

SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Friday, November 17, 2017

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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
11/16/2017

Current Situation:			
Initial Attack (I.A.) Activity:	Light	Ongoing Uncontained Large Fires: & Active Acreage:	0 fires
Total I.A. fires and acreage:	8 fires for 8 acres		0 acres
New Fires on Federal Protected Lands in:	0 fires for 0 acres	New Fires on State Protected Lands in:	3 fires for 3 acres SC & TX
Other I.A. reported through non-FAMWEB Channels:	5 fires for 5 acres in AL, FL & GA		
Prescribed Fire Activity:	State and/or Federal Lands: 28 fires for 1,815 acres in FL, NC & SC		

Significant Activity
11/16/2017

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

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

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	Acres + or -	% Ctn. /MMA	IMT Assigned	Structure Loss
None reported							

= 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	Crew	Equipment	Overhead	Summary
Bureau of Indian Affairs			1	1	2
Bureau of Land Management			3	18	21
Department of the Interior				26	26
Florida Forest Service			1	2	3
National Park Service			1	6	7
Other	1	1		1	3
Texas Forest Service			12	50	62
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service		1	14	21	36
U.S. Forest Service		4	44	218	266
Summary	1	6	76	343	426

SACC MORNING REPORT - RESOURCES CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OUT OF AREA

Resource Provider Agency	Overhead	Summary
National Park Service	1	1
Other	1	1
U.S. Forest Service	3	3
Summary	5	5

NATIONAL TEAM RESOURCES AVAILABLE	
Area Command Team:	Sexton (through 11/21 @ 1315 MDT)
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation:	Rocky Basin (through 11/20 @ 1900 MDT)
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation:	Southwest (through 11/20 @ 0800 MDT)
SOUTHERN AREA – IMT ROTATION	
For Rotation Dates, please click HERE <i>Bold Indicates IMT on Current SA Rotation</i>	
Dueitt (T1) Red	Available
Wilkins (T1) Blue	Available
Parrish (T2) Gold	Unavailable
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 – End of Season
TYPE 2IA CREWS	
PatRick Environmental – NCC – 20A	Available – NC
PatRick Environmental – NCC – 20B	Available – NC
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	
N351FW (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – GACC Only – FL
N196TA (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – GACC Only – FL
N41HX (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – GACC Only – GA

Remarks by Reporting Office:	
FL-FIC	No initial attack activity. Units were active on 2 prescribed fires on the National Forests of Florida and USAF Avon Park districts.
GA-SAC	SACC has moved to a Preparedness Level 1. We will be scaling back our hours of operation, Monday through Friday, 0800-1630.
KY-KYS	Updated YTD statistics.
LA-LIC	Fire danger Moderate across the state of Louisiana. LICC open from 0700-1600.

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

Red Flag Warnings: Today for Most of the Texas Panhandle: SW winds 20-25 mph/Gusts to 50, RH minimums down to the 10-15% range, and high temperatures up into in the mid-upper 80s F. Otherwise areas of elevated fire ignition/spread risks will exist Friday from New Mexico to Northwest Texas due to peaking higher wind speeds and low RHs. Saturday, winds will remain strong (20s to 30s plus mph sustained with localized gusts to about 40 mph). RH minimums will increase a bit rising into the 20%s due to the colder air.

Fire Weather Watches: None.

Fire Weather Summary/Outlook Peaking fire/spread risks NW Texas due to high winds/teens RH mins.

Today southwest winds will be increasing with record to near record high temperatures and dry air allowing RH minimums to drop down to the teens across northwest Texas and western Oklahoma. This situation will result in spiking BI index values and will produce a favorable but shorter duration fire risk environment; see the RED FLAG warning summary above. A cold frontal passage Saturday will lower fire danger but rain free weather and broad Texas mid 20s RH minimums along with still strong northerly winds will keep fine fuels in a drier state. While wind speeds will be decreasing over the weekend becoming northerly at less than 10 mph Sunday another stronger wind pattern shows up across northwest Texas/Oklahoma Monday.

