

Fire Situation Report – January 19, 2021

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry



PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS January 15, 2020 through January 18, 2021

NE Area – 6 Fires Burned 257 Acres (Cause: 6-Incendiary)

EC Area – 1 Fire Burned 9.5 Acres (Cause: 1-Incendiary)

SE Area – 8 Fires Burned 55 Acres (Cause: 8-Incendiary)

Large / Significant Fire Activity within the Protection Area:

- **Sonny Gile Fire (Adair County) – 115 Acres, 90% Contained**

Fire Activity with OFS Response outside of the Protection Area: 2 Fires Burned 416 Acres

- **21 Fire (Texas County) – 404 Acres, 100% Contained**

OFS Prescribed Fire Activity:

No New Activity

FIRE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS from www.firereporting.ok.gov reported January 15-January 18, 2021

- **Moderate Initial Attack Activity Observed w/Reporting Ongoing**
- **5 Fires Burned 428.5 Acres**

Statewide Discussion: Dry conditions over the weekend translated into some initial attack activity across the state in the wake of the very strong wind field last week. Seasonable temperatures, sky cover and relative humidity values well-above critical concern will serve to moderate fire danger today, although moderate to high fire danger indices are likely to develop across parts of the Oklahoma Panhandle and northwestern Oklahoma on Wednesday ahead of a couple of frontal boundaries later this week. There is some chance of wintry precipitation today in the western Panhandle and rain chances through the week in southern and southeastern Oklahoma with more widespread opportunity potentially later this week. No significant fire danger is expected to develop this week.

Today: Light rain along the Red River in southern and southeastern Oklahoma, winter precipitation chances in the western Panhandle, sky cover and relative humidity values well above critical concern will serve to dampen fire danger today in large part. Fine-dead fuel moisture values will struggle to dip below 9% in the driest areas limiting fuel receptiveness. Any new fires will exhibit minimal suppression challenge.

Wednesday: Winds returning with southwest flow sustained 15-20 mph gusting 25-30 mph north of I-40 and west of I-35 will spur moderate to high fire danger indices in northwest Oklahoma and portions of the Oklahoma Panhandle ahead of a cold front on Thursday. Relative humidity values are not expected to fall below 25% under partly cloudy skies and temperatures across the area 55°-62° yielding fine-dead fuel moisture values around 7%. Initial attack success is likely noting that any new fire that does become established in areas of heavier fuel loading will exhibit head fire rates of spread 135-200 ft./min. and flame lengths 11-14 ft. Grazed/hayed grass fuels will exhibit ROS generally less than 100 ft./min and flame lengths around 6 ft. Elsewhere in Oklahoma, moderate fire danger indices will tap moderate with fires exhibiting limited suppression challenge.

Near Term: Increasing moisture will hold afternoon fine-dead fuel moisture values above level of concern and reduced wind speeds will limit potential rates of fire spread. Rain chances persist in southern Oklahoma with a more wide spread opportunity later this weekend. Opportunity for a wetting rain across the driest areas of Oklahoma in the west, northwest and Panhandle counties seems unlikely, and much of the area is 20+ days separated from a wetting event. While we are expecting limitations on fire danger this week across Oklahoma, the lagging moisture west over dormant fuels requires continuous monitor.

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.