



Florida Division of Emergency Management State Watch Office

Morning Situation Report

Monday, May 25, 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	Jeremy Whitt	(850) 755-8521	Jeremy.Whitt@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Day	Joel Lalog	(850) 815-4001	SWP@em.myflorida.com
Operations Officer- Swing	Caleb Pitts	(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	Savannah Martin	(850) 273-0931	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



Team	County Location	Visits
Region 1: Jim Roberts	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 2: Enrique Gaston	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 3: Glen Hammers	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 4: Tara Kostich	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 5: Austin Beeghly	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 6: Paul Siddall	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 7: Kathryn Hollenbeck	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 8: Amber Durden	In Region	On-Call Status / State Holiday (Memorial Day)
Region 9: Brittany Bremer	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 10: Claudia Baker	Out of Service	Leave (See Coverage)

Region 9 Coverage Provided By Response Coordinator 6
 Region 10 Coverage Provided By Recovery 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	Out of Region	Leave (See Coverage)
Region 3: Kevin Blom	In-Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 4: Joshua Saunders	In-Region	Off & Monitoring
Region 5: Elizabeth Caison	In-Region	Off & Monitoring
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	In-Region	Covering for Response 5/22-5/25

Region 2 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 3

Region 7 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6 & Recovery RC Supervisor

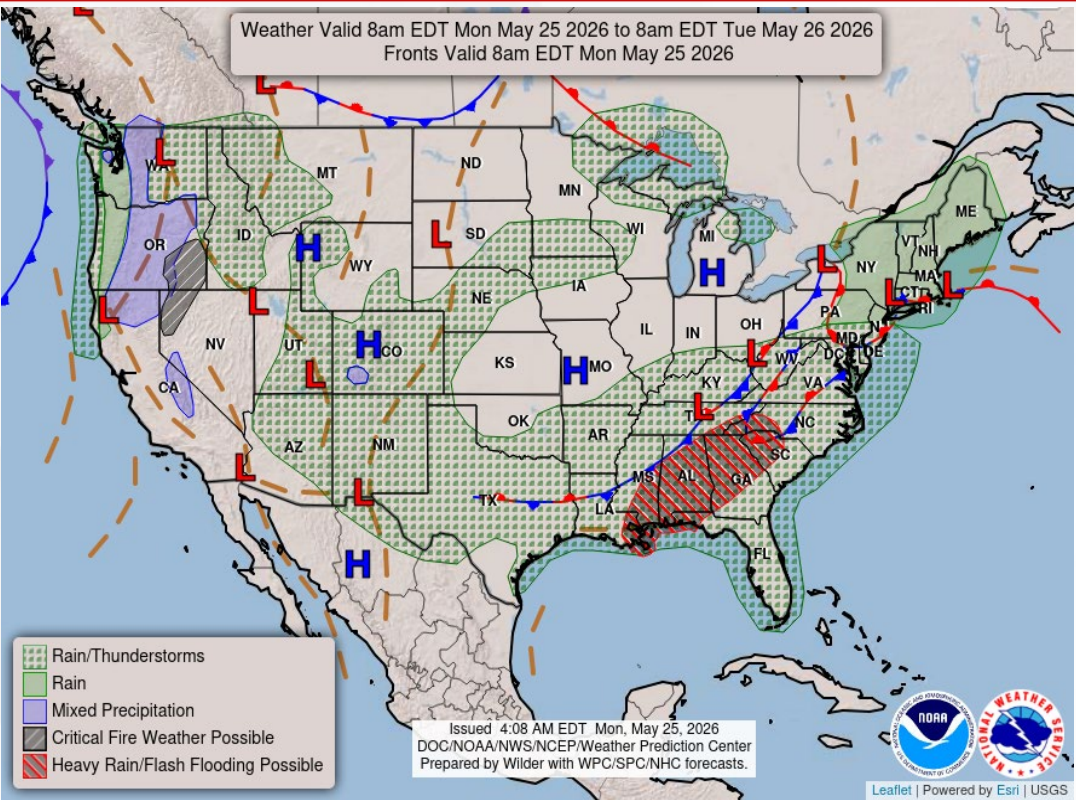
Region 8 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6 & Recovery RC Supervisor

