



Drought Information Statement for Pacific Northwest

Valid July 9, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Seattle, WA

Contact Information: nws.seattle@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around August 7, 2026 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/sew/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- Little change since last month other than continued drying
- State-Wide [Emergency Drought declaration](#) by Washington Department of Ecology Continues
- Much below normal water supply and streamflows expected:
 - Very low snowpack and early melt out
 - Outlook for below normal precipitation
 - Outlook for above normal temperature, increasing water demand



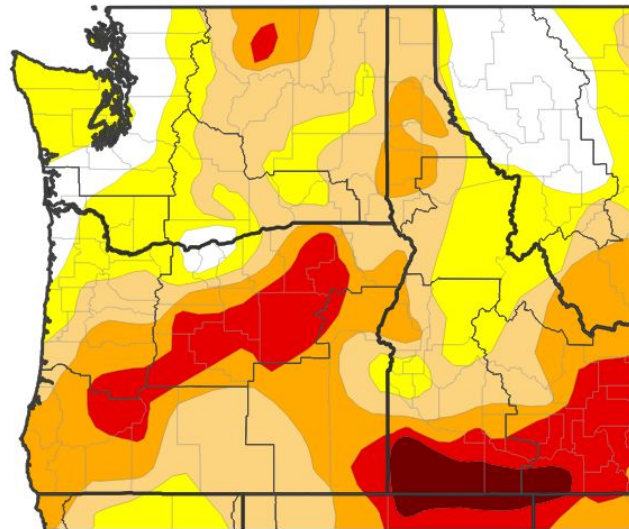


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

U.S. Drought Monitor

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: None
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: None
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: None
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: The Cascade crest and portions of the Olympic Peninsula



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 07/07/26



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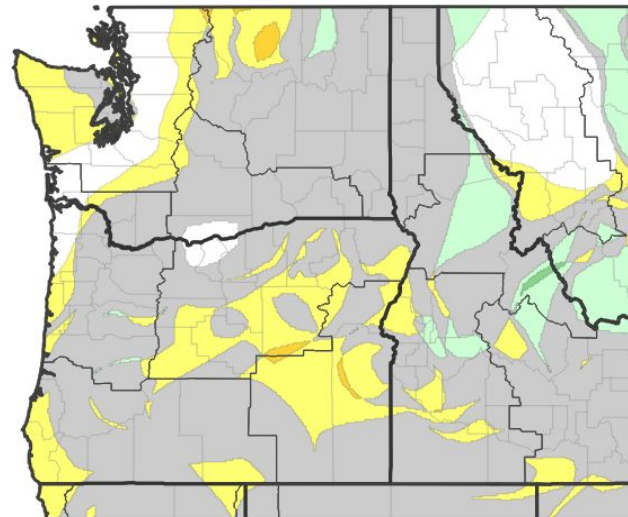


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: west Cascade crest and western half of the Olympic Peninsula
 - No Change: Puget Sound region and nearby lowlands

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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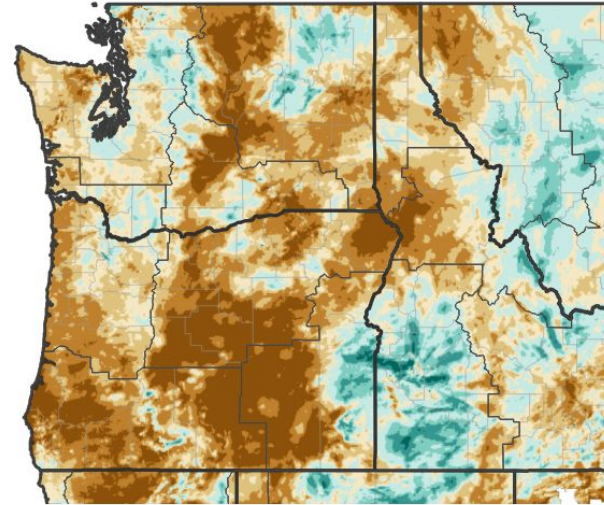




