North Ops 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Issued by North Ops Predictive Services, Redding CA

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Predictive Service Area (PSA) | Tue 11 Jul | Wed 12 Jul | Thu 13 Jul | Fri 14 Jul | Sat 15 Jul | Sun 16 Jul | Mon 17 Jul | Tue 18 Jul
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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 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  
NC07 - Northern Sierras |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  
NC08 - Far Eastside |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  

Weather:

- Flat ridging over the region will continue through Thursday and result in weak onshore flow over most areas. On Friday the ridge builds in earnest for the beginning of another hot and dry period expected to last through Sunday. **Temperatures will range from 10 to 15 degrees above average during the weekend and locally hotter.**

- The ridge will begin to break down on Monday and general troughiness returns to the region. A weak low aloft will move across the North Bay area on Tue and will monitor this feature for a threat of thunderstorms. Otherwise relatively moist onshore flow will return to most areas.

- Onshore winds across Greater Bay Area will remain near average through Saturday then increase Sunday through early next week. **Monday appears to be the strongest wind day** region wide with potentially windy conditions across the far east areas.

- For all other areas Lighter and mainly onshore winds will be observed over most other areas with typical locally breezy afternoon westerlies gusting 15-25 mph through Thursday, but decrease during the weekend. Stronger westerlies across the eastern PSA's look likely early next week along with dry RH values.

- Light offshore flow will be more pronounced during the nights and early morning periods over higher elevations during the weekend.

- RHs will remain moderated along the western lowlands through midweek with gradual drying continuing inland. RH values will fall during the weekend to **single digits across localized hotter valleys while overnight recoveries also remain lower than normal.**

- Airmass instability increases early next week and although mid levels look dry, a weak upper feature moving east across the Bay Area will be monitored closely for a trigger of any showers or
thunderstorms, mainly focused across far east areas. Any storms will be likely to be fast moving across the east.

Fuels/Fire Potential:

- Fire danger levels will fluctuate through Friday due to periods of weak to moderate onshore winds combined with pockets of low to marginally low RH. **Heatwave Friday through Monday** will lead to increasingly poor overnight RH recoveries, strong thermal belts and hotter temps both day and night. This will elevate fire danger levels and bring longer than normal burn periods.

- Moisture found within the snowpack is +400% of normal for the date, with some snowpack remaining in the sheltered areas (canopy & aspect dependent) generally above 7000 ft.

- Dead fuel moistures will maintain small fluctuations each day until Thursday then will lower significantly region wide Friday through Monday. **ERCs will spike upward during the heatwave and become near to above normal across all PSAs except for the far East Side.** Near coast PSAs will exceed the 90th percentile during the heat wave event.

- Herbaceous grasses and forbs are in a green-up phase between 3500-7500 ft depending on sheltering & aspect while partly to mostly cured grasses are found below 2500-3000 ft. The most advanced curing is aspect, soil type and species dependent and has been accelerated due to the recent Heat Wave period with **cheat grass partially to mostly cured across the east.** This is a star thistle year so some residual moisture, with the potential to slow fire growth, will be found within larger patches the next several weeks.

- **Live Woody Brush-Shrubs & Tree Canopies** are in a mixed phase of curing/moistening with generally curing across the lower & some mid elevations. Chamise & Sage are curing but are still less flammable overall. Manzanita is in a mixed curing/moistening stage based on elevation & aspect. **Most shrub & tree canopies are not as flammable** although Chamise is starting to become more flammable and will begin to contribute to fire spread more and more in the coming weeks.

- For the latest long-term drought information in California go to: [https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA)

Resources:

**Preparedness Levels:**

North Ops: 2  
South Ops: 2  
National: 2

MACS Mode:  NOPS and SOPS 2

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


Forecaster: BW/JT