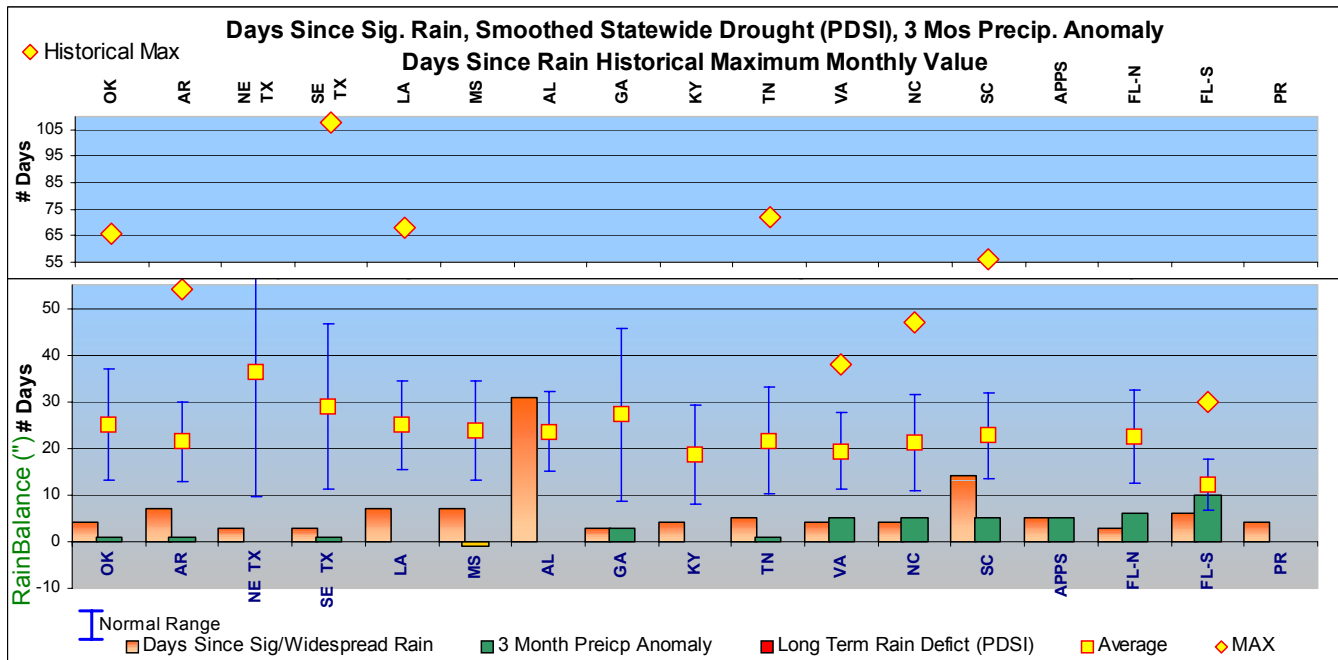


Weekly Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook
Oct 18 to Oct 29, 2004
Southern Area Predictive Services
Issued: Oct 18, 2004

WEATHER DISCUSSION
(10 Day Southern Area-Wide Trends Summary)

A generally unstable atmosphere with strong moist, southerly wind flow and a storm track across the northern half of the region will produce warmer weather (above normal temperature trend), moderately higher humidities and periods of mostly light to some moderate rain fall across the Southern Area. No significant or prolonged above normal fire risks expected during the period.

