



North Carolina Forest Service: Wildfire Activity and Outlook for Spring / Summer 2016

The Drought Management Advisory Council
Annual Meeting
April 28th, 2016

04.1

Cabe Speary
Fire Environment Forester
NC Forest Service



NC Forest Service Wildfire Activity*, as of 4/27/16

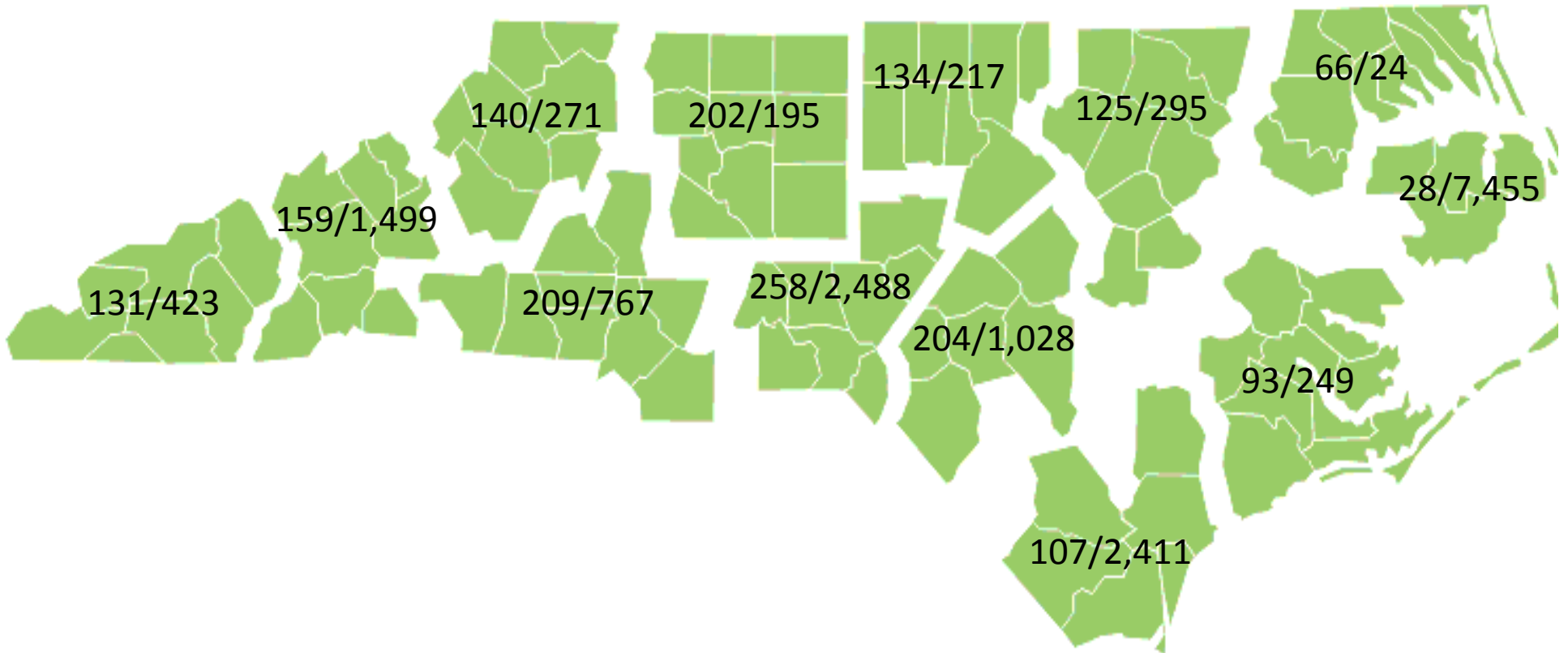
Period	# Fires*	# Acres*
Month to date	648	11,007
Year to date	1,870	17,333
10 yr avg, Jan-April 27	2,554	12,486
Deviation from avg	-27%	39%
10 yr avg, 2006-2015	4,311	18,621

* These numbers are preliminary until finalized in the Fire Report System. They do not include fires on federal lands.



2016 Wildfire Activity*

January 1-April 26



* These numbers are preliminary until finalized in the Fire Report System. Does not include fires or acres burned on federal land.



Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI)

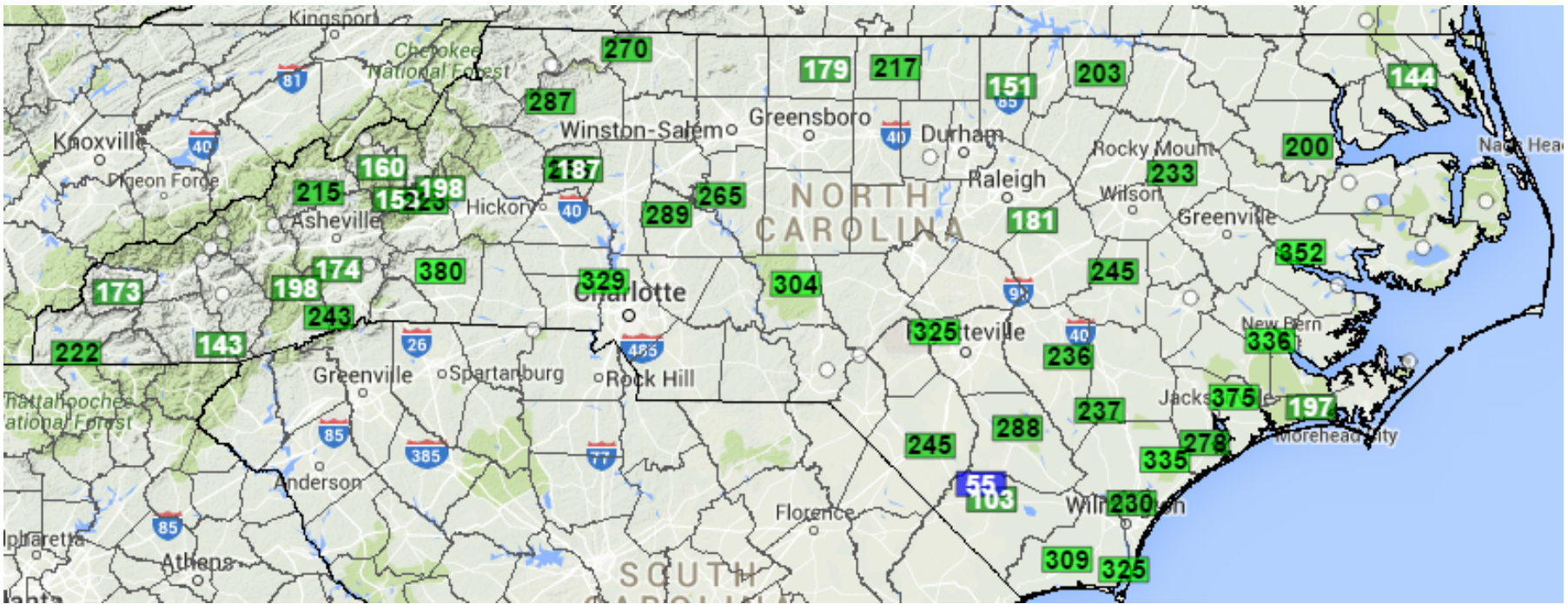
KBDI is a soil/duff drought index that ranges from 0 (no drought) to 800 (extreme drought) and is based on soil capacity of 8 inches of water. Factors include latitude, maximum daily temperature, daily precipitation, antecedent precipitation, and annual precipitation.

- Between **0 and 200**, soil moisture and large class fuel moistures are high and do not contribute significantly to fire intensity.
- Readings of **201-400** are typical of late spring, early growing season. Lower litter and duff layers are drying and beginning to contribute to fire intensity.
- Readings of **401-600** are typical of late summer, early fall. Lower litter and duff layers burn intensely.
- Readings of **601-800** are associated with severe drought. Intense, deep burning fires with significant downwind spotting. Extensive mop-up required. Live fuels burn actively.



