



Drought Information Statement for Northeast Oregon and South Central Washington

Valid August 13, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Pendleton, OR

Contact Information: nws.pendleton@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated monthly or sooner 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.
-
- Exceptional drought has developed in eastern Grant County with extreme drought continuing in the eastern Oregon mountains, central Oregon and the central Oregon Cascades while the rest of the area has a mix of abnormally dry to severe drought.
 - Below to well below normal precipitation (0% to 75% of normal) in most of WA, eastern and central OR over the last 30 days. Below to well above normal precipitation (75% to 300% of normal) in the southern Blue, western Ochoco and central OR Cascade Mountains over the last 30 days.
 - Drought is expected to persist or develop over the entire area through the end of October 2026.
 - All areas are forecast to have above normal significant fire potential from now through September 2026.





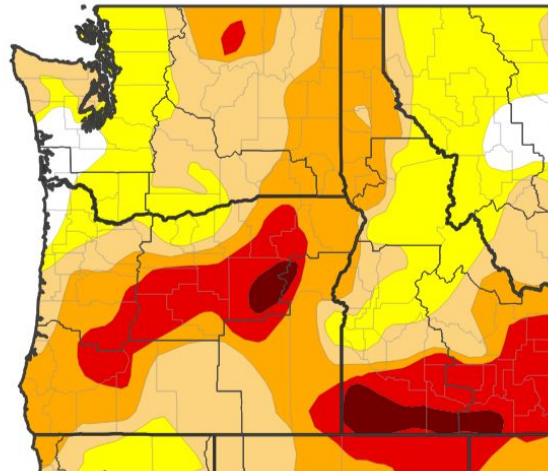
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Northeast Oregon and South Central Washington

- Drought intensity and Extent

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** Portions of eastern Grant county
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Portions of southern and eastern Umatilla, western Union, far southeastern Morrow, western Grant, most of Wheeler and Jefferson, northern Crook and western Deschutes counties
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** Walla Walla and Columbia, far northeast Franklin, most of Wallowa, eastern Union, much of northern Umatilla, south central Morrow, far southern Gilliam, northern Wheeler, southern Wasco, far northeast Jefferson, southeast Deschutes, and southern Crook counties
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of Kittitas, Yakima, Benton and Franklin, far eastern Wallowa, far northwest Umatilla, central Morrow, south central Gilliam, far southern Sherman and central Wasco counties
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Northwest Kittitas, portions of southern and southeast Yakima, all of Klickitat, far southwest Benton, northwest Morrow, northern Gilliam, most of Sherman and northern Wasco counties

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

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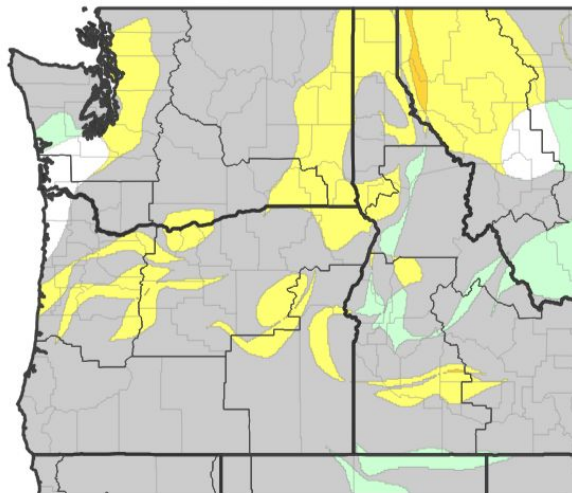
Recent Changes in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Northeast Oregon and South Central Washington

Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change

- **Drought Worsened (1 class):** Walla Walla and Columbia, far northeast Franklin, south central Klickitat, northern Wallowa, a small portion of northern Union, portions of Wasco, northern Sherman, northwest Gilliam, western and northern Jefferson, small portions of western Wheeler and eastern Crook, eastern Grant and northwest Deschutes counties
- **Drought Improved (1 class):** None
- **No Change:** All other areas not mentioned above

