

Fire Situation Report – October 6, 2021

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS for September 23-October 5, 2021

NE Area – No New Activity

EC Area – 11 Fires Burned 227 Acres (Cause: 4-Esc. Debris, 3-Equipment, 4-Incendiary)

SE Area – 24 Fires Burned 536.1 Acres (Cause: 4-Esc. Debris, 4-Equipment, 15-Incendiary, 1-Campfire)

Large / Significant Fire Activity within the OFS Protection Area:

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside of the Protection Area: 1 Fire Burned 823 Acres

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: No New Activity

FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS from www.firereporting.ok.gov reported September 23-October 5, 2021

- 2 Fires Burned 101 Acres – Additional Activity Noted Through Informal Reporting and Media Outlets

Statewide Discussion: Rains at the end of September entering into the first few days of October served to set back building fire danger across much of Oklahoma although a handful of drying days has resulted in a return on new, initial attack wildfire activity. Temperatures will continue to warm over the next few days to well-above normal coupled with strengthening winds ahead of a cold front arriving Sunday. Fire danger is expected to increase through the remainder of the week peaking on Friday and Saturday

Today: Outside of a few chances for scattered storms on the OK/AR border, drying conditions are expected. Moderate fire danger indices will develop west of I-35 where temperatures will be in the low 80°s coupled with relative humidity values 27-35% under clear skies yielding fine-dead fuel moisture observations at 6% widely. Winds will generally be light and variable limiting fire spread potential.

Thursday: Good overnight moisture recovery across most of Oklahoma (marginal in far western and Panhandle counties) will serve to slow development of development of receptive fuels in the AM. Above normal temperatures in the mid-80°s to around 90° coupled with afternoon relative humidity values 20-27% west of I-35 and 29-39% east of I-35 will yield fine-dead fuel moisture values 5-6% across the state. Light winds in the eastern half of the state will limit fire spread potential, although southerly winds in western Oklahoma sustained 10-17 mph with some gusts exceeding 20 mph will support head fire rates of spread in rangeland fuels of 77-102 ft./min. with head fire flame lengths around 8 ft. on average.

Friday/Saturday: Temperatures will be well-above normal coupled with increasing winds will drive increasing fire danger throughout much of Oklahoma. In general, initial attack is expected to be successful with limited large fire threat.

- **Western OK/ OK Panhandle:** High temperatures in the high-80°s to mid-90°s and afternoon relative humidity values 17-24% under partly cloudy skies will support fine-dead fuel moisture values tapping 4% in many locations. South-southwest winds sustained 15-23 mph with gusts around 30 mph will support head fire rates of spread in rangeland fuels of 90-153 ft./min. with flame lengths 8-12 ft.
- **Central Oklahoma:** Temperatures in the low- to mid-90°s and afternoon relative humidity values 22-28% under partly cloudy skies will yield fine-dead fuel moisture values of 5% at most locations. Southerly winds sustained 17-22 mph with some gusts near 30 mph will support rates of spread in grass dominated fuels 102-160 ft./min. with head fire flame lengths around 10 mph. Timber fuels will exhibit ROS more on the order of 15-32 ft./min. with average head fire flame lengths 4-7 ft.
- **Eastern Oklahoma:** Temperatures in the upper-80°s to low-90°s and afternoon relative humidity values 27-33% under mostly clear skies yielding afternoon fine-dead fuel moisture values 5-6%. Southerly winds sustained 9-17 mph with some higher gusts will support grassland rates of spread 84-112 ft./min. with 7-9ft. flame lengths. Timber fuels will have potential to exhibit ROS around 20 ft./min. (steeper slopes nearer 30 ft./min.) with head fire flame lengths 4-7 ft.

Near-Term Outlook: A cold front forecasted to enter Oklahoma early Sunday morning working across the state through the day will open the door for a more unsettled weather pattern next week ushering in some storm chances. Current Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts point to the best opportunity for another round of wetting precipitation north and east.

Burn Bans: LeFlore County

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). Prepared By: Drew Daily, OFS Fire Staff

