

MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER/FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

1. REPORTING UNIT: **NORTHERN ROCKIES**
2. DATE: **October 25, 2004**
3. POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS/CRITICAL FIRE PROBLEMS

THIS COMING MONTH	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	
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4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK (To address the following factors)

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: Conditions have eased some due to recent rains, however, drought conditions still exist across the Northern Rockies Area except NW Montana and Northern Idaho.

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: A trough of low pressure over the western U.S. will persist for the next couple weeks at least and will be accompanied by occasional frontal systems. These fronts will bring scattered showers mainly to the mountains and keep temperatures at or below normal most areas. Moisture was widespread across the Geographic Area in October with temperatures above normal from the mountains in the west ranging to below normal across most of North Dakota. Precipitation was generally above normal in the mountains and normal to below normal across the plains of Montana and North Dakota. A ridge of high pressure will develop in the eastern Pacific with a northwest flow aloft across the Geographic Area. This will bring above normal temperatures to most of the western half of the Area with near normal precipitation.

5. FUELS

FUEL MOISTURES: 1000-hr fuel moistures are running at normal to above normal except portions of Eastern Montana where they continue to remain below normal.

6. AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date 5 year average): 3,153/464,678
7. ACTUAL OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date this year): 2,726/37,797
8. WRITTEN SUMMARY: We do not anticipate any significant fire activity.
9. Map = Normal