



Eastern Area Fire Behavior ***FIRE BEHAVIOR OUTLOOK***

FORECAST VALID FOR: n/a	DATE/TIME ISSUED: n/a
NEXT UPDATE: As Needed	SIGNED: Allan Hepworth - Fire Behavior Analyst (t)

The Behavior Outlook has been discontinued for the time being (5/22/2015). As conditions and need change, the outlook can be updated.

*This is a general fire behavior outlook for the Eastern Area Geographic Area. It is intended to provide wildland fire managers with an overall view of fire behavior potential and to assist wildland firefighter with making sound decisions and improving situational awareness based on current and expected fire behavior. This outlook is not intended to replace onsite observations or spot weather forecasts issued by the National Weather Service.

Fire Weather Summary:

*****Red Flag Warnings/Fire Weather Watches and Advisories: None issued as of 0700 May 18th, 2015**

- For complete fire weather information and specific detailed forecasts see:
<http://www.weather.gov> or <http://www.weather.gov/fire>
- Refer to the MesoWest Regional Surface Maps to access weather observations.
<http://mesowest.utah.edu/index.html>
- For updated fire danger and fuel moisture values link to:
<http://wfas.net/>

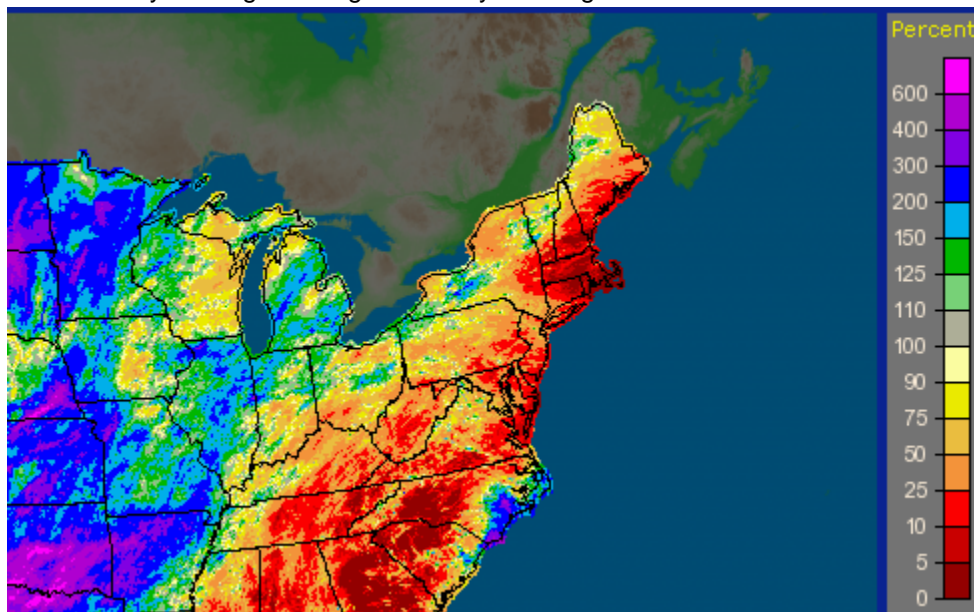
Fuels Conditions: State of the Fuels will be updated as the conditions warrant.

Stay updated by viewing the Eastern Area 7 day Significant Fire Potential Product:
<http://199.141.1.20/7day/action/forecast/11>

The Eastern Area over the past week has seen conditions significantly moderate. Several strong systems have moved through

A band of moisture moved through portions of the Northeast Compact Friday night into Saturday morning. PA, southern NY, northern NJ, CT, eastern MA all observed varying amounts of precipitation with greater accumulations ($\frac{1}{2}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ "") occurring in southern NY and western CT. Overall fuel conditions throughout the compact remain dry with NFDRS and CNFDRS trending at historic highs over the past two weeks.

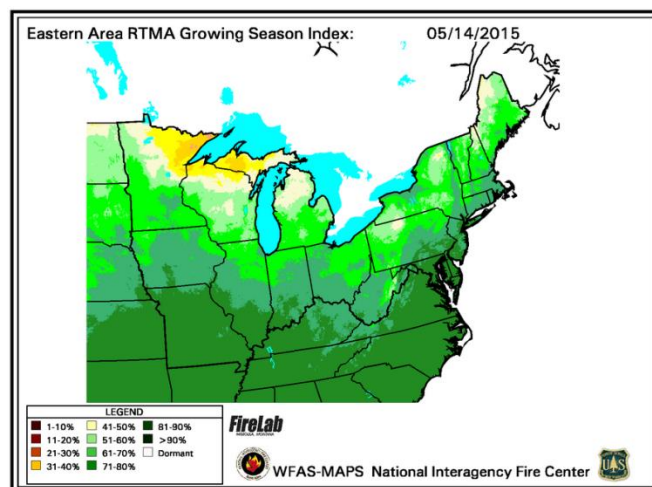
Conditions will be moderated today in these areas however Maine and New Hampshire have both remained dry overnight through Saturday morning.



