

Fire Situation Report – March 2, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



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

NE Area – No New Activity
EC Area – No New Activity
SE Area – 1 Fire Burned 20 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary)

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area No New Activity

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area:

- Ralsten Fire (Creek County) – 972 acres est., 60% Contained
- Flat Rock Fire (Wagoner County) – 300 Acres, 100% Contained
- Lenora Fire (Dewey County) – 257 Acres est., 75% Contained

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: No Activity

* 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 03/01/16 thru 03/02/16

- No New Activity Reported

** - 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 Red Flag Warning has been issued for 63 counties west of a line from Ottawa County in the far northeast corner of Oklahoma to Marshall County on the Red River effective from Noon through 7:00 PM. Fire weather conditions today will support extreme fire danger with rapid rates of fire spread. Significant fire activity potential is present today across Oklahoma.

Very High to Extreme fire danger indices will be present across most of Oklahoma today with the greatest intensity centered in western Oklahoma. Temperatures this afternoon from the upper 60°s to 80° and ample solar exposure will raise fuel temperature supporting rapid combustion. Relative humidity values during the peak of the burning period will register around 20% with some areas in western counties dipping to 15%. Significant winds are expected through the day with a south to southwest flow sustained 18-30 mph with gusts near 45 mph in areas from Woodward to Altus.

Significant rates of fire spread in grass dominated fuel models should be expected with potential for some fires to exhibit nearly 400 ft/min. in horizontally continuous fuels. Brush fuel models will support rapid rates of fire spread, erratic fire behavior and potential for short to medium range spotting.

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.
- County Wildland Task Force resources should be prepared for mobilization.

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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