



Drought Information Statement for Eastern OR & South Central WA

Valid February 17, 2026

Issued By: NWS Pendleton

Contact Information: pdt.operations@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated if drought conditions change significantly.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/pdt/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Severe Drought continues in far southern Walla Walla and Columbia, northwestern Wallowa, northern Union and northeast Umatilla counties, Moderate Drought remains in most of Walla Walla, Columbia and Benton, eastern Franklin, eastern Kittitas, central and northeastern Yakima, eastern Morrow, western Umatilla, northern Grant, southern Union and southeastern Wallowa counties, Abnormally Dry conditions persist in western Franklin, northeast and southwest Benton, most of Kittitas, Yakima and Klickitat, Wasco, Jefferson, Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler, western Deschutes and central and southern Grant counties while Normal Conditions are present in Southern Crook and southeastern Deschutes counties
 - Much below normal precipitation (less than 50% of normal) in nearly all of Washington and Oregon except for a few pockets of below normal precipitation (50%-70% of normal) in portions of Walla Walla, northern Morrow and far western Umatilla counties
 - Drought expected to improve or end over the northern and eastern portions of the area and remain in No Drought in the rest of the area during February - April 2026
 - All areas forecast to have normal significant fire potential for February - May 2026



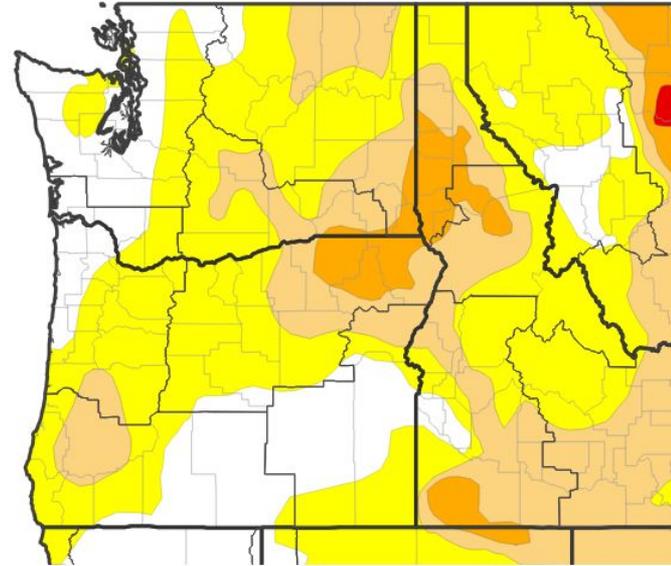


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Far southern Walla Walla and Columbia, northwestern Wallowa, northern Union and northeast Umatilla counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of Walla Walla, Columbia and Benton, eastern Franklin, eastern Kittitas, central and northeastern Yakima, eastern Morrow, western Umatilla, northern Grant, southern Union and southeastern Wallowa counties
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Western Franklin, northeast and southwest Benton, most of Kittitas, Yakima and Klickitat, Wasco, Jefferson, Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler, western Deschutes and central and southern Grant counties
 - **Normal Conditions:** Southern Crook and southeastern Deschutes counties

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/10/26





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the Pacific Northwest

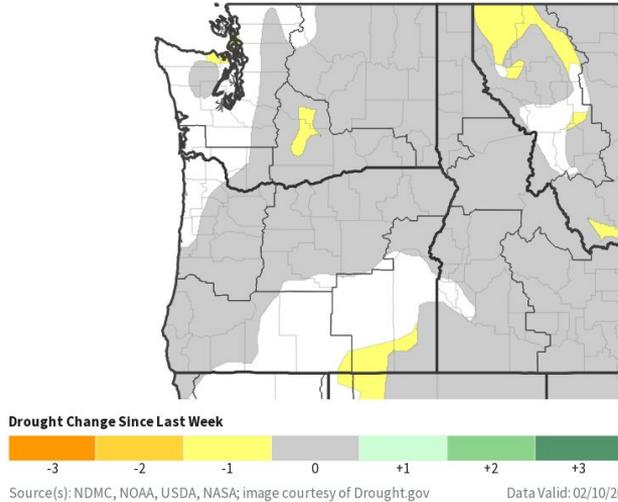
One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change

- Drought Worsened (1 Class Degradation):
Central Yakima and Kittitas counties
- Drought Improved (1 Class Improvement):
None

Four-Week Drought Monitor Class Change

- Drought Worsened (1 Class Degradation):
Central Yakima and Kittitas, western Klickitat, northwest Wasco, eastern Deschutes, most of Crook and southern Grant counties
- Drought Improved (1 Class Improvement):
None

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map

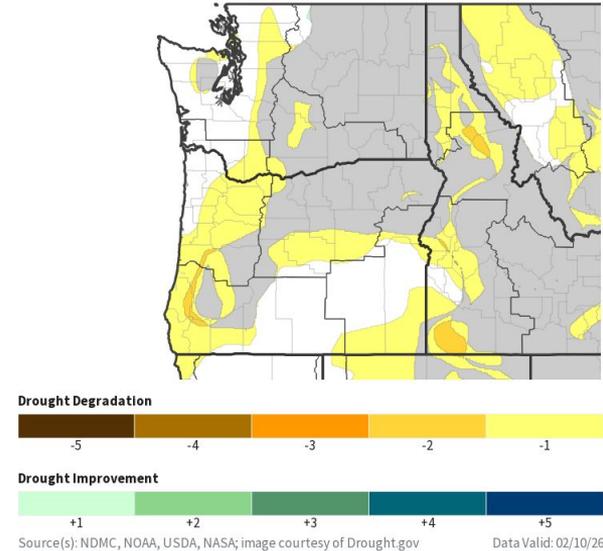


Image Captions:
 Right - 4 Week Drought Class Change
 Left - 1 Week Drought Class Change
 Data Courtesy U.S. Drought Monitor and Drought.gov

