

Southern Area Coordination Center Morning Report

Monday, November 19, 2007

8:15 a.m.

Southern Area
Preparedness Level: 2

Southern Area Current Situation

National Preparedness Level: 1

Compact Status: The Southeastern and South Central Compacts are both open.

Initial Attack Activity*

Initial attack activity reported over the weekend (Fri-Sun) included:
 16 fires for 110 acres on BIA lands in OK;
 1 fire for 1 acre on DOD land in SC;
 12 fires for 104 acres on private lands in AR and NC (from 11/15);
 157 fires for 2,998 acres on state lands in AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, SC and TX (from 11/13-18);
 3 fires and 28 acres on USFS lands in AR, NC and TX;
 Total: 189 fires and 3,241 acres burned.

* For specific information on fire activity (numbers of new wildland or prescribed fires and year-to-date totals by state/unit), please refer to the Southern Area [Summary](#) or [Detailed](#) Situation Reports.

Incident Information (as reported via ICS-209s)

Newly reported fires are highlighted in blue.

Incident Name	Incident Number	Start Date	Size	% Ctn	IMT Assigned	Structures Destroyed to Date
Recreation	FL-FLS-2007-18-0231	11/15/07	408	100		
Holy Road	MS-MSS-5028	11/15/07	4	100		1 res. damaged
Cypress Creek	MS-MSS-6066	11/15/07	15	100		1 residence
Jackson Swamp	NC-NCS-07078072	11/5/07	450	100		
Indian Boy	OK-OSA-007039	11/14/07	104	100		
Hudspeth Ranch	TX-TXS-088003	11/16/07	3,555	65		

Holy Road – The hardwood litter fire damaged 1 residence prior to control on 11/15. Located 3 miles NE of Sartinsville, MS.

Cypress Creek – The hardwood litter fire destroyed 1 residence prior to control on 11/15. Located 4 miles NW of Ramsey Springs, MS.

Hudspeth Ranch – Creeping and some torching were observed on 11/17 as the fire burned in heavy brush and grass, cedar and juniper fuels. Containment is expected today. Located S of Ozona, TX.

Prescribed Fire Activity

Prescribed fire activity reported over the weekend (Fri-Sun) included:
 1 fire for 270 acres on FWS land in GA;
 1 fire for 28 acres on USFS land in TX;
 Total: 2 fires for 298 acres burned.

Remarks

Friday, 11/16

AR-AOC - Initial attack activity on BIA units in OK remains light (5-6) fires per day, trending toward moderate. Today's activity is as follows: OK-OSA - 1 fire for 8 acres, OK-COA - 4 fires for 31 acres, OK-CHA - 1 fire (acreage unknown), and OK-CNA - 1 fire for 6 acres. The Indian Boy incident ongoing. Red flag for Oklahoma today.

FL-FLS - 6 new fires for 34 acres. 14 active/uncontrolled fires for 47 acres.

GA-GAS - 22 fires for 25 acres on 11/13, 19 fires for 21 acres on 11/14, 28 fires for 243 acres on 11/15 (largest were 100 acres in Burke Co, 70 acres in Richmond Co., and 25 acres in Appling),

and 33 fires for 77 acres on 11/16 (largest were 30 acres in Screven Co and 20 acres in Johnson).
LA-LAS - State fire activity (20 fires for 138 acres) occurred from 11/13-15.
MS-MSS – 21 fires for 245 acres on 11/15.
NC-NCS - 7 fires for 7 acres on 11/15.
SC-SCS - 6 fires for 54 acres.
TX-TIC - Angelina NF had 1 fire for 1 acre. Sabine NF completed 1 Rx burn for 28 acres.

Saturday, 11/17

AR-AOC - 1 new wildfire for .10 acre on the Big Piney District of the Ozark-St. Francis NF. BIA fire activity included: OK-CHA - 1 fire for 5 acres, OK-WEA - 1 fire for 14 acres, OK-CNA - 1 fire for unknown acreage, OK-MIA - 1 fire for 11 acres, OK-OSA - 1 fire for 3 acres, and OK-OMA - 2 fires for 10 acres.
FL-FLS - 7 new fires for 6 acres. 18 active/uncontrolled fires for 80 acres.
MS-MSS – 3 fires for 23 acres on 11/16.
SC-SCS – 9 fires for 14 acres.
TX-TIC - Angelina NF had 1 fire for 6 acres.

