

2016 Fire Season Outlook

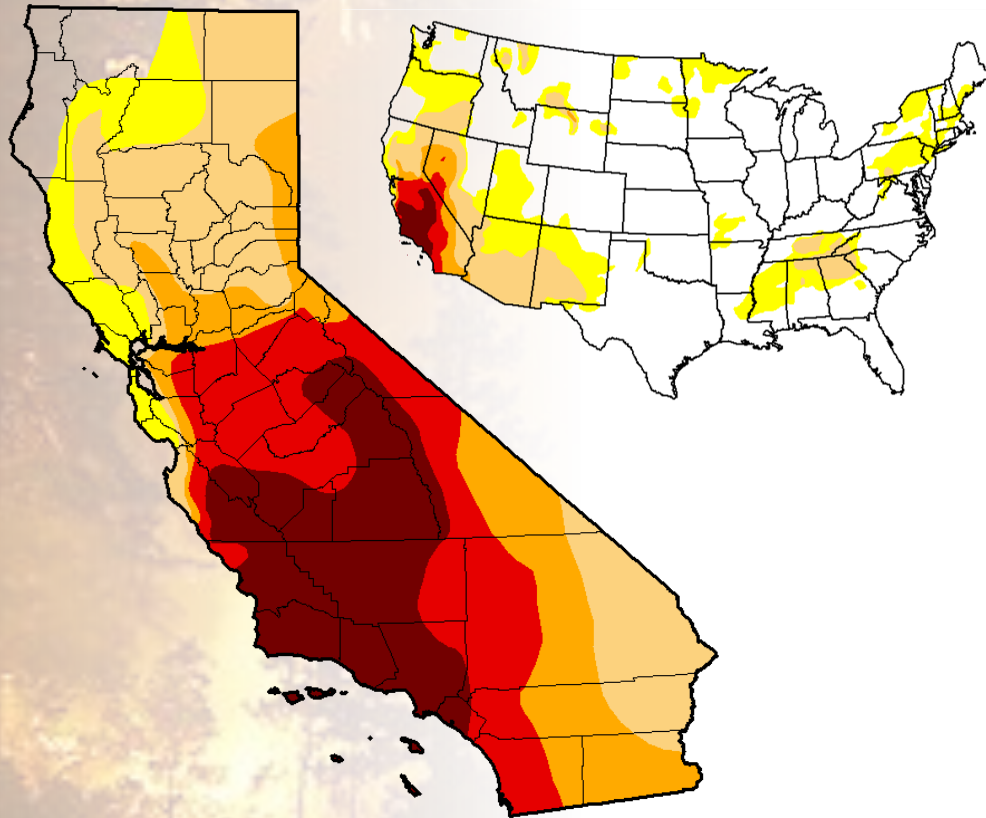
Predictive Services

Tom Rolinski



California's Ongoing Drought

Drought Monitor – May 24, 2016



Category	Description
D0	Abnormally Dry
D1	Moderate Drought
D2	Severe Drought
D3	Extreme Drought
D4	Exceptional Drought



So. California's Ongoing Drought

- 5th Year
- Record of warm Winter and Spring
- High Pressure dominated the west

Season (July 1-June 30)	Total Inches of Rainfall	+Inches Above/Below (+/-) 138 Year Average
2014-2015	8.52	-6.29
2013-2014	6.08	-8.73
2012-2013	5.85	-8.96
2011-2012	8.69	-6.12
2010-2011	20.2	+5.39
2009-2010	16.36	+1.55



