



Fire Situation Report – July 2, 2024

Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry



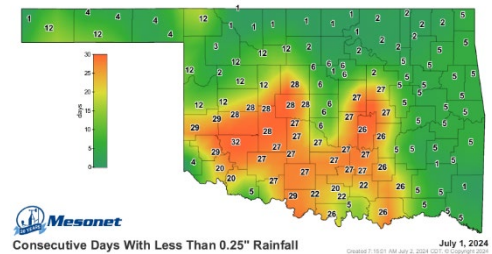
OFS STATISTICS for July 2, 2024, OFS Preparedness Level: 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5

NE Area –
EC Area – No New Activity
SE Area –

Large / Significant Fire Activity within the OFS Protection Area: No New Activity
Fire Activity with OFS Response outside of the Protection Area: No New Activity
OFS Prescribed Fire Activity: No New Activity
Fire Department Activity: Locally Moderate Initial Attack

Statewide Discussion: Dangerous heat persists across Oklahoma again today ahead of a cold front that will work into northwestern Oklahoma later this afternoon ushering in some rain storm chances over the northwestern quarter of the state. However, elevated fire weather and stressed fuels will prompt higher fire danger indices today focused in western Oklahoma. A few going fires have proven to be resistant to control where brush fuels are heavily intermixed with grass. While northwestern Oklahoma will see cooler temperatures tomorrow in the wake of the cold front, temperatures around 100° will be prevalent across Oklahoma through Independence Day on Thursday ahead of a stronger cold front late in the day that will usher in some cooler temperatures and rain chances that overspread the state into Friday morning.

Today: Concerning fire danger will develop this afternoon and early evening across much of the western half of Oklahoma as temperatures again eclipse 100° in many areas. Dew point temperature will be somewhat lower than previous days facilitating lower relative humidity values and more receptive fuels. Those areas where the separation from wetting rains exceeds 10 days have experienced a dramatic decrease in live fuel moisture given the enhanced evaporative demand pulling more of the fuel load into availability. Overall, rates of fire spread will be manageable in grass-dominated fuels although brush and timber fuels will support problematic fire behavior including single/group tree torching and short-range spotting.



- **Western Oklahoma:** Most of the western half of Oklahoma along and west of I-35 will experience high fire danger indices today especially location where separation from wetting rains is >10 days. Temperature 99°-106° combined with afternoon relative humidity values 19-29% will support receptive fine dead fuels at 3% fine-dead fuel moisture. Live herbaceous moisture, while still serving as a heat sink stalling rates of fire spread has rapidly declined driving increased fuel availability. Breezy conditions this morning will persist through the afternoon ahead of the cold front. Southerly winds sustained 14-20 mph with some gusts approaching 30 mph will support moderate rates of fire spread in rangeland fuels and spotting potential in brush dominated fuels. Head fire rates of spread in rangeland fuels during peak burning conditions will be 56-80 ft/min with 7-10 ft. flame lengths. Fireline intensity will be high, especially where stressed brush fuels are involved and smoke production will be intense given the influence of live fuel moisture. Grass-dominated fuels will allow respectable initial attack success probability, however brush/timber fuels will prove resistant to control especially on going fires. A cold front will migrate through the Panhandle this afternoon moving into northwestern Oklahoma this evening with moderating wind speeds as they shift to the north. Rain chances increase through the overnight hours although wetting amounts are not anticipated outside of a developed storm cell.

Tomorrow (Wednesday): A stalled cold front will be draped over the Panhandle and northwestern counties offering cooler temperatures and some persisting rain chances while most of Oklahoma remains dry. Fire danger concern will again be focused across western Oklahoma with persistent heat although lighter winds and increasing sky cover will moderate fire behavior potential to some extent. South of the cold front, temperatures will again register in the 97°-103° range although relative humidity values will generally remain above 30% expect southwestern Oklahoma where some +/-25% observations are expected. While fuels will remain respective across most of the state, initial attack success should be very good.

Near-Term: A stronger cold front moves across Oklahoma Thursday (Independence Day) late afternoon and evening with potential to usher in comparably cooler temperatures and rain chances. Some locations may see wetting amounts while many areas will not total more than 0.25". A quick glance at the near-term products points to moderating fire danger although the moisture deficits in western and central Oklahoma generally along and south of I-40 will be difficult to overcome.

County Burn Bans: No County Burn Bans enacted at this time. Click [HERE](#) for the most current burn ban information.

