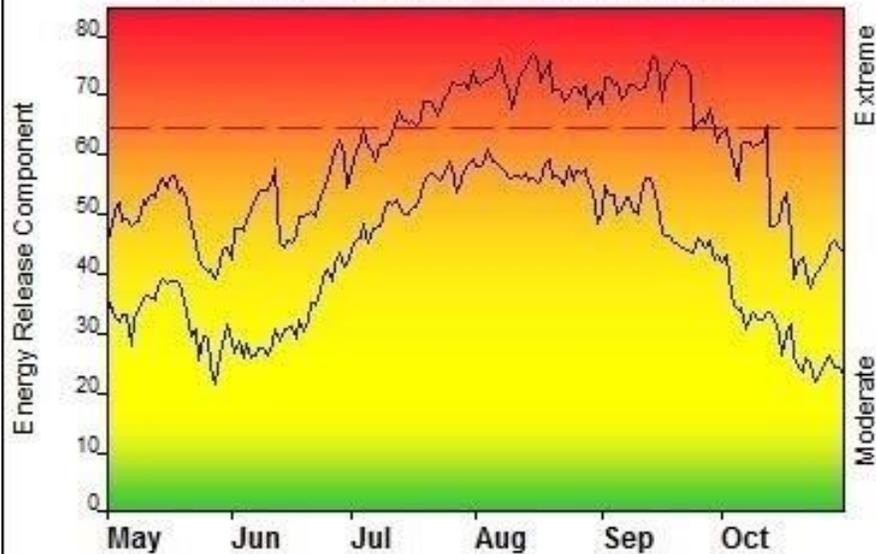


FIRE DANGER -- Bitterroot National Forest

Maximum, Average, and 90th Percentile, based on 10 years data

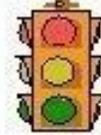


Fire Danger Area:

- ◆ Southwest Montana
- ◆ FWZ 109 Bitterroot NF
- ◆ 242902(Deer Mtn)242
- * 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 2006 - 2015

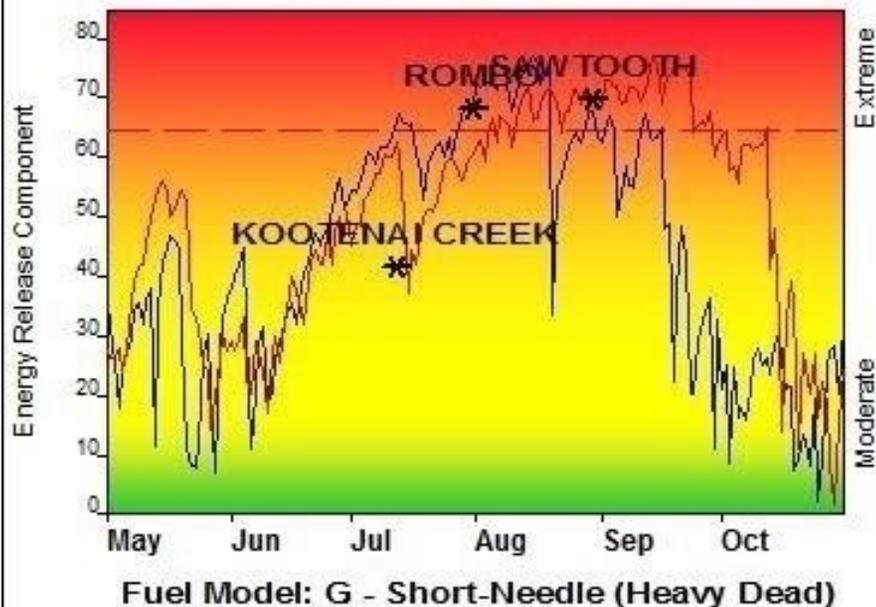
Average -- shows peak fire season over 10 years (1835 observations)

90th Percentile -- Only 10% of the 1835 days from 2006 - 2015 had an Energy Release Component above 64

Local Thresholds - Watch out:

- Combinations of any of these factors can greatly increase fire behavior:
- 20' Wind Speed over 15 mph, RH less than 18%,
 - Temperature over 85, 1000-Hour Fuel Moisture less than 12

Years to Remember: 2007 2012



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 normally driven by W/SW winds, influenced by slope. RH<18% w/ no wind causes active fire behavior w/ short-range spotting. Dry cold fronts common in Sept. w/ strong winds (50 mph) & low RH (20%). In Mtn. Pine Beetle infested areas, especially w/ green-attacked trees, expect rapid transition to crown fire & spotting ≤1 mi. 2007: set 10 yr ERC highs from mid June-Aug. 2012 had ERCs above 90th % from early July through October, with most acres burned since 2000. Kootenai Crk started 7/12/09 but main growth in Sept. due to wind event. Rombo-7/31/07, 29,062 ac wind-topography alignment driven; Sawtooth-8/30/12, 5927 ac wind & topography influenced; Wx stations: 242902(Deer Mt),242904(Stevi),242907(West Fk),242910(Tepee Pt),101019(Hell's Half) Responsible Agency: USFS. May 2016