Texas Fire Potential Update
September 5th – September 11th 2022

Texas A&M Forest Service Predictive Services
Fire Potential Notes

- A drier week is forecast for most of the state with less than ¼ inch of rainfall expected over the next 7 days. Southeast and South Texas are the exception where 7 day rainfall totals could exceed 1 inch. Above normal fuel moisture from surplus rainfall over the past 2 weeks will keep initial attack fire potential low across Texas through the weekend.

- A late summer green up has occurred nearly statewide in areas that received over 2 inches of rain in the past 14 days. A small area around San Angelo, Coleman, Abilene, Albany, and Brownwood is a week behind the rest of the state in green up. A few more days may be needed before this area reaches effective green. Greening of herbaceous fuel acts as a barrier to wildfire ignitions and reduces spread potential of any new wildfires.

- Drying potential will be low through the weekend. Near normal temperatures and minimum relative humidity values ranging from 30-70% will have a lower capacity to drive moisture out of dead surface fuel in the eastern 2/3 of the state.
Abundant statewide rainfall over the past 14 days improved fuel dryness and initiated a late summer green up of herbaceous fuel resulting in low initial attack fire activity. TAMFS has not responded to any wildfires since August 29th.
The area around San Angelo, Coleman, Abilene, Albany, and Brownwood that missed out on the previous rain events received 2+ inches of rain this past week. This area may be a week behind the rest of the state in green up response as it will take a few more days for green up to reach effective green. Effective green is defined as a live to dead ratio greater than 75% green where grasses provide an effective barrier to fire spread even in the presence of critical to extreme fire weather.

August 29th
14 Day Rainfall

September 4th
14 Day Rainfall
30 Day percent of normal rainfall improved over the past week by erasing the localized area of less than 25% of normal rainfall deficits remaining in the lower Rolling Plains. A small section of 25% of normal rainfall deficit re-emerged in the far northwest panhandle.
Herbaceous greenness continues to respond to the recent rain events across the state. This greening will act as a barrier to fire ignitions and reduce spread potential.
September 1st live fuel moisture samples of Yaupon in Wood and Brazos Counties improved to above the 10th percentile following recent rain events. Improvements in the woody live fuel moisture of high-risk pine/yaupon fuels will limit crown fire potential in East Texas.
A ridge of high pressure will weaken and move from Utah into New Mexico through the week keeping rain chances minimal for the western half of the state.
The forecast fuel dryness map represents the presence of above normal fuel moisture statewide. Although little rain is forecast for much of the state, near normal temperatures and relative humidity values of 30-70% will limit drying potential through the week.
Near normal temperatures and relative humidity values generally above 25% for the western 1/3 and 30-70% for the eastern 2/3 of the state will result in low initial attack fire potential.
Forecast wind speeds under 15 MPH combined with near normal temperatures and higher humidity values indicate that no elevated fire weather is forecast through the week.
Drying potential will be low through the weekend. Near normal temperatures and higher humidity values will have a lower capacity to drive moisture out of dead surface fuel. All 14 PSA's are below normal ERC values for September. ERC values will remain near or below normal due to the forecast low drying potential.