



2021 WILDLAND FALL OUTLOOK

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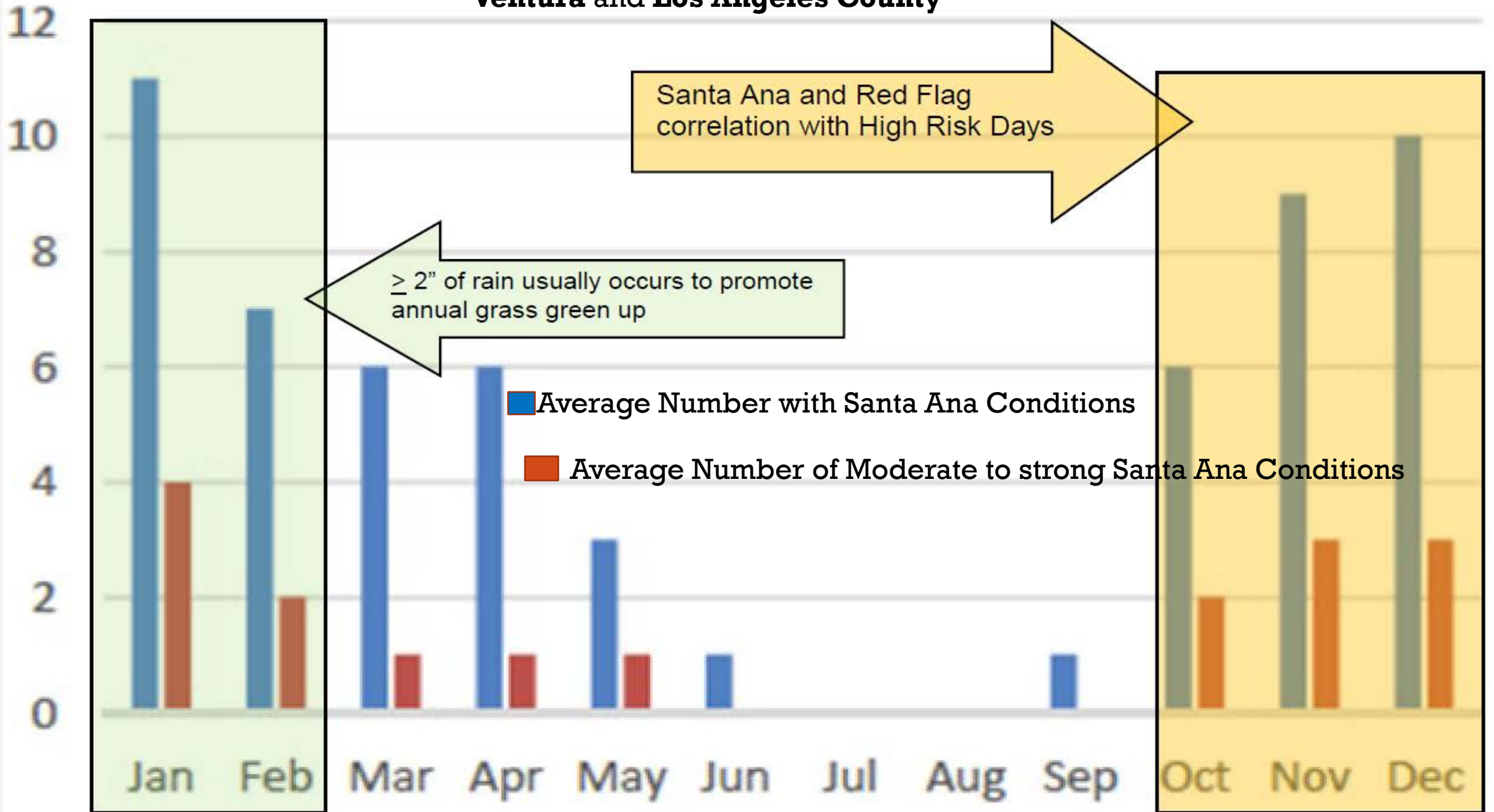


WEATHER OUTLOOK

September - December 2021 South Ops Highlights

- Temperatures will be above normal through December
- Rainfall will be below normal through December
- There will be a near normal amount of Santa Ana wind events through December

Ventura and Los Angeles County





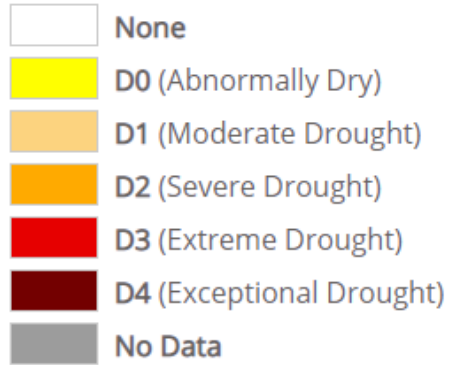
DROUGHT OUTLOOK 2021

- Rainfall is positioned to be delayed and below average September thru December. The potential for average rainfall is yet to be determined from January thru May 2022.
- However the chance of rain potential is favorable, but positioned to be below average.
- Average rainfall in Los Angeles County is near 5 inches to date which is a 10 inch deficit.