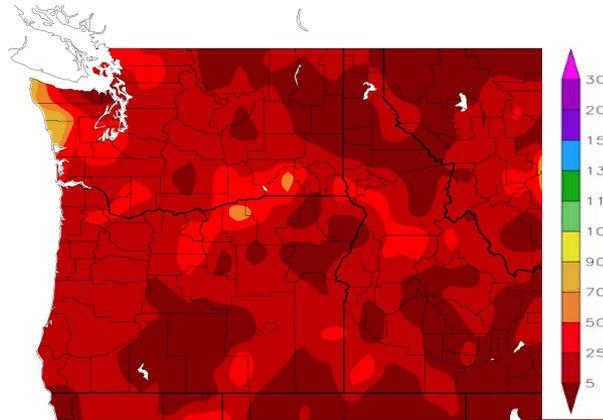




Precipitation - Last 30 Days

- Much below normal (less than 50% of normal) in nearly all of Washington and Oregon
- Small areas of below normal precipitation (50% to 70% of normal) in portions of Walla Walla, northern Morrow and far western Umatilla counties
- Highest precipitation amounts were 3 to 4 inches along the WA Cascade crest
- Generally 2 to 3 inches of precipitation elsewhere in the Cascades
- Mostly less than 1 inch elsewhere and less than 0.1 inch in southeastern Deschutes, eastern Kittitas and northeast Yakima counties

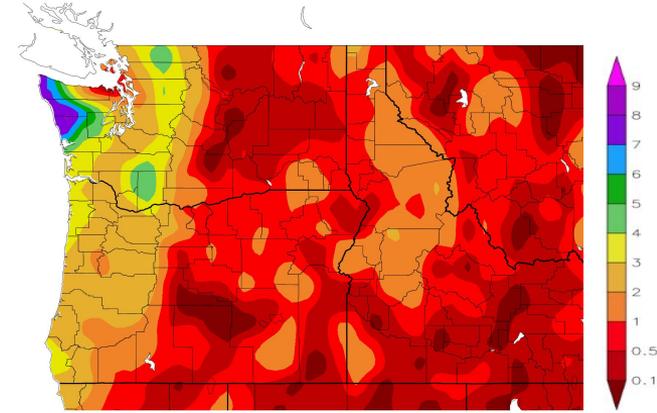
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
1/15/2026 – 2/13/2026



/14/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS V

Precipitation (in)
1/15/2026 – 2/13/2026



/14/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS V

Image Captions:
Right - Precipitation Amount for Pacific NW
Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
Data Courtesy

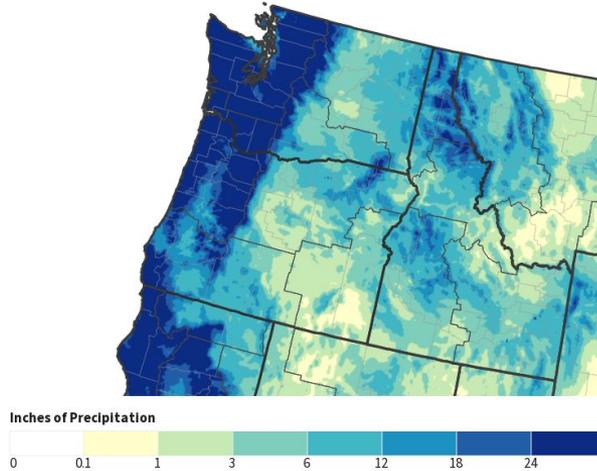




Precipitation - 4-month (120-day) Precipitation

- Normal to above normal precipitation (100% to 200% of normal) in much of the WA and OR Columbia Basin, the Blue Mountains and portions of the WA and OR Cascade crests over the last 120-days
- Normal to below normal precipitation (25% to 100% of normal) in the rest of the area over the last 120-days
- Precipitation amounts of 1-6 inches in most areas over the last 120-days
- Wettest location was 24+ inches over the WA and OR Cascade crest and northern Blue Mountains over the last 120-days
- Driest locations received 1 to 3 inches in eastern Deschutes, central Jefferson, southern Wheeler, western Grant, southern and western Crook and central Wallowa counties over the last 120-days

120-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 02/17/26
image courtesy of Drought.gov

120-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

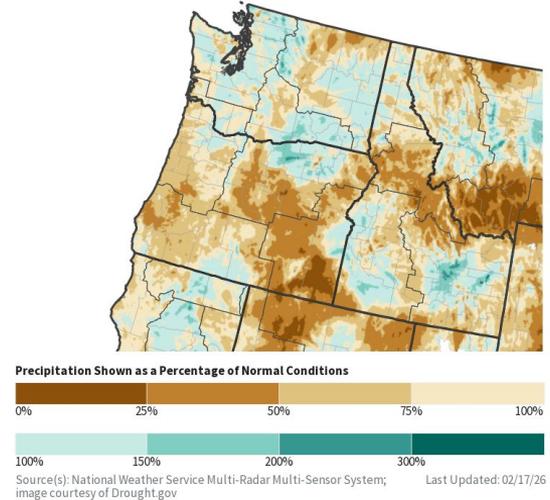


Image Captions:
Right - Precipitation Amounts for Pacific NW
Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
Courtesy of Drought.gov

