



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

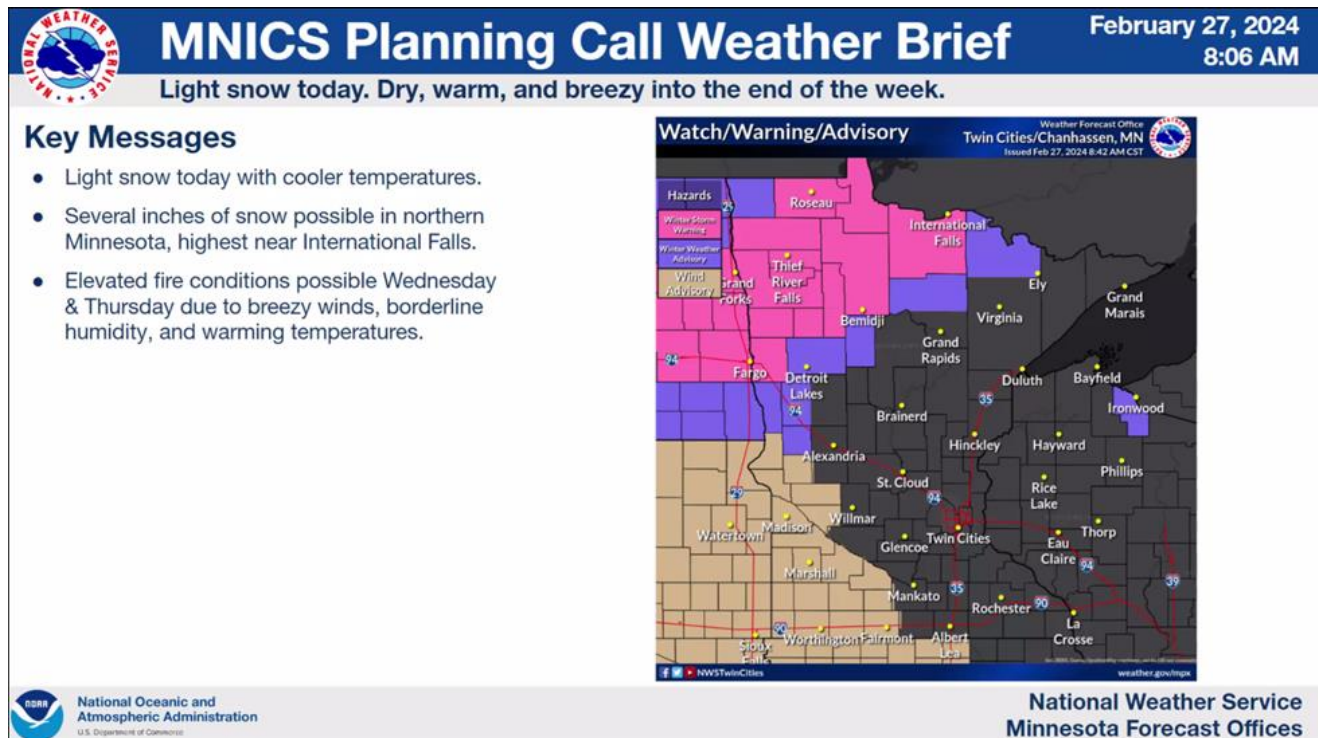
Large Incidents that have a Team assigned will be updated at: <http://mnics.org/wpress/>

