

Fire Situation Report – April 19, 2021

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS for April 16-18, 2021

NE Area –

EC Area – No New Activity

SE Area –

Large / Significant Fire Activity within the OFS Protection Area: No New Activity

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 reported April 16-18, 2021

- **Light Initial Attack Activity Observed – Wildfire Reporting Ongoing**

Statewide Discussion: Warm and dry conditions today ahead of an approaching cold front will drive some higher fire danger indices in the Oklahoma Panhandle and northwestern Oklahoma. The progression of green-up and leaf-out will limit fire behavior potential further south and east. That approaching cold front... Well below average temperatures and potential for some light snow north will suppress fire danger in large part. Winds in the wake of the cold front will be elevated, although the fire environment will be lacking alignment severely hampering development of wildfire concerns. Through the week ahead, no significant fire weather or fuels dryness is expected moderating fire danger concerns typical during this time of the year.

Today: Ahead of the approaching cold front, dry air and seasonal temperatures will support afternoon relative humidity values below 30% across most of Oklahoma today. In general, wind speeds will be rather light and the progression of green-up focused south and east will limit fire behavior reserving elevated fire danger for the Oklahoma Panhandle and possibly northwest Oklahoma late-afternoon and early evening.

- **Oklahoma Panhandle / Northwest Oklahoma** – Rangeland fuels dominated by herbaceous species favoring warm-season growing conditions will support moderate to rapid rates of fire spread although exhibiting limited resistance to control. Through the day, mostly clear skies coupled with afternoon temperatures 70°-76° and relative humidity values 12-18% supporting 3-4% fine-dead fuel moisture observations. Winds will be strongest in the western Panhandle where southwest winds 13-18 mph with some gusts +/- 25 mph will support moderate to rapid rates of fire spread during peak burning conditions. Initial attack efforts are expected to be successful with limited potential for large fire occurrence. The approaching cold front is expected to impact the area after sunset with temperatures driving well-below freezing overnight.

Near-Term Outlook: No significant fire weather / fire danger expected through the week ahead following some elevated fire weather conditions in the Oklahoma Panhandle and the northwest today. Some light snow may develop across northern Oklahoma with best opportunity for rain/snow mix in northeastern Oklahoma on Tuesday. A better opportunity for rain arrives Thursday night and Friday, again with best opportunity east of I-35. Given the downturn in fire behavior, the next update to the Oklahoma Wildfire Situation Report will be issued when the fire environment and/or fire occurrence merits.

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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