2016 Tree Mortality



**60 million trees estimated
dead and standing
In California**

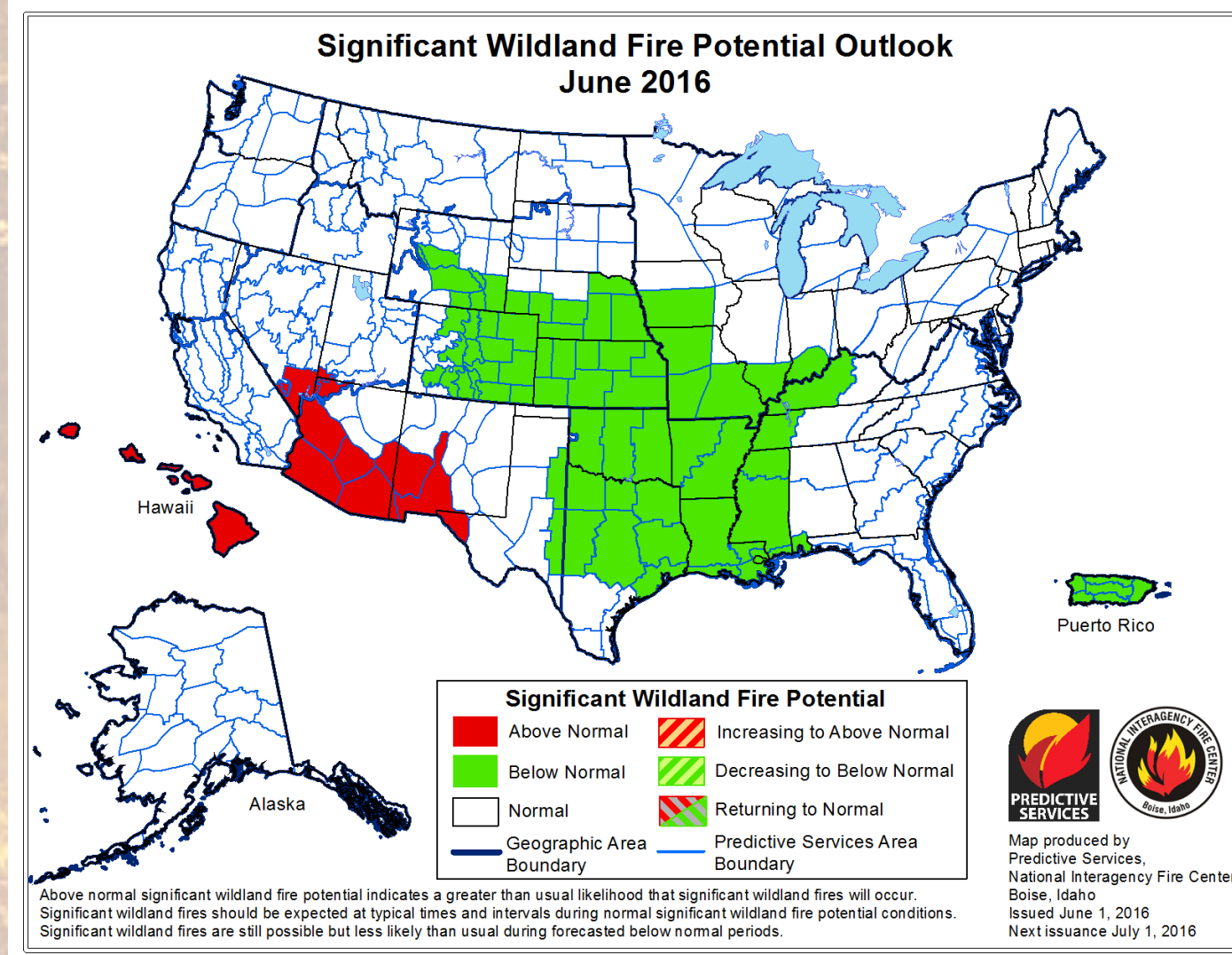


Fuel Conditions

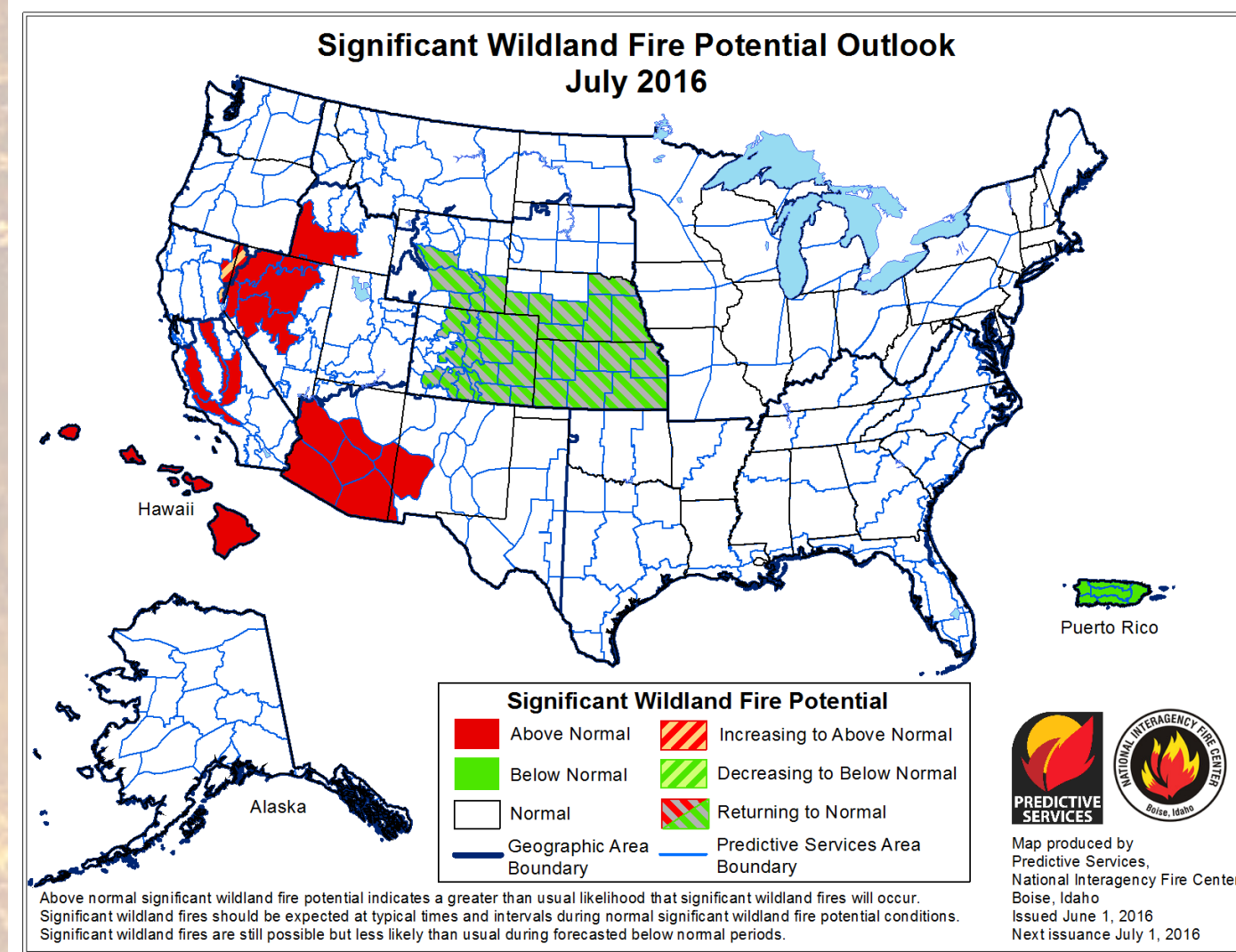


- Grasses are fully cured below 3,000 feet.
- Grasses are several feet high in ungrazed areas.
- Grass crop is greater this year than in recent years.
- Live fuel moisture values are around normal for this time of the year across the central and northern portions of the state.
- Live fuel moisture values are around 6 weeks ahead of where they should be for this time of year in Southern CA.
- Dead fuels are drier than normal for this time of year.