Region 9 Coverage Provided By Recovery Coordinator 6 & Recovery RC Supervisor

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

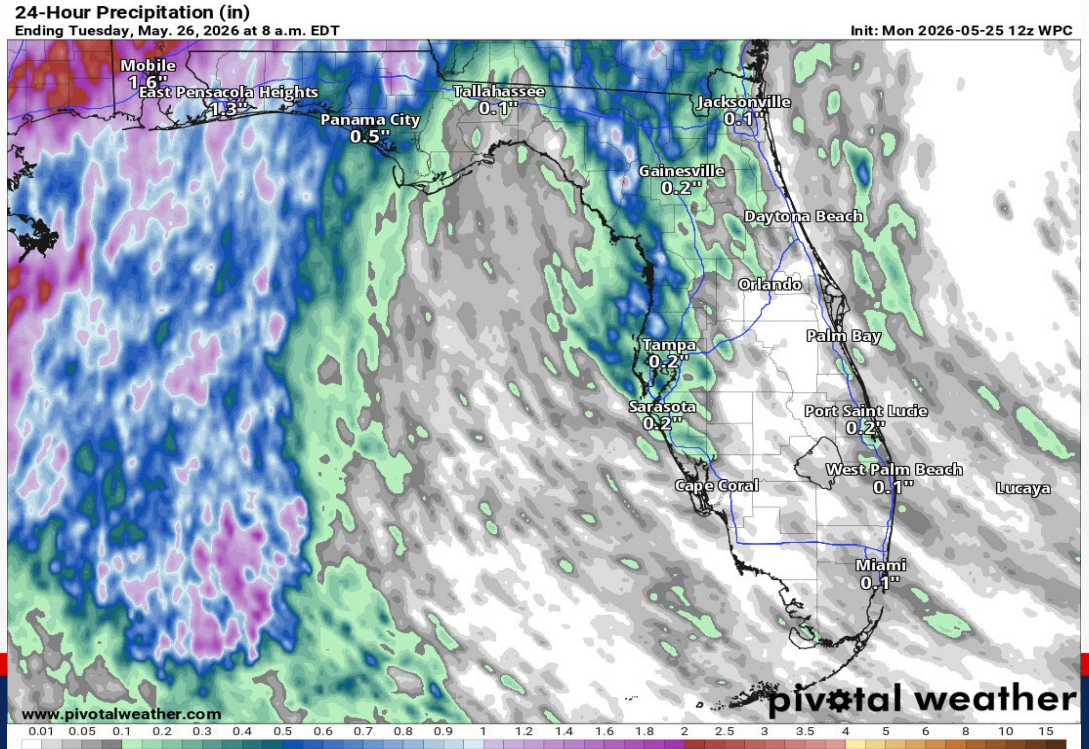


Meteorology Summary



Today's Weather Map

Threat	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10
Lightning	M	H	M	L	L	L				
Tornado										
Damaging Wind										
Hail										
Flash Flooding	M	L								
Extreme Heat							L	L	L	L
Fog (Overnight)										
Wildfire	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Rip Currents	H	H	L	H	H	L		H	M	H
Lake Okeechobee Elevation	11.23 ft. (1.93 ft. <u>Below Normal</u>)									
Keetch-Byram Drought Index	445 (-29) on a scale from 0 (very moist) to 800 (very dry)									