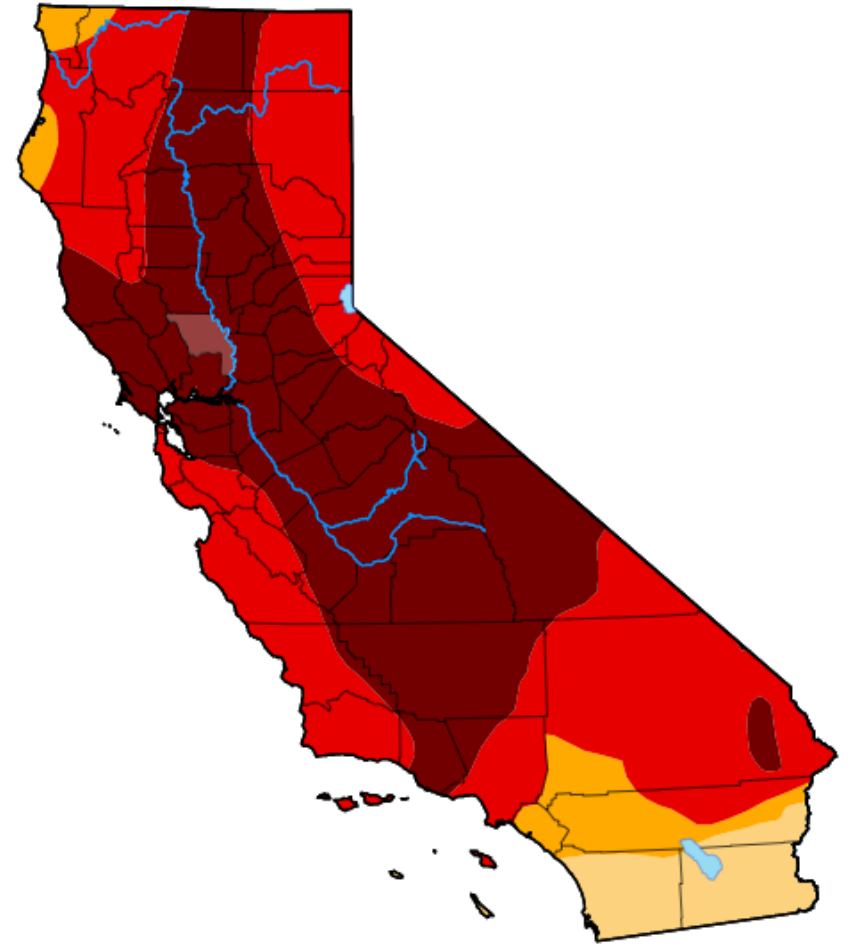
Map released: Thurs. September 9,
2021

Data valid: September 7, 2021 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity



California





WATERSHED FUEL CONDITIONS

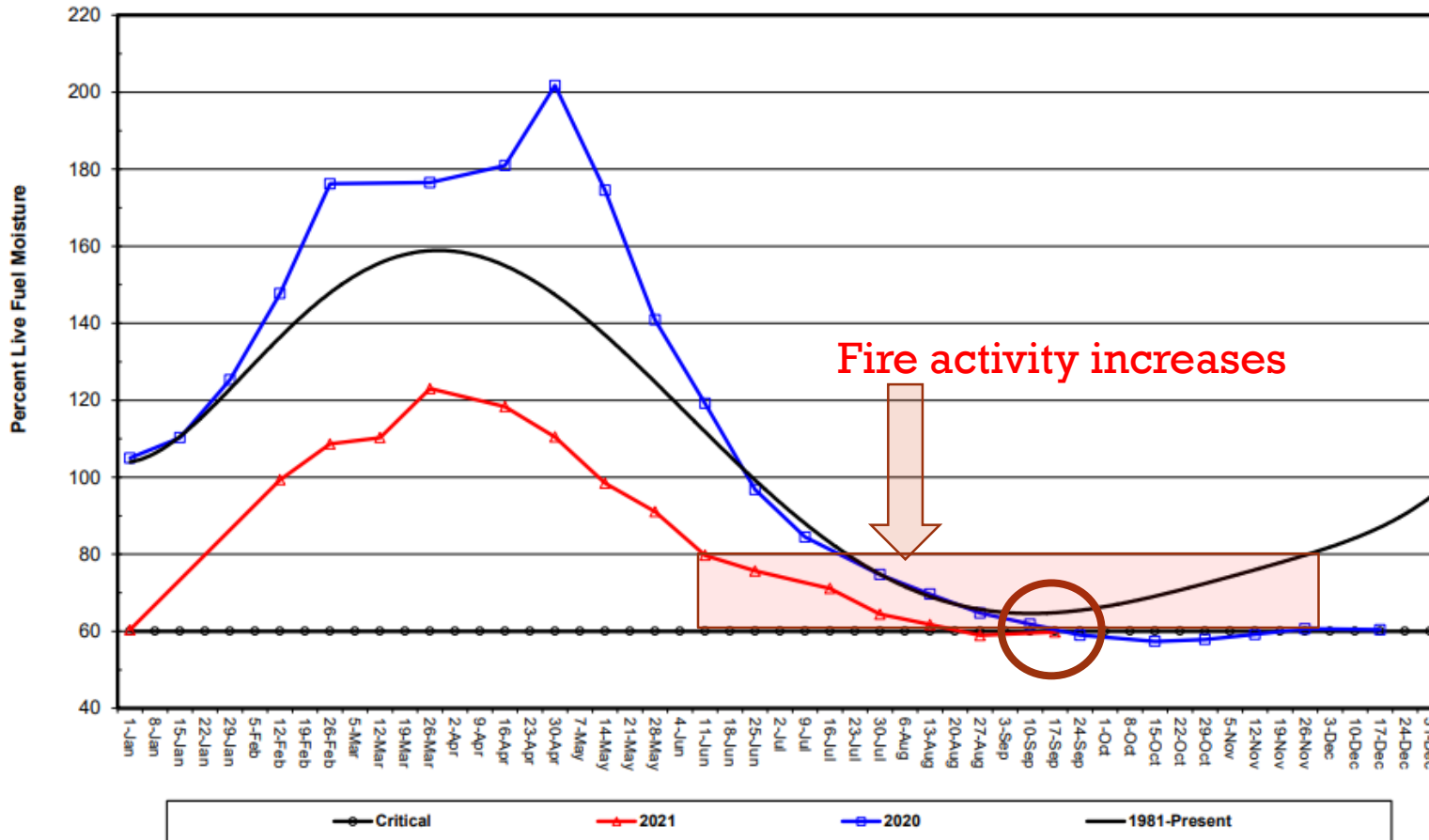
- Summer and Fall fuel conditions have been highly supportive for fire start and fire spread. Current dead fuel moistures can be elevated to meet the moisture of extinctions in fine fuels with larger dead and down fuels to take more time to moisten (10, and 100 hour) on routine days.
- Lack of precipitation with the forecasted weather dead and live fuels will be supportive of large fire growth on Santa Ana wind days. Live Fuels will maintain a moisture range of 55%-60% until Late Winter / Spring. Annual grass is abundant and dead. Without green up in annual grass for Fall and Winter initial attack transitioning to extended attack exists on high risk days. All fuels need to be stimulated to moisten by precipitation to significantly reduce large fire growth on Santa Ana Wind Days. Currently there is no green up in the annual fuel bed.



Vegetation Management Program Live Fuel Moisture 1981-2021



All Areas, All Fuels - Chamise, Ceanothus, Sages, Sagebrush



LIVE FUEL MOISTURE

- Below average





FIRE DANGER ANALYSIS

- Annual Grass is highly receptive in all areas with sunlight.
- Live fuel moisture is at critical 60%
- There is a moderate chance of probability for frequent initial attack on routine days
- There is a low probability of large fires in the absence of wind.
- A high risk day is identified as dry conditions coupled with high winds to dry the fuels (12-24 hours) to support a large fire growth day.
- The Burning Index will need analyses in combination with fuel conditions for the support of a high risk day.



THRESHOLDS FOR A HIGH RISK DAY:

- Live Fuel Moisture: < 75%
- Fine Dead Fuel Moisture: < 7%
- 10 Hour Dead Fuel Moisture 7%
- Wind Speed > 35 miles per hour
- Burning Index of 120 or greater



IN CLOSING

- A high risk day will need the combination of high winds and dry weather.
- Large scale winds are routinely forecasted in the fall and winter months. High winds and large fire growth is dependent upon spotting ahead of the advancing fire front.
- The current state and forecasted climatology will support spotting. High winds and Live Fuel Moistures below 60% will produce aggressive fire behavior on high risk days.
- The combination of the two factors will create an advancing fire front with significant spotting. Large fire days in the months of October - December have the potential of 10,000+ acres and are associated with rainfall of 2" or less pre fire start.