Sunday, 11/18

AR-AOC – BIA fire activity included: OK-CNA - 2 fires for 20 acres, and OK-MIA - 2 fires for 2 acres. A local BIA investigation team is on scene at the Abel's Camp fire at OK-OSA, which threatened 40+ primary structures yesterday before containment.
FL-FLS - 6 new fires for 34 acres. 21 active/uncontrolled fires for 86 acres.
MS-MSS – 5 fires for 43 acres on 11/17.
NC-NCC - 20 acres entered to show an increase in the Singecat fire on the Grandfather Ranger District in the Pisgah NF. Leaf drop from winds over the past few days have caused the fire to become active again. A burnout accounted for part of the acreage increase.
SC-SCS – 16 fires for 26 acres.

Resources *

Southern Area Resources Committed within the Southern Area

Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead
BIA	0	0	2	4
BLM	0	0	0	8
DOD	0	0	0	0
FWS	0	0	0	1
NPS	0	0	0	8
States	0	0	0	5
USFS	5	1	24	112
Blank/Other	2	0	5	5
Total	7	1	31	143

Total Southern Area Resources Committed to Other Geographic Areas

Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead
BIA	0	0	0	0
BLM	0	0	0	0
DOL	0	0	0	0
FWS	0	0	0	0
NPS	0	0	0	0
NWS	0	0	0	0
States	0	0	0	0
USFS	0	0	0	3
Blank/Other	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	3

Total Southern Area Resources Committed (all Geographic Areas)

Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead
BIA	0	0	2	4
BLM	0	0	0	8
DOD	0	0	0	0
FWS	0	0	0	1
NPS	0	0	0	8
States	0	0	0	5
USFS	5	1	24	115
Blank/Other	2	0	5	5
Total	7	1	31	146

Total Southern Area and Other Geographic Area Resources Committed to SA

Provider Agency	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead
AMD	0	0	2	7
BIA	0	0	0	0
BLM	0	0	1	28
DOD	0	0	0	0
FWS	0	0	0	1
NPS	0	1	0	8
NWS	0	0	0	0
States	0	0	0	8
USFS	9	3	25	173
Blank/Other	2	0	33	5
Total	11	4	61	230

* The Resource Ordering Status System (ROSS) reflects the above number of resources currently committed; however, the numbers may be slightly off if resources have not been released properly. The Overhead column only reflects individual overhead positions, not the total number of personnel assigned.

TEAM & HOTSHOT CREW INFORMATION

Area Command Team <i>Through 0747 MST on 11/20/07</i>	Loach (Rocky Mountain)
Incident Management Teams - National Rotation <i>Through 1400 MST on 11/19/07</i>	#1 – Rocky Basin #2 - Southern
Interagency Buying Team - National Rotation <i>Through 1514 MST on 11/22/07</i>	Unavailable
Southern Area Incident Management Teams:	
Quesinberry (Type 1 - Blue)	Out of rotation, but available for national assignment (currently #2). Next regular Southern Area rotation is 11/25 - 12/8.
Ruggiero (Type 1 - Red)	Unavailable. Next regular Southern Area rotation is 12/23 - 1/5.
Wilder (Type 2)	On rotation for the Southern Area through 11/24.
Asheville Hotshots (Asheville, NC)	Unavailable (inactive)
Augusta Hotshots (Augusta Springs, VA)	Returned from Assignment
Cherokee Hotshots (Unicoi, TN)	Unavailable
Jackson Hotshots (Jackson, MS)	Unavailable



Click for today's Southern
Area Summary Situation
Report



Click for today's Southern
Area Detailed Situation Report

Links to Burn Ban Information:

[Arkansas Burn Ban Map](#)
[Alabama Drought Info](#)

[Oklahoma Burn Ban Map](#)
[Mississippi Burn Bans](#)

[Texas Burn Ban Map](#)
[Kentucky Burn Ban Map](#)

**Southern Area Predictive Services
Daily Fire/All Hazards Weather Summary and Outlook**

- 1. Red Flag Warnings:** None.
- 2. Fire Weather Watches:** None. However, the Amarillo office of the NWS has issued a "Fire Danger" statement for elevated fire danger for counties of the OK and TX panhandles for minimum RHs down to 10% and near-record high temperatures of 80 degrees. Winds are expected to be gusty 10 to 25+ mph. We would not be surprised to see Fire Weather Watches or Red Flag Warnings issued today.
- 3. Overall Risk Assessment for Significant Management/Resource Activity:** Above average in western TX. Mostly below average elsewhere.
- 4. Today's Weather/Fire/All Hazards Summary and Outlook:**

Conditions will be turning wetter, with colder temperatures also arriving Wednesday/Thursday as a strong cold front arrives. Wednesday's Thanksgiving air travel will likely be impacted as rain/snow and mixed precipitation occurs over the Midwest.