DATE: February 27, 2024

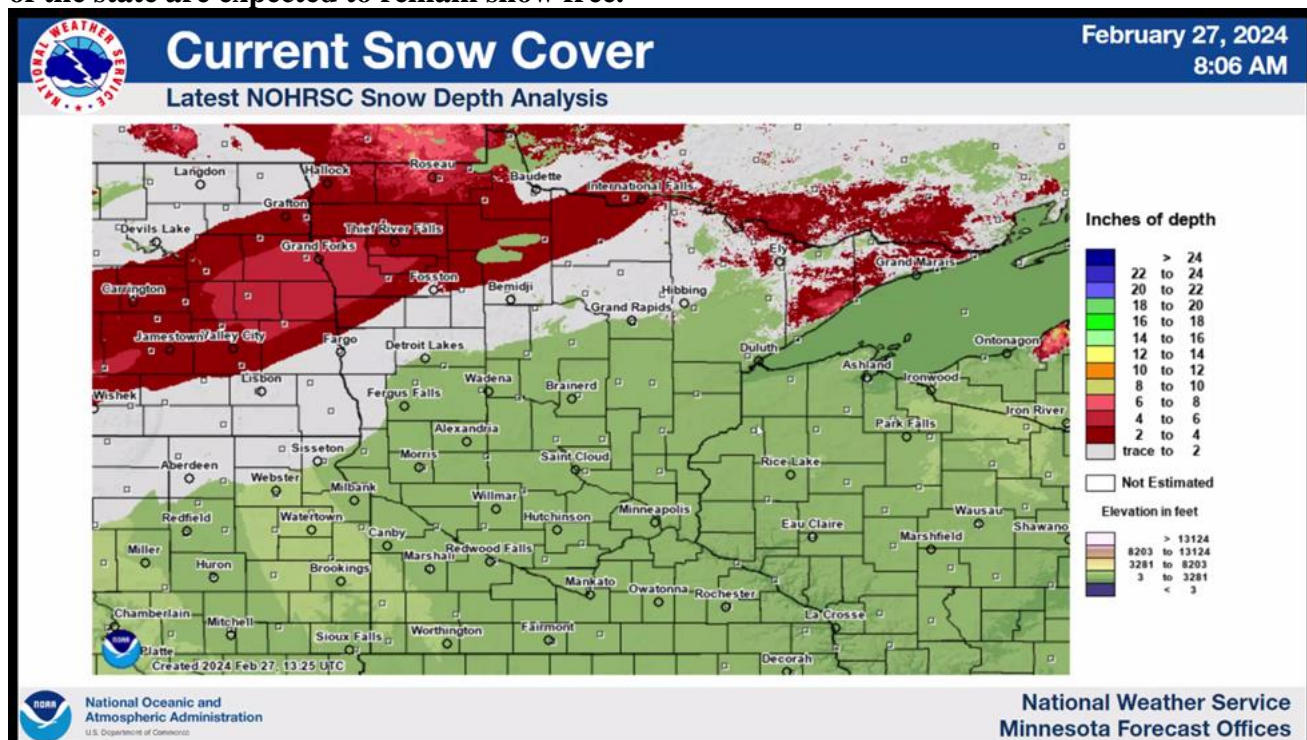
Attending: Northwest Region: Matt Boyer, Arthur Braun
Northeast Region: Casey Baysal
Central Region: Jim Wilson
SW Area: Jim Wilson
St. Paul DNR: Linda Gormanson
Aviation: Darren Neuman
BIA: Carl Crawford
USFS: Brian Jenkins
USFWS: Mike Hill
NPS: N A
CCM: Doug Ekstrom
HSEM: Jacob Baurgaurd, Kara Behr
National Weather Service: Tyler Hasenstein – NWS Twin Cities
MIFC: Ryan Kingsley, MNCC Aviation, MNCC Intelligence, MNCC Logistics, MNCC Operations, MNCC Public Information

Large Incident Updates:

Currently there are no large incidence in the state.