The western half of the Mid-Atlantic Compact overall observed a moderation in conditions this week. These moderated conditions were the result of scattered showers earlier this week as well as areas of precipitation yesterday through today. However, portions West Virginia dried out again over the past few days. ERC values have trended from the 70th percentile mid-week to the 90th yesterday. Green up is complete over the southern tier of the Eastern Area.

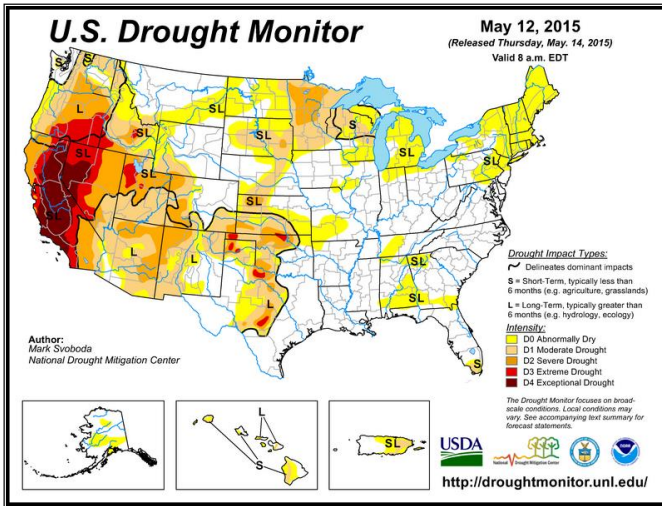
Cloud cover, higher relative humidity and precipitation have brought relief to the majority of the Great Lakes and Big Rivers this past week. The Big Rivers Compact specifically has seen fire behavior potential moderate substantially with conditions remaining moderated into early next week.

As observed on the GSI map, green up is still a few weeks away across the far northern tier. The eastern half of the Great Lakes states will see lower precipitation amounts overall this weekend into Monday morning with the heaviest rainfall amounts expected over the western third of the compact. Areas north and west of the New England Metro received fairly widespread precipitation earlier this week, enough to moderate conditions on a day-by-day basis.

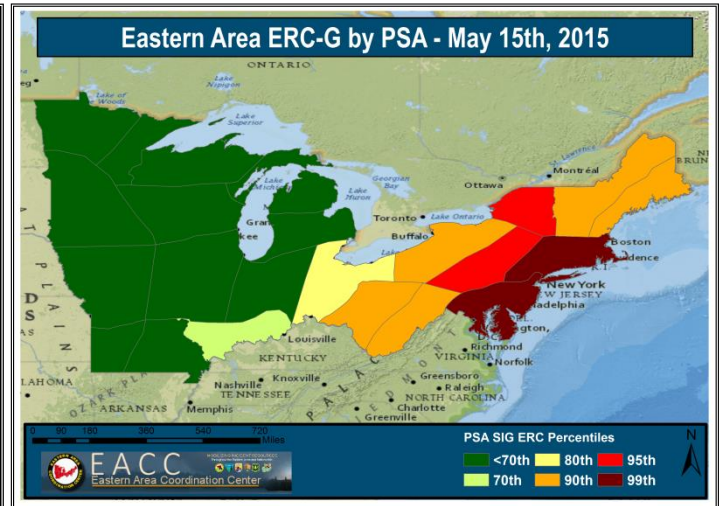


The majority of both the Great Lakes and Big Rivers Compacts have observed several days of cloud cover and precipitation. Fuels conditions throughout these areas should remain moderated into the first half of next week. Due to long-term drought conditions and low live fuel moistures, elevated fire potential still may still occur through the late spring. However, for the next 10 days this activity would be isolated to conifer in northeastern Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Michigan Upper Peninsula and would require alignment of both low needle moistures, drying and wind events.

See the [Fuels/Fire Danger](#) page at EACC



U.S. Drought Monitor –Drought Intensity

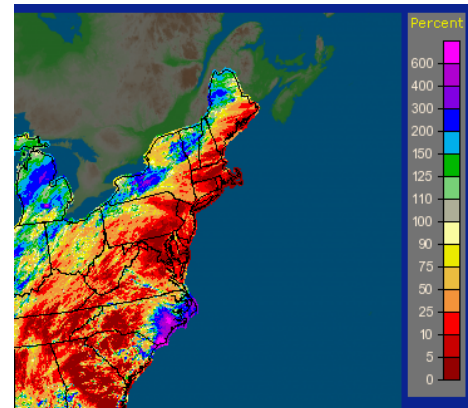


ERC-G by PSA SIG

Fire Behavior Outlook:

Northeast Compact– Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

Active fire behavior potential remains in the northeastern New England states of New Hampshire and Maine as very dry fuels and elevated NFDRS indices will prevail. **Low** fire behavior expected over the remainder of the compact as conditions moderated substantially due to areas of moisture and higher RHs. The map here shows the past 7 days percent of normal precipitation. Any areas devoid of precipitation will see elevated fire potential risk.

