

# ECHO Forest Fires Bulletin

19/06/2020

European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations

## Period covered

11/06/2020 to 17/06/2020

## 1. On-going emergencies (European Civil Protection Mechanism)

N/A

## 2. Situation in forest fire-prone countries

### 2.1 Number of fires and burnt areas – Situation overview

Country	Previous week: 11 to 17 Jun		Since 1 Jan 2020	
	Number of fires	Surface (ha)	Number of fires	Surface (ha)
Greece	313	193	6,859	1,898
Spain *	N/A	N/A	2,623*	15,025*
France	0	0	430	6,207
Croatia	19	3	2,656	32,768
Italy	36	N/A	834	N/A
Cyprus	2	61	23	179
Portugal	N/A	N/A	1,536	1,233

\*until 7 June

### GREECE

Last week, the most serious was a fire in Petrovouni, Mount Athos, Halkidiki, with burned area 90 hectares. Five aircraft and one helicopter were deployed.

### SPAIN

At this moment, there are no significant forest fires in the country with the participation of national means of extinction. Last week a couple of fires required evacuations (both in the Canaries)

### FRANCE

N/A

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## **CROATIA**

N/A

## **ITALY**

In the past week, 36 fires broke out in Italy. National assistance was requested by Regions and provided through national firefighting aircraft assets in 19 cases.

## **CYPRUS**

N/A

## **PORTUGAL**

The fire danger is moderate in the inland southeast part of the country and low in the northwest part, close to the Atlantic Ocean. In the following days, an increase of temperatures will rise the wildfire danger in the inland districts.

## **2.2 Weather forecast**

### **GREECE**

For the next days and early next week, moderate to strong west-northwest winds are expected in the western and southern parts of Greece. Temperatures are expected to reach 32-35°C in the mainland and 28-32°C in the islands

The forest fire risk is expected to be low in the northern parts of Greece and moderate to high in the eastern and southern parts of Greece and the Aegean islands.

### **SPAIN**

The fire weather index in the next days will be mostly moderate in the western half of the peninsula and even low in the eastern part and the Canaries.

### **FRANCE**

Significant drought starts both in the north and in Mediterranean area but still, wild fire risk is low even if moderate wind will blow for the next days in south part of the country.

### **CROATIA**

The fire danger is expected to rise significantly in the following period.

### **ITALY**

From 21 June to 24 June, weather instability will move towards central and southern Italy while stable weather is forecasted over the northern Italian regions, where temperatures will increase.

No extreme fire danger conditions are expected.

### **CYPRUS**

Following a prolonged hot and dry period, light showers and local thunderstorms are expected during the weekend, mainly inland, in the mountains and on the southeast coast. The temperature will fall below the average climatic values for this period.

## **PORTUGAL**

The fire risk is moderate in the inland East south part of the country and low on the Northwest part, close to the Atlantic Ocean. For the next days, a general increase of the fire risk is foreseen due to the increase of temperatures and reduction of the humidity values. This is expected to increase the wildfire risk in the inland south districts.

### **2.3 Availability of aerial means**

#### **GREECE**

Any request for assistance will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

#### **SPAIN**

Most of the national fleet is operational and spread on the Spanish territory supporting the Autonomous Communities in their own efforts. For the incoming days, no request for assistance is foreseen.

Any incoming request for assistance will be analysed, as usually, on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the risk situation in Spain.

#### **FRANCE**

8 medium amphibious, 3 non-amphibious heavy aircraft and 3 investigation and coordination aircraft are currently available.

#### **CROATIA**

Any incoming request for assistance will be analysed on a case-by-case basis

#### **ITALY**

9 medium amphibious airplanes including the rescEU capacity and 10 helicopters (6 light, 4 medium) are available.

Any incoming request for assistance will be analysed on a case-by-case basis.

#### **CYPRUS**

The 6 primary aerial assets are fully operational (4 light type firefighting airplanes (2 airplanes are included in the transitional rescEU fleet) and 2 medium type firefighting helicopters. In addition, 2 light type helicopters and 1 coordination helicopter are available for use as secondary aerial assets, if needed.

Any request for international assistance will be examined on a case-by-case basis.

## **PORTUGAL**

60 aerial means are operational. 2 coordination airplanes and 1 coordination helicopter, 26 light helicopters, 12 medium helicopters, 14 light amphibious aircraft and 2 medium amphibious aircraft compose the global fleet. No request for assistance is foreseen. Any request from other countries will be evaluated in a case-by-case basis.

