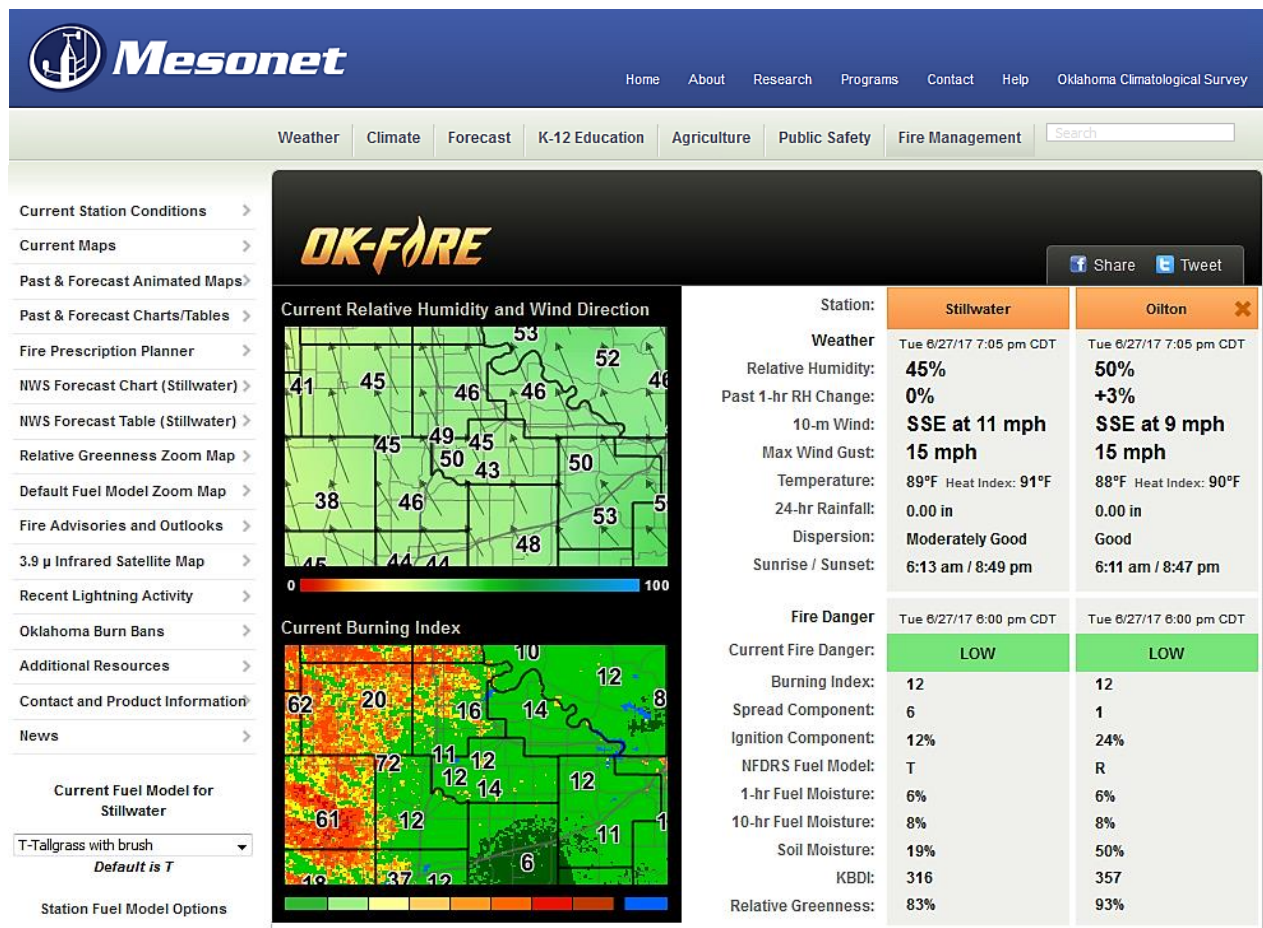


OK-FIRE: A New Home Page and a New Architecture

<http://www.mesonet.org/index.php/okfire/home>

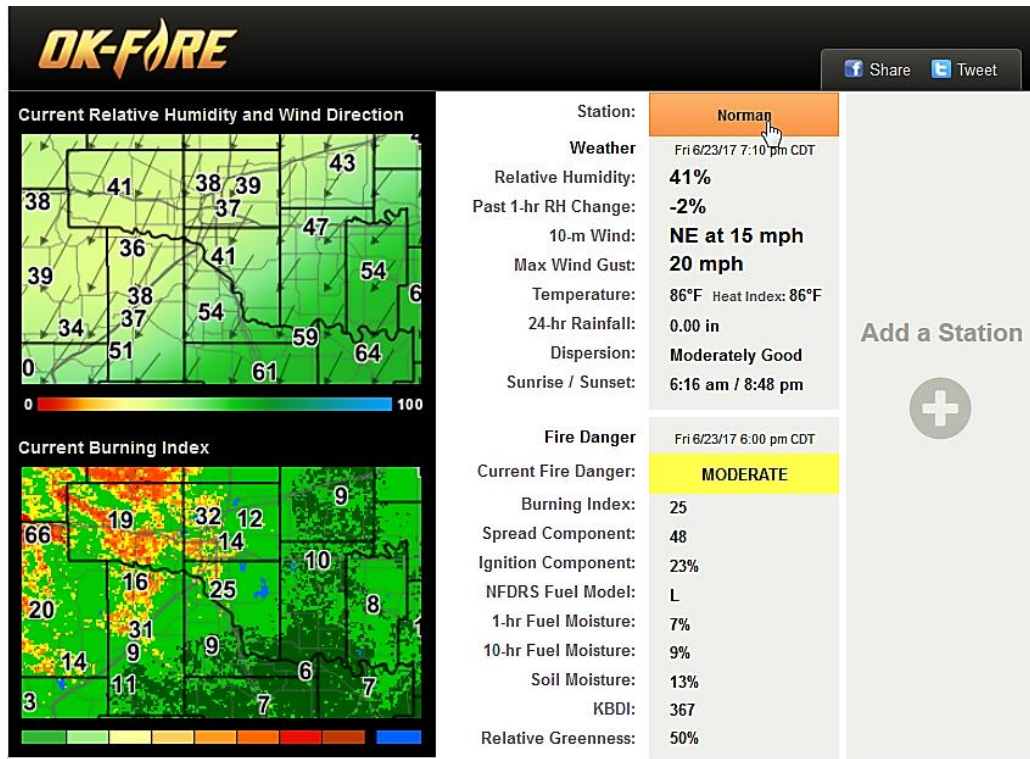
The first major difference from the old OK-FIRE website is that OK-FIRE is now integrated (see image below) into the general Oklahoma Mesonet website, <http://www.mesonet.org>. The reasoning behind this move was to continue the effort in consolidating the wide variety of websites operated by the Oklahoma Mesonet and to allow the OK-FIRE user easier access to all the other data and products Mesonet has to offer that are not on OK-FIRE.



