



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Wednesday, April 29, 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	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Woody Harvey	(850) 591-7939	Woodham.Harvey@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Cody Nowak	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Amy Godsey	(850) 519-8483	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Plans Chief	Kaylynn Perry	(850) 254-5657	Plans_Command@em.myflorida.com
Logistics Chief	Christina Goetzman	(850) 519-8581	Christina.Goetzman@em.myflorida.com
Human Services Branch Director	Pam Hughes	(850) 528-5638	Pamela.Hughes@em.myflorida.com
Emergency Services Branch Director	Mason Kozac	(850) 241-5435	mason.kozac@em.myflorida.com
Infrastructure Branch Director	Paige Lay	(850) 591-9933	Paige.Lay@em.myflorida.com
ESF 8: Health & Medical On-Call	Hunter Stafford	(866) 786-4673	DLDOHDutyOfficers@flhealth.gov
ESF 14: Public Information Officer	Stephanie Hartman	(850) 570-3053	Stephanie.Hartman@em.myflorida.com
Finance Chief	Jeremy Smith	(850) 273-1273	Jeremy.Smith@em.myflorida.com



Response Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	Henry AL	Farley NPP HAB Tabletop Exercise / Bay Grants Desktop Monitoring Meeting
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Henry AL	Farley NPP HAB Tabletop Exercise
Region 3: Glen Hammers	St Johns	Air Operations Fly-In & Disaster Preparedness Seminar
Region 4: Tara Kostich	St Johns	Air Operations Fly-In & Disaster Preparedness Seminar
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Seminole, Polk	Vehicle Maintenance / Computer Maintenance
Region 6: Paul Siddall	St. Johns, Hillsborough	Air Operations Fly-In & Disaster Preparedness Seminar / Travel Back to R6
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Hardee	County EM Visit
Region 8: Amber Durden	Indian River	Office Admin
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Sarasota	County EOC Training
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade / Broward	Hwy 41 Wildfire Briefing / USCG PREP Exercise



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	Leon	IAEM R4 Webinar
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Taylor	LTRG Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	St. Johns	Air Ops Fly-In Event
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Not Available	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	TTX
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	Table Top Exercise

Region 5 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 4

Region 7 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 6

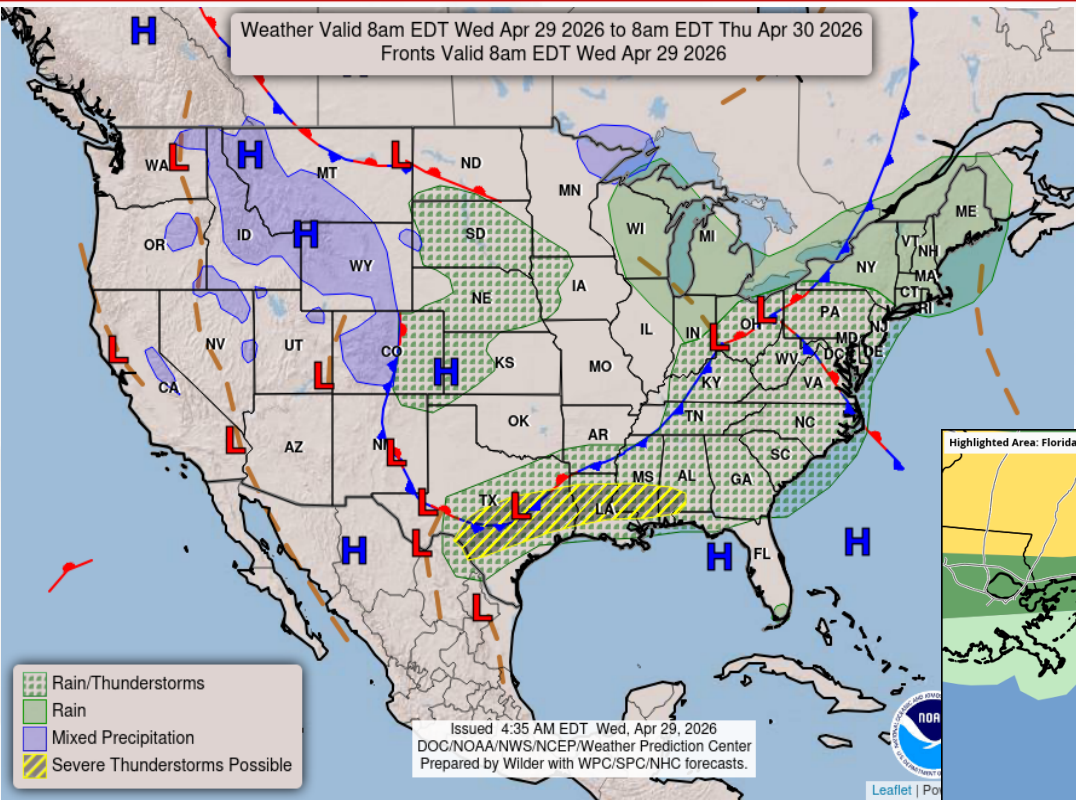
Region 8 Recovery Coverage Provided By Coordinator 6

