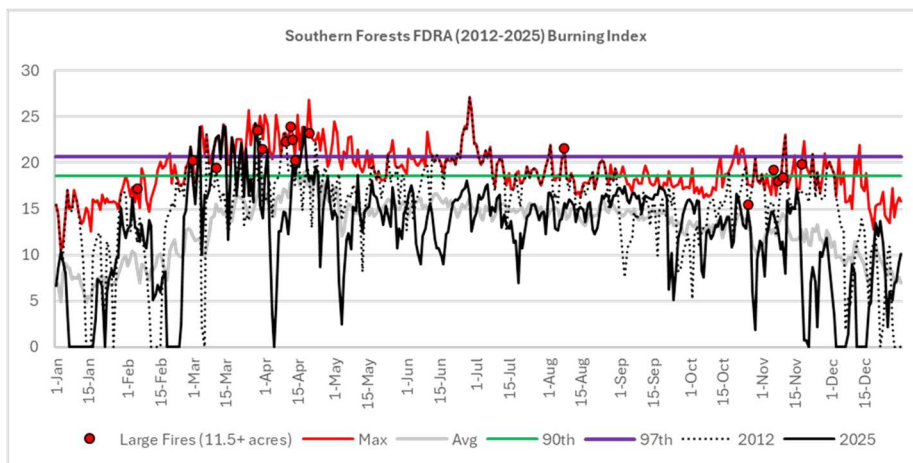
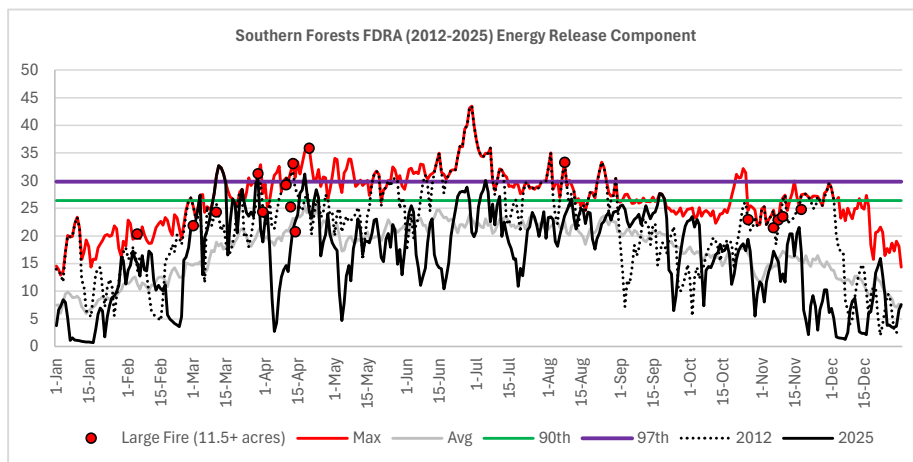
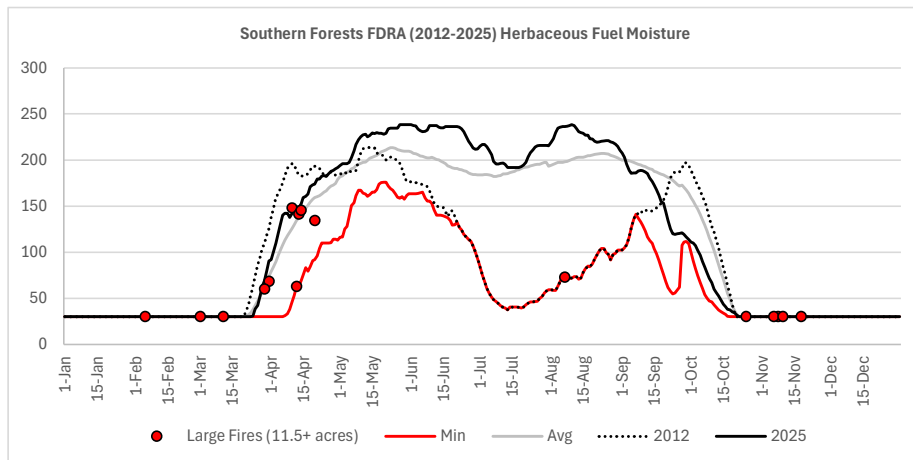




FIRE DANGER AREA: SOUTHERN FORESTS

Fuel Model: 16Y

Area: Southern Indiana

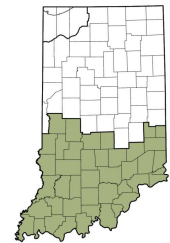
NWS Office: Indianapolis, Louisville, Paducah

