



## **MNICS TASKFORCE PLANNING CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025

**ATTENDANCE:**

**DNR NW:** Blair Olson and Arthur Braun  
**DNR NE:** Andy McGuire  
**DNR Central:** Jake Froyum  
**DNR SW:** Jake Froyum  
**DNR St. Paul:** William Glesener  
**Aviation:** Anna Hines  
**US Forest Service:** Nick Petrack  
**Bureau of Indian Affairs:** Cory Berg  
**US Fish and Wildlife Service:** Darrin Franco  
**National Park Service:** Tyler Brink  
**Homeland Security:** Kelvin McCuskey  
**Conservation Corp Minnesota-Iowa:** Cesario Velasco  
**National Weather Service:** Joe Strus – NWS Twin Cities  
**MN Pollution Control:** David Brown  
**Predictive Services:** Travis Verdegan

**Large Incident Report Outs**

**National Incident Management Organization – IC(t) Zach Kellerman**

**Horse Creek Fire**

- 13 acres, 100% contained

The fire was be handed back over to the local forest at 0700 on Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>.

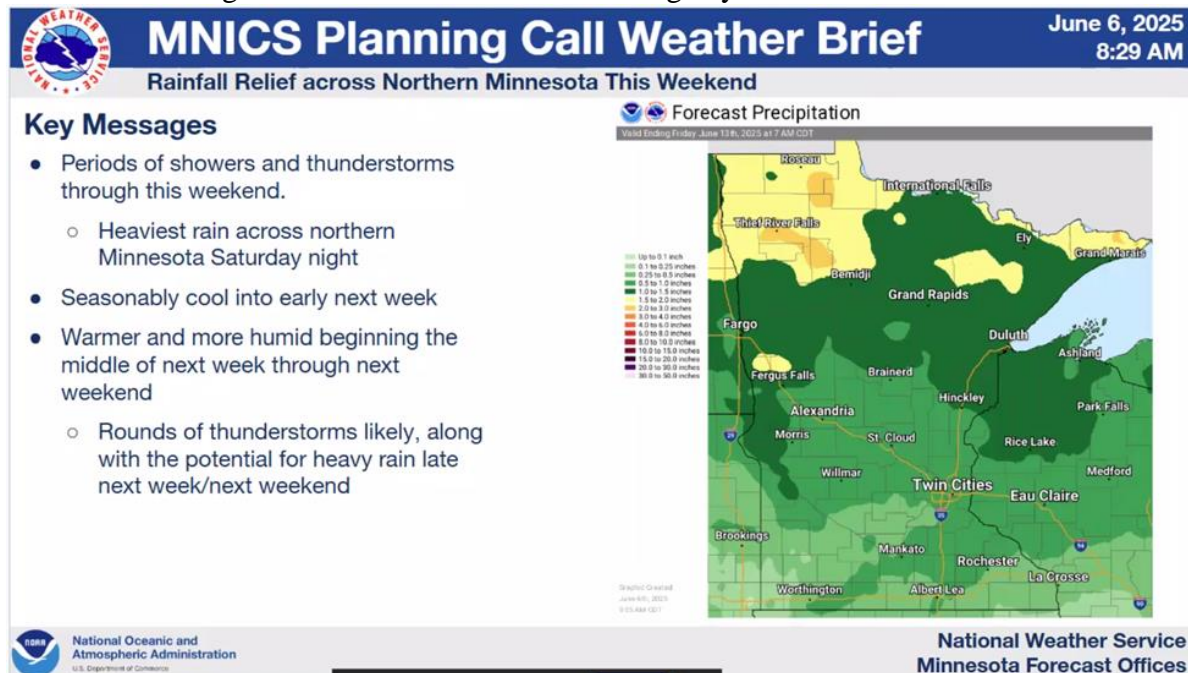
**Jenkins Creek Fire**

- 16,145 acres, 94% contained, 168 personnel committed to the incident

The incident has been downsizing personnel in preparation for handing the fire back over to the local forest as a Type 4 incident. The transition is anticipated to take place on Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup> at 0700. The transition closeout meeting will take place at 1000 on Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>. It has been brought to the Teams attention by St. Louis County, that there were 7 confirmed structures lost that consisted of 6 hunting shacks and 1 outbuilding. The Team has made the proper notifications to the NICC regarding the structures.

