



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Thursday, May 14, 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	Connor Stolp	(850) 566-3044	Connor.Stolp@em.myflorida.com
Duty Officer	Austin Johnson	(850) 296-5680	Austin.Johnson@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Cody Nowak	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Lauren Warfield	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Night	Jim Lawhon	(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	Brandon Gore	(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	Leon	Equipment Pick-up / Shelter Mtgs / Santa Rosa EM Mtg / NWS Mtg / RC Mtg
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Glen Hammers	Taylor	Response Meeting / Response Coordinators Meeting
Region 4: Tara Kostich	Duval	FL ANG 125th Fighter Wing Major Accident Response Mtg / RC Meeting
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	Orange	Senior Officials Meeting / FTEM Meeting / RC Meeting
Region 6: Paul Siddall	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	De Soto	EM Visit / Response Coordinators Meeting
Region 8: Amber Durden	St. Lucie	Vehicle Maintenance / County EM Visit / Response Coordinators Meeting
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Charlotte	Region 9 Quarterly Meeting
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Miami-Dade	FIU AIDP Field Course

Region 2 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 1
 Region 6 Coverage Provided by Response Coordinator 5

Status
Normal Operations
Out of Service / Unavailable



Recovery Regional Coordination Team

Team	County Location	Status / Activities
Region 1: Allison Blevins	Walton	Paperwork from Instructings / State Call
Region 2: Justin Lazzara	Leon	FL681 Training
Region 3: Kevin Blom	Alachua	LTGR / COAD Meeting
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	Clay	Hurricane Recovery Exercise
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	Osceola	Instructing G-205
Region 6: Rick Rogers	Out of Region	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 7: Vacant	N/A	(See Coverage)
Region 8: Ja-Pheth Butler-Miller	N/A	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 9: Vacant	N/A	(See Coverage)
Region 10: Brian Lee	Miami Dade	FUI Field Exercise

Region 6 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10

Region 7 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10 & Recovery RC Supervisor

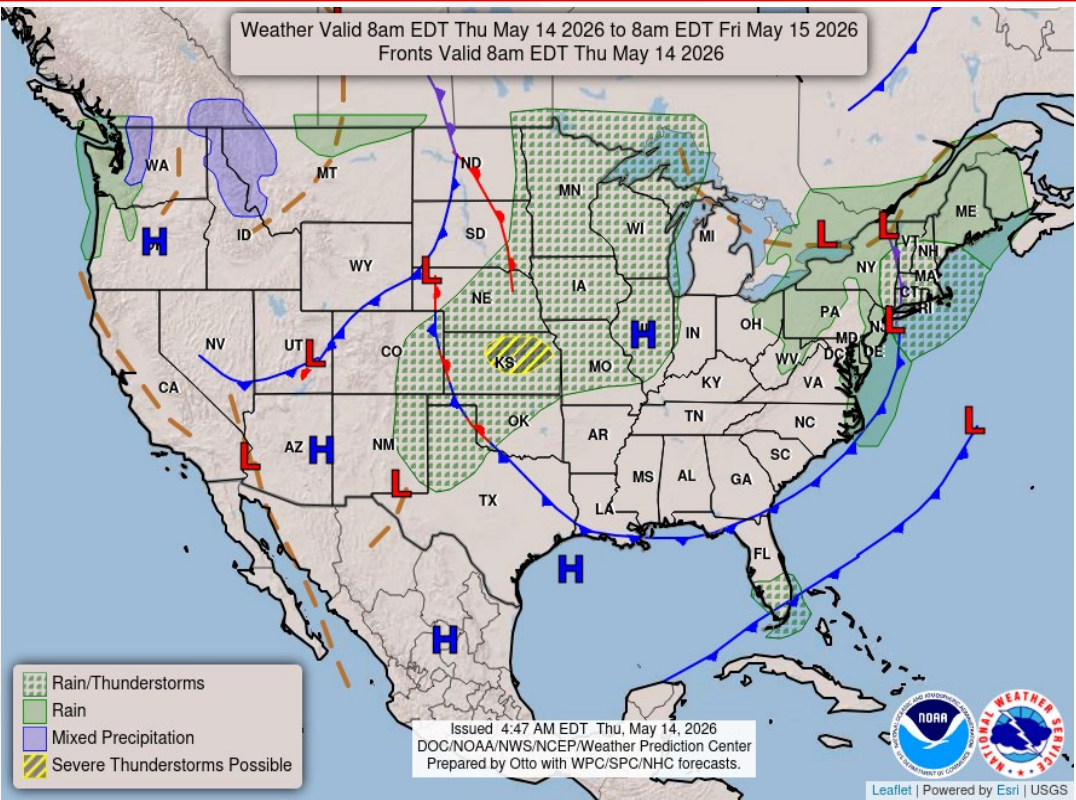
Region 8 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10 & Recovery RC Supervisor