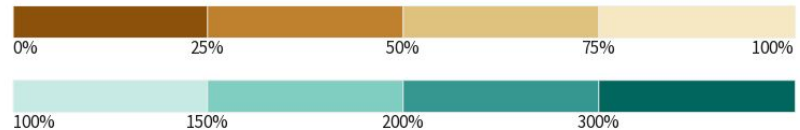
Precipitation

- Much of western WA was below normal precipitation for the last 30 days

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

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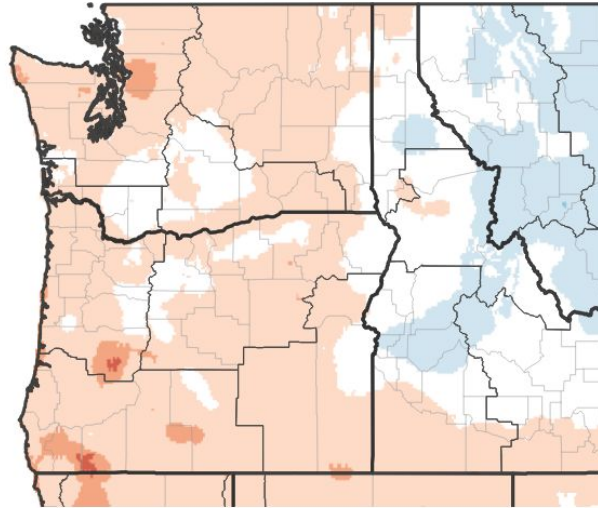




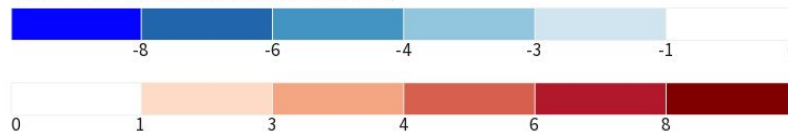
Temperature

- Temperatures were mostly above normal over the last 30 days by as much as 3-4 degrees F

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/04/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Lower than normal water supply this summer
- Lower than normal streamflows at this time
- Very low snowpack this year melted off early and is impacting streamflow and water supply

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is beginning to show very low; there are no other known or reported impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Early melt off of snowpack and abnormally dry conditions in the mountains indicate more likely early start to fire season with several fires already burning
- Western WA predicted to have above normal significant wildland fire potential July through September

