

Prescribed Burn Prescription

What is your objective(s)?

- **CONTROL OF FIRE!**
- Reduce fuels? And/or Restore forests/shrub/grasslands

What kind of fire can you control?

- **Beginner** - low and slow, less than 1-foot flames
- **Experienced** - lots of help and water – less than 2-foot flames (occasional flares less than 3 feet).
- **Very experienced/trained** - solid burn plan, lots of help and organization, and adequate water to all sides of unit- less than 4-foot flames (occasional flares less than 6 feet)

Setting a range of weather and fuel moisture = prescription

- What will meet objectives and make sure you can control
- What fire intensity/flamelength and speed/rate of spread will it cause?
- What are the conditions?
 - What fuel type, amount and height?
 - Low fuel amount and/or height – *higher maximum weather*
 - Moderate fuel amount/or height – *lower maximum weather*
 - Is it a hotter site
 - more sun? steeper? Exposed to wind- *lower maximum weather*
 - cooler
 - less sun, gentle slope or flat, sheltered from wind- *higher maximum weather*
- **Windy – don't burn!**

EXAMPLE – NOT RECOMMENDED

Element	Minimum (cool)	Desired	Maximum (hot)
Temperature (F)	50	60	70
Relative Humidity (%)	50	35	25
Mid-Flame Wind Speed (mph)	<5	<3	<2
Fine Dead Fuel Moisture (%)	35	25, needles dry	15, crunchy
Probability of Ignition (%)	<1	<5	30
Live fuel moisture	high	moderate	low

**Include other prescription elements as appropriate*

Wind direction (acceptable range and optimal): *se-sw (sw)*

- Actual conditions may be any combination
 - Example in winter – cool temperatures, moist fuels but dry humidity and north or east winds

How do you know if the conditions are right?

- Walk on surface fuels—crunchy= dry

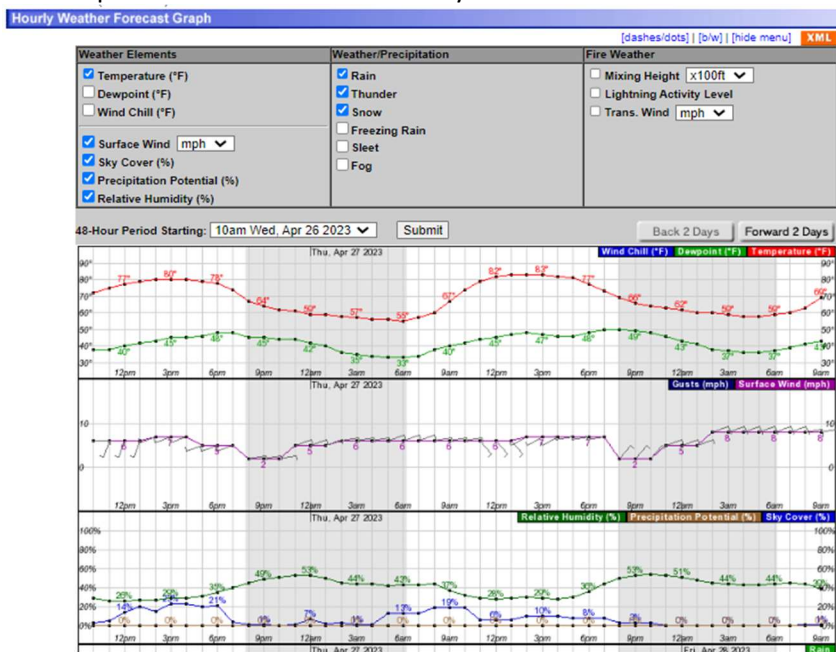
<https://forecast.weather.gov/>

Wunderground is a useful second site but the first is NOAA, US National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration

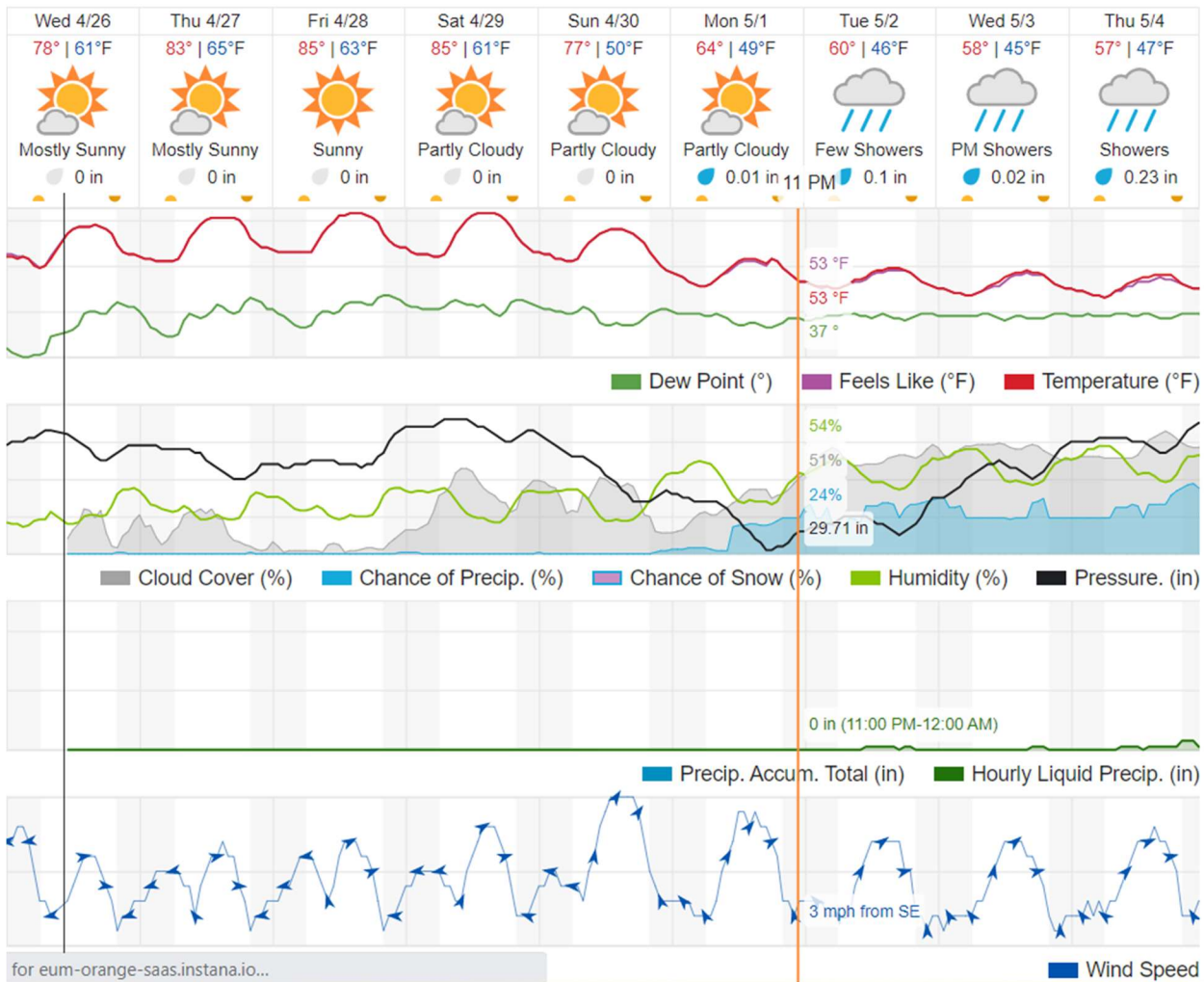
- Look at weather predictions 2 weeks in advance

Detailed Forecast	
Today	Sunny, with a high near 81. East wind around 7 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Tonight	Clear, with a low around 55. Calm wind becoming east around 6 mph after midnight.
Thursday	Sunny, with a high near 83. East northeast wind around 7 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Thursday Night	Clear, with a low around 58. Calm wind becoming east northeast 5 to 8 mph after midnight.
Friday	Sunny, with a high near 85. East northeast wind 6 to 9 mph becoming west southwest in the afternoon.
Friday Night	Clear, with a low around 58.
Saturday	Sunny, with a high near 85.
Saturday Night	Mostly clear, with a low around 57.
Sunday	Sunny, with a high near 80.
Sunday Night	Mostly clear, with a low around 47.
Monday	Sunny, with a high near 88.
Monday Night	A slight chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.
Tuesday	A slight chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 81.

- Look at predicted hourly weather for rest of the day (will it get windier?)
- Look at predicted weather for next day



<https://www.wunderground.com/forecast/us/ca/nevada-city>



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