For the rest of the Southern Area, temperatures will continue to warm ahead of the next weather system to move out of the central Plains and will eventually produce another round of eastward transitioning rain activity that will affect most of the Southern Area east of Oklahoma/Texas. The strongest storms and highest 0.25 to 1 inch accumulations will target the Appalachian Mountain state region with the "tail" of storm activity dipping south and southwest into northeastern Mississippi, northern Alabama, and north Georgia. Saturday is the target day for most of the storms and rain activity.

Beyond Saturday, much colder air will drop back into the South producing colder than average temperatures through Monday; more colder air is expected to reinforce the initial surge late next week so overall expect a colder than average temperature trend through most of next week. Low pressure and increasing storm development is likely over the northern Gulf of Mexico as the cold front there will be the source for the instability. With this, would expect increasing rain activity to spread east/northeast into Florida and our southeast states later Thursday and especially Friday and then eventually the Mid Atlantic next Saturday, Nov 25th.

Puerto Rico: Very low fire danger. Storms and rain activity will continue to peak across the island through the weekend. 1 to 3 inch accumulations are likely over western areas with broader scattered coverage of 0.5 to 0.75 inch plus totals for the rest of the island. Rain chances significantly decrease after Tuesday.

Tropical Atlantic Summary and Outlook: 13 days left in the "Official" Atlantic season; ends Nov 30.
No US impacting development threat.

Weather Patterns/Trends/Discussion:

Cooler than average water temperatures in the tropical Pacific will persist through winter and will result in temperature/precipitation pattern more typical of a La Nina – although "official" La Nina conditions have not yet been met. An increase in precipitation potential is expected to return to our central-northeastern GACC area states from late October into November with this over pattern likely persisting the rest of the outlook period. Potential for a weakened Polar Vortex early next year should result in periods of very cold weather – the location, magnitude, and longevity depending on some other hemispheric patterns that are higher frequency or more difficult to pin down at this time. This said, unlike last year, we are entering this season's fire period without the dire short/long-term drought and very dry fuel conditions.

Drought and Fuel Conditions (by exception):

With the exception of some mild soil moisture anomalies across Virginia, South Carolina, and back west across Arkansas and their correlated minor short term drought situation, most of the rest of the Southern Area is experiencing no significant drought or, in fact, above average moisture levels and stream flows. Because of this, and preceding periods of recent moderate to high rain fall and high rain fall from this year's impacting hurricane activity, 100 and 1000 hour fuel moistures are at or above average levels. This, along with uneventful seasonal weather patterns has produced an environment less favorable for ignition and potential as we head deeper into our Fall.

However, high dead fuel loadings left behind by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria will continue to pose unique fire danger concerns for coastal Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

Fire Activity and Area Discussion (By exception):

Nov. Very cold temperature anomalies from late October into November along with late October moderate to high rain fall will help east fire danger through at least mid-November. Relatively moist conditions and early month rain (some snow) will accelerate leaf drop and will help to keep any potential in the Appalachian Mountains under control. Unlike last year, we will be entering the month with no significant long term drought and no expectations of long duration very warm/ dry conditions. Drier than average trends across mainly our southern states and then particularly back over central-west and west/northwest Texas will at times produce periods of higher initial attack and elevated to near critical risk conditions in what will be a post freeze/cured fine fuel environment. Seasonally post cold frontal low RH/windy conditions will accentuate any drier fuel condition. The warmer/drier trend for this area of the South is expected to be an ongoing threat through the winter.

Dec. A continuing trend of warmer and drier weather from November west of the Mississippi river should result in increasingly drier fuel conditions. Texas particularly will need to be monitored for windy/low RH conditions as the greatest fire risks for the southern area should remain in this area of our GACC region.

Lower than average rain potential and what will likely be a warmer than average December for our west and southern tier of states is expected to produce fire activity that should fall into the average range. High dead fuel loadings from this year's hurricane impacts will continue to be of special concern and bear monitoring (coastal Texas/Louisiana, and Florida).

Jan/Feb. Winter conditions and some still better chances for rain/snow across the Ohio/Tennessee Valleys should keep fire potential here average to mostly below average for the core of the winter months. Seasonally drier but accentuated dryness due to the continuing La Nina/La Nina like episode in the tropical Pacific is expected to produce ongoing and peaking periods of peaking fire danger. Building dryness, cured fuels, and expected lower humidity increases the potential for fire potential to danger to reach into and trend at above average levels.

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