Red Flag Warnings: far eastern LA, southern MS, parts of central and southern AL and the western FL panhandle for very low RH and gusty N to NE winds

Fire Weather Watches: none

Multiple hazards associated with Ian in effect throughout the Southern Area – see weather.gov for details

Tropical Storm Ian will exit eastern FL this morning and turn northeast and then north overnight – widespread heavy rain will exit FL late today and overspread portions of GA, SC and NC by tonight

Dry weather is in store for the rest of the region, with hot conditions lingering west of a stationary front over the Plains

Gusty winds will be widespread over central and eastern portions of the geographic area, and with very dry air behind Ian, the risk for IAs and large fires will continue

Puerto Rico and the USVI will see numerous showers and thunderstorms capable of producing flash flooding today and into the weekend

With very dry air in place for the past several days and growing drought/dryness, fire danger will be High to Very High over large portions of the Southern Area, from immediately north of Ian all the way back to the Plains

Increasing portions of the region have not seen wetting rain in several weeks, and 30-day deficits on the order of 25% of normal or less are becoming common

Fire danger will decrease across the eastern states as Ian brings an increase in humidity and rainfall Friday into the weekend, but the remainder of the region will see these conditions remain the same or worsen heading into next week

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.
**Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Today**

- **High Risk (Wind)** across the western FL panhandle into coastal AL due to RH as low as 20-25% and N to NE winds from 15-25 mph, gusting 25-40 mph
- Widespread Moderate Risk throughout the interior Southeast, Gulf States, Mississippi Valley into eastern/northern TX and OK due to increasingly dry to critically dry fuels, RH from 15-30% and gusty winds (highest across AL, GA, SC and NC)

**Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Friday**

- Moderate Risk for large fires across much of the Gulf Coast and Mississippi Valley due to RH as low as 20-30% and gusty NE or N winds
- Moderate Risk for large fires across the TX panhandle into central and western OK due to hot temperatures, RH as low as 12-20% and gusty S or SW winds
- Low Risk conditions elsewhere in central and western parts of the region due to increasing dryness, low RH and locally gusty winds

**Predictive Services Large Fire Potential Saturday**

- Moderate Risk from the FL panhandle into the Mississippi Valley due to RH as low as 15-25%, gusty winds on the flanks of Ian and critically to extremely dry fuels
- Moderate Risk for the TX panhandle due to RH as low as 10-20%, hot temperatures and gusty S winds
- Low Risk elsewhere west of Ian’s clouds/rain due to increasing dryness and lingering very dry air, along with locally gusty winds

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.
10-Hour Fuels

- 10-hour dead fuel moisture fell to 8-12% over large portions of the region yesterday, with some parts of TX and OK observing values as low as 3-8%.
- Finer fuel moisture will remain depleted and likely decrease further west of Ian’s impacts into early next week as very dry air persists and overnight recovery remains limited.

100-Hour Fuels

- 100-hour dead fuel moisture ranged from 10-15% over most areas from the Mississippi Valley west to OK and TX yesterday, with areas of northwest TX and OK seeing values as low as 6-10%.
- Improving conditions are likely for the Carolinas and VA into far eastern TN and KY heading into the weekend, but the remainder of the region will continue to see a decrease in 100-hour fuel moisture right through next week.

Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI)

- Drought conditions continue to expand across the region, with KBDIs above 550 increasingly widespread across OK into AR, MS, LA, TX, western TN, western KY, southern AL and the far western FL panhandle.
- Similar KBDIs are noted in portions of the Carolinas and VA, where Ian will bring significant relief the next few days.

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.
Multiple Other Tropical Disturbances to Watch

- In addition to Ian’s continued impacts, there are multiple other tropical disturbances and waves to watch in the coming days and weeks.
- Tropical depression (TD) 11 is not expected to affect the United States and will dissipate in the next few days.
- A large tropical wave and upper-level disturbance are affecting PR and the USVI and will bring a renewed flood risk into the weekend – tropical cyclone development is not anticipated.
- A strong wave emerging from Africa may contend with dry air for several days but has the potential to encounter conditions more favorable for development next week as it track west or west-northwest.

8-14 Day Outlook

- A stable upper air pattern is forecast to continue across the United States once Ian departs the East Coast next week.
- Widespread and ongoing heat in the West will expand to cover the Plains and Mississippi Valley as we head into the second week of October.
- While much of the area experiencing Ian’s impacts will dry out next week, the tropical disturbances mentioned and others potentially developing in the Caribbean will have to be watched closely across the Southeast.
- Meanwhile, confidence is increasing that our already long stretch of dry conditions will persist into mid-month over the remainder of the geographic area.

Please contact your local National Weather Service office for spot forecasts and the latest watches and warnings.