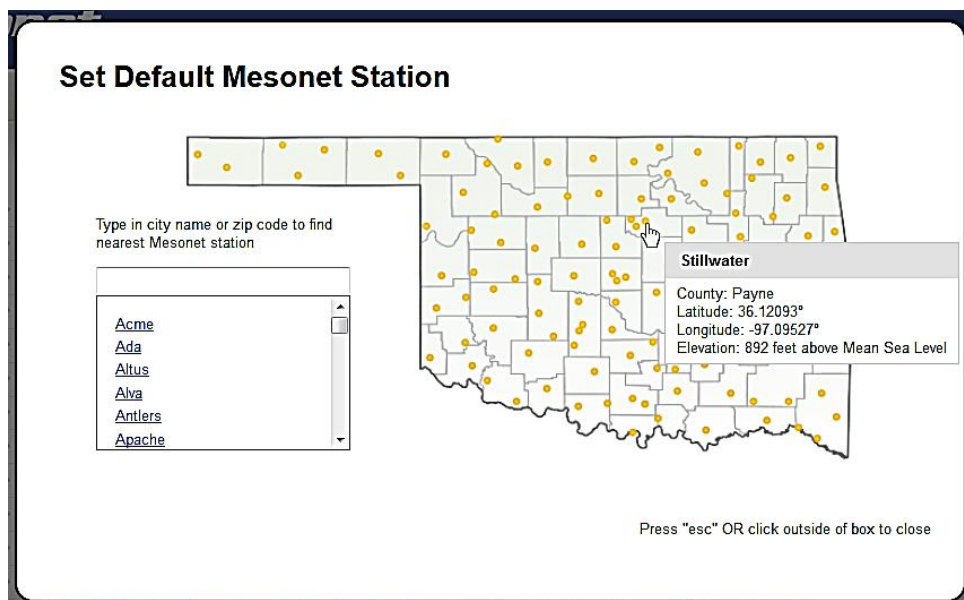
Once you get to the home page (technically, "landing" page) of OK-FIRE, the module is self-contained and you will stay within it unless you deliberately choose to go elsewhere on the general Mesonet website. We will now begin to look at the details of the home page and the new architecture of the OK-FIRE website (technically, "module").

Current Data Tables for Up to Two Mesonet Stations

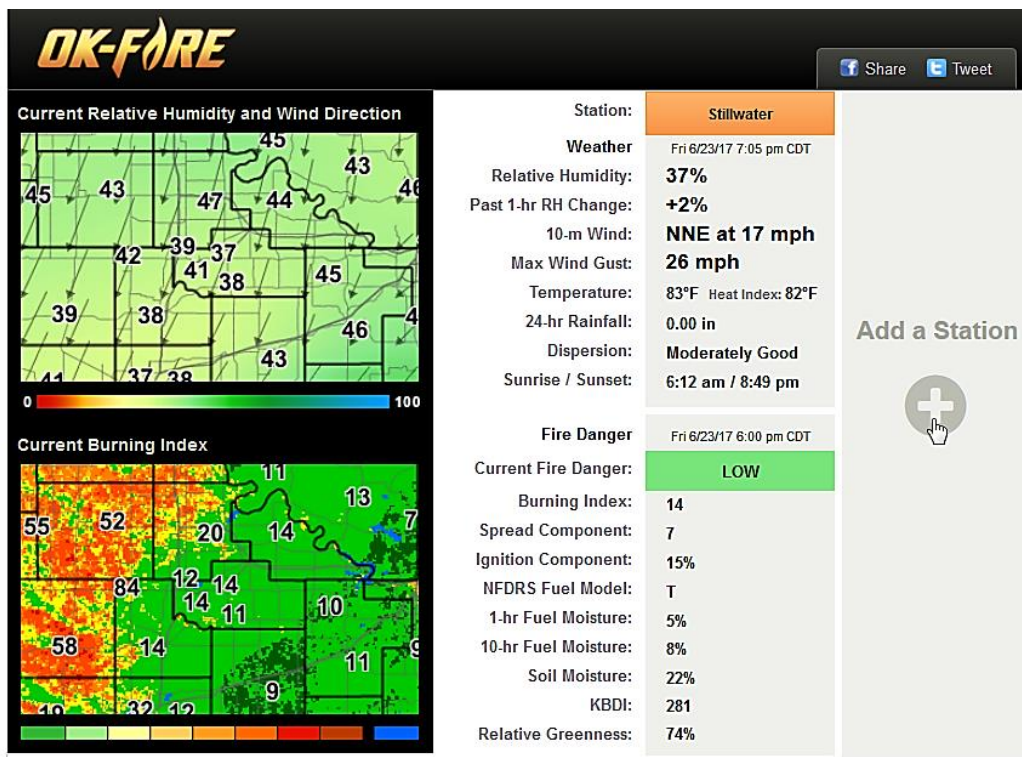
The old OK-FIRE website allowed for one station on the home page, which became the default station throughout the website. Per one of the recommendations from the two OK-FIRE Users Forums in 2016, the new OK-FIRE now allows for up to TWO stations on the home page. The first one (left column data tables) is called the “primary” station and is the default Mesonet site throughout the OK-FIRE website.



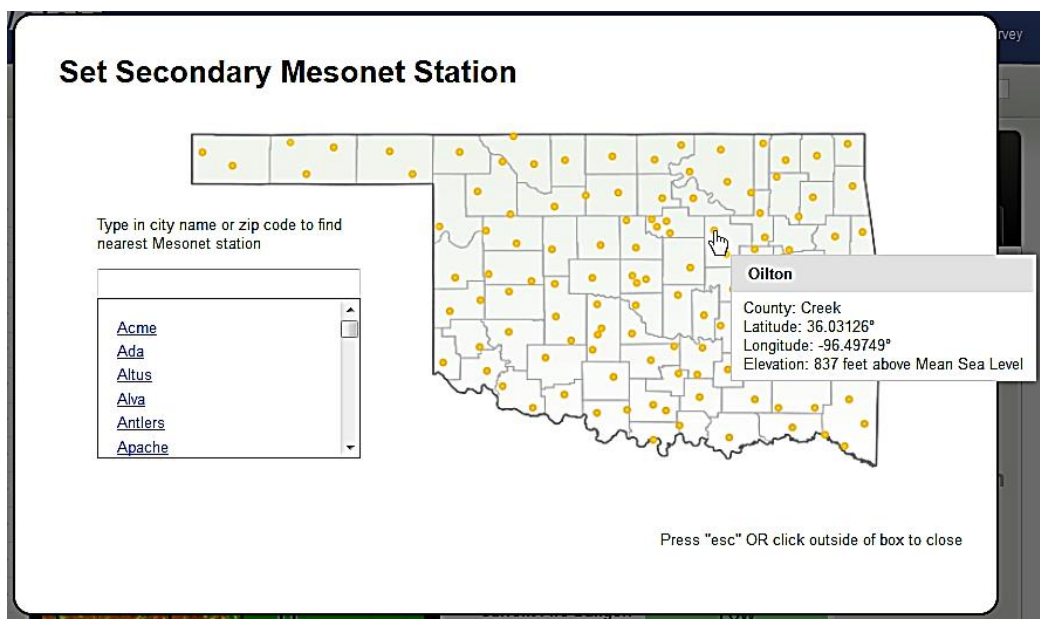
To change the station, just click on the Mesonet station at the top of the column and choose another station (Stillwater in this example) on the Mesonet map that comes up. You can also use the pull-down station menu to choose another station.



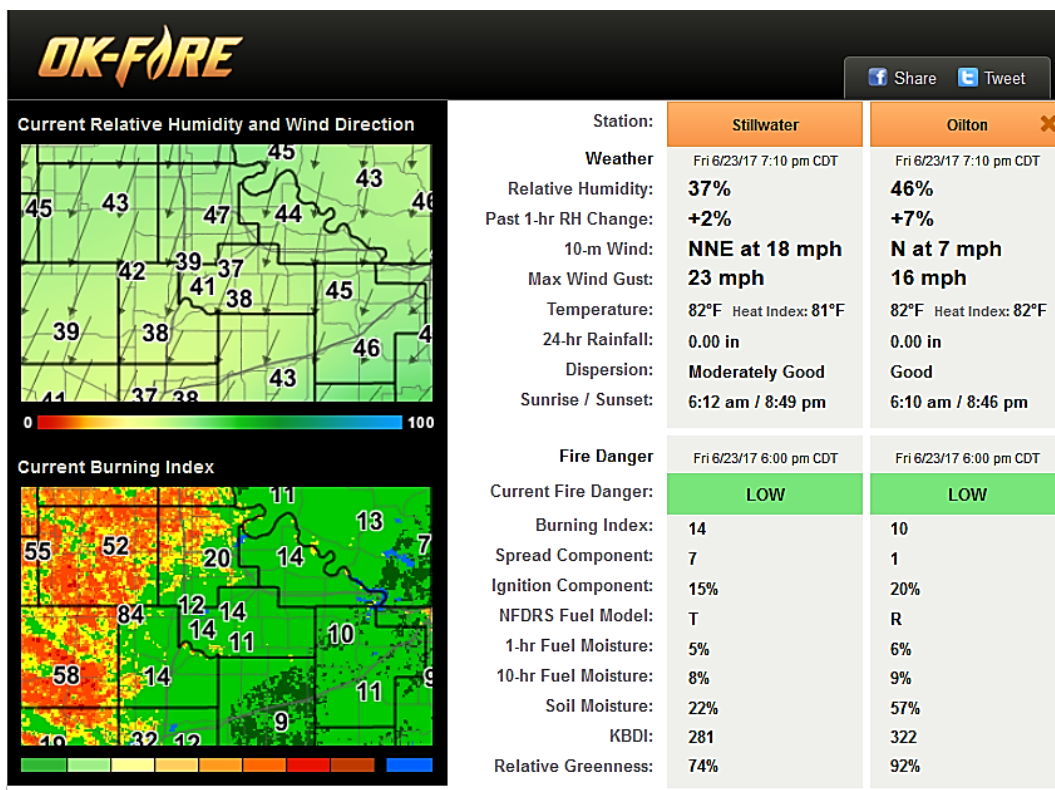
To choose a second (“secondary”) station, click on the + icon under “Add a Station” in the rightmost column:



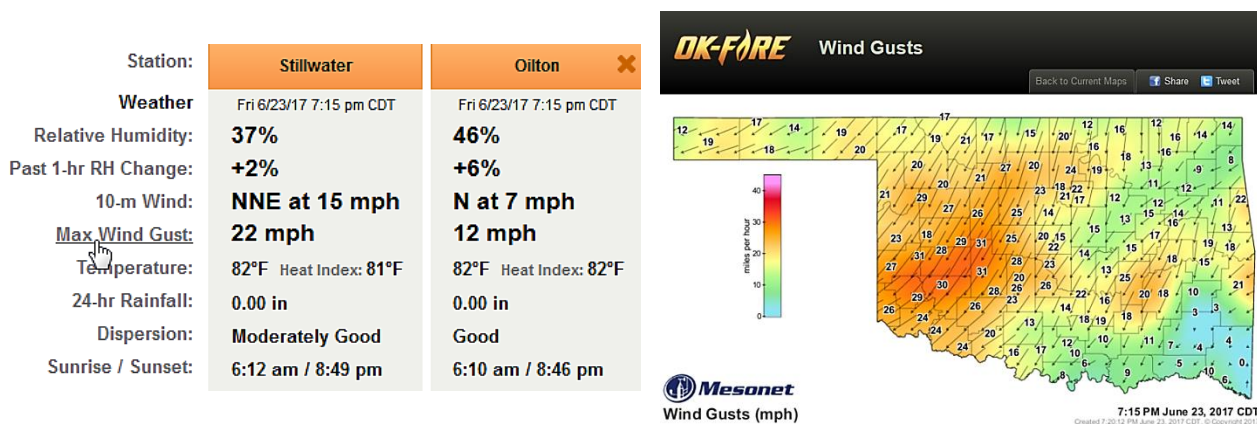
Then choose your “secondary” station (Oilton in this example) in the same manner as the primary station:



Note that your two selected stations will now show up on the home page. In this case, Stillwater is the PRIMARY station and will be the default station throughout the website until changed by the user. Oilton is the SECONDARY station in this example.



