

# Fire Situation Report – April 2, 2021

## Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry



### PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS for April 1, 2021

NE Area – 5 Fires Burned 63 Acres (Cause: 4-Incendiary, 1-Escaped Debris)

EC Area – 4 Fires Burned 209 Acres (Cause: 1-Escaped Control Burn, 1-Escaped Debris, 3-Incendiary)

SE Area – 5 Fires Burned 117 Acres (Cause: 5-Incendiary)

### Large / Significant Fire Activity within the OFS Protection Area:

- Bear Suck Fire (Latimer County) – 115 Acres, 80% Contained
- Manes Hollow Fire (Cherokee County) – 670 Acres, 90% Contained

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside of the Protection Area: **No New Activity**

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: **No New Activity**

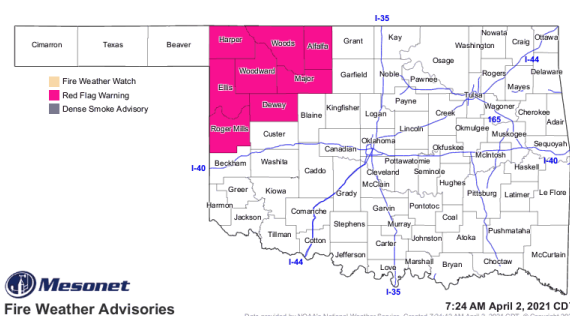
### FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS from [www.firereporting.ok.gov](http://www.firereporting.ok.gov) reported April 1, 2021

- **Moderate Initial Attack Activity Observed – Wildfire Reporting Ongoing**
- **1 Fire Burned 40 Acres (Cause: 1-Escaped Debris)**

**Statewide Discussion:** A Red Flag Warning has been issued for eight northwestern Oklahoma counties from Noon through 8:00 PM including Harper, Woods, Alfalfa, Ellis, Woodward, Major, Roger Mills and Dewey Counties. Warm afternoons and dry conditions have resulted in intensified drying of dormant wildland fuels increasing receptiveness of fine fuels and gradually increasing Energy Release Component. Dry conditions along with a warming trend are to persist across much of Oklahoma in the near-term forecast with the next opportunity for rainfall toward the middle of next week focused in southeastern and eastern counties.

**Today:** Southerly winds are forecasted to increase today with dry-return flow with the highest sustained winds in the Warned Area. Afternoon temperatures will be warmer than in the past two days although improved dew point temperatures will hold afternoon relative humidity values a bit higher. Additionally, some sky cover creeping in this afternoon will likely temper fine-dead fuel moisture values from falling below 5% outside of the Warned Area. Given the amount of prescribed fire and controlled burning over the last few days, patrol and mop up efforts focused on the northern control lines is merited to avoid escapes.

- **Warned Area** – Fine-dead fuel moisture values will settle into the 4-5% range this afternoon with temperatures 67°-70° and relative humidity registering 20-25%. South winds sustained 20-27 mph with gusts in excess of 35 mph at times will support potential for rapid rates of fire spread. During peak burning conditions, rangeland fuels in the area will exhibit head fire rates of spread 217-353 ft./min. (+/- 3.0 mph) with head fire flame lengths 14-19 ft. Those highest rates of spread are reserved for fully established, free burning fires where winds are aligned with both fuels and topography. Conditions are expected to moderate shortly after sunset with diminishing winds and moderate overnight moisture recovery.
- **Oklahoma Panhandle** - Elevated fire weather conditions will again present potential for challenging firefighting on established incidents. Temperatures 70°-75° and afternoon relative humidity values 16-23% will yield fine-dead fuel moisture values at 4-5%. South to southwest winds sustained around 20 mph with higher gusts will support rates of spread in rangeland fuels 158-242 ft./min. (2.1 mph) with head fire flame lengths 12-15 ft. Short-grass dominated fuels will exhibit head fire ROS nearer to 97-154 ft./min.
- **North of I-44** - Winds this afternoon will be noticeably stronger than in previous days. Given the drying that has occurred in recent days, firefighters should expect potential for increased fire behavior in general although initial attack success is expected to continue. Outside of the warned area, sky cover filtering in will aid in holding fine-dead fuel moisture values just above critical levels as temperatures warm into the 65°-70° range and relative humidity values settle to 24-30% yielding fine-dead fuel moisture values at 6% with some areas tapping 5% briefly this afternoon. South winds sustained 15-21 mph with some gusts this afternoon nearing 30 mph will support rates of spread in rangeland fuels 135-190 ft./min. Grasses typical in the Flint Hills area will have potential to exceed 200 ft./min. during peak burning conditions. Mixed fuels (Grass/Brush/Timber) will exhibit ROS averaging 48-83 ft./min. exhibiting some problematic fire behavior including single tree torching and short-range spotting.
- **South of I-44** – Warm and dry conditions this afternoon will result in receptive fuels again and continued initial attack activity. Temperatures 67°-70° and afternoon relative humidity values 23-30% will result in fine-dead fuel moisture values generally around 6%. Some 5% observations are possible in the northern parts of this area while 7% observations are expected where sky cover develops this afternoon. South winds sustained 7-15 mph with some higher gusts will be present this afternoon diminishing after sunset. Grass dominated fuels will exhibit rates of spread 91-140 ft./min. with head fire flame lengths 11-14 ft. Timber fuels ROS 20-41 ft./min. and flame lengths 3-7 ft. should be expected.



(Continued)

**Weekend:** A warming trend is expected coupled with continued dry conditions will hold fire danger in place through the weekend; however winds will not be quite as strong and relative humidity is not forecasted fall into the concerning level observed through the week. The warmer temperatures will spur continued green up in most areas where soil moisture is in place. Initial attack actions on new wildfires is expected to be successful with shorter burning periods compared to previous days. In general, rangeland fuels will exhibit max rates of spread 85-130 ft./min. while mixed fuels will generally express ROS nearer to 50 ft./min. and timber fuels 15-30 ft./min.

**Near-Term Outlook:** Dry conditions are expected to persist across most of the state ahead of the next system that present some precipitation potential in eastern Oklahoma. Ahead of that system, elevated fire weather conditions on Monday and Tuesday will enhance fire danger north and west of I-44.

**Burn Bans: None**

Refer to <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/burn-ban-info> for the most current burn ban information and links to specific burn ban proclamations.

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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