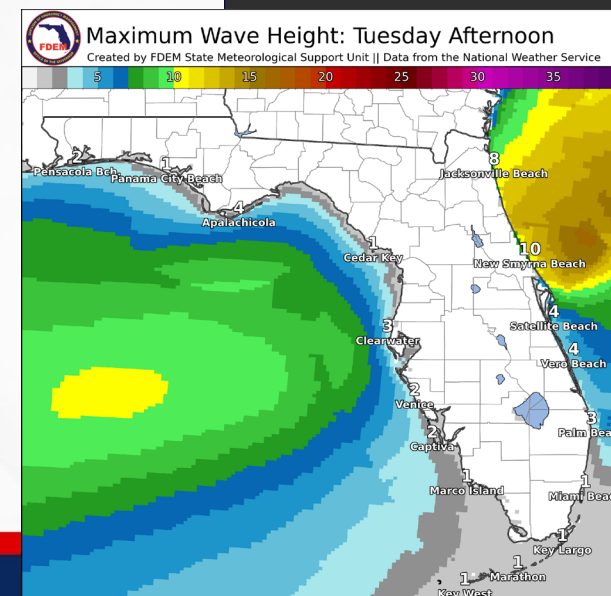
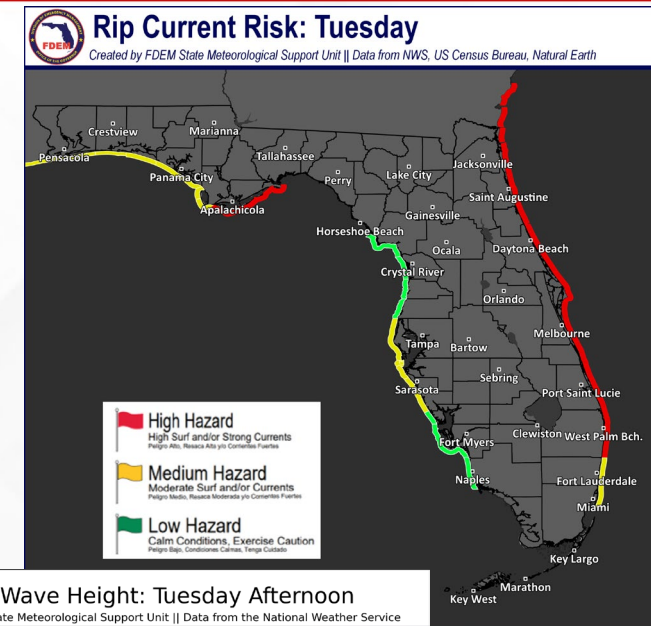
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations offshore Monroe County (valid 4/3/26).

**Coastal Flooding:** Strong northeasterly onshore winds along the East Coast may lead to instances of **minor beach erosion** as surf increases later this afternoon.

**Flash Flooding:** The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) has outlooked a **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** along the Florida East Coast from Volusia County to Miami-Dade County for a heightened risk of **flash flooding**. Recent heavy rainfall has saturated the soil and additional rounds of **heavy downpours** today may lead to instances of **flooding and ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor drainage locations. A **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across much of the rest of the central and southern Peninsula. A **Flood Watch** is also in effect along the East Coast from Volusia to Miami-Dade for this flood risk. Rainfall totals across East-Central and Southeast Florida will generally add up to 2-4 inches for most locations, however locally greater amounts **upwards of 5-7 inches** cannot be ruled out.

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

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 12.00 feet, which is within the operational band and is 2.18 feet **below** normal for this time of year.





