

# Fire Situation Report – January 29, 2021

## Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

### PROTECTION AREA STATISTICS January 25, 2020 through January 28, 2021

NE Area –

EC Area – No New Activity

SE Area –

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](http://www.firereporting.ok.gov) reported January 25-January 28, 2021

- **Minimal Initial Attack Activity Observed**
- **No New Activity Reported**

**Statewide Discussion:** Moderate fire danger today across much of Oklahoma today ahead of precipitation chances moving in this evening. Those rain chances shift to eastern Oklahoma Saturday with drier and much windier conditions ramping up fire danger in western Oklahoma and the western Oklahoma Panhandle. Dry conditions on Sunday will hold moderate fire danger indices in place. Composite fuel moisture is in pretty good shape with no locations in the state flagging concern reserving resistance to control for those established, wind-driven fires exhibiting rapid rates of fire spread.

**Today:** A cool start and respectable overnight moisture recovery will stall fire danger development today with moderate indices observed this afternoon. Temperatures will warm to above normal with temperatures in the mid-50's to the 60's in far western, southwestern and Panhandle counties. Southerly winds will increase through the day with stronger gusts this afternoon. Fine-dead fuel moisture values will be held above critical values with increasing sky cover and limited relative humidity. Rates of spread in typical grass fuels 103-142 ft./min. should be expected on established fires noting that areas where higher fuel loading is present may express increased fire behavior.

**Saturday:** Rain is expected to continue moving east with best opportunity for wetting rains in northeastern and parts of eastern Oklahoma. Rainfall amounts in western Oklahoma overnight on Friday are expected to be minimal. Drier air coupled with gusty winds will serve to ramp up fire behavior in the western Panhandle, southwestern and western counties.

- **Southwestern Oklahoma:** Above normal temperatures in the mid- to upper-60's and afternoon relative humidity values less than 30% will facilitate rapid drying of dormant grass fuels. Westerly winds shifting to the northwest during peak burning conditions sustained 29-35 mph gusting exceeding 40 mph at times will support head fire rates of spread in typical grass fuels 228-271 ft./min. with flame lengths up to 18 ft. Areas of heavier fuel loading will support rates of spread nearer to 300 ft./min. on fully established wildfires.
- **Western Panhandle:** Temperatures around 58° and afternoon relative humidity values 22-28% under mostly clear skies will yield receptive grass fuels at 6-7%. Northwest winds sustained 25-35 mph with some gusts near 50 mph will support potential for rapid rates of fire spread. Typical grass fuels will exhibit head fire rates of spread 208-293 ft./min. and flame lengths 12-15 ft.

**Sunday:** Dry conditions continue west and return east. Fire behavior potential will be moderated in comparison to Saturday with near-normal temperatures and afternoon relative humidity values forecasted to remain above 35% excluding the western Oklahoma Panhandle where 25% observations are likely. North-Northwest winds 15-20 mph gusting near 25 mph will support potential for moderate to rapid rates of fire spread in southwestern Oklahoma.

**Near-term:** The next system that may present increased fire danger is expected during the middle of next week ahead of the next precipitation chance.

### **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.

