

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Voluntary - Public

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Russian Federation

Post: Moscow

Forest Fire Situation Update

Report Categories:

Solid Wood Products

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Report Highlights:

The Federal Forestry Agency reports that the situation with forest fires in the Russian Federation continues to be difficult in most districts due to extreme heat. As of the beginning of August, the GOR has allocated 170,605 people and almost 27,000 pieces of equipment including 40 aircraft for firefighting.

General Information:

According to the official reports from the Federal Forestry Agency (FFA) the situation with forest fires in most districts in Russian continue to be very difficult due to extreme heat.

According to the official data of the Federal Forestry Agency the total number of forest fires registered on August 12 is estimated at 838, in comparison with 90 forest fires registered in the same period in 2009.

In 2010, since the fires hazard season has started, 26,000 forest fires broke out in Russia, affecting 1.1 million hectares.

The Agency reports that currently the most drastic situation is in the Central Federal District, specifically in Ryazan oblast, where as the result of 15 fires, 3,000 hectares per day were affected by fire. In Tambov province, there are 4 active fires that have affected more than 2,000 hectares per day.

In Bryansk province 2 fires have been active for several days, in Vladimir 8 fires affected 300 hectares of forests. In most provinces of the Central Federal District, including Voronezh, Kaluga, Kostroma, Smolensk, Tver, Yaroslavl, serious fire hazards situation is still in place.

As of August 12, a total 73 forest fires broke out in the Central Federal District and 28 fires were put up on the same day. The FFA reports stated that 6,000 hectares per day were affected. In Volga Federal District, there are 129 forests hot spots that have affected 4,000 hectares. The situation with fires in Urals is also tense, specifically in Kurgan, Tyumen, and Chelyabinsk provinces, with total 120 fires affected 1900 hectares.

The Federal Forestry Agency in coordination with other agencies at the federal and regional levels continues to put considerable efforts to suppress fires and monitor the situation. As of beginning August, the GOR has allocated 170,605 people and almost 27,000 pieces of equipment, including 40 aircraft for firefighting. U.S deployed two disaster management experts through its partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Disaster Assistance Support Program. The U.S. also will provide an aircraft with fire fighting equipment to Russia. The U.S. experts will work with Emergency Situation Ministry and Arial Fire Service and local disaster management officials to develop recommendations for follow up assistance.

More detailed information by provinces as of August 9, including scale of the fires, areas affected, as well as number of fires localized, is provided in the table below.

Source: Federal Forestry Agency (FFA)

