



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Sunday, April 19, 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            | Ian Danley         | (850) 815-4001 | <a href="mailto:SWP@em.myflorida.com">SWP@em.myflorida.com</a>                               |
| Operations Officer- Swing          | Caleb Pitts        | (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 | <b>Out of Service</b> | <b>Leave (See Coverage)</b> |
| Region 8: Amber Durden       | Kansas City (KS)      | Travel to NREP Conference   |
| Region 9: Brittany Bremer    | In Region             | On-Call Status              |
| Region 10: Claudia Baker     | In Region             | On-Call Status              |

Region 7 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 6  
 Region 8 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 10

| Status                       |
|------------------------------|
| Normal Operations            |
| Out of Service / Unavailable |



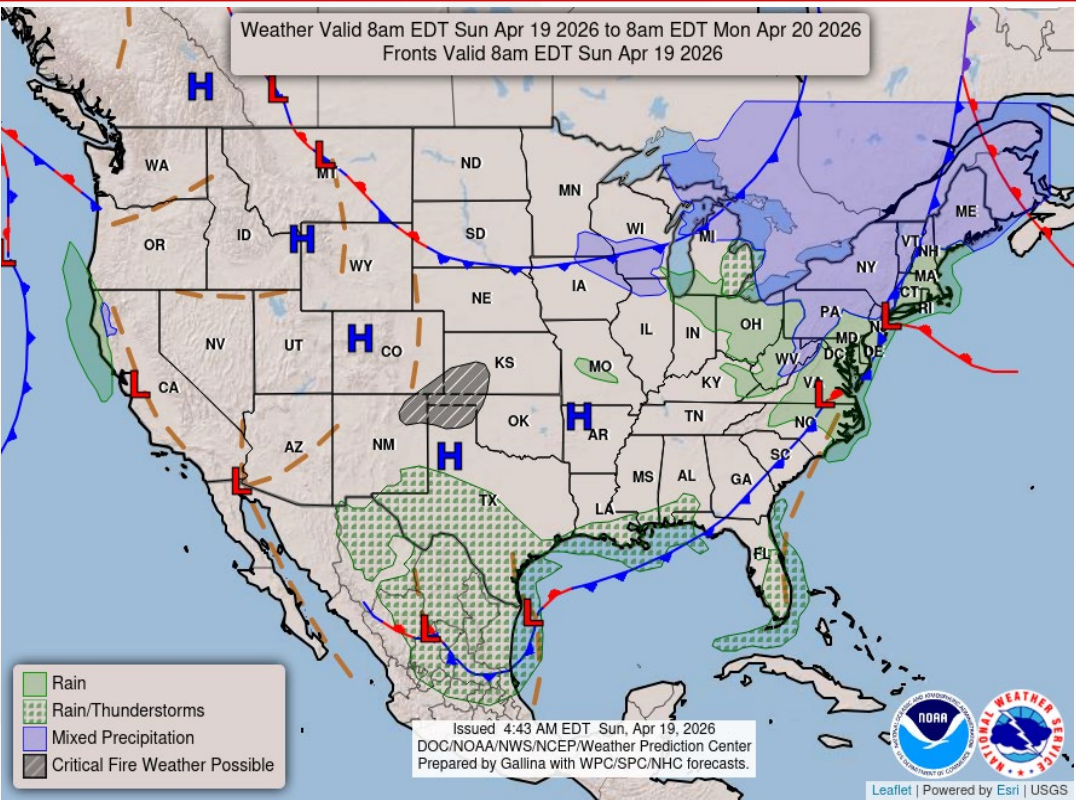
# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

| Team                             | County Location | Status / Activities |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Region 1: Allison Blevins        | In Region       | Off & Monitoring    |
| Region 2: Justin Lazzara         | In Region       | Off & Monitoring    |
| Region 3: Kevin Blom             | In Region       | Off & Monitoring    |
| Region 4: Joshua Saunders        | Duval           | Jax Ready Fest      |
| 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 | Not Available   | Leave               |
| Region 9: Vacant                 | N/A             | N/A                 |
| Region 10: Brian Lee             | In Region       | Off & Monitoring    |