For today, we can expect very warm temperatures as humidity levels increase for most of the Southern Area; generally with excellent overnight RH recoveries. Minimum humidities yesterday were generally well above 35% (although spotty mid 20%s to 30%s readings persisted in areas in the east), with the trend through Wednesday being for higher moisture levels. The major exception to this for today and tomorrow will be in our west (primarily western OK and TX) as rain free weather, very low humidities and gusty winds will produce conditions near or at Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning thresholds.

Thunderstorms will become more numerous tomorrow over the TX and LA coasts, with windy conditions possible over western and northern TX into OK. Significant weather changes will begin to occur on Wednesday as widespread showers and thunderstorms develop across the MS and TN Valleys, and then our southeastern states on Thursday, as a strong cold front moves in. Rain, snow, and mixed precipitation are likely during this event, with more frozen precipitation occurring behind the front on Thursday/Friday. Showers and thunderstorms will remain in the forecast for FL from Thursday through Sunday.

Overall, a generally wetter weather pattern will have a fire risk mitigating effect on most of the Southern Area; the major exception remains in our west (OK/TX).

Next "Widespread" Significant Rain Event(s):

The next significant chance for widespread precipitation will occur from 11/20-23.

- 5. Weather for Existing Uncontained Fires (>= 100 acres):**

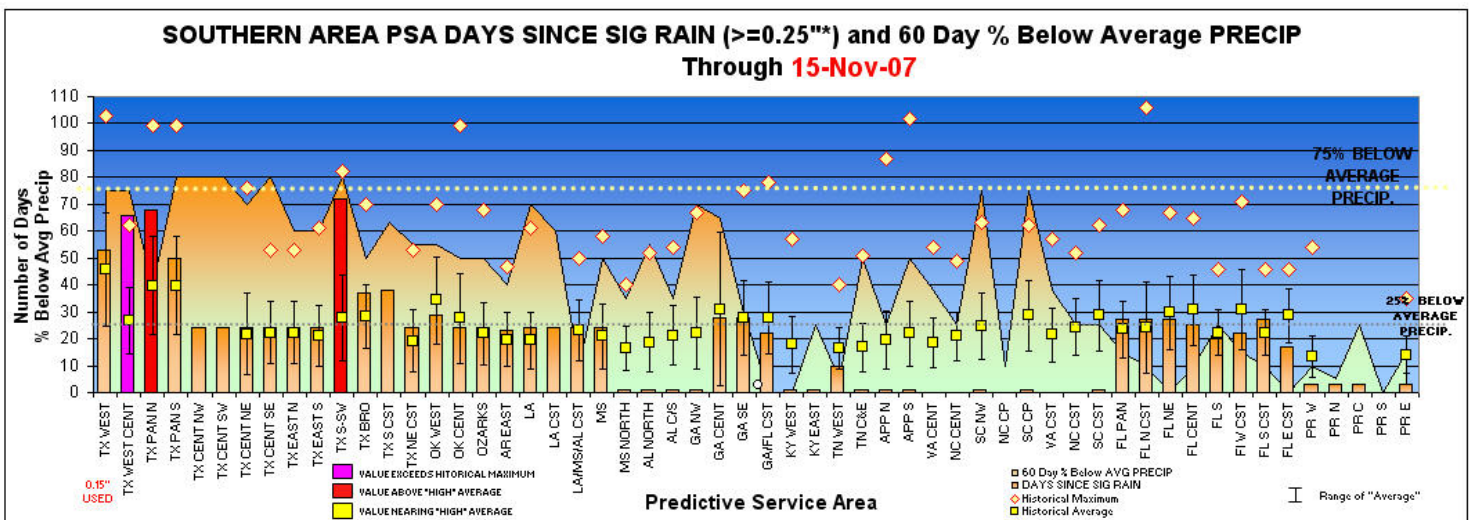
6. **Fire Behavior** – The Southern Area Fire Behavior Forecast is available at:
http://gacc.nifc.gov/sacc/predictive/decision_support/fb_forecast/fire_behavior_01a.htm
7. **Atlantic/Caribbean Tropical Summary:** No significant activity.
8. **Significant Fire Risk Factors Summaries and Regional Perspectives (Updated November 14).**
 Long term drought continues to affect much of the northeastern quarter of the Southern Area. Fire danger and ignition risks will continue to wax and wane through November, especially across the Appalachian Mountains and mid-Atlantic states. Overall, a drier weather pattern with below average rain fall will continue to cause fire indices to move upward. Long term drought conditions in the hardest hit areas are expected to persist with little change, while widespread frosts/freezes accelerate leaf drop and fine fuel moistures continue to decline across the Southern Area. Grasses in OK/TX continue to cure and fire danger will remain relatively high there as the drier weather pattern and lowering fuel moistures persist. November will produce episodes of Red Flag Warning/Fire Weather Watch conditions, with RHs down to 20% (10% to teens OK/TX).

