

SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Friday, February 22, 2019

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Southern Area Coordination Center
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PREPAREDNESS LEVELS	COMPACT STATUS
Southern Area 1	South Central Closed
National 1	Southeastern Closed
	Mid-Atlantic Closed

Southern Area Activity/Impacts 2/21/2019

Current Situation:			
Initial Attack (I.A.) Activity:	Light	Ongoing Uncontained Large Fires: & Active Acreage:	0 fires
Total I.A. fires and acreage:	16 fires for 82 acres		0 acres
New Fires on Federal Protected Lands in:	7 fires for 2 acres	New Fires on State Protected Lands in:	9 fires for 80 acres
	OK		FL, GA & LA
Other I.A. reported through non-FAMWEB Channels:	0 fires for 0 acres		
Prescribed Fire Activity:	State and/or Federal Lands – 114 prescribed fires for 5,906 acres in FL, GA & SC		

Significant Activity 2/21/2019

New Large ICS-209 Incidents/Critical Updates:** None reported.

Large/Significant Activity:

(Blue = newly reported fires & changes)

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	Acres + or -	% Ctn. /MMA	IMT Assigned	Structure Loss

= No updated information was submitted; * = No change in status
 Definitions:
 Full Suppression/Perimeter Control: Implies a strategy to "put the fire out" as efficiently and effectively as possible, while providing for firefighter and public safety.
 (p) Point or Zone Protection/Limited Perimeter Control: Involves protecting specific points from the fire while not actively trying to line the entire fire edge.
 (c) Monitor/Confine: Management actions conforming to a monitoring strategy that periodically checks the fire to ensure it continues to meet objectives, and where no further action is taken.
 For specific information on fire activity (new wildland and prescribed fires by agency/unit, year-to-date totals, and large incident specifics), please refer to the Southern Area [Summary](#) or [Detailed](#) Situation Reports.
 ** For the purposes of this report "Large ICS-209 Incidents" are defined as fires that exceeds 100 acres in timber and slash (fuel models 8-13), 300 acres in grass and brush (fuel models 1-7), or when a Type 1 or 2 IMT is assigned. Incidents with structures damaged or destroyed are also included, regardless of size.

RESOURCES

The number of resource currently committed is obtained from the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). There may be slight Discrepancies in the total number of resources reported. The Overhead column only reflects overhead positions, not the total number of personnel assigned.

SACC MORNING REPORT - RESOURCES CURRENTLY ASSIGNED IN AREA

Resource Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crew	Equipment	Overhead	Summary
Bureau of Indian Affairs				1	1
Bureau of Land Management				2	2
Georgia Forestry Commission			3		3
Kentucky Division of Forestry				1	1
National Park Service			2	7	9
Other				1	1
Texas Forest Service				1	1
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service			13	3	16
U.S. Forest Service	2	3	8	228	241
Summary	2	3	26	244	275

SACC MORNING REPORT - RESOURCES CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OUT OF AREA

Resource Provider Agency	Overhead	Summary
Summary	0	0

NATIONAL TEAM RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Area Command Team:	Stutler (through 3/05 @ 1000 MST)
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation:	Rocky Basin (through 2/26 @ 1000 MST)
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation:	Southwest (through 2/27 @ 1445 MST)

SOUTHERN AREA – IMT

For Rotations Dates, please click [HERE](#) *Bold indicates IMT on SA Current Rotation*

Dueitt (T1) Red	Unavailable
Wilkins (T1) Blue	Available
Beard (T2) Gold	Available
Ketron (T3) Gray	Unavailable

SOUTHERN AREA BUYING TEAMS

SA Cheeks	Unavailable
SA Robinson	Unavailable
SA Taylor	Unavailable

TYPE 1 CREWS

Asheville Hotshots (Asheville, NC)	Mob en route – FL
Augusta Hotshots (Augusta Springs, VA)	Committed – R8 Support- AR/OK – AR
Cherokee Hotshots (Unicoi, TN)	Unavailable
Jackson Hotshots (Jackson, MS)	Unavailable – End of Season

TYPE 2IA CREWS

Davidson River	Reserved – R8 Support - MS – MS
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SOUTHERN AREA WILDLAND FIRE MODULES

Balcones Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – TX
Buffalo River Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – AR
Great Smoky Mtn. Wildland Fire Module	Available – TN

WILDLAND FUELS/SUPPRESSION MODULES

Cherokee IHC Bravo	Committed – CY 19 GW & Jeff Support – VA
Cherokee IHC Charlie	Reserved – CY19 Cherokee NF Rx Burn Support – TN
JC Module 8E	Committed – FY19 FNF Rx Burning – FL
JC Module 8F	Committed – DBNF Rx Burns 2019 – KY
JC Module 8G	Committed – Croatan Rx FY 2019 – NC
Module A	Committed – 2019 FMS RX Support – SC
Module B	Committed – R8 Support - AR/OK – AR

Module C	Committed – FY 19 Chattahoochee-Oconee Rx Burn/Prep – GA
AVIATION RESOURCES	
N911FS (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – AR
N14HX (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – FY19 FNF Rx Burning – FL
N196TA (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – FL
N351FW (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – FL
N357TA (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – FY19 FNF Rx Burning – FL
N5013G (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – FL
N854H (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – LA
N407TD (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – TN

Remarks by Reporting Office:	
LA-LIC	Fire danger low today. It has been raining all across the State. The State of Louisiana reports 1 Wildfire for 6 acres and no new Rx Burns. The Kisatchie National Forest and the USFWS reports no new Wildfires or Rx Burns.

