

**Wildfire Danger Assessment for Tuesday 14th April - Friday 17th April 2020 for Scotland.**

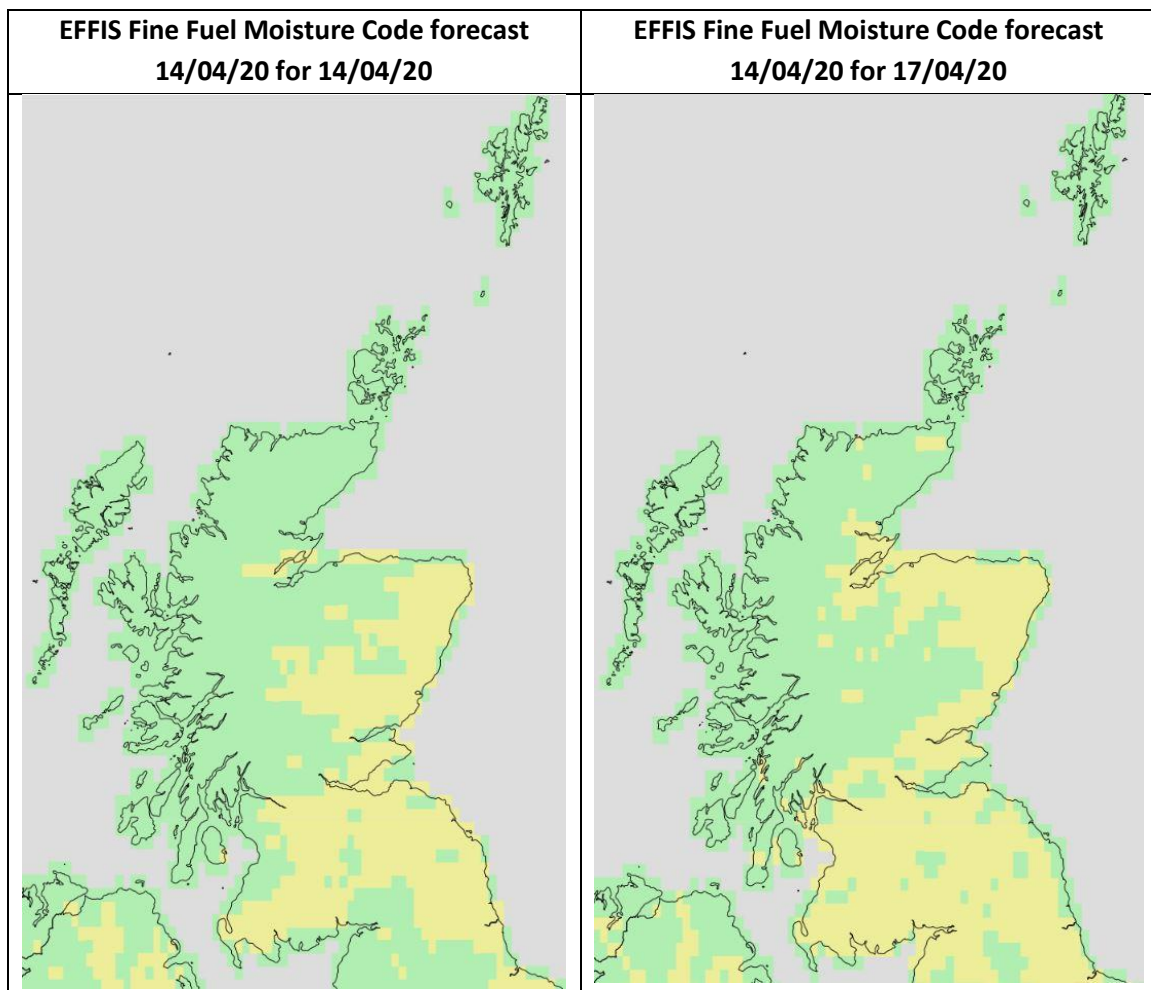
**Locations & assessment:**

- Eastern, Central and Southern EXTREME 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> April
- NW Scotland MODERATE 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> April

