Fire Potential Outlooks

Updated: November 2, 2017
Valid: November 2017 - February 2018

Predictive Services Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

Temperature

Below Normal = 
Above Normal =

Precipitation

Below Normal = 
Above Normal =
Discussion

- **Past Weather and Drought:** 30 day soil moisture and precipitation anomalies were below normal across portions of southern Missouri and western Minnesota. Well above normal precipitation and soil moisture anomalies were in place much of Iowa, southeastern Minnesota, the LP of Michigan, northern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin.

- **Weather and Climate Outlook:** Cooler and wetter than normal conditions are forecast overall across the majority of the Eastern Area through the rest of the fall of 2017 into the winter of 2017-18. The exception may be far western Iowa and Missouri where a drier trend may develop this winter.

- **Fuel Conditions:** 100 and 1000 hour fuel moistures dropped below seasonal averages across portions of northern Minnesota as well as the eastern half of New England through the end of October 2017. Otherwise larger fuels were near seasonal normal levels over the majority of the Eastern Area. Energy Release Components or Canadian Build-Up Indices were at or below seasonal normal levels at the end of October at the majority of the Eastern Area RAWS.

- **Fire Season Timing:** The 2017 fall fire season may end earlier than normal across portions of the Eastern Area if the forecast cooler and wetter than normal conditions persist or develop.

- **Area Discussion:** Near normal fire potential is expected over the majority of the Eastern Area through the remainder of the fall of 2017 into the winter with an overall forecast of cool and fairly wet weather.