Region 9 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 10 & Recovery RC Supervisor

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

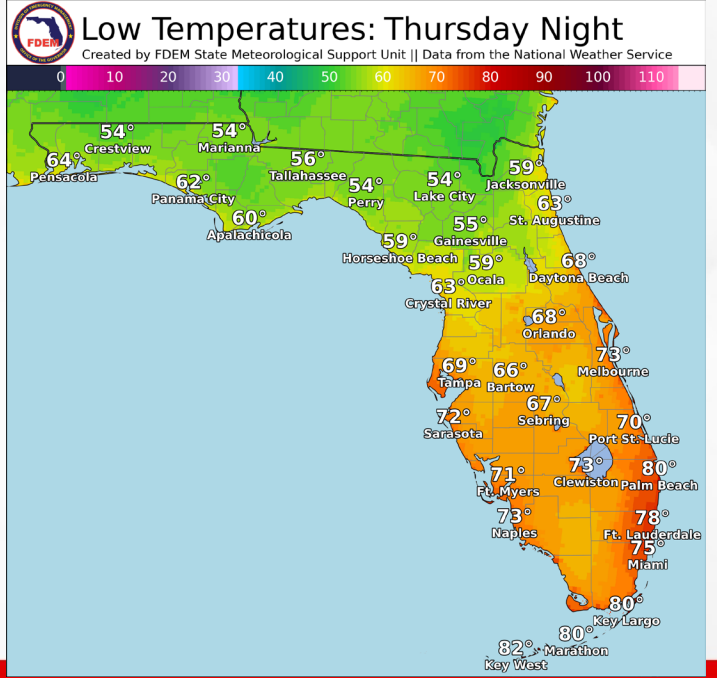
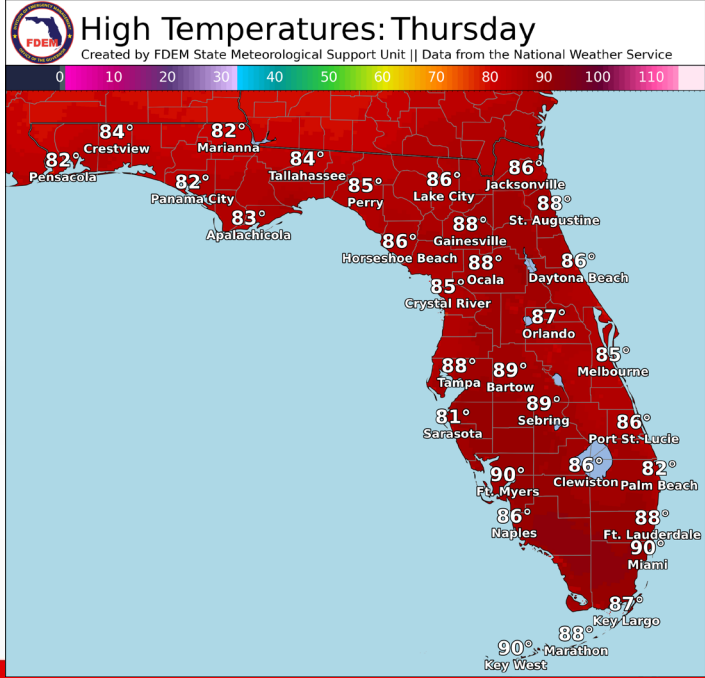


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning										L
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding										
Extreme Heat								L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L			L	
Rip Currents	M	M	L	M	H	M		H	M	M
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.43 ft. (1.89 ft. <u>Below</u> Normal)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	433 (-58) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