Meteorology Summary

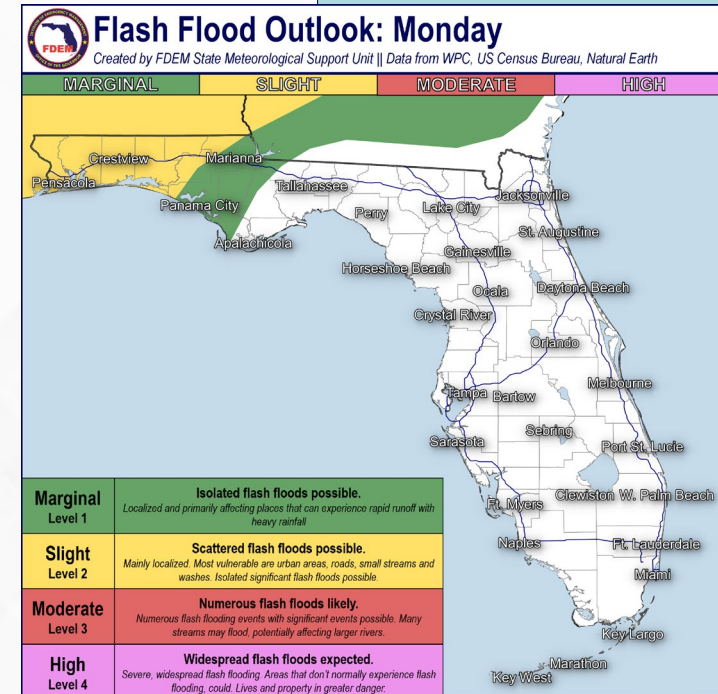
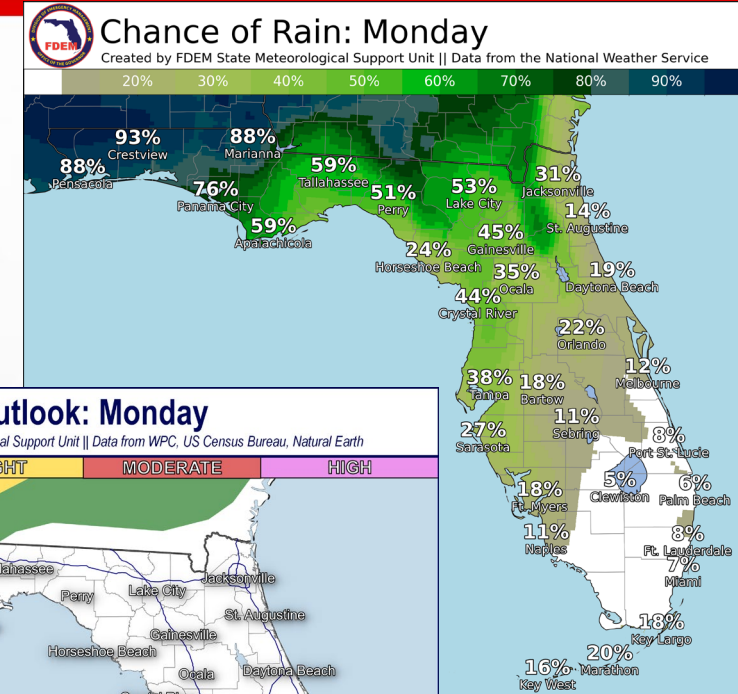
Statewide Overview, Next 24 Hours:

Showers and embedded thunderstorms are ongoing across much of the Panhandle this morning as an upper-level disturbance begins to pass just north of the area. This disturbance, paired with the sea breezes, will help to spark additional showers and thunderstorms throughout the Panhandle this afternoon (75-90% chance of rain). Activity will be more scattered in nature across the Big Bend and Northeast Florida this afternoon where deep southerly flow will still bring abundant moisture for activity to develop (45-60% chance of rain). The Weather Prediction Center (WPC) has outlooked much of the Panhandle under a **Marginal** to **Slight Risk (level 1-2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** today for instances of **flash flooding** and **ponding of water**, especially in urban and poor-drainage locations. Rounds of heavy downpours over saturated soils today could lead to flooding concerns. Additionally, any thunderstorm this afternoon could become **locally strong** and capable of producing frequent lightning and gusty winds (40-50 mph).

