

Fire Situation Report – April 5, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 04/04/16 thru 04/05/16

NE Area – 8 Fires Burned 234 Acres (Cause: 6-Incendiary, 1-Debris, 1- Escaped Prescribed Fire)
EC Area – No New Activity
SE Area – 1 Fire Burned 60 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary)

With

Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area: **No Activity**

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area:

- Kephart Fire (Blaine County) – 1,397 Acres, 30% Contained
- Amorita Fire (Grant & Alfalfa Counties – 2,400 Acres (est.), 40% Contained – OFS Dispatched 2 CL-415's

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: 3 Rx Fires Treating 58 Acres

* 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 04/04/16 thru 04/05/16

- No New Activity Reported – multiple fires reported via media outlets.

*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 is in effect from Noon through 9:00 PM for counties west of a line from Osage County to Cotton County. A wind advisory is also in effect across the warned area for strong and gusty south to southwest winds. Fire danger will also be present across eastern Oklahoma.

Panhandle/Northwest Oklahoma – Relative humidity values below 10%, mostly sunny skies and temperatures 83°-88° will drive fine dead fuel moisture into the 2-4% range with 100% Probability of Ignition of firebrands landing in receptive fuels. Southwest winds 25-35 mph with gusts 40-50 mph and potentially higher at times will promote extreme rates of fire spread and the potential for long range spotting. A cold front is expected to move across the Panhandle and northwest Oklahoma just prior to sunset. Expect the possibility of an abrupt clockwise wind shift from the south to the north-northwest.

Western/Northern Oklahoma – Fuel moisture will hover around 5% through a significant portion of the afternoon with relative humidity values 10-20% and temperatures in the mid-80°'s. Winds will be substantial out of the south-southwest at 25-35 mph gusting in excess of 40 mph. Very rapid to extreme rates of fire spread should be expected with short to medium range spotting. The wind shift associated with an approaching cold front is expected to pass out of northwest Oklahoma and into northern and western counties in the overnight hours from 2100 hrs. west to 0300 hrs. farther east.

Winds are not expected to diminish substantially in the overnight hours and marginal moisture recovery across all of western Oklahoma will promote active fire behavior into the night. There are some chances of rain in the forecast across northern counties; however no plan should rely on those chances. Fire weather on Wednesday and Thursday will again be at or very near critical values west of I-35 with warm temperatures, very dry fuels and continued strong winds.

Resources:

- OFS will have Task Force Resources and Overhead Personnel available.
- Fixed-Wing Tanker, Air-Attack and National Guard Rotor-Wing aircraft available.
- OHP Fixed Wing Recon

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

Harper, Cimarron, Texas, Beaver and Harper 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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