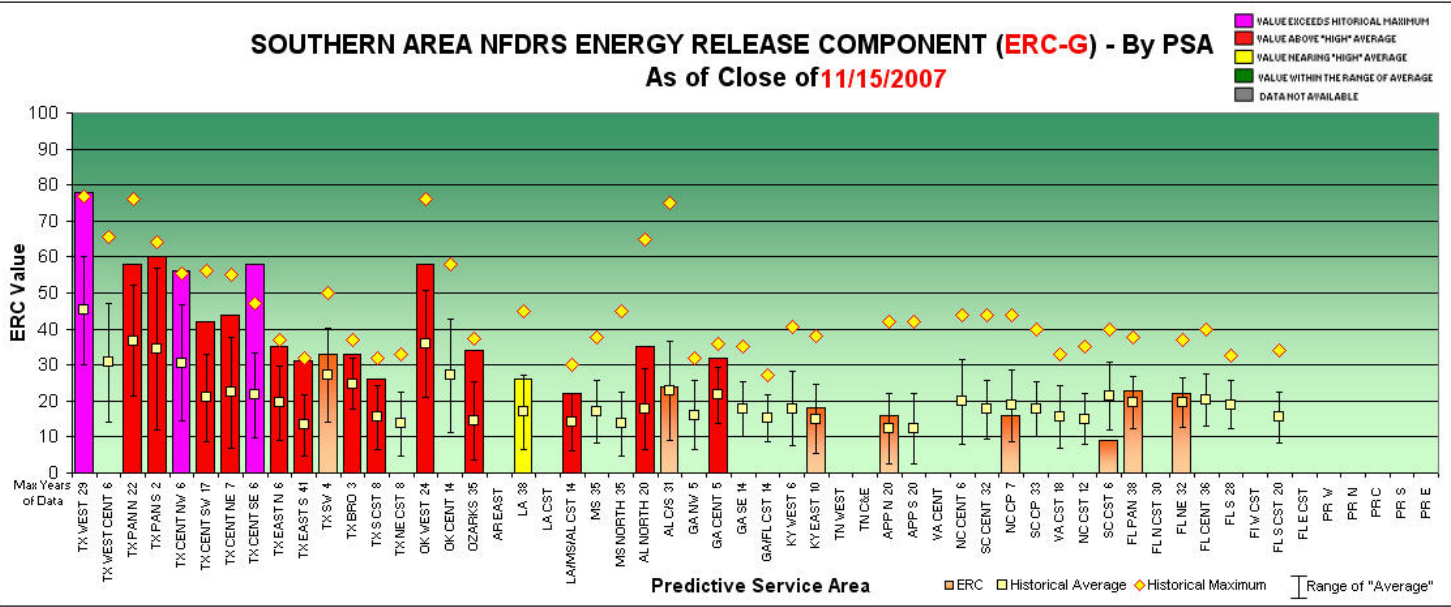
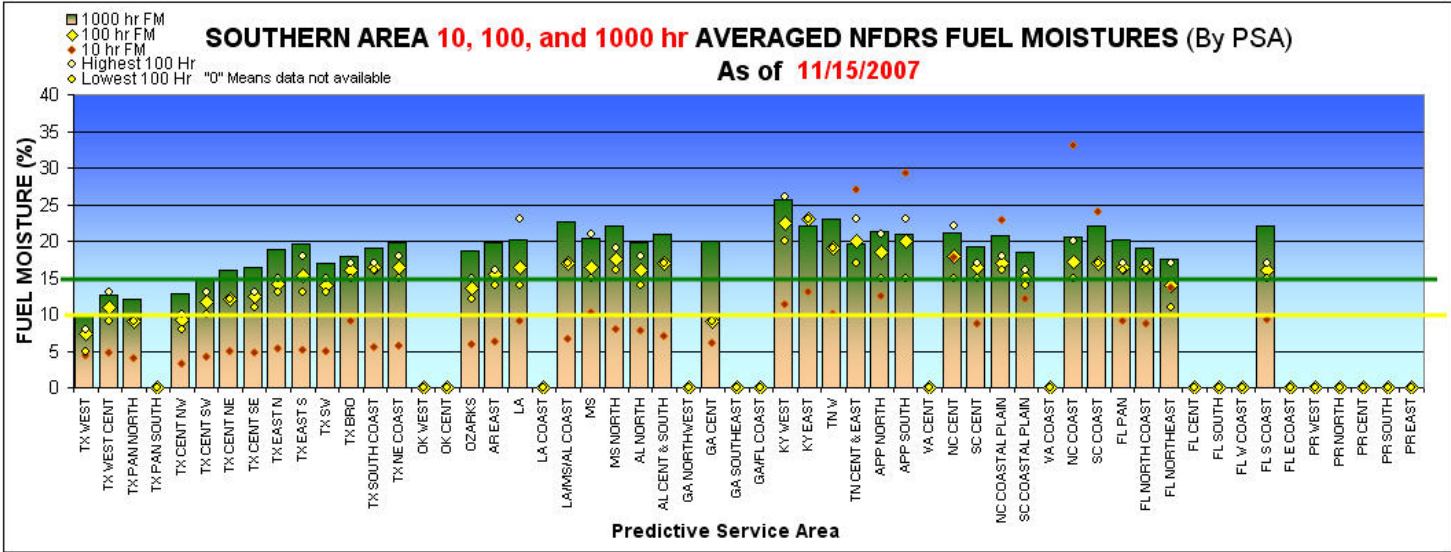
See also the Southern Area Fire Risk Assessment at:
http://gacc.nifc.gov/sacc/predictive/outlooks/SA_Fall_2007_Assessment.pdf

