

Fire Situation Report – March 28, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 03/25/16 thru 03/28/16

NE Area – 7 Fires Burned 135.1 Acres (Cause: 3-Incendiary, 1-Escaped Control Burn, 1-Equipment, 1-Debris, 1-Electrical)
EC Area – 4 Fires Burned 82 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary, 1-Escaped Control Burn)
SE Area – No Activity

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area:

No Activity

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area:

- **Anderson Creek (Woods County and State of Kansas)** – Les Rogers' Type II Incident Management Team is in Unified Command with Freedom Fire Department and Woods County. Crews continue to mop-up and suppress hotspots aided by some snowfall on the fire yesterday morning. By mid-afternoon, much of the snow had melted with fuels drying out. The fire has burned 397,420 acres in Woods County (OK), Comanche County (KS), and Barber County (KS) with updated mapping of the fire expected today and refined containment data as well.

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 03/25/16 thru 03/28/16

- **1 Fire Burned 20 Acres (w/structure loss) – Weatherford FD 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: Freezing temperatures over the last couple of mornings have halted and/or set back green-up across much of northern and western Oklahoma resulting in ample fuel availability to support the potential for large fire activity, and fire danger is expected to build into mid-week as another relatively strong system arrives Wednesday. **A Fire Weather Watch has already been issued for and Cimarron Counties in the Panhandle for Tuesday with potential for expansion of Watch/Warning areas through mid-week.**

The highest fire danger today will reside in the Panhandle and northwest Oklahoma. Relative humidity values today will dip below 30% across most of Oklahoma excluding an area along the Red River in southern and southeast Oklahoma. The Panhandle and parts of northwest Oklahoma may see Rh values near or below 20% with fire danger quickly ratcheting up this afternoon along with temperatures 65°-74° and south winds 14-22 mph gusting 25-30 mph. Highest winds will reside in the Panhandle. The benefit of yesterday's snowfall translated into minimal moisture in this area and fire danger is expected to quickly increase during the burning period today. The remainder of Oklahoma will see dry fuels encouraged by humidity values less than 35%, clear skies and temperatures in upper-60°s; however south to southeast winds are not expected to be above 15 mph (many areas less than 10 mph) providing opportunity for successful initial attack.

Tomorrow, fire danger will remain in place with warm and gusty south winds temperatures; however a shot of atmospheric moisture may hold humidity levels above critical values. Wednesday holds potential for critical fire weather conditions warm temperatures, low relative humidity strong winds and a complicating frontal passage late in the burning period.

Resources:

- OFS will have Task Force Resources available from the Anderson Creek Fire and from the Protection Area.
- Fixed-Wing Tanker and National Guard Rotor-Wing aircraft available.
- County Wildland Task Force resources.

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

Harper and Cimarron Counties have 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>

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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