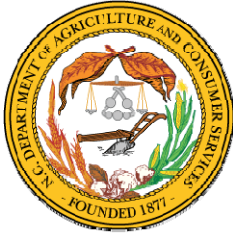
KBDI Map

<http://climate.ncsu.edu/fwip/index.php>



Keetch-Byram Drought Index
From today (Apr 27) at 1 pm

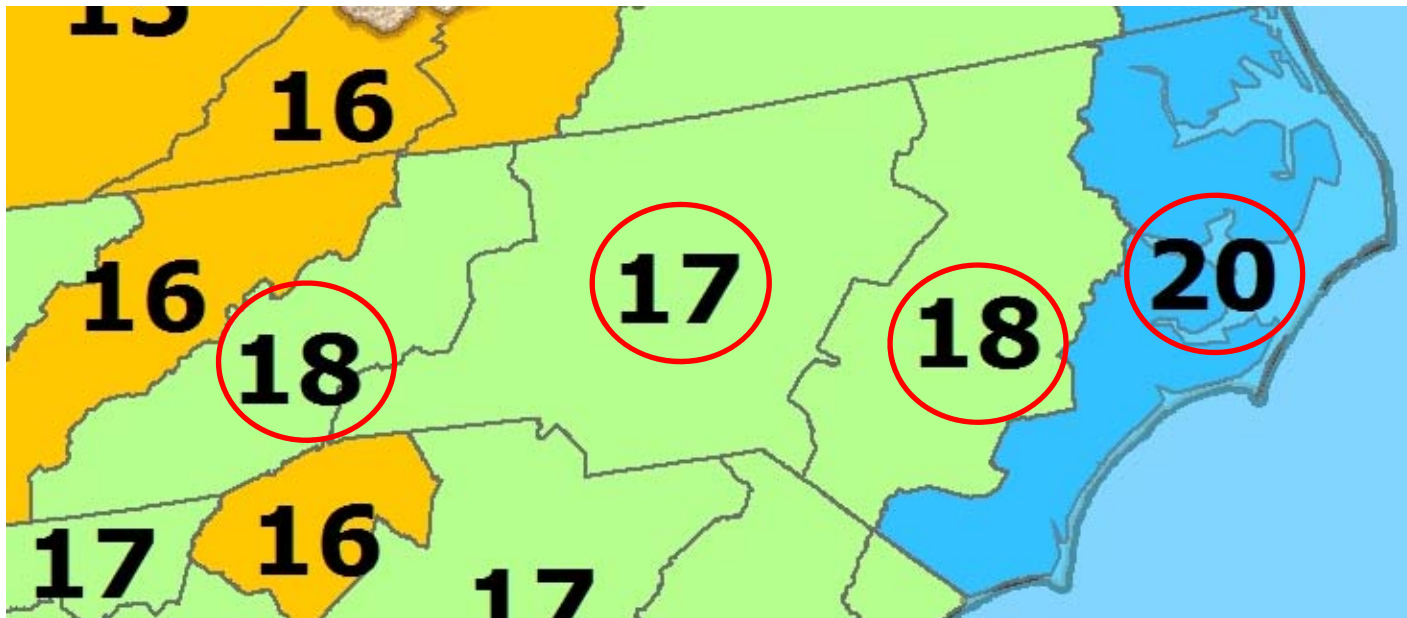




1000 Hour Fuel Moistures

Southern Area Coordination Center Predictive Services

As of April 28, 2015
at 1300 LST



This map displays 1000 hour fuel (3-8") moisture in percent by physiographic region as calculated by Fire Family Plus.

