

Fire Situation Report – October 16, 2015

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 10/15/15 thru 10/16/15

NE Area – 1 fire burned 0.8 acres (Cause: Debris Burning)

EC Area – 4 fires burned 125 acres (Causes: 2-Debris Burning; 1-Incendiary; 1-Equipment)

SE Area – 8 fires burned 602 acres (Causes: 5-Incendiary; 3-Equipment)

- **Large Fire Activity within the Protection Area:**
 - **North Red Oak (Latimer County)** – One Type 3 Dozer and one Type 6 Engine with two Oklahoma Forestry Services firefighters extinguished this incendiary-caused wildfire north of Red Oak. The fire burned 120 acres in steep forested terrain.
 - **Caney Creek 2 (Pushmataha County)** – Two Type 2 Dozers, two Type 3 Dozers, three Type 6 Engines with seven Oklahoma Forestry Services firefighters were needed to contain this wildfire that burned 560 acres of pine plantation approximately four miles north of Sobol, OK.
- **Fire Activity with OFS Response outside the Protection Area: 1 fire burned 60 acres at Hugo, Ok**
- **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 10/15/15 thru 10/16/15

No fire activity reported on the on-line system yesterday.

** - 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 Fire Weather Watch is in effect for McCurtain County today from 10:00 am through Sunday (October 18th) at 8:00 p.m. Extreme fire behavior will be possible through this time period due to strong, gusty winds, low relative humidity, and extremely dry wildland fuels. A Red Flag Warning may be issued as fire weather conditions warrant.

Scattered, light rainfall occurred last night across the state following the passage of a cold front. At the time of this report posting, light rain continues to fall generally south of Interstate 40. However, the moisture will have little lasting effect on wildland fuels due to the amount and duration. Drier air is following the frontal passage which will cause fire danger to increase throughout the day.

Very high to extreme fire danger will remain in place across Oklahoma today. Relative humidity values in the low 20% range, warm temperatures, and north-northeast winds are forecast. Any fire starting today has the potential to burn intensely with moderate to rapid rates of spread.

Two special areas of concern for this weekend are northwest Oklahoma and far southeast Oklahoma. In northwest Oklahoma on Sunday, sustained southerly wind speeds of 20-25 mph with gusts of over 30 mph and relative humidity in the low 20% range is forecast for this area. These conditions coupled with temperatures of over 70 degrees will allow any fire starting in dry, cured fuels to exhibit extreme fire behavior. A Red Flag Warning may be issued if conditions deteriorate below forecast values.

In and near McCurtain County Red Flag conditions are possible throughout the weekend. Extremely dry conditions will allow any wildfire to start to burn very intensely, exhibit extreme fire behavior and be very resistant to control.

A County Burn Ban is in effect for McCurtain County. 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).**

