



North Ops 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Issued by North Ops Predictive Services, Redding CA

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Predictive Service Area (PSA)	Sun 19 Aug	Mon 20 Aug	Tue 21 Aug	Wed 22 Aug	Thu 23 Aug	Fri 24 Aug	Sat 25 Aug	Sun 26 Aug
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast To Mendocino								
NC03A - Bay Marine								
NC03B - Diablo-Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtn								
NC05 - Sac Valley/Foothills								
NC06 - NE California			L					
NC07 - Northern Sierras								
NC08 - Far Eastside			L					

Weather:

***** High Risk NE CA and northern portions of the Far Eastside PSA's Tonight through Tuesday Night due to thunderstorms and large fire ignition possibilities *****

A Pacific trough has moved over the Pacific NW and northern CA. This trough will continue to impact the region through midweek. The near term weather focus will be on thunderstorms and localized gustier wind areas. The thunderstorms will tend to be slower moving and provide mixed results in terms of precipitation. The inner cores will most likely be wet but lightning could occur around the edges. Gusty outflow winds will also be associated with the activity during the afternoon and evening hours, especially on Tuesday. The main impact period for the thunderstorms is tonight through Tuesday night. Perhaps some residual high based virga showers on Wednesday across the far north. High Risk has been issued for the main thunderstorm potential area which includes Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen counties or primarily within NE CA and northern portions of the Far Eastside PSA's. Some downstrikes could also occur across far eastern portions of the NW Mtn and Northern Sierra PSA's.

Besides the gusty outflow wind, larger scale gustier winds between 20 to 25 mph and possibly up to 30 mph will affect areas along and east of the Cascade and Sierra Crest, the far north and the Delta Region. The gustier flow is expected Tuesday and Wednesday. Humidity values will begin to moderate or rise some especially Tuesday/Wednesday thanks to some slight cooling.

Confidence is rising a tad more for brief ridging late week which means warmer temperatures and drier overall conditions. Another Pacific trough could affect the region by or during the weekend period. A pesky offshore low could also be in the mix by early next week but confidence turns to the low category by that time frame.

Fuels/Fire Potential:

High Risk has been designated for the NE CA and northern portions of the Far Eastside PSA's due to the thunderstorm ignition threat tonight through Tuesday night. Upcoming locally breezier conditions will also aid in higher initial and extended attack periods.

Energy Release Component (ERC) values across most PSA's are above the 90th percentile and in many cases near or at historic high levels for this time of year. Fuel moisture readings have dropped to the 3rd percentile in many PSAs, and in some cases, new records are being set. Some modification in fuel moisture values should occur across the far north during the next few days but they will remain dry. Fuels at any elevation, including herbaceous and brush, will contribute to large fire growth. Recent widespread smoke impacts and heat have combined to trend ladder fuels towards dormancy with significant browning and leaf fall being observed.

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: 4

National: 5

MACS Mode: NOPS and SOPS 3

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: JBW