

Region 2 Fire Danger Outlook

5/12/18

Cabe Speary, Fire Environment Forester, 252-325-3089

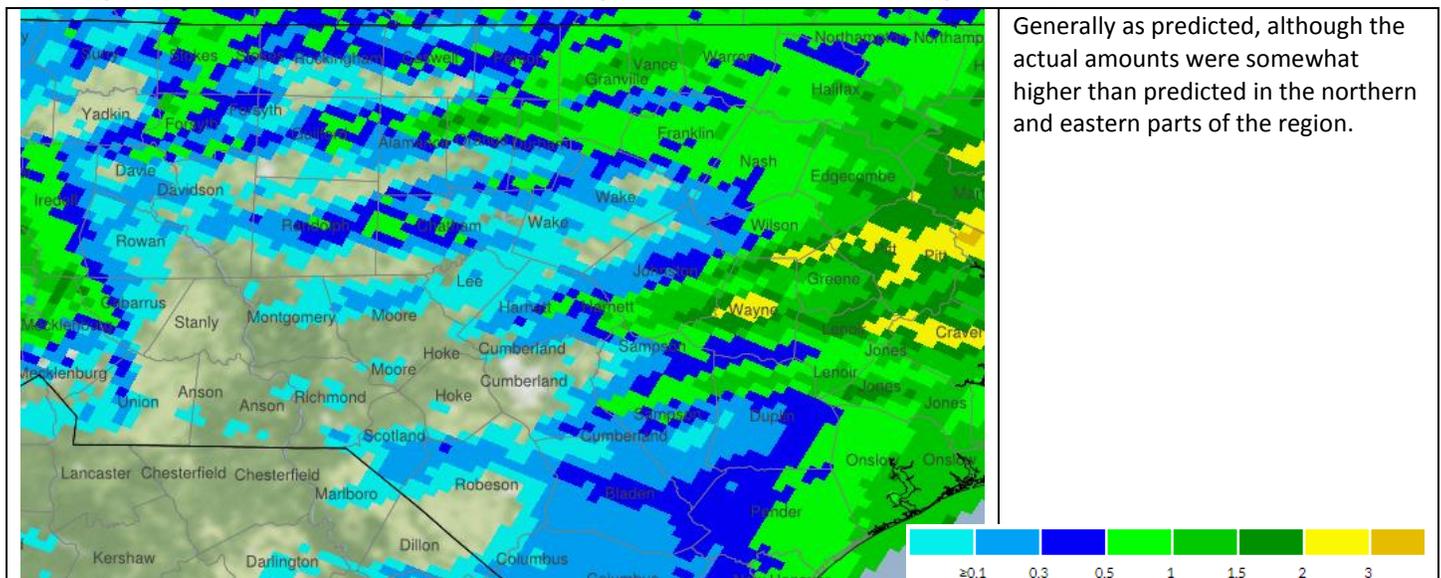
Weather Outlook

- With Bermuda high pressure expanding over the SE US over the next few days, expect summer-like conditions with warm temperatures and increasingly humid conditions through the next five days. There is a chance of thunderstorms each day, but the chances for such will be lowest today through Monday. The chance for showers and thunderstorms then increases for Tuesday through the remainder of the period. For May 19th-May 25th, there is 50-60% chance of **above** normal precipitation.
- Minimum RH will generally be in the mid-30s to 40% today and tomorrow, climbing to the mid-40s to low 50s for Monday. For the remainder of the period, expect mid-50s to low 70s. Nighttime recovery will be excellent, in the 80-100% range.
- Winds will generally be out of the W/SW at 4-8 MPH today and tomorrow and S/SW at 5-10 for the remainder of the period, except in and around thunderstorms. Mixing heights of 5,500-7,000 feet for today, with transport winds out of SW at 8-15 MPH. For Sunday, mixing heights of 6-7,000 feet can be expected with transport winds 10-15 MPH from the SW.
- High temperatures will be in the low to mid-90s today and tomorrow, with upper 70s to mid-80s for the remainder of the period. Lows will be in the 60s for the entire period. For May 19th-May 25th, there is a 40-60% chance of **above** normal average temperatures.

