

SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Sunday, September 24, 2017

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PREPAREDNESS LEVELS	COMPACT STATUS
Southern Area 5	South Central Closed
National 3	Southeastern Closed
	Mid-Atlantic Closed

Southern Area Activity/Impacts 9/23/2017

Current Situation:			
Initial Attack (I.A.) Activity:	Light	Ongoing Uncontained Large Fires: & Active Acreage:	0 fires
Total I.A. fires and acreage:	7 fires for 37 acres		0 acres
New Fires on Federal Protected Lands in:	0 fires for 0 acres	New Fires on State Protected Lands in:	0 fires for 0 acres
Other I.A. reported through non-FAMWEB Channels:	2 fires for 28 acres in TX. 5 fires for 9 acres in AR.		
Prescribed Fire Activity:	State and/or Federal Lands: 0 fires for 0 acres.		

Significant Activity 9/23/2017

New Large ICS-209 Incidents/Critical Updates:** Hurricane Irma – Florida State Red Type 2 IMT (Dolan) continue to managing four PODs near the Florida Keys. LSA T2 Green Team continues to supply PODs and will begin to break down camp. NIMO (Quesinberry) has mobilized to the USVI. Hurricane Maria: Type 1 IMT (McGowan), Type 2 IMT (Zombro), and Type 2 FDNY Team are reserved for Puerto Rico; Type 2 IMT (Bird) is reserved for St. Croix, USVI; Type 2 IMT (Parrish-Wilkins) is reserved for St. Thomas, USVI.

Large/Significant Activity: (Blue = newly reported fires & changes)

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	Acres + or -	%Ctn/Comp	IMT Assigned	Resources			Structure Lost
							Crw	Eng	Pers	
Hurricane Irma (LSA Green Team)	FL-FLS-17-020	9/11/17				Type 2 IMT (Kern-FL ST)			43	
Hurricane Irma (Red Team)	FL-FLS-1700020	9/17/17				Type 2 IMT (Dolan-FL ST)			37	

= No updated information was submitted; * = No change in status

Definitions:

Full Suppression/Perimeter Control: Strategy developed to control a fire and prevent it from exceeding a defined perimeter.

(p) Point or Zone Protection/Limited Perimeter Control: Variety of suppression actions taken to protect a specific point or area.

(c) Monitor/Confine/Contain: 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 which are 100+ acres in any fuel type or incidents with a Type 1 or 2 IMT 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	Equipment	Overhead	Summary
Bureau of Indian Affairs		1	4	5
Bureau of Land Management			28	28
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management			2	2
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement			1	1
City of El Segundo (CA)			1	1
City of Reno			1	1
City of South San Francisco			1	1
Department of the Interior			8	8
Florida Forest Service		2	3	5
LA Dept of Agriculture and Forestry			1	1
Mississippi Forestry Commissio			1	1
National Park Service			20	20
North Carolina Forest Sevice			2	2
Other			97	97
Stanislaus County			1	1
Texas Forest Service		4	51	55
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		27	80	107
U.S. Forest Service	3	35	194	232
U.S. Geological Survey			2	2
U.S. Marine Corps			2	2
Utah Division Forestry Fire State Lands			1	1
Summary	3	69	501	573

SACC MORNING REPORT - RESOURCES CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OUT OF AREA

Resource Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crew	Equipment	Overhead	Summary
Arkansas Agriculture Department				2	2
Bureau of Indian Affairs			1	5	6
Bureau of Land Management				3	3
Florida Forest Service				1	1
Georgia Forestry Commission				1	1
Mississippi Forestry Commissio				3	3
National Park Service				24	24
North Carolina Forest Sevice				13	13
Oklahoma Forestry Services				3	3
Other	2			2	4
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service				13	13
U.S. Forest Service	1	1	31	119	152
Virginia Department of Forestr				2	2
Summary	3	1	32	191	227

