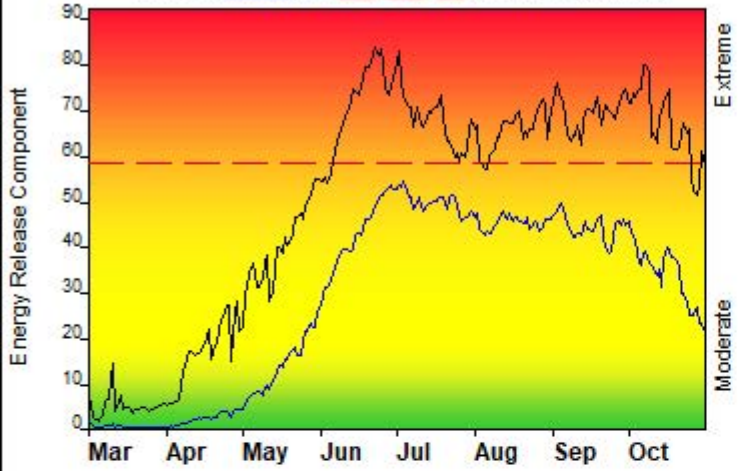
FIRE DANGER -- UCRIFMU-Timber-2020

Maximum, Average, and 90th Percentile, based on 21 years data



Fire Danger Area:

- West Central Colorado
- WRF-GRD-GMF
- Areas above 8500 ft
  * Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

Fire Danger Interpretation:

EXTREME -- Use extreme caution

High -- Watch for change

Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 1993 - 2020

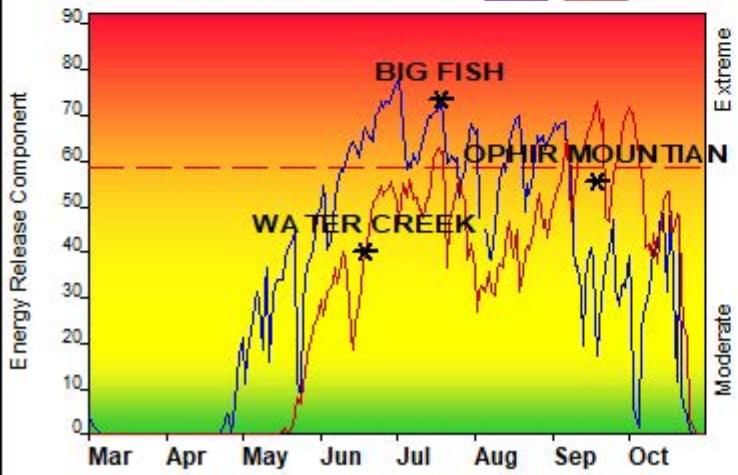
Average -- shows peak fire season over 21 years (4844 observations)

90th Percentile -- 10% of the 4844 days from 1993 - 2020 had an Energy Release Component above 58

Local Thresholds - Watch out:

Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior: **20' Wind Speed** over 15 mph, **RH** less than 20%, **Temperature** over 75, **Energy Release Component** over 61

Years to Remember: 2002 2010



Fuel Model: G - Short-Needle (Heavy Dead)

Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Timber fires usually spread by creeping surface fire, passive torching, and short-range spotting. They are usually controllable under moderate conditions (eg. Spraddle Creek Fire, 1998). During more extreme conditions, resulting from extended drought, wind and/or slope can support extreme fire behavior with active crown fire and long-range spotting. Extreme spread rates are usually related to high wind, such as the 7,000 acre run on the Big Fish Fire in August 2002 caused by a cold frontal passage with winds over 30 mph. The heavy dead/down fuels in these stands can also create fires that exhibit plume-dominated fire behavior that results in extreme, erratic, fuel-driven fire spread.

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Design by NWCG Fire Danger Working Team