

Fire Situation Report – October 26, 2015

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 10/23/15 thru 10/26/15

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 10/23/15 thru 10/26/15

2 Fires Burned 1.5 Acres (Cause: 2-Misc.) Skiatook FD Reporting

** - 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.

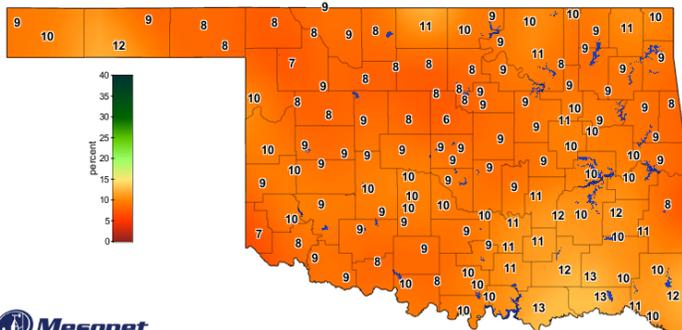
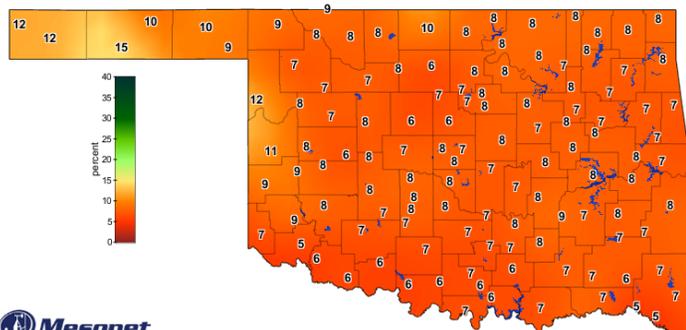
Statewide Discussion:

Dry conditions and relative humidity values dipping into the 20-30% range over the weekend west of I-35 have negated the boost in fine fuel moistures from last week's rains in large part. Leaf fall has initiated and herbaceous fuels are showing signs of seasonality with curing accelerated by scattered frosts in northwest Oklahoma.

Moderate fire danger will exist today in western Oklahoma primarily west of U.S. Hwy. 81. Temperatures will gradually rise to 65°-70° with relative humidity values this afternoon around 30% resulting in fine fuel moistures receptive to active combustion. Winds will be light at 5-8 mph out of the east or northeast in western Oklahoma; however winds in the Panhandle will be noticeably greater out of the south at 13-16 mph with gusts near 20 mph translating into potential for accelerated rates of fire spread.

Areas east of I-35 will continue with reduced fire danger as fine fuel moisture will remain elevated thanks in large part to relative humidity values remaining above 40% and ample sky cover. Rain chances will remain in place for this evening for much of far eastern Oklahoma.

The rain event last week provided a significant reduction in fire danger indices, however long term effects that are indicators of severity remain in place. Below is a comparison of Oklahoma Mesonet observations of 1,000 hr. fuel moistures before the rains and then after— one of the indices utilized to gauge overall fire danger as well as severity. Fuels in this category are comprised of surface fuels in the 3-8" diameter size class and require prolonged periods to adjust to averaged conditions whether that be dry or wet. As illustrated below recent rains were beneficial, but only made a dent in the severity potential. As herbaceous fuels cure with seasonality and live fuel moisture drops, we will see the indexes of severity become more evident. As a gauge, kiln-dried lumber is around 12% moisture content.



1000-Hour Dead Fuel Moisture

6:00 AM October 22, 2015 CDT



1000-Hour Dead Fuel Moisture

7:00 AM October 26, 2015 CDT

County Burn Bans: Authorities in McCurtain County have lifted the burn ban that was in place. Choctaw and LeFlore Counties have burn bans that remain in place. Information on current county level burn bans can be obtained at:

<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).

