



FORESTFIREPROTECTION IN POLAND & EUROPE

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POLAND

About 83% of all forest resources of Poland are potentially threatened by fire.

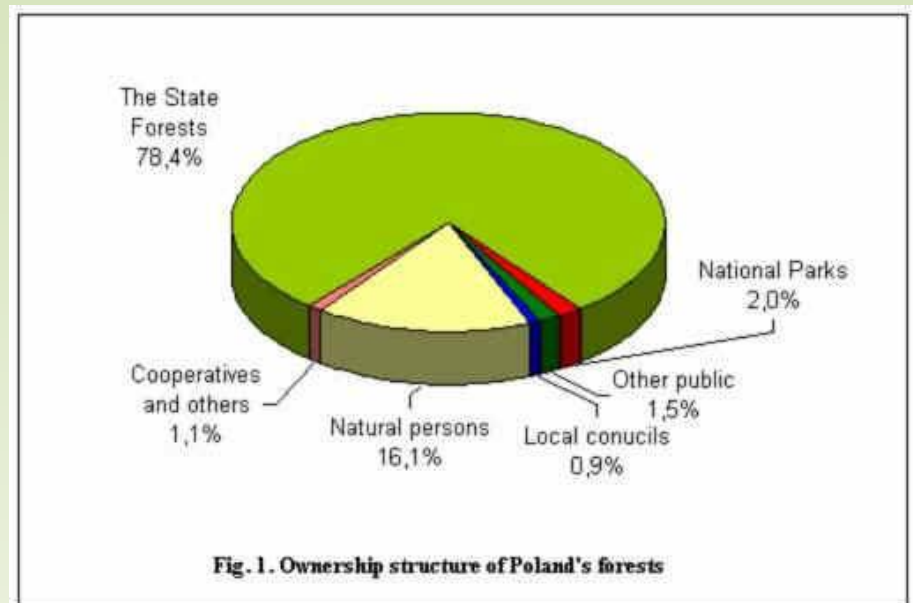
Abiotic hazards:

climate influences, weather anomalies, air temperatures, heavy precipitation events, stormy winds, low and insufficient humidity, poor sandy soils with little water-holding capacity

Biotic hazards:

massive outbreaks (gradations) of insect pests, structure of site and stand conditions, industrial pollution, impact of tourism

Forest fires are one of the most important factors damaging the forest environment. Forest fire affects both the whole ecosystem and its particular elements.

