

# Fire Situation Report – April 8, 2016

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



### PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS\* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 04/07/16 thru 04/08/16

**NE Area – 6 fires burned 347 acres (Causes: 3-Incendiary; 3-Escaped Debris Burn)**

**EC Area – 1 fire burned 660 acres (Cause: Incendiary)**

**SE Area – 10 fires burned 163 acres (Causes: 10-Incendiary)**

\* 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 04/07/16 thru 04/08/16

*No new incidents recorded during the reporting period*

\*\* - 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:** Numerous new fires started yesterday as Red Flag Warning conditions were again present in the majority of Oklahoma. In addition, suppression activities continued on several on-going fires. Competition for suppression resources yesterday was again high. Many of the wildfires were resistant to control due to the extreme fire behavior resulting from dry fuels, strong winds, and low relative humidity.

Oklahoma Forestry Services has established a statewide area command in Oklahoma City to prioritize the allocation of state and federal resources. State and Federal aircraft remain prepositioned across the state to support on-going and emerging incidents. Additional wildland fire suppression resources have been ordered from the Southern Forest Fire Compact to assist with on-going and new initial attack incidents.

### **Three large fires occurred yesterday in the Forestry Services' Protection Area:**

**Fish Creek (Pushmataha)** – Forestry Services' Southeast Area committed three Type 2 Dozers, One Type 6 Engine, and four OFS firefighters to this incendiary-caused wildfire that burned 120 acres in a pine plantation. The Cloudy VFD assisted with the suppression of this fire that occurred five miles north of Rattan, OK. The fire is 50% contained and mop up will occur throughout this morning.

**Pittsburg South (Pittsburg County)** – Forestry Services' East Central Area responded to this incendiary-caused wildfire that burned 660 acres twenty miles south of McAlester. Forestry Services committed two Type 3 Dozers, two Type 6 Engines and four OFS firefighters assisted several fire departments with this incident. The fire is 100% contained.

**Salt Hollow (Adair County)** – Forestry Services' Northeast Area dispatched two Type 3 Dozers, two Type 6 Engines and four firefighters to this incendiary-caused wildfire that burned 150 acres five miles southwest of Greasy, OK.

### **A brief synopsis of other wildfires receiving State and/or Federal support is as follows:**

**350 Complex (Woodward and Harper Counties)** – Les Rogers' Type 2 Incident Management Team assumed command yesterday at 7:00 a.m. Moderate fire behavior was experienced over a large portion of the incident. Two Oklahoma Army National Guard helicopters were committed to the suppression effort yesterday. Several County Wildland Task Forces, Oklahoma Forestry Services, and other firefighting resources from Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, Texas and Louisiana are assigned to this incident. The wildfire has burned 57,440 acres in Woodward and Harper counties and is now 20% contained. Damage assessments have been delayed due to active fire behavior on the complex. Arcing power lines has been identified as the cause of the fire.

**Varsity (Creek County)** – The Bristow Fire Department and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) were committed to this incident that started late yesterday and has burned an estimated 2,500 acres seven miles south of Bristow. The BIA committed two Type 1 Airtankers, one Type 2 Airtanker, two Single Engine Air Tankers, and a Lead Plane to assist with fighting this wildfire. No structures have been reported as damaged or destroyed. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

**Brinkley (Pottawatomie County)** – An Oklahoma Forestry Services Task Force (two Type 3 dozers, two Type 6 Engines, and a ICT4), two CL-415 Super Scooper Airtankers and an Aerial Supervision Module were dispatched to assist the Tecumseh Fire Department on this wildfire that burned 53 acres two miles north of Macomb. The fire is approximately 80% contained. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

**Fire weather today will remain high to very high today across the State.** Very dry air is in place across Oklahoma with relative humidity readings expected mid-teens to low twenty percent range. Temperatures are forecast to reach into the 70-75 degree range with light and variable winds. **Any on-going fire or new fire starting today has the potential to burn with rapid rates of spread and erratic fire behavior. The fastest rates of fire spread today will be where winds and terrain align.**

**Four County Burn Bans are currently in effect: Harper, Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron.** 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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