

Fire Situation Report – April 7, 2016

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Oklahoma Forestry Services



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS* for Reporting Period 0800 thru 0800, 04/06/16 thru 04/07/16

NE Area – 4 fires burned 115 acres (Causes: 3-Incendiary; 1-Escaped Debris Burn)

EC Area – 1 fire burned 3 acres (Cause: Incendiary)

SE Area – 2 fires burned 38 acres (Causes: 1-Incendiary; 1-Escaped Debris Burn)

* 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 04/06/16 thru 04/07/16

1 fires reported that burned 874 acres (Cause: Escaped Debris Burn) Reporting Departments: Skiatook FD

** - 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.

A brief synopsis of wildfires receiving State support is as follows:

350 Complex (Woodward and Harper Counties) – An Oklahoma Forestry Services Type 3 Incident Management Team transferred command to Les Rogers' Type 2 Incident Management Team at 0700 hour this morning. Extreme fire behavior, long range spotting and rapid rates of spread occurred yesterday. Numerous County Wildland Task Forces and Oklahoma Forestry Services are committed to this incident. Five fixed wing Airtankers and Air Attack were committed to this fire yesterday until sunset. Aerial mapping of the incident was completed revealed that 54,200 acres have burned in this wildfire that started six miles north of Woodward. The fire is 10% contained. Arcing power lines has been identified as the cause of the fire.

Meridian Fire (Logan County) - An Oklahoma Forestry Services (OFS) Task Force and numerous fire departments were committed to this incident yesterday. This fire has burned 500 acres eight miles north of Luther. The reduction in acreage is due to better mapping. The fire is 100% contained and started as a result of discarded charcoal ashes.

Olive Fire (Creek County) – Olive Fire Department, Drumright Fire Department and numerous fire departments were committed to this incident that has burned 400 acres approximately five miles northwest of Bristow. Two Oklahoma Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopters equipped with 660-gallon buckets were committed to this incident. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Alva (Woods County) – An Air Tactical Group Supervisor and three fixed wing air tankers were diverted from the 350 Complex to assist the Alva Fire Department on a wildfire burned into the Alva City limits. No structures were damaged or lost as of a result of this incident that burned 117 acres. A tree limb falling across power lines causing arcing has been listed as the cause of fire.

Potbelly (Caddo County) – An Oklahoma Forestry Services Task Force assisted the Bureau of Indian Affairs with this wildfire that occurred approximately 3-1/2 miles east of Stecker. The fire burned approximately 118 acres in a timbered area. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Footprint (Caddo County) - An Oklahoma Forestry Services Task Force assisted the Bureau of Indian Affairs with this wildfire that occurred approximately two miles south of Ft. Cobb. The fire burned approximately 30 acres and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

Sewell Road (Pottawatomie County) – Tecumseh Fire Department, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and numerous fire departments were committed to this incident that burned 90 acres five miles south of Tecumseh. The cause of the fire has been listed as an escaped debris burn.

Bristow (Creek County) – An Oklahoma Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter equipped with a 660-gallon bucket assisted the Bristow Fire Department on this wildfire that burned approximately 40 acres four miles northeast of Bristow. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Vo-Tech (Creek County) - An Oklahoma Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter equipped with a 660-gallon bucket assisted the Drumright Fire Department on this wildfire that threatened the Vo-Tech in the city of Drumright. The fire burned 5 acres and no structures were reported damaged or lost.

A Red Flag Warning is in effect from Noon to 8:00 p.m. today for the following counties: Woods, Woodward, Alfalfa, Major Blaine, Canadian, Kingfisher, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Noble, Logan, Oklahoma, Lincoln, Payne, Pawnee, Osage, Tulsa, Creek, Washington, Nowata, Rogers, Mayes, Craig, Delaware and Ottawa. In and near the Warned area expect relative humidity readings to drop into the teens with North to northeast winds are forecast in the 10-25 mph range with 20-30 mph wind gusts possible. Temperatures are forecast to reach into the 70-85 degree range. **Any on-going fire or new fire starting today in and near the Warned area has the potential to burn with extreme rates of spread and erratic fire behavior.**

For more information concerning today's Red Flag Warning, click on the following link:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/> or <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tsa/>

SPECIAL NOTE TO FIREFIGHTERS: County Wildland Task Forces should anticipate mobilization today to on-going or emerging incidents.

SPECIAL NOTE TO THE PUBLIC: Outdoor burning of any kind over the next few days is strongly discouraged in all but far southeastern Oklahoma.

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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