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

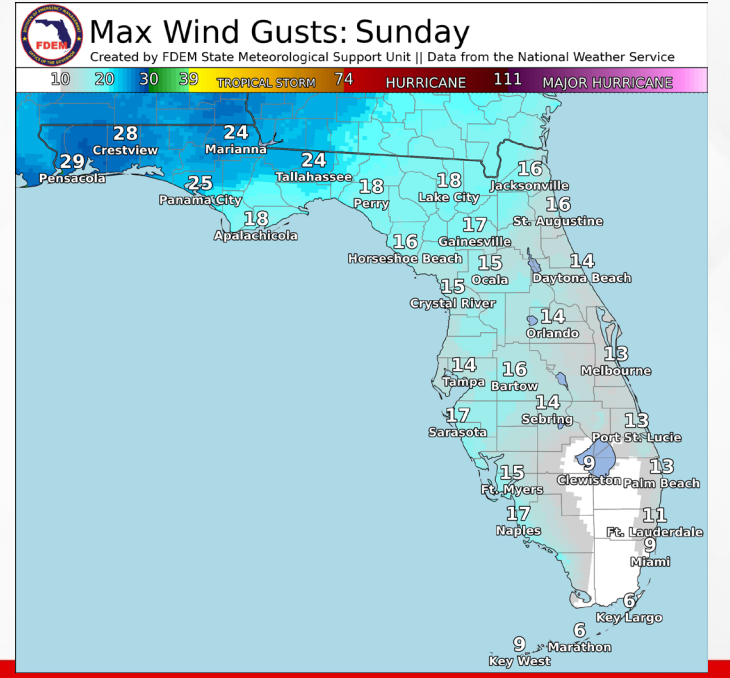
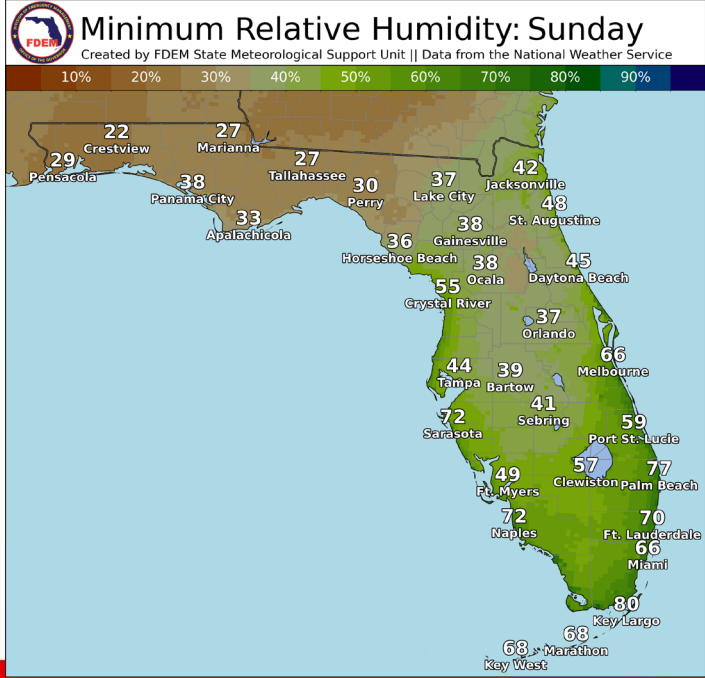


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

| Threat                     | R1  | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | R7 | R8 | R9 | R10 |
|----------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Lightning                  |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Tornado                    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Damaging Wind              |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Hail                       |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Flash Flooding             |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Extreme Heat               |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Fog (Overnight)            |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Wildfire                   | H   | H  | H  | M  | M  | M  | M  | M  | M  | M   |
| Rip Currents               | M   | M  | L  | M  | M  | L  |    | M  | L  | L   |
| Lake Okeechobee Elevation  | 11.99 ft. (1.93 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)                  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |
| Keetch-Byram Drought Index | 479 (+9) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |