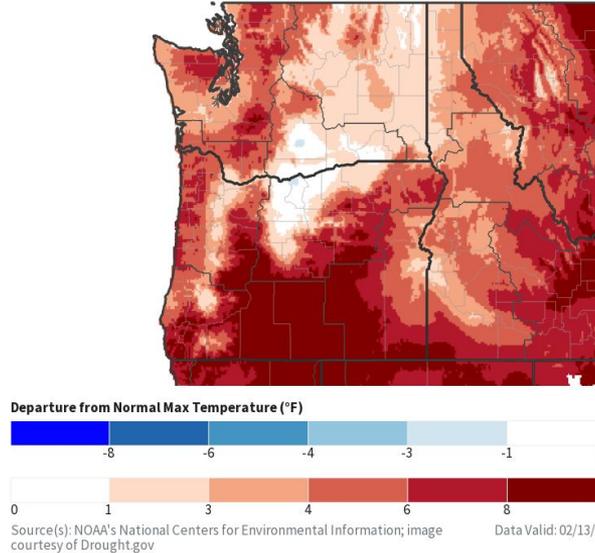




Temperature - Last 7 and 30 Days

- Well above normal temperatures (3 to 8 degrees above normal) over much of the area for the last 7 days
- Near to above normal temperatures (-1 to 4 degrees above normal) in the Columbia Basin, Blue Mountain Foothills and North Central Oregon for the last 7 days
- Near to above normal temperatures (-1 to 4 degrees above normal) in the Columbia Basin, Blue Mountain Foothills and North Central Oregon for the last 30 days
- Well above normal temperatures (4 to 8+) degrees above normal in the rest of the area for the last 30 days

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



7-Day Temperature Anomaly

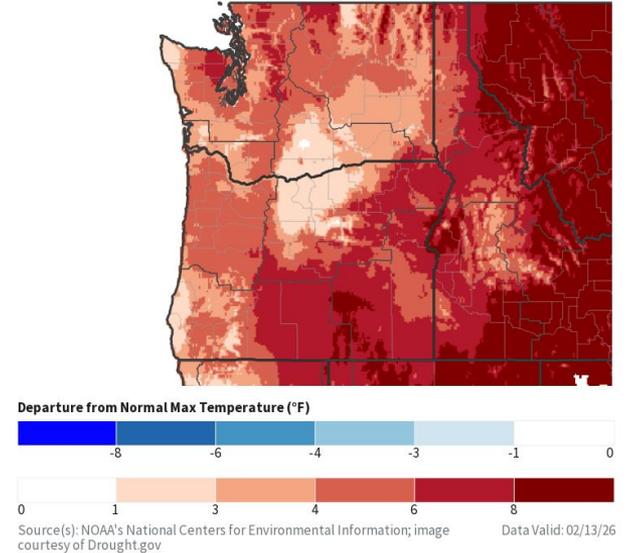


Image Captions:
 Right - Temperature for Pacific NW
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
 Courtesy of Drought.gov





Summary of Impacts

See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Much above normal streamflows (>90th percentile) for the Upper Columbia-Entiat basins
- Above normal streamflows (75th-90th percentiles) for the Upper Columbia-Priest Rapids and Naches basins
- Below normal streamflows (10th-24th percentiles) for the Upper, Lower and Little Deschutes, Trout, Upper Crooked, Beaver-South Fork, Upper John Day, Willow, Palouse and Hells Canyon basins
- Much below normal streamflows (< 10th percentile) for the Lower Crooked basin
- Normal streamflow (25th-75th percentile) for all other basins

Snowpack Impacts

- All snow telemetry (SNOTEL) monitoring sites have below to well below snow (15% to 62% of normal) present in the mountains. Future impacts are uncertain at this time.

Agricultural Impacts

- Reservoirs in the Cascades are filling (mostly 60% - 85% full) due to recent precipitation. Water deliveries to agricultural interests in the Yakima area remain uncertain. For other areas, impacts are unknown at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal significant wildland fire potential is present over the entire area from February through May 2026.

Other Impacts

- Washington: [Washington Drought Declaration remain in effect for Upper Yakima, Lower Yakima and Naches Watersheds](#)

Mitigation actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information





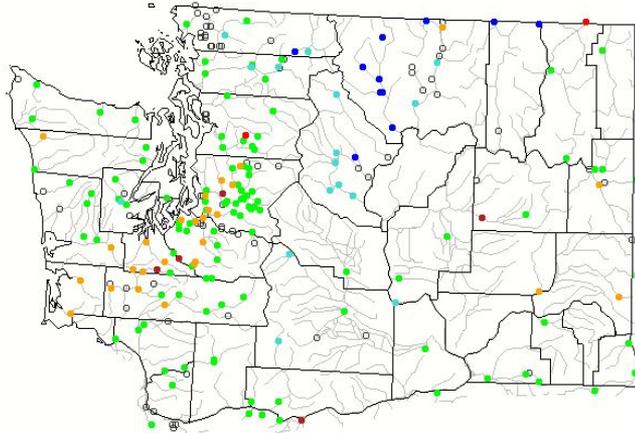
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Washington

