

Fire Situation Report – January 14, 2021

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS January 12, 2020 through January 13, 2021

NE Area – 1 Fire Burned 2 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary)

EC Area – No New Activity

SE Area – No New Activity

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 12-January 13, 2021

- **No New Activity Reported**

Statewide Discussion: Strong winds and low relative humidity behind a cold front that arrived in Oklahoma in the early morning hours will quickly ramp up fire danger today. Gusty winds impacting western and northern Oklahoma this morning will continue through the day expanding across much of the state. A noticeable uptick in fire activity is anticipated and with the strength of drying conditions today, more widespread, intensified fire danger is expected Friday.

Today: In the wake of an early morning, dry cold front very strong and gusty northwesterly will persist through the day coupled with much drier conditions than have been observed in recent days. The highest fire danger indices today will reside in northwestern Oklahoma extending across much of western and northern Oklahoma. High to Very-High fire danger indices will be present in all but some southeastern Oklahoma counties. During the morning hours, a few sprinkles may occur over northern Oklahoma although no benefit in fire danger reduction is expected. A noticeable uptick in initial attack activity is likely along with some fires transitioning into large fires. Significant fire occurrence is expected to be kept largely in check given current composite fuel moisture values. Wind speeds are likely to diminish to some extent overnight before intensifying again tomorrow.

- **Northwestern/Western Oklahoma and eastern Oklahoma Panhandle:** Temperatures 49°-53° and afternoon relative humidity values 14-22% under clearing skies will yield fine-dead fuel moisture values at 5-6%. Northwest winds sustained 24-35 mph with gusts near 50 mph will drive rapid rates of fire spread during peak burning conditions on any established wildfire. Grass dominated fuels where grazing and haying has been absent, head fire rates of spread 272-376 ft./min. (+3.0 mph) and flame lengths 15-20 ft. Grazed fuels will exhibit ROS 117-245 ft./min tapping the wind limit with flame lengths 8-15 ft. Probability of Ignition will hover around 50% with short range spotting likely.
- **Northern and Central Oklahoma:** Temperatures 51°-57° with afternoon relative humidity values 19-27% under clear skies resulting in fine-dead fuel moisture values at 6% at most locations presenting much more receptive fuels than observed in previous days. Northwest winds sustained 18-27 mph gusting in excess of 30 mph at times (higher gusts north). Grass dominated fuels will exhibit head fire rates of spread 185-270 ft./min. with flame lengths 13-22 ft. NOTE: Heavy fuel loading in the northern counties are likely to exhibit rates of spread 246-337 ft./min. on fires that are established. Timber fuels will exhibit moderated fire behavior offering opportunity to contain fires.
- **Eastern Oklahoma:** Temperatures 52°-59° and relative humidity values 25-32% under mostly clear skies yielding fine-dead fuel moisture values at 7% will present a receptive fire environment. Soil moisture is likely to limit engine and equipment access in some areas. Rates of fire spread in grass dominated fuels 177-262 ft./min. and flame lengths 12-18 ft. are likely while fire behavior in timber fuels will exhibit head fire rates of spread 25-39 ft./min. with flame lengths 6-8 ft.

Friday: Strong winds and low relative humidity will persist. Given marginal overnight moisture recovery and accelerated drying on Thursday will establish a fire environment where more widespread, intensified fire danger will be present across Oklahoma with critical thresholds likely to be met. Fire behavior potential will be similar to the expectations today although fuels will be a notch more receptive. Additionally, operational resources will likely have commitment on fires initiating today.

Resources Available: (Resource Hotline: (800) 800-2481

- OFS Task Force – Woodward
- OEM staffed in support

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.