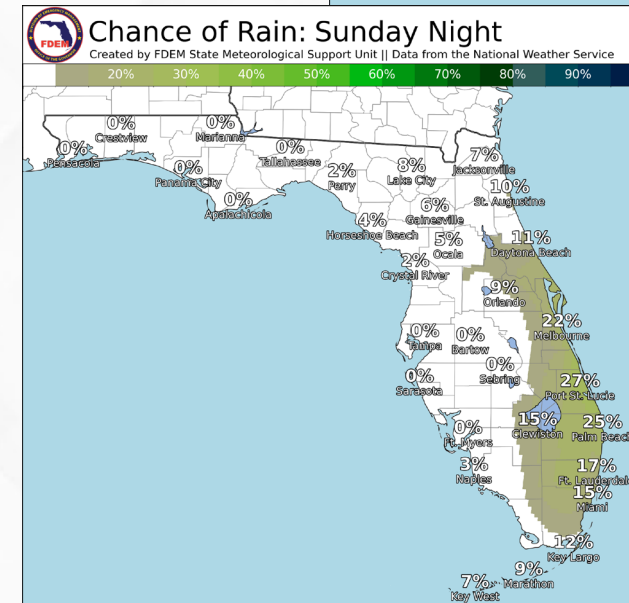
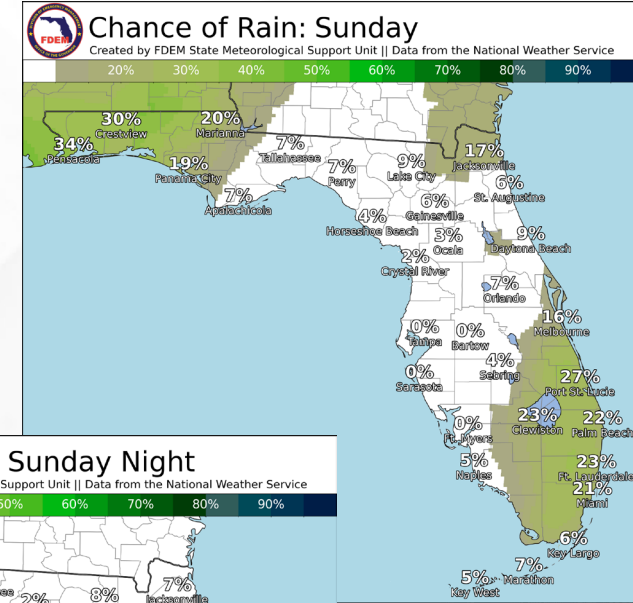
# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Isolated showers are ongoing across the far western Panhandle this morning ahead of and along a quick moving cold front. These showers will spread into the rest of the Panhandle this morning (15-25% chance of rain) before quickly dissipating as they enter the Big Bend region. Throughout much of Northeast and Central Florida today, a clear and dry day is expected. A few isolated sea breeze showers cannot be ruled out across Southeast Florida today (20-30% chance of rain).

In the wake of the frontal passage across the Panhandle and Big Bend, breezy wind gusts **upwards of 25-30 mph** will develop this afternoon. Paired with **critically low relative humidities (25-30%)**, **elevated wildfire conditions** are expected to persist. **Locally critical wildfire danger** cannot be ruled out in any areas that see little wetting rainfall this morning. Drier air will also filter across much of the Peninsula, though winds will remain lighter with gusts upwards of 15-25 mph expected. High temperatures will struggle to climb out of the lower to middle 70s throughout the Panhandle this afternoon. Highs in the middle 80s to lower 90s are expected elsewhere statewide.

Relative humidities will struggle to recover across North Florida overnight, keeping the **sensitive** to **elevated wildfire risk** in place even through the night. A few lingering showers may also persist along the East-Central and Southeast coast tonight. Low temperatures will fall into the upper 40s to middle 50s across the Panhandle and Big Bend tonight, middle 50s to lower 60s in Northeast Florida, and middle 60s to lower 70s throughout Central and South Florida.





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** A **moderate risk for rip currents** is expected along most Panhandle and Atlantic beaches today, with a low risk along the Gold Coast, West Coast, and Northwest Florida. A local **high risk** is expected along Gulf County in the Panhandle. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** The sea state will continue to diminish today along the East Coast with surf of 1-2' expected for all beaches. Waves near 1' can be expected for all West Coast beaches today, with breezy post-frontal winds bringing surf near 2-3' for western Panhandle beaches. Surf will significantly increase along the First, Space, and Treasure Coast overnight with waves near **4-6'** by sunrise Monday.

