

Fire Situation Report – January 6, 2021

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS January 5, 2020 through January 6, 2021

NE Area – No New Activity

EC Area – 1 Fire Burned 36 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary)

SE Area – 5 Fires Burned 29 Acres (Cause: 4-Incendiary, 1-Escaped Campfire)

Large / Significant Fire Activity within the 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 January 4-January 5, 2021

- **Initial attack activity observed via satellite in northwestern Oklahoma.**
- **No New Activity Reported**

Statewide Discussion: Elevated fire weather over dry, dormant fuels in the Oklahoma Panhandle remains a concern in the post-frontal fire environment while rain develops in eastern Oklahoma. The highest fire danger indices this afternoon will be present in the western 2/3'rds of the Oklahoma Panhandle although limited fire danger will remain in place across areas of western Oklahoma noting that some areas have morning drizzle ongoing. Rain chances increase through the day in eastern Oklahoma and areas east of I-35, while increased sky cover and elevated afternoon relative humidity will limit fine-dead fuel moisture in western Oklahoma. Dry conditions are forecasted to continue in the western counties through the remainder of the week although much lighter winds and moderated fire danger will develop ahead of the next opportunity for precipitation this weekend

Today: The highest fire danger indices will, again, reside in the Oklahoma Panhandle focused in both Cimarron and Texas Counties where stout north winds and dry conditions over receptive fuels will spur high fire danger indices this afternoon. Limited fire danger will exist across western Oklahoma with fine-dead fuel moisture held in check with shading from sky cover.

- **Oklahoma Panhandle:** Overnight moisture recovery ranging from 51-82% will stave off fuel receptiveness until midday. Temperatures 47°-50° and afternoon relative humidity values 22-31% under mostly clear to partly cloudy skies will yield fine-dead fuel moisture values 6% (Black Mesa) to 8% (Beaver). Northerly winds around 20 mph gusting 25-30 mph this morning will continue through the day with gusts this afternoon nearing 40 mph. In the grass dominated fuels across the area, head fire rates of spread 200-250 (+/- 2.5 mph) with flame lengths 13-16 ft. are possible on fully established, free-burning fires. Areas where grazing and/or haying has occurred ROS nearer 100-145 ft./min. are more likely. Winds are expected to gradually taper off after sunset as temperatures dip into the 20°s and fine fuels recover.

Thursday/Friday: Generally dry conditions continue across western Oklahoma although more seasonal temperatures and improved dew point temperature will hold fine-dead fuel moisture above critical level, and wind speeds moderate. Brief periods of moderate fire danger are likely in the western Panhandle each afternoon although good overnight moisture recovery and limited drying during the day will hold the burning periods short.

Near Term Outlook: Current forecasts suggest precipitation this weekend will favor the Panhandle, western and southern Oklahoma. Nonetheless, fire danger will be muted statewide with cooler temperatures, lighter winds and sky cover.

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.