Other Impacts

- Burn ban in Pierce County

Mitigation Actions

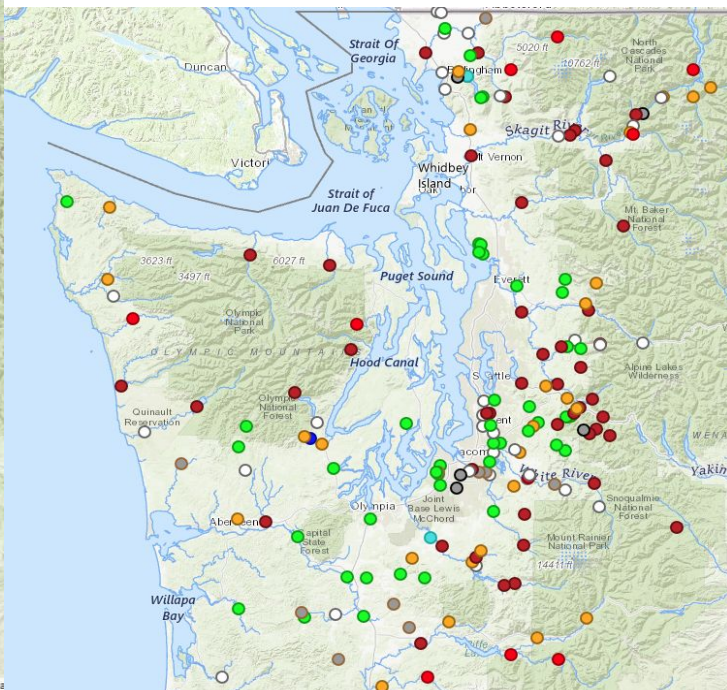
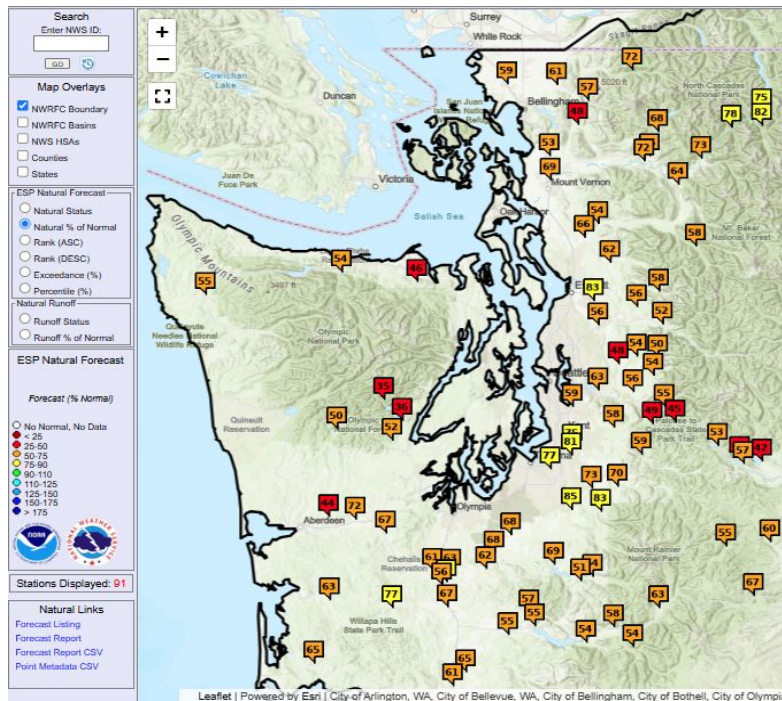
- WA State Department of Ecology declared a Drought Emergency for the entire state
 - Fourth year in a row for at least a portion of the state in drought emergency





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Forecast April - September Water Supply volumes are for much less than normal
- Streamflows for many areas are much below normal
- Snowpack (not shown) has already melted off



Streamflow: Status

- Above flood stage
 - All-time high for this day
 - Much above normal
 - Above normal
 - Normal
 - Below normal
 - Much below normal
 - All-time low for this day
 - Not flowing
 - Not ranked
 - Measurement flag
 - Recent measurement unavailable
- | |
|--|
| 100 th percentile (maximum) |
| >90 th percentile |
| 76 th – 90 th percentile |
| 25 th – 75 th percentile |
| 10 th – 24 th percentile |
| <10 th percentile |
| 0 th percentile (minimum) |



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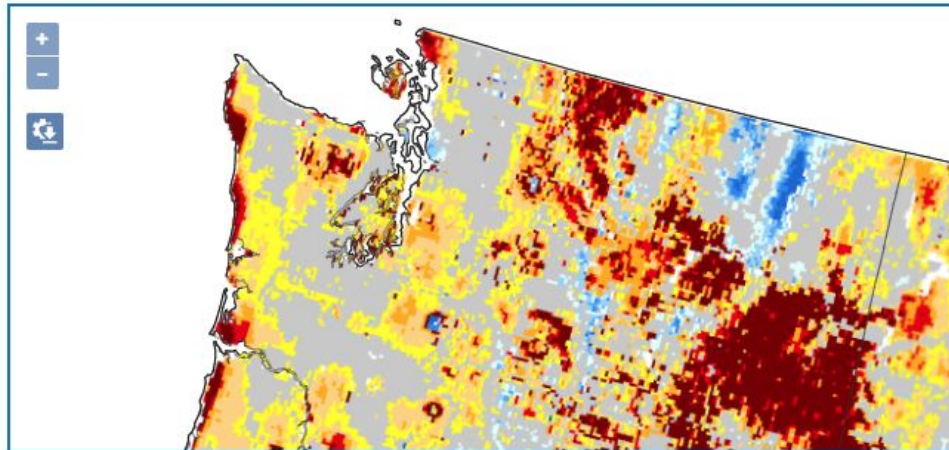