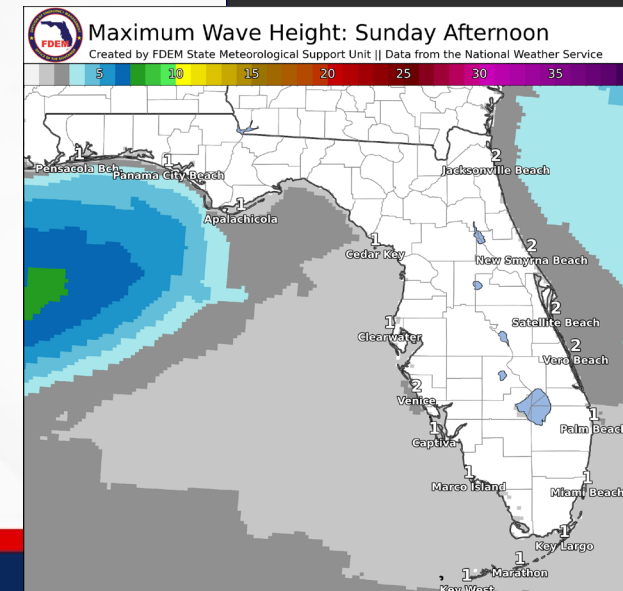
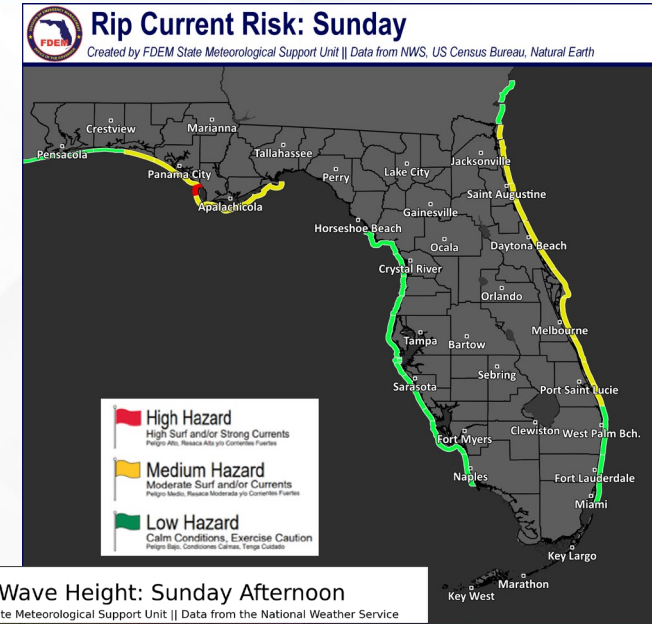
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations offshore Lee, Okaloosa, Escambia, and Gulf counties (valid 4/17/26).

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

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding today across Florida.

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

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 11.99 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.93 feet below normal for this time of year.



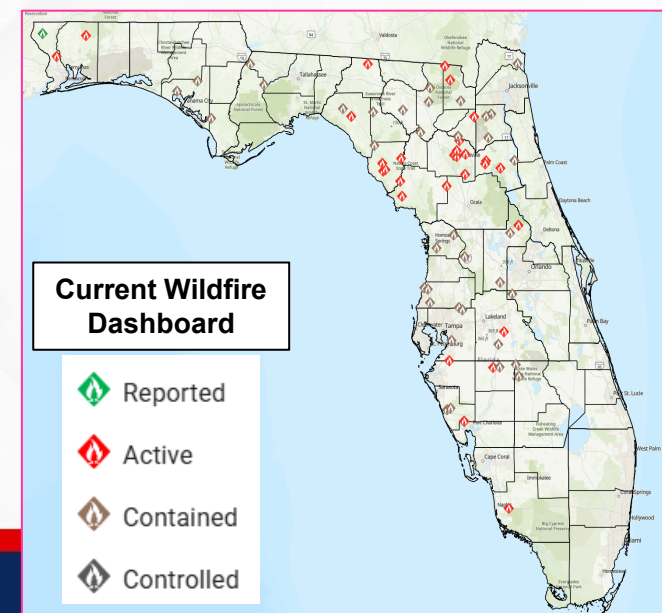
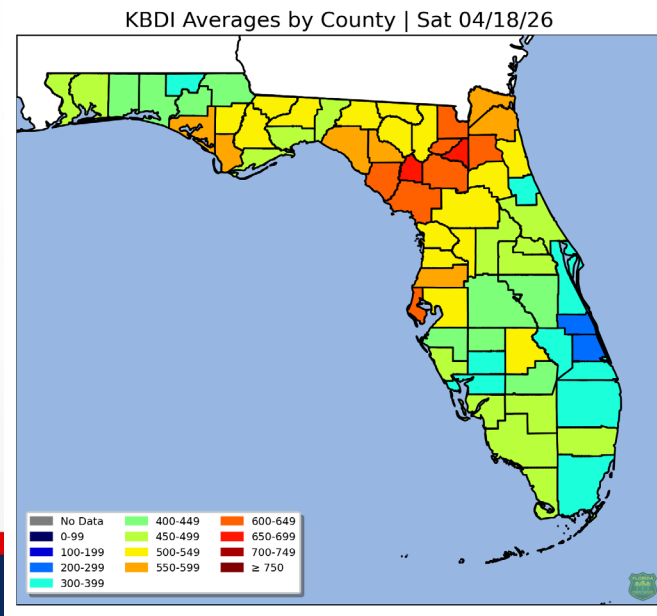
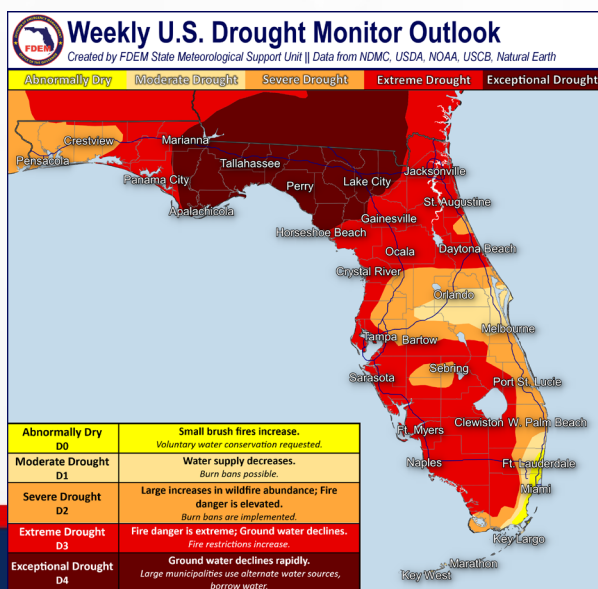


