

## Alberta Fire Weather and Fire Behaviour Outlook

**Issued:** May 16 2017

**For period:** May 16 2017 to May 22 2017

**Fire Weather Outlook:** An upper level trough is situated over the province today and will remain stationary into Wednesday. Scattered precipitation is expected to remain over the boreal zones through Wednesday while 20-40 mm of precipitation is possible along the eastern slopes as another upper low crosses into the southwest of the province. Humidity values in the 20-30% range are expected to begin on Thursday as temperatures in the mid to upper teens return to the province. Scattered showers expected as an upper trough moves through boreal zones with light to moderate winds associated. Weak front is forecast to move out of northeastern BC on Saturday with isolated showers. Risk of near cross over conditions ahead of the front in boreal zones as temperatures reach into the upper teens with RH values in the 20's. Little change expected on Sunday in a light to moderate northwesterly flow over the province.

### Fire Behaviour Outlook:

Fire danger is generally low in Alberta with the exceptions of the SW and NE corners of the Province. These areas have missed the recent precipitation that the rest of the province has received. Initial Spread Index (ISI) and Build Up Index (BUI) values are currently moderate to high in both the SW and NE corners of Alberta, although this will change in the next 24 hours in SW Alberta as precipitation is expected along the eastern slopes. Fire danger will then remain low to moderate across the province for the duration of this operational period with the exception of the extreme NE corner of the province (Fort Chipewyan and north) as this area continues to miss the moisture entering the Province. Field staff in this area report that fine fuels are still in the cured state and foliar moisture contents are at annual minimum values. ISI and BUI values remain elevated creating both grass- and forest-fire danger potential. Some rebound in the ISI values will occur in association with a forecasted cold front passage Saturday but this effect should be short-lived as a weather disturbance follows that.