



Drought Information Statement for Eastern OR & South Central WA

Valid August 12, 2024

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 is affecting portions of the Kittitas Valley
 - Moderate drought is affecting portions of the central WA Cascades, Kittitas, Yakima, Central OR, and portions of northeast OR
 - Abnormally dry conditions continue over most of the area with mainly well below normal precipitation seen area-wide the last 30 days
 - Above normal significant fire potential is forecast through September for the entire area becoming normal significant fire potential for October and November (Northwest Coordination Center)



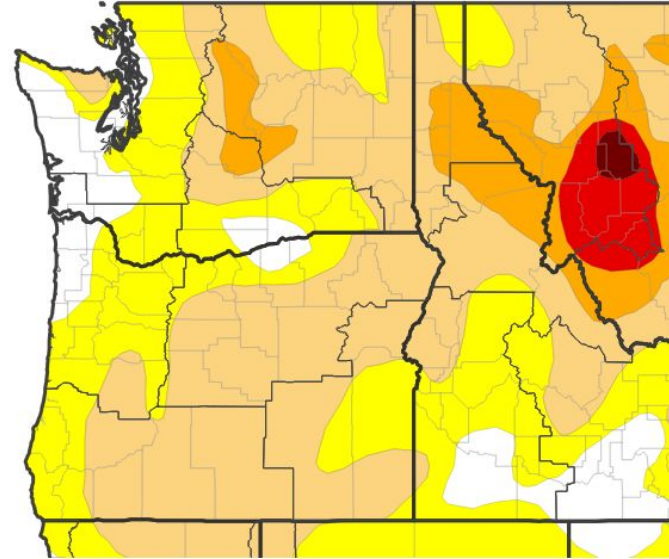


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Eastern portions of the Kittitas Valley
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Portions of the central Washington Cascades, Kittitas and Yakima counties, central and north central Oregon, the Ochoco-John Day Highlands, Blue Mountains, and Wallowa County
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: All other areas except portions of the OR and WA Columbia Basin and Simcoe Highlands

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 08/06/24



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR

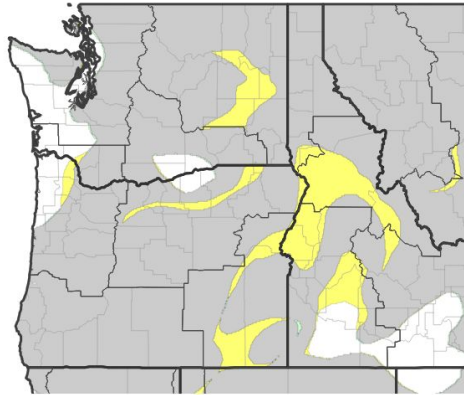


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

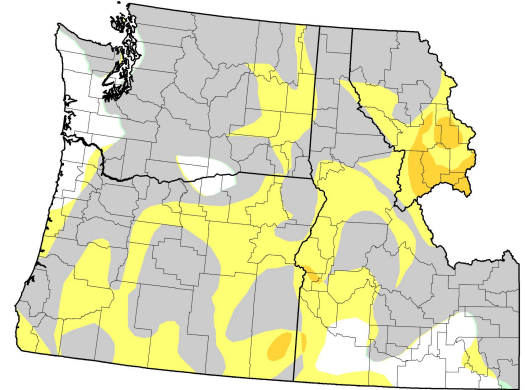
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - [Drought Worsened \(1 Class Degradation\)](#): A thin swath of the Blue Mountains and north central Oregon
- Four-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - [Drought Worsened \(1 Class Degradation\)](#): Portions of the OR Cascades, north central OR, Ochoco-John Day Highlands, Blue Mountains, the Grande Ronde Valley, and southeast WA

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 08/06/24

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Pacific Northwest DEWS 4 Week



August 6, 2024 compared to July 9, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

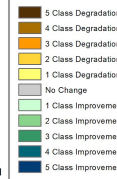


Image Captions:
 Right - 4 Week Drought Class Change
 Left - 1 Week Drought Class Change
 Data Courtesy U.S. Drought Monitor and Drought.gov
 Data over the past 7 and 28 days ending August 6, 2024

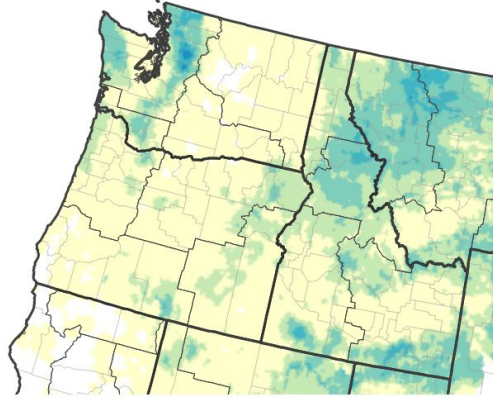




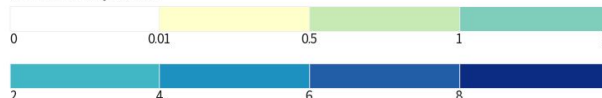
Precipitation - Last 30 Days

- Mainly well below normal precipitation areawide (less than 50 percent of normal)
- Pockets of near to above normal precipitation (100-200 percent of normal) across central OR, the Blue Mountains, Grande Ronde Valley, and Wallowa county
- Highest precipitation amounts were 1 to 2 inches along portions of the Wallowa Mountains