Agricultural Impacts

Current Conditions

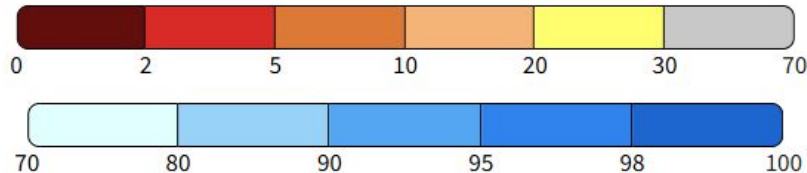
- NASA SPoRT-LIS shows portions of western Washington slipping below the 30th percentile for soil dryness
- Some areas are reaching the 2 percent or lower range

INTERACTIVE MAP: 0-100 CM SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTILE



Legend

0-100 cm Soil Moisture Percentile

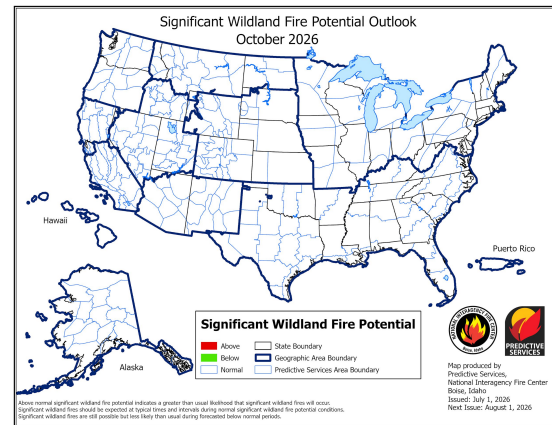
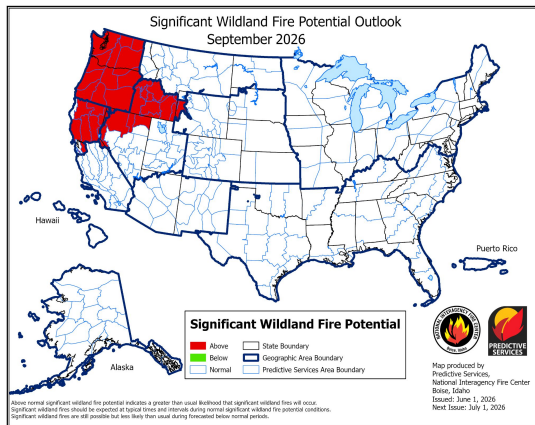
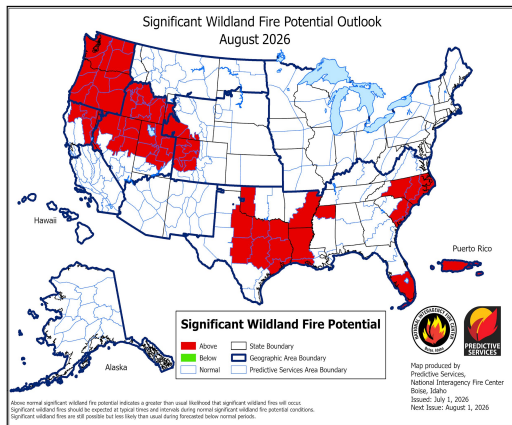
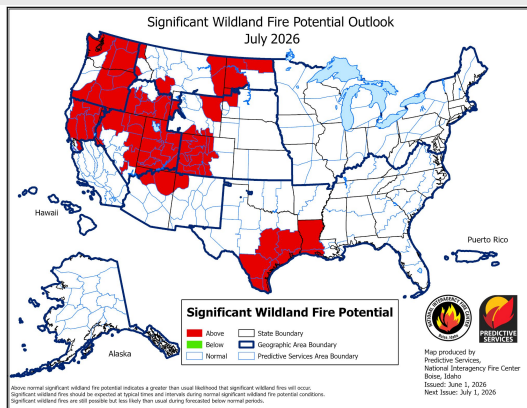