Region 9 Recovery Coverage Provided by Coordinator 6

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

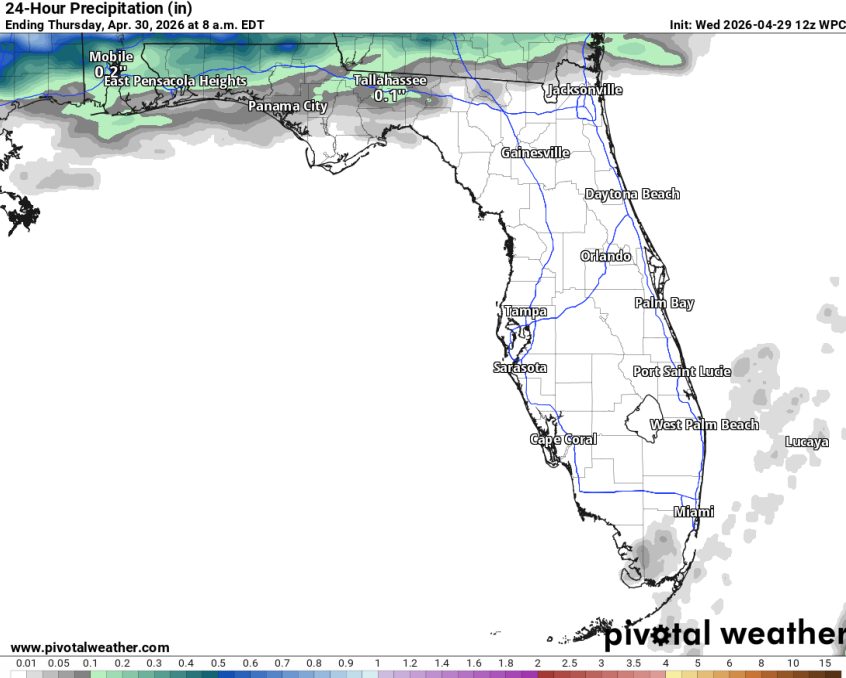
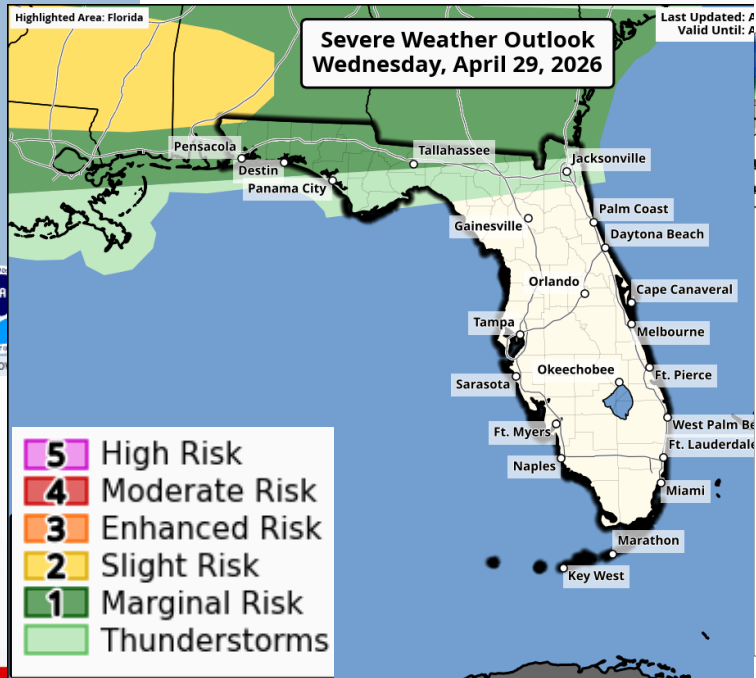


