

# Fire Situation Report – March 24, 2016

## Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



### PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS\* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 03/23/16 thru 03/24/16

**NE Area – 7 fires burned 129 acres (Causes: 4-Incendiary; 1-Esc. Debris Burn; 1-Esc. Prescribed Burn)**  
**EC Area – 1 fire burned 1 acre (Cause: 1-Incendiary)**  
**SE Area – 1 fire burned 2 acres (Cause: 1-Equipment)**

\* 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](http://www.firereporting.ok.gov) recorded on 03/23/16 thru 03/24/16

*No fires recorded yesterday*

\*\* - 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:** Oklahoma Forestry Services has established a statewide area command in Oklahoma City to prioritize the allocation of state and federal resources. Numerous Oklahoma Forestry Services resources, including heavy equipment, Type 6 Engines and overhead, have been deployed to incidents across western Oklahoma. State and Federal aircraft are prepositioned across the state to support on-going and emerging incidents. In addition, A Type II Incident Management has been ordered for the Anderson Creek Fire in Woods County.

Several large fires occurred yesterday, primarily in western Oklahoma. Several of these incidents are on-going at the time of this report. A short synopsis of those fires where information is available is as follows:

**Anderson Creek (Woods County and State of Kansas)** – This wildfire grew rapidly yesterday under the influence of extremely dry air, strong winds and high temperatures. The fire is reported to have started approximately two miles north of Camp Houston, OK and has burned an estimated 400,000 acres in Oklahoma and Kansas. Aerial mapping of the fire will be conducted this morning to get an updated acreage figure and fire perimeter. Several structures have been reported as lost. Numerous structures and communities remain threatened. On the Oklahoma portion of the fire, Unified Command is established with Woods County and Oklahoma Forestry Services. The Oklahoma IMT3 is assigned to this incident. A Type 2 Incident Management Team has been ordered. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

**Bear Creek (Custer and Blaine Counties)** – This wildfire burned approximately 725 acres approximately six miles east of Thomas. Mop up and patrol continued on the fire throughout the day. The fire started as a result of welding and is approximately now 60% contained.

**Deer Creek (Lincoln County)** – Numerous structures within the Sac & Fox Tribal Complex were threatened as a result of this wildfire that burned 32 acres approximately four miles south of Stroud. Stroud Fire Department and Oklahoma Forestry Services were in Unified Command on this incident.

**Very High Fire danger will be exist today west of a line from Washington County to Jefferson County.** In and near this area expect relative humidity readings to drop into the upper teens to low 20% range. Northwesterly winds are forecast in the 10-15 mph range with 20+ mph wind gusts possible. Temperatures are forecast to be cooler today in the 50-60 degree range. **Any on-going fire or new fire starting in this area has the potential to burn with extreme rates of spread and erratic fire behavior.**

**SPECIAL NOTE TO FIREFIGHTERS: County Wildland Task Forces should anticipate mobilization today.**

**Two County Burn Bans currently in effect in Oklahoma: Harper County and Cimarron County.** For the most current information on Burn Bans click on the following link:

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/burn-ban-information>

**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).**