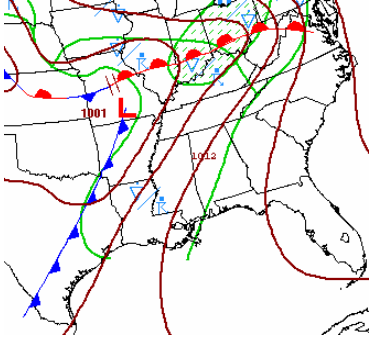
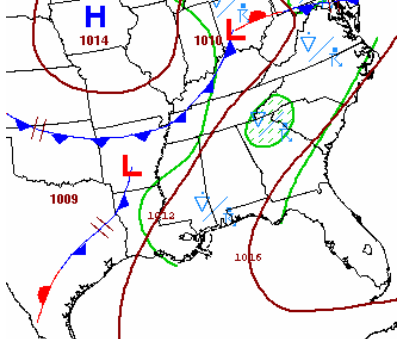
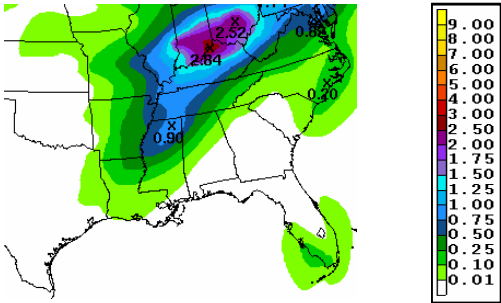
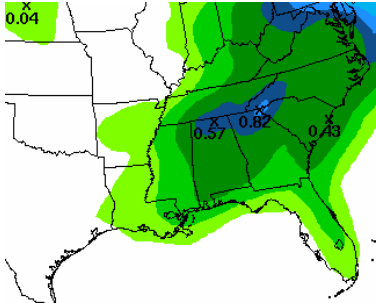
OBSERVED DAYS SINCE SIG RAIN (>0.25") and DROUGHT SUMMARY (PDSI and 3 Mos SPI)



DAY 1/DAY 2 and EXTENDED OUTLOOKS FOLLOW

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Day 1 and Day 2 Fire Weather Summary
Oct 18-19, 2004

TODAY	TOMORROW
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">Today's Surface Chart</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">Tomorrow's Forecast Surface Chart</p> 
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">Today's Forecast Precipitation</p> 	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue;">Tomorrow's Forecast Precipitation</p> 
<p>RED FLAGS: None FIRE WEATHER WATCHES: None.</p>	<p>RED FLAG OUTLOOK: None. FIRE WEATHER WATCHES: None.</p>

LARGE FIRES/WEATHER SUMMARY : No significant fires.

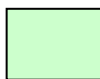
TROPICAL SUMMARY: No sig activity.

SYNOPSIS: Low pressure over the southeast KS/OK boarder is producing strong and gusty southerly surface winds in our west across OK/AR/TX, above normal temperatures, and thunderstorms/rain over AR/TN/KY. A high wind advisory is in effect for gusty winds to 25/30 mph for areas of OK/AR/LA and East TX. A weak upper level boundary wraps around the plains low and trails into AR/LA/SE TX. As mentioned last week, overall minimum RHs today and for the week will be well above critical thresholds as a generally unstable and stormy atmosphere produces periods of light to moderate rain fall over the Southern Area – especially across the northern half of our region as the main storm track follows a path from the central plains to the OH Valley to the Mid Atlantic. The exception to this for today will be TX/OK/AR due to the strong winds, above normal temperatures, and lower RH values (mid 20%s to 30%s). The heavier rain fall area will move into the TN Valley on Tuesday.

SYNOPSIS: Mores widespread light rain opportunities for the Southern Area as warm frontal instability moves into the central and eastern regions of the Southern Area. Highest fire risks in OK/TX but still nearer normal.

HIGH TEMP ANOMALY TREND: Normal to 12 degrees above average.	HIGH TEMP ANOMALY TREND: Normal to 12 degrees above.
MIN RHs: No critical mi RHs. Lowest 20%-30% OK/TX. Otherwise most near 40%-70%.	MIN RHs: No critical min RH's. Lowest near 20% to 30% for OK. Otherwise 35%-70%.
20 ft WIND SPEEDS: 10-18 mph – gusts to 25 OK/AR. Otherwise 5-15 mph.	20 ft WIND SPEEDS: 5-15 mph.
PRECIPITATION: Trace to 0.5" + over the NWern half of the region.	PRECIPITATION: Trace to 0.5"+ across the central and eastern areas of the Southern Area. Highest amounts over the Southern Appalachians/TN Valley.

10 DAY+ EXTENDED TRENDS OUTLOOK SUMMARY
Oct 18 - Oct 29, 2004



Light green color fill indicates the occurrence of a more significant precipitation event (coverage, duration, or amount), summertime unsettled period with widespread rainfall from area-wide afternoon shower/thunderstorms activity, or period of higher humidities with widespread areas of intermittent precipitation activity.