Meteorology Summary



Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	L	L	L	L						
Tornado										
Damaging Wind	L	L								
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)							L		L	
Wildfire	M	M	M	M	M	H	H	M	H	M
Rip Currents	L	M	L	H	H	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.73 ft. (1.94 ft. Below Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	533 (+5) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									

Today's Weather Map





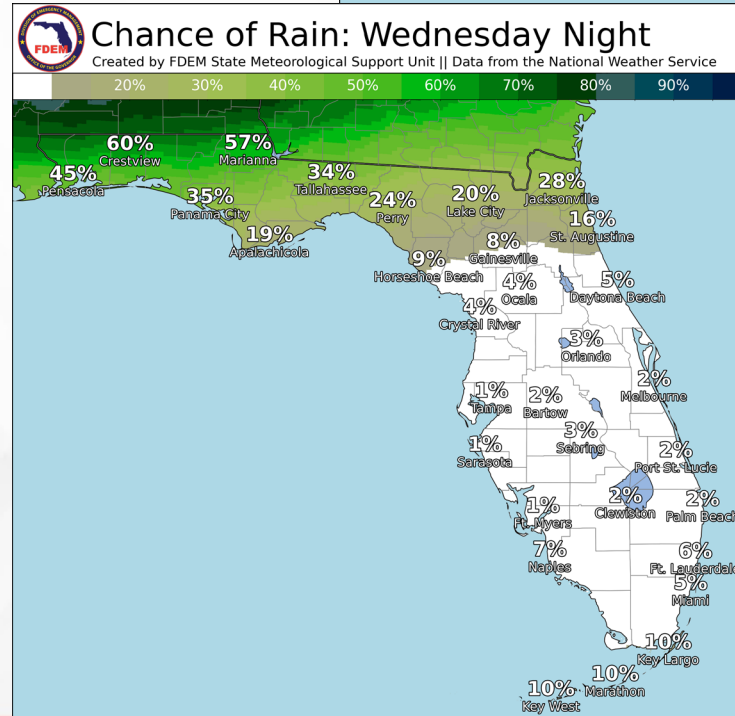
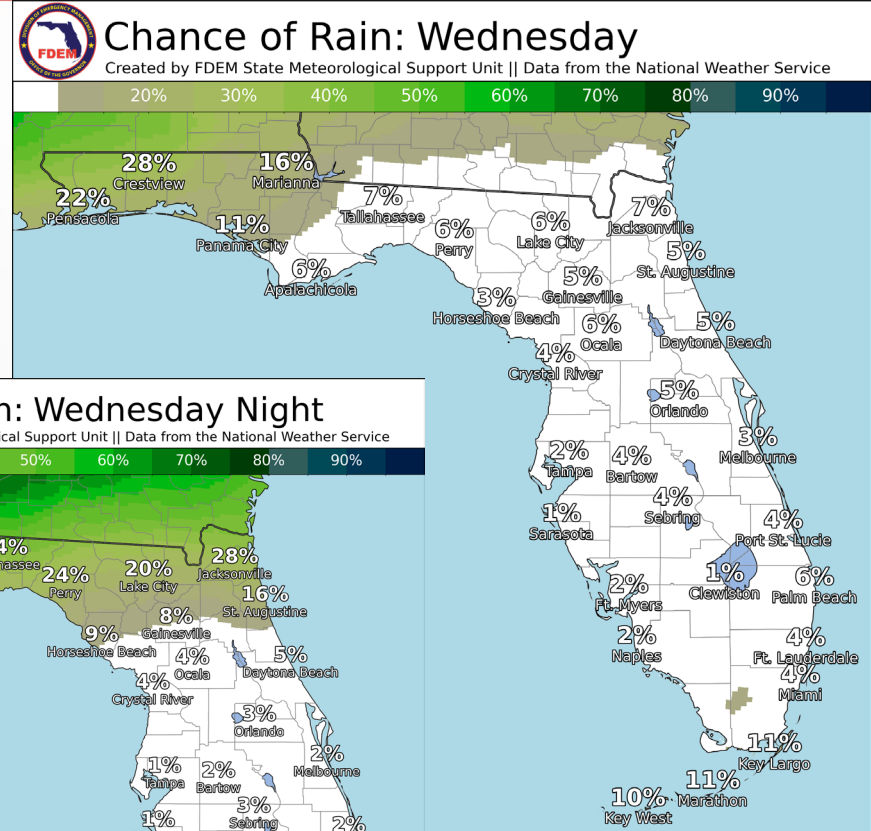
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Lingering showers with isolated thunderstorms will move across the Florida Panhandle, Florida Big Bend, and North Florida before weakening or moving offshore by midday. Thereafter, partly cloudy conditions are expected across all of North Florida. Some cloud cover will likely prevent enough heating to produce near critical relative humidity values across North Florida. Further, lighter winds during the day on Wednesday, shifting to southerly by afternoon, will limit fire growth potential across the northern half of the state.

