

Fire Situation Report – March 1, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 02/29/16 thru 03/01/16

NE Area – 7 Fires Burned 192.6 Acres (Cause: 3-Incendiary, 2-Debris, 1-Escaped Burn, 1-Equipment)
EC Area – 1 Fire Burned 3 Acres (Cause: 1-Escaped Control Burn)
SE Area – 1 Fire Burned 23 Acres (Cause: 1-Debris)

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area

- South Wesley Fire (Atoka County) – 180 Acres, 100% Contained
- East Lost Fire (Atoka County) – 600 Acres, 100% Contained
- Pine Top Fire (Pittsburg County) – 640 Acres, 100% Contained
- Big Ridge Fire (Latimer County) – 400 Acres, 100% Contained

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area:

- Ralsten Fire (Creek County) – 972 acres est., 20% Contained
- Flat Rock Fire (Wagoner County) – 300 Acres, 75% Contained
- Lenora Fire (Dewey County) – 100 Acres est., 65% Contained
- 3296 Rd. Fire (Lincoln County) – 220 Acres, 100%
- Lawson Fire (Payne County) – 270 Acres, 100% Contained
- Perry Lake Fire (Noble County) – 330 Acres, 100% Contained
- Cashion Fire (Logan County) – 740 Acres, 100% Contained

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity:

- 1 Rx Fire Treating 120 acres (Sequoyah County)

* Protection Area Statistics do not reflect local fire department's fire run information. Statistics are for the ODAFF-Forestry Services' fifteen county Fire Protection Area in eastern Oklahoma unless otherwise noted in the Discussion section of this report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS** from www.firereporting.ok.gov recorded on 02/29/16 thru 03/01/16

- 2 Fires Burned 21 Acres (Cause: 1-Debris, 1-Equipment) *Eldorado & Tecumseh FD's Reporting*

** - These statistics are from Fire Departments that have recorded their information on the Oklahoma, Forestry Services web-based Fire Reporting System. Totals do not reflect the total acres burned or total number of fires that have occurred in Oklahoma.

Statewide Discussion: A storm system moved across Oklahoma yesterday evening into the night that delivered some precipitation across areas of the state with the highest amounts limited to east-central Oklahoma and a few areas in south-central Oklahoma. Gusty winds and falling relative humidity today will rapidly dry fuels in advance of continued fire danger through the remainder of the week.

The highest fire danger today will lie in both northwest and southwest Oklahoma where no rainfall was received. Relative humidity values as low as 16% will result in very dry fuels this afternoon with fire weather indices this afternoon near critical values. Temperatures will be slightly moderated from previous days at 60°-64°. Gusty winds early in the burning period will continue through the day with north winds 13-19 mph gusting to 27 mph generally. Wind gusts in southwest Oklahoma may reach 35 mph this afternoon. Wednesday appears to bring enhanced fire weather with low relative humidity, warm temperatures and gusty south winds. Most of northern and western Oklahoma including the Panhandle have not received a wetting rain in a month with some areas 2 ½ months. Fuels in these areas are very dry and will pose resistance to suppression.

Special Note to Firefighters: With recent rains, soil moisture is high in some areas. Getting an engine stuck not only takes that piece of equipment out of the firefight, but may result in a safety hazard if making access to a fire in unburned fuels. Scout the area on foot prior to committing engines and adjust tactics to take advantage of natural or man-made fuel breaks such as roads, creeks and heavily grazed pastures.

Resources:

- OFS will have Task Force and Overhead Personnel Resources prepositioned for response.
- OFS will have fixed wing air-attack and tanker resources available.
- OHP and OFS personnel will have aerial recon resources available.
- National Guard rotor-wing aircraft will be available.

Contact the Incident Resource Hotline at (800) 800-2481 to request resources.

Harper County has issued a county burn ban. For the most current information on Burn Bans click on the following link: <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/burn-ban-information>

****NOTE: Some municipalities have enacted local outdoor burning bans. Check with your local authorities prior to conducting outdoor burning activities.**

Remember... ONLY YOU can prevent wildfires! Enjoy Oklahoma's wildlands responsibly.

Report any suspicious wildland fire activity on the Arson Tip Line: 1-866-662-7766 (1-866-NO ARSON).

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