



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Tuesday, May 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	Amy.Godsey@em.myflorida.com
Watch Officer	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Sam Walters	(850) 519-8638	Sam.Walters@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Caleb Pitts	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Ian Danley	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Daniel Leader	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Meteorologist	Evan Newman	(850)-241-5606	Evan.Newman@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	Tim Kenyon	(850) 591-7732	Tim.Kenyon@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

Region 1: Jim Roberts	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 8: Amber Durden	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Leon	Response Coordination Team Bi-Annual Visit



Region 3 Response Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 3
 Region 4/5 Recovery Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 4
 Region 6/7 Recovery Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6
 Region 8/9/10 Recovery Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

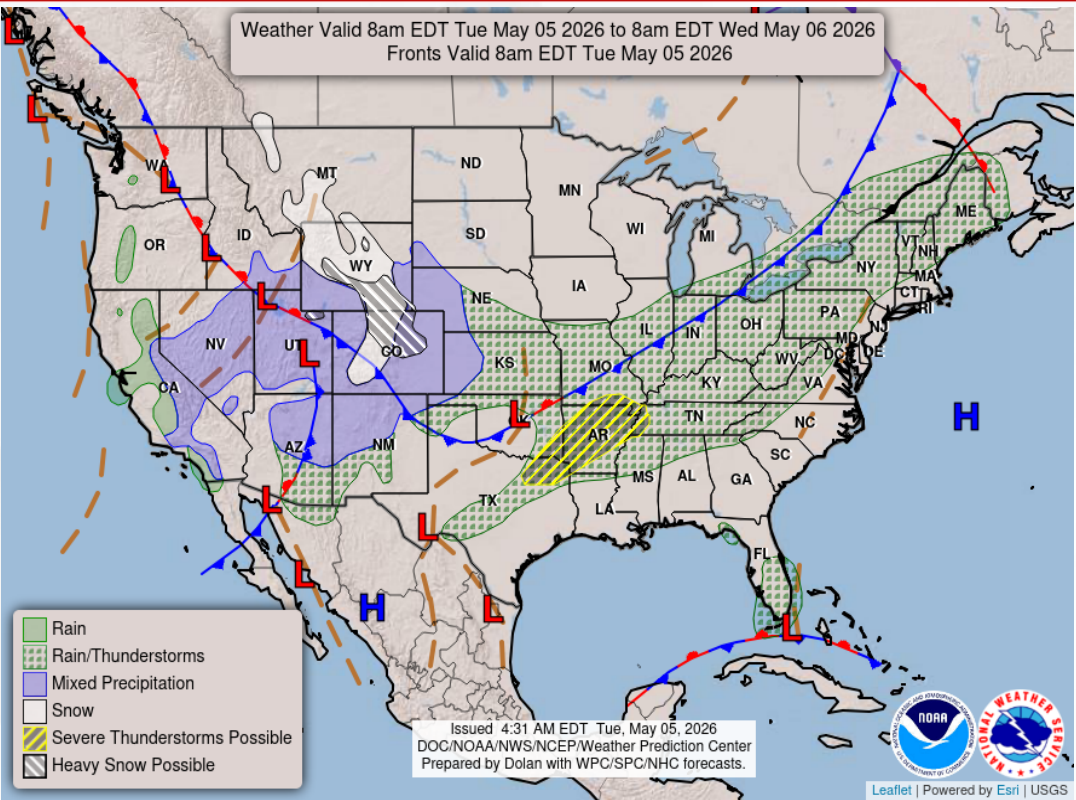
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	Admin Duties
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	Recovery / Mit Bureau Coordination Mtg
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Columbia	Recovery Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Duval	Active Assailant Exercise
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Not Available	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Citrus	Joint Recovery Meeting
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	FDEM UHealth EM Meeting

Region 3 Response Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 3
 Region 5 Response Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 4
 Region 7/8 Response Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6
 Region 9 Recovery Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10