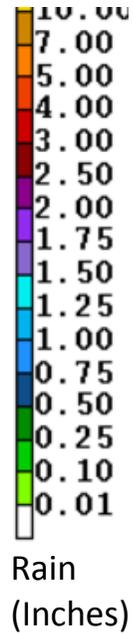
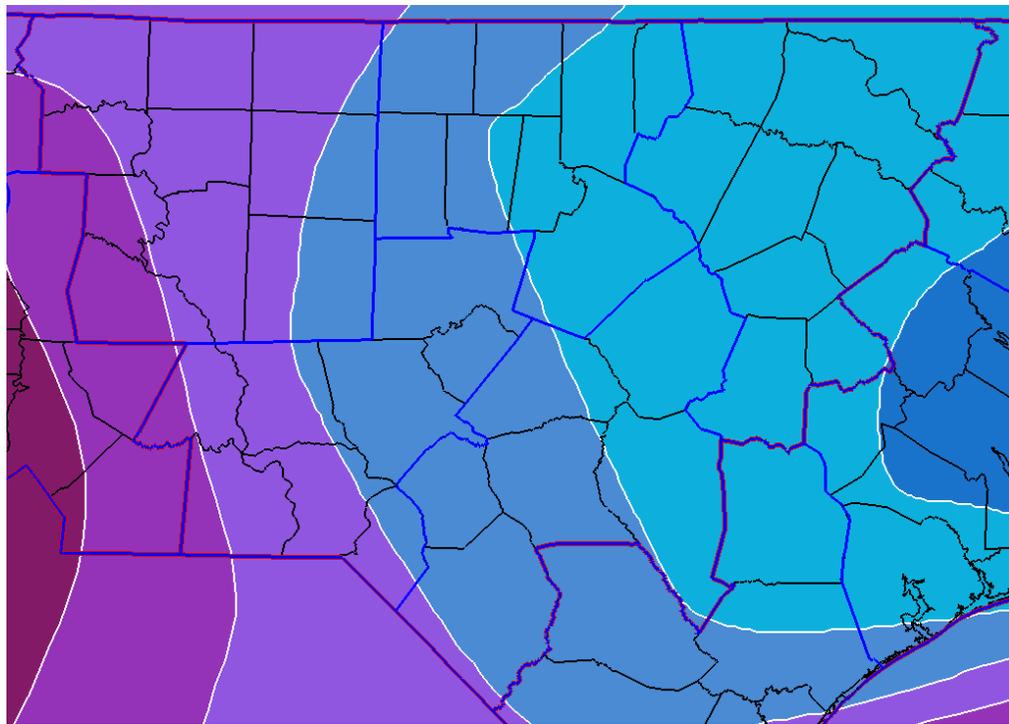
Fire Activity (does not include federal ownership)