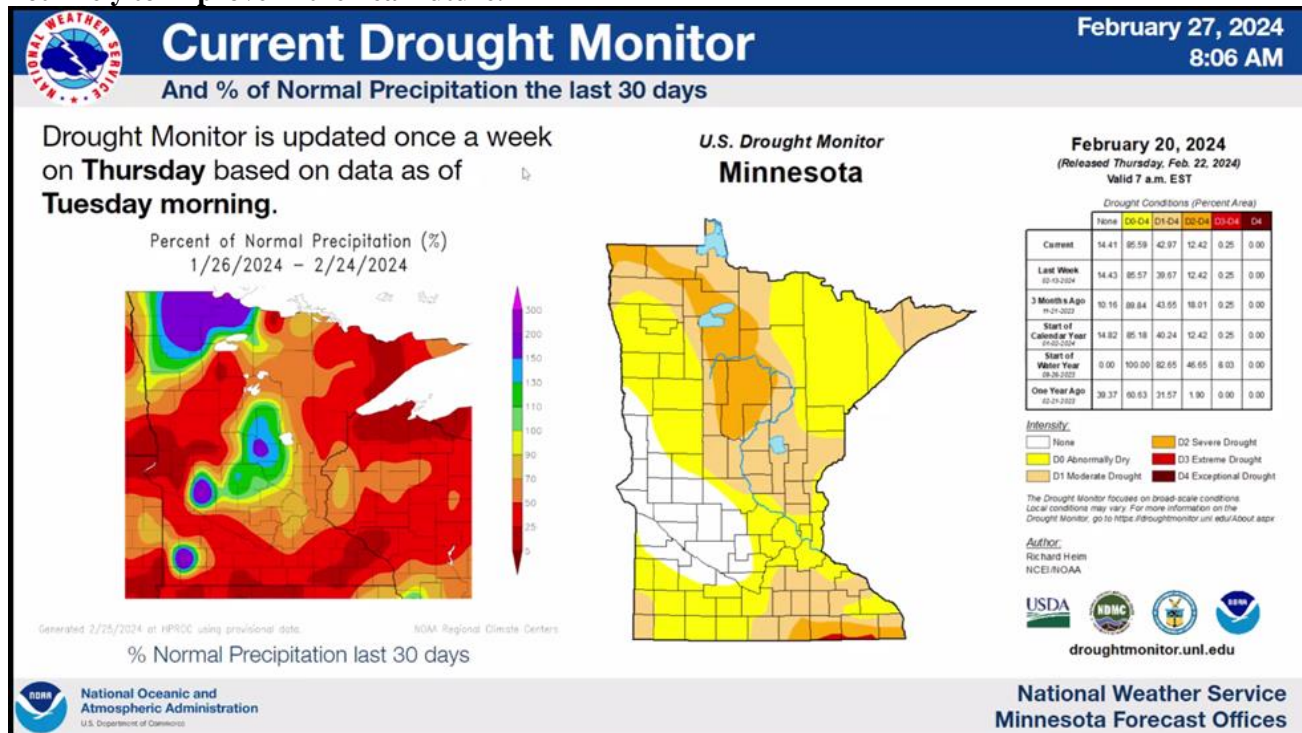


There is very little snow cover left across the state with the greatest amounts of 2-4 inches showing up in the upper NW portions of the state. The front that is impacting the state today is impacting the NW and the quantity in the NW will increase. The central and southern portions of the state are expected to remain snow free.

