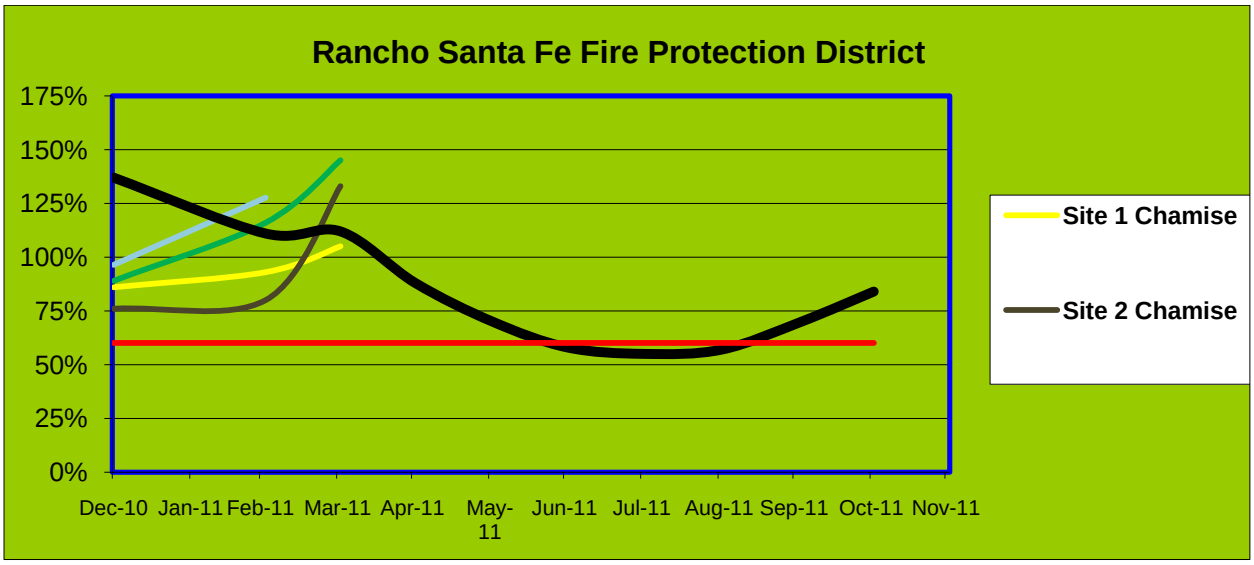
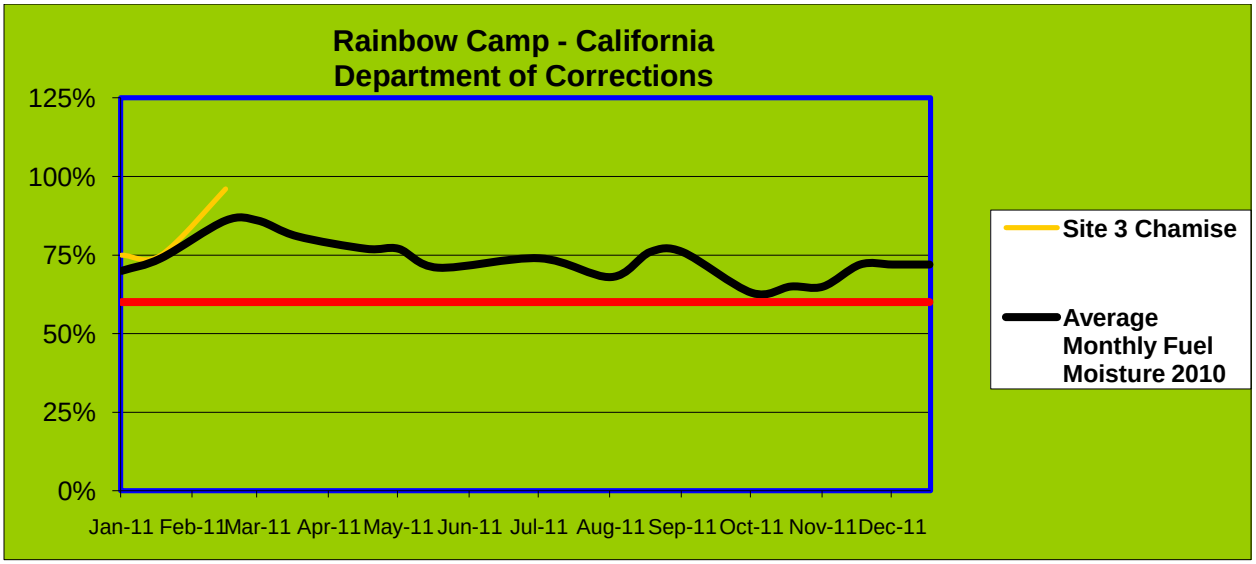
# Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

## Living Chaparral Fuel Moistures 2011

The fuel moistures are rising as you can see; with the consistent rains has come significant growth in our wild land areas. The current fuels are saturated but the lighter grasses can dry out very rapidly. The weather guys are calling for colder weather and possible rains in the near weeks. Expect the light grasses to be tall, chest high in some areas and to dry out quickly with the first real heat promoting rapid fire spread in these 1 hour fuels. The red 60% line on each chart indicates the level below which the fuel moisture is considered critical and will promote rapid fire growth.

Below you will find two charts indicating current live fuel moistures for Chamise and Ceanothus, two types of coastal chaparral found within our district. The top chart represents samples are taken from two sites within the district. Site #1 is in the 7600 block of Artesian Road and Site #2 is at the Olivenhain Water District's reclaimed water tank north east of Alva Road. For comparison, the bottom chart indicates live fuel moistures for the same fuel types at Rainbow Camp in northern San Diego County.