5/6-5/12	Number	Acres
Wildfire	46	1,283
Prescribed Fire	8	690

Precipitation Estimates for May 5th, 0800 to May 12th, 8:00

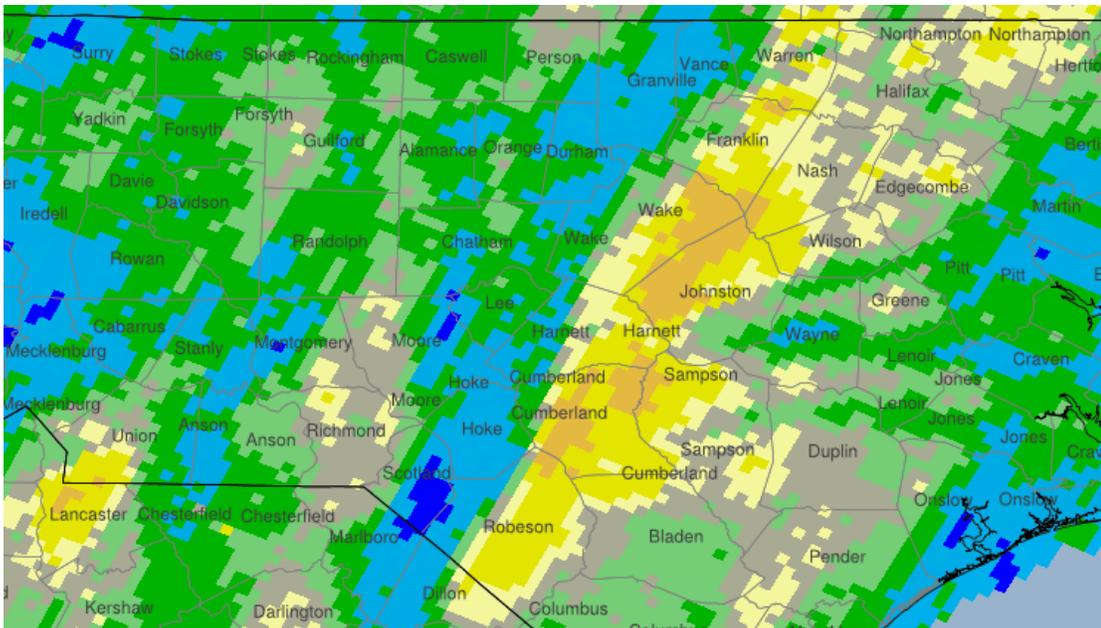


Forecast Precipitation, May 15th, 0800 to May 19th, 0800



There may be a little rain over the next 3 days, but the bulk will be toward the latter half of the period.

30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

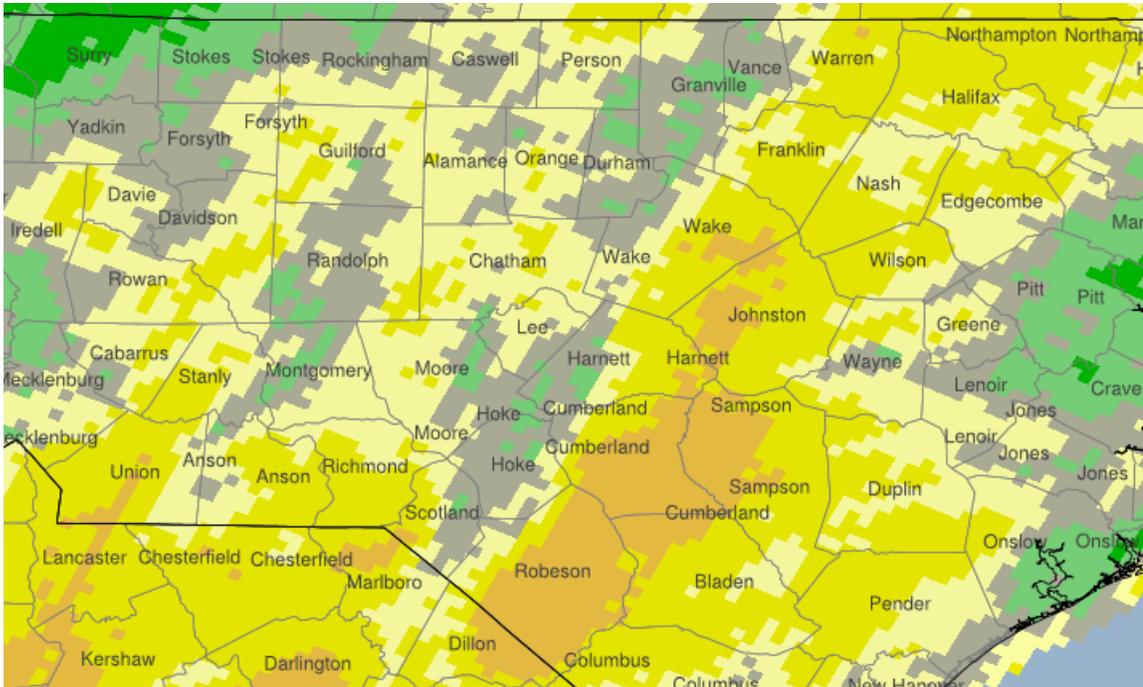


Percent of Normal Precip. (%)