NATIONAL TEAM RESOURCES AVAILABLE	
Area Command Team:	Sexton (through 9/26 @ 1315 MDT)
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation:	California (through 9/24 @ 1010 MDT)
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation:	None Available (through 9/19 @ 1439 MDT)
SOUTHERN AREA – IMT ROTATION For Rotation Dates, please click HERE <i>Bold Indicates IMT on Current SA Rotation</i>	
Dueitt (T1) Red	Unavailable
Wilkins (T1) Blue	Unavailable
Parrish (T2) Gold	Reserved – FEMA R2 USVI Hurricane Maria – St. Thomas
Quesinberry (NIMO)	Committed - FEMA R2 USVI Hurricane Irma – USVI
TYPE 1 CREWS	
Asheville Hotshots (Asheville, NC)	Unavailable – End of Season
Augusta Hotshots (Augusta Springs, VA)	Unavailable – End of Season
Cherokee Hotshots (Unicoi, TN)	Unavailable – End of Season
Jackson Hotshots (Jackson, MS)	Unavailable
SOUTHERN AREA WILDLAND FIRE MODULES	
Balcones Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – End of Season
Buffalo River Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – End of Season
Cumberland Gap Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – End of Season
Great Smoky Mtn. Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – End of Season
AVIATION RESOURCES	
N196TA (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – Natl Forests in Florida Hurricane Irma Support – FL
N106Z (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – FY2017 SPB Response – MS
Remarks by Reporting Office:	

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

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Red Flag Warnings: None.

Fire Weather Watches: None.

Fire Weather Summary/Outlook: A slow moving cold front moving out of the Rockies and still stretching from the Dakotas to west Texas is, and will continue, to produce another day of strong thunderstorm activity and severe weather for across western Oklahoma and far western Texas. Yesterday's rain fall here was in the 0.5 to 3 plus inch range and is indicative the high rain fall that will spread east into east Texas/Oklahoma during the coming week. Daily rain fall from the intense storms will significantly increase early during the coming week with daily amounts of 1 to 4 plus inches. Total event accumulations (through Friday) of 1.5 to over 6 inches are now expected. Central southwest Texas (Del Rio north to San Angelo and Midland/Odessa) remains the target of the highest 6 to 10 plus inch accumulating flash flooding producing rain fall and sever weather.

While some afternoon showers and storm will be possible across our the deep south and southeast and south today, a broader period of mostly rain free weather and lower RH minimums (mid to upper 30%s, some upper 20%s) will develop for our states east of the Mississippi River Monday through next week and will lower fine fuel moistures. RH minimums could drop into the 20%s to lower 30%s as early as next Friday (post cold frontal dry air) with the low RH weather lasting through (at least) the weekend and into the first week of October. This drier RH environment would produce a higher period of fire danger and initial attack especially through the weekend period (Sep 30th and October 1st) as outdoor activity peaks.

Tropical development potential will be increasing in an area covering the southeast Gulf of Mexico to the Caribbean over the next several days. Building instability should be producing higher rain fall (1 to3 inches) for south Florida during this time.

Puerto Rico. Flood warnings have been extended to 5:30 PM AST for western municipalities as river levels remain mostly above flood stage – but levels are reported to be now falling. Scattered showers and thunderstorms, mainly over eastern, southern, and northwestern areas, producing 0.25 to 0.75 inch rain fall will remain a threat through Monday. Rain activity will then be decreasing with a period of mostly island wide rain free, sunny weather Tuesday through Thursday – but still a light, low probability shower cannot be ruled out. After that, tropical instability will build and will produce a peaking period of rain activity next weekend and into the early days of October. Any additional higher rain fall will only aggravate river water levels. Wind gusts in the low teens likely today under southwest wind flow but otherwise speeds will be 8 to 10 mph.

Tropical Atlantic Summary and Outlook: 68 days remain in the Atlantic storm season which ends November 30. We are now in the 2nd half of middle of the statistical "core" and peaking period of the Atlantic storm activity. Nearer US development and development threat still appears amplified into early October. We think development potential over the next 10 days or so will be possible in the east/southeastern Gulf or northwest Caribbean. Surging African dust plumes along with now this part of the tropical season should be indicative of a weakening threat of long tracking Cape Verde type developing storms and African waves.

Category 2, 110 mph Hurricane Maria. Maria weakened since yesterday morning and is now down to Cat 2 strength – this morning about 480 miles east of Sebastian Florida. Over the next 2 days, Maria, on the current official NHC forecast track, will continue northward and likely reaching her closest approach to North Carolina Wednesday (out about 150 miles) as a 85 mph Cat 1 hurricane.