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Above normal significant wildland fire potential for western WA through September



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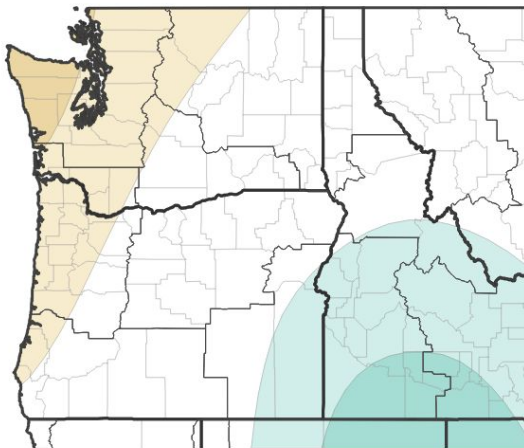


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Outlook - Precipitation leaning to drier than normal for July
- Outlook - Temperatures leaning warmer than normal for July

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



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



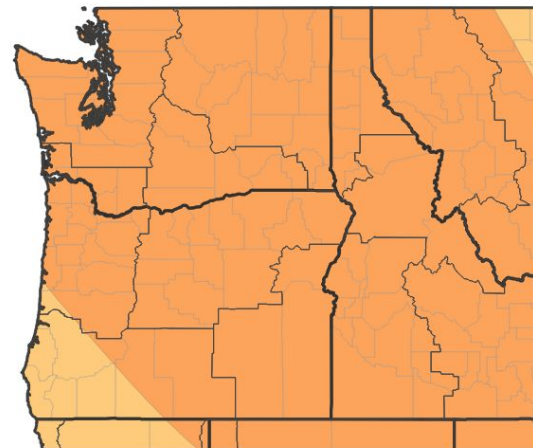
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 06/30/26

Monthly Temperature Outlook for July 1, 2026–July 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

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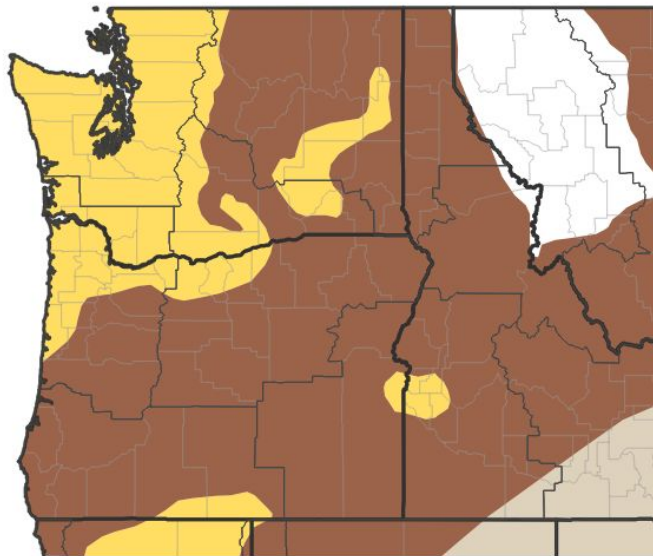


Drought Outlook

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

- Seasonal Drought Outlook showing drought is predicted to develop across western Washington later this summer into early fall

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for June 30, 2026–September 30, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

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Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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