



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: November 15, 2022

Attending: Northwest Region: Arthur Braun, Blair Olson
Northeast Region: Dave Larson, Clarissa Spicer
Central Region: Jim Wilson
SW Area: Taylor Schenk
St. Paul DNR: Larry Himanga, Linda Gormanson, Tom Lattimore
BIA: Cory Berg
USFS: Chase Marshall, Mike Rice, Adam Cook, Tracy Fifarek, Ben Roy
US-FWS: Seth Grimm
NPS:
CCM: Matt Roegge
HSEM Jacob Beauregard
National Weather Service: Jonathan Wolf
MIFC: Bill Glesener, Leanne Langeberg, Travis Verdegan, Jenny Benes, Tasha
Woodwick, Jake Serfling, Angela Porter, Matt Woodwick, Darren Neuman, Brian
Wise, Jay Rude

Large Incident Updates: No report.

National Weather Service (Jonathan Wolfe):

National Weather Service
MNICS Conference Call

Weather Briefing

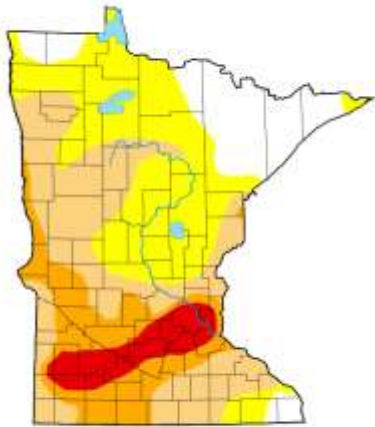
Briefer:
jonathan.wolfe@noaa.gov
NWS Duluth

November 15, 2022



Minnesota

Home > Minnesota



Map released: Thurs. November 10, 2022

Data valid: November 8, 2022 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

- United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center
- Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Viewing NWS Duluth - Jonathan Wolf

- 71% +

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Weekly RH/Wind Forecast Summary Across the State

November 15, 2022
8:31 AM



Minimum RH Forecast

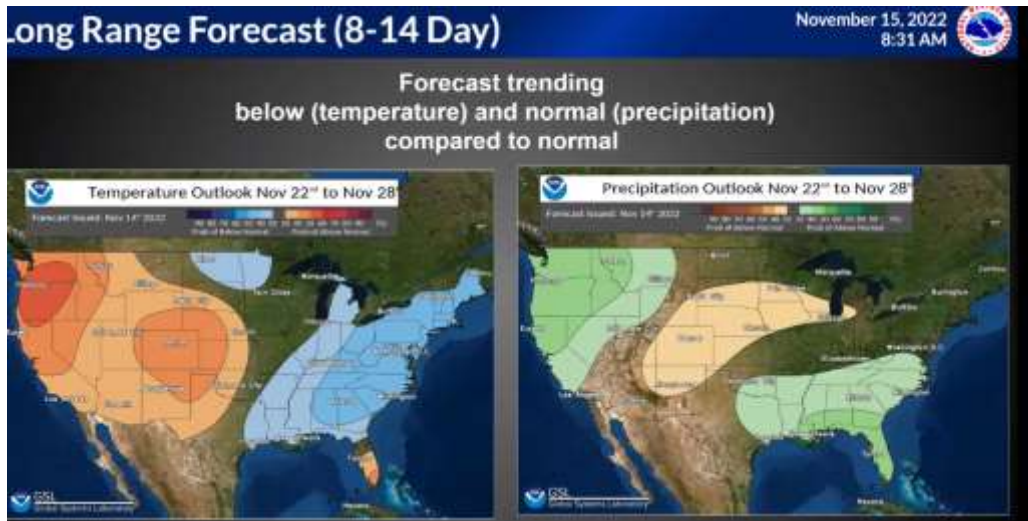
	11/15	11/16	11/17	11/18	11/19	11/20	11/21	11/22	Minimum
Bemidji	88	80	77	69	73	70	67	71	67
Brainerd	78	76	70	65	65	63	66	68	63
Duluth	78	72	66	60	60	59	62	64	59
Ely	79	76	72	65	63	66	67	65	63
Fergus Falls	92	90	88	80	87	80	80	77	77
Grand Portage	82	65	72	60	56	63	66	62	56
Grand Rapids	85	76	74	67	67	66	70	68	66
International Falls	79	73	69	66	63	66	66	65	63
Mankato	96	92	88	76	76	84	77	92	76
Marshall	87	70	69	58	64	60	55	57	56
Rochester	72	82	81	76	76	73	74	81	72
Roseau	88	80	81	80	76	73	73	74	73
Saint Cloud	92	84	77	76	76	77	77	81	76
Seagull Lake (BWCAW)	83	76	74	65	66	67	67	66	65
Thief River Falls	92	88	84	80	76	76	73	77	73
Twin Cities	96	92	84	76	76	77	71	81	71
Worthington	84	75	70	69	62	56	53	64	53

* Table values in %
**Created 8 am CDT Tue 11/15/2022
***Values are maximums over the period beginning at the time shown.