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



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

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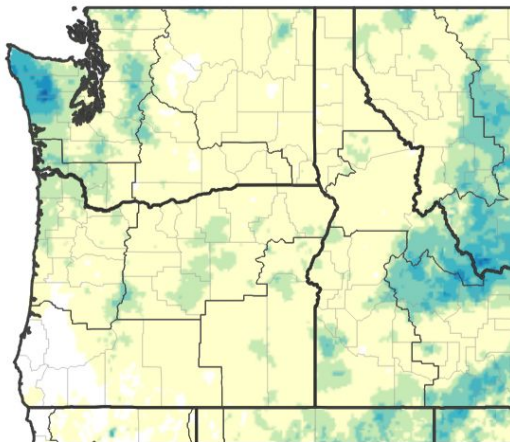




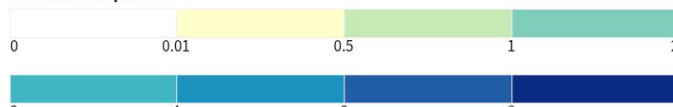
Precipitation - Last 30 Days

- Below to well below normal precipitation (0% to 75% of normal) in most of WA, parts of central OR, the eastern OR mountains, the eastern Columbia River Gorge and eastern portions of the OR Columbia Basin over the last 30 days
- Near to above normal precipitation (75% to 300% of normal) in small pockets of Yakima, Klickitat, Benton, Franklin and Union, much of Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler, Crook, Deschutes and western Grant counties over the last 30 days.
- Highest precipitation amounts were 1 to 2 inches in small pockets of the Oregon and Washington Cascades over the last 30 days
- Generally 1 inch or less of precipitation in the Cascades and eastern OR mountains with less than 0.5 inch in nearly all of the lower elevations over the last 30 days

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



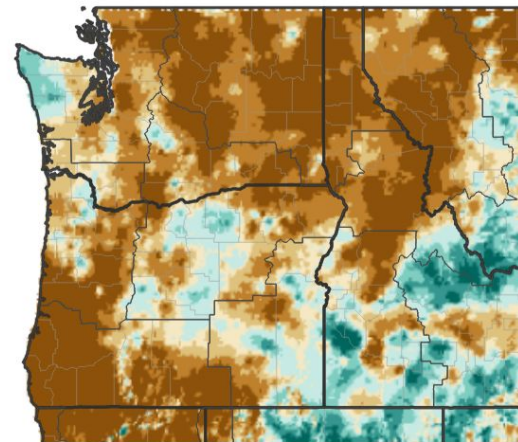
Inches of Precipitation



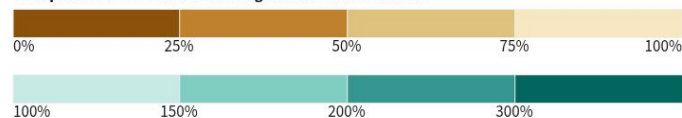
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/11/26

