



MNICS CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Below are links to the DNR Fire Danger Indices Maps. Be sure to check daily for updates.

Link to Fire Danger Indices Maps, Jack Pine Model:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/maps/fdi_jackpine.html

Link to Fire Danger Indices Maps, Grass Model:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/maps/fdi_grass.html

Link to Fire Danger Indices Maps, Mature Conifer Model:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/maps/fdi_mature_conifer.html

Link to MN DNR Wildfire Information Center:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/wildfirereports_tools.html

Large Incidents that have a Team assigned will be updated at: <http://mnics.org/wpress/>

DATE: October 23, 2018

Attending: Northwest Region: Chris Gronewold, BJ Glesener
Northeast Region: Jon Handrick, Shannon Anttila
Central Region: Wade Mapes
SW: Sergio Lopes
USFS: Chase Marshall, Ben Roy, Ryan Kingsley, Brian Jenkins, Rob Heavirland
BIA: Cory Berg
US-FWS: Don Lantz
NPS: Kurt Fogelberg
NOAA/NWS: Alexandra Keclik, Twin Cities
CCM: Derick Schneibel
MIFC: Rebekah Luedtke, Diane Nygaard, Matt Woodwick, Mike McLaughlin,
Tom Kaase, Darren Neuman, Rob Johnson

Weather Forecast (Allie Keclik): The past week, conditions have been fairly dry and windy with winds gusting to 30 mph in some areas. Areas of western MN received no precip the past week.

Today will be dry with high pressure. High temps will be in the 40s and low temps tonight will be in the 20s. North winds will be 5-10 mph. Minimum RHs in southern MN will be in the 30s and 40s; northern MN RHs will be 50-60%.

Wednesday high temps will be in the 40s and 50s. Southerly winds will be 10-15 mph with higher gusts in western MN in the afternoon. As high pressure moves out of the area, cloud cover will increase. Minimum RHs will be 50-60%. Wednesday night into Thursday, precip chances will increase.

Thursday, expect widespread precip.

Friday and Saturday have chances for precip. Sunday will be dry.

Overall precip amounts will be 0.10 inch to 0.25 inch. NE MN will receive 0.50 inch to 0.75 inch over the next week.

Fire Management Information (BJ Glesener):

Fires are expected to remain on the surface on clear sunny days. Generally, expect flames of 1 to 2 feet in open areas with up to 7 feet if heavy fuel loading is present. At lower flame lengths, fire will just creep along, but at higher flame lengths, rates of spread will be 15-20 feet per minute. Spotting is unlikely in most fuel types. Widespread rain late in the week to Sunday will moderate fire behavior starting late Wednesday into Thursday.

5-day averages of long term indices are: energy release component (ERC-q) is moderate to high; and the buildup index (BUI) is low. The 1000-hr fuel moisture is mostly saturated statewide. Primary areas of concern include west central Minnesota up to the Northwest. Fuels are generally cured out statewide, however, cooler nights and shorter days are limiting the length of the burn period.

Fine Dead Fuel Moisture: 9% / 12% (Unshaded / Shaded)

Probability of Ignition: 30% / 20% (Unshaded / Shaded)

Northwest Region (Chris Gronewold): Since the last call, 3 fires totaling 5 acres were reported. No needs at this time.

Northeast Region (Jon Handrick): Since the last call, 4 fires totaling 7 acres were reported. Fires go out in shaded areas. No needs at this time.

Central Region (Wade Mapes): Since the last call, 10 fires totaling 8 acres were reported. Leaf litter had 6-8 foot flames; heavy fuels did not burn. No needs at this time.

SW (Sergio Lopes): No fire activity reported. No needs at this time.

USFS (Ryan Kingsley): No fires reported. The Superior has been doing pile burns and small broadcast burns. More are planned as conditions allow. No needs at this time.

BIA (Cory Berg): Red Lake reported 5 small fires. White Earth is planning a 10-acre burn today. No needs at this time.

US Fish and Wildlife (Don Lantz): Three prescribed burns totaling 215 acres were accomplished. More are planned as conditions allow. No needs at this time.

NPS (Kurt Fogelberg): Quiet. No needs at this time.

CCM (Derick Schneibel): Crews are available from Taylor Falls and Mankato; not on call.

Aircraft (Darren Neuman): The Fire Boss is on 24 hour call back. The helicopter at Hibbing is staffed 1200-1700.

Planning Levels: State: 2 / Eastern Area: 1 / National: 1

MIFC Duty Officer: Tasha Woodwick, 218-821-9741

The next MNICS conference call will be at 0900 on Tuesday, October 30, 2018

For more information see <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/index.html>

Notes by: Diane Nygaard