A. Areas of Special Concern (Updated November 14).

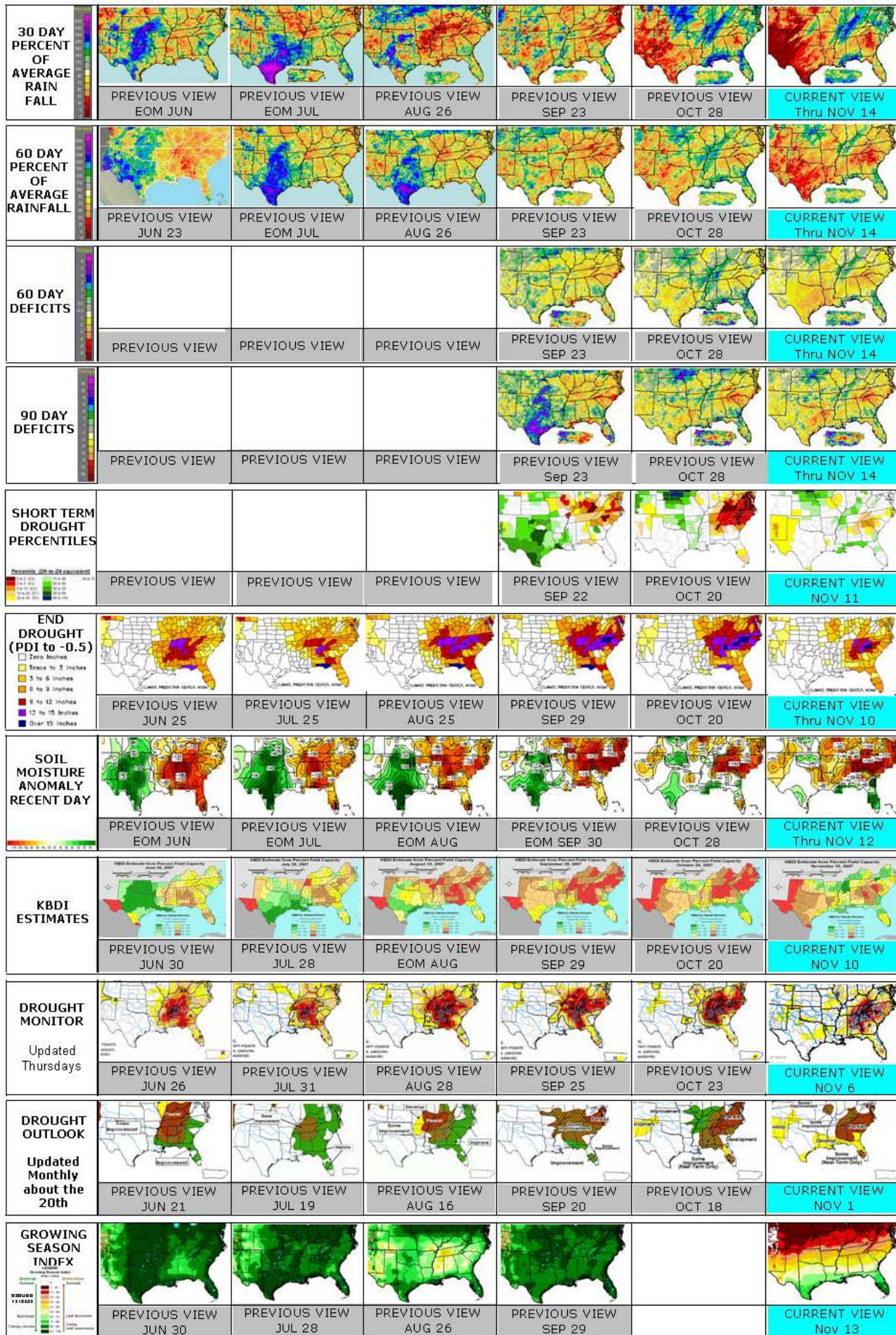
- Our traditional fall seasonal threat area (eastern KY, the Appalachians, northern AL, the northern half of GA, and western NC/SC. Of special note: counties of northwestern SC and northeastern GA received less than 0.5 inch of rain from a widespread rain event in late October. Fuel moistures there remain relatively low.
- Drier weather conditions will promote curing of the abundant grass fuels in OK/TX, producing increasing/higher fire danger conditions now and through the winter.
- Puerto Rico: Recent heavy rains from TS Noel have dramatically improved rain deficits that were building all year. Significant 30-day and 60-day deficits still exist over the central areas and will need to be monitored over the typically dry winter.

B. Days Since Significant Rain, ERC, and 10, 100, and 1000 hr NFDRS TLFM Conditions





C. Graphic Summary of Key Fire Weather Parameters.



SOUTHERN AREA-WIDE WEATHER TRENDS SUMMARY

For the Period November 20 to December 2, 2007

Issued November 16, 2007

SPECIFIC 10+ DAY TRENDS SUMMARY

Light green color fill indicates the occurrence of a more significant precipitation event (coverage, duration, or amount), summertime unsettled period with widespread rainfall from area-wide afternoon shower/thunderstorms activity, or a period of higher humidity with widespread areas of intermittent precipitation (rain/snow) activity.