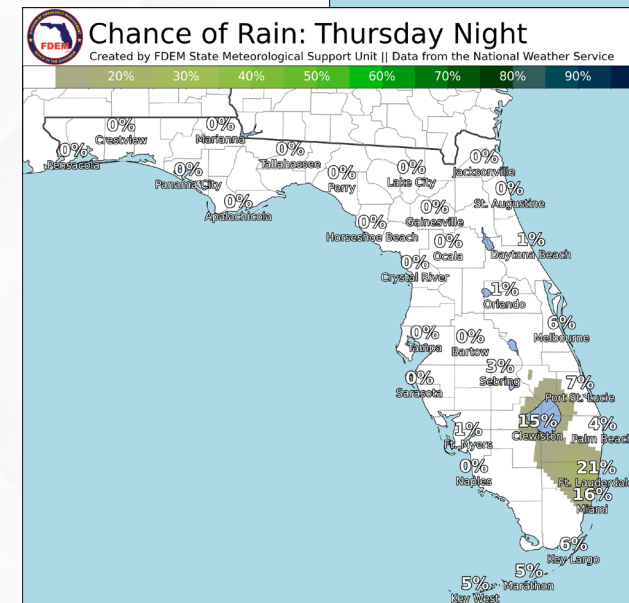
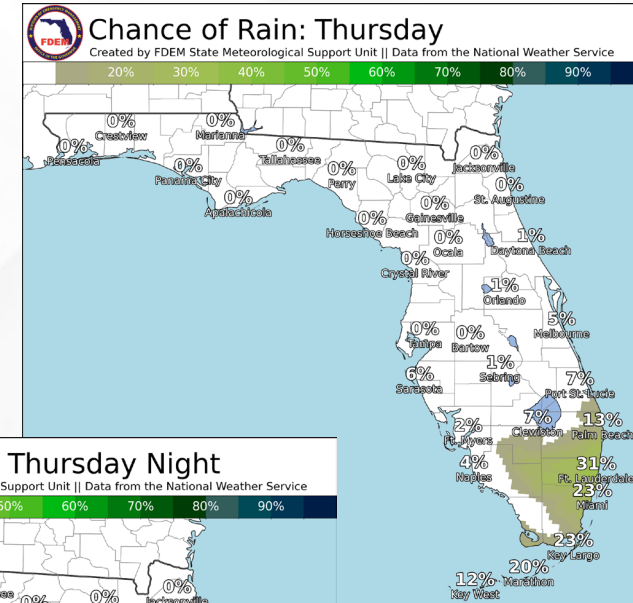
Meteorology Summary

Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Areas of **patchy dense fog** have developed throughout Northeast Florida this morning and will slowly dissipate as the sun continues to rise. Otherwise, high pressure will begin to settle back over the state today in the wake of our frontal disturbance from earlier this week. Chances of rain will return to near zero, outside of coastal Southeast Florida that may see an isolated sea breeze shower or thunderstorm this afternoon (20-30% chance of rain).

Relative humidities will return to **near critical thresholds** across the I-10 corridor this afternoon which, paired with a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph**, may encourage **sensitive wildfire conditions**. However, recent rainfall will keep the overall wildfire threat low today. KBDI values remain above the 500 critical drying threshold across the Nature Coast and West-Central Florida which will also keep **sensitive conditions** in place there.

High temperatures will reach the 80s throughout much of the state today. A few lower 90s cannot be ruled out in South Florida with feels-like temperatures approaching the **middle 90s**. Clear and dry conditions will prevail overnight. Lows will dip into the middle to upper 50s in North Florida, with upper 60s to lower 70s in Central and South Florida. The Southeast Metro and Keys will remain in the upper 70s to lower 80s.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Onshore winds and elevated surf will keep a **high risk for rip currents** outlooked along Space and Treasure Coast beaches today, with a **moderate risk** across Northeast, Southwest, and Panhandle beaches. A low risk is expected for Nature Coast and Northwest Florida beaches. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: Seas will remain elevated today along the East Coast, with waves reaching **2-4'**. Waves will also increase along the West Coast today, especially along the Sun Coast, with surf near 2-3'. Panhandle beaches will see surf of 1-2'.