Throughout Central and South Florida, drier air will filter into the area today bringing lesser coverage in activity compared to previous days. However, an isolated shower or storm cannot be ruled out especially along the I-75 corridor of West-Central and North-Central Florida this afternoon (25-40% chance of rain). Breezy east to southeasterly winds will continue along the East Coast today, with gusts **upwards of 20-25 mph** across East-Central and Southeast Florida. A few gusts **upwards of 30 mph** cannot be ruled out for immediate beachfront locales.

High temperatures will reach the lower to middle 80s across the Panhandle and Big Bend where ample cloud cover will keep things cooler. Highs will reach the **lower to middle 90s** throughout the Peninsula and Northeast Florida, with feels-like temperatures approaching the **upper 90s to near 100-degrees** in Southwest Florida.

Shower and thunderstorm activity is expected to linger well past sunset tonight over portions of West Central Florida and North Florida near the I-75 corridor before eventually waning around midnight (40-60% chance of rain). Storms may also continue through the night across the Panhandle where deep southerly flow will persist (40-60% chance of rain). Low temperatures will fall into the 70s to lower 80s throughout the state.





Coastal Hazards & Hydrology

Rip Currents: Onshore winds and elevated surf will continue to bring a **moderate to high risk for rip currents** for all East Coast and Panhandle beaches today. A low risk remains for most West Coast beaches, with a localized **moderate risk** for Southwest Florida. For the latest Rip Current Outlook, visit www.weather.gov/beach.

Marine Hazards: No hazards are expected as nearshore wave heights will be less than 4 feet statewide. A few waves **upwards of 5'** cannot be ruled out in the surf zone along the East Coast.

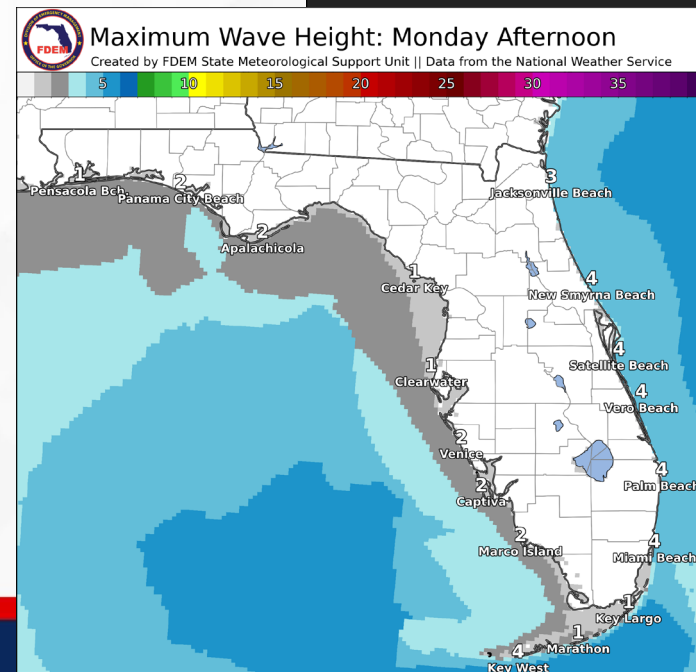
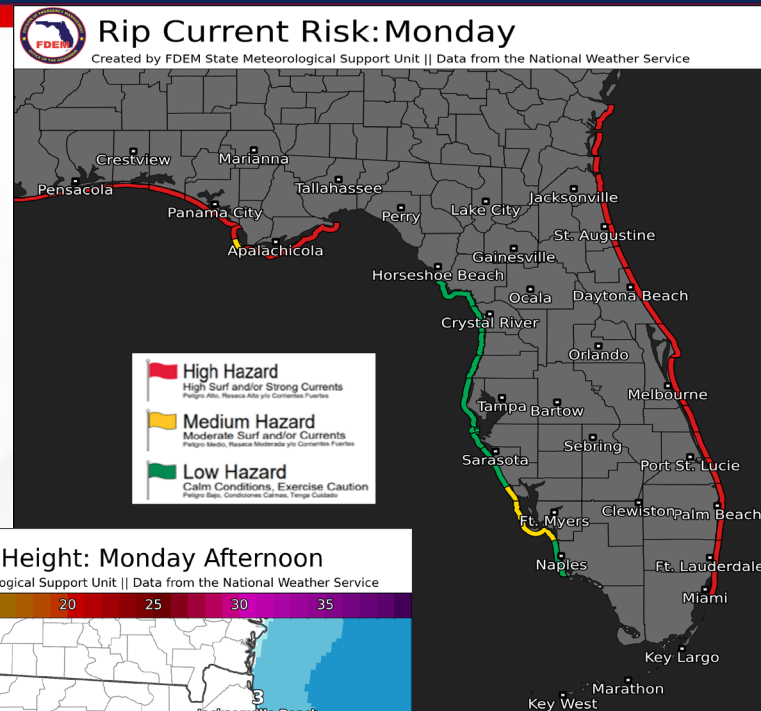
Red Tide was observed at background concentrations in Bay County. It was not observed elsewhere across the state (valid 5/22/26).

