



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

## **Morning Situation Report**

Tuesday, April 28, 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	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	<a href="mailto:Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com">Amy.Godsey@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	Mason Kozac	(850) 241-5435	<a href="mailto:mason.kozac@em.myflorida.com">mason.kozac@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	Henry AL	Grants Desktop Monitoring Meeting / Farley NPP Quarterly Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Henry AL	Farley NPP Quarterly Meeting
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Columbia, Leon	Grants Desktop Monitoring Meeting / Equipment Return / SERT Call
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	UF Shands Meeting / SERT Call
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole, Orange	Logistics Mission / SERT Call
Region 6: Paul Siddall	St. Johns	Travel to Region 4 / SERT Call
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Highlands	County EM Visit / SERT Call
Region 8: Amber Durden	Palm Beach	SRT Assessment (Boca Raton FR)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Sarasota	Hurricane Tabletop Exercise
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Broward	USCG Sector Miami PREP Exercise

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



# Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Houston AL	Farley NPP Quaterly Meeting
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Houston AL	Farley NPP Quaterly Meeting
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Levy/ Hamilton	EM Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	EM Meeting
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Not Available	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Rick Rogers	In Region	Off/Monitoring
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	Not Available	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	See Coverage
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami-Dade	Admin Duties/Professional Development

Region 5 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 4

Region 7 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 6

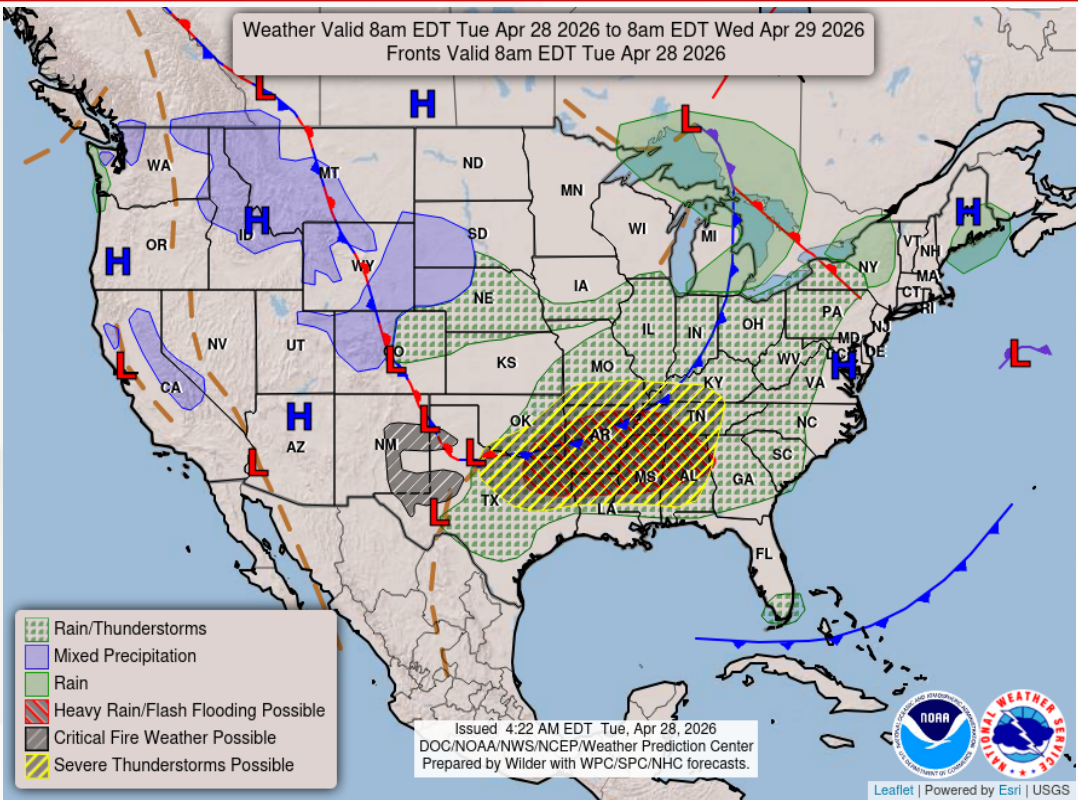
Region 8 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 6