Main Takeaways

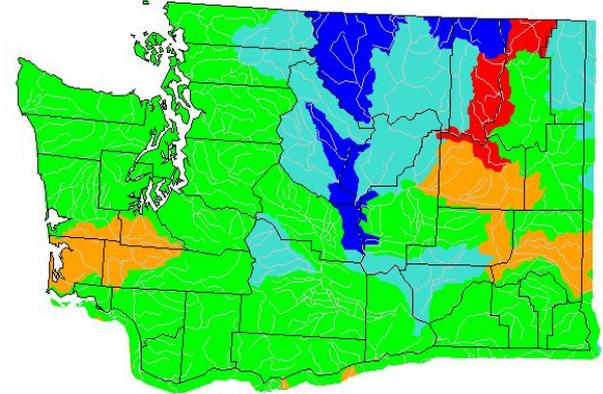
- Much above normal streamflows (>90th percentile) in the Upper Columbia-Entiat basin
- Above normal streamflows (76th-90th percentiles) in the Upper Columbia-Priest Rapids and Naches basins
- Below normal streamflows (10th-24th percentiles) in the Palouse basin
- Near normal streamflows (25th-75th percentiles) for all other basins



Monday, February 16, 2026



Monday, February 16, 2026



| Explanation - Percentile classes | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Low | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | High | No Data |
| | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal | Much above normal | | |

Impacts

No known impacts at this time

Reduced streamflow may be detrimental to aquatic species and recreational activities.

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid February 16, 2026

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid February 16, 2026

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Oregon

Main Takeaways

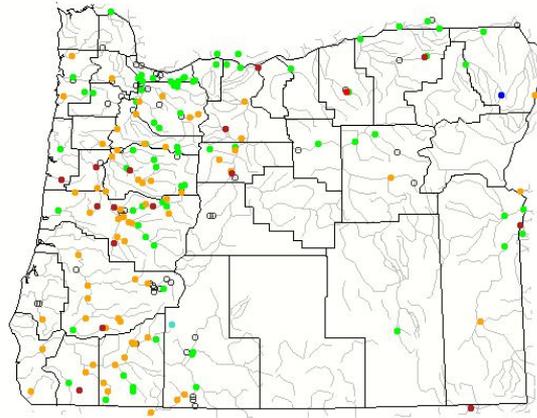
- Below normal streamflows (10th-25th percentile) for the Upper, Lower and Little Deschutes, Trout, Upper Crooked, Beaver-South Fork, Upper John Day, Willow and Hells Canyon basins
- Much below normal streamflows (less than the 10th percentile) for the Lower Crooked basin
- Near normal streamflows (25th-75th percentile) for all other basins except no data for the Silvies and Summer Lake basins

Impacts

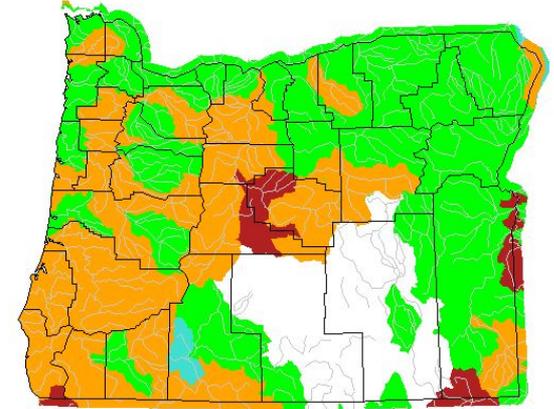
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| | | | | | | | |
| Low | <10 | 10-24 | 25-75 | 76-90 | >90 | High | No Data |
| | Much below normal | Below normal | Normal | Above normal | Much above normal | | |