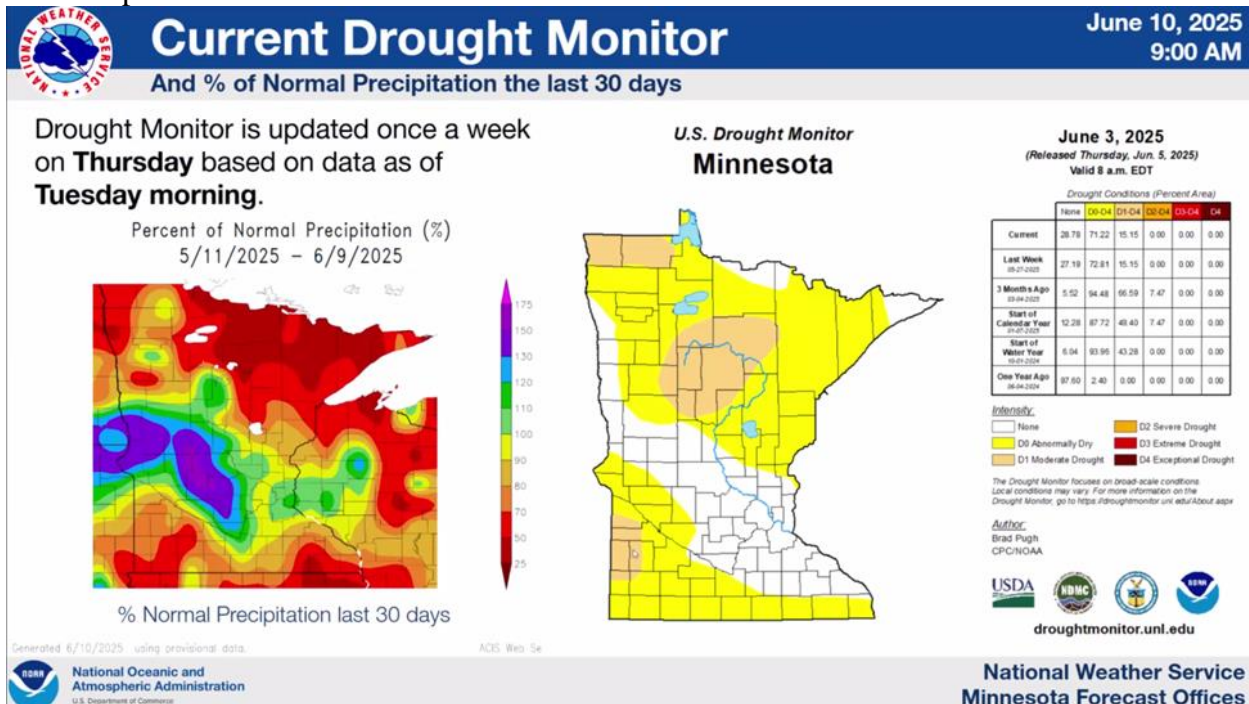
## NWS Weather Briefing:

We are moving into summer like conditions with the focus on central and southern portions of the state receiving the heaviest rainfall in the coming days.