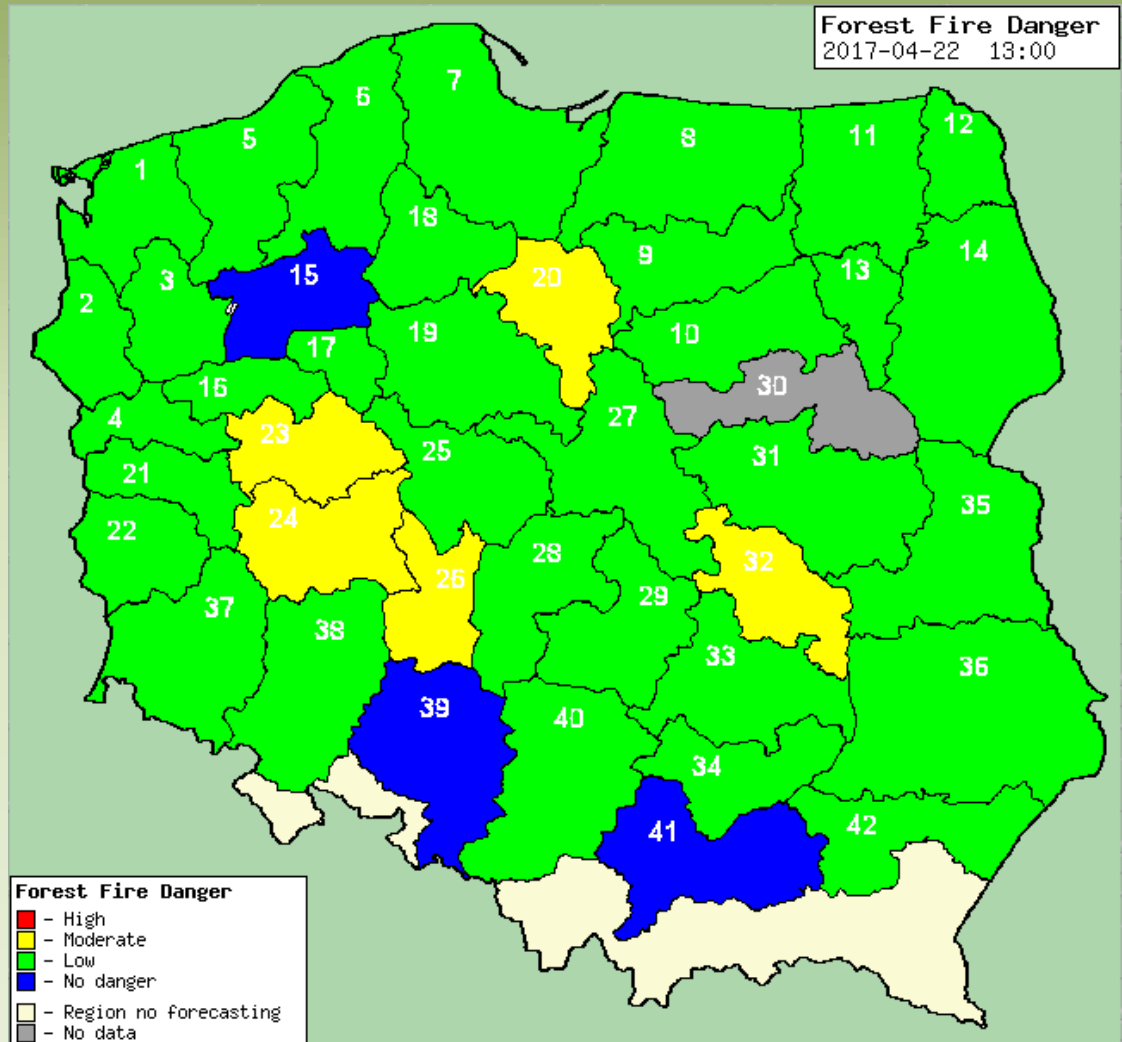


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Forest fire danger risk in Poland is decided mainly by weather conditions. However, human activity was the main cause of forest fires.

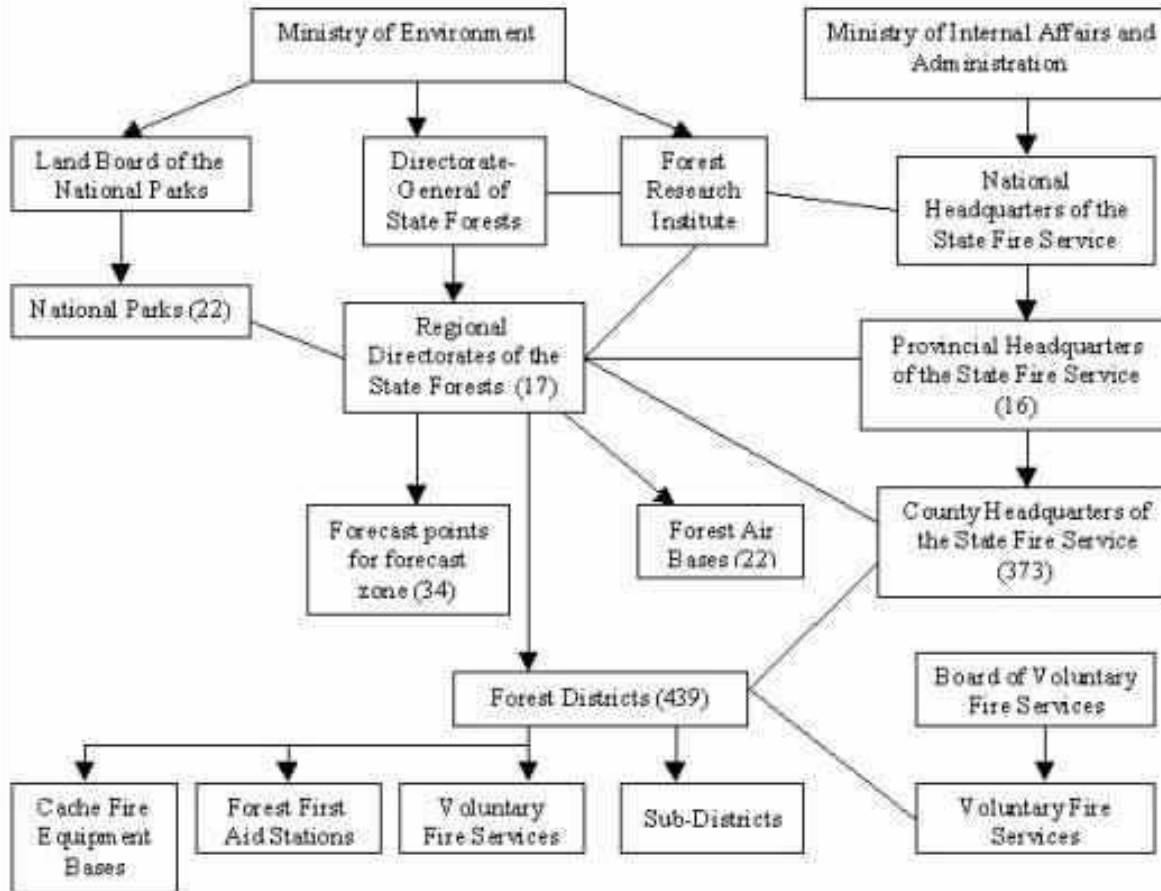
Of these, deliberate arson represented almost half of the fires, at 42,58%.