Before that though, wind gusts into the 30s mph will arrive Tuesday across the eastern counties of mainly North Carolina with 40 mph gusts likely late Tuesday. With tropical storm strength winds out 240 miles from the center, eastern North Carolina would fall within tropical storm or greater sustained wind speeds. NHC advises now hurricane or tropical storm watches may be issued for this area as 40s to mid-50s mph wind speeds are likely to affect, at least, the outer banks. Above ground water levels could be in the 2 to 5 feet range along the outer banks and inland coastal bays. After Wednesday, the pressure field will turn the storm to the northeast and away from the east coast and over increasingly colder water. Maria will create wind and wave action along most of the southeast coast and Mid-Atlantic with especially the Mid-Atlantic area seeing wave impacts beginning today through Wednesday/Thursday. Rain accumulations should be on the "lighter" side with 1.5 to perhaps 3 inches expected along the North Carolina Coast.

85 mph Cat1 Hurricane Lee. Lee remains in the central subtropical Atlantic, about 900 miles east of Bermuda, and will pose no threat to the US.

September, October/November Weather and Fire Potential Outlook

Outlook Maps at: <http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.htm>

Southern Area Discussion at http://gacc.nifc.gov/sacc/predictive/outlooks/SA_Monthly_Seasonal_Fire_Outlook.pdf

Drought and Fuel Conditions (by exception):

Soil moistures, stream flows, and fuel moistures/ERC-G percentiles for much of the Southern Area remain at average to mostly above average levels with 14, 30, and 60 day rain anomalies mostly above average for the vast majority of the GACC region. The drought outlook reflects these and future "wetter" forecast conditions yielding no expectations for emerging Southern Area drought through the end of October.

Weather and Climate Outlook:

A continuing trend for elevated humidities (above critical thresholds), a prevailing "wetter" weather pattern, and temperatures running average to below average through the rest of summer and into early fall is expected for the South as a "warm-biased" ENSO episode remains a dominating climate factor.

Fire Activity and Area Discussion:

Fire potential and initial attack activity from the wetter weather and higher humidity pattern from late Spring and Summer (so far) has been minimal. Given the weather and drought outlook, we expect no significant and or longer lasting high fire potential episodes during this outlook period. We do, however, expect a broader drying period to return to the South sometime within a period from later October to November or during the month of November that could/should yield increasing levels of fine fuel dryness. As of now, though, we expect our antecedent moist conditions to carry into the traditional leaf drop period and should act to mitigate the occurrence of more significant fire potential levels. Cooler and below average October temperatures are likely to produce a slighter earlier than average start to leaf off.

Monthly Discussions/Detail (generally by exception to review unusual or persisting above average fire risks)

- No particular outlier comments for the period.

2017 Tropical Season

Activity and ACE so far is generally been below average (despite the occurrence of a couple of early season, short lived, micro tropical storms.

Otherwise, and as in previous years, very warm water off the US east coast and east into the western-central Atlantic would indicate another year for rapid development/intensification "close-in" of any storm moving to the east coast. In keeping with climate averages, we expect robust tropical activity to peak later August and September.

Fall/Winter 2017

The warming of the tropical Pacific is expected to persist for the fall with the potential for at least a weak El Nino being established late this year. This would increase the potential for broader coverage rain activity for the Southern Area as stronger fall/winter frontal activity redevelops.

Web Links to Various Fire Danger or Fire Weather Related Products (updated July 1, 2016):