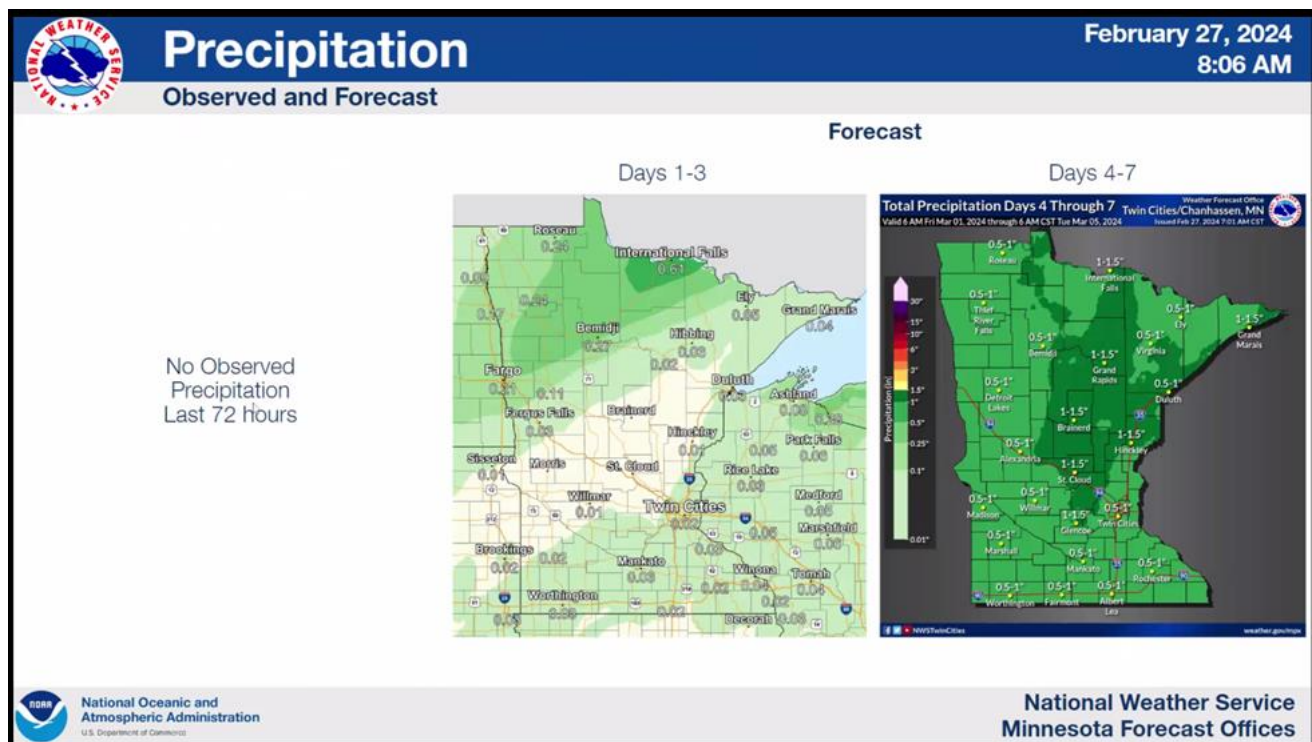


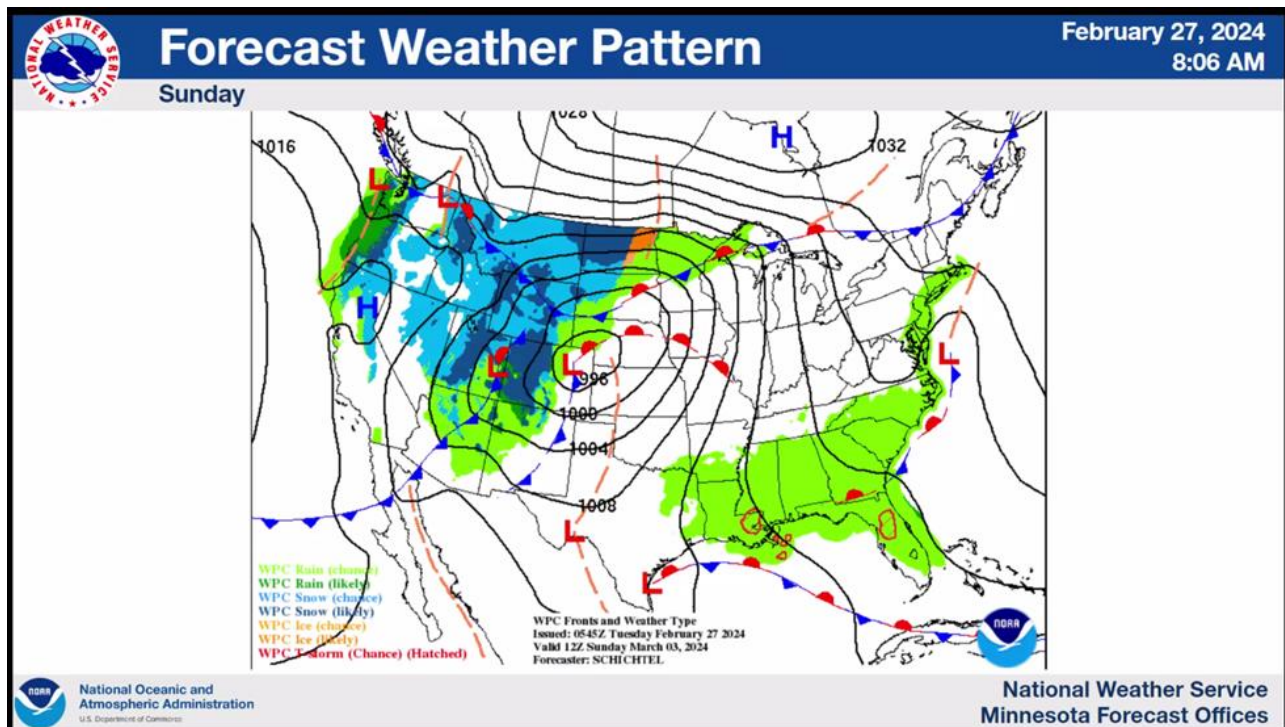
Moderate to severe drought conditions continue to persist across the state. The drought conditions are

not likely to improve in the near future.