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

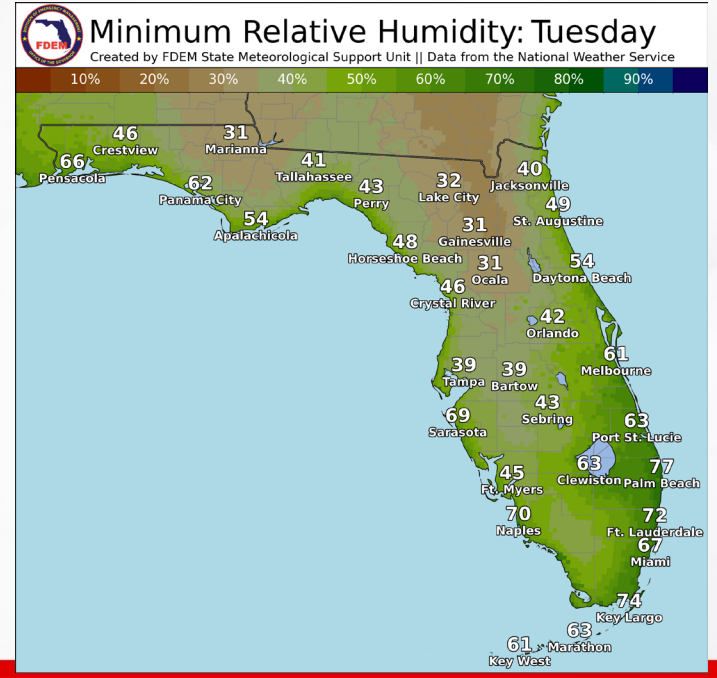
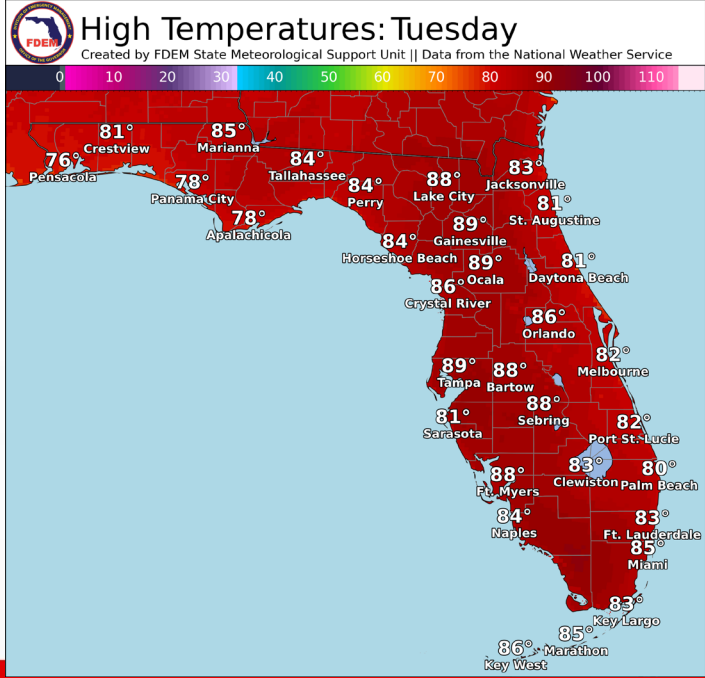


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										L
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat										
Fog (Overnight)	M	M	M	L	L					
Wildfire	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	L
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	M	L		H	L	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.57 ft. (1.96 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	503 (+1) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Breezy onshore winds will continue to promote a **moderate risk for rip currents** to all Panhandle and East Coast beaches today. A local **high risk** exists along Palm Beach county where locally higher surf is expected. A low risk continues for all West Coast and Northwest Florida beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: A mostly calm sea state is expected for all West Coast and Panhandle beaches today, with waves near 1' for all beaches. Along the East Coast, surf of **2-4'** is expected for all beaches as seas begin to subside from their higher levels this past weekend.