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

	11/15	11/16	11/17	11/18	11/19	Maximum
Bemidji	13	16	25	21	20	26
Brainerd	12	15	24	25	21	24
Duluth	13	14	24	23	26	22
Ely	14	10	15	20	18	20
Fergus Falls	18	23	30	24	21	30
Grand Portage	18	16	18	20	17	20
Grand Rapids	12	14	25	20	20	22
International Falls	13	12	18	18	17	18
Mankato	9	18	25	25	23	26
Marshall	23	23	30	23	24	30
Rochester	14	14	26	23	23	26
Roseau	16	17	26	22	26	28
Saint Cloud	10	17	28	24	23	28
Seagull Lake (BWCAW)	14	12	17	20	19	20
Thief River Falls	20	21	32	25	21	32
Twin Cities	15	15	28	23	23	29
Worthington	18	23	31	25	26	31

* Table values in mph
**Created 8 am CDT Tue 11/15/2022



Decision: It was agreed that fire weather forecasts from National Weather Service could be discontinued until next season.

Fire Environment Forecast (Travis Verdegan):

[FIRE BEHAVIOR FORECAST](#)
[Fire and Smoke Map \(airnow.gov\)](#)

Overview

Reported fire activity over the last planning period was limited to the first day of the period prior to the arrival of widespread precipitation that came over multiple days and totaled an inch plus over parts of the state (mainly east central and northeast). After that a cool down followed by some snow flurries has most of the state with at least trace amounts of snow on the ground. Continued cold temps and chances for snow will push us further into a solid start to winter and keep fire concerns across the state to a minimum.

CPC 6-10 and 8-14-Day Outlooks

The 6-10-day outlook is indicating a cold and dry pattern while the 8-14-day may be indicating a shift to closer to average conditions; however, it is still leaning toward cold and dry for the state.

Drought monitor

The latest drought monitor saw another week of modest gains this week with a total of 85% of the state in at least abnormally dry conditions, while the higher drought classifications stayed close to their position last week.

NFDRS

ERC – Y values are overstating the potential for an upward trending pattern due to the stations needing to be set to frozen in WIMS. Doing so will drastically change the moisture model and bring the values to a much lower level.

CFFDRS

BUI – values saw big drops across the state last week; however, there does appear to be some residual potential in areas that saw the least amount of precipitation over the last planning period. As these areas become snow-covered it will be important to remember the longer-term concerns for winter pile burning activities and consider potential for next spring

Situation Update

Northwest Region (Blair Olson): Since last week's call, one fire reported for 80 acres. Backus area has rolled their duty officer phone to the region. No needs.

Northeast Region (Dave Larson): Since last week's call, no fires. No needs.

Central Region (Jim Wilson): Since last week's call, no fires to report. A couple of peat fires are being monitored. Thanks to all for the support last week! No needs.

SW Area (Taylor Schenk): Since last week's call, no new fires. No needs.

USFS (Chase Marshall): No new fires. Superior National Forest received permission to continue prescribed fires – pile burnings throughout the fall and winter.

BIA (Cory Berg): Since last week's call, no fires reported. Pile burning will occur at Grand Portage. No needs.

US Fish and Wildlife (Seth Grimm): Since last week's call, no activity reported. No needs.

NPS: No report.

HSEM (Jacob Beauregard): Since last week's call, no updates. No needs.

CCM (Matt Roegge): If needed, two crews are available: a two-person crew in Duluth and a three-person crew out of Des Moines.

Aircraft (Jake Serfling): All tactical aircraft are currently off contract. Air desk will no longer be sending out the daily aircraft status report until there is a tactical aircraft need.

The air desk is staffing Monday-Friday 0800 - 1630.

[MN Aircraft Status Report | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](https://state.mn.us)

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

Southwest prairies will remain at a level 2 for the time being. Minnesota has moved to statewide preparedness level 1.

Additional Resources List Activation: No needs.

Regulations, Restrictions, Priorities (Linda Gormanson): Most northwestern counties will no longer require burning permits due to snow cover. Areas will change their local levels based on conditions and monitor levels through the Electronic Licensing System (ELS).

Logistics (Tasha Woodwick): Minnesota Coordination Center is closed next week. Assistance is available through the duty officer for after hour needs. Minimal local resources are assigned; there has been little to no activity in logistics.

There is no MNICS Type 3 IMT on rotation.

MNCC Duty Officer: Tasha Woodwick
MNCC Duty Officer Number: 218-322-2707

- 218-322-2738 **Center Manager – Mike Mackey**
- 218-327-4582 **Aviation – Jake Serfling for Anna Hines, ACM**
- 218-327-4175 **Operations – Angela Porter, Lead**
- 218-322-2700 **Logistics – Natasha Woodwick, ACM**
- 218-322-2745 **Intelligence – Jenny Benes for Jolene Soltis**
- 218-322-2739 **Information – Leanne Langeberg**

Next MNICS Conference Call: This is the last MNICS planning call for the season. No further calls have been scheduled.

MNICS Registration: Please submit your registration for the 2022 MNICS Meeting to be held December 5-8 in Duluth, MN. This year, attendance is limited to avoid COVID-19 issues. Working team chairs should coordinate with the task force to identify participants. Subject matter experts that are not voting members can be added to the roster. Those that do attend the meeting are asked to monitor their health daily and leave early if they are not feeling well.

The Coordination Center will be closed November 19-27 and December 17- January 2.

Have a safe winter and take things slow and steady!

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

Notes by: Jenny Benes