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/11/26

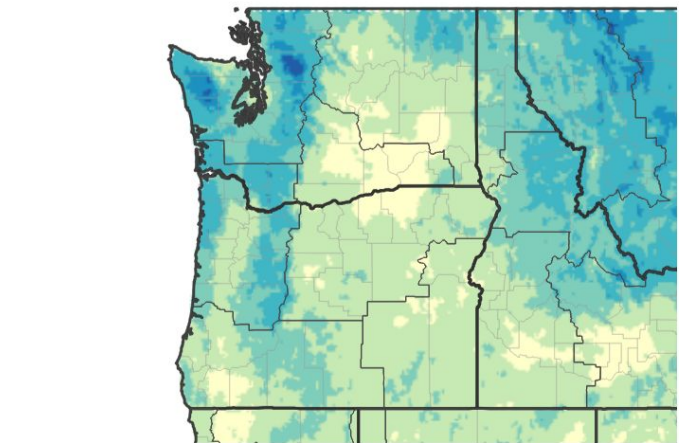




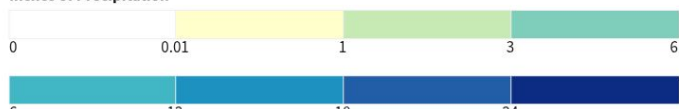
Precipitation - Last 90 Days

- Near to well below normal precipitation (0% to 100% of normal) in most areas over the last 90 days
- Near to above normal precipitation (100% to 200% of normal) in pockets of the WA and central OR Cascades, eastern Columbia River Gorge and southern Deschutes county over the last 90 days
- Precipitation amounts of 3 to 6 inches in the mountains and 1 inch or less in the lower elevations over the last 90 days
- Wettest locations had 3 to 6 inches over small pockets of the Cascade, Blue, Ochoco and Wallowa Mountains over the last 90 days
- Driest locations received less than 1 inch in OR and WA Columbia Basin and in pockets of Jefferson, Deschutes, Crook and Grant counties over the last 90 days

NWPS 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



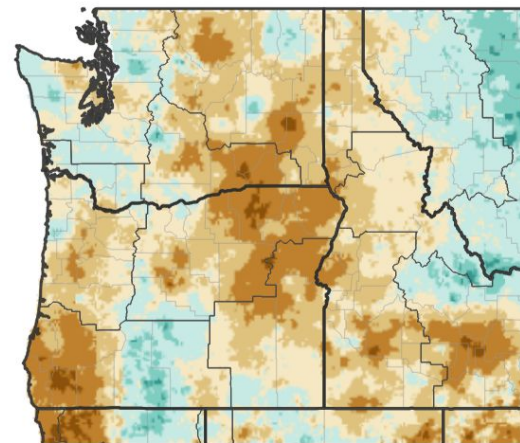
Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/11/26

90-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

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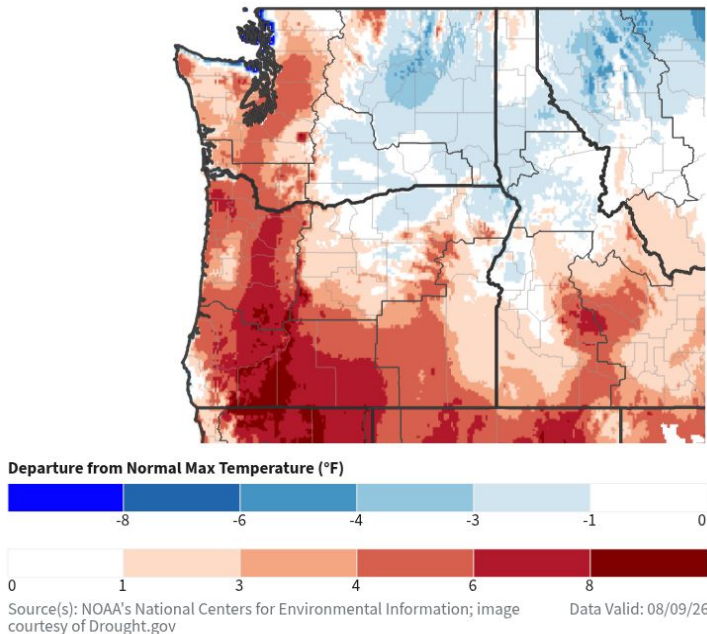
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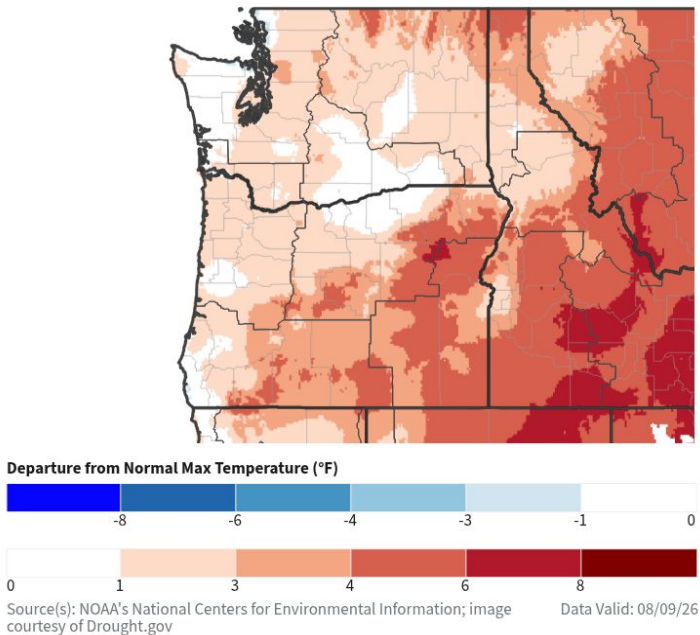
Temperatures - Last 7 And Last 30 Days

- Slightly above to slightly below normal temperatures (3 degree above to 3 degrees below) in WA and most northern OR areas for the last 7 days
- Above to well above normal temperatures (1 below to 8 degrees above) in portions of the Cascades, eastern OR Mountains and central OR over the last 7 days
- Near to above normal temperatures (1 degree below to 3 degrees above normal) in most areas for the last 30 days
- Near normal temperatures (3 degrees above below to 8 degrees above normal) in the central OR Cascades, central OR and eastern OR Mountains for the last 30 days.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



30-Day Temperature Anomaly





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Below to well below normal streamflows (43% - 72% of normal) in most WA basins and (28% - 58% of normal) in most OR basins
- Far below normal streamflows (less than 10% of normal) in the Crooked River basin
- Slightly below normal streamflows (83% - 90% of normal) at Columbia River locations

Agricultural Impacts

- Reservoirs in the WA Cascades are partly to mostly full (28% - 86% full - average is 48%).
- Other reservoirs are 20%-35% full with the Deschutes basin having a couple of outliers at less than 15% full and a couple of outliers at 65%-71% full.
- Water deliveries to agricultural interests in the Yakima area are projected to be at 58% of normal (up from earlier projections of 44%) but remain uncertain. Impacts elsewhere are uncertain at this time but water availability will likely also be below normal.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Significant wildland fire potential is present over the entire area through September 2026

Other Impacts

- Washington: [Washington Issues A Drought Emergency For The Entire State Through April 2027](#)
- Oregon: [Drought Declarations Issued For All NE Oregon Counties Except Sherman through 12-31-2026](#)

Mitigation Actions

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



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Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts as of August 12th, 2026

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions

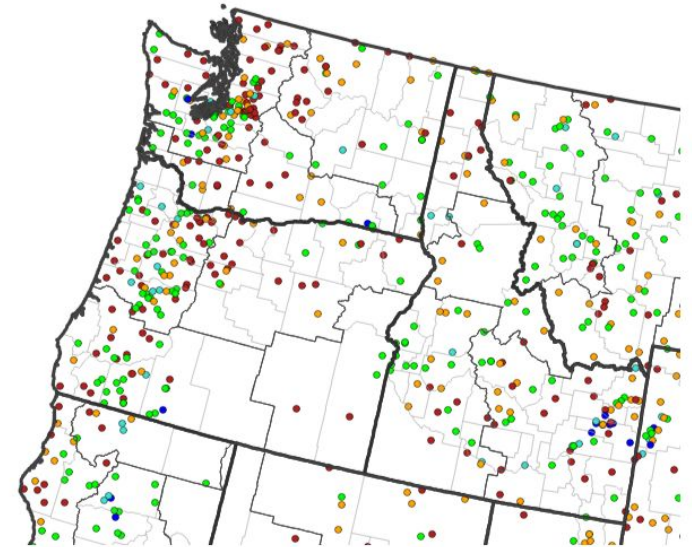
Main Takeaways

- Below to much below normal streamflows in most basins with a few locations having near normal streamflows

Impacts

No known impacts at this time

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



Streamflow Conditions



Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/12/26





Water Supply Forecast - April - September 2026

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

Main Takeaways

- Below normal water supply (43% to 72% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast over most WA locations for the April - September 2026 period
- Slightly below normal water supply (83% to 90% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast for Columbia River locations for the April - September 2026 period
- Well below normal water supply (28% to 58% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast for most OR locations except 65% to 79% for Blue Mountain Foothills location for the April - September 2026 period
- Far below normal water supply (<10% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast along the Crooked River Basin for the April - September 2026 period
- 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.



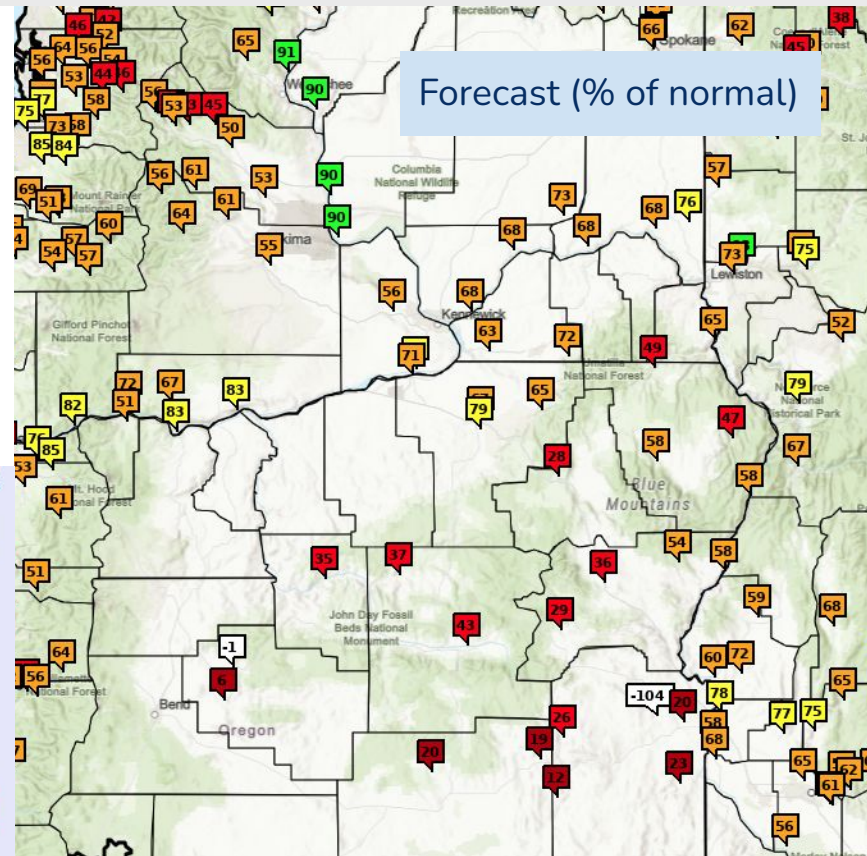
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ESP Natural Forecast

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



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Fire Hazard Impacts

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

Main Takeaways

- Above normal significant wildland fire potential (i.e., greater than normal risk) is forecast for all areas in August and September 2026
- Near normal significant wildland fire potential (i.e., normal risk) is forecast for all areas in October and November 2026

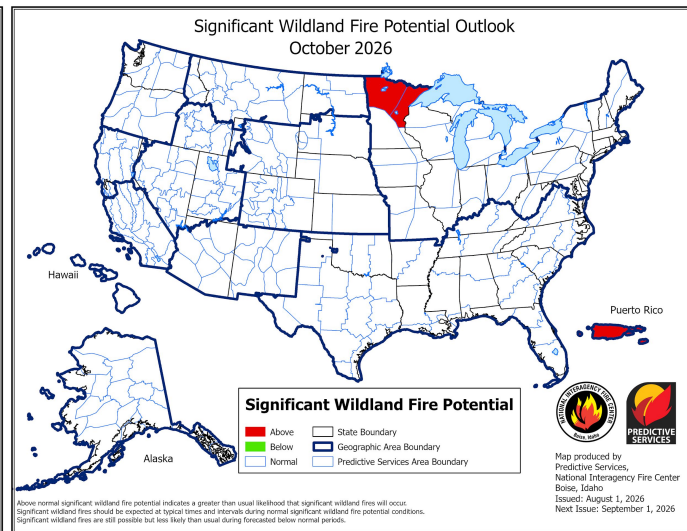
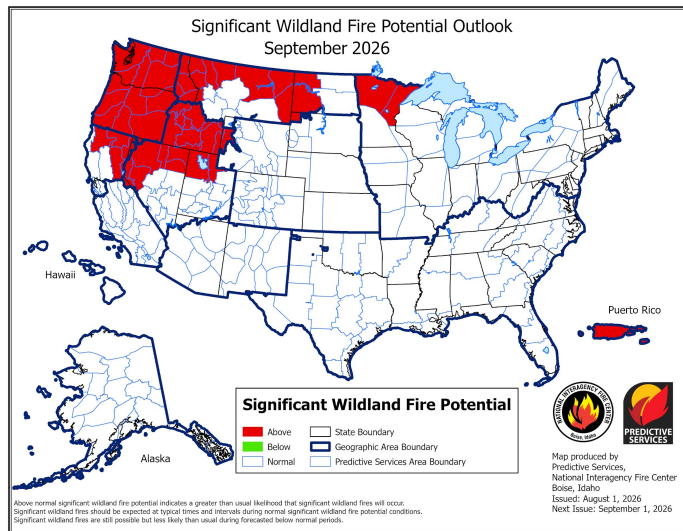


Image Caption:

Left - September 2026

Right - October 2026

Data Courtesy National Interagency Coordination Center

Issued August 1, 2026



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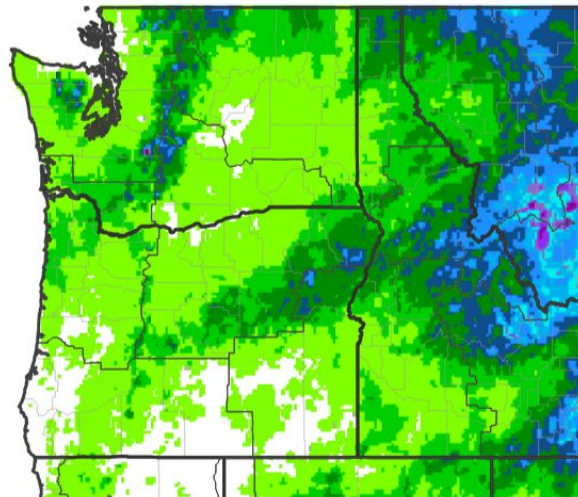
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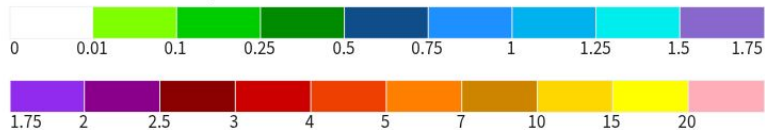
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for August 13, 2026–August 20, 2026

- A more convective weather pattern is expected over the next week with chances for daily light showers and thunderstorms mainly in the mountains
- Rain amounts will be less than a tenth of an inch in most areas with up to an inch in the WA Cascades and Wallowa Mountains and up to a half inch in other area mountains
- Near normal temperatures are expected with highs mainly in the mid 80s to mid 90s



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 08/13/26



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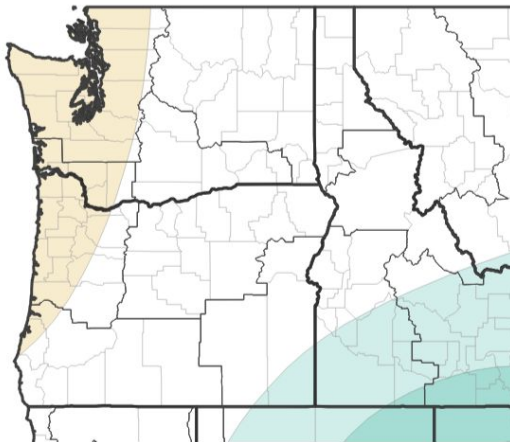


Monthly Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- A 33% to 40% chance of above normal temperatures is expected across the entire area
- Near normal precipitation is favored across the entire area

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for August 1, 2026–August 31, 2026



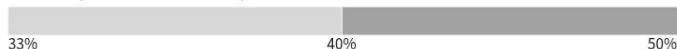
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