Across Central and South Florida, a warm day is expected with partly cloudy skies and high temperatures in the upper 80s in coastal areas and lower 90s across the interior peninsula. With a dry airmass still in place over the Central and Southern Florida Peninsula, afternoon relative humidities are expected to drop below 30 percent away from the coast. Winds will shift to south to southwest in the afternoon, but generally be less than 10 mph. The low relative humidity will enhance fire growth potential.

Overnight, showers and storms, **some potentially severe** could affect the Western Florida Panhandle and into the Florida Big Bend. These storms, if they develop, would present a damaging wind impact. Any storms are likely to move out of the area shortly before sunrise on Thursday.





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 Palm Beach County 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.

Marine Hazards: Surf heights of 2-4 feet with isolated 5 foot breakers along the east coast north of Palm Beach County. 2 to 3 foot surf is expected elsewhere.

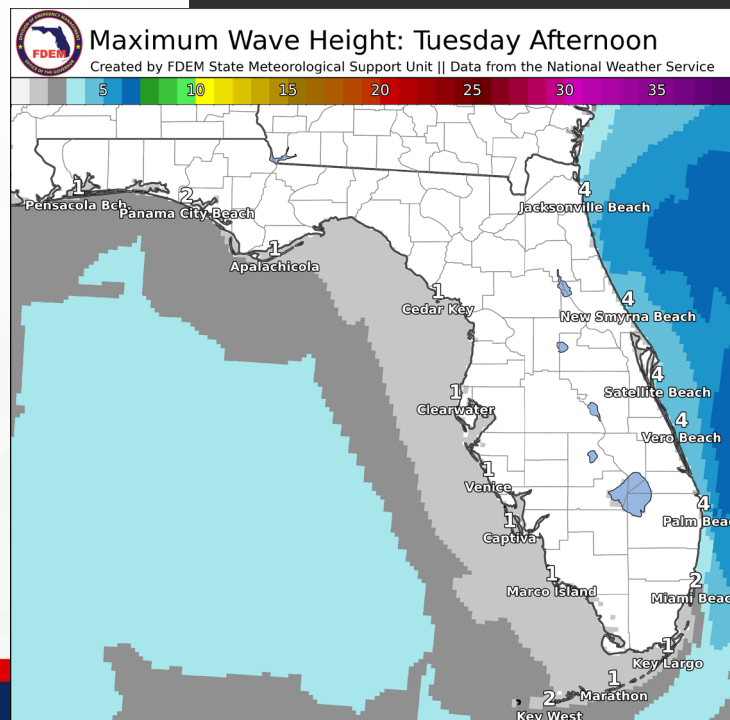
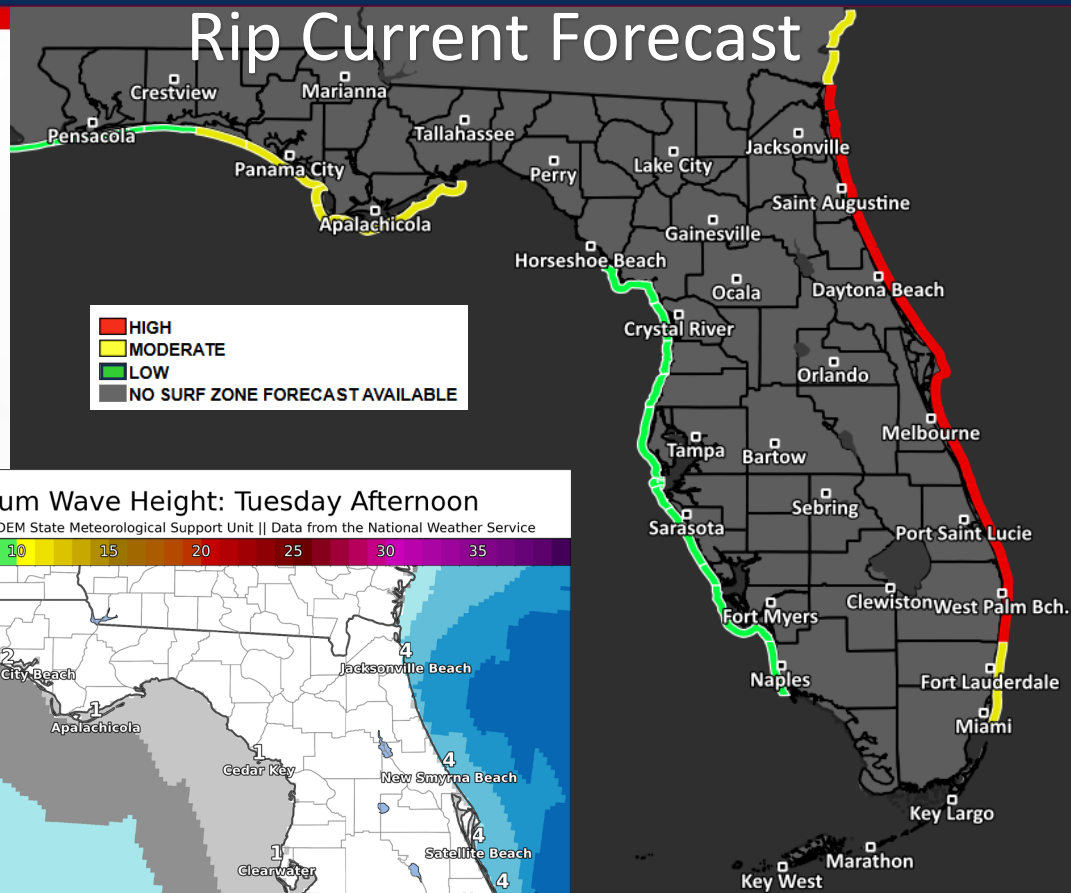
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations offshore Pinellas, Hillsborough, and Santa Rosa counties (valid 4/24/26).

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 and produce rainfall amounts of less than 1/2".

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.73 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.94 feet below normal for this time of year.