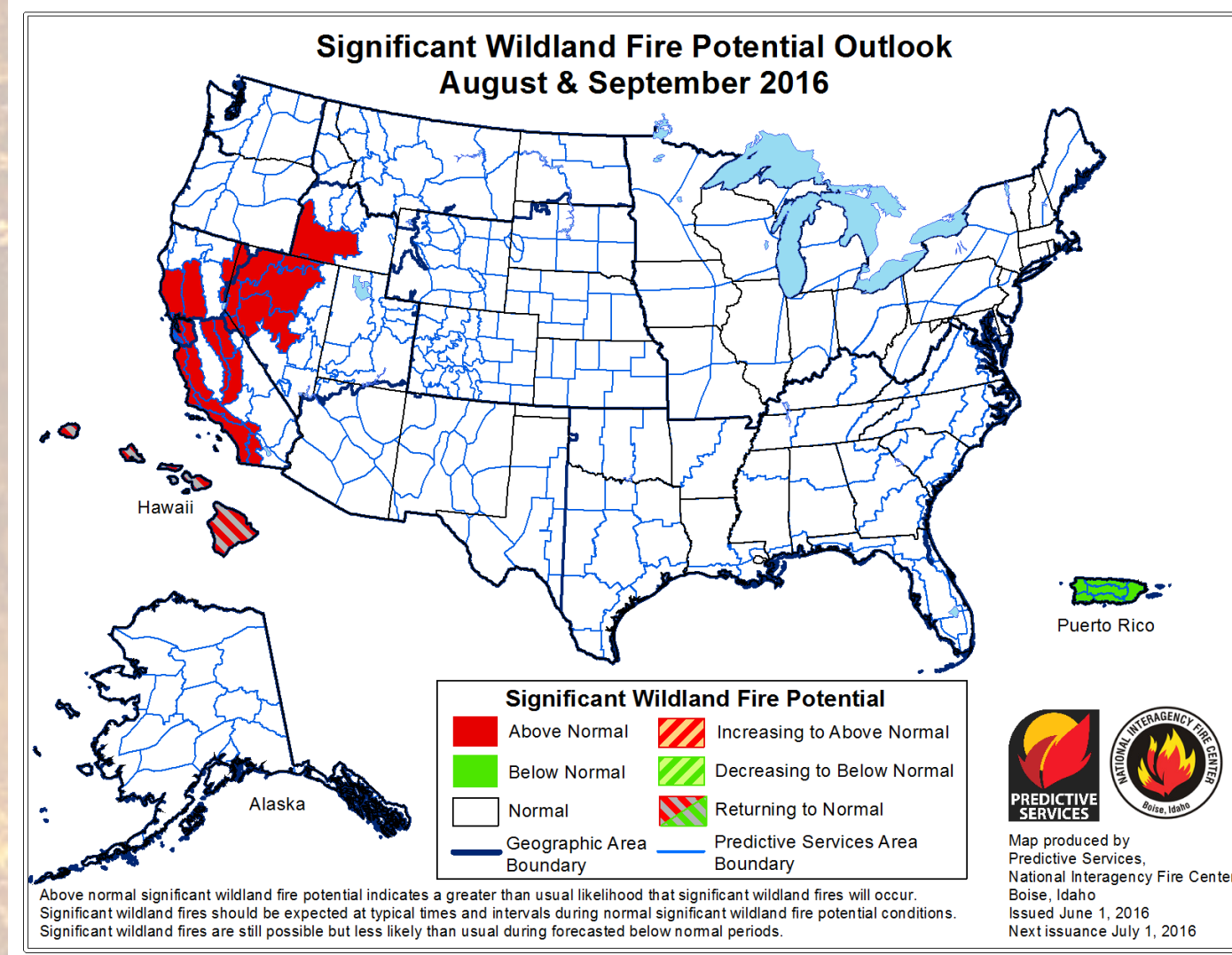
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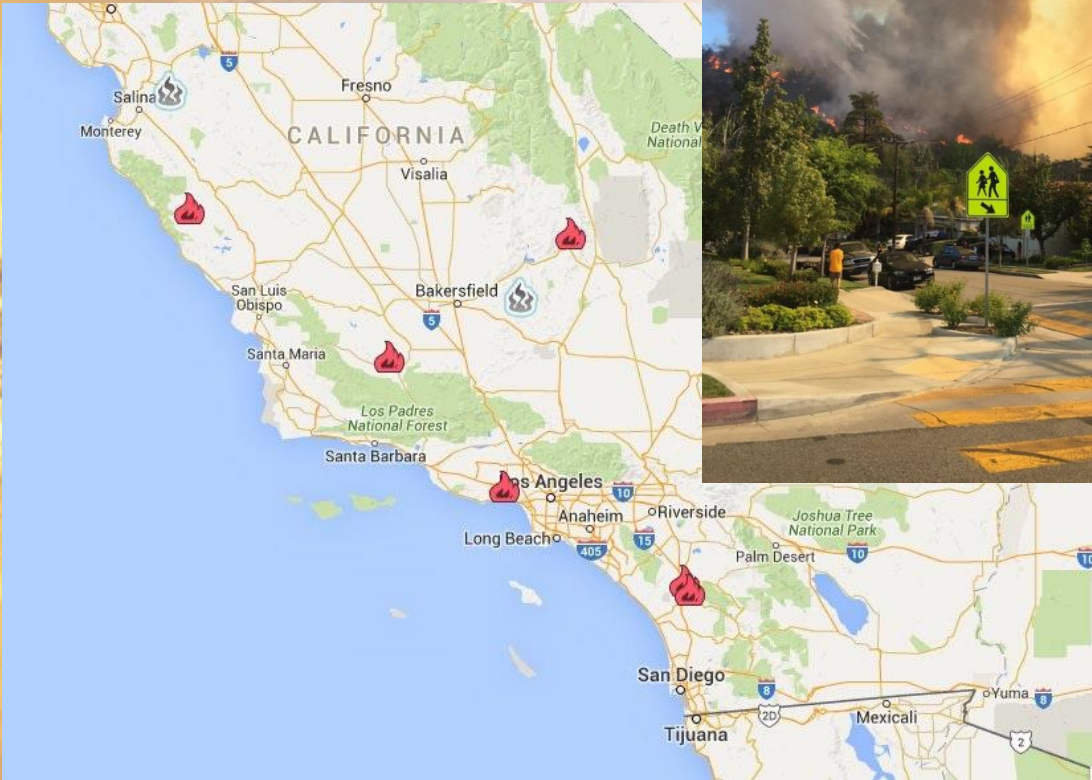
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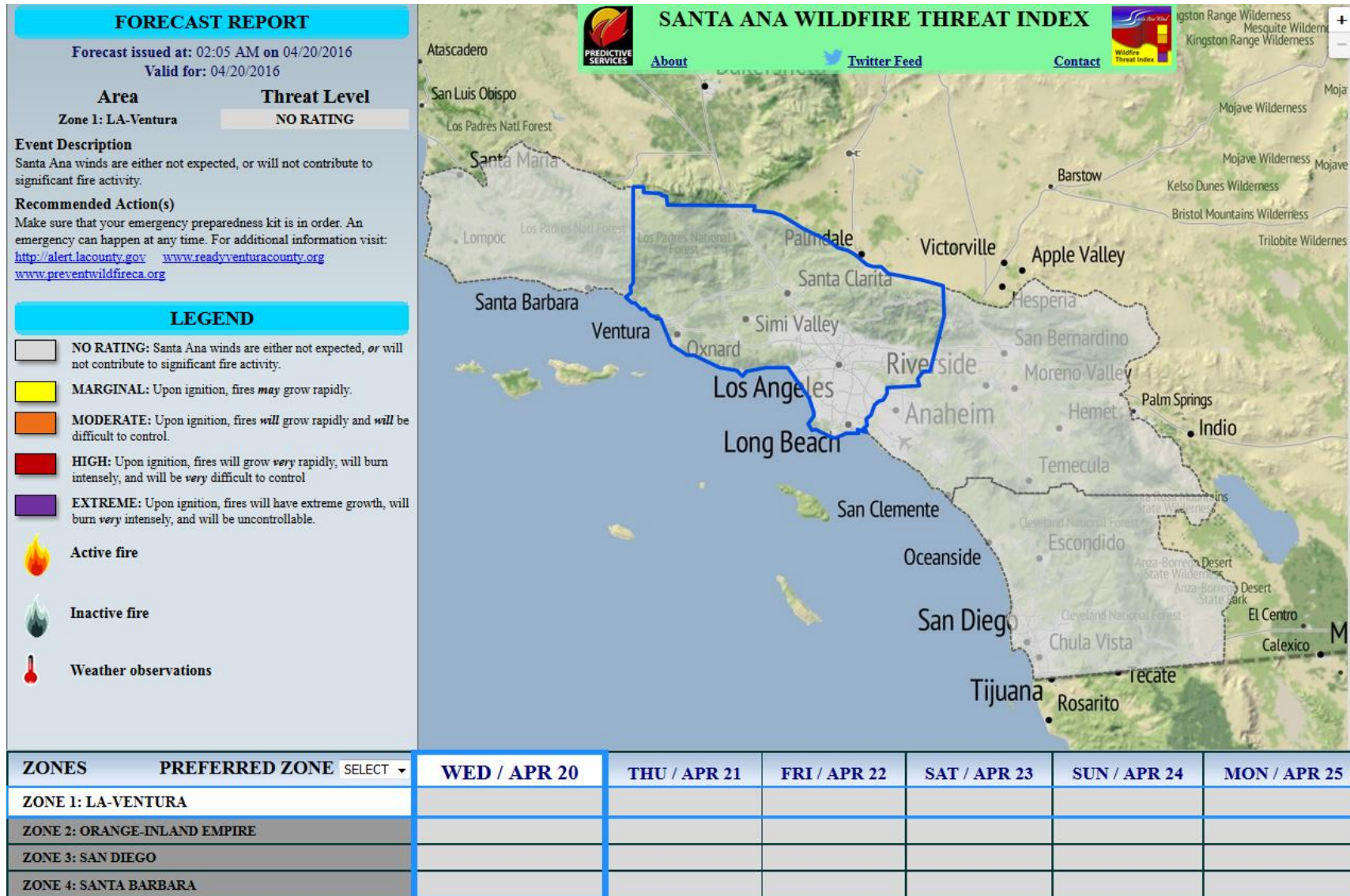


2016 Fire Season Summary



- Expect a warmer than normal summer
- Lightning activity is expected to be less than last year
- Drought now entering its 5th year
- Significant fire activity is already occurring, even during benign weather conditions
- Significant tree mortality will be a major factor this fire season
- Sierras will likely be the epicenter of greatest fire potential in California

Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index



Santa Ana Wildfire Threat Index

<http://sawti.fs.fed.us/#>

Thank you for your time



Questions ?