The State Forests still struggle with detecting, preventing and fighting fires in Poland. In 2015 they were able to extinguish only about 4% of fires in their managed areas (having about 400 vehicles at their disposal). The rest was handled by the State Fire Service and voluntary fire brigades.



POLAND

Forest Fire Protection Structure of Poland



**FOREST FIRE
PROTECTION
STRUCTURE OF
POLAND**

POLAND

Scheme of the Functioning of Forest Fire Protection in the Units of State Forests and National Parks:

Land Board of National Parks:

- ✓ General policy and central funding
- ✓ Categorising of Regional Directorates of State Forests
- ✓ Co-ordination with mass media
- ✓ Analysing of forest fire hazard and managing the Central Database on Forest Fire Protection

Regional Directorates of State Forests:

- ✓ Organising Dispatch Centre for the Regional Directorate of State Forests.
- ✓ Operation of the forest air bases
- ✓ Action plans of the supervised organisational units
- ✓ Firefighting
- ✓ Forecasting of the forest fire risk and forwarding the data to the Forest Research Institute
- ✓ Deciding on ban for public access to the forest
- ✓ Categorising of Forest Districts
- ✓ Organisation and co-ordination of propaganda activities
- ✓ Training and reporting
- ✓ Planning of common undertakings on fire protection

POLAND

Forest District, National Park:

- ✓ Organisation of the alarm centre
- ✓ Organisation of the firefighting equipment bases and maintenance of the district firefighting forces
- ✓ Observation of forest areas
- ✓ Forecasting of forest fire hazard
- ✓ Firefighting and securing of the burned areas
- ✓ Forecasting of the spread of the wildland fires
- ✓ Setting up procedures to follow in case of fire
- ✓ Decision on forest access ban for the general public
- ✓ Damage assessment and reporting
- ✓ Training and educational activity

Sub-District, Prevention Unit of the National Park:

- ✓ Participating in suppression and securing of the burned areas
- ✓ Performing of silvicultural actions for forest fire prevention
- ✓ Publicity actions (immediate contact with the local community throughout village authorities)



EUROPE

Europe's forests are protected by a number of regulations, organisations and systems. These include:

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission,

The Expert Group on Forest Fires,
and their joint effort:

The European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS)
Moreover, the European Union requires its member states to engage in some fire-protecting activities.

Members are obliged to classify their regions according to the degree of risk of forest fire and also to collect and share data on forest fires. The EU may also provide monetary help for the development of the information system. Besides that, the Union assists its members in strengthening the local fire protection systems.

