

Southern Area Coordination Center Morning Report

Friday, July 3, 2009

09:30 a.m.

Southern Area
Preparedness Level: 1

Southern Area Current Situation

National Preparedness Level: 1

Compact Status: All Southern Area compacts are closed.

Initial Attack Activity*

The Southern Area reported 65 new fires yesterday for a total of 3,765 acres burned on State protected lands in AR, FL, NC, and SC and Federal (DDQ, FWS, and USFS) protected lands in FL, GA, and TX. One new large fire was reported yesterday.

(GA and LA reported 60 new fires for a total of 255 acres burned between 6/26 and 7/1 on State protected lands.)

* For specific information on fire activity (numbers of new wildland or prescribed fires and year-to-date totals by state/unit), please refer to the Southern Area [Summary](#) or [Detailed](#) Situation Reports.

Incident Information (as reported via ICS-209s)

Large/significant incident¹ activity includes the following:

Newly reported fires and/or changes to existing fires are highlighted in blue.

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	% Ctn or MMA	IMT Assigned	Structures Destroyed to Date
Moyer Fire	FL-FLS-2009-02-0515	7/02/2009	125	90	T5IC	
Unit 6 2009	TX-MCR-21525	6/29/2009	4,200	90	T4IC	
Barnett Branch*	AL-ALF-090403	6/23/2009	410	100	T4IC	

*No updated information was reported.

Prescribed Fire Activity

There were 7 prescribed fires reported for 5,906 acres burned on Federal (DDQ, NPS, and USFS) protected lands in AR and FL.

Remarks

AR-AOC: AR-OUF reported one wildfire for 0.2 acres, and 3 prescribed burns for a total of 2,960 acres completed.

FL-BCP: Big Cypress 1 prescribed burn 200 acres

FL-FIC: Osceola NF 1 prescribed burn 1,480 acres aerial ignition; Apalachicola NF 1 prescribed burn 466 acres. Eglin AFB 1 prescribed burn 800 acres, 1 human caused fire for 1 acre.

¹ Large incidents are defined as fires which are 100+ acres in timber or 300+ acres in grass/brush, or incidents with a Type 1 or 2 IMT assigned. Incidents with structures damaged or destroyed are also included, regardless of size.

FL-FLS: new fires: 4, new acres: 132.7

GA-GAS: 7/1/09 - 26 Fires for 80 Acres

GA-GIC: The Chattahoochee reported on fire today at one acre. The Oconee reports no fires.

LA-LAS: LDAF reports 34 fires for a total of 175 acres for June 26 through 06/29. Breakdown is as follows: 06/26/09 - 10 fires for 95 acres 06/27/09 - 8 fires for 19 acres 06/28/09 - 12 fires for 56 acres 06/29/09 - 4 fires for 5 acres

TX-TIC: TX-MCR Unit 6 2009 wildfire is now at 90% containment at 4,200 acres.

Resources Committed

Note: The process for generating resource tables is currently in transition from one reporting system to another. Therefore the resource tables have been temporarily dropped from the report.

TEAM & HOTSHOT CREW INFORMATION	
Area Command Team <i>Through 1000 MDT 07/15/2009</i>	Loach
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation <i>Through 1000 MDT 07/08/2009</i>	California
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation <i>Through 1000 MDT on 07/07/09</i>	Northern Rockies
Southern Area Incident Management Teams:	
Quesinberry (Type 1 - Blue)	Next regular Southern Area rotation is 7/5 - 7/18
Ruggiero (Type 1 - Red)	First up in the Southern Area 6/21 - 7/4
Wilder (Type 2)	Next regular Southern Area rotation is 7/19 - 8/1
Asheville Hotshots (Asheville, NC)	Unavailable - End of Season
Augusta Hotshots (Augusta Springs, VA)	Will be available August 1
Cherokee Hotshots (Unicoi, TN)	Will be available August 1
Jackson Hotshots (Jackson, MS)	Committed

[Click for today's Southern Area Summary Situation Report](#)



[Click for today's Southern Area Detailed Situation Report](#)

KBDI Links: [Florida KBDI Index](#)

Links to Burn Ban Information:

[Arkansas Burn Ban Map](#)