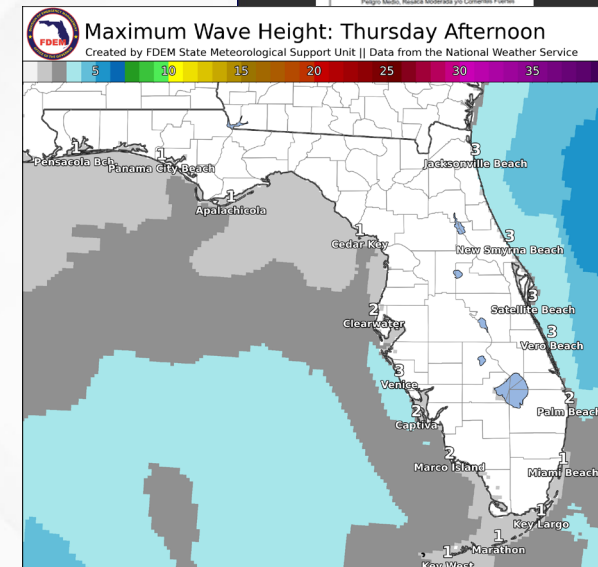
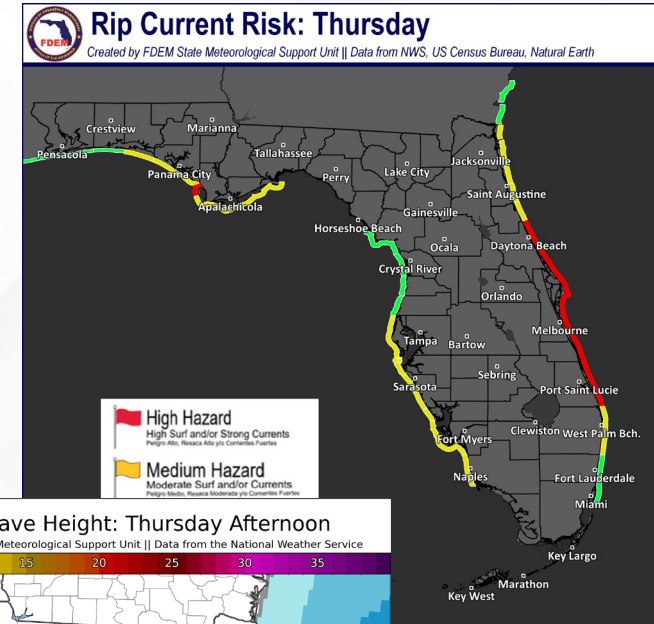
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Bay, and Sarasota counties. It was not observed elsewhere across the state (valid 5/8/26).

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

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

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.43 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.89 feet below normal for this time of year.



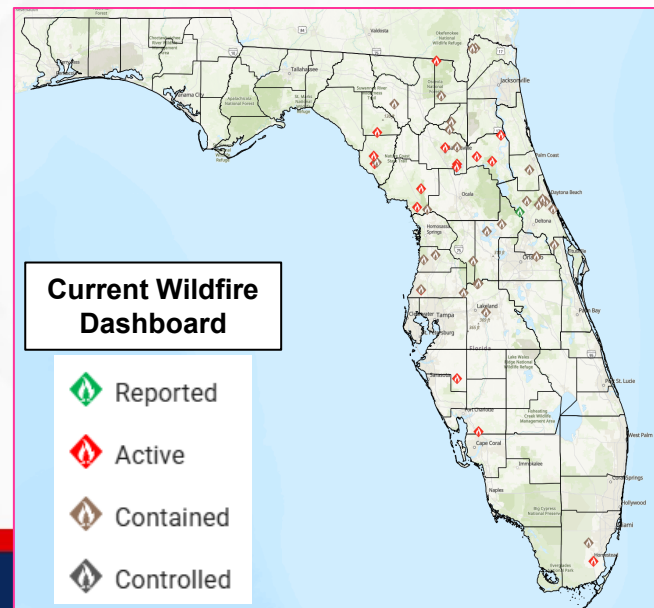
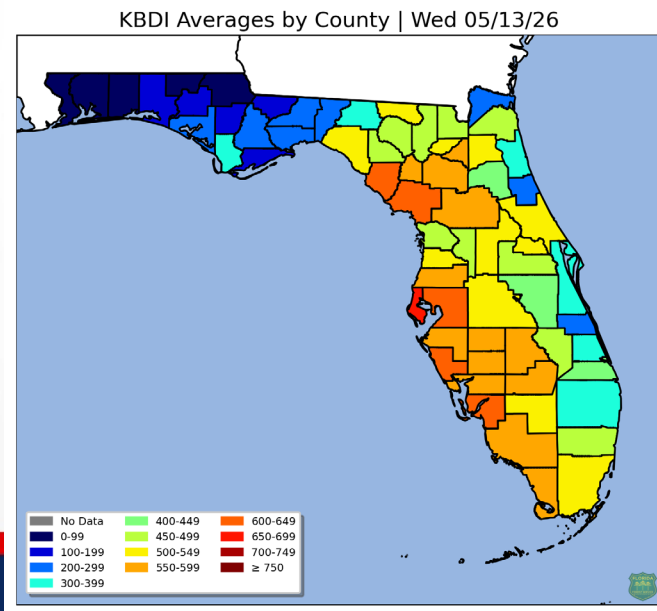
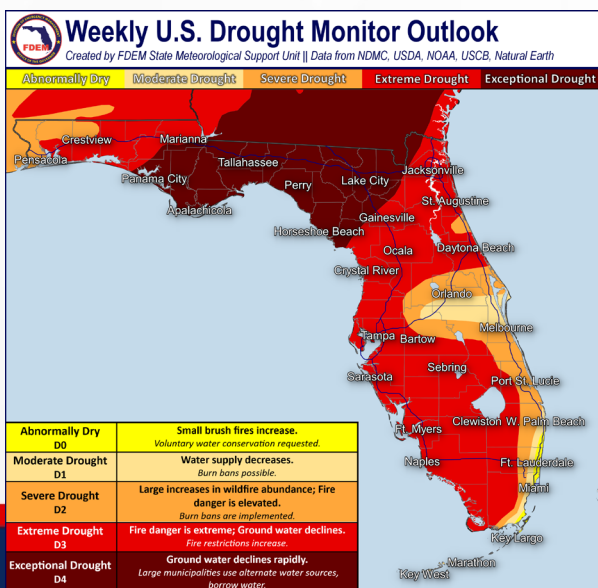


