

Fire Situation Report – April 1, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 03/31/16 thru 04/01/16

NE Area – No Activity
EC Area – No Activity
SE Area – No Activity

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area: **No Activity**
Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area: **No Activity**
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 03/31/16 thru 04/01/16

- **No Reported Activity**

*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: Fire danger will persist across western Oklahoma into the weekend with emphasis on northwest and Panhandle counties where abnormally dry conditions are beginning to expand and intensify. Friday and Saturday mornings will begin cool then warm up into the low 60°s Friday and upper 60°s Saturday. Fuel moisture recovery each night will be limited with relative humidity not gaining much more than 60% in the overnight hours. Relative humidity values are expected to be in the 20-27% range during the peak of the burning periods with fine-dead fuel moisture tapping 5-6% briefly during the afternoon. North component winds will remain in place both days between 10-15 mph (a little stronger in the Panhandle) with gusts around 20 mph Friday.

Sunday will bring an uptick in fire danger across the Panhandle and western Oklahoma with temperatures around 75°, southwest winds 15-20 mph gusting to 25 mph and afternoon relative humidity values 13-24%. Dormant grass fuel moisture will most likely be in the 4-6% range and support rapid rates of fire spread, especially where winds are aligned with topography.

Green up is progressing in eastern Oklahoma and large fire activity potential, while still possible, is reduced. Managed grasses, agricultural fields and heavily grazed areas have turned the corner and are largely overcome with adequate live-fuel moisture. Grasslands, timbered areas and pine plantations will still be susceptible to fire activity given adequate drying periods. Wheat/Canola fields in western Oklahoma are a deterrent to fire spread as they progress; however there are ample expanses of dormant fuels that have not yet responded given repetitive frost/freeze events and the lack of significant rainfall of late. The potential for significant fire activity will remain in place until fuel conditions improve with seasonal influence.

Resources:

- **Fixed-Wing Tanker, Air-Attack and National Guard Rotor-Wing aircraft available.**

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

Harper, Cimarron and Texas 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).