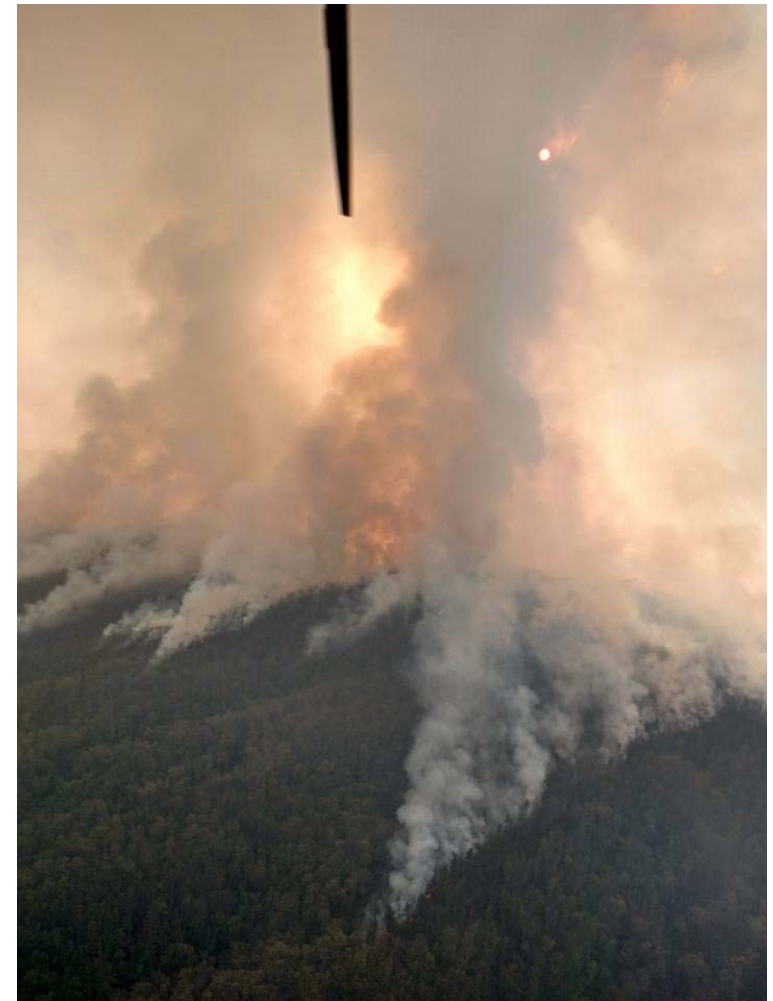


Wildland Fire Outlook:

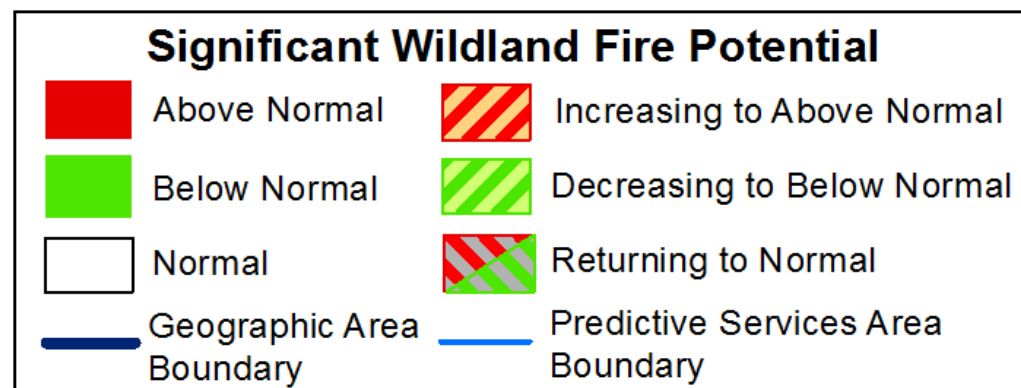
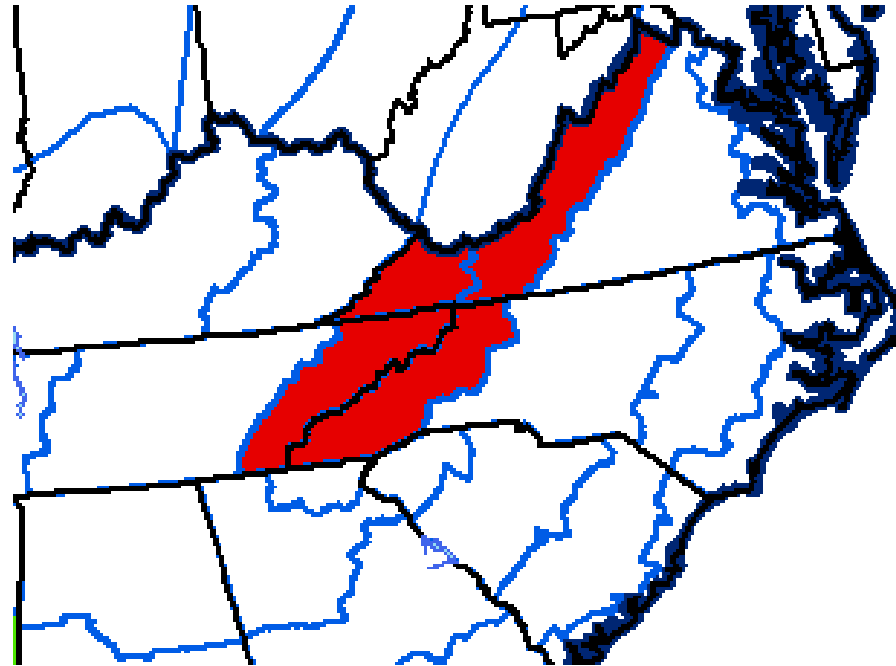
April through July 2016

From 2012-2015, we had very slow fire seasons. This year has been more typical. We are likely to see continued **normal** fire season activity...