### **2.4 COVID-19 special protocols or measures related to forest firefighting**

#### **GREECE**

N/A

## SPAIN

N/A

## FRANCE

The Civil Protection issued guidelines concerning COVID-19 measures related to FFF-Groups such as limitation of common use of appliances and bedrooms, ventilation of cabins, mandatory wearing in places like command post, rest areas, crisis management rooms, sufficient supply of masks and hydro alcoholic gel, catering/single use & individual portions, immediate lockdown upon daily self-questioning list.

## CROATIA

N/A

## ITALY

In case of deployment, special measures are foreseen.

## CYPRUS

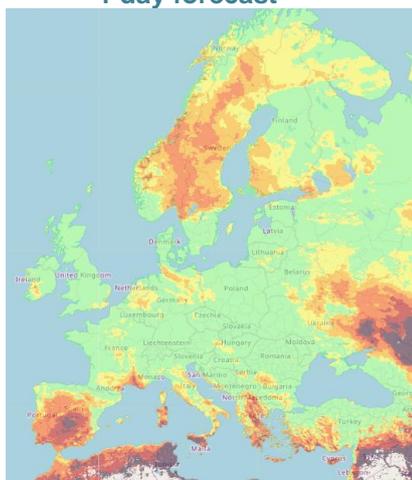
All services involved in forest firefighting, are taking the risks presented by COVID-19 into consideration and are following both the related emergency preparedness and response protocols and guidelines, in order to protect the firefighting personnel and to accomplish our critical mission. During the last days, no COVID-19 infections were recorded in Cyprus and the Department of Forests continues to remain operational.

## PORTUGAL

N/A

### 3. Overview fire risks in Europe (EFFIS) – 19/06/2020

1 day forecast



3 day forecast



6 day forecast

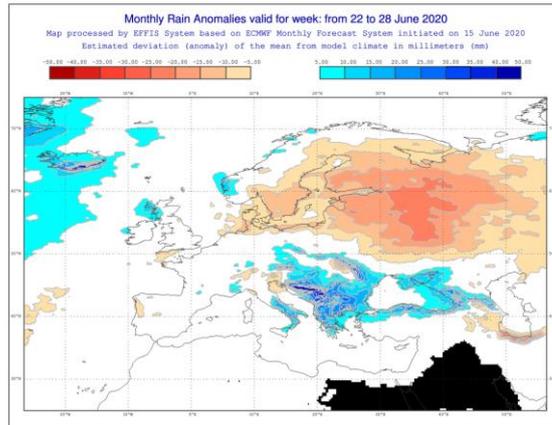
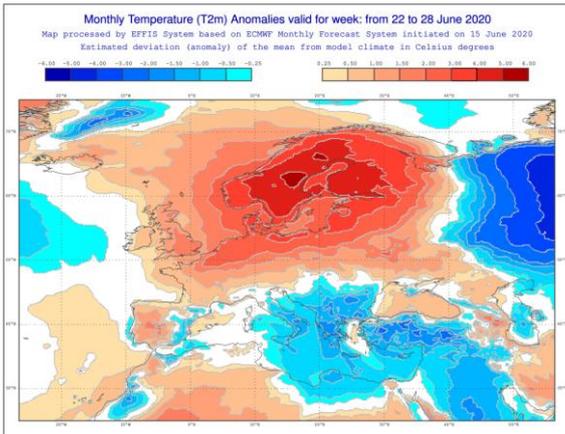


High or very high fire danger is expected in the next 3 days in southern Portugal, southern Spain, parts of southern France, Italy (Sardinia and Sicily), parts of central Greece and Cyprus.

Next week, higher values of fire danger are expected in southern Portugal, Spain and central Sweden.