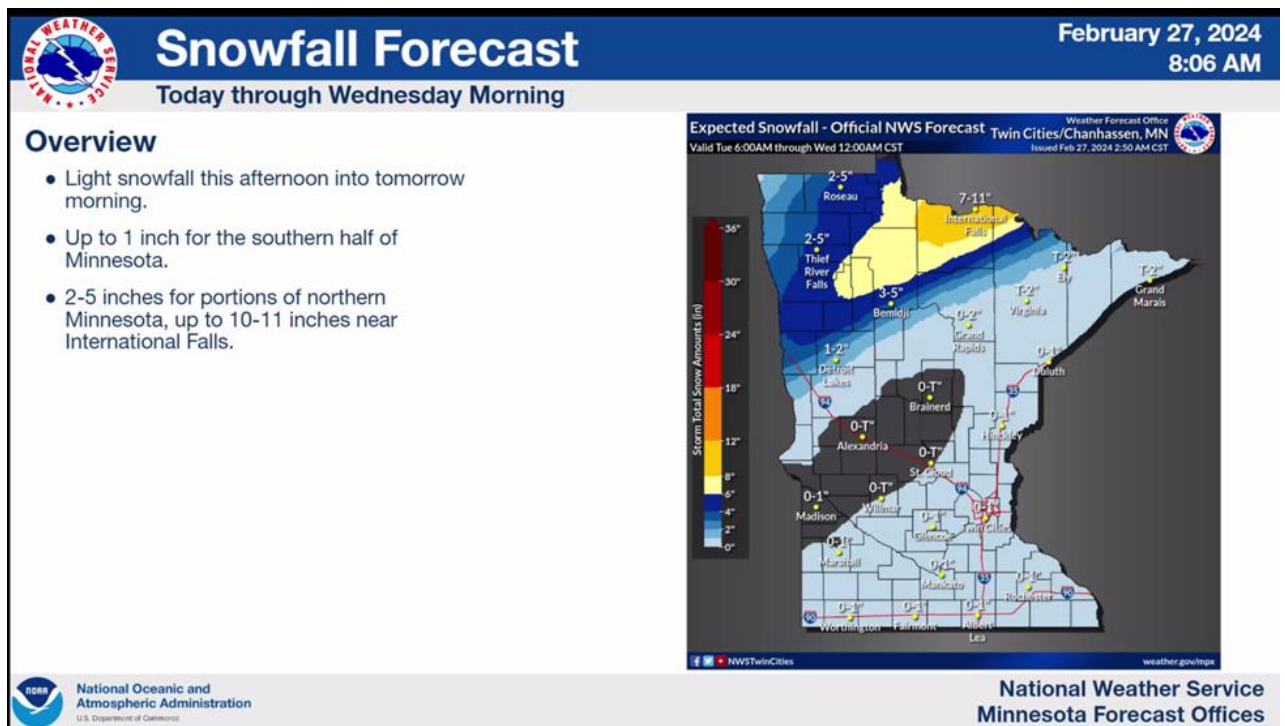


The northern most portion of the state is anticipated to see a chance of some precipitation today. After that there is no precipitation on the forecast. The next system is anticipated to arrive later this weekend, Sunday into Monday.