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: Wildfire danger is expected to be low today given recent rainfall helping to saturate much of the soils, grounds, and vegetation. However, relative humidities will return to **near critical thresholds** along the I-10 corridor this afternoon which, paired with a few breezy wind gusts **upwards of 20 mph**, may encourage **locally sensitive wildfire conditions**. However, these sensitive conditions will be localized to areas that saw the least amount of rainfall in the recent week. KBDI values remain well above 500 (critical drying) along the Nature Coast and West-Central Florida which will also encourage the **locally sensitive wildfire danger** despite RH expected to stay above critical thresholds. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 45 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 17,709 acres.

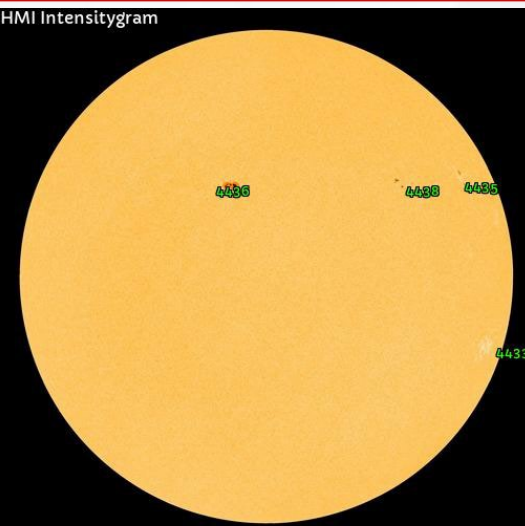
Drought (5/12/26): Some categorical improvements were made on this week's Drought Monitor update across the Panhandle where plentiful rainfall fell. Rainfall totals measured 4 to 6 inches across the northern Panhandle, with localized amounts upwards of 6 to 8 inches or more. As a result, the extreme drought across northern Escambia, Okaloosa, and Santa Rosa counties has been downgraded to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)**. The exceptional drought across much of Jackson County has also been reduced to an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** due to this heavy rainfall. Despite rainfall adding up to 1 to 2 inches across the Big Bend and Suwannee River Valley, the severity of the ongoing drought resulted in no changes to the **exceptional drought (level 4 of 4)**. Throughout the Peninsula, rainfall was mostly confined to the I-95 corridor and interior South Florida, with amounts generally between 1-2 inches. This was not enough for any improvements in the drought throughout the Peninsula, with areas of Southeast Florida actually seeing expanding **moderate (level 1 of 4)** to **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)**. The larger drought picture was otherwise untouched. As a reminder, the cutoff for rainfall on this week's update was Tuesday (5/12) at 8 AM EDT, thus the heavy rainfall that fell on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week will be taken into account on next week's update. This rainfall will likely help with drought conditions across the state, though significant improvements are not expected given just how long this drought has been in place and how severe the long-term rainfall deficits are. 99% of Florida remains in at least a moderate drought, with 24% of the state (eastern Panhandle to Suwannee Valley) in an exceptional drought.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **433 (-58)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **30 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