### Temperature

### Rain

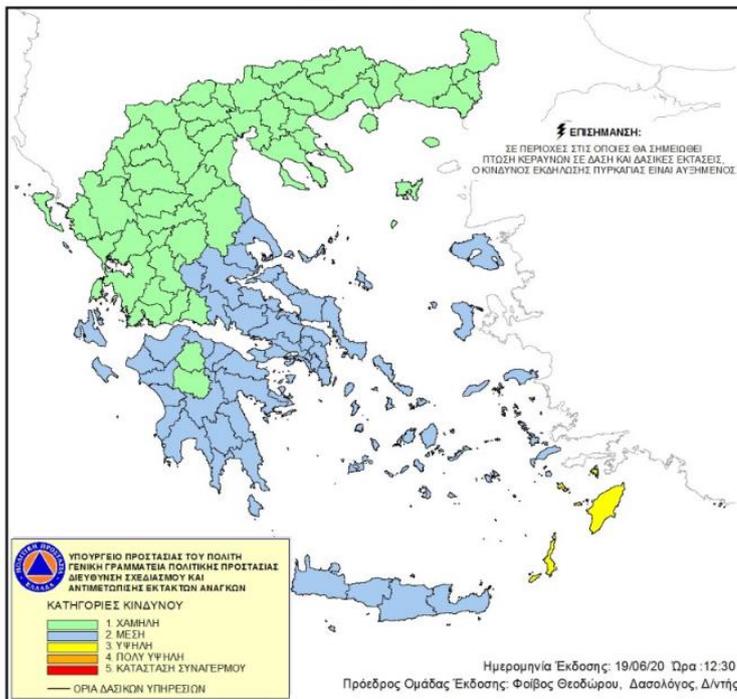


- **Warmer** conditions in central and northern Europe and Iberian peninsula
- **Cooler** conditions in Italy, Greece and the Balkans
- **Drier** conditions in north Europe and Russia
- **Wetter** conditions in southern Italy, Greece and the Balkans

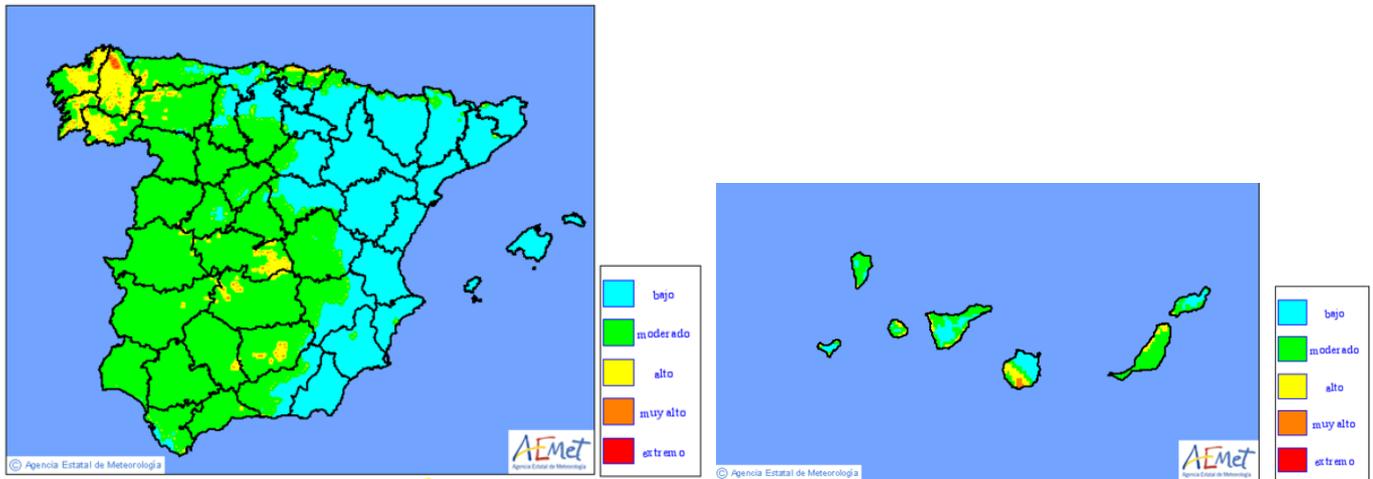
## 4. Situation by country (National Reports)

Greece (20/06/2020)

### ΧΑΡΤΗΣ ΠΡΟΒΛΕΨΗΣ ΚΙΝΔΥΝΟΥ ΠΥΡΚΑΓΙΑΣ ΠΟΥ ΙΣΧΥΕΙ ΓΙΑ Σάββατο 20/06/20



Spain (20/06/2020)



France

N/A (it is usually available at the end of June)

