

MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER/FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

1. **REPORTING UNIT:** Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center

2. **DATE:** 25 October 2004 **valid for** November 2004

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

THIS COMING MONTH	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	
THIS SEASON	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	

COMMENTS:

4. **FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK:**

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: Drought conditions remain across Eastern Great Basin, ranging from moderate to severe drought in central Idaho and the west deserts of Utah to extreme to exception drought in eastern Utah and eastern Idaho. However, a series of very wet storms at the end of the month (through 25 October) brought record breaking precipitation to most of Utah and parts of Idaho, putting a large dent in the long-term deficit.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: Scattered showers and thunderstorms moved across southern and eastern Utah in conjunction with an upper level low that moved through the Great Basin early in the month. Large scale pattern changes brought record-breaking precipitation to much of Utah and parts of Idaho during the third week of October and spread over the entire Eastern Great Basin entering the last week of the month (through 25 October). On average, most of Eastern Great Basin was above normal for the month by 0.10" to 0.50". Along the Wasatch Mountains into southwestern Utah, precipitation averaged one to two inches above normal for the month, most falling since 15 October. Several locations in southern Utah exceeded 5 inches for the month to date. Lava Point, in Zion National Park, received over 12 inches in a few days.

The precipitation outlook for **November** is **normal precipitation across most of the Eastern Great Basin with slightly above normal for the southern half of Utah and the Arizona Strip.**

TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: Temperatures for Eastern Great Basin for October were generally above normal. Warm nights kept temperatures 2-4 degrees above normal for most of the area. Cloudy and rainy weather in southern Utah kept temperatures at or slightly below normal.

Eastern Great Basin will have **normal November temperatures with slightly below normal temperatures possible in southern Utah and the Arizona Strip.**

5. **FUELS**

FINE - GRASS STAGE	GREEN		CURED	X		
NEW GROWTH	SPARSE	X	NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	

6. **5 YEAR AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED** (through month of October:
Total: 2,596 fires/639,648 acres

7. **ACTUAL OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED** (through October 22, 2004):
Total: 2,269 fires/89,178 acres

8. WRITTEN SUMMARY: Most areas through the region received moisture and cooler temperatures the last few weeks and fine fuel moistures have moderated with increased humidity and precipitation. As a more fall pattern develops fuel moistures will continue to moderate. Thousand hour fuel moistures have moderated through out the region as well and are running near the 20 year average. This trend will continue with shorter days and more normal temperatures and precipitation. Deciduous plant species continue into dormancy increasing dead foliage and leaf litter and most tree and shrub species live fuel moistures continue to drop.

Eastern Great Basin is expected to have normal fire potential for November. There is slight potential for occasional small fires less than ten acres, mostly human caused, below the snow line. Suppression efforts will be effective.

9. RESOURCES: Resource status discontinued for the winter season.

10. FIRE POTENTIAL:

