

MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER/FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

1. REPORTING UNIT: **Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center**

2. DATE: **Sep 2, 2007 (Outlook for September 2007)**

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

Above normal temperatures that occurred across the RMA during the month of August was moderated by above average rainfall that was reported over much of the region. Fuel moistures leading into early September were near normal across the RMA, and the forecast weather pattern for early September is expected to keep fuel moistures in the near normal range.

4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK (To address the following factors)

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

RMA: Drought conditions (analysis from the National Drought Mitigation Center) have improved from last month across southwest Colorado and eastern sections of South Dakota and Nebraska. Little change was noted elsewhere from last month. Drought ratings are most significant over western Wyoming, southwest South Dakota, and northwest Nebraska with "severe" to "extreme" ratings.

PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK

RMA September Precipitation: Average, except below average western Colorado and southwest Wyoming.

TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

RMA September Temperatures: Average, except above average southwest Colorado.

5. FUELS

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

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Sept. Area Avg. 1994 to 2006</u>	<u>Sept. Record</u>
1000 Hour Fuel Moisture	12	13	9
ERC	56	51	75

6. AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date 5 year average): **2,783/234,172**

7. ACTUAL OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date this year): **2,472/72,398**

8. WRITTEN SUMMARY

All factors considered, average fire potential is forecast for the RMA in September of 2007. In an average September, the number of large fires decreases from August, although some lingering large fire potential is normal during the month. Late in the month increasing large fire potential is possible in the grasslands over portions of the the eastern plains, especially where grasses and fine fuels are heaviest from this past winter and summer moisture in eastern Colorado, southeast Wyoming, western Nebraska, and western Kansas.