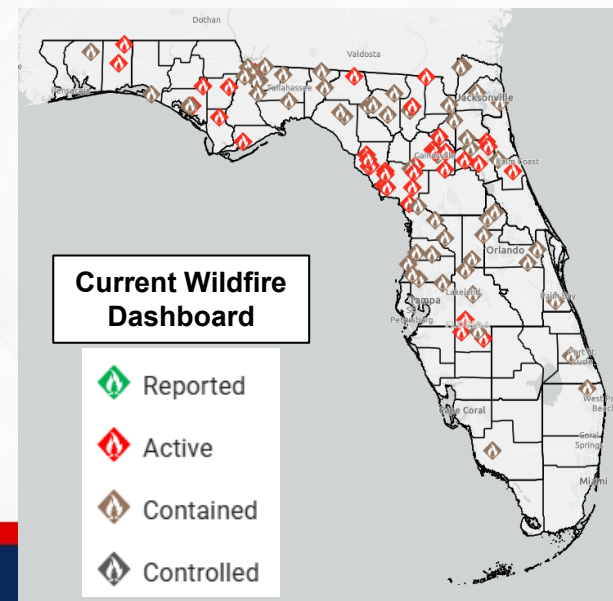
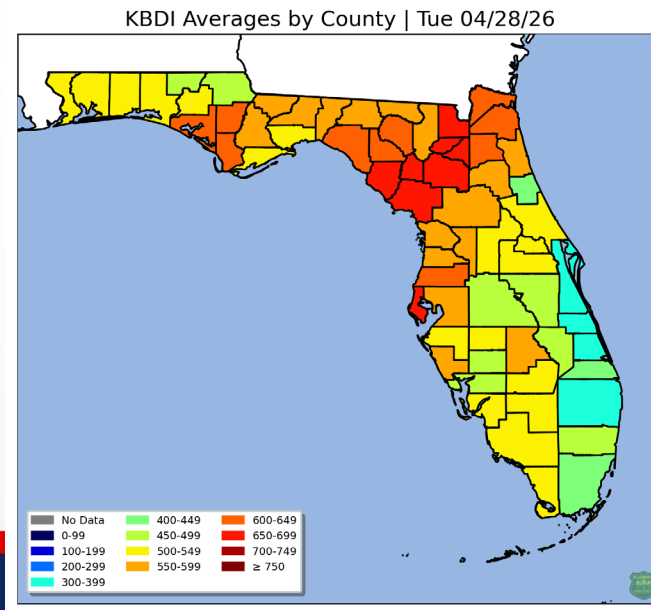
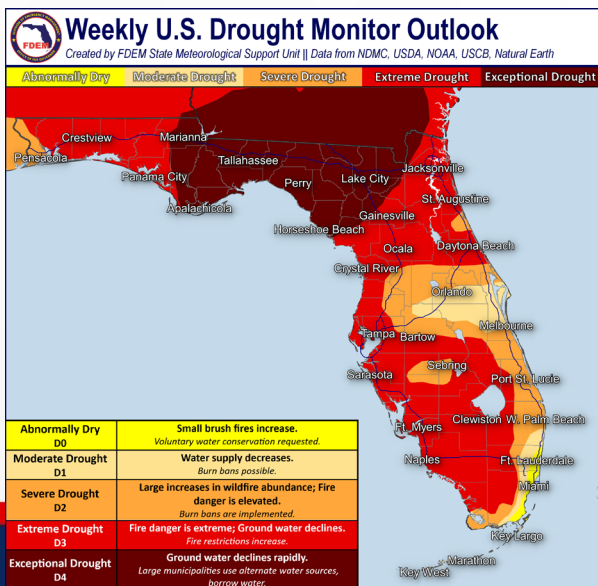


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: **Elevated wildfire conditions** will persist another day despite early morning rain across North Florida. Relative humidity values in North Florida could drop to 30% if the cloud cover allows for sufficient heating. Light winds this morning will shift to south to southwest at 10-15 mph this afternoon. Over interior Central and South Florida, afternoon relative humidity values are expected to drop into the 25%-30% range. Winds will be light initially, but shift to southerly around 10 mph as the sea breeze moves inland this afternoon. A more favorable potential for fire growth exists across Central and South Florida, given the lower relative humidities and uncertainty about cloud cover in Northern Florida. 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 92 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 15,618 acres.

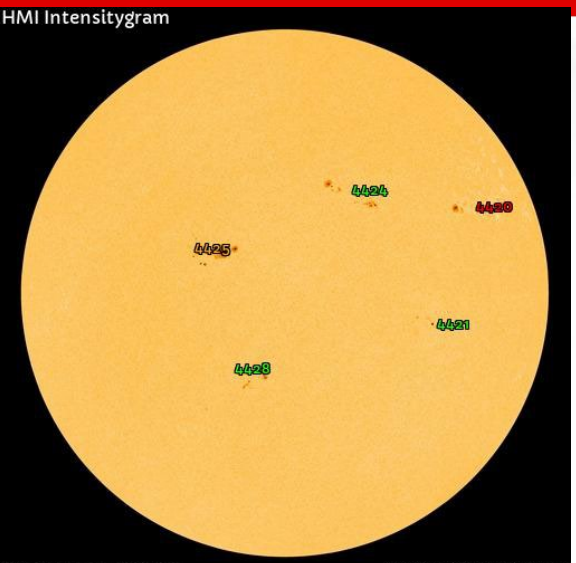
Drought (4/23/26): A **severe to extreme drought (level 2-3 of 4)** is still observed throughout most of South Florida. Across Central Florida, some slight expansion of the **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** was added across Citrus, Hernando, and Pasco counties. In North Florida, the **exceptional drought (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 **533 (+5)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **52 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