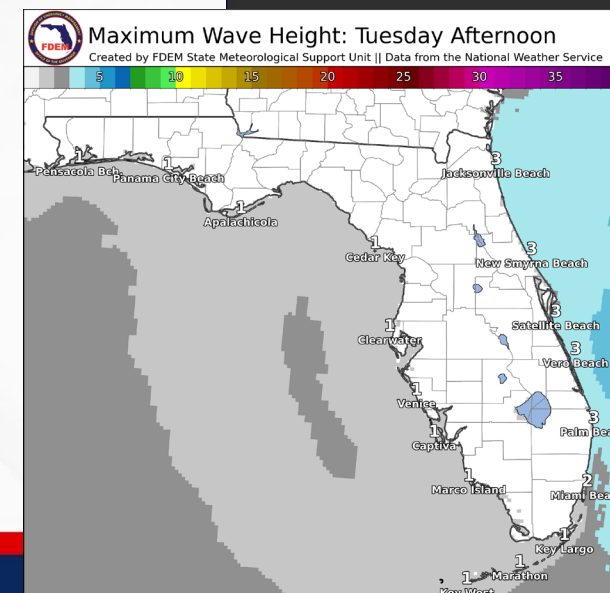
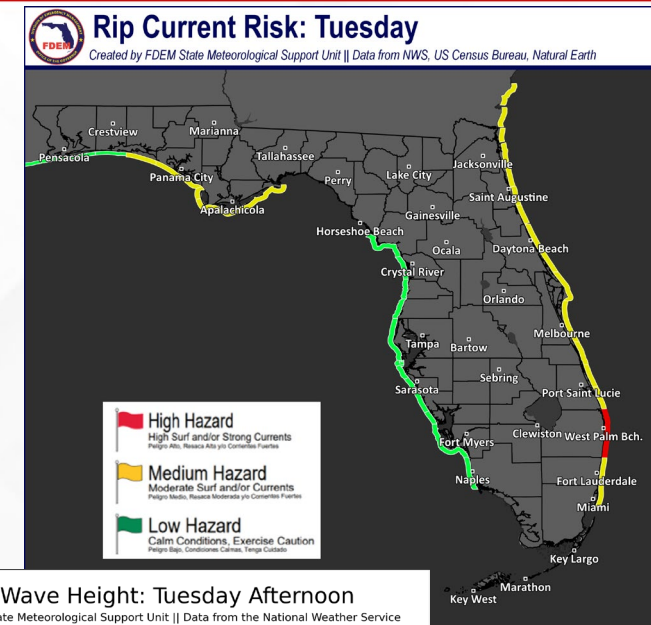
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in Escambia County. It was not observed elsewhere across the state (valid 5/1/26).

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

Flash Flooding: There is no organized risk for flash flooding today across Florida. An isolated shower or two may develop across Southeast Florida this afternoon. Most activity will remain light and brief, though a **locally heavy downpour** cannot be ruled out capable of producing a **quick 1-2" of rain**.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.57 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.96 feet below normal for this time of year.



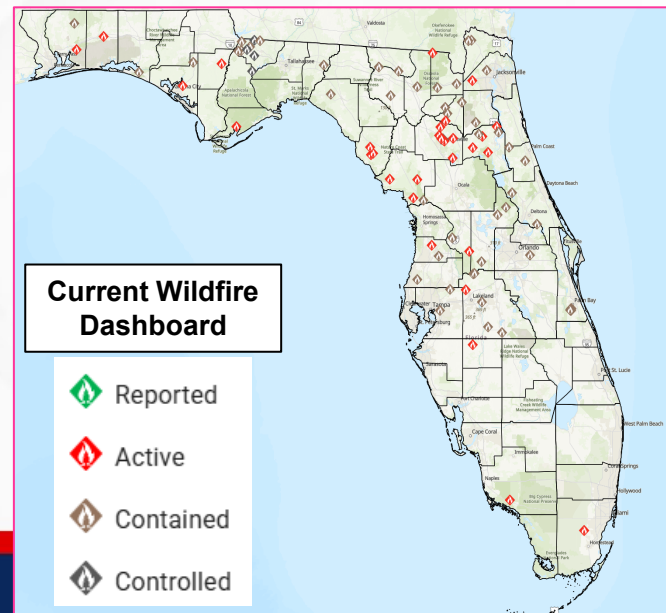
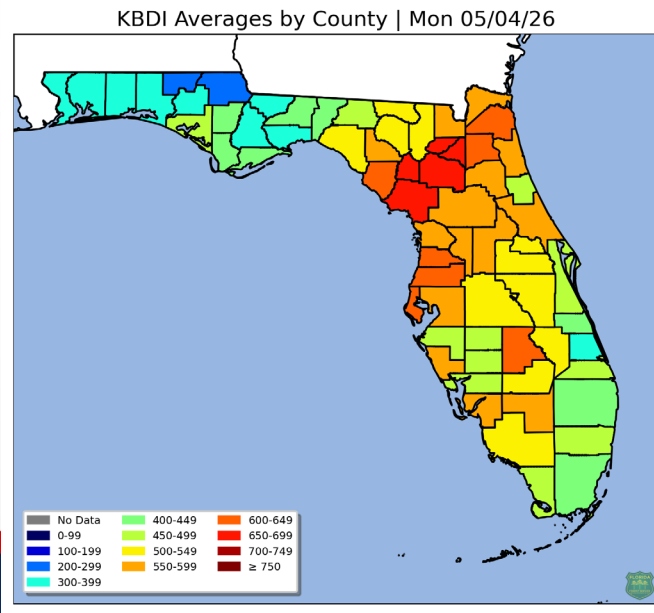
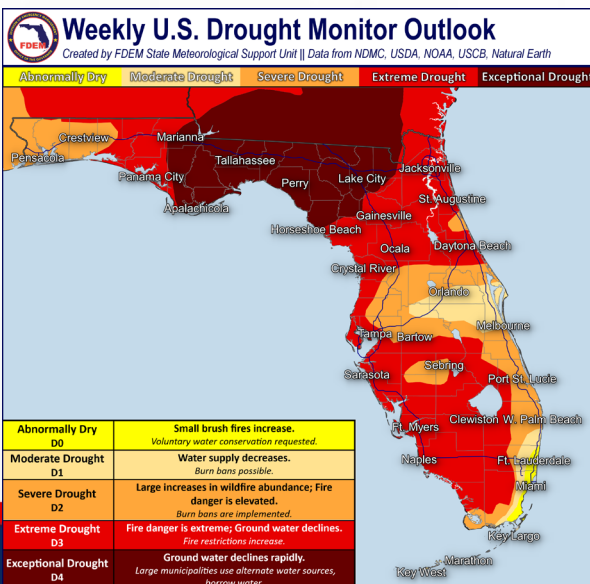