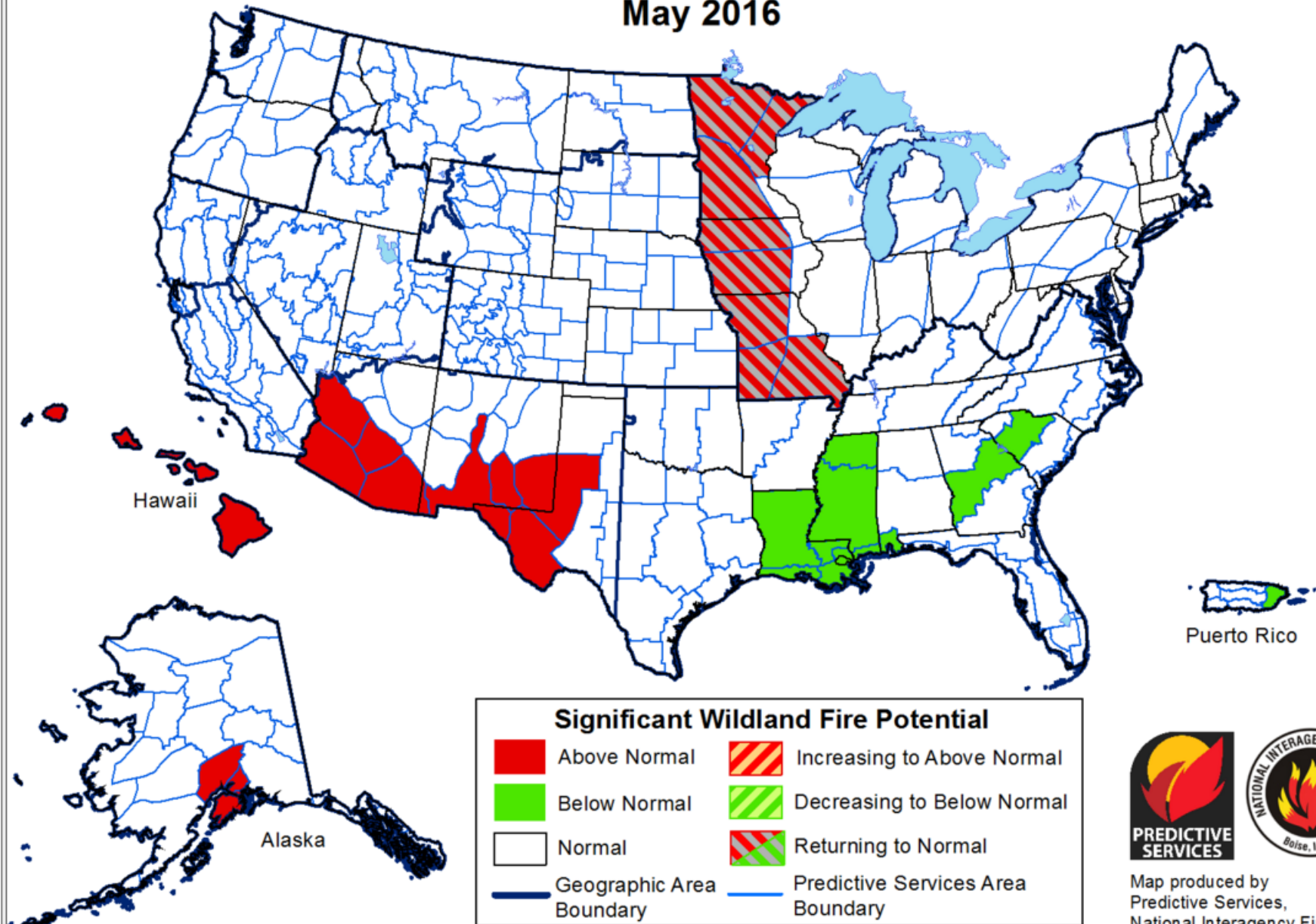
Photo Credit: Carol Collins, S. Brunswick H.S.



Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook April 2016



Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook May 2016

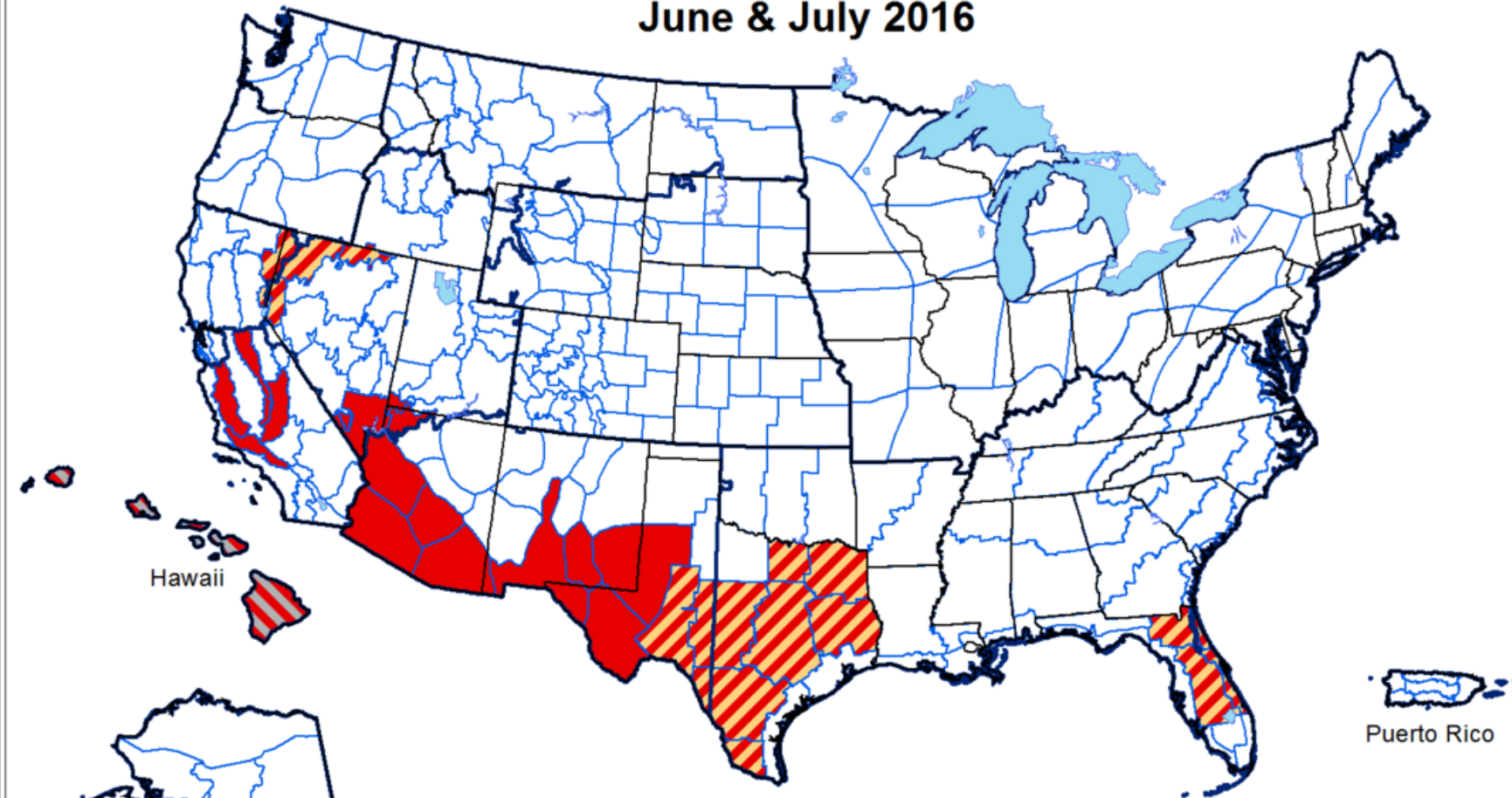


Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.



Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency Fire Center
Boise, Idaho
Issued April 1, 2016
Next issuance May 1, 2016

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook June & July 2016



Significant Wildland Fire Potential			
	Above Normal		Increasing to Above Normal
	Below Normal		Decreasing to Below Normal
	Normal		Returning to Normal
	Geographic Area Boundary		Predictive Services Area Boundary



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QUESTIONS???



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