

Southwest Area Monthly Outlook

JULY 2017



WEATHER FACTORS AND OUTLOOK:

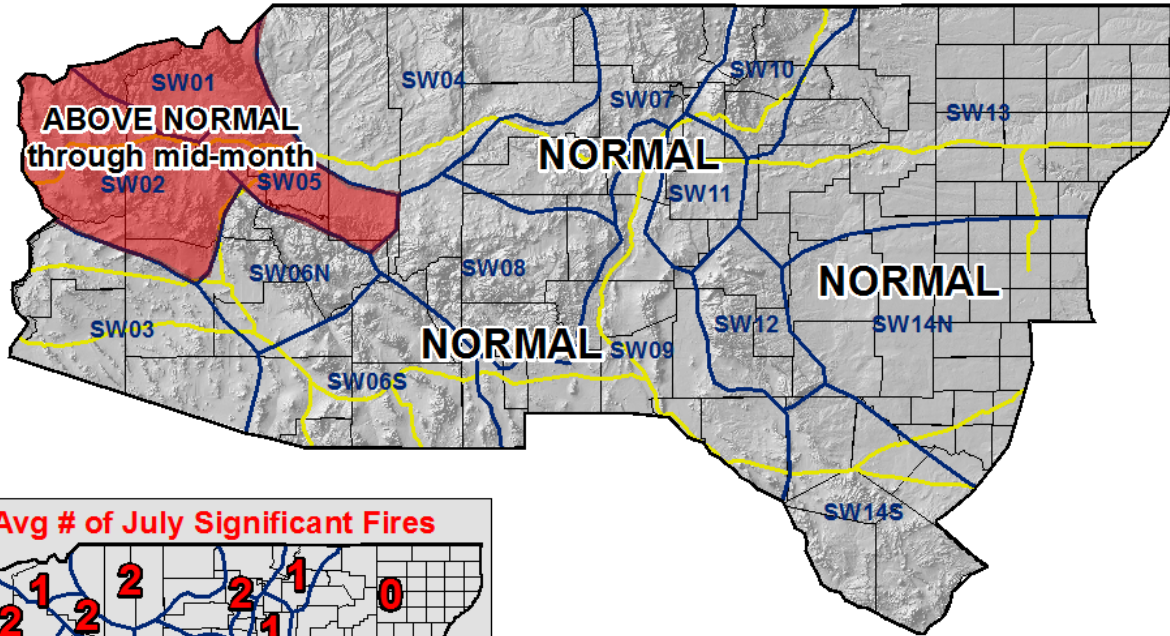
Drought Conditions: As of June 27th, the U.S. Drought Monitor indicated an area of moderate drought across southern Arizona into southwestern New Mexico. The remainder of the region has either abnormally dry conditions or no drought at present. The most recent U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook suggests that 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 June continued the trend of being a dichotomy across the region with the northwestern half or so of the region experiencing little to no rainfall while the southeastern half of the region receiving some areas of rainfall this month. The far northeastern plains and areas across far southwestern New Mexico as well as some portions of far west Texas and eastern New Mexico experienced areas of Above Normal to well Above Normal precipitation. The latest CPC outlook for the next few weeks depicts Above Normal precipitation developing for much of the region with the likely exception of the far eastern plains region. Predictive Services agrees with this forecast overall with the moist monsoonal regime expected to kick-in regionally near/around the end of the first week of the month.

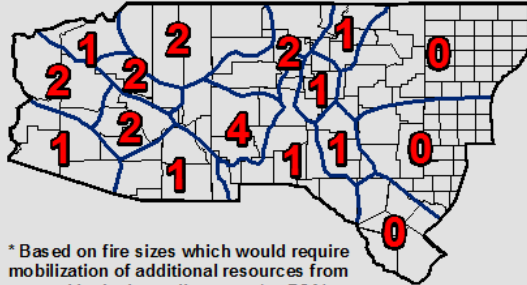
Temperature Anomalies and Outlook: June saw average high temperatures between 1-8 degrees Above Normal regionally with the western half of the region generally ranging from between 4-8 degrees Above Normal. Areas of far west Texas were between 1-3 degrees Below Normal...but even most of the coolest areas were at least a few degrees Above Normal. The latest CPC climate outlook forecasts Above Normal temperatures for July 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 as the increased moisture from the summer thunderstorm season evolves.

Significant Fire Potential	Above Normal – western and northern Arizona, Normal Potential elsewhere. Incidents of significant fire activity typically begin decreasing in July associated with the onset of the summer thunderstorm season. This year will be no different although the onset will evolve between around the 7 th to 10 th or so of the month allowing the first week or so to continue to have Above Normal potential focused across both western and northern Arizona. <u>Moisture from the east will arrive quickly thereafter sharpening dropping potential before mid-month.</u> Fire Potential will return to normal area-wide thereafter although there will certainly be drier areas within the region. A lightning ignition focus will be the main ignition component with the Above Normal Potential area with abundant fine fuels and drier larger fuels susceptible
Prescribed Fire Implications	July normally coincides with overall drop in prescribed burning due to the heightened awareness of fire season and the imminent arrival of the summer thunderstorm season. However, with foresight and good planning, opportunities will be available.
Miscellaneous	None

Monthly Significant Fire Potential Outlook July 2017



Avg # of July Significant Fires



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