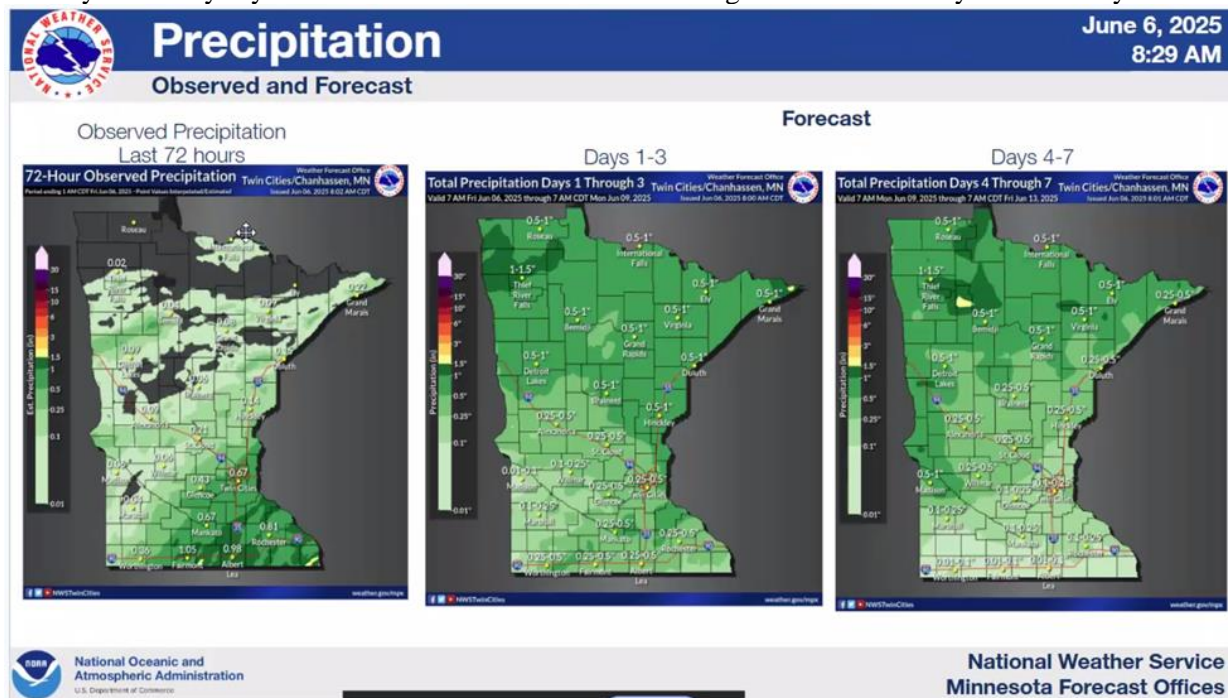
## Drought Monitor

The surplus of rain that was seen across the state in the last 30 days has found its way onto the current drought map. Central and SE MN are out of the abnormally dry conditions although the northern part of the state remains the concern.



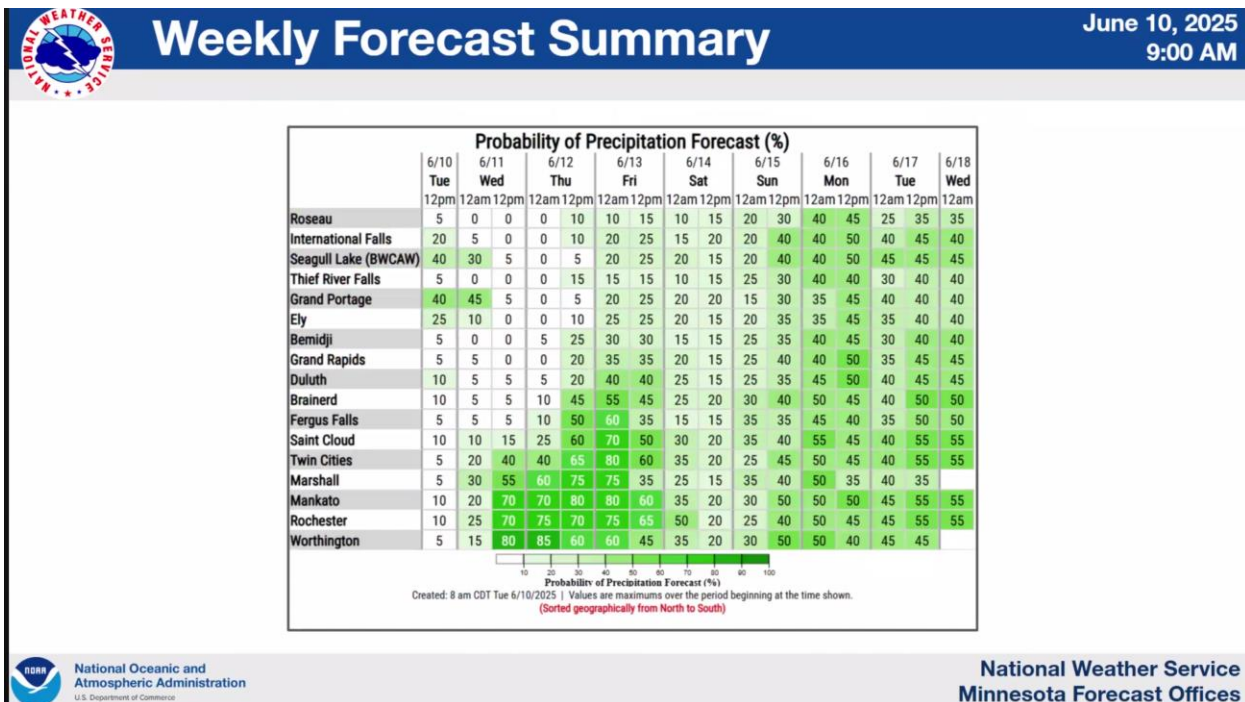
## Precipitation

After much anticipation northern MN has finally received a wetting amount of precipitation with more on the way. A mostly dry weekend is ahead with storms returning to the state Sunday into Monday.



