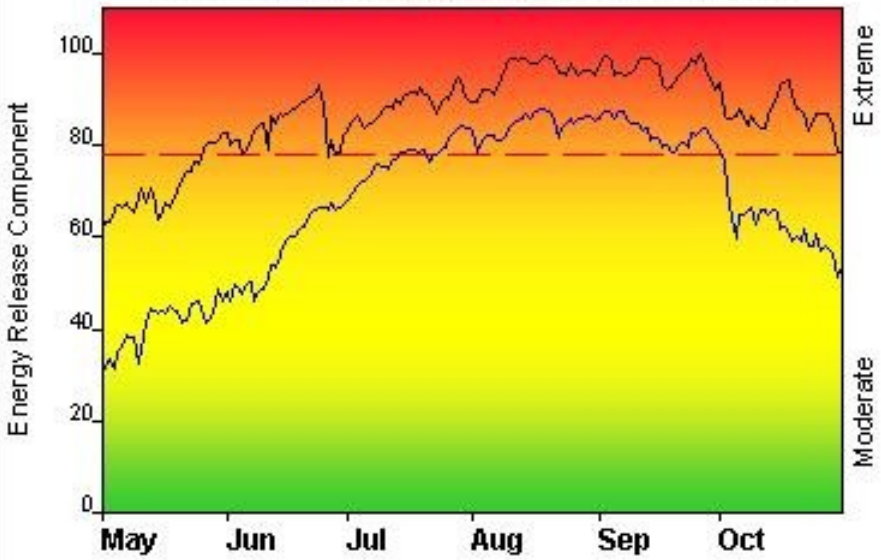
FIRE DANGER -- Plumas NF, East Zone

Maximum, Average, and 60th Percentile, based on 12 years data



Fire Danger Area:

- Plumas East-Zone
- NWS FWZ-271
- Pierce, Laufman, Coyote
  * Meets NWCG Wx Station Standards

Fire Danger Interpretation:

EXTREME -- Use extreme caution

(Caution) -- Watch for change

Moderate -- Lower Potential, but always be aware

Maximum -- Highest Energy Release Component by day for 2001 - 2012

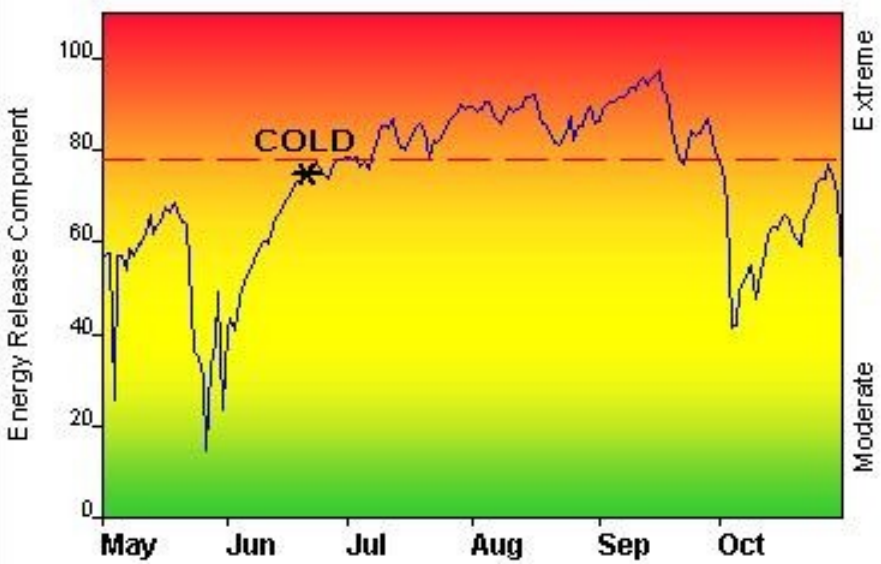
Average -- shows peak fire season over 12 years (2067 observations)

60th Percentile -- Only 40% of the 2067 days from 2001 - 2012 had an Energy Release Component above 78

Local Thresholds - Watch out:

Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior: 20' Wind Speed over 10 mph, RH less than 20%, Temperature over 80, 10-Hour Fuel Moisture less than 5

Years to Remember: 2008



Fuel Model: G - Short-Needle (Heavy Dead)

Remember what Fire Danger tells you:

- ✓ Energy Release Component gives seasonal trends calculated from 2 pm temperature, humidity, daily temperature & rh ranges, and precip duration.
- ✓ Wind is NOT part of ERC calculation.
- ✓ Watch local conditions and variations across the landscape -- Fuel, Weather, Topography.
- ✓ Listen to weather forecasts -- especially WIND.

Past Experience:

Fires on the East-Zone are characterized by wind driven fires that exhibit spotting, torching and crowns runs, particularly when fuels, wind and slope are in alignment. Watch for afternoon down-slope winds east of the escarpment, these winds have lead to extreme fire behavior in the past.

East Zone starts to experience fire >10 acres at 60th percentile Wx

Cold Fire (5500 acres) responded to heavy fuel loading, topography, and low live and dead fuel moistures

Responsible Agency: USFS

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