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** A dry frontal passage is expected today throughout North Florida, ushering in an even drier airmass into the Panhandle and Big Bend region. Winds are expected to increase this afternoon, with gusts **upwards of 25-30 mph** possible. Relative humidities will dip to **near or below critical thresholds** throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend (25-35%). With ongoing **extreme to exceptional drought (level 3-4 of 4)**, elevated to **locally critical wildfire conditions** are expected today. **Elevated wildfire danger** is also expected throughout the interior Peninsula where drier air and breezy wind gusts of 15-25 mph are expected. Areas of ongoing wildfires may experience **blowing smoke** across North Florida in the breeziest winds. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 106 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 8,894 acres.

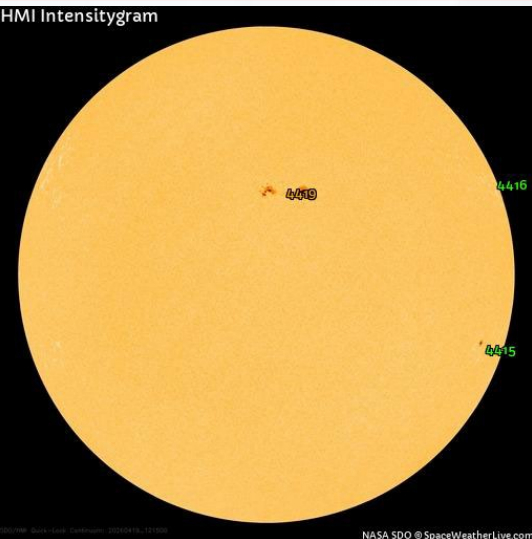
**Drought (4/16/26):** Although rainfall has been sparse and nearly non-existent across the state in the last 5 days or so, last week's rainfall that occurred on Tuesday and Wednesday (4/7 – 4/8) was included in this most recent Drought Monitor update which has brought some categorical improvements to South and Central Florida. Rainfall totals across coastal East-Central Florida during the middle of last week added up to 3-6", with some localized areas exceeding 6". Additionally, across Southeast Florida, a general 1-3" of rainfall was observed with localized amounts upwards of 5". This has resulted in the extreme drought being reduced to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** across the Treasure Coast and much of the severe drought along the southeast coast reduced to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Across interior South-Central Florida, a pocket of locally heavier rainfall over Hardee, DeSoto, and Highlands counties has brought a return of a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)**. Much of the I-4 corridor saw rainfall amounts between 0.5-2", which was enough for some severe drought across the Space Coast to be reduced to a **moderate drought (level 1 of 4)**. Otherwise, there were no observed changes on this week's update across Southwest or West-Central Florida where an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** remains in place. North Florida continues to experience the worst drought due to severe and record low precipitation deficits. An **exceptional drought (level 4 of 4)** is still observed throughout much of the eastern Panhandle, Big Bend, and Suwannee River Valley with **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** elsewhere. The Big Bend region remains one of the hardest hit locations, such as Tallahassee that has neared a 20-inch rainfall deficit dating back to September 1, 2025 (about 8 months ago). This has resulted in extremely low streamflows within all river basins, streams, lakes, and ponds. Looking ahead, very dry and near record warm conditions over the past week will continue through at least the beginning of next week. This will result in additional drought expansion throughout much of North Florida, with potential for worsening drought across Central and South Florida. Additionally, a dry cold front will sweep through North Florida on Sunday and Monday, bringing increasing winds and low relative humidities which will further dry out sensitive fuels.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **479 (+9)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **32** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

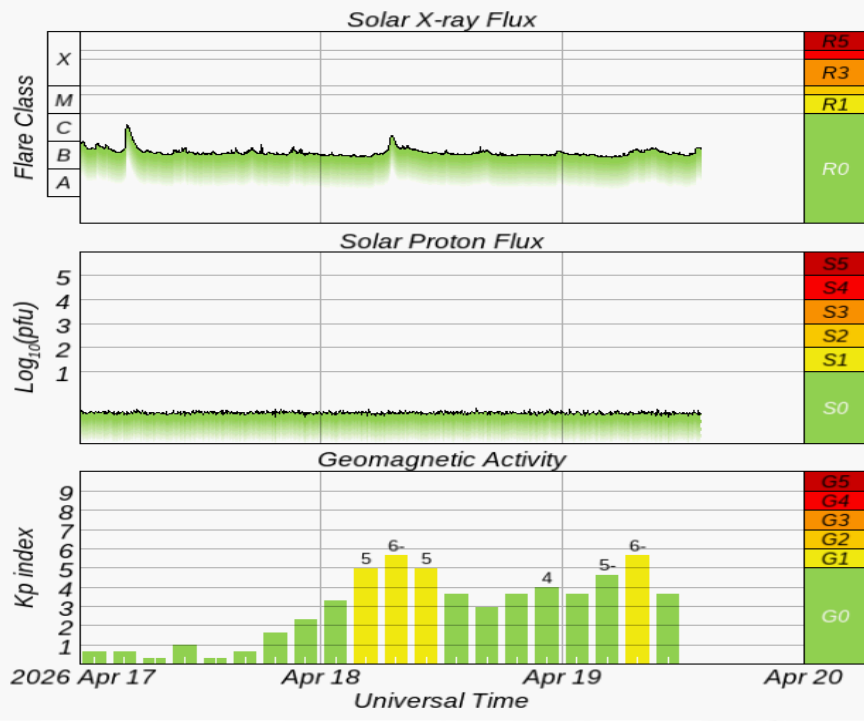
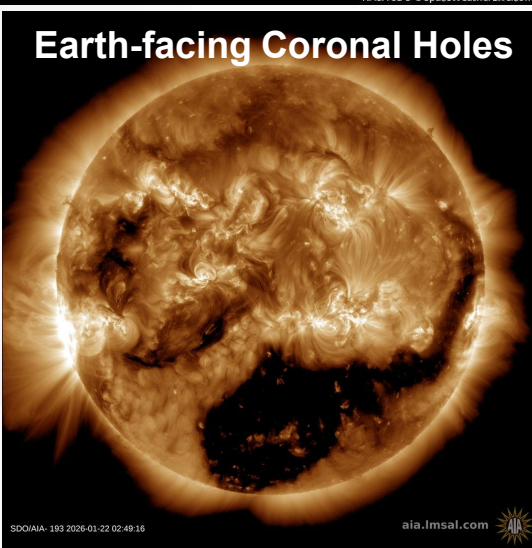




# Space Weather



Current Sunspots



| Solar Flare Risk  | Active Watches & Warnings                      | Past 24 hours  |
|---|--|--|
| M-class: 15%  | Geomagnetic Storm: <b>G2 Watch (4/17-4/18)</b> | B6 Solar Flare   |
| X-class: 1%   | Radiation Storm: None                          | No Radio Blackout                                      |
| 48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast                            |  |  |
| 4/19  |  | 4/20   |
| Max Kp= 5 (G1)  |  | Max Kp= 4 (G0)   |
| Chance of minor activity = 35%<br>severe activity = 10% |  | Chance of minor activity = 10%<br>severe activity = 1% |

**Space Weather:** Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with a slight chance for strong (M-class) solar flares primarily due to sunspot region #4419. Should a strong flare develop, Minor to Moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts would occur. The solar wind is expected to remain enhanced today with the arrival of recurrent coronal hole influences, of which will cause unsettled to active geomagnetic storming periods with Minor (G1) periods likely. Unsettled to Minor (G1) levels are expected to continue through Tuesday. 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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