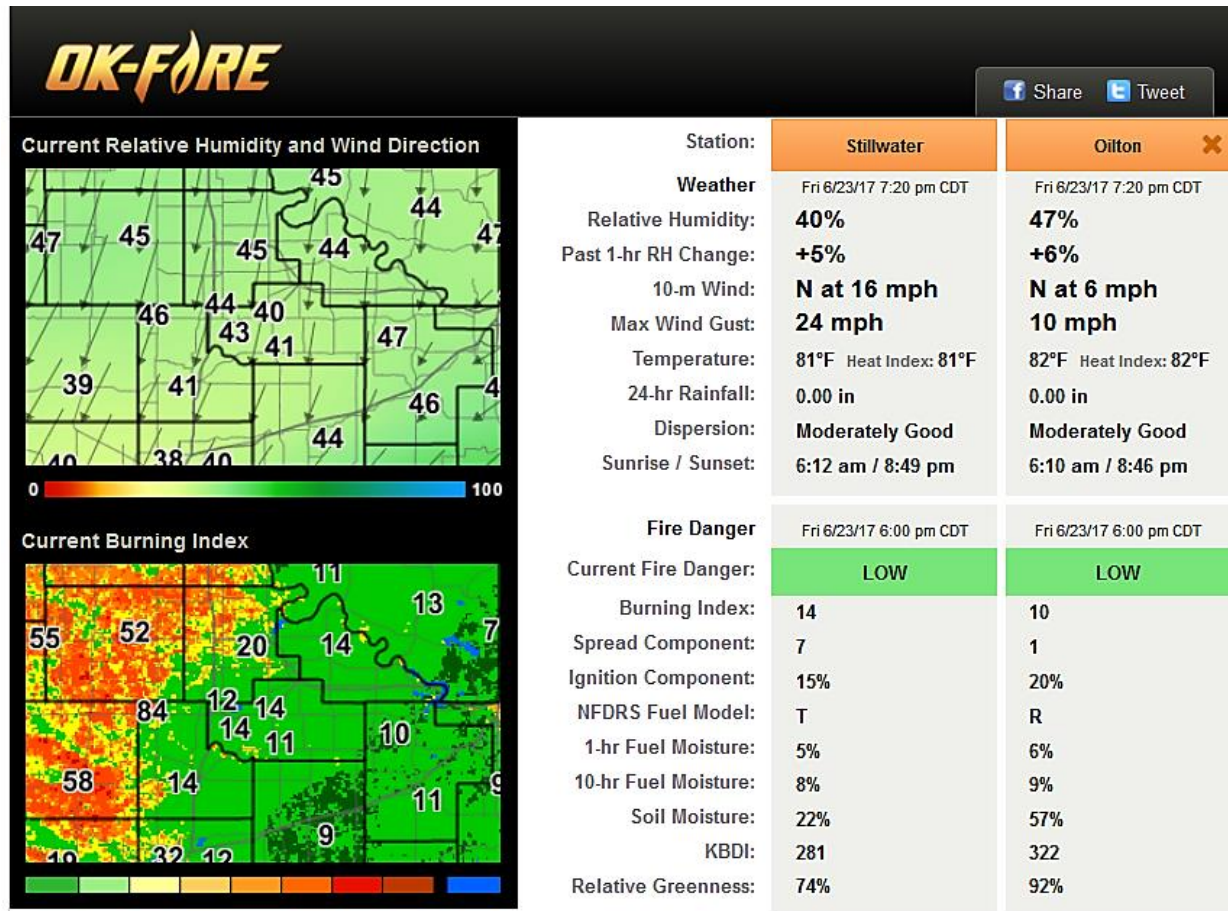
These data tables list the most important weather and fire danger variables, including some new ones like “Past 1-hr RH Change” and “Soil Moisture” (more on those in another PDF document). Another great NEW feature is that these variable names are LINKS to the current statewide maps for those variables. Just click on the variable name (in this example, “Max Wind Gust”) and a statewide map will come up for that variable.



