

# MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

**1. REPORTING UNIT:** Southern Area

**2. DATE Compiled:** July 23, 2004  
**For the month of:** August 2004

**3. POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS/CRITICAL FIRE PROBLEMS**

	Below Normal	Normal	Above Normal
This coming month			
This season Jul-Sep	← Entire Region →		
	← Entire Region →		

**COMMENTS**

**4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK**

**DROUGHT CONDITIONS:**

Very wet June was followed by a July that featured above normal rainfall. The first half of July was characteristically wet, while rain during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July was much more isolated. Rain is expected to increase during the last week of July as tropical type systems come ashore and keep Southern Area (especially the eastern half) in above normal rainfall.

**PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK:**

We expect August rainfall to range from below average to nearer average. The areas that will be below normal will include portions of Oklahoma and Arkansas. Another area of below normal rainfall may occur in eastern Kentucky and eastern Tennessee and extending eastward into the Central Appalachian Mountains.

**TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK:**

Temperatures will be mostly in the average to above average range. While some days with above average temperatures are anticipated in our west across the OK/AR region, we do not expect long periods of above average conditions that would severely enhance any rain free period within the month. Periods of below normal temperatures can be expected across Florida and the SE GA area.

## 5. FUELS

Fuel type	Stage of Fuel	
Grass	Annual – Fully mature, seeded, beginning to cure	Perennial – Fully green
Shrub	Deciduous – Fully mature, seeding	Evergreen – Fully green
Timber	Hardwoods- Full leaf out, developing fruit	Evergreen – Developing cones

**LIVE FUEL MOISTURE** (sage, deciduous, conifer): Unknown

**100-HOUR DEAD FUEL MOISTURE:** Normal = 16 – 17 %, Actual = teens to near 20%.

**1000-HOUR DEAD FUEL MOISTURE:** Normal = 18 – 22 %, Actual = 15% to near 30%.

**KEETCH-BYRUM DROUGHT INDEX:** Normal = 200 – 400, Actual = 200 – 450.

**BURNING INDICES:** Normal = 20 – 40, Actual = <10 – near 40

**ENERGY RELEASE COMPONENT:** Normal = 20 – 34, Actual = <10 – 35

6. **AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE** – See table below.

7. **ACTUAL FIRE OCCURRENCE** - See table below.

# Fires Data Thru Jul 23 2004	Human	Light	H & L	RX
2004 MTD	275	140	415	51
2004 Y T D	21,174	420	21,594	1,835
Jan-Jul Cum Avg 18 Yr Avg Human and 5 Yr Avg Light & RX	22,886	2,090		1,068
2004 Cum YTD % of Average	93%	20%		172%

  

Acres Data Thru Jul 23 2004	Human	Light	H & L	RX
2004 MTD	5,203	140	5,343	45,400
2004 Y T D	278,155	420	278,575	1,282,293
Jan-Jul Cum Avg 18 Yr Avg Human and 5 Yr Avg Light & RX	405,956	2,090		667,505
2004 Cum YTD % of Average	69%	6%		192%

8. **WRITTEN SUMMARY.**

Generally normal to slightly below normal fire occurrence was observed in July and we believe, as the year to date actuals have revealed so far, that overall fire risks will remain in the 18 year based “normal” range for the Southern Area. In fact, the actual cumulative fire numbers for Jan to July 23, 93% of normal, compares very favorably to the 84% forecast. Actual observed occurrence continues to be synchronized with the overall nearer normal trend expected for 2004. With August rainfall forecast to be generally in the normal range, we don’t see

August's fire activity departing from the normal range and may well prove to be below normal when totals become available in early September.

**9. FIRE POTENTIAL MAP FOR the Month of August 2004:**

**August 2004 SOUTHERN AREA WEATHER AND FIRE DANGER OUTLOOKS**

