

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FORESTRY

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PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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High fire danger across Oklahoma

Oklahoma Forestry Services wants Oklahomans to be aware that critical fire weather will be present across the entire state today and tomorrow. As a result of these conditions, any outdoor burning should be avoided. The public is also being asked to report any smoke or suspected fire they see to local authorities. Avoid areas where smoke is present to allow access for responding firefighters and emergency personnel.

Dry fuels, low relative humidity and strong, gusty northwest winds are promoting dangerous fire behavior and any fire that becomes established will quickly spread. Oklahoma Forestry Services monitors weather conditions, fuel conditions, fire behavior and fire occurrences on a daily basis. All of these factors are taken into consideration when making recommendations to the public regarding fire danger.

“We are urging Oklahomans to pay close attention to the fire weather conditions,” said George Geissler, Oklahoma State Forester. “For the safety of our citizens and our state’s firefighters, we are advising people to avoid outdoor burning until conditions improve.”

Oklahoma Forestry Services is the state’s lead agency related to wildland fire prevention, protection and use. For additional information about wildfires, visit www.forestry.ok.gov/wildfire-information.

Note to Media:

For the latest Oklahoma “Daily Wildfire Situation Report” visit www.forestry.ok.gov and click on the link on the homepage. The report contains information about recent fire activity, predicted fire weather and a link to current burn bans.

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About Oklahoma Forestry Services

Oklahoma Forestry Services, a division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, is committed to conserving, enhancing and protecting Oklahoma’s 12.5 million acres of forests and woodlands. Since 1925 Oklahoma Forestry Services has worked with individuals and communities throughout the state to create resilient landscapes, fire-adaptive communities and provide wildfire response. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, the division also has regional offices in Goldsby, Broken Bow, Wilburton and Tahlequah. For more information, visit <http://www.forestry.ok.gov>.

Photo caption: Oklahoma Forestry Services wants Oklahomans to be aware that critical fire weather will be present across the entire state today and tomorrow.