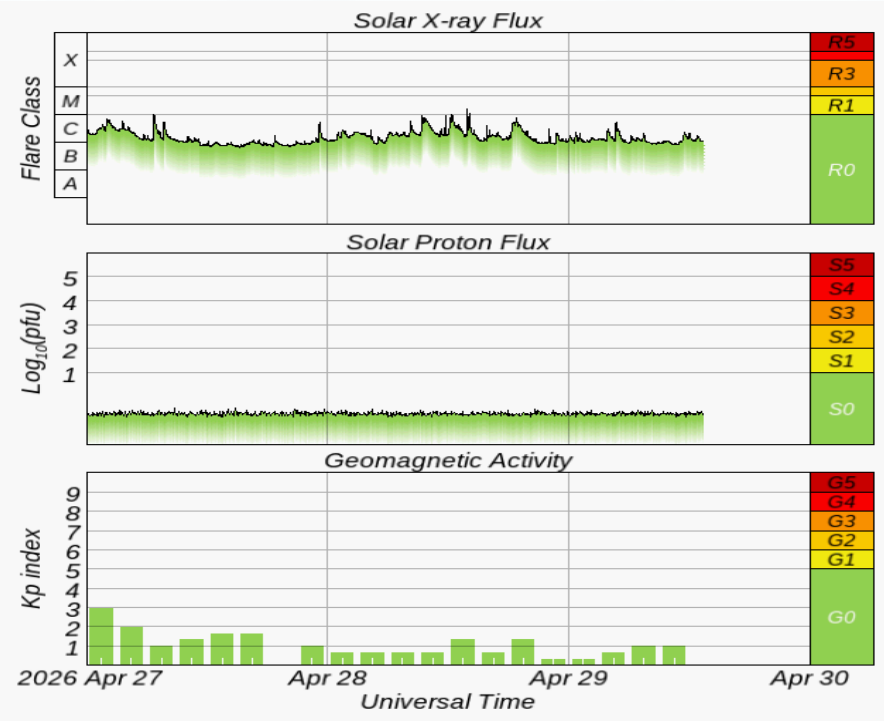
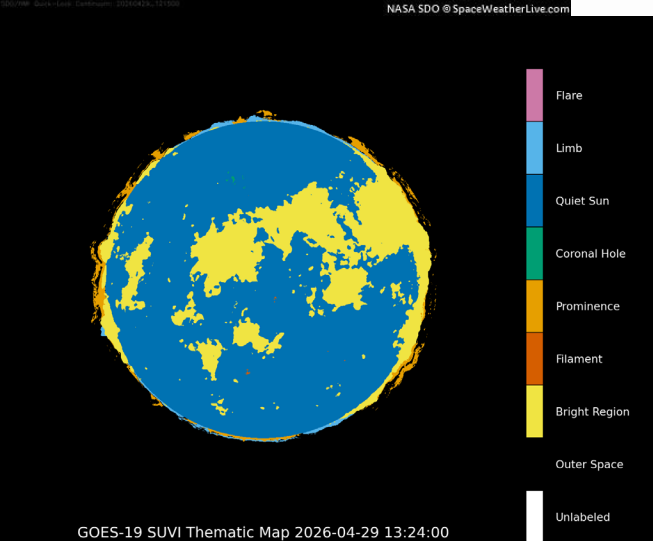




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 70%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C2 Solar Flare
X-class: 20%	Radiation Storm: None	R1 Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
4/29	4/30
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 15% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: NOAA forecasters estimate a continued high (70%) chance of M-class flares and a 20% chance of X-flares (the strongest type) over the next 2 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
Phone:	850-815-4001; 800-320-0519; 850-591-0071	Operational	
Fax:	850-815-4979	Operational	
Email:	SWP@em.myflorida.com	Operational	
SWO Tracker:	https://swo.floridadisaster.org	Operational	
SLERS:	DEM Statewide	Operational	
FNARS:	WGY974	Not Operational	System in Transition
Federal NAWAS:	State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
EMnet Message:	FL.000 - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
EMnet Voice:	FL SWP - State Watch Office	Not Operational	System in Transition
IPAWS:	300006 - FL Florida Division of Emergency Management	Operational	
FIN:	SOFEOC	Not Operational	System in Transition
Satellite Phones:	MSAT 888-890-5178; Iridium 480-263-8838	Operational	
Website:	https://floridadisaster.org	Operational	

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