

Wildland Fire Management Current Drought Impacts

Fire Statistics

- 836 Fires YTD for 650.5 Acres burned, 193 DCR Fire responses
 - June: 116 Fires
 - July: 55 Fires
 - August to date 29 Fires
- Joshua Hill Fire – Leverett: 56 Ac, 1 Month to declare out
- Copicut Woods Fire- Fall River: 8.5 Ac, Ongoing since 7-16,
- Tully MT Fire – Orange: .5 Ac, Started on 8-10, ongoing deep burning.
- South Post Fire – Devens: 79 Ac.
- Others: Yarmouth, Braintree, Foxboro, Peperell

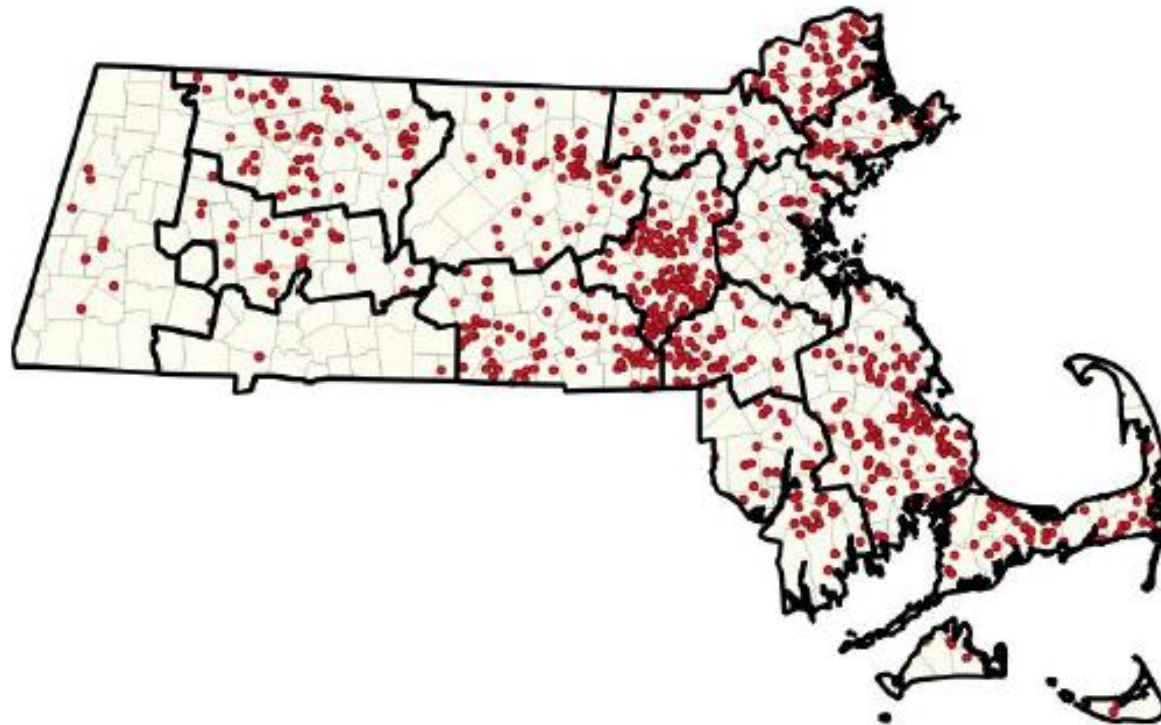
Drought Impacts on Fire Behavior and Suppression:

- Scattered precip events, slight improvement in CT River Valley/Berkshire
- Main area of concern is Southeast / Southern Bristol County.
- Grass and shrub fuels showing drought stress in SE
- Tropical Storm had NO impact on fire risk conditions
- Moisture has not impacted critically dry duff layer and ground fuels.
- Lightning remains a real concern for new starts due to dry ground fuels.
- All fires with extended burn time from ignition are multi day incidents.
- Extended attack drought induced fires causing strain on local resources.