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: **Sensitive** to **elevated wildfire conditions** are expected across much of interior Florida today as relative humidities fall to **near critical thresholds (35-45%)**. However, recent rainfall and lighter winds will preclude any critical wildfire risk. Still, breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph** are expected throughout the Panhandle and Big Bend today, with higher gusts of **25-30 mph** across coastal Northeast Florida. Across Southeast Florida, an isolated thunderstorm could bring an occasional lightning strike or two capable of igniting new fires. Tonight, **patchy fog** may develop across the Panhandle and Big Bend which can significantly reduce visibilities in the vicinity of ongoing wildfires. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 77 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 14,999 acres.

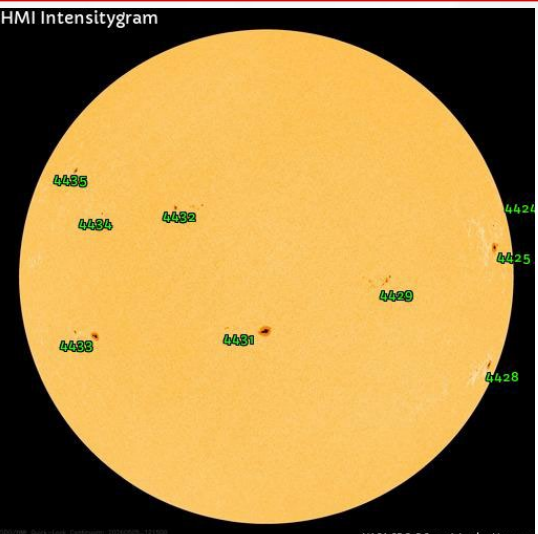
Drought (4/30/26): 98% of Florida remains in at least a severe drought, with 25% of the state (eastern Panhandle to Suwannee Valley) in an exceptional drought. This is the highest percentage area of drought since the U.S Drought Monitor was created in 2000. **Exceptional Drought (level 4 of 4)** expanded this week across the Florida Panhandle, now including Bay, Jackson, and portions of Washington County on the west side of the Exceptional Drought area. Little change was noted east of US-301 in Northeast Florida where Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4) continues. Throughout West Central and Southwestern Florida, **Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4)** expanded further inland. In East Central Florida Moderate to severe drought (level 1-2 of 4) continues. In South Florida, Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4) surrounds Lake Okeechobee and extends through Western Miami Dade County. Overall, nearly 80 percent of the state is in Extreme Drought (level 3 of 4) or worse as of this drought report. Rainfall deficits since the beginning of the water year (October 2025) are running 12-18 inches below normal or more across the entirety of North Florida. This has resulted in extremely low or record low streamflows within all river basins, streams, lakes, and ponds.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **503 (+1)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **37 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