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

Flash Flooding: A **Slight Risk (level 2 of 4) for Flash Flooding** is outlooked across the western and central Panhandle today with a **Marginal Risk (level 1 of 4) for Flash Flooding** across the eastern Panhandle. Heavy rainfall in recent days has saturated the soils across the Panhandle and Big Bend, and additional rounds of training or slow-moving heavy thunderstorms today could lead to instances of **flash flooding**, especially in urban and poor-drainage locations. Rainfall amounts will generally remain between 1-2" today, though localized amounts **upwards of 3-5"** cannot be ruled out.

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

Lake Okeechobee's average elevation is 11.23 feet, which is within the operational band and is 1.93 feet **below** normal for this time of year.



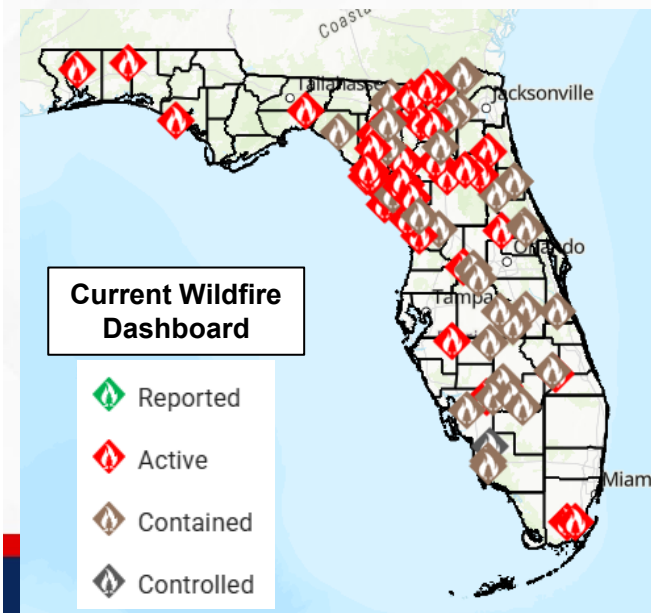
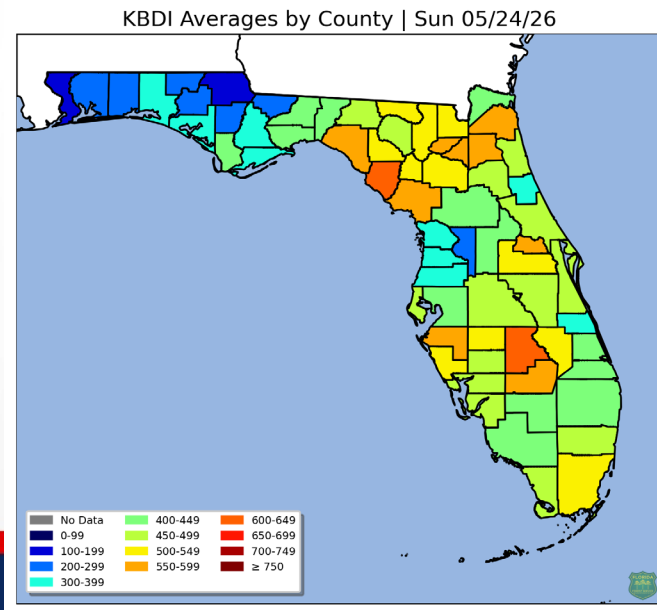
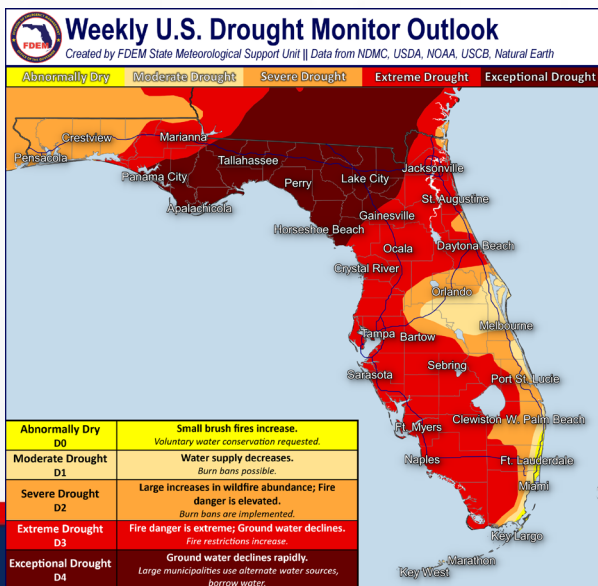