Croatia

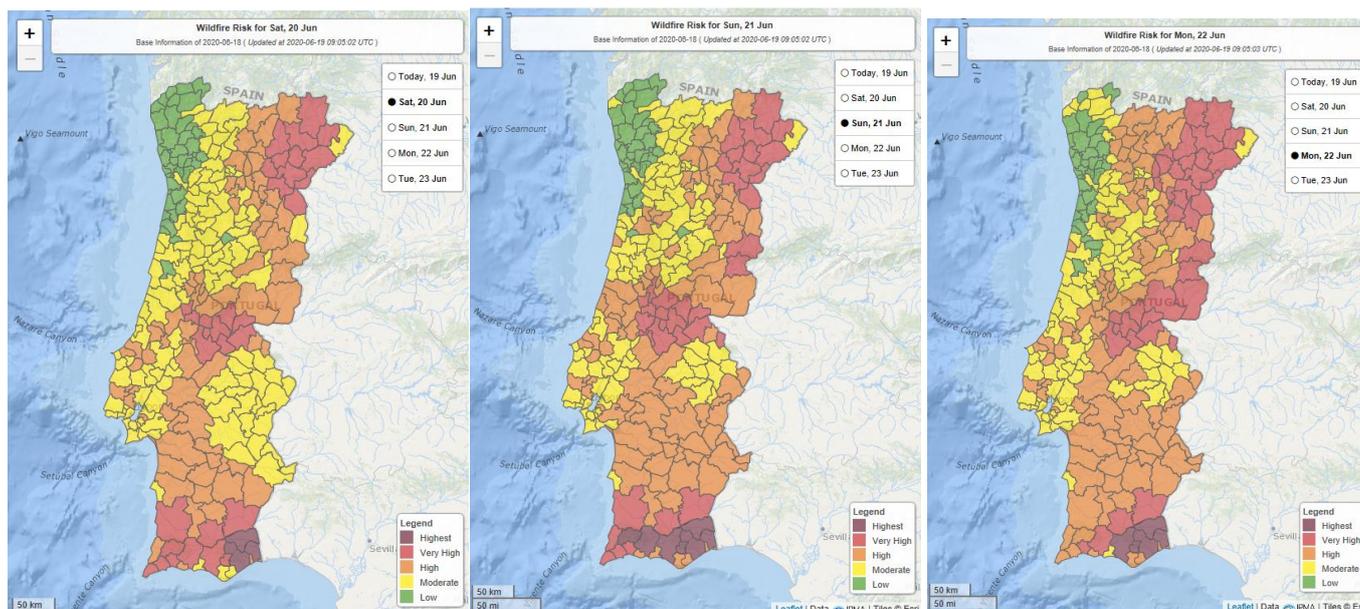
N/A (for this week)

Italy (20/06/2020)



Italy (21/06/2020)





## 5. International situation

### USA

Last week, several wildfires have reportedly broke out in south Arizona (south-west USA), burning an area of at least 80,000 ha, several communities have been evacuated, and some of the roads in the outskirts of Phoenix City have been closed.

According to the JRC Global Wildfire Information System (GWIS), the fire danger forecast remain in extreme danger over most of Arizona for the next days.

### Russia

More than 270 forest fires broke out burning 13,528 hectares in 41 Russian regions between June 8 and June 14. On 15 June, 17 forest fires burned an area of 56,016 hectares in remote and difficult-to-access territories where regional authorities have stopped firefighting efforts.

Most of those fires were registered in Yakutia, 12 of them on an area of 48,800 hectares.

## 6. EFFIS Statistics

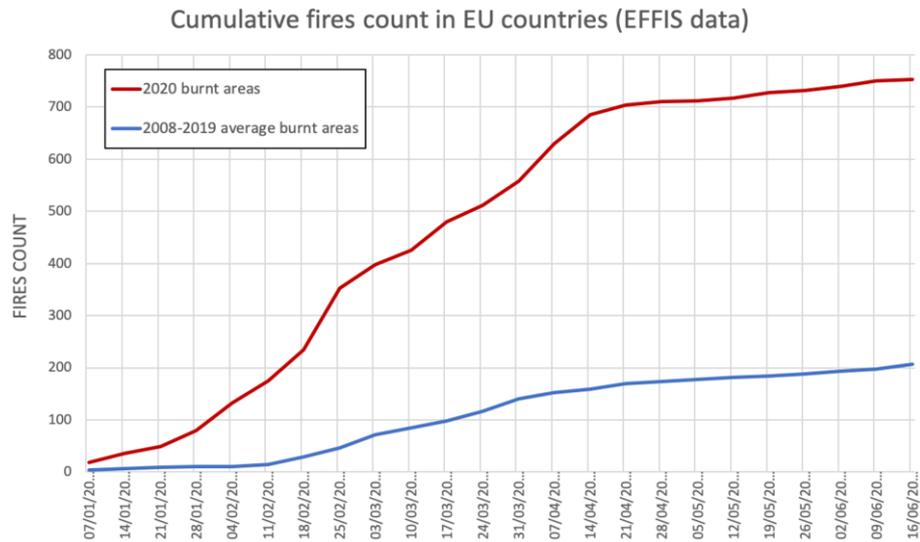
### Burnt area mapped in EFFIS (fires larger than 30 ha) from 01.01.2020 to 17.06.2020

- Total Area European Union: 114,858 ha
- Total Area Other European countries: 376,127 ha
- Total Area Middle East and North Africa: 2,996 ha
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### Burnt area mapped in EFFIS (fires larger than 30 ha) from 10.06.2020 to 17.06.2020

- Total Area European Union: 740 ha
- Total Area Other European countries: 303 ha
- Total Area Middle East and North Africa: 106 ha

**Cumulative number of fires in EU countries larger than 30 ha from 01.01.2020 to 17.06.2020**



**Cumulative burnt area in EU countries larger than 30 ha from 01.01.2020 to 17.06.2020**