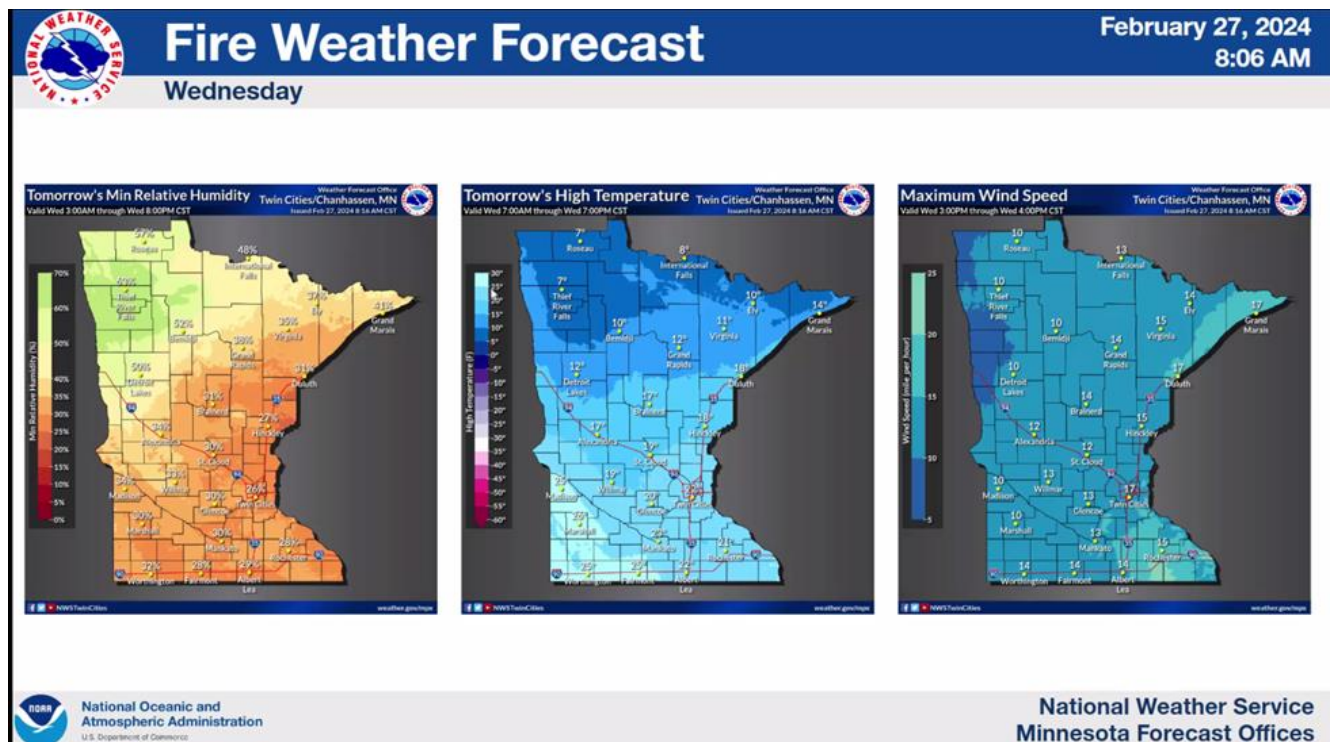
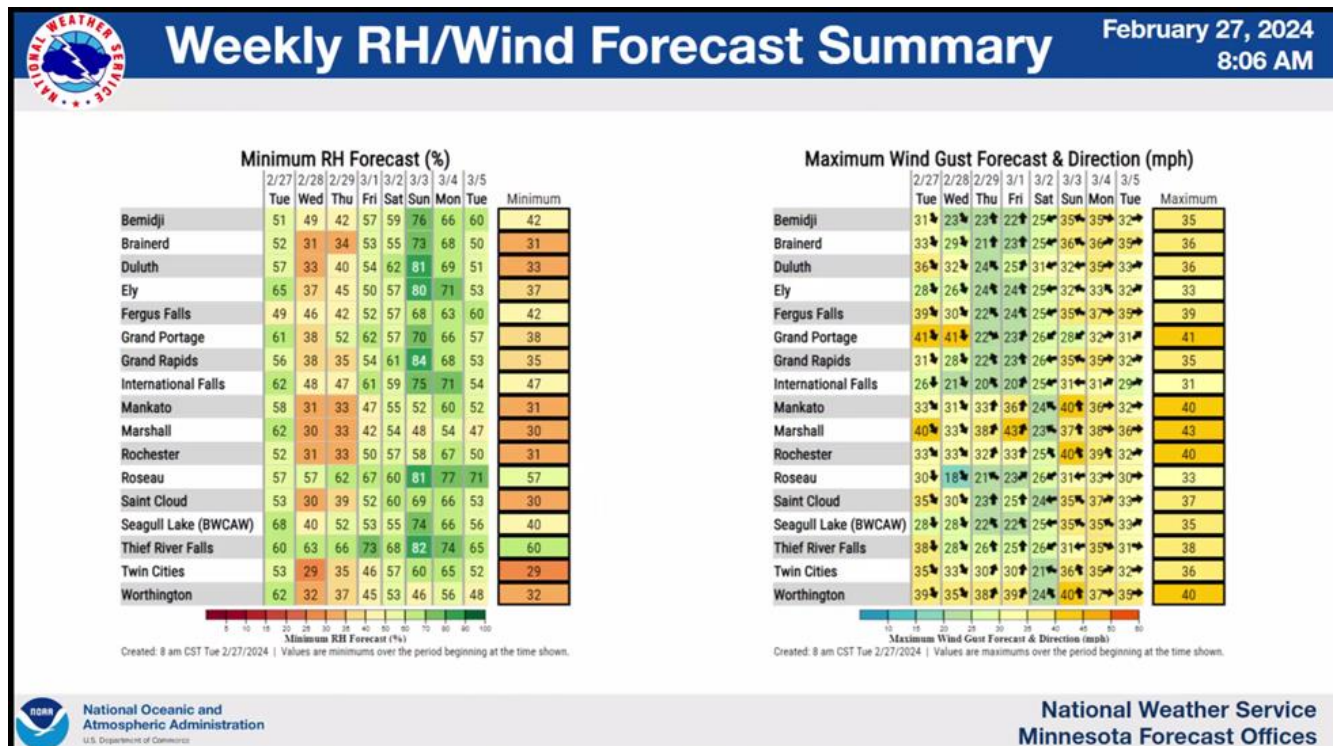