## Precipitation Probability

Central and southern portions of the state will likely see scattered precipitation Wednesday – Friday. After Friday most areas across the state will see daily chances of precipitation.

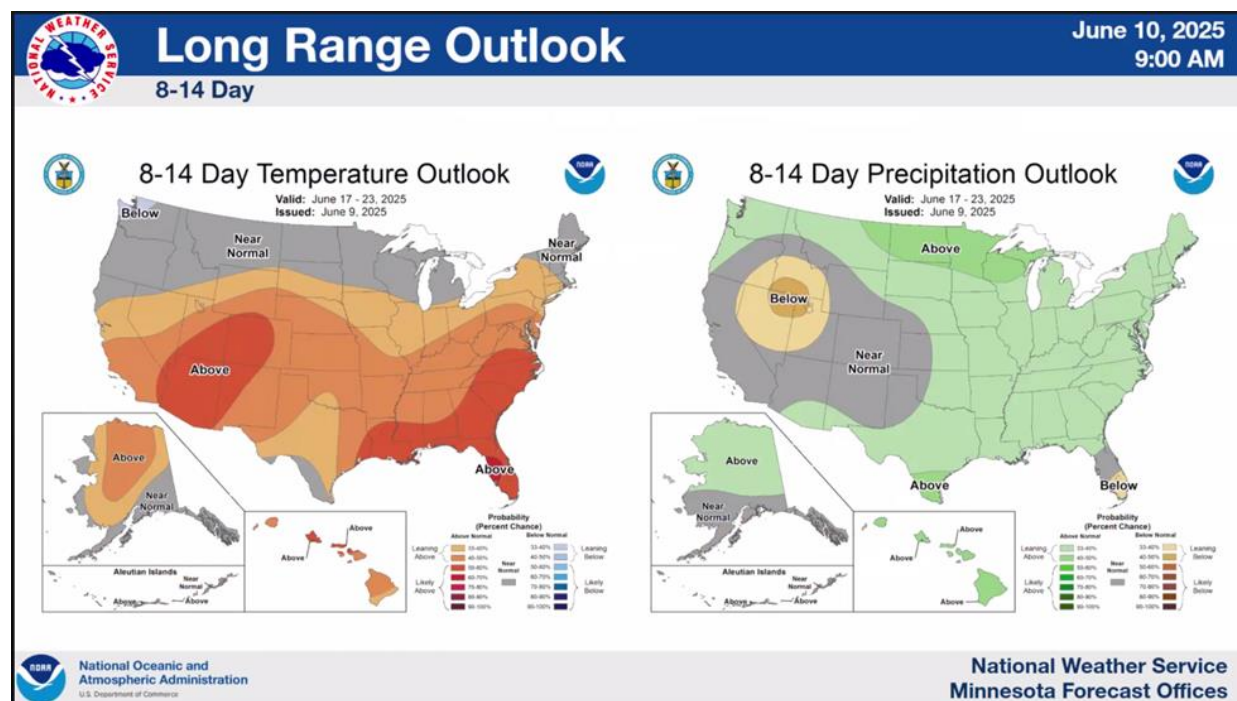




Low to moderate chances of fire activity present themselves as we are seeing a moisture surge across the state.



Neutral chances of seasonable temperatures are expected along with above average chances of precipitation.



## Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

The Canadian fires are still impacting MN although they are coming from a different Province within the Country. There is a high likelihood of the need for an air quality alert needed for tomorrow through Thursday due to the fine particle pollutants.

