

# Southwest Area Monthly Outlook

## AUGUST 2017



### WEATHER FACTORS AND OUTLOOK:

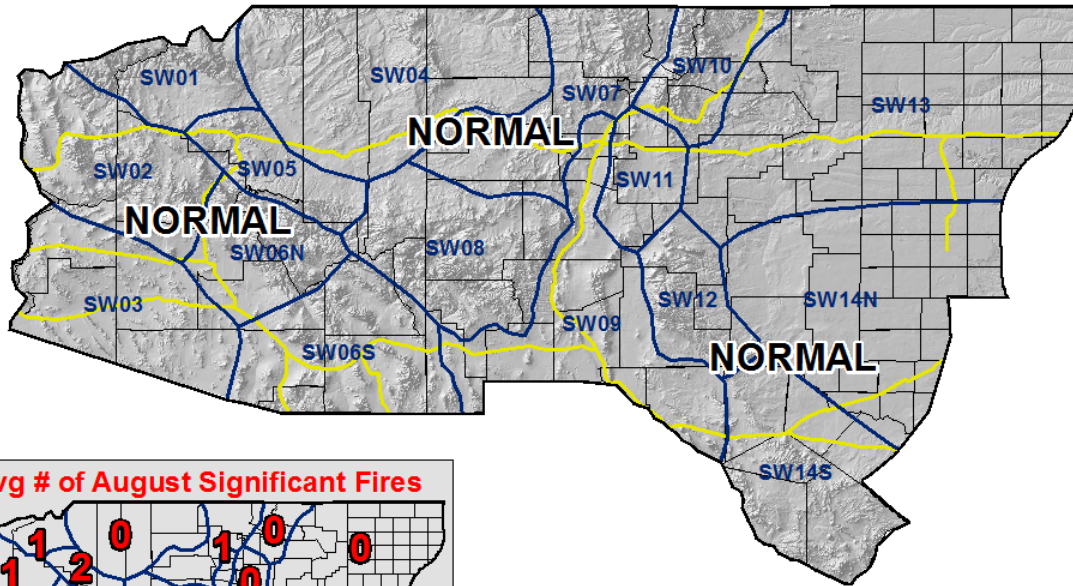
**Drought Conditions:** As of July 25<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Drought Monitor indicated areas of moderate drought across southern Arizona into far southwestern New Mexico. The remainder of the region has various areas with either abnormally dry conditions or no drought at present. The most recent U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook suggests that at least the eastern half of the present moderate drought area across the far southern tier of the region will diminish rapidly this month while the western third or so will remain.

**Precipitation Anomalies and Outlook:** Precipitation for July continued the trend of being a dichotomy across the region with the western half or so of the region experiencing Above average rainfall while many areas of the eastern half of the region were drier than normal. However, the far northern and southwestern sections of New Mexico as well as some portions of southwest Texas experienced areas of Above Normal to well Above Normal precipitation. The latest CPC outlook for August depicts generally Above Normal precipitation. Predictive Services agrees with this forecast overall with the moist monsoonal regime expected to remain generally intact through the month of August...although there will certainly be some drier areas.

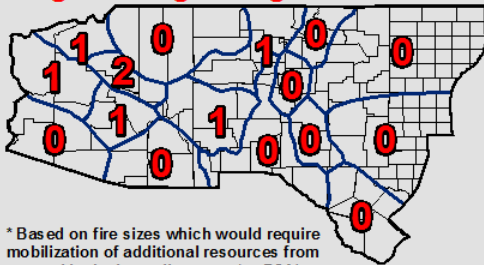
**Temperature Anomalies and Outlook:** July saw average high temperatures generally within a few degrees of Normal area-wide with portions of southern into south-central Arizona as well as far southern New Mexico/far west Texas being the coolest around the region...between 1-4 degrees Below Normal. Parts of northeastern New Mexico into the Texas panhandle were the warmest in comparison to normal...about 4-6 degrees Above Normal. The latest CPC climate outlook forecasts Equal Chances of both Above and Below Normal temperatures for August area-wide. Southwest Area Predictive Services is in general agreement with this expectation overall although areas of more near to slightly Below Normal could arise focused more east of the divide as the month wears on.

<b>Significant Fire Potential</b>	<b>Normal – area-wide.</b> Incidents of significant fire activity typically are minimal to non-existent in August due to the continuation of the summer monsoonal moisture pattern. This year will be no different although some areas of less precipitation are near certain, esp. across the far western portions of the region. Overall however, expect significant large fire activity to remain minimal overall. Local units will likely have to deal with brief upticks of Initial Attack from time to time.
<b>Prescribed Fire Implications</b>	August normally coincides with a continued low level of prescribed burning due to the continuation of the summer thunderstorm season. However, with foresight and good planning, some opportunities will be available.
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	None

# Monthly Significant Fire Potential Outlook August 2017



## Avg # of August Significant Fires



\* Based on fire sizes which would require mobilization of additional resources from outside the immediate area (or PSA)

### Significant Fire Potential

- Below Normal
- Normal
- Above Normal