Click on the OK-FIRE logo above the map to get back to the home page.

Current Regional Maps Centered about the Primary Mesonet Station

Another recommendation from the Users Forums was to show current regional maps of some important weather variables on the home page. As you can see below, the top regional map is for Relative Humidity and Wind Direction, while the second one below it is for Burning Index. Since Stillwater is the primary station, you can see that these regional maps are centered about Stillwater, giving a nice multi-county zoomed-in view that the statewide maps do not afford.



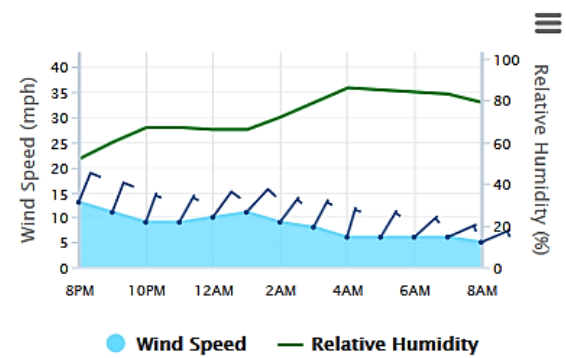
12-Hour Forecast Charts for Primary and Secondary Stations

Below this section (maps and data tables) on the home page are forecast charts over the next 12 hours for the primary station and (if there is one) for the secondary station. The first chart is for Relative Humidity and Winds (the two most important fire weather variables) and the second chart below it is for Burning Index and 1-hr Precipitation. These forecasts are based on the latest 6-hour update of the North American Mesoscale (NAM) model. The text above the graphs (within the orange rectangle that was added in this document) show what forecast is currently being used and when the next update is expected.

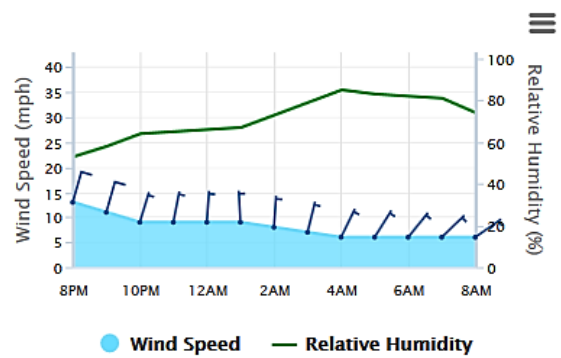
NAM 12-hr Forecast Charts for Stillwater

NAM 12-hr Forecast Charts for Oilton

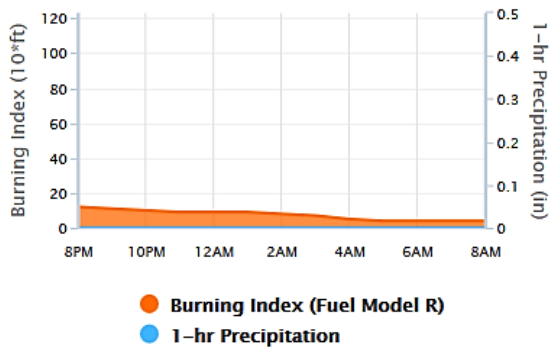
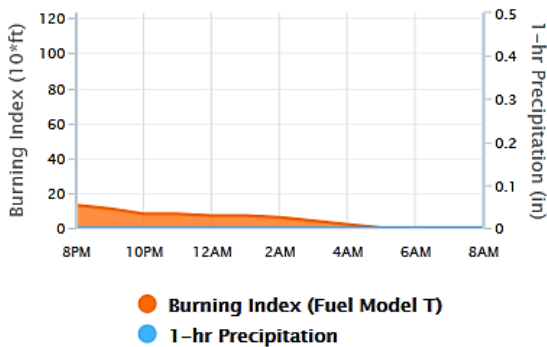
Forecast based on 6 pm UTC 06/23/17 NAM; NEXT forecast update expected 4 am UTC 06/24/17