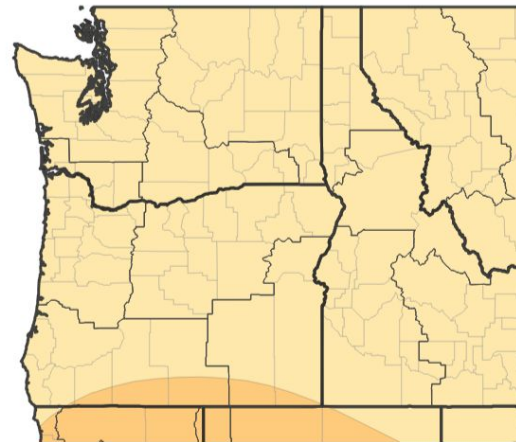
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 07/31/26

Monthly Temperature Outlook for August 1, 2026–August 31, 2026



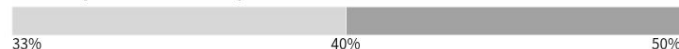
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 07/31/26



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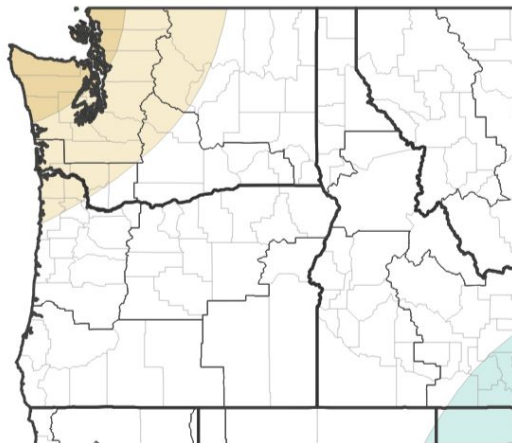


Three Month Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- A 50% to 60% chance of above normal temperatures is expected across the entire area
- Near normal precipitation is expected except for a 33% to 40% chance of below normal precipitation across western Kittitas and northwestern Yakima counties

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for August 1, 2026–October 31, 2026



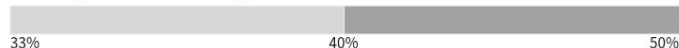
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



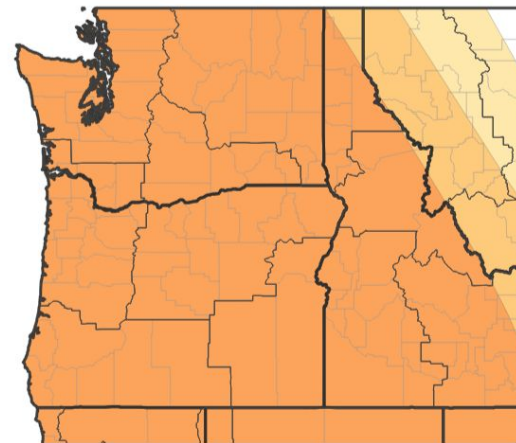
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 07/16/26

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for August 1, 2026–October 31, 2026



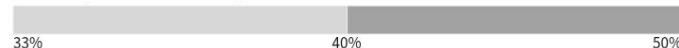
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 07/16/26



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Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

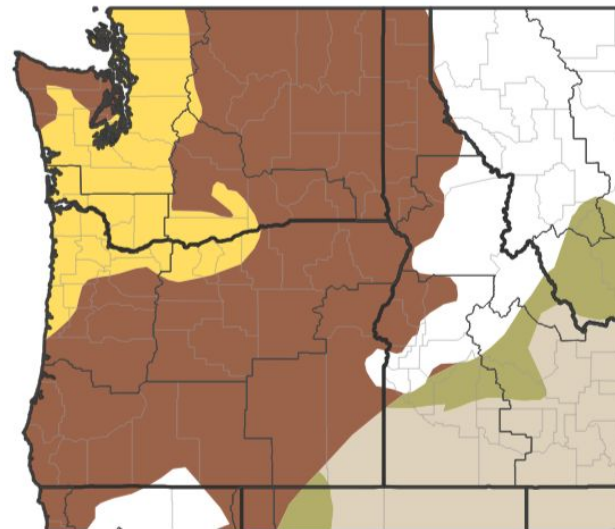
Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for July 31,
2026–October 31, 2026

Main Takeaways

- Drought is expected to either persist or develop over the entire area through the end of October 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.



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 07/31/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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