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid February 16, 2026

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid February 16, 2026

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch





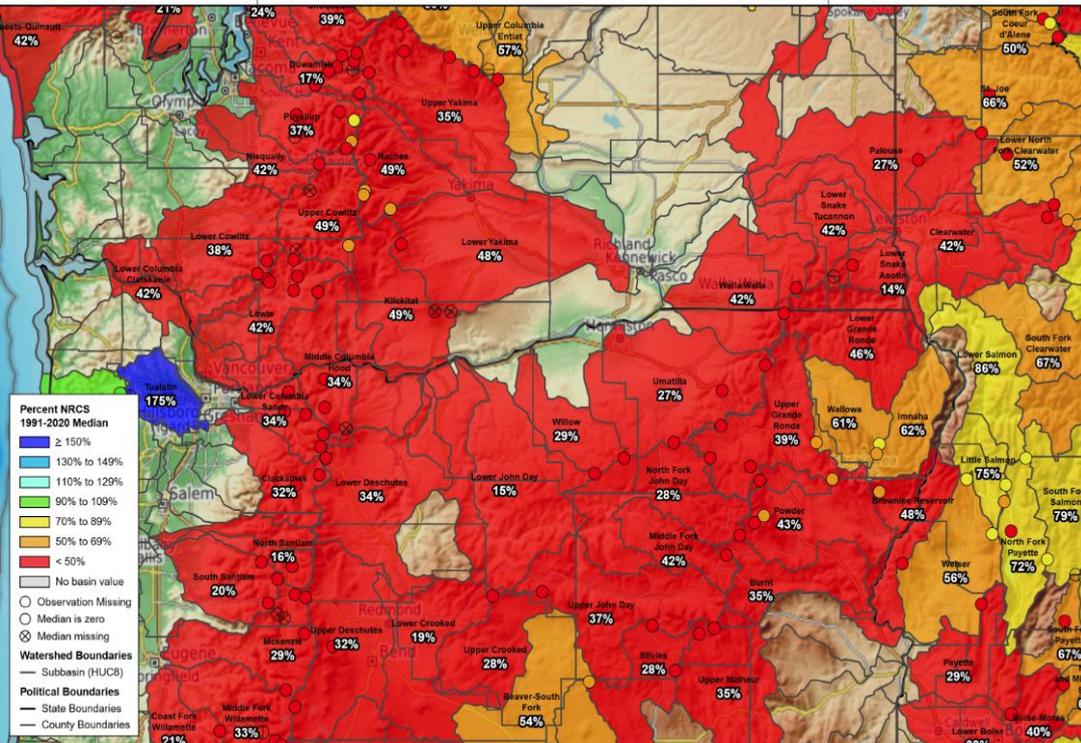
Snowpack Conditions and Impacts

Link to the [latest Snow Water Equivalent Percent of 1991-2020 Median map](#)

Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

February 16, 2026, end of day



Main Takeaways

- Snowpacks are well below normal (35% to 50%) in WA mountains and (15% to 45%) in most OR mountains
- Below normal snowpack values (54%-62%) are seen in the southern Willamette County mountains and in the Beaver-South Fork basin in eastern Crook county

Impacts

No known impacts at this time

Snow water equivalent is related to the amount of water stored in snowpack.

- *Snow can affect the amount of available water for spring and summer snow melt. This can have impacts on water storage, irrigation, fisheries, vegetation, municipal water supplies, and wildfire.*

Image Captions: Oregon and Washington SNOTEL Current

Snow Water Equivalent % of Normal

Data Courtesy USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Daily Value as of February 16, 2026



Water Supply Forecast - April - September 2026

Link to the latest [Northwest River Forecast Center Water Supply Forecast](#).

Main Takeaways

- Below to near normal water supply (60% to 101% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast over most Washington locations for the April - September 2026 period
- Below normal water supply (50% to 80% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast for most locations in Oregon
- Well below normal water supply (30-50% of the 1991-2020 normal) along the John Day River, McKay Creek and in the Crooked River Basin
- These forecasts for 2026 are based on streamflow data from the new water year which started on October 1, 2025

Impacts

No known impacts at this time

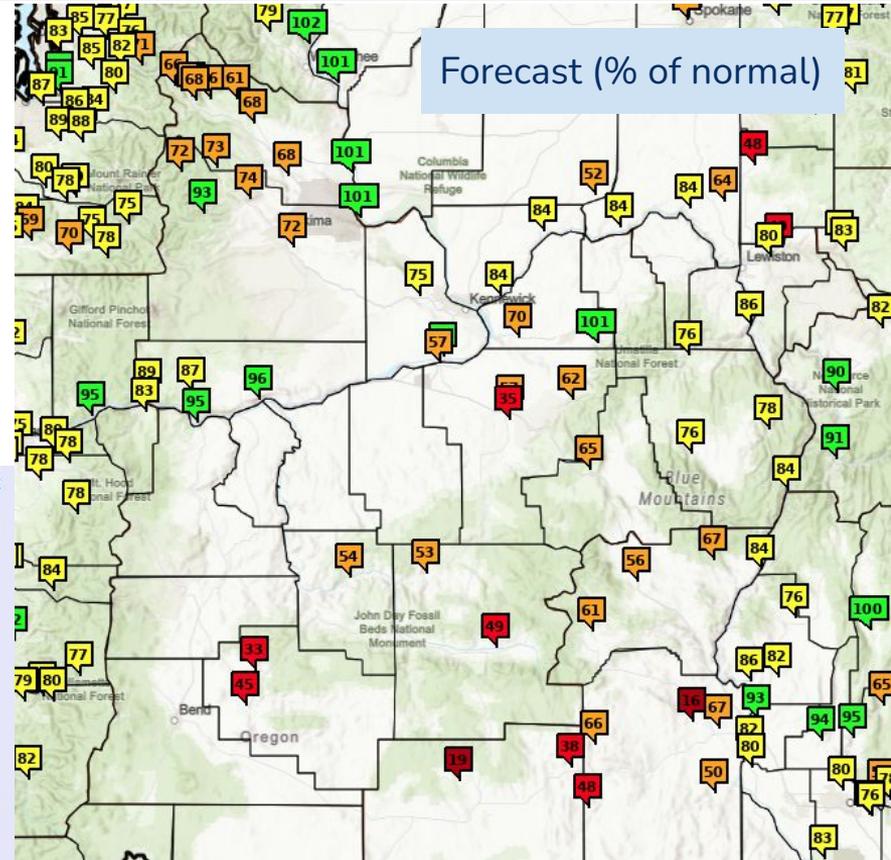
Low reservoir levels would be expected to affect agriculture production, fish, and other aquatic species.