MASSACHUSETTS WILDFIRE OCCURRENCE MAP

Year to Date 8-10-20

Wildfire Locations



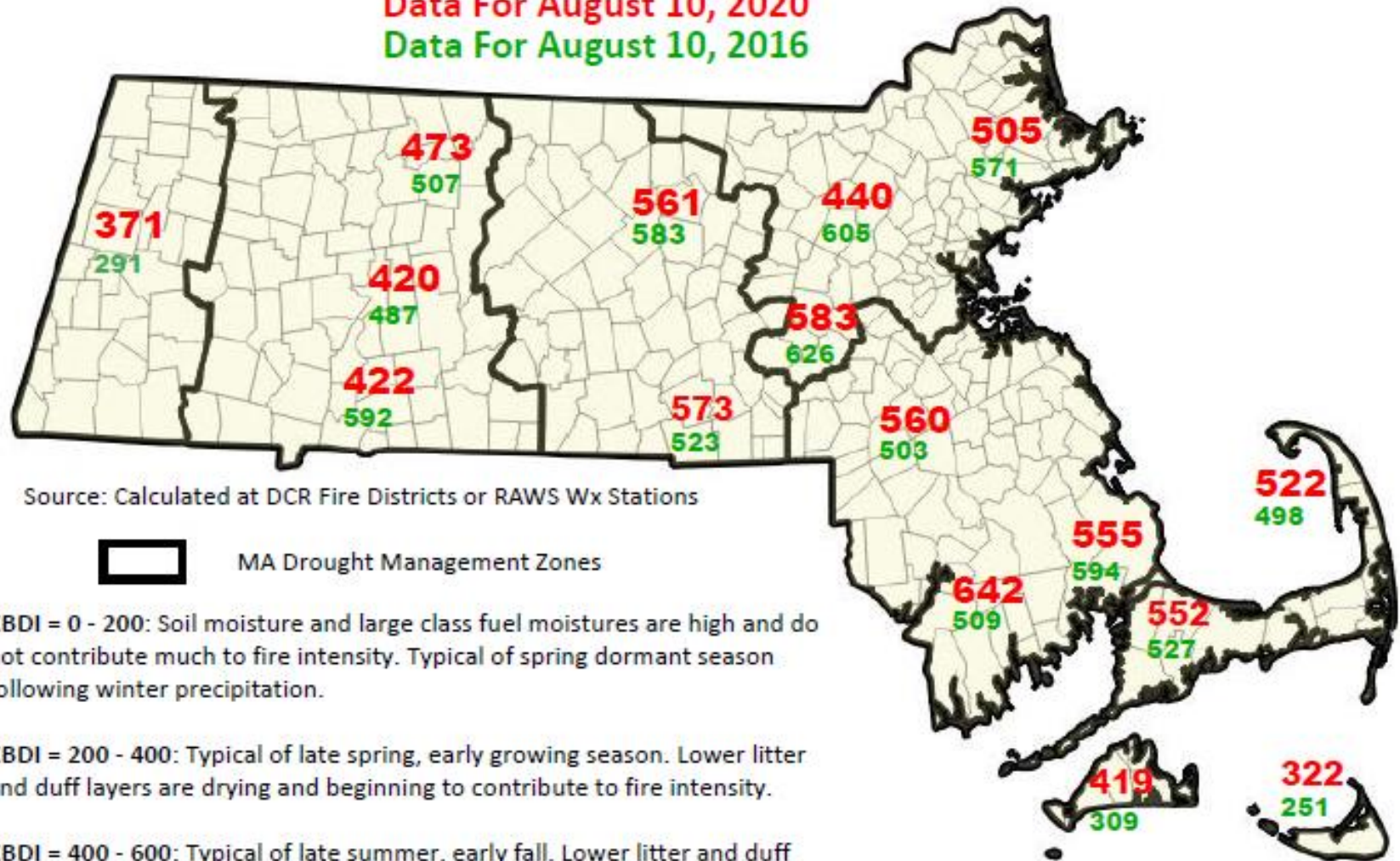
Source: Local Fire Department and DCR Fire District Wildfire Reporting Data

Number of Fires:	836
Acres Burned:	650.5
Resident Homes Threatened:	119
Resident Homes Damaged:	9
Other Structures Impacted:	79
Number of DCR Fire Responses:	193

Keetch – Byram Drought Index

Data For August 10, 2020

Data For August 10, 2016



KBDI = 0 - 200: Soil moisture and large class fuel moistures are high and do not contribute much to fire intensity. Typical of spring dormant season following winter precipitation.

KBDI = 200 - 400: Typical of late spring, early growing season. Lower litter and duff layers are drying and beginning to contribute to fire intensity.

KBDI = 400 - 600: Typical of late summer, early fall. Lower litter and duff layers actively contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively.

KBDI = 600 - 800: Often associated with more severe drought with increased wildfire occurrence. Intense, deep burning fires with significant downwind spotting can be expected. Live fuels can also be expected to burn actively at these levels.

Fire Behavior and Tactics in Since June