Trace amounts of snowfall are expected across most of the state today and into the morning hours. There is a dry area across central MN that is expected to miss any portion of the snow front. The International Falls area has the greatest potential to receive accumulating amounts of significant snowfall.



Wednesday into Thursday fire potential is anticipated to pick back up and continue. Keep an eye on the winds and RH values.



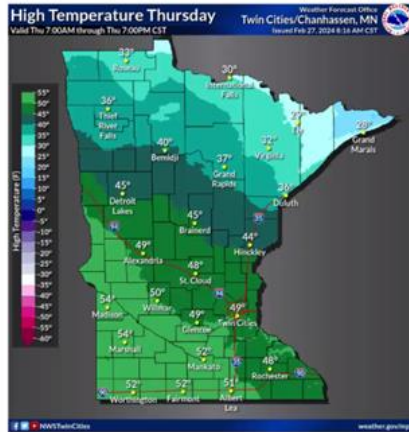
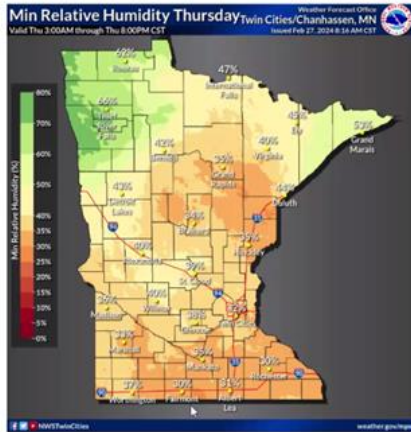


Fire Weather Forecast

Thursday

February 27, 2024

8:06 AM



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Minnesota Forecast Offices

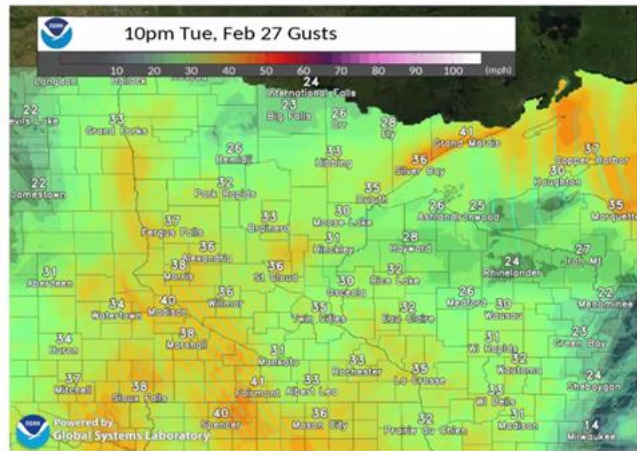
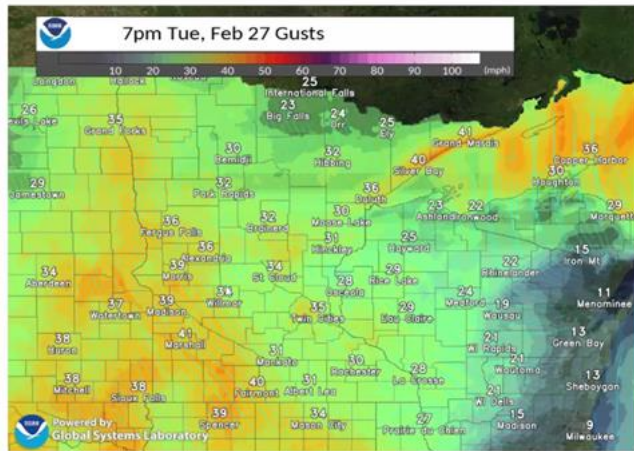