Image Caption:

Ensemble Streamflow Prediction Natural Forecast

Data Courtesy NOAA NWS Northwest River Forecast Center

Issued February 17, 2026



ESP Natural Forecast

Period: APR-SEP
Forecast (% Normal)

- No Normal, No Data
- < 25
- 25-50
- 50-75
- 75-90
- 90-110
- 110-125
- 125-150
- 150-175
- > 175



Forecast (% of normal)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



Fire Hazard Impacts - September through December

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

Main Takeaways

- Normal significant wildland fire potential (i.e., normal risk) is forecast for all areas in for February through May 2026

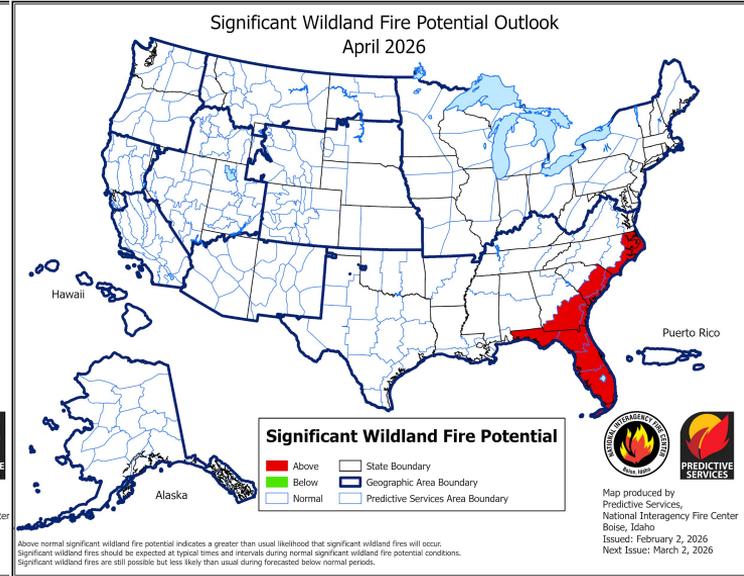
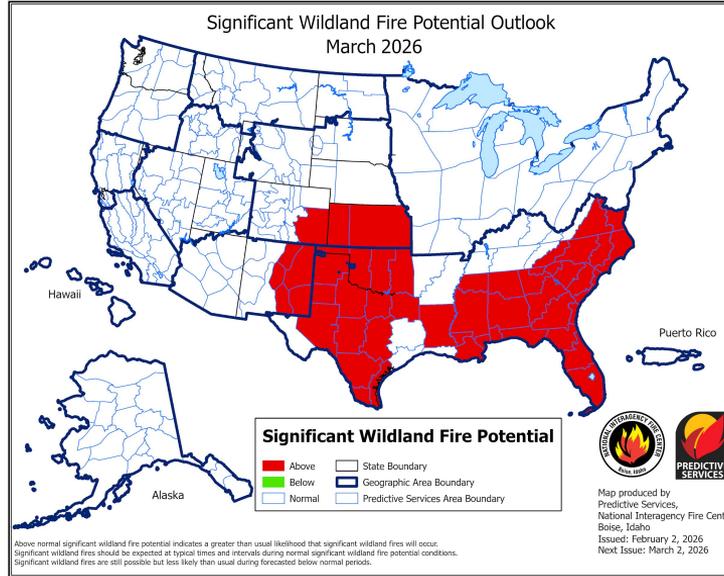


Image Caption:

Left - March 2026

Right - April 2026

Data Courtesy National Interagency Coordination Center

Issued February 2, 2026



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

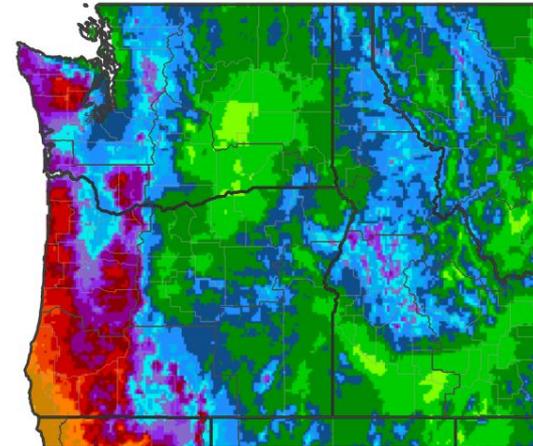
National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



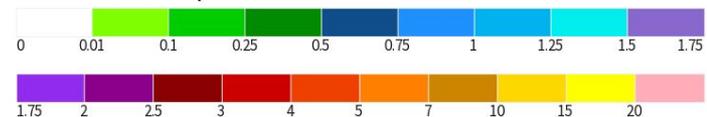
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A pair of waves will bring a chance of mountain snow and lower elevation rain/snow through Thursday night
- Mountains will receive 3 to 8 inches of snow (locally 10-15 inches in the higher parts of the Blue Mountains)
- 0.1 inch to 0.5 inch of rain in the lower elevations with snow (2-4 inches) possible above 1500 feet
- A potentially strong system may bring heavier precipitation Sunday night and Monday
- Temperatures will be near normal then warm late this week and into the weekend.
- Windy conditions expected with the Sunday night/Monday system
- Visit weather.gov/Pendleton for the latest weather forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for February 17, 2026–February 24, 2026



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/17/26

Image Caption:

Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](https://weather.gov/Pendleton)





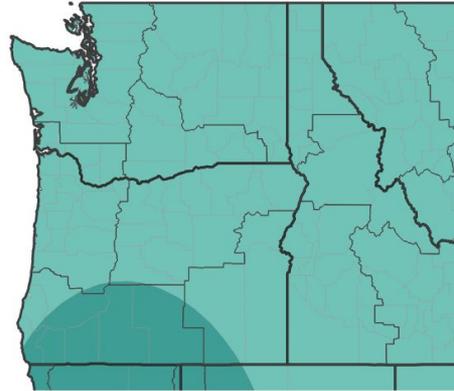
6-10 Day Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

