

SOUTHERN AREA INCIDENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

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PREPAREDNESS LEVELS

Southern Area 1
National 5

COMPACT STATUS

South Central Closed
 Southeastern Closed
 Mid-Atlantic Closed

Southern Area Activity/Impacts

08/20/2018

Current Situation:			
Initial Attack (I.A.) Activity:	Light	Ongoing Uncontained Large Fires: & Active Acreage:	1 fire
Total I.A. fires and acreage:	16 fires for 497 acres		500 acres
New Fires on Federal Protected Lands in:	2 fires for 25 acres	New Fires on State Protected Lands in:	10 fires for 61 acres
	LA & TX		AR, FL & GA
Other I.A. reported through non-FAMWEB Channels:	4 fires for 411 acres in TX		
Prescribed Fire Activity:	State and/or Federal Lands – 267 prescribed fires for 1,499 acres in AR, GA & SC		

Significant Activity

08/20/2018

New Large ICS-209 Incidents/Critical Updates:**

Large/Significant Activity:

(Blue = newly reported fires & changes)

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	Acres + or -	% Ctn. /MMA	IMT Assigned	Structure Loss
Graham Ranch	TX-TXS-180987	8/20/18	500		60%	Type 4 IC	

= 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 which are 100 acres or larger in timber and slash fuel types, 300 acres or larger in grass or brush fuel types, 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
Aviation Mgmt., National Business Center	2				2
Bureau of Indian Affairs				3	3
Bureau of Land Management				1	1
Florida Forest Service				6	6
Georgia Forestry Commission			11	10	21
Kentucky Division of Forestry			3	2	5
LA Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry			2	2	4
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources				1	1
National Park Service				4	4
North Carolina Forest Service			6	12	18
Oklahoma Forestry Services			2	10	12
Other	5		8	7	20
South Carolina Forestry Commission				2	2
Texas Forest Service			15	45	60
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	1		16	28	45
U.S. Forest Service	4	1	12	111	128
Virginia Department of Forestry			2	6	8
Summary	12	1	77	250	340

SACC MORNING REPORT - RESOURCES CURRENTLY ASSIGNED OUT OF AREA

Resource Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crew	Equipment	Overhead	Summary
Alabama Forestry Commission				1	1
Arkansas Agriculture Department				7	7
Aviation Mgmt., National Business Center	2				2
Bureau of Indian Affairs			8	37	45
Bureau of Land Management		1	6	1	8
Department of the Interior				2	2
Florida Forest Service				75	75
Georgia Forestry Commission		1		21	22
Kentucky Division of Forestry				5	5
LA Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry				2	2
Mississippi Forestry Commission		1		9	10
National Park Service			5	77	82
North Carolina Forest Service		1		66	67
Oklahoma Forestry Services				9	9
Other	5	2		8	15
South Carolina Forestry Commission				13	13
Tennessee Division of Forestry				4	4
U.S. Air Force				1	1
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service			5	76	81
U.S. Forest Service	6	8	36	437	487
Virginia Department of Forestry				12	12
Summary	13	14	60	863	950

NATIONAL TEAM RESOURCES AVAILABLE	
Area Command Team:	Summerfelt (through 8/27 @ 1000 MST)
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation:	Rocky Basin (through 8/23 @ 0800 MST)
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation:	None Available
SOUTHERN AREA – IMT	
For Rotations Dates, please click HERE <i>Bold indicates IMT on SA Current Rotation</i>	
Dueitt (T1) Red	Unavailable
Wilkins (T1) Blue	Committed – Crescent Mountain – WA
Parrish (T2) Gold	Committed – Cabin Lake – CO
SOUTHERN AREA BUYING TEAMS	
SA Robinson	Committed – Coal Hollow – UT
SA Taylor	Committed – Howe Ridge – MT
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
TYPE 2IA CREWS	
FL ST#3	Available – FL
GASC-Crew 1	Committed – Rattlesnake Creek– ID
Jackson BLM (Jackson Hotshots)	Committed – Bull Draw – CO
MS MSS#1	Committed – Bull Draw – CO
SCMA#1	Committed – Silver Creek – WY
SOUTHERN AREA WILDLAND FIRE MODULES	
Balcones Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – TX
Buffalo River Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – AR
Great Smoky Mtn. Wildland Fire Module	Unavailable – TN
SUPPRESSION MODULES	
KY-DBF#1	Committed – 2018 GMUG Rx Support – CO
AVIATION RESOURCES	
N112AA (Type 1 Air Attack Platform)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
N7910Q (Type 1 Air Attack Platform)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-809 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-817 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-823 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-866 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-867 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
T-876 (Type 3 SE Airtanker)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
N9FH (Type 1 Helicopter)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
N85PP (Type 2 Helicopter)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
N196TA (Type 3 Helicopter)	Available – Local Only – FL
N351FW (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
N7HE (Type 3 Helicopter)	Committed – FY2018 Initial Attack – TX
Remarks by Reporting Office:	
LA-LIC	Fire danger moderate to high. The Kisatchie National Forest and the State of Louisiana report no new Wildfires or Rx Burns. The USFWS reports 1 Wildfire for 25 acres and no new Rx Burns.
TX-TIC	Expanded hours 0800 - 1800 7 days.