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Fire Environment Forecast (Travis Verdegan):

FIRE BEHAVIOR FORECAST

Fire and Smoke Map (airnow.gov)

Overview

As expected, fire activity over the weekend accelerated and peaked yesterday under dry and windy conditions. Other than some small pockets of trace precip the state has stayed entirely dry since last Friday.

A system moving into the state this morning looks to primarily impact the northern quarter of the state although scattered precip further south may be possible. On the back side the remainder of the week looks to stay dry and a widespread system may begin to move into the state by the end of next weekend. Fire activity should stay elevated in those areas that remain precip free this week and may include fires exhibiting a tendency to spread rapidly in fine fuels challenging initial attack resources.

CPC 6 – 10 and 8 – 14 Day Outlooks

The CPC 6-10 day and 8-14 day outlooks both show indications of above normal temps and precip although the longer term is starting to indicate potential for another drier pattern top set up for the first half of March.

Drought Monitor

The latest drought monitor holds significant coverage of drought conditions across the state that have remained in place since last year. Degradation is showing in the change map as we continue to miss out on any significant precip adding to the concern for drought development through the spring fire season.

NFDRS

NFDRS values are not being calculated at this time. A recalc will be done as predictive services is able to catch up with station management in WIMS.

CFFDRS

CFFDRS values are being calculated and will be adjusted for elevated drought codes once new start up values have been determined. FFMC and ISI values can be considered valid and longer term indices will be higher upon recalculation

Situation Update

(Since the last Planning Call)

Northwest Region: There have been 7 wildfires for 170 acres. Region is requesting the MR shop be placed on –call for additional staffing resource.

Northeast Region: There have been 14 wildfires for 48 acres. Region is requesting the MR shop be placed on-call for additional staffing resources.

Central Region: There have been 7 wildfires for 276 acres, with the majority of the acres being the Farmstead Rd fire in the Sandstone Forestry Area. Region is requesting the MR shop and the available CCM crew based out of Rochester be placed on-call for additional staffing resources.

SW Area: There have been VFD runs in the area but to MNDNR wildfires. No additional resource needs.

USFS: There have been no wildfires on either of the forests. One small RX burn was completed. NO additional needs.

BIA: There have been 3 wildfires totaling less than 1 acre. One RX burn was complete on the Red Lake Reservation for 3,196 acres. No additional resource needs.

USFWS: There have been no wildfires on USFWS lands. USFWS personnel have been on a few assists. No additional resource needs.

NPS: NA

HSEM: No updates, no needs.

CCM: One 3-person crew is available out of Rochester to be placed on-call. The crew will be placed on call to support the Central Regions request for additional support.

Aircraft: Starting Friday, March 1st, one Type 3 Helicopter will be available in Cambridge. Starting Saturday, March 2nd, one Air Attach and two seats will be available in Brainerd. Continue to reach out the MNCC Air Desk with any aviation requests or needs.

Preparedness Levels:

Statewide: 2

Eastern Area: 2

National: 1

Additional Resources List Activation:

MR Shops will be on-call in all 3 Regions. CCM crew will be on-call out of Rochester.

Regulations, Restrictions, Priorities:

All MNDNR Forestry Areas continue to manage burning permits through the electronic system.

MNICS IMT on Rotation: None

MNCC Duty Officer: Jolene Soltis

MNCC DO Number: 218-322-2707

- 218-322-2738 **Center Manager** – Ryan Kingsley
- 218-327-4582 **Aviation** –Anna Hines, ACM
- 218-327-4175 **Operations** – Ryan Johnson, ACM
- 218-322-2700 **Logistics** – Natasha Woodwick, ACM
- 218-322-2745 **Intelligence** –Jolene Soltis
- 218-322-2739 **Information** – Leanne Langeberg

Next MNICS Conference Call: Tuesday, March 5th at 0900

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

Notes by: Jolene Soltis