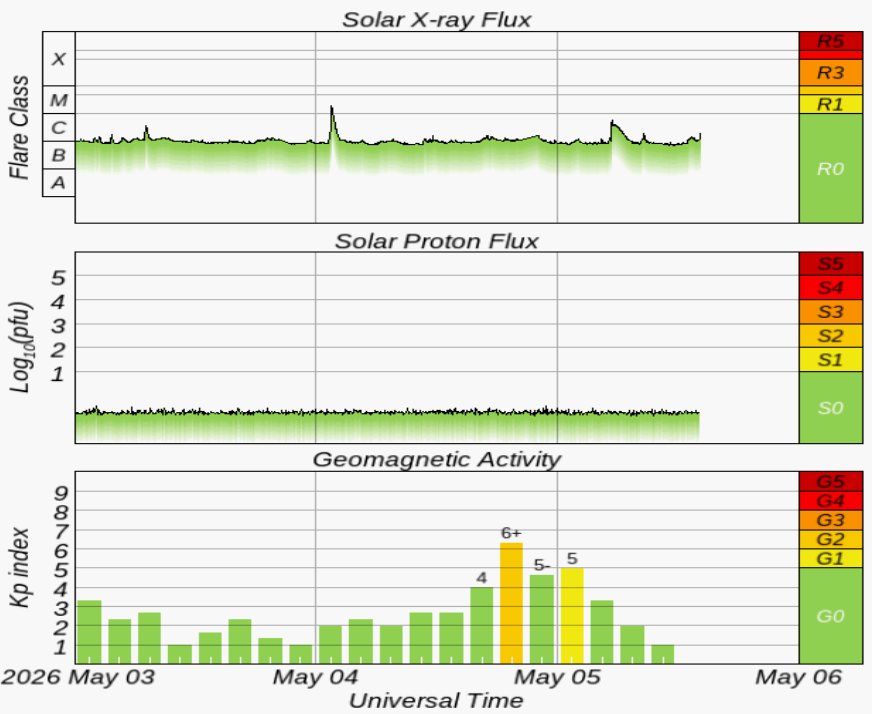




Space Weather



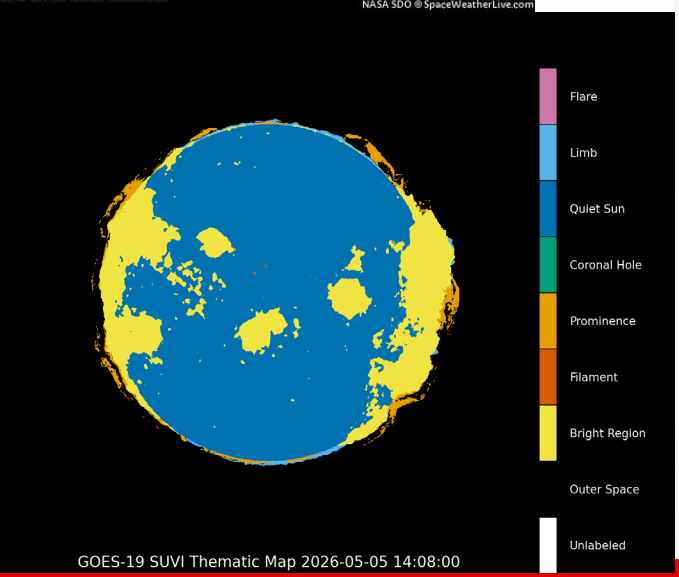
Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 30%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C6 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/5	5/6
Max Kp= 6 (G2)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 20% severe activity = 5%	Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be at low levels with chance for significant (M-class) solar flares through Thursday primarily due to sunspot #4429. Any M-class flares that do develop will be accompanied by minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions will remain perturbed through the week due to Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) and coronal hole influences. The geomagnetic field is expected to reach active to isolated minor-moderate (G1-G2) storming period on Tuesday before waning to quiet to unsettled levels on Wednesday. Active conditions will return by Thursday following positive recurrent coronal hole influences. 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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