Main Takeaways

- A 33% to 40% chance of below normal temperatures across western portions of the area and near normal temperatures in eastern portions of the area
- A 50% to 60% chance of above normal precipitation across the entire area

6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook for February 22, 2026-February 26, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

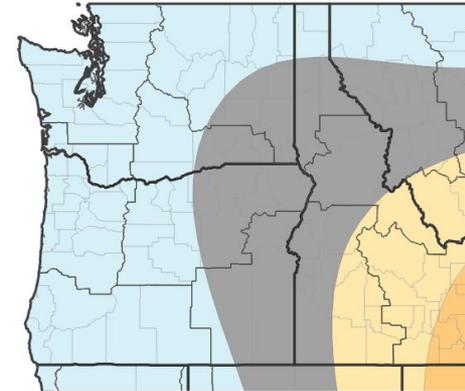


■ Near-Normal Conditions

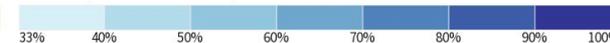
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/16/26

6-10 Day Temperature Outlook for February 22, 2026-February 26, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



■ Near-Normal Conditions

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/16/26

Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid February 22-26, 2026





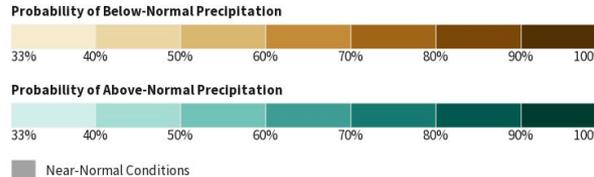
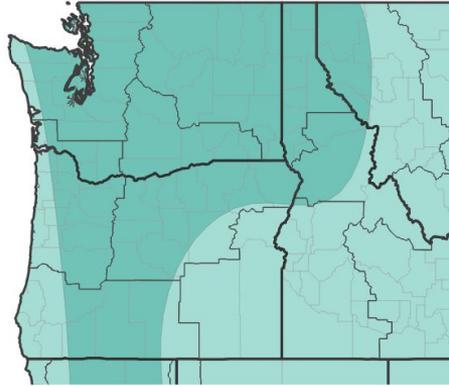
8-14 Day Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

Main Takeaways

- A 40% to 60% chance of above normal precipitation across the entire area
- A 33% to 40% chance of below normal temperatures in western portions of the area and near normal temperatures over the eastern portions of the area

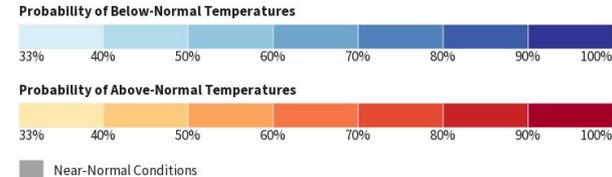
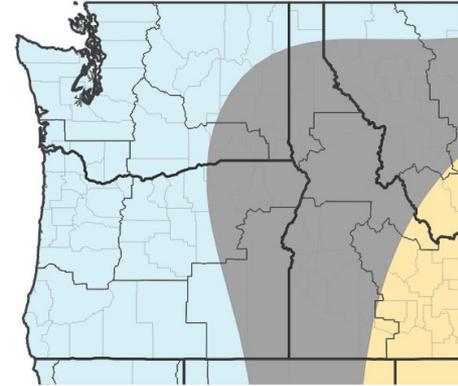
8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook for February 24, 2026-March 2, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/16/26

8-14 Day Temperature Outlook for February 24, 2026-March 2, 2026



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/16/26

Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid February 24-March 2, 2026

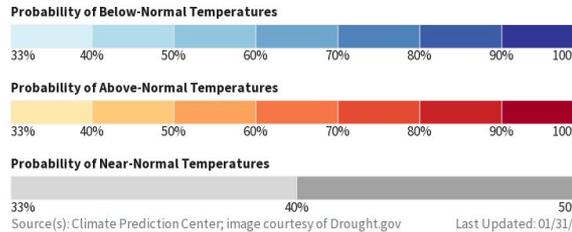
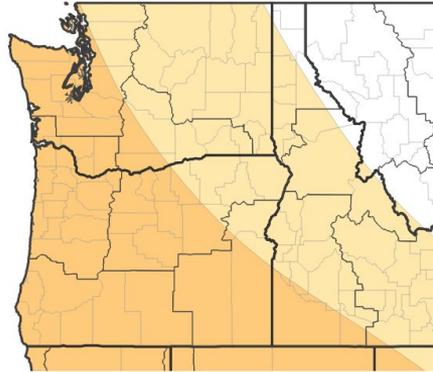




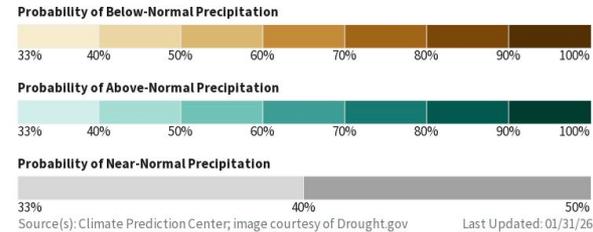
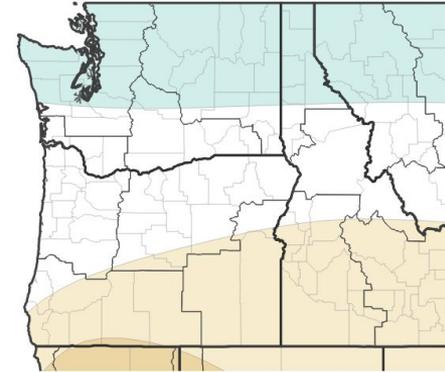
Monthly Climate Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center [Monthly Outlook](#).