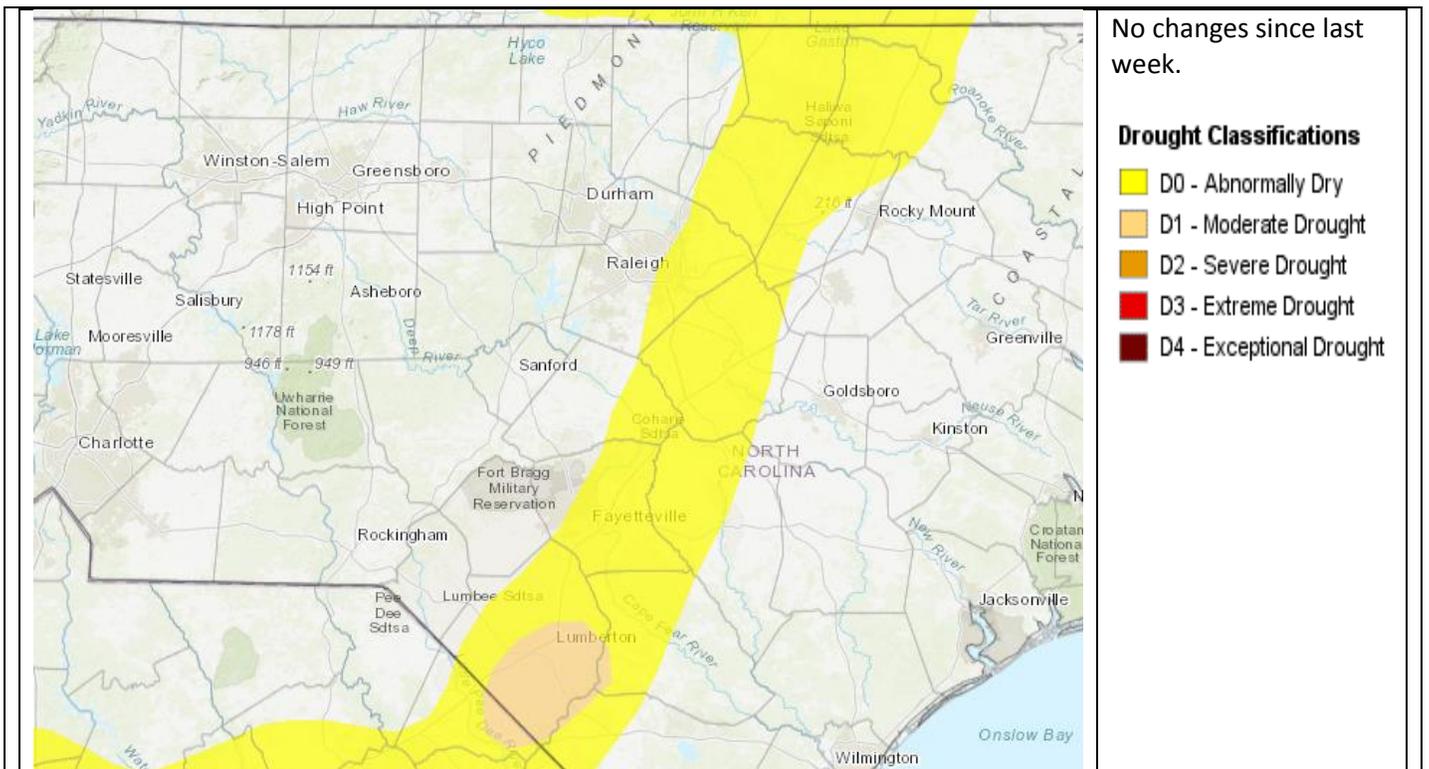
Starting to see some short term deficits in a narrow band from Robeson up through Northampton, but at least still above 50% of normal.