Approx. Time Period	Red Flag Threat	<u>Significant Weather and General Trends Summary</u>
Nov 20-23 Tues-Fri		High pressure will be situated along the Eastern Seaboard on 11/20, but will quickly move eastward into the Atlantic as low pressure dives into north-central TX. Gulf moisture will stream northward between these two systems. Light showers will begin to develop in OK on 11/21. As the TX low moves quickly toward the Ohio Valley, showers are expected to develop along a trailing cold front from AR to the southeastern TX coast. The low will gain strength in the Great Lakes region on 11/22, bringing widespread rain from the Appalachian Mountains southward to the FL Panhandle. Cold air will pour in behind the front, causing temperatures to plunge below freezing in OK and possibly northern TX. The front will move into the central Carolinas and northeastern FL on 11/23, bringing rain to the rest of the area. Cold air will pour into KY and TN, possibly allowing for a few flurries in the higher elevations.
Nov 24-26 Sat-Mon	GA/FL	High pressure will settle into TX on 11/24, then gradually shift eastward across the Deep South on 11/25-26. This will keep the Southeast cool and dry. The high will move off the East Coast on 11/26, allowing southerly flow to resume in TX.
Nov 27-Dec 2 Tues-Sun		Another low will move from TX to the Great Lakes and New England, pulling another front across the Southeast. This could turn into another fairly widespread rain event for areas east of I-35.

9. Extended Outlooks.