[Oklahoma Burn Ban Map](#)

[Texas Burn Ban Map](#)

[Alabama Drought Info](#) [Mississippi Burn Bans](#)

[Kentucky Burn Ban Map](#)

[Florida Burn Ban Map](#)

**Southern Area Predictive Services
Daily Fire/All Hazards Weather Summary and Outlook**

Friday, July 3, 2009

1. Red Flag Warnings/Fire Weather Watches: The NWS in Tallahassee, FL has issued a fire weather watch for the inland counties of the Eastern Florida panhandle and Florida Big Bend beginning Saturday afternoon from 1PM EDT until 6PM EDT due to possible long durations of low RH (<35%).

3. Overall Risk Assessment for Significant Management/Resource Activity: PL1

Wild fire risks overall remain mostly average to below average overall. However, a persistent 45 day+ drier pattern continues to reduce soil moistures, fuel moistures and increase KBDI values and ignition potential from southeast to northeast TX, across LA and southern MS to the FL Panhandle. In areas of southern-central TX, LA, and the Gulf Coastal region, the potential for fine fuels to ignite is now generally above average due low fuel moistures. ERC-G values continue to climb above the 90th percentile and some areas of coastal LA, MS and AL are nearing, at, or exceeding historical maximums. Green conditions and elevated humidity levels continue to offset high fire activity. KBDI values over the FL Panhandle have risen into the 500s with the below average rainfall – although some wetting rain last weekend has temporarily reduced ignition potential. Grasses continue to dry across central and western OK and Northern TX and we expect this to continue with the impact being the potential for above average fire activity. We expect the areas detailed above to remain in a drier rain pattern through Jul which will mean ignition and initial attack potential will increase and remain above average through the month as fuel dryness is expected to reach critical levels. See our new monthly/seasonal outlooks posted on the web.

Today's Weather/Fire/All Hazards Summary and Outlook: Yet another cold front will drop out of the Great Lakes over the weekend bringing showers back into the OH Valley and the northern half of our region by Monday with shower potential on the upswing for the parched central Gulf states Monday through Wednesday. **Because of the much drier conditions from the longer term 30+ day drier pattern from OK/TX to the Gulf Coast, we are highlighting the potential for increased initial attack due to fireworks and increased outdoor activity for the upcoming holiday weekend. In lieu of any rain, drought conditions and ignition potential will continue to rise from central-southeast-east TX east to the Gulf Coast states.**

A ridge of high pressure will continue hot weather from the southern Plains, across Texas, into the Lower Mississippi valley into the Forth of July. Highs will be in the upper 90s to lower 100s with some heat indices in the 105 to 110 degree range. Places like Austin, Houston, and Corpus Christi, Texas could see record highs.

Scattered thunderstorms will bring locally heavy downpours to parts of Florida into the weekend, but the activity should be much less widespread as compared to the past few days. Most of the Deep South will see partly cloudy skies for today and Saturday, but there will be an increasing threat for thunderstorms and heavy downpours by later Saturday night into Sunday as a slow moving front sinks south. High temperatures into the weekend over the Southeastern States will be in the 80s and 90s.

Next Significant Precipitation Period(s): Afternoon storms will remain a threat for Florida (mainly the peninsula) through the rest of the month and into Jul with some shower potential still likely for our Atlantic/southeast states.

5. Atlantic/Caribbean Tropical Activity Summary: No activity of note.

6. **Weather for Existing Uncontained Fire Activity:** None.
7. **Fire Behavior** – No Assessment Issued.
8. **Key Measures of Fire Danger/Fire Weather Conditions. (Click on Links).**
 - a. **Days Since Significant Rain**
 - b. **Southern Area ERC-G Graph, Southern Area ERC Percentile Map**
 - c. **10hr, 100hr, and 1000 hr Fuel Moistures**
 - d. **KBDI: Southern Area Map, Florida (DOF Product), Georgia (DOF Product), North Carolina (DOF Product), Texas (DOF Product), Oklahoma, Louisiana**
9. **FIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOKS and ASSESSMENTS:**
 - a. **7 Day**
 - b. **Current Month**
 - c. **Seasonal (Next Three Months).**