90 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

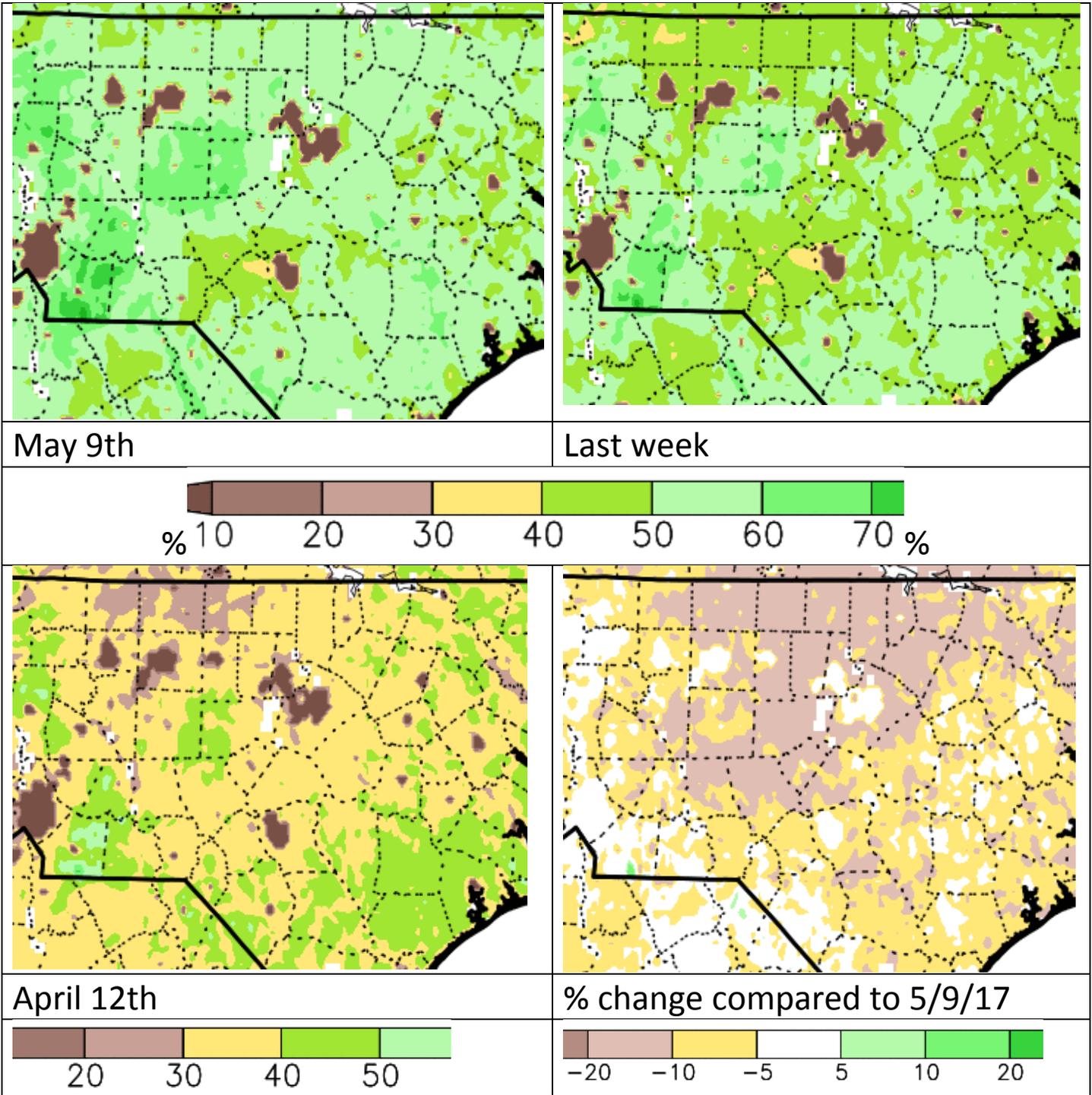


At the longer term, even bigger deficits. The 6 month map looks worse still.

