



North Ops 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Issued by North Ops Predictive Services, Redding CA

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Predictive Service Area (PSA)	Wed 18 Oct	Thu 19 Oct	Fri 20 Oct	Sat 21 Oct	Sun 22 Oct	Mon 23 Oct	Tue 24 Oct	Wed 25 Oct
NC01 - North Coast	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
NC02 - Mid Coast To Mendocino	Brown	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Brown	Brown
NC03A - Bay Marine	Brown	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Brown	Brown	Brown
NC03B - Diablo-Santa Cruz Mtns	Brown	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Brown	Brown	Brown
NC04 - Northwestern Mtn	Brown	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
NC05 - Sac Valley/Foothills	Brown	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Brown	Brown	Brown
NC06 - NE California	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow
NC07 - Northern Sierras	Brown	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
NC08 - Far Eastside	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow

Weather:

*** Strong Gusty S-SW Winds Higher Terrain and E of the Crest Today ***

S-SW winds will increase today ahead of a low pressure system and cold front that will eventually bring rain and mountain snow to most of the North Ops region. Peak wind gusts will reach 40-50 mph and locally higher in wind-prone higher terrain areas and some lower spots east of the Cascade-Sierra crest. **Places like Weed may see gusts to 50 mph with RH in the 28-35% range for a few hours today before humidity climbs higher.** Some inland areas still have RH in the 20-30% range this morning, but by mid-afternoon all portions of the region will have increasing RH, as well as cloud cover. Rain will move into far NW CA by 1400 hrs. or so and reach a Yreka-Hayfork-Ukiah line by sunset, and continue spreading over the entire region overnight. Showers will continue in the mountains Friday, and another wave of lighter rain will move through far NW CA on Saturday. Rainfall totals by early Sunday could be 2 inches in the far NW CA mountains, 0.25-1.00 inches elsewhere NW of a line from Santa Rosa-Redding-Alturas and in the N Sierra, and lighter amounts E of the crest, farther S in the Sacramento Valley and in the Bay Area.

A significant warming and drying trend is expected following the trough passage late weekend and lasting into the following week. Periods of light N-NE/Offshore winds are possible with this pattern, but no significantly strong winds are expected.

Fuels/Fire Potential:

Fuels are drier than normal across the North Ops region with fuel moisture values in a few areas at or near record values for this time of year. Those are mainly the lower elevations in the SW portion of the region. Coastal areas are seeing an increase in fuel moisture at elevations below 1000 ft due to the return of the marine layer. Humid air will finally reach inland areas today.

Although no High Risk symbols are posted, some local areas such as Weed, the Shasta Valley, and wind-prone areas along and E of the Cascade-Sierra crest will have elevated Significant Fire Potential today due to low RH and gusty S-SW winds.

Dry and very warm weather with light N-NE/Offshore winds are expected to return by Sunday. Although some northern PSAs may be out of fire season after this rain event, the remainder of the region will see fire potential increase again early next week.

For the latest long-term drought information in California go to: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

Resources:

Preparedness Levels:

North Ops:	4
South Ops:	3
National:	3
MACS Mode:	3 for NOPS and 2 for SOPS

For more information about this product, go to: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/Fire%20Potential%20Documentation.htm>

For more general information about this product, go to: http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/explanation_of_Sig_7-Day_Fire_Pot_product.doc

Forecaster SL