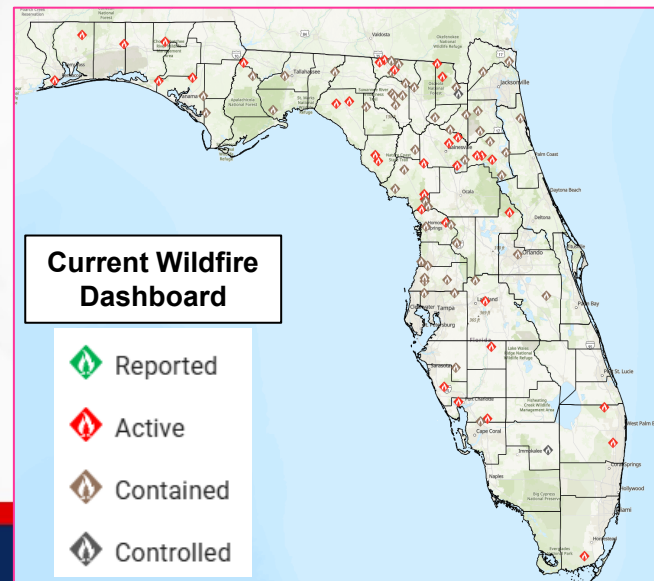
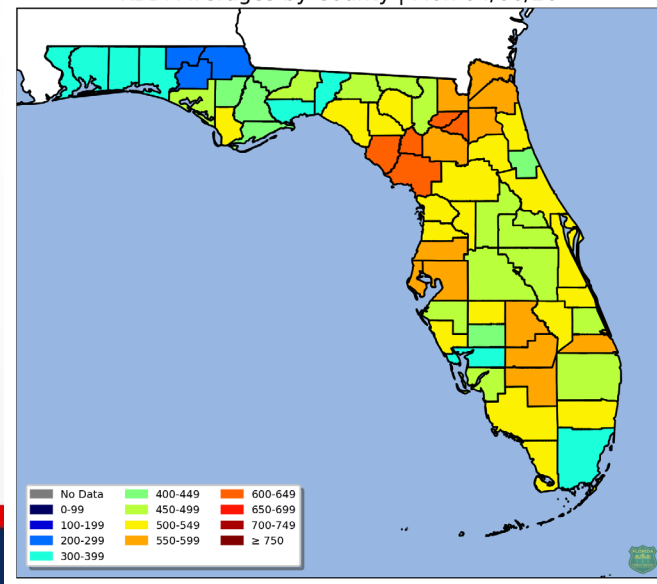
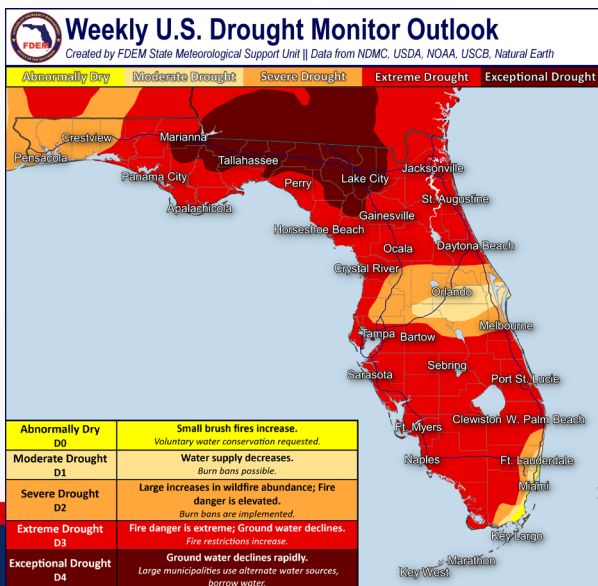
# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms are expected throughout the Peninsula today as an upper-level disturbance and stalled frontal boundary help to focus abundant moisture throughout the Peninsula. Relative humidities will remain well above critical thresholds here, however a surge of fresh northeasterly winds is expected later this afternoon across North and Central Florida. Winds will gust between **25-35 mph** for most locations, however coastal locations of Northeast and East-Central Florida may gust **upwards of 35-45 mph** and a **Wind Advisory** is in effect through tonight. These windy conditions, along with thunderstorm activity, may lead to erratic wildfire spread in any active wildfire areas. Throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend, a ribbon of drier air is expected to filter into the area where relative humidities will dip **well below critical thresholds (15-25 RH values)**. Paired with the breezy conditions, **elevated to locally critical wildfire conditions** are expected **Red Flag Warnings** are in effect for portions of the Panhandle and Big Bend for this wildfire risk this afternoon. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 71 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 5,914 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.

