

Fire Situation Report – October 15, 2015

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 10/14/15 thru 10/15/15

NE Area – 4 Fires Burned 28.6 Acres (Cause: 2-Incendiary, 1-Debris, 1-Escaped Rx Burn)

EC Area – 2 Fires Burned 48 acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary, 1-Debris)

SE Area – 4 Fires Burned 46 Acres (Cause: 4-Incendiary)

- Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area: **No Activity**
- Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area:
 - Sawmill Road Fire (Atoka County) – 160 Acres (100% Contained)
- 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 10/13/15 thru 10/14/15

3 Fires Burned 280 Acres – (Cause: 2-Incendiary, 1-Equipment) Camargo & Pernell FD's Reporting

- Gore/Bryant Fire (Dewey County) – 100 acres, 100% Contained
- Mercer Fire (Garvin County) – 160 acres, 100% Contained

** - 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:

Receptive fuels combined with active fire weather today including near record temperatures and an approaching cold front will be cause for elevated fire danger again across Oklahoma. Cold front timing will be critical as it appears the front will move into northern Oklahoma during the peak of the burning period. Some storms may trigger with frontal passage. Any fires burning in the vicinity of the cold front boundary or active thunderstorm outflow may be subject to strong shifting or erratic winds.

The highest fire danger today will be in the southern third of Oklahoma; generally south of Hwy. 9. Fuels are extremely dry in this area through all of the size classes. Live-fuel moisture sapping drought indices continue to intensify as evidenced by the prevalence of KBDI observations in excess of 700 in counties along the Red River. Temperatures in this area will be 92°-98° with southwest winds 10-15 mph gusting to near 30 mph in western counties during the early afternoon. Poor to moderate humidity recovery overnight in some of the counties combined with hot and dry conditions will drive afternoon relative humidity into the teens at 12-19%. It should be noted that observed relative humidity yesterday afternoon was dipping approximately 7% lower than forecast moving fine fuel moisture into the 4% range. Fires initiated today should be expected to burn with elevated intensity and moderate rates of spread.

Fire danger in the northern and central tiers of counties should not be discounted today either. Temperatures 85°-93°, relative humidity values 20-30% and many areas with a one-month separation from wetting rains yields very dry and receptive fuels. Southerly winds ahead of the cold front will be around or less than 10 mph. The cold front will prompt a clockwise shift in winds to the north or northeast at less than 10 mph in eastern counties but nearer to 15 mph in northwest Oklahoma.

Special Note to Firefighters:

A cold front is forecast to enter northern Oklahoma today and move south into the evening. Expect southerly winds to shift to the north or northeast in the wake of the front. Additionally, winds overnight should be expected to increase. Insure that all fires today are fully contained and thoroughly mopped up to avoid break-overs and escape fires.

**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).**