Region 9 Recovery Coverage Provided by Coordinator 6

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

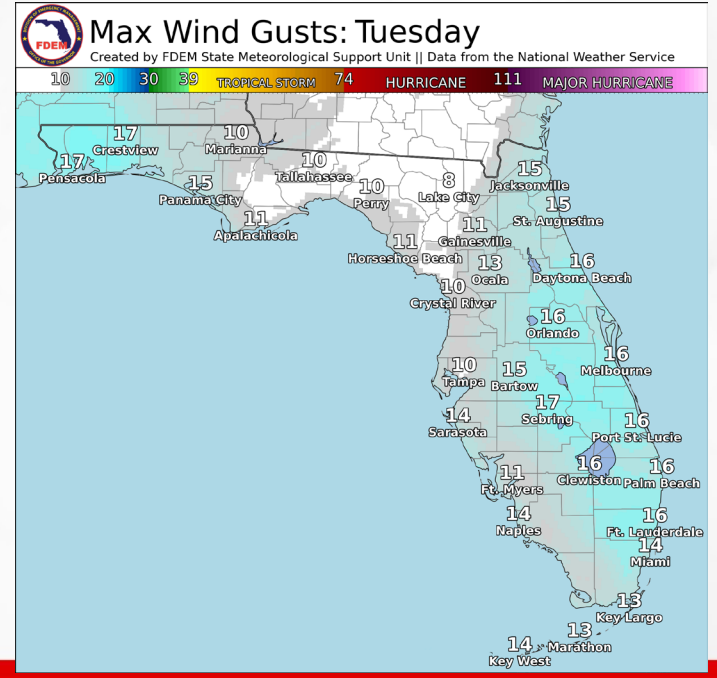
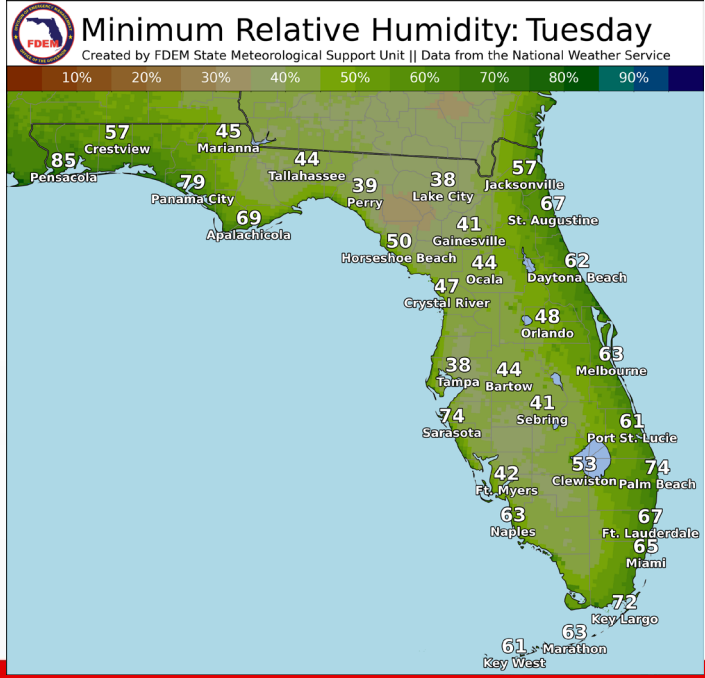


# Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L									L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L									
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)					L		L			
Wildfire	M	M	M	M	M	H	H	M	H	M
Rip Currents	M	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.74 ft. (1.95 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	528 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





# Meteorology Summary

## Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

High pressure will move further northeast away from Florida today, allowing for slightly less breezy winds across the Peninsula. However, local enhancement of gusty northeast winds are expected with the afternoon sea breeze, particularly south of Interstate 4. With the lowest afternoon relative humidities expected across Southwest Florida, fire weather potential will be greatest in these areas. With the afternoon sea breeze, an isolated shower or thunderstorm is possible across far southern Florida near the Keys.