Product Description (Source)	Link
Days Since Significant Rain (Predictive Services)	Click Here for DSR
ERC Percentile Map (USFS)	Click here for USFS ERC
ERC Anomaly Charts (DRI)	Click here for DRI ERC
SACC Web Page	Click here for SACC
FM100 Daily Values (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Daily FM100 Values by PSA
FM1000 Daily Values (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Daily FM1000 Values by PSA
Table of Fire Family Plus Outputs (Predictive Services)	Click Here for a Table of Fire Family Plus Outputs by PSA
WFAS Indices by State (Predictive Services)	Click Here for WFAS Indices by State
Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts (Predictive Services)	Click Here to see NWS QPF Maps on one page
QPF Table by PSA (Predictive Services)	Click Here to see a QPF table by PSA
Precipitation Anomaly Maps (New as of June 23)	Click here to see PAM6 maps
Observed BI (Predictive Services)	Click here for Observed BI by PSA as computed by Fire Family Plus
Forecast BI for DAY1 (Predictive Services)	Use DAY2, DAY3, DAY4, DAY5, DAY6, DAY7 to see additional forecast panels
Forecast FM100 for DAY1 (Predictive Services)	Use DAY2, DAY3, DAY4, DAY5, DAY6, DAY7 to see additional forecast panels
Forecast FM1000 for DAY1 (Predictive Services)	Use DAY2, DAY3, DAY4, DAY5, DAY6, DAY7 to see additional forecast panels
Observed DENSCA (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Observed DENSCA Map
Forecast DAY1 DENSCA Map (Predictive Services)	Use DAY2, DAY3, DAY4, DAY5, DAY6, DAY7 for additional forecast panels
US View of Day1-2-3 Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches (Predictive Services)	Click Here for US View of DAY1-2-3 Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches
Southern Area View of DAY1-2-3 Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Southern Area View of DAY1-2-3 Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches
ERC Observed/Forecast Monthly/Yearly Departure/Percentile Maps (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Observed/Forecast ERC Monthly/Yearly Departures/Percentiles
30DAY and YTD Observed and Forecast ERC-G Chart for Southern Area PSAs	ERC-G 30DAY Observed and Forecast Chart. Replace PSA in URL for additional charts
RH Maximum/Minimum Maps	
US Maximum RH Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here for the Observed US Maximum RH Map
US Minimum RH Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here for the Observed US Minimum RH Map
Southern Area Observed Maximum RH Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Southern Area Observed Maximum RH Map
Southern Area Observed Minimum RH Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Southern Area Observed Minimum RH Map
Eastern Area Observed Maximum RH Map (Southern Area Predictive Services)	Click Here for Eastern Area Observed Maximum RH Map
Eastern Area Observed Minimum RH Map (Southern Area Predictive Services)	Click Here for Eastern Area Observed Minimum RH Map
RH Wind Forecast Maps (Predictive Services)	Use DAY2, DAY3, DAY4, DAY5, DAY6, DAY7 to access additional panels
KBDI Related Products	
Weekly KBDI Reference Maps (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Weekly Reference KBDI Values
KBDI Daily Value Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here Daily KBDI Value by PSA
KBDI Monthly Anomaly (Predictive Services)	Click Here KBDI Monthly Anomaly
KBDI Monthly Percentile (Predictive Services)	Click Here for KBDI Monthly Percentile
KBDI Seasonal Anomaly (Predictive Services)	Click Here for Seasonal Anomaly
KBDI Seasonal Percentile (Predictive Services)	Click Here for KBDI Seasonal Percentile

KBDI Yearly Anomaly (Predictive Services)	Click Here for KBDI Yearly Anomaly
KBDI Yearly Percentile (Predictive Services)	Click Here for KBDI Yearly Percentile
Florida KBDI (Fl. Division of Forestry)	Click Here for Florida KBDI Value
Louisiana KBDI (LSU)	Click here for Louisiana KBDI Value
Oklahoma KBDI (OK Mesonet)	Click Here for Oklahoma KBDI Value
North Carolina KBDI (NCSU)	Click Here for North Carolina KBDI Value
Texas KBDI (TAMU)	Click Here for Texas KBDI Value
Georgia (GFC)	Click Here for Georgia KBDI Value
Fire Potential Outlooks and Assessments	
Southern Area 7-Day Map (Predictive Services)	Click Here for 7-Day Map
Southern Area 7-Day Table Grid (Predictive Services)	Click Here for 7-Day Table Grid of Dryness Levels
National Monthly Seasonal Outlook (NIFC)	Click Here for National Monthly-Seasonal Outlook
Monthly Outlook Map 1 (NIFC)	Click Here for Monthly Outlook Map 1
Monthly Outlook Map 2 (NIFC)	Click Here for Monthly Outlook Map 2
Seasonal Outlook Map 3 (NIFC)	Click Here for Seasonal Outlook Map 3

National Incident Management Situation Report