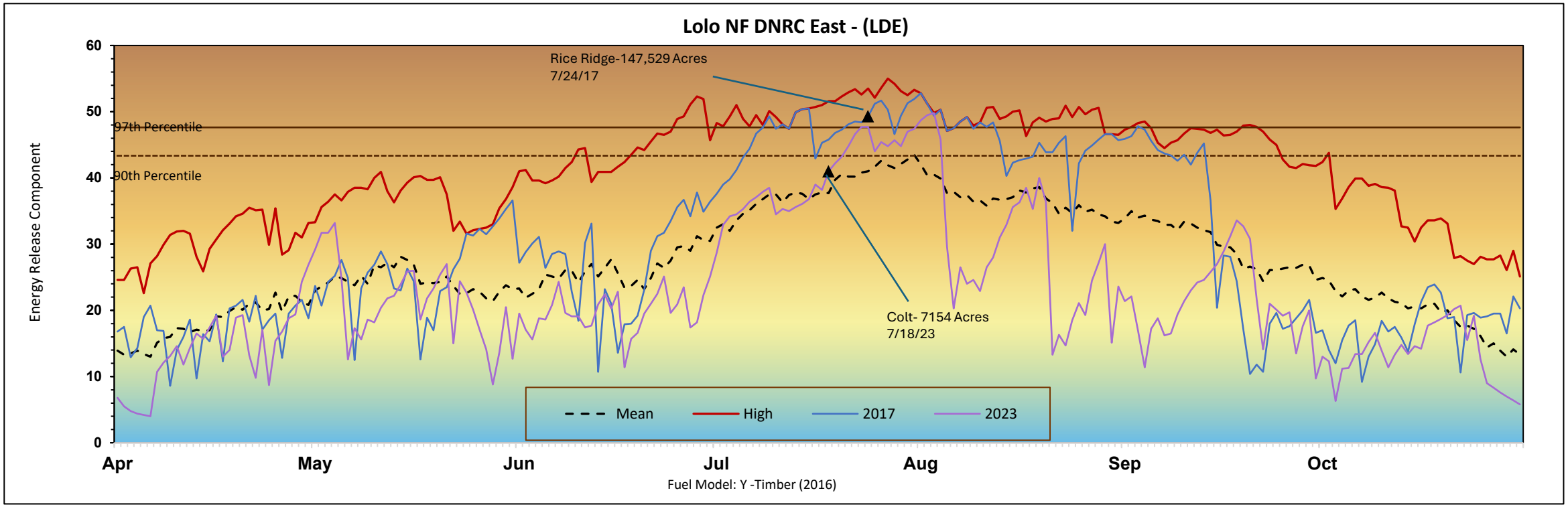


FIRE DANGER AREAS: Lolo DNRC East
FORECAST ZONE: 107 & 108
Lolo DNRC East RAWS
241507 Ninemile, 241508 Seeley Lake, 241513 Blue Mtn
Stations meet NWCG Weather Station Standards

GRAPH INTERPRETATION: Energy Release Component (ERC) gives seasonal
Trends calculated from temperature, humidity, and precipitation duration.

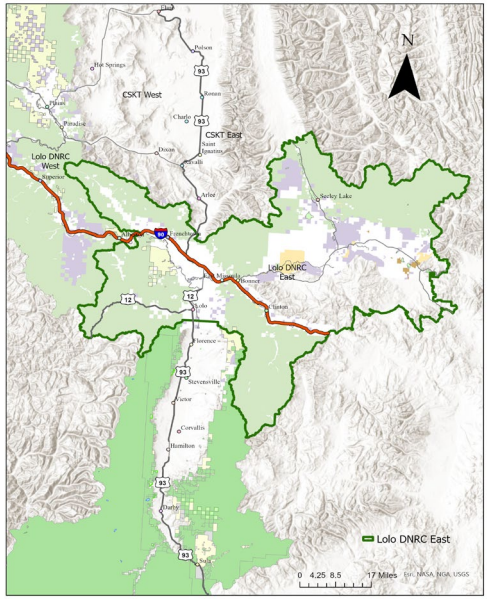
EXTREME – Use Extreme Caution
HIGH – Watch for Change
MODERATE – Lower Potential but always be aware.
AVG – – Shows the Mean daily ERC values through the past 16 years.
Lolo DNRC Daily Indices

MAX – Highest ERC by day for 2010-2025.
Mean- Shows average fire season over 16 Years (3423 observations)
90th Percentile – 10% of 3423 days from 2010-2025 had an ERC above 43.
97th Percentile – 3% of 3423 days from 2010-2025 had an ERC above 48.

LOCAL THRESHOLDS – WATCHOUT:
Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
20' Wind Speed: over 15 mph
RH: less than 20%
Temperature: over 80
1000-Hour Fuel Moisture: less than 10.

PAST EXPERIENCE:
Large fire growth is likely on days when dry cold frontal passages align with prevailing southwesterly winds and local drainages. Thermal belts are common and contribute to elevated nighttime fire activity, including increased spotting, torching, and passive crown fire. Additionally, the Zone experienced extensive wind damage during late winter and early spring of 2026. As these downed and damaged fuels continue to dry and become available, a significant increase in fire activity should be anticipated in affected areas.

Fire	Date	Total Acres	Weather Conditions
Rice Ridge	7/24/2017	147,529	Max Temp 92, Min RH 16 Max wind 20 mph, ERC 49.3
Colt	7/18/2023	7,154	Max Temp 83, Min RH 17 Max wind 15 mph, ERC 41



Responsible Agency: USFS MT-LNF Pocket Card Created: 5.13.26