# Daily Probability of an Air Quality Alert

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Ozone			
Fine Particles			

Key:  <20%  20-40%  40-60%  60-80%  >80%

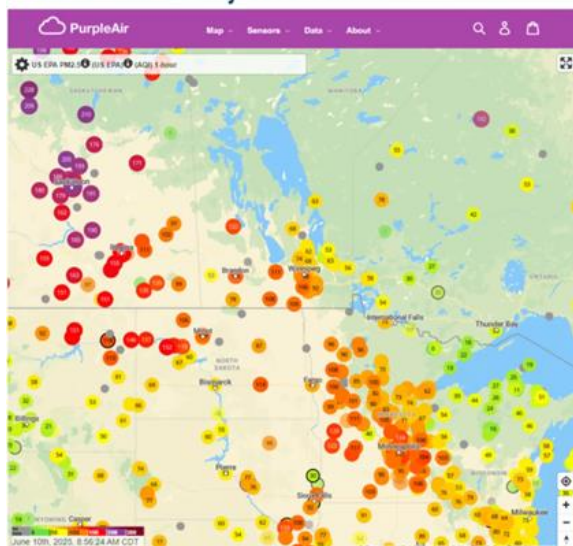
## Location & Uncertainty

- Fine particle pollution from Canada wildfire smoke may impact northwest Minnesota today
- A strong cold front will pass Tues night/Wed morning and elevated smoke will move over the state Wed. This smoke may mix to the surface across central MN around noon Wed. Alert likely needed.

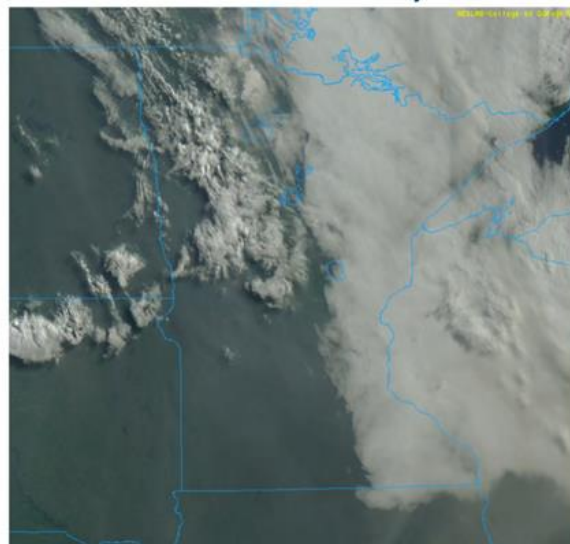


# Overview

## Current Air Quality Observations

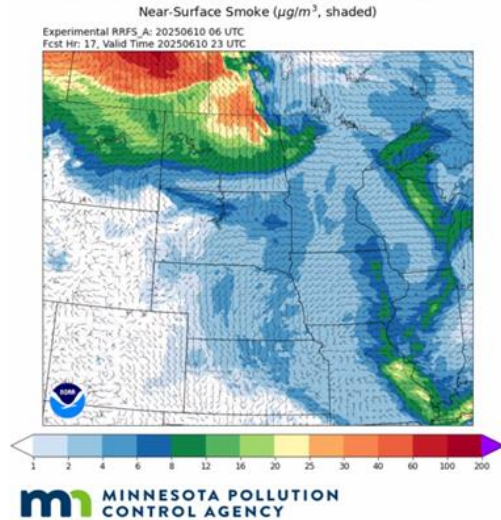


## Visible Satellite As of 845 am Tuesday

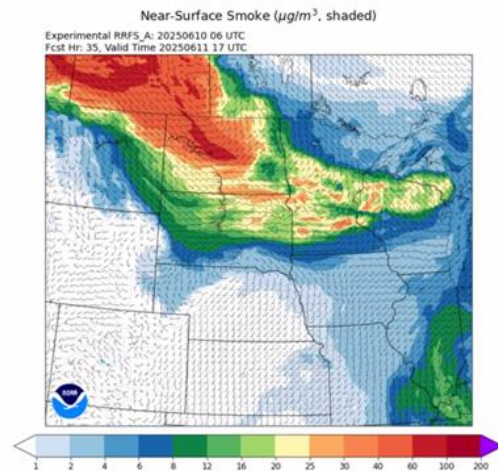


# Overview

## RRFS model output for 7pm Tuesday



## RRFS model output for 12pm Wednesday



## MNCC Predictive Services Update

### SPECIFIC FIRE BEHAVIOR:

MN FFM:87 BUI:50 WS:7 Effective ISI:4.9	Flame Length	Rate of Spread (ft/min $\approx$ ch/hr)	Fire Type	60 Minute Spread Size (acres)
Grass (55% cured – 3 tons/acre)	3 – 4	<5	Surface	<1
Lowland Grass (75% cured – 5 tons/acre)	8 – 9	15 – 17	Surface	6
Young Jack Pine & Boreal Spruce (100% FMC)	9 – 10	14 – 16	<b>Torching</b>	5
Pine Plntn. & Mat. JP	3 – 4	<5	Surface	<1
Mixdwood Green (25% Fir) & Red & White Pine Timber	4 – 5	<5	Surface	1
Hardwood/Aspen	2 – 3	<5	Surface	<1