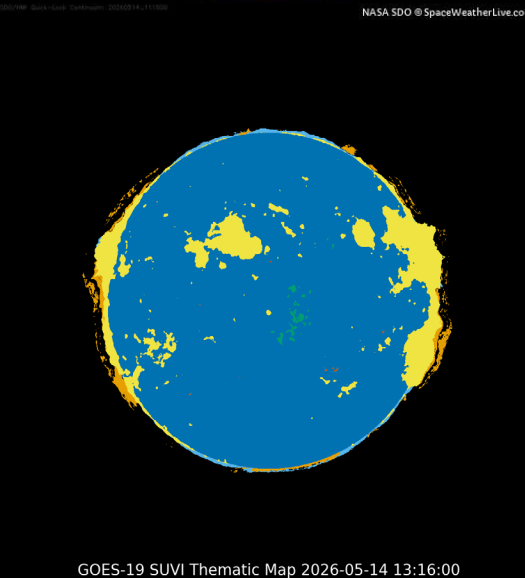




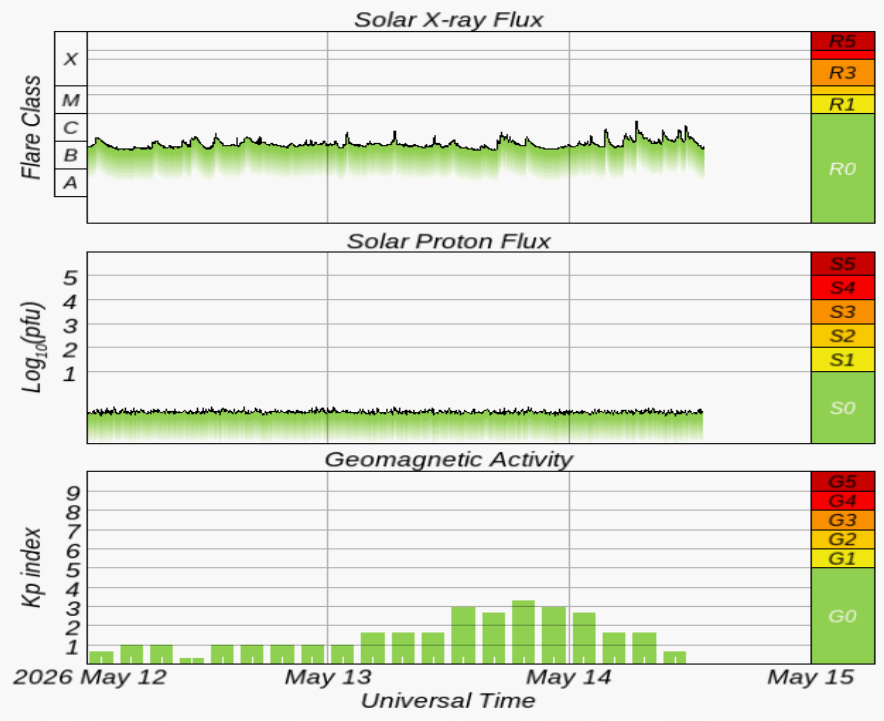
Space Weather



Current Sunspots



GOES-19 SUVI Thematic Map 2026-05-14 13:16:00



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 40%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C5 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackout

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/14	5/15
Max Kp= 4 (G0)	Max Kp= 6 (G2)
Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 40% severe activity = 20%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be at predominately low levels with a chance for a significant (M-class) flare. Any M-class flares that do develop will be accompanied by minor to moderate (R1-R2) radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions will remain mildly enhanced through the end of the week as CME influences wane but positive recurrent coronal hole influences return. The geomagnetic field is expected to reach active conditions today, increasing to Moderate (G2) storming levels on Friday due to the recurrent coronal hole influences. Active to Minor (G1) storm levels will linger into the weekend. The overall space threat to Florida is 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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