Approx. Time Period	Highest Fire_Risk Area(s)	Red Flag Threat	Above Normal ERC Trends Areas	Significant Weather and General Trends Summary
Oct 18-29	OK/N TX but near normal	None	None	A generally unstable weather pattern that will produce periods of mainly light rain fall over different areas of the Southern Region. Temperatures warming from 18 to the 22 nd . The next significant cold front will produce cooler temps from the 22 nd thru about the 26 th . Moderately gusty surface winds mostly 12-20 mph transitioning west to east from 18 to 22 Oct. Highest speeds over the western half of the region from OK to KY/TN and northern MS/AL. Temperature trend near to above normal to the 22 nd and nearer normal from the 23 rd to the end of the month.

[Click here for 3 to 7 day graphics:](#)

Day 1 Surface Chart: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/basicwx/94fwbg.gif>

Day 2 Surface Chart: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/basicwx/98fwbg.gif>

Day 1 Rainfall Forecast: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/94qwbg.gif>

Day 2 Rainfall Forecast: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/98qwbg.gif>

3-7 Day graphics: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/medr/medr.shtm>

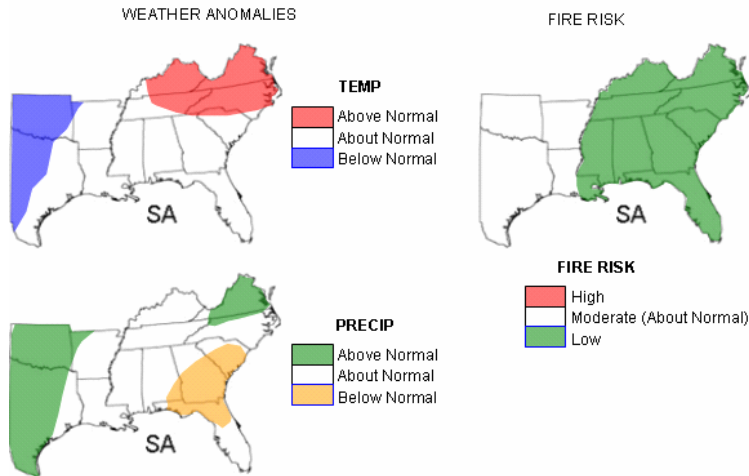
5 day forecast rainfall: <http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/p120i.gif>

Actual rainfall amounts during the last 7 days: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/7dayaccu.sh>

Tropical Storm Information from NOAA's TPC: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

CURRENT MONTH'S OUTLOOK
OCTOBER 2004

OCT 2004 SOUTHERN AREA WEATHER AND FIRE DANGER OUTLOOKS



DROUGHT

CONDITIONS:

Feast or Famine will tell the entire story on rainfall during September 2004. Between Ivan and Frances making landfall on the US Coastline (Frances made 2 landfalls, Ivan has made one so far), the eastern half of the region has had more rain than it knows what to do with it. The western half of the region, the famine side, has had very little rainfall and many areas have seen twenty or more days without (appreciable) rain. The fire problem lies in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Of these four states, Arkansas is most likely the "worst" off. However, the remnants of Ivan, which redeveloped into a new Tropical Storm on the same day as this compilation (September 23, 2004), will provide some relief to LA/TX/AR.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK:

October rainfall should be at or slightly above normal in the Red River Valley of Oklahoma and northern Texas. Rainfall in that I-35 corridor is expected to pick up in frequency early in October, a pattern that will likely persist into at least mid October. Other areas of Southern Region should remain close to normal although Virginia is expected to see above normal rainfall. We expect conditions to be drier than normal across Florida, southeast Georgia, and extreme southern South Carolina. However, these areas may well be affected by hurricanes and tropical storms. Fire risks will remain well below normal across the eastern half of the region, but will be close to normal in the four western most states.

TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK:

Temperatures will be above normal in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky while below normal temperatures are expected in the Southern Plains (TX and OK) especially along and west of I-35. Otherwise, near normal conditions are expected across the region.

NEXT MONTH'S OUTLOOK
NOVEMBER 2004