www.mesonet.org



www.mesonet.org

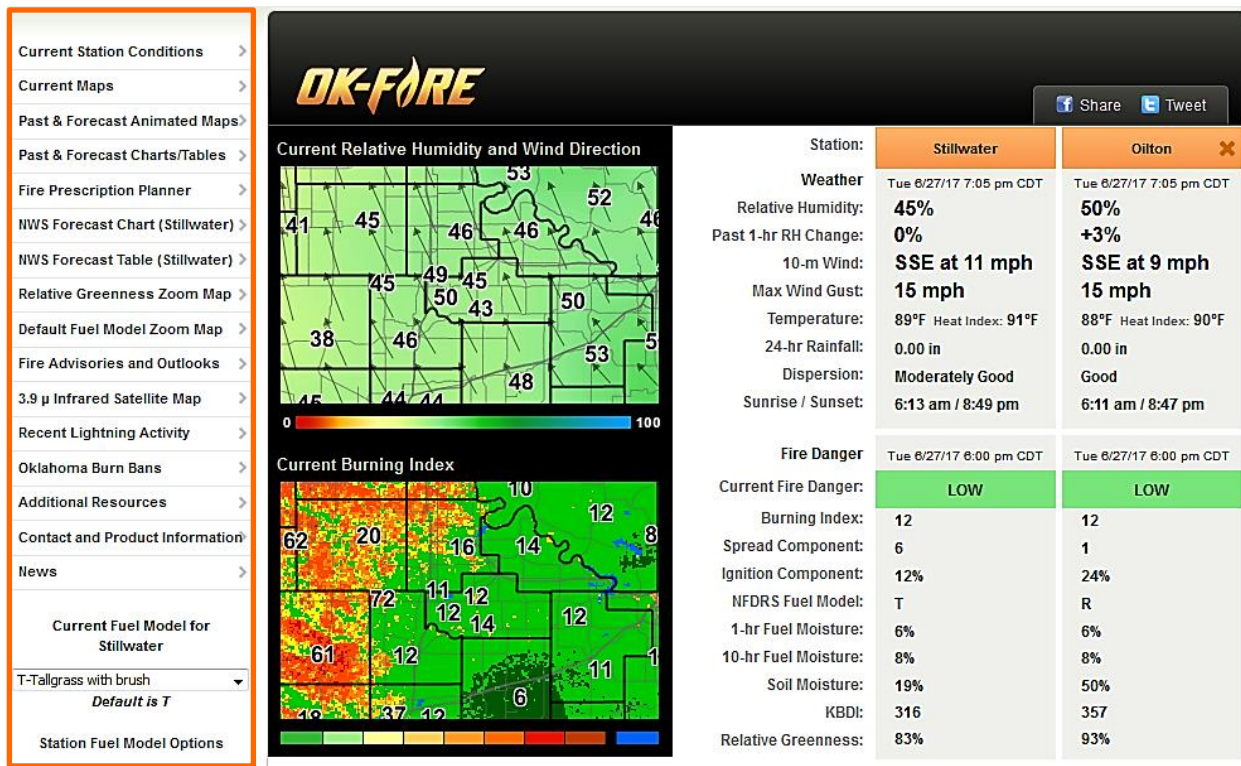


Convenient Left Menu Items (A New “Architecture”)

In the redesign of OK-FIRE, we put “user-friendly” as our top goal. The old OK-FIRE had a multitude of menus (main top menu items organized by TOPIC, minor top right menu items, and left menu items with up to 2 levels of submenus).



In the NEW OK-FIRE there are only LEFT menu items (located within the orange rectangle added in this document). We put the items that are the most important and most commonly used, to allow for easy access by the user. And there are no submenus when you enter these sections!



More details on these left menu items are given in the PDF document “Overview of Left Menu Items on the New OK-FIRE” found in the “Contacts and Learning Tools” section of OK-FIRE.