Drought & Fire Weather

Fire Weather: The overall fire weather threat is low today due to increasing humidity values and rain chances. However, much of Central and South Florida may miss out on the rain and could see a locally increased fire threat as southeasterly winds gusting **up to 20-25 mph** could challenge fire containment. Elsewhere, the threat of thunderstorms with lightning and brief gusty/erratic winds will be capable of sparking new wildfires or reigniting existing ones. According to the [Florida Forest Service](#), there are 89 active wildfires across the state burning approximately 19,037 acres.

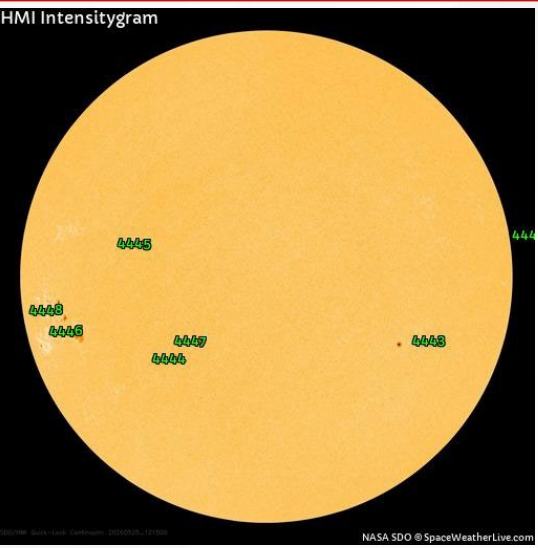
Drought (5/19/26): Some slight improvements were made on this week's Drought Monitor update across the state, though most were very localized in nature. Across the western Panhandle, all of the remaining extreme drought has been reduced to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** given rainfall of 2-3 inches over the past 10 days or so. Some of the exceptional drought over northern Bay, Calhoun, Gadsden, and Jackson counties has been reduced to an **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** where some of the heaviest rainfall in the past 2 weeks has fallen (4-6" or more). Otherwise, the **exceptional drought (level 4 of 4)** throughout the eastern Panhandle, Big Bend, and Suwannee River Valley was untouched despite some rainfall. The longer-term rainfall deficits, dating back to the beginning of last Autumn, continue to drive the ongoing drought situation with many streams, creeks, rivers, and lakes well below normal in water levels. The **extreme drought (level 3 of 4)** throughout the Peninsula was largely untouched, except for slight reductions to a **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** in western Palm Beach and southern Osceola counties. A **moderate (level 1 of 4)** to **severe drought (level 2 of 4)** persists across portions of Central Florida around and just south of the Orlando metro region and along the I-95 corridor of East-Central and Southeast Florida. 99% of Florida remains in at least a moderate drought, with 22% of the state (eastern Panhandle to Suwannee Valley) in an exceptional drought. Looking ahead, daily scattered showers and thunderstorms may bring localized drought relief and slow improvements. However, the long-term drought conditions are expected to largely continue.