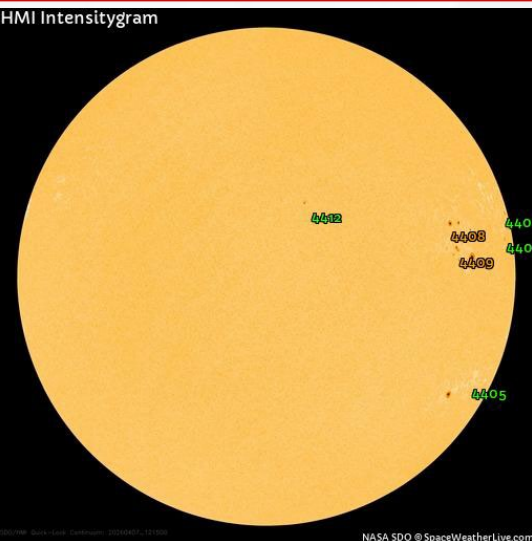
The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **491 (-6)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **36** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

KBDI Averages by County | Mon 04/06/26

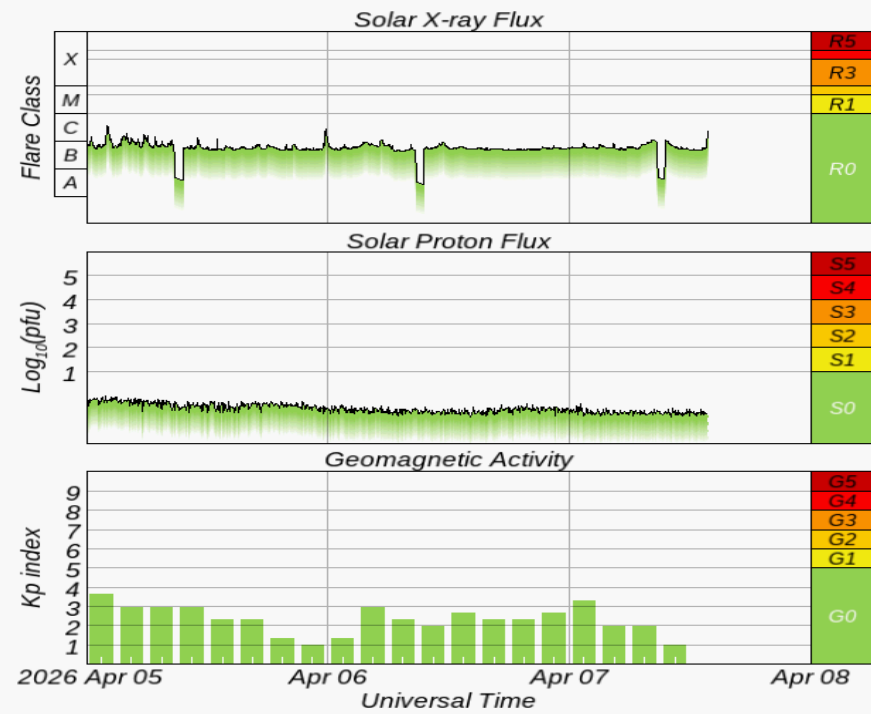
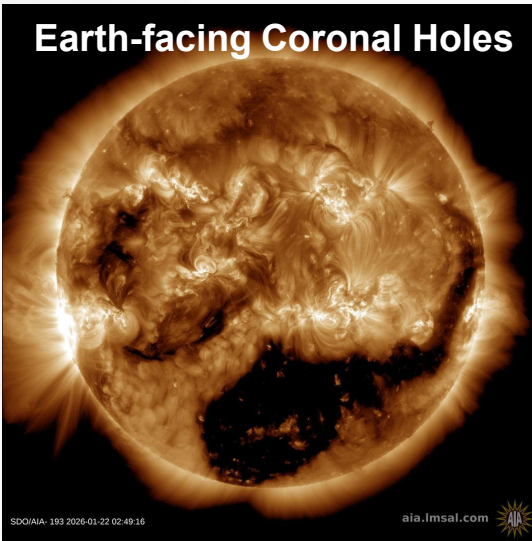




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 40%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 10%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/7	4/8
Max Kp= 3 (G0)	Max Kp= 2 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%

**Space Weather:** Solar activity is likely to be at low levels through the next 3 days, with a chance for strong (M-class) solar flares, primarily driven by sunspot region #4409. Minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts will accompany any strong solar flare activity. The solar wind environment may remain mildly enhanced early today before returning to nominal conditions through the end of the week. The geomagnetic field is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels today, diminishing to mostly quiet levels on Wednesday and Thursday. 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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