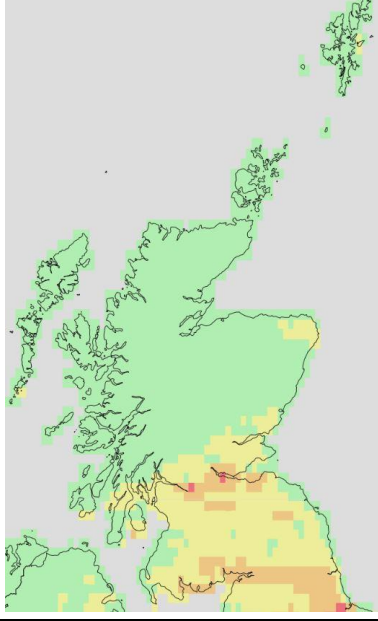
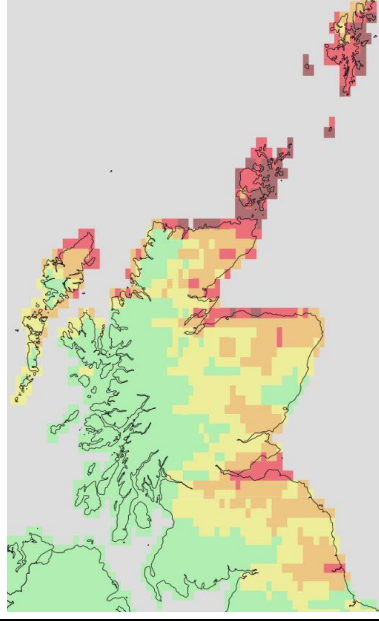
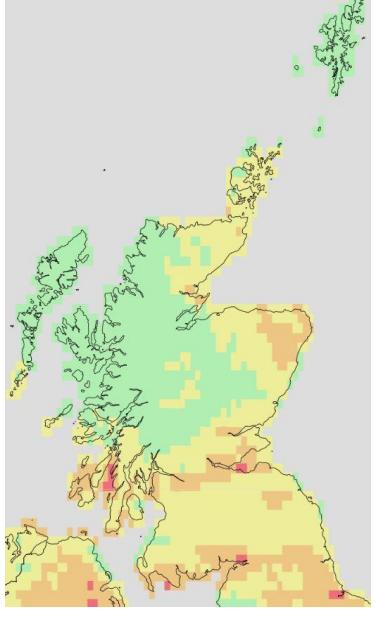
**The overall fire danger assessment is:**

- Eastern, Central & Southern Scotland, - EXTREME – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Ignition Potential - Fine Fuel Moisture Code:**



**FFMC key for Scotland:**  
**Green – Low / Moderate / High**  
**Yellow – Very High**  
**Brown/Red/Black - Extreme**

<p align="center"><b>EFFIS Initial Spread Index forecast 14/04/20 for 14/04/20</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>EFFIS Initial Spread Index forecast 14/04/20 for 15/04/20</b></p>
	
<p align="center"><b>EFFIS Initial Spread Index forecast 14/04/20 for 17/04/20</b></p>	
	<p align="center"><b>ISI key for Scotland:</b>  <u>Green – Low / Moderate / High</u>  <u>Yellow – Very High</u>  <u>Brown/Red/Black - Extreme</u></p>

**Seasonal condition of the fuels:**

Mid- April - at this time of year, still early spring, the seasonal condition of the fuels (vegetation) will be reacting most to the combination of frost, warm dry weather and wind. There is a lot of dead grass and dead heather left over from last year, which can dry very quickly. Frost and sun can also reduce the live fuel moisture of heather. Overall these conditions can create very low surface fuel moisture contents.

The rain and snow over the last month wetted the deeper fuel layers in the west, which should not be a concern. Deeper fuel layers are starting to dry out in the east.

### **General weather forecast information:**

A high pressure system is developing over the UK. A weak frontal systems may extend cross north western Scotland from the north, some rain later on in the week. Eastern and southern areas will remain dry. There will still be some frosts and sunny days, other days with high cloud. Winds will be westerly Tues/Wed, moderate strength. Maximum mid-afternoon air temperature Wed-Sat 8- 10C, rising to 10-15C Sunday. Humidity levels drop to around 45 - 65% in easterly areas Tues/Wed. As With all weather systems there will be local variation.

### **Discussion:**

The key issues over the rest of the week are the low relative humidity and lack of rain in eastern Scotland. Dead fine fuels will dry over a short period in these conditions

**The most hazardous conditions will occur on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>. In the west all indices are lower.** Where the Fine Fuel Moisture Code is high dead fuels will ignite and burn hot enough to burn live fuels such as heather. Lower soil layers in the east are starting to dry out, the potential for smouldering is increasing there.

Overall fires could burn and spread, with high fire intensity, and some smouldering in the east and southern Scotland. Once rain arrives then fire danger reduces.

### **Important Notice**

**Wildfire danger assessments are made on behalf of the Scottish Wildfire Forum. They are done on a broad area basis. For more local risk assessments the local condition of fuels, recent weather, and weather forecasts, should be taken into account.**