Stations: Big Oaks (127301), Hardin Ridge (125701), Sullivan (125201), The Tower (127901), Tipsaw Lake (128905)

*Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

Updated: 01/01/2026

Jurisdiction: USFS



Fire Danger Interpretation:

EXTREME – Use extreme caution

HIGH – Watch for change

MODERATE – Lower potential, but always be aware

Max/Min – Highest or Lowest by day

Average – Shows peak fire season

90th Percentile – 10% of the days had a higher Index

97th Percentile – 3% of the days had a higher Index

Remember What Fire Danger Tells You:

- ✓ Fire Danger is a summary of the fire environment and the probability of large fire growth, resistance to control efforts, and commitment to mop-up.
- ✓ Energy Release Component is a composite fuel moisture because it considers the contribution of fuels across all 4 dead fuel classes 1Hr, 10Hr, 100Hr, and 1000Hr. ERC-Y does not account for live fuels.
- ✓ The Fuel Condition Matrix accounts for the mitigating effects of live fuels on the landscape.
- ✓ Burning Index gives day-to-day fluctuations calculated from temperature, humidity, wind, daily temperature & RH ranges, and precipitation.
- ✓ Incorporating Fuel Condition and Burning Index into the Fire Danger Matrix captures a broader picture of the Fire Environment.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape – Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts – especially WIND.

Fuel Condition		Energy Release Component					Fire Danger		Burning Index				
		0-50th	50-75th	75-90th	90-97th	97th +			0-50th	50-75th	75-90th	90-97th	97th +
Herbaceous Fuel Moisture	250-200	1	1	1	1	1	Fuel Condition	1	L	L	L	L	M
	200-150	1	2	2	2	2		2	L	M	M	M	H
	150-100	1	2	3	3	3		3	L	M	H	H	V
	100-60	1	2	3	4	4		4	L	M	H	V	V
	60-30	1	2	3	4	5		5	M	H	H	V	E

SOUTHERN FORESTS FDRA 2012-2025

INDEX	0	50TH	25/75TH	10/90TH	3/97TH
10HR	35	13.62	11.55	10.35	9.14
100HR	35	18.05	16.36	15.27	14.26
1000HR	35	19.78	18.32	17.36	16.49
BI	0	14.30	16.42	18.53	20.65
ERC	0	18.13	23.08	26.44	29.81
IC	0	9.44	15.44	21.09	27.38
KBDI	0	121.2	312.66	434.8	527.4
SC	0	1.63	1.95	2.34	2.83
HERB*	250	200	150	100	60
WOOD*	200	172	144	116	88
TEMP	0	69	83	88	92
RH Min	100	48	37	29	23
RH Max	100	97	91	79	69
WIND	0	6	7	9	11
DSR	0	1	3	5	7
Drought*	None	D0	D1	D2	D3

*Not percentiles, defined thresholds

Local Thresholds – Watch out: Combinations of three or more of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior when **Herb FM** is less than 150%.

20' Wind Speed over 9 mph

RH Min less than 29%

RH Max less than 79%

Temperature over 88

Energy Release Component over 26.44

Burning Index over 20.65

US Drought Monitor D1 or greater

Days Since Rain greater than 6

Past Experience:

- Wildfires and Prescribed Fires are common on the same day.
- Pay attention to forecasts that mention dry air mix down. Relative humidities can drop 10-15% below forecasted values.
- Poor overnight recoveries less than 75% greatly increases the availability of timber litter fuels.
- Oak snags commonly catch embers causing persistent problematic spot fires.
- KBDI values near or above 400 extending through November are a common contributing factor for large fall fires.
- Extreme to exceptional drought according to the US Drought Monitor is typically required for a summer fire season. (Ex. 2012)

5 LARGEST FIRES (2012-2025)

Date	Name	Size	Temp Max	RH Min	RH Max	Wind Speed	Herb FM	ERC	BI	Since Rain	Drought	Fuel Cond.	Fire Danger
11/10/23	Log Creek	89.33	63	20	76	6	30	23.53	18.45	11	D1	3	H
4/12/18	Pipeline	77	81	22	50	12	62.80	25.25	23.89	3	None	3	V
4/10/17	Jenny Hollow	76.1	79	30	55	10	148.2	29.22	22.30	3	None	3	V
3/11/14	County Farm	40	75	24	89	8	30	24.33	19.44	6	None	3	H
8/8/12	Freedom	35	97	25	84	5	72.8	33.32	21.52	3	D4	4	V