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

Red Flag Warnings: None.

Fire Weather Watches: None.

Fire Weather Summary/Outlook: Stormier pattern begins to wane after today; drier/warming through next week.

The broader pattern of recurring and mostly daily higher storm activity of the last few days begins to wane after today with the pattern becoming drier and warmer (above average). This switch in the weather will likely last into late August with essentially only Florida seeing continuing chances for daily scattered thunderstorms. While humidity levels will also be trending downward, daily RH minimums across the South will widely vary from the 20%*s* to 50%*s*. Over time, though, we should expect to see minimums across our Atlantic states trend to lower levels and range from the upper 20%*s* to 30%*s* perhaps mid to late next week. Back further west and for Texas and Oklahoma, the warmer/drier outlook should produce another period of lower humidity where minimums will be falling back to the lower 20%*s* and low 30%*s* (some isolated areas of upper teens cannot be ruled out; especially in areas which have still not yet seen significant rain. Ignition risks will be back on the increase with ERC-G levels also creeping upward.

Puerto Rico: Passing shower activity will remain in the forecast for the week and will keep daily showers and areas of measurable rain activity in the forecast. RH minimums do not appear to be anywhere near critical levels. Fire risks will remain low.

Tropical Atlantic Summary and Outlook: No change...Still quiet and expected to remain so through most of August. Seasonal surface warming now occurring (expected) across the central tropical Atlantic will, and seasonally so, produce water temperatures that will be more favorable for wave development as we begin to move into the climatological peak of the Atlantic storm season (mid-September). Still, and through the rest of the month, there does not appear to be any significant development potential or landfall threat. As Beyond August, development potential would likely be greatest across the area of the Cape Verde islands.

Weather and Climate Outlook for the next Four Months: August, September, October.

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

Weather Patterns/Trends/Discussion: While ENSO SSTs are continuing to warm, we are still in a neutral episode as we close out the month of July. All modeling and historical analogs still indicate a steady progression towards an El Niño state in the tropical Pacific during the last quarter of the year. This trend also correlates to what should be a continuation of the current "wetter" and very humid Southern Area weather pattern (central and north-central Texas and Oklahoma areas the current exceptions) into the Fall. In addition, effects from the Madden Julian Oscillation along with a "colder North Atlantic Ocean water temperatures will be continue to produce a more active (progressive) weather pattern with periods of both colder and warmer than average temperatures during the next four months. With the North American monsoon steadily strengthening, we expect the eastern edge of the rain area to trend east and have a greater impact western northwest Texas.

Unfortunately, a much warmer and still drier pattern for a larger area of Oklahoma but particularly Texas is likely to remain dominant through most of August and will keep a drier and fire receptive fuels environment in place. Existing high ERCs, dry and drying fuel classes, and ongoing fire activity here will keep some areas of central and north-central to northeast Texas in periods of elevated to higher fire danger. Texas State continues to issue and update fire advisories for this area. We think that any predominate rain activity will skirt this area of Texas and develop/arc with frontal boundaries from areas of north/northeastern Oklahoma east/southeast into Arkansas.

Puerto Rico remains in a generally humid summertime tropical environment and while recurring Saharan dust continues to lower rain activity, there have been enough recurring periods of rain to keep fire danger at mostly average to below average levels. The southern and central Puerto Rico areas, however, still remain in a relatively drier pattern and could pose a fire potential problem late this year once the drier months of the year arrive (anywhere from later November into December). D0 drought conditions (abnormally dry) remain in place in this area of the island with these drought conditions expected to persist into October. This area will need to be closely monitored through the Fall for potential increasing fire danger; a pattern supported by the colder sub-tropical/tropical Atlantic waters.

Drought and Fuel Conditions (by exception): All of our drought (D0 to areas of embedded D3 (western Oklahoma and Texas) remains confined to our states west of the Mississippi River with Texas currently experiencing the majority of the significant fire activity. As previously discussed, central and southern areas of Puerto Rico area are also in a D0 drought state. The drought outlook expects these areas to not significantly improve in the near term. For Puerto Rico, we will be monitoring as well below average rain fall so far this year (5-20 inches or 10-50% of average) is producing D0 drought conditions and abnormally drier fuels. Likely to see some better rain potential from enhanced tropical instability during peak of Atlantic season. More significant drought episodes, however, are a typical by product of a cold tropical North Atlantic Ocean.

Fire Activity and Area Discussion (By exception): Fire danger will continue to track mostly within seasonal to below average ranges through the rest of summer with anticipated Fall rain activity continuing to mitigate any significant fire danger. As September is typically a drier month in areas especially across out Atlantic states, we will be monitoring this area for any changes in the fire environment. Texas will remain problematic through August – a lack of a strong wind environment helping to limit fire size and spread. Fuels however, are very dry and canopy fire and unusual behavior is currently an issue.

[National Incident Management Situation Report](#)