Monthly Temperature Outlook for February 1, 2026–February 28, 2026



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for February 1, 2026–February 28, 2026



Main Takeaways for February 2026

- A 33% to 50% above normal temperatures across the entire area
- A 33% to 40% chance of above normal precipitation in most of Kittitas county, a 33% to 40% chance of below normal precipitation in southeastern Deschutes, southern Crook and southern Grant counties with near normal precipitation across the rest of the area

Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Updated January 31, 2026





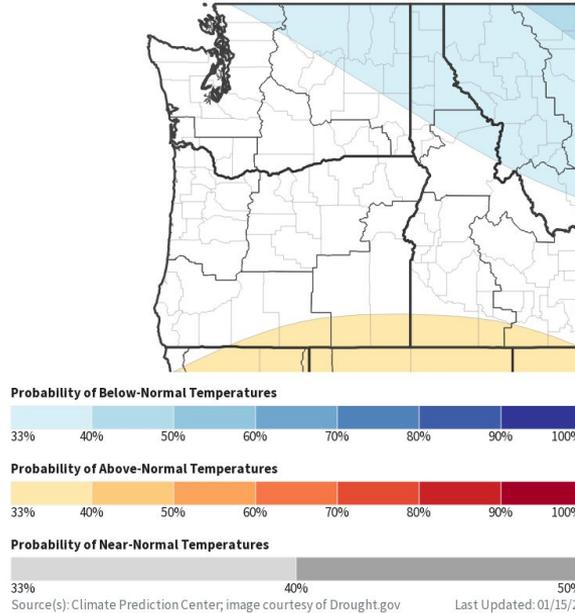
Seasonal Climate Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center [Seasonal Outlook](#).

Main Takeaways for February-April 2026

- Near normal temperature over the entire area
- A 33% to 40% chance of above normal precipitation across eastern portions of the area and near normal precipitation over the rest of the area

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for February 1, 2026-April 30, 2026



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for February 1, 2026-April 30, 2026

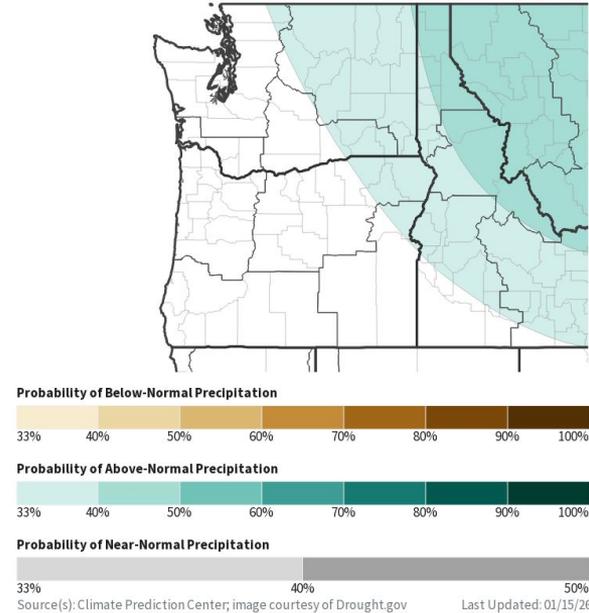


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid February - April 2026





Drought Outlook

The latest drought outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#).

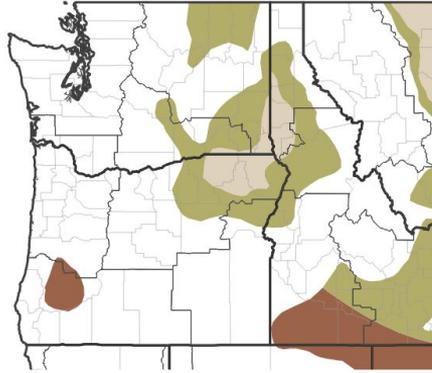
Main Takeaways

- Drought is expected to generally persist over the northern and eastern portions of the area and remain in No Drought in the rest of the area during February 2026
- Drought is expected to generally improve or end over the northern and eastern portions of the area and remain in No Drought in the rest of the area during February through April 2026

Possible Impacts

- Any lingering drought may result in reduced streamflows and low reservoir levels which may result in a possible reduction of agricultural yield, crop loss, and poor pasture conditions where irrigation water is not available.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for January 31, 2026–April 30, 2026

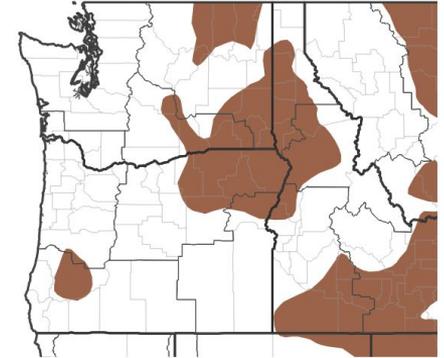


Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 01/31/26

1-Month Drought Outlook for February 1, 2026–February 28, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 01/31/26

Image Captions:

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) Released January 31, 2026

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#) Released January 31, 2026