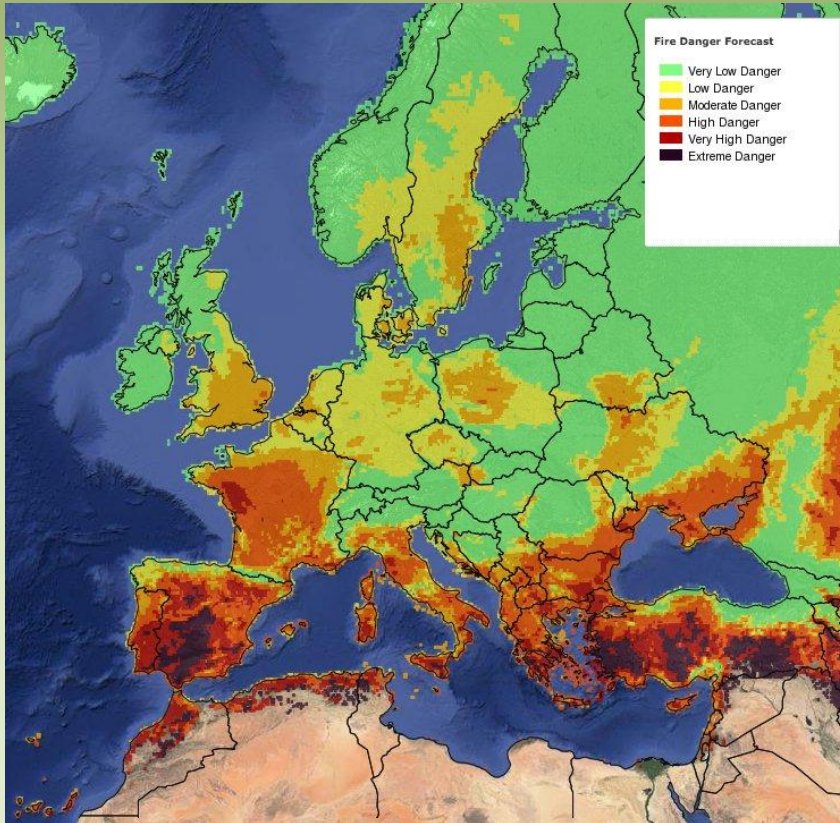


JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

EFFIS- European Forest Fire Information System



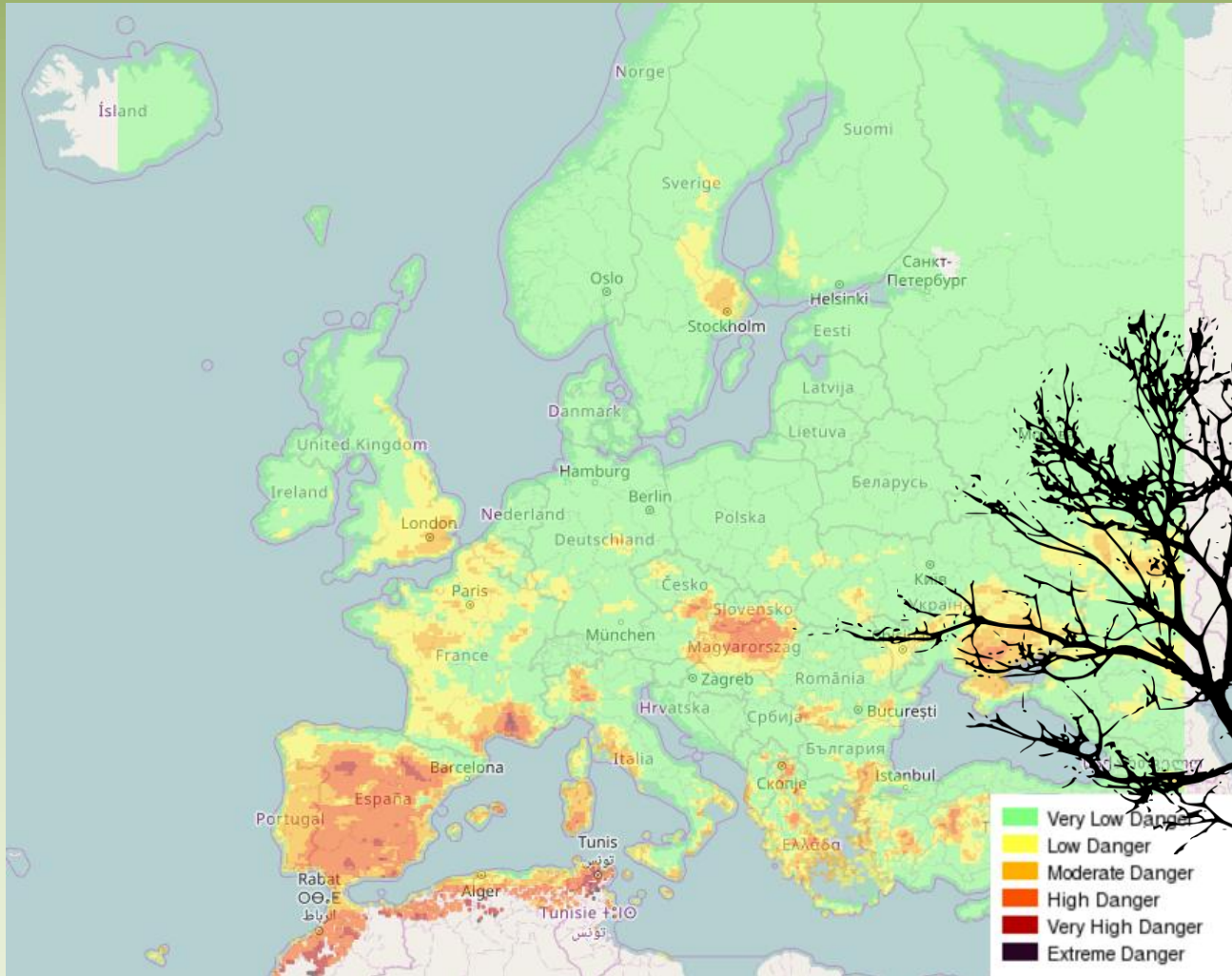
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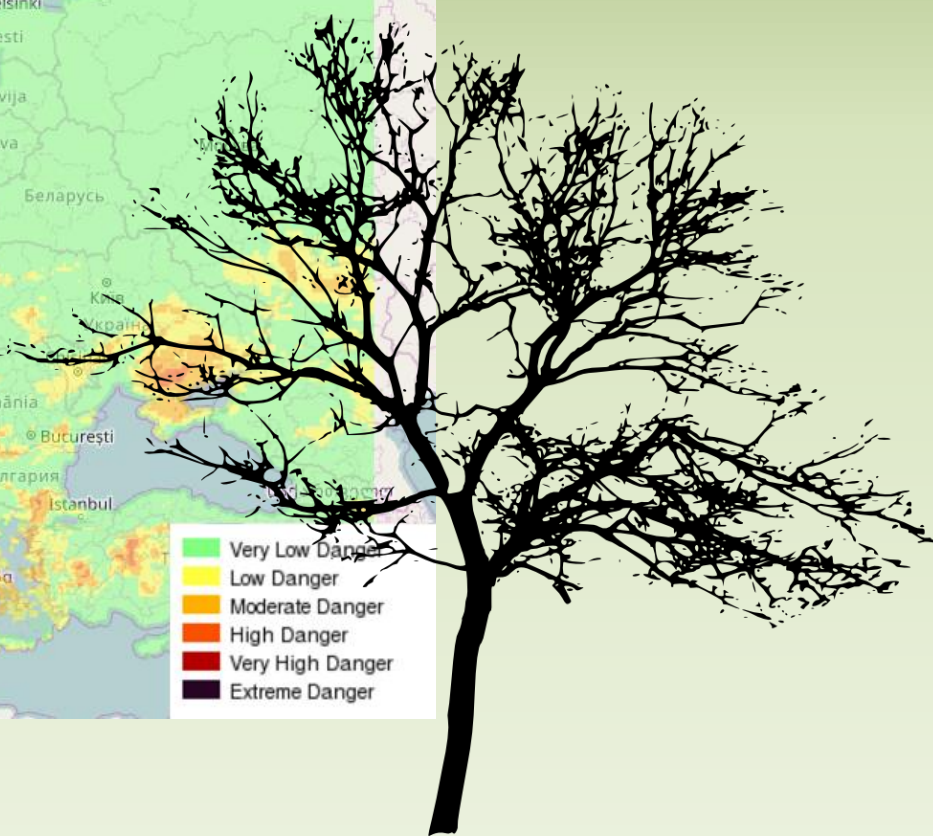
FIRE DANGER FORECAST BY EFFIS

EFFIS (European Forest Fire Information System) provides current, as well as historical, information on forest fires in the European, Middle Eastern and North African regions. It was established by the JRC in 1998 as a means of monitoring pre- and post-fire conditions. EFFIS operates on basis of a modular web application and is being continuously supported and operated by many of European Commission's services. Since the 2000s it has been expanded to include a forest fire database and real time maps of burned areas.