Drought Map, as of May 8, 2018

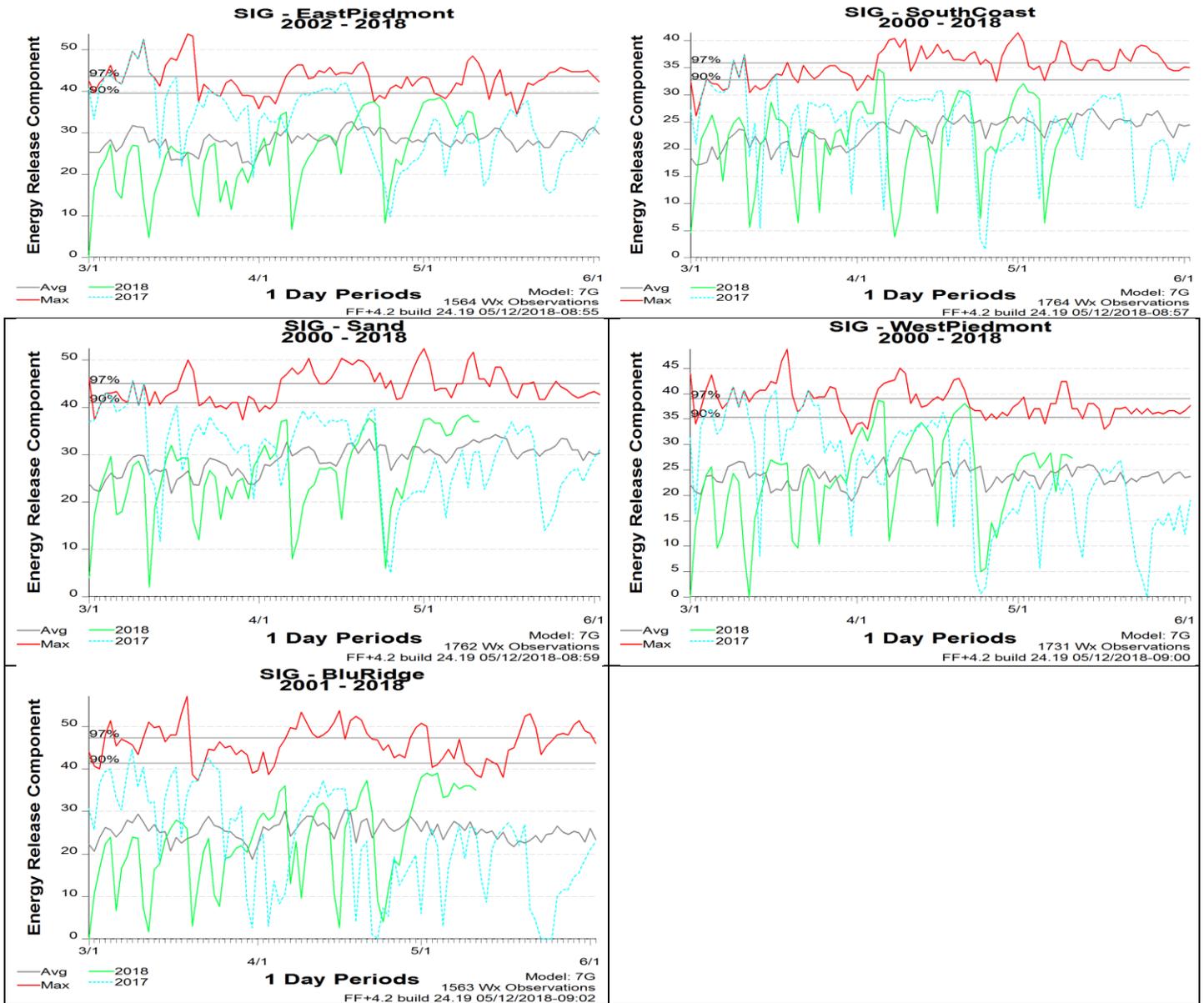


Green Vegetation Fraction (%)



Still behind last year, but most of the region is in the 50%+ green area. Remember, dark brown at this time of year indicates urban areas and white is large water bodies, except on the change map where white indicates less than a 5% change from year to year. You will notice I used May 9th instead of today. Upon examination of the maps generated, I noticed that the NE part of the region has retreated significantly in greenness the past few days. This may be a website error, or it may be that some areas had significant plowing of the agricultural fields which would indicate as less green on the satellite images. Regardless, the current map is not a good representation of greenness, therefore, I used a slightly dated map.

ERC Trends



ERCs are running about normal for except for the Sandhills and Blue Ridge. These areas have received less rain recently. ERCs should remain steady or climb slightly with higher humidity and possibly some light rain for the next few days, then drop later next week with expected rain.

Seven Day Potential for a Significant Fire

Little to no chance of a significant fire over the next 7 days.