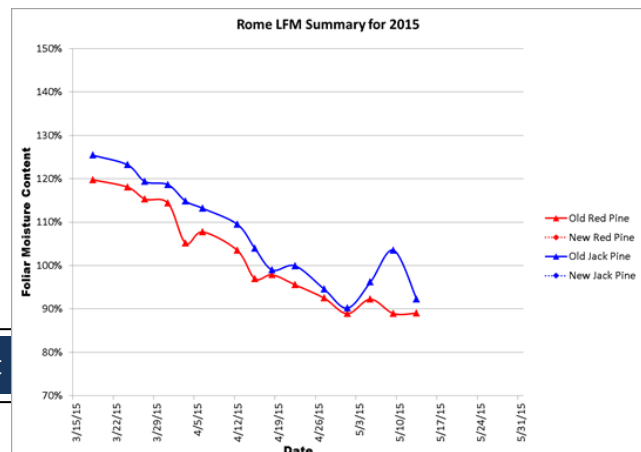


Mid-Atlantic Compact – Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland and Delaware

Low fire behavior is expected today over the eastern half of the compact. Conditions have been moderated by moisture and elevated relative humidity throughout the compact. Conditions should remain moderated into Monday depending on this weekend’s rainfall coverage and accumulations. The main concern now is that fuel conditions in the eastern portions of Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey, especially the 10 and 100-hour fuels, are very dry and are approaching early drought conditions. Fires over the past week in timber fuels exhibited deeper burning and required extended mop-up and holding action. Fires in brush fuels exhibited active burning and resistance to control even at higher humidity levels. Night-time burning was also active during periods of poor overnight humidity recovery. This has occurred on both wildfires and prescribed burns.

Great Lakes Compact– Including Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan

Low fire behavior should be observed today with the recent precipitation events. Additional rainfall is forecast to spread through the compact Saturday afternoon into Sunday night. However, moderate to severe drought conditions, with low live fuel moistures, prevail across portions of the north



central Great
graph below
Fuel
Red and
central



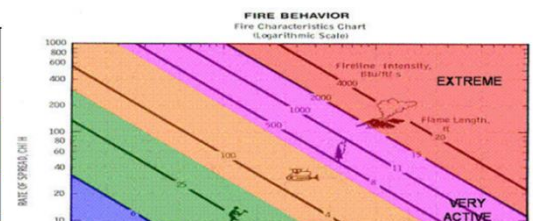
Lakes. The
shows Live
Moistures in
Jack Pine in
Wisconsin.

Corresponding BUI for the EA05 PSA is 31 which shows the general area as being in moderate like conditions. Weather became wet and cool since May 10. Green up is progressing over the northern tier of the Eastern Area. However, due to the dry fuels observed fire behavior over the past week was surprisingly active even under the canopy. Greenup is well along in the Central Sands. Crown activity is possible if conditions are ideal, but any ignitions are much less likely in the light fuels due to green conditions.

Big Rivers Compact – Iowa, Missouri, Illinois and Indiana

Low – Fire behavior expected today. NFDRS indices had risen over the past week in the Big Rivers Compact. Additional moisture is expected this weekend which will keep fire behavior low.

FIRE BEHAVIOR ADJECTIVE RATING	FLAME LENGTH (FEET)	INTERPRETATION FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT
LOW	0-4	Generally attack at the head or flanks are successful, handline should hold fire with very little resistant to control.
MODERATE	4-8	Fire is too intense for direct attack at the head. Handline cannot be relied upon, additional support from engine, dozer, tractor plow or air support is needed.
ACTIVE	8-11	Fire can present control problems; torching, crowning and spotting can be expected. Control efforts at head of fire are often ineffective.



Outlook:

The greatest threat into Saturday evening will be the dry region that runs from the central and eastern New England up through New Hampshire and Maine. Fuels conditions in this region are extremely dry and the potential exists for very active fire spread and behavior. **Windy and mild conditions associated with an approaching system could elevate fire potential over drier portions of New England on Monday.**

Drier conditions overall are forecast across the eastern halves of the Great Lakes and Northeast Compacts into Monday. Fire weather indices throughout these areas remain at or breaking historic maximums for this time of year.

The majority of the Big Rivers and the western Great Lakes Compacts have observed recent precipitation events which has moderated fire potential considerably. The weather patterns which has developed over the past week is expected to continue into this weekend as another low produces rainfall over much of these areas. However, conifer fuel moistures in the central and eastern Great Lakes remain low and would be available for consumption with minimal drying under the right conditions. **Overall, a much drier pattern is forecast to set up over the majority of the Eastern area this Tuesday into next weekend.**

For longer range outlooks reference the Climate Prediction Center link:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/index.php>

Comments and feedback for this product are greatly appreciated! The validity and usefulness of the Fire Behavior Outlook is important. Fire behavior observations from the field would also be helpful.