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)

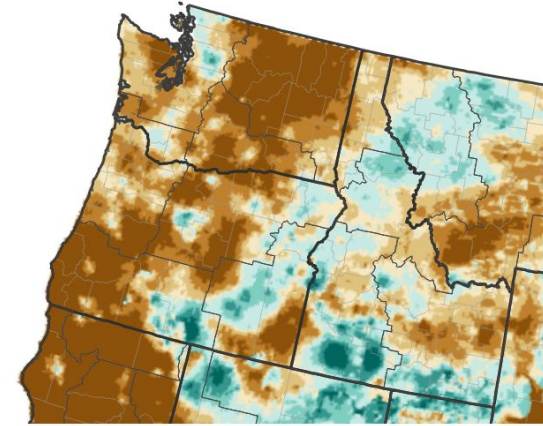


Inches of Precipitation

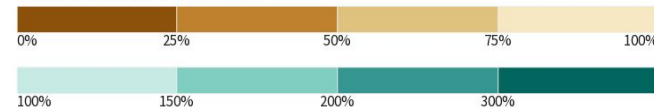


Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 08/11/24

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



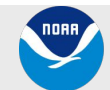
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 08/11/24

Image Captions:

Right - Precipitation Amount for Pacific NW
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
 Data Courtesy NWS Water Prediction Service
 Data over the past 30 days ending August 11, 2024

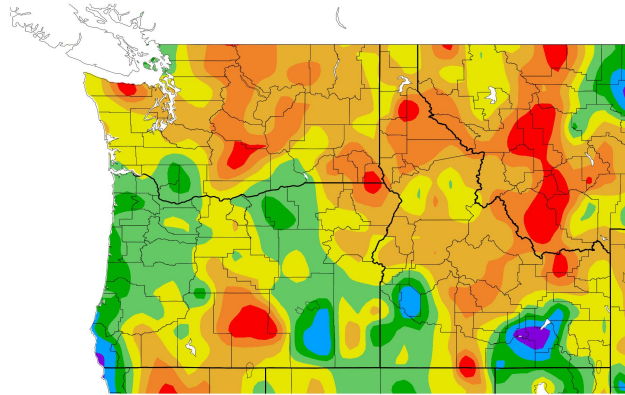




Precipitation - Current Water Year

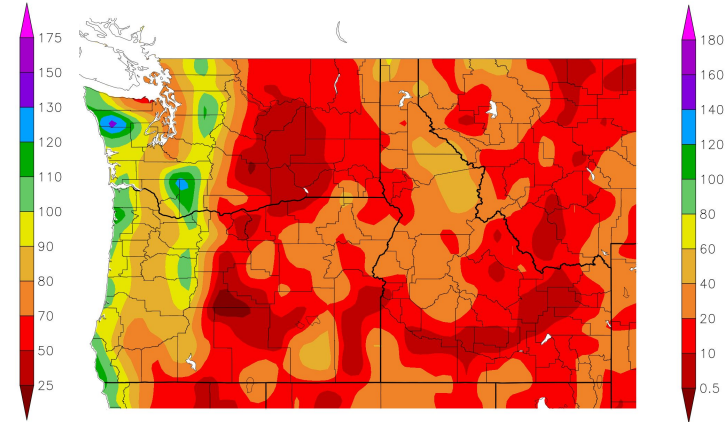
- Below normal precipitation (50-100%) continues for the current water year over much of the area
- The exception: areas of near to above normal precipitation (100-120%) seen across parts of the OR Cascades and from the Ochoco-John Day Highlands north north into the southern Blue Mountains, and OR Blue Mountain Foothills into the western WA Columbia Basin
 - This could largely be attributable to precipitation in December 2023, January 2024, and May 2024

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/1/2023 - 8/11/2024



Generated 8/12/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

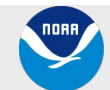
Precipitation (in)
10/1/2023 - 8/11/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 2/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Right - Precipitation Amount for Pacific NW
Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center
Data for the current water year ending August 12, 2024

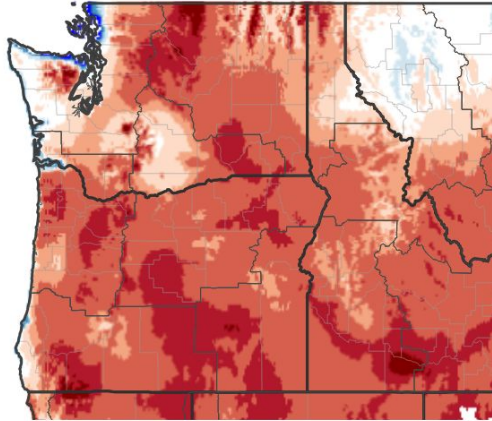