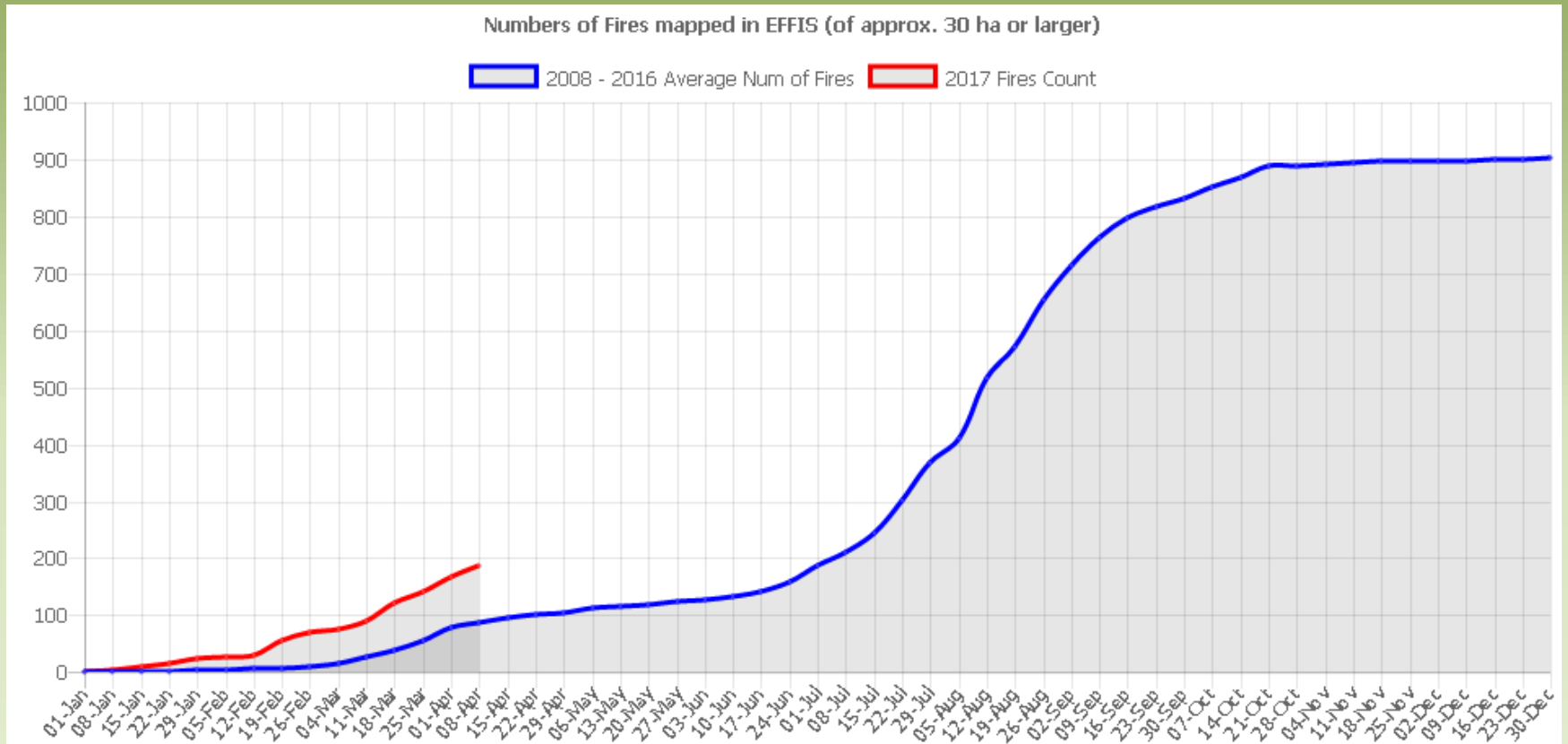
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Fire Danger
Forecast for
April 16, 2017



EUROPE



A diagram depicting the seasonal trend of number of fires in the EU, another service provided by EFFIS.

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