[!\[\]\(c507f772dba2b921f86777f01218e570_img.jpg\) Click for today's Southern Area Summary Situation Report](#)



[!\[\]\(cbe80b694ebd74fcfe136a095b608235_img.jpg\) Click for today's Southern Area Detailed Situation Report](#)

Southern Area Predictive Services
Daily Fire/All Hazards Weather Summary and Outlook

Red Flag Warnings: None.

Fire Weather Watches: A watch has been issued for Saturday for four counties in western Texas due to expected very strong gusty initially west/southwest and then northwest winds to 50 mph and low teens RH minimums from a cold front. The next chance for some rain in this area (as well as southwest/west Texas) is late next week (0.25 to over 0.5 inch).

Fire danger is expected to increase on Saturday for southwest Texas following passage of a cold front which will be producing a higher sustained/gusty wind field (20 to 30 mph) and RH minimums in the teens to 20%.

Fire Weather Summary/Outlook: Wet pattern ends after Sunday. Six day drier period next week but still stormy Gulf Coast areas and FL.

The stormier and wetter weather pattern we have been seeing will continue through the weekend with rain activity and storms continuing to produce broader coverage 0.25 to 0.75+ inch rainfall; 1 plus additional inch rain fall will persist for primarily the Tennessee Valley east to Virginia. High pressure near the US southeast will keep rain activity more minimal and less likely until around Tuesday of next week. The cold front that will eventually move though the south Sunday will result in cooler temperatures. Already though, freezing temperatures and some snow producing weather is occurring across the Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles. With the drier trend next week, a weather window will appear for much better Rx burning. Still appears a much colder temperature trend coming in the first few days of March will allow for some snow to fall across our northern and Mid Atlantic states with RH minimums getting down into the 20% to 30%.

Puerto Rico: Isolated to scattered light rain producing shower activity expected through the weekend. Minimal to no rain activity in areas of the southern coast along with persisting drier conditions and winter trending weather patterns will keep this area, in particular, in an overall elevated ignition potential environment. Daily RH fluctuations will wax/wane potential. With KBDIs in the south now in the 600 plus range, a fire danger statement is in effect today.

Tropical Atlantic Summary and Outlook: The official 2018 tropical season ended Nov 30th.

Weather and Climate Outlook for the next Four Months: February, March, April.

Discussion of weather trends and fire potential outlook maps are posted on the SACC web site.

Weather Patterns/Trends/Discussion: While ocean temperature anomalies in the tropical Pacific (the pattern and trend of which are major indicators to future precipitation and temperature anomalies for the Southern Area), continue to show warmth, the atmospheric response/coupling has not yet taken place. In spite of this, the warmer and near/at El Nino SST threshold water along with other atmospheric are producing and expected to continue to produce a higher frequency storm pattern and the much "wetter" and higher rain accumulations pattern we have seen for the Southern Area since Fall. The historical analogs, long range modeling, and considerations of other winter impacting phenomena (the polar vortex,

QBO, and MJO trends), suggest the warmer ENSO episode and the “wetter” conditions it produces will persist through winter and still likely into Spring. In any case, the ENSO state this year remains diametrically opposite to the much drier La Nina (cooler ocean temperatures) episode the South experienced last year.

Into February, we will be closely monitoring the development, strength, and location of high latitude Greenland and northeastern Pacific/near Alaska high pressure blocking for clues and timing for a likely return of colder (below average) temperature episodes and additional snow events. While sub-tropic Atlantic high pressure will likely continue to reduce the potential for higher amounts of recurring rain activity fall for Florida early on, a higher trending humidity environment and some rain activity should still be expected. All considered, we expect most of the Southern Area will continue to see a “wetter” winter and early Spring season. Exceptions will likely continue to be western Oklahoma, West Texas, and southern Florida. For these areas, we will need to closely watch for the occurrence of shorter term higher ignition potential periods of low RHs and “high” winds. For Puerto Rico, we will continue to monitor the below average rain pattern for additional drying and the potential for increasing fire danger as what should be a drier winter/early Spring pattern.

Drought and Fuel Conditions (by exception): With the exception of primarily southern Florida and northeastern Oklahoma where D0 to D1 intensity conditions exist, and southern Puerto Rico with DO drought, the rest of the Southern Area is well out of any drought condition. For most of the Southern Area, soil moistures, precipitation anomalies, and stream flows, and fuel moistures are all above to well above the average; 100 and 1000 hour fuels are extremely moist with most in the 18 to 25% plus range. The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook view through Feb 28, 2019 essentially shows no significant drought, drought tendency, or development for the U.S south or Puerto Rico. This said, and as already identified, significant precipitation anomalies (60 days for Oklahoma and 90 day for Puerto Rico) have evolved and for this reason will bear monitoring over winter for any further worsening. For Puerto Rico, the dryer condition and our expectation for continued below average precipitation causes us to put part of the island in above average potential for May/April.

Fire Activity and Area Discussion (By exception): Fire activity remain minimal and this condition is expected for the vast majority of the Southern Area through winter and into early Spring. As previously mentioned, we will need to monitor any emerging drying trend in Oklahoma, west/northwest Texas, and Puerto Rico. For Puerto Rico, the dryer condition and our expectation for continued below average precipitation causes us to put part of the island in above average potential for May/April.

[National Incident Management Situation Report](#)