## Overview

Over the last 4 days most of the state saw more days with precipitation than not, amounting to a widespread reset of fire potential across the state. Fire activity over the last week dropped dramatically with most of the reported fires occurring prior to the onset of the wetter pattern we've been in.

As we look into the future, we can expect lingering long term fire potential to stick around until we get repeated heavy precipitation, until then with a statewide reset in BUI and reinforcement in the forecast we approximately 2 – 3 weeks out from significant fire potential if the pattern switches back to warm and dry.



### **CPC 6 – 10 and 8 – 14 Day Outlooks**

CPC 6 – 10 and 8 – 14-day outlooks show a switch from warmer temps in the short term to near normal in the longer term. Above normal precipitation shows for both periods.

### **Drought Monitor**

The latest drought saw negligible change overall as some parts of the state saw improvement while others saw degradation.

### **NFDRS**

ERC – Y values show a steady decline with some daily spikes on the warmer drier days.

### **CFDRS**

A comparison of last Friday's forecast for BUI and yesterday's observations show that precipitation may have slightly underperformed the forecast. Nominally the difference is not enough to change expectations for fire potential in the short term, but it leaves the door open for a return to significant fire potential if we return to a warmer drier period. Watch trends in drought code as we move further into the heat of summer.

## **Situation Update and Planning Needs Summary**

**DNR NW:** 3 fires for 1.5 acre, no additional resource needs.

**DNR NE:** 1 fires for 0.1 acre, no additional resource needs.

**DNR Central:** No fires reported, no additional resource needs.

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**DNR SW:** No fires reported, no additional resource needs.

**FS:** 1 MNDNR assist, no fires, no additional needs.

**BIA:** 1 fire for 0.1 acre, no additional needs.

**FWS:** No fires reported, no additional resource needs.

**NPS:** Little Trout Lake Fire is 3.2 acres and 100% contained, no additional resource needs.

**HSEM:** No updates, no needs.

**CCMI:** There are 2 crews available, a north crew and an Iowa crew.

**AVIATION:** There have been no aircraft requests. Yesterday was the last day for the (2) C141s in Hibbing and the T3 Helicopter in Two Harbors. Refer to the [Daily Aircraft Status Report](#) for the most up to date aircraft information.

## **Current Preparedness Levels**

Minnesota: PL 3, NE 4

Eastern Area: PL 2

National: PL 2

**Minnesota will remain at a PL 3.**

## **Planning Preparedness Level Determination with FDRA's**

MN Interagency Guide for Determining Preparedness Level

### **Final Preparedness Level Determination**

	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
<b>Statewide</b>			<b>III</b>		
<b>Arrowhead</b>			<b>III</b>		
<b>East Central Hardwoods</b>		<b>II</b>			
<b>North Central Woodlands</b>		<b>II</b>			
<b>Northern Peatlands</b>		<b>II</b>			
<b>Prairie Parklands</b>		<b>II</b>			
<b>Southeast Hardwoods</b>		<b>II</b>			
<b>Southwest Prairie</b>		<b>II</b>			

**Prepared By:** Travis Verdegan  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025

**Approved By:** MNICS Taskforce  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025

**Additional Resource Activations:** None.

### **Restrictions/Regulations/Priorities:**

Burning restrictions and permits are being managed by the local forestry offices.

**Additional Comments:** With the MN Wildfire Academy finishing up this week. Individuals are encouraged to assess their availability to be able to help areas in need across the state and the Great Lakes Compact, our Canadian partners that need resources.

**MNICS IMT on Rotation is Team B**

**MNCC Duty Officer:** Anna Hines (218) 322-2707

**Next MNICS Planning Conference Call will take place on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at 0900.**

Notes by: Jolene Soltis MNCC Intel Officer