

NERO Fire Brief

Summary

Between June 19 and 21, several fires broke out in the area affected by drought that had lasted for more than 20 days. Most fires were extinguished quickly, except for one that ignited over the settlement of Pisak on June 21, at around 6 a.m.

The fire exhibited extreme behavior driven by meteorological conditions, particularly strong winds. It affected grasslands, low vegetation, macchia, pine forest, vehicles and residential buildings across the settlements of Pisak, Marušići and Mimice on the slope of Dinaric Mountain, covering an estimated area of 300 ha.

Strong synoptically forced downslope bora (NE wind) developed in the early morning hours, resulting from enhanced pressure and temperature gradients between a continental anticyclone and a low-pressure field over the southern Adriatic. Wind speeds reached 8 -13 m/s, with gusts up to 22 m/s. Under such synoptic conditions, a low-level jet frequently forms, in this case at 300 to 500 m asl, generating intense turbulence that contributed to erratic fire behavior and rendered aerial suppression efforts ineffective. Wind driven fire front advanced quickly, according to firefighters testimonies, approximately 4 km within 2.5 hours, westward along the mountain slope. By midday, the wind weakened and shifted to a moderate southwesterly, pushing the fire back upslope and allowing aerial firefighting units to access the affected area.

Date and Time	21 June 2025, 4:30 UTC
Wildfire Event Name	Pisak-Mimice Wildfire
Location	Croatia, HR035 Splitsko-dalmatinska županija, Pisak, Marušići, Mimice
Current Size (ha)	300
Type	Surface fire and Crown fire
Weather Influence	Wind-driven fire
Fuels	Grass, shrubs, pine forests

Elevation (m asl)	20-600
Observed Fire Behavior	high fire rate of spread, possible spotting
Other Information	https://hvz.gov.hr/vijesti/8 https://www.morski.hr/veliki-pozar-u-pisku-desetak-pozara-na-makarskom-podrucju-polijevaju-se-kuce-turisti-bjeze-situacija-nije-dobra-sumnja-se-u-podmetanje/ https://slobodnadalmacija.hr/split-i-zupanija/obala/pozar-je-pod-kontrolom-ali-vatrogasce-ceka-besana-noc-muskarac-tesko-ozlijeden-dok-je-pomagao-sumjestaninu-gasiti-kucu-1484168



Figure 1. Terra/MODIS image of fire plume, 21 June 2025, 8:35 UTC, source: NASA

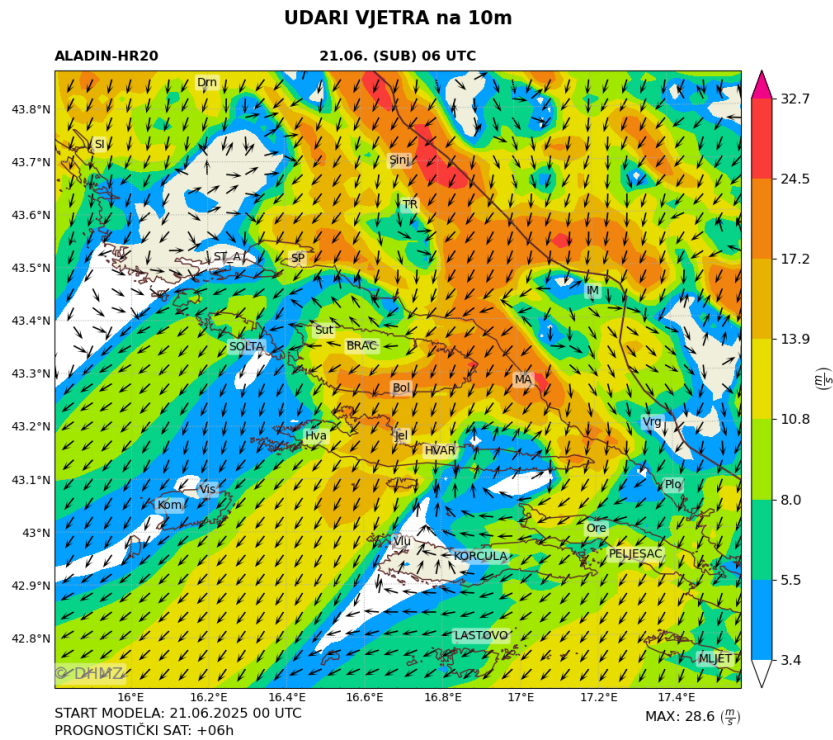


Figure 2. Wind gusts ALADIN-HR20, 21 June 2025, 6 UTC, source: DHMZ