



North Ops 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook

Issued by North Ops Predictive Services, Redding CA

Published: Tuesday Mar 12, 2024 7:28:07 AM PDT

Predictive Service Area (PSA)	Mon 11 Mar	Tue 12 Mar	Wed 13 Mar	Thu 14 Mar	Fri 15 Mar	Sat 16 Mar	Sun 17 Mar	Mon 18 Mar
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:

- **Rain & snow showers expected across most of N Ops today** except across S interior areas from the central Sac Valley to E SFO Bay area & parts of NE CA & the Far Eastside. Snow levels ranging between 3000-6000ft, lowest N & highest S. Showers will end tonight.

- **24hr precip amounts thru 5am PDT Wed morning** likely to be 0.25-0.75" for much of the N Coast into W portion of the NW Mtns, across the mountains of NE CA, & across the foothills into the Cascades & Sierras. 0.10-0.25" amounts around those locations as well as the SFO Bay area to Santa Cruz Mtns.

- **SW winds remain breezy to windy today across central to NE portions** of N Ops w/gust 20-40mph NE areas. Winds become more westerly from W-E during the day, becoming breezy across the W mtns & bay area during the afternoon-evening.

- **High pressure will build Wed-Fri from the W & N resulting in warming, drying, & breezy to windy, & potentially very windy N-NE winds, primarily from the Cascade & Sierra crests SW-ward.** Peak winds area likely Thu morning w/gusts 40-60mph across the ridges of the Cascades & Sierras & through the gaps & passes. 20-40mph gusts across other ridges, Sac Valley, & bay area.

- Winds are likely to weaken & become light this weekend into early next week w/mild & dry conditions persisting, resulting in cool mornings & warm afternoons. Overall, 5-15F below normal temps thru Wed will trend up late this week into this weekend to 10-20F above normal.

Fuels/Fire Potential:

- **No risk of significant fire for the next 7 days** due to significant & increasing lower elevation green up, substantial mid-upper elevation snowpack, and generally moist fuel conditions.

- **Significant drying of the finer dead fuels is expected Wed-Sat due to moderate to locally strong N-NE winds & lower RH.** This could lead to increased IA across in grass & brush dominated areas generally from the Sac Valley westward.

- Moisture within the N Ops snowpack ranged between 101-116% of normal as of Mon Mar 11th. Consistent snow cover generally exists above 3500-4500ft, but some still exists below 3000ft across portions of the far NW.

- **Dead Fuels** will remain moist & less flammable today & then will begin to dry Wed into the weekend below the snowpack. **BIs & ERCs will trend to near to above normal across coastal PSAs & the Sac Valley, esp N Coast & Bay Marine PSAs, but are expected to remain below the 60th percentile thru the period.**

- **Herbaceous** grasses and forbs are in various stages of green-up, generally below 3500ft. New growth in those areas will accelerate w/the upcoming sunny & warmer weather. Dormancy exists across the mid/upper elevations. Frost & freezing conditions & heavy snowfall in the 1st week of March stunted the green-up & compacted dead fuels in some areas, primarily across the NW-N, where snowfall was heavy at lower elevations.

- **Live Woody Brush-Shrubs & Tree Canopies** will remain mostly dormant for most species, though there is some remaining flammability in Chamise in some areas. Some initial green-up has started across the lowest elevations.

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

Resources:

Preparedness Levels:

North Ops: 1

South Ops: 1

National: 1

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>

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: BTL