Fire Potential Notes

- Fire potential will be low in the mountains of the Trans Pecos through Memorial Day weekend. Normal to above normal fuel moisture and the reduced threat of lightning ignitions mid-week and through the weekend will support low fire potential. The Trans Pecos will trend warmer and drier by mid week and through the weekend.

- Above normal fuel moisture and elevated surface moisture will result in low fire potential for the rest of the state through the holiday weekend.
A moist fire environment has resulted in very low reported initial attack over the last week. The trend of low to very low IA potential will continue through the Memorial Day holiday.
Rainfall over the past 7 days has been heaviest across Central and East Texas. Increased frequency of rainfall since the end of April has resulted in rainfall surpluses over the past 30-days. A mosaic of underlying dryness remains in parts of the Trans Pecos where 25% or less than normal rainfall deficits are observed.
Thunderstorms Sunday afternoon/night produced numerous lightning strikes generally south of I-20. Normal to above normal fuel moisture and rainfall associated with this thunderstorm activity should minimize the chances of any lightning ignitions from emerging Monday and Tuesday.
Rainfall associated with Sunday’s thunderstorms activity produced variable rainfall amounts. The Wolf Den RAWS in the Davis Mountains observed 0.16 inch. The Fort Davis RAWS observed 0.31 inch. The Elephant Mountain RAWS observed 0.13 inch.
Increased moisture in Monday’s fire environment is depicted well by the elevated forecast 1-hr fuel moisture. Most of the state is observing a moist fire environment resulting in normal to above normal fuel moisture. Elevated fuel moistures will likely persist through Memorial Day, supporting low fire potential across the state.
Southerly flow will continue to increase moist, tropical air inland resulting in the chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms for the majority of the state Monday and Tuesday.
Max temperatures are forecast to remain near normal temperatures early in the week due to increased cloud cover and rainfall.
The driest air will remain west of the dryline near El Paso on Monday. The dryline will shift further east by Tuesday promoting a warming and drying trend for the western half of the Trans Pecos.
Max temperatures will warm into the 90’s by Wednesday in the Trans Pecos and persist late in the week.
A cold front is forecast to increase the chance of thunderstorms near the Red River Thursday and Friday. A few thunderstorms are possible in the eastern Trans Pecos along a dryline, but recent rain and improving fuel moistures should keep lightning ignition potential low.
The position of the dryline will determine where the driest air is observed mid to late week in the Trans Pecos. A drying environment will reduce the chance of thunderstorms and potential for lightning ignitions in the mountains. The rest of the state will continue to observe a moist fire environment.
Thunderstorm coverage will decrease across the state this weekend, with scattered storms possible along a stationary front near the Red River. An isolated thunderstorm will be possible through the weekend along the dryline in the Trans Pecos.
Forecast high temperatures will remain near normal for most of the state over the Memorial Day weekend. Max temperatures may trend a little above normal west of the dryline in the Trans Pecos.
A warm and dry fire environment will persist for the western half of the Trans Pecos through the weekend.
ERC values in the Trans Pecos should decrease Monday and Tuesday with the recent rain and increased surface moisture. The return of a warm and dry fire environment will slowly increase ERC values late in the week and through the weekend.

ERC trends in all other PSAs across the state will remain below seasonal averages as elevated surface moisture remains in place.