The **Keetch-Byram Drought Index** average for Florida is **445 (-29)** on a scale from 0 (very wet) to 800 (very dry). There are **22 out of 67** Florida counties that have an average KBDI above 500 (drought/increased fire danger).

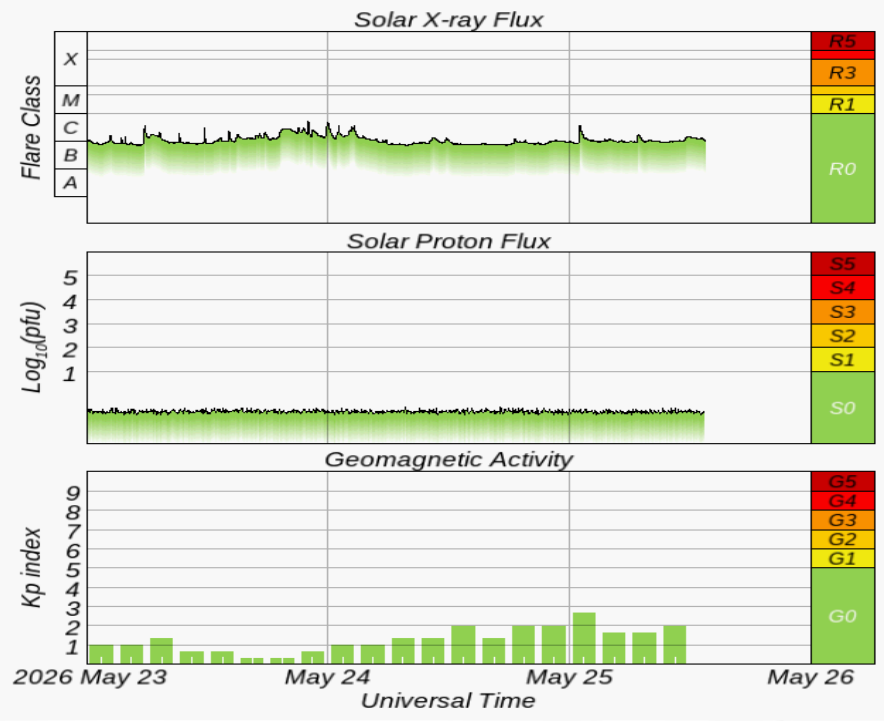




Space Weather



Current Sunspots



Solar Flare Risk	Active Watches & Warnings	Past 24 hours
M-class: 35%	Geomagnetic Storm: None	C1 Solar Flare
X-class: 5%	Radiation Storm: None	No Radio Blackouts

48-Hour Geomagnetic Forecast	
5/25	5/26
Max Kp= 2 (G0)	Max Kp= 3 (G0)
Chance of minor activity = 5% severe activity = 1%	Chance of minor activity = 10% severe activity = 1%

Space Weather: Solar activity is expected to be at low levels today with only a slight chance for an isolated M-class flare driven by sunspot region #4441 and #4446. Any M-class flares that do develop will be accompanied by minor radio blackouts. Solar wind conditions are expected to remain near background levels through Tuesday before onset of recurrent coronal hole influences bring some mild enhancements. Geomagnetic field activity will also remain quiet before unsettled levels return late on Tuesday. The overall space weather 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	

Users wishing to subscribe (approval pending) to this distribution list, register at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEM/subscriber/new?topic_id=Morning_SITREP