Dry conditions during the daytime and evening hours are expected across North Florida. Overnight, a cluster of thunderstorms is expected to approach the Western Florida Panhandle. While these storms should be weakening as they approach, there is some potential for a lightning and damaging wind risk before the storms dissipate by daybreak.

Statewide, temperatures will be warm with highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s. Heat indices will be mitigated by the strong east coast sea breeze and then the lower relative humidities along the western side of the state.

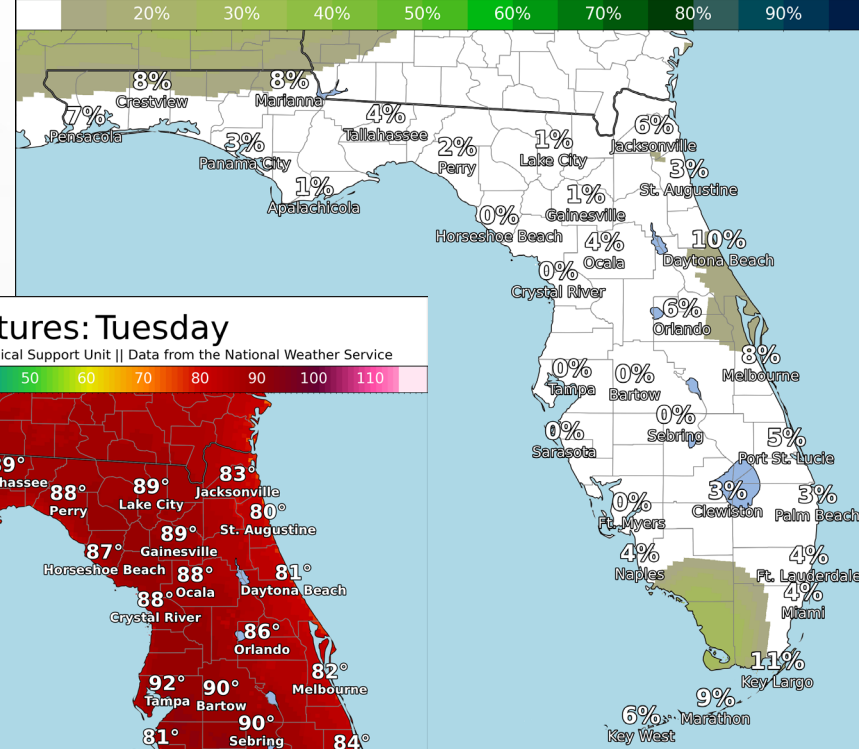
The strong northeasterly flow will create high surf along the Florida East Coast, mainly north of West Palm Beach. A high risk of rip currents is also forecast for this area Monday afternoon.

Increased moisture levels after sunset will support **patchy fog development** across interior Central Florida, especially along Interstate 4. This fog, if mixed with smoke from nearby wildfires, could result in isolated pockets of highly reduced visibility on roadways.



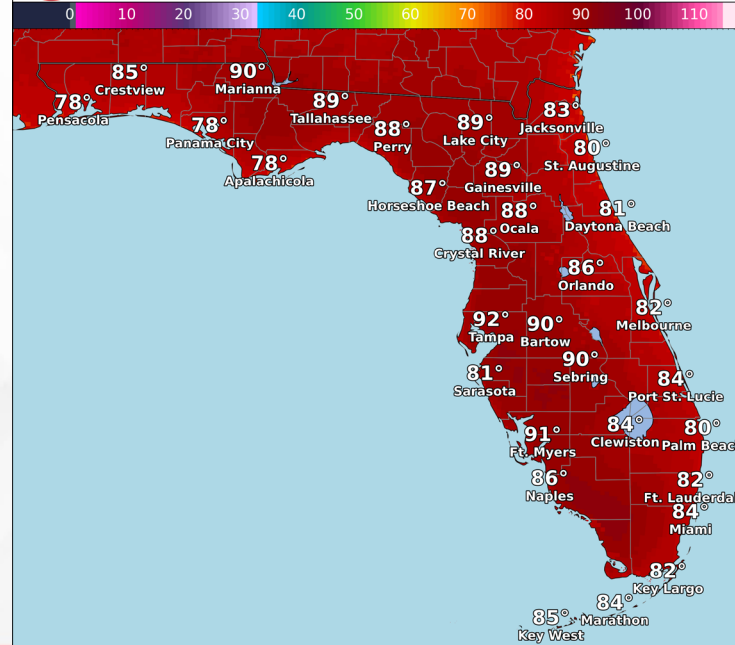
### Chance of Rain: Tuesday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service



### High Temperatures: Tuesday

Created by FDEM State Meteorological Support Unit || Data from the National Weather Service





# Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

**Rip Currents:** Breezy northeast winds and long period swells will lead to a **high risk** for rip currents along the Florida East Coast beaches from West Palm Beach northward. A **moderate risk** is for Panhandle and southeast Florida beaches with a **low risk** for western Florida beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit [www.weather.gov/beach](http://www.weather.gov/beach).

**Marine Hazards:** Increased surf heights of 3-5 feet with isolated 6 foot breakers is expected along the east coast north of West Palm Beach. 2 to 3 foot surf is expected elsewhere.

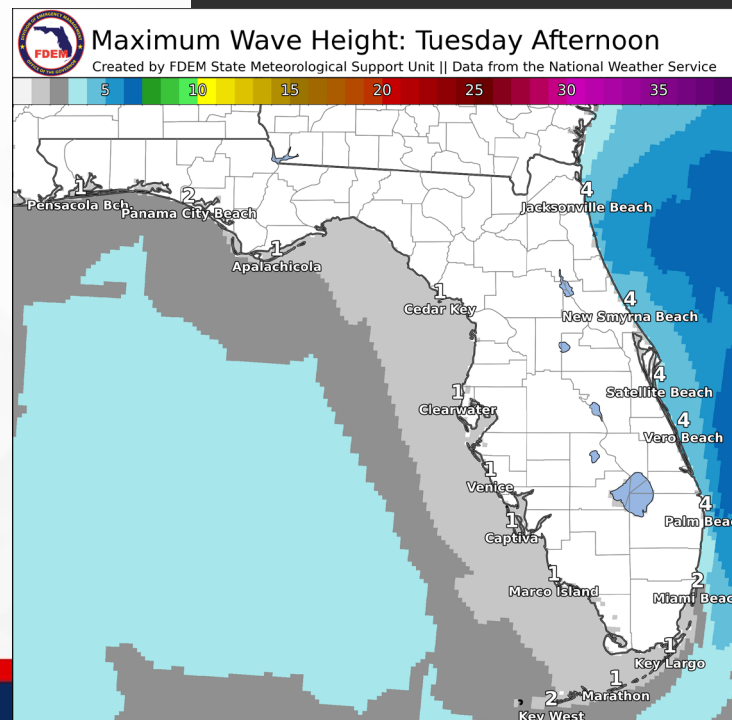
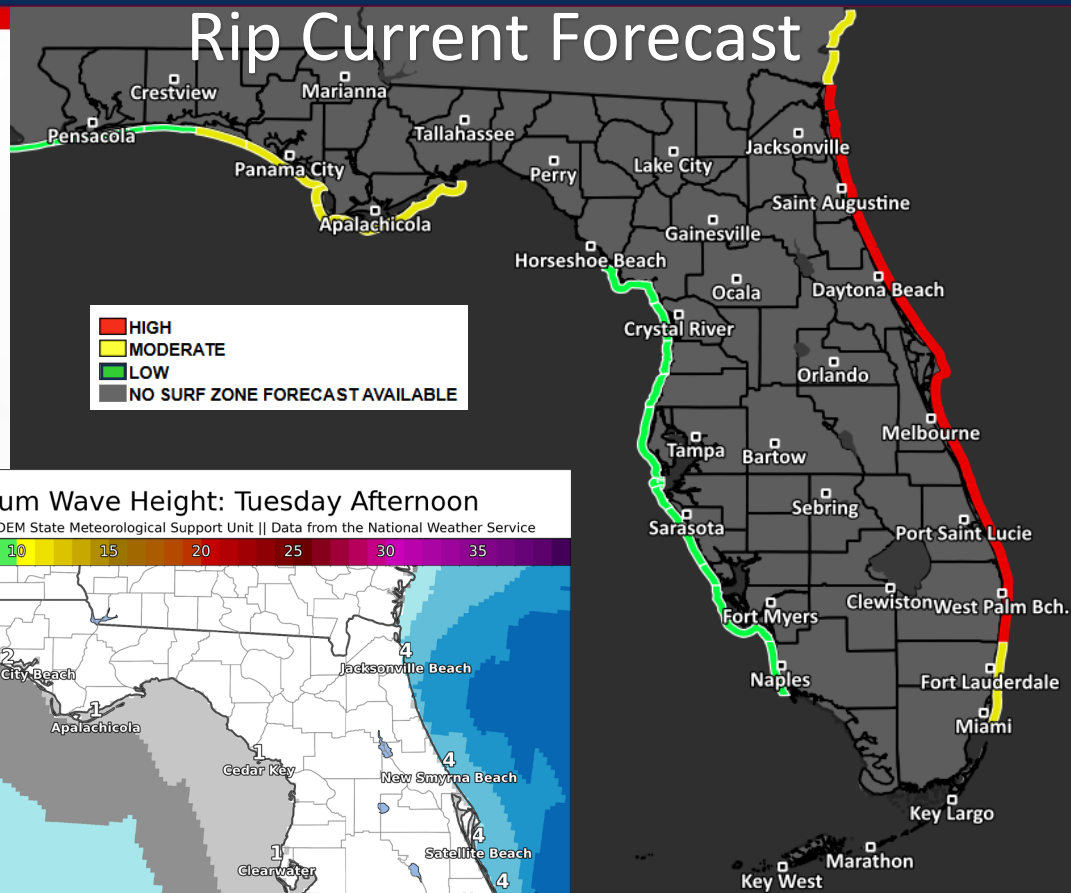
**Red Tide** was observed at background concentrations offshore Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Santa Rosa counties (valid 4/24/26).

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

**Flash Flooding:** There is no organized risk for flash flooding today as any storm activity will be brief in nature.

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

**Lake Okeechobee's** average elevation is 11.74 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.95 feet below normal for this time of year.



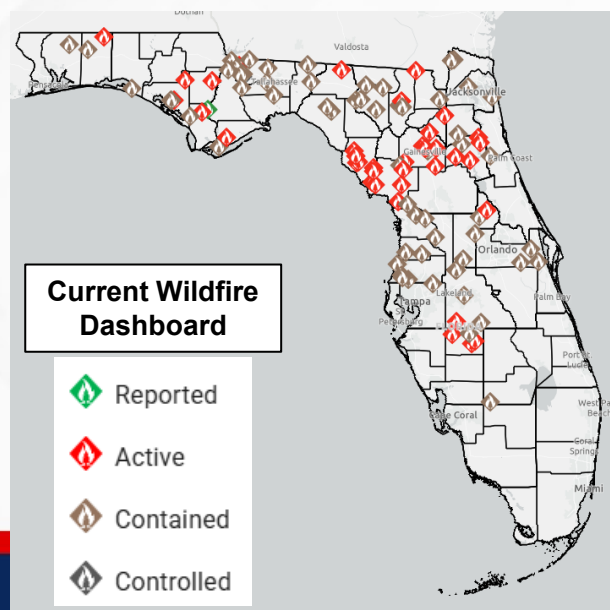
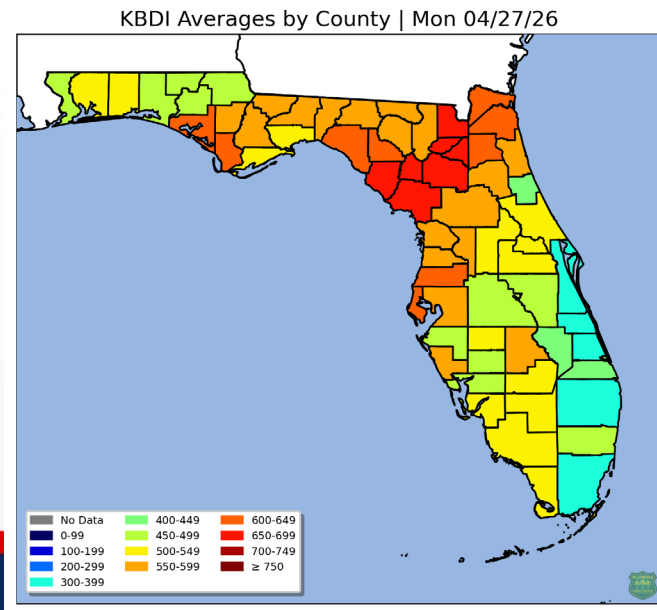
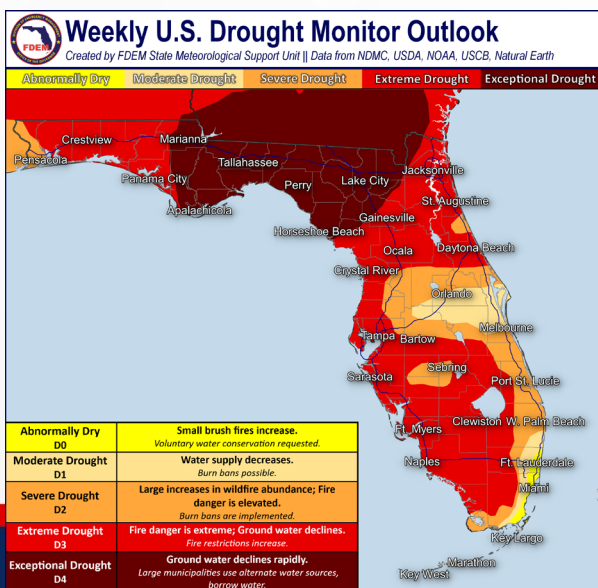


# Drought & Fire Weather

**Fire Weather:** Elevated wildfire conditions will persist today statewide despite the increased chances for rain and relative humidity values. Relative humidity values in the 33-45% range across the Western Florida Peninsula combined with northeast to east winds of 5-10 mph and gusts to 20 mph in the afternoon will still hamper some containment efforts and allow new fires to start. Any thunderstorms that develop in the afternoon, mainly in region 10, could contain occasional lightning strikes which can spark new wildfires or reignite existing ones. Tonight, areas of **patchy fog** may develop across interior Central Florida which can significantly reduce visibilities in the vicinity of active wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 102 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 15,587 acres.

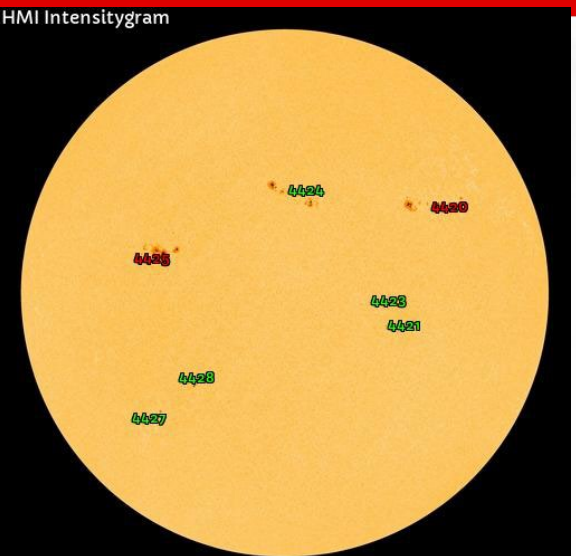
**Drought (4/23/26):** A severe to extreme drought (level 2-3 of 4) is still observed throughout most of South Florida. Across Central Florida, some slight expansion of the extreme drought (level 3 of 4) was added across Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco counties. In North Florida, the exceptional drought (level 4 of 4) was expanded westward into Jackson County as well as a bit more eastward into Alachua, Levy, Bradford, Baker, and Nassau counties. Much of the western Panhandle is also now under an extreme drought (level 3 of 4). Rainfall deficits since the beginning of the water year (October 2025) are running 10-15 inches below normal or more across the entirety of North Florida. This has resulted in extremely low streamflows within all river basins, streams, lakes, and ponds. Looking ahead, isolated showers and thunderstorms are possible this weekend, however, the spotty nature of this activity will make it unable to provide much drought relief, though any rainfall will certainly be helpful.

The [Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) average for Florida is **528 (+5)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **48 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

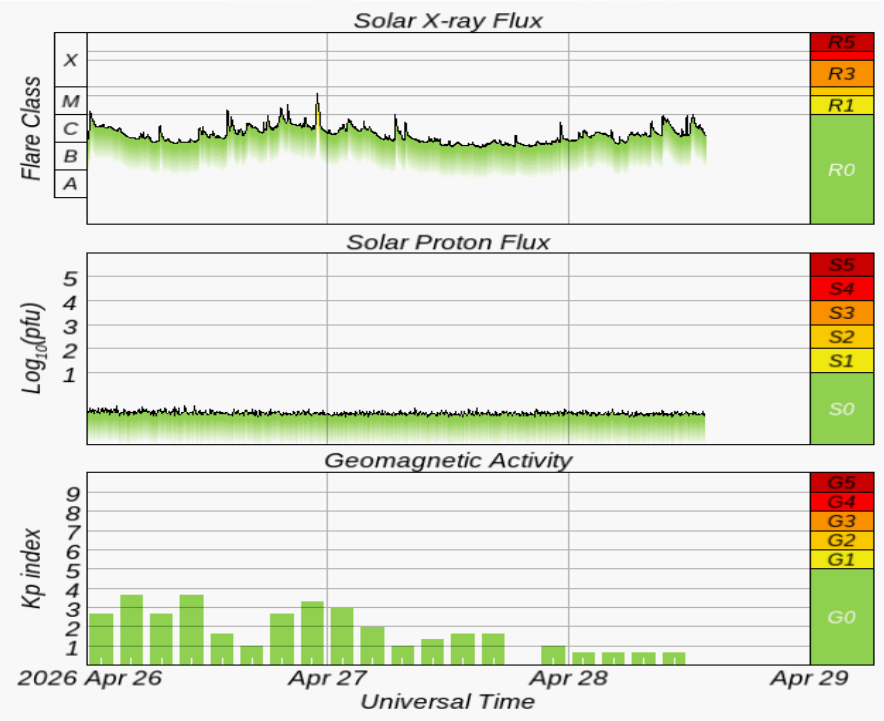




# Space Weather



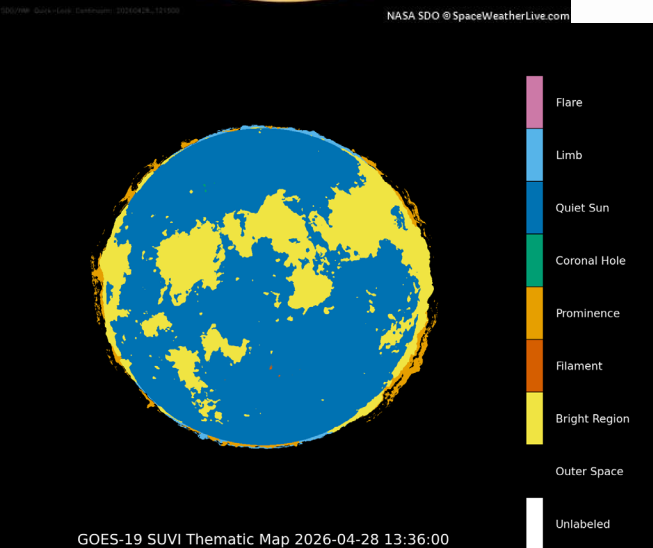
Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 70%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	M1 Solar Flare
X-class: 25%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/28	4/29
Max Kp= 2 (G0)	Max Kp= 4 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 1% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

**Space Weather:** NOAA forecasters estimate a 70% chance of M-class flares and a 25% chance of X-flares (the strongest type) over the next 2-3 days from sunspots 4420 and 4425 which have unstable magnetic fields. Should any strong solar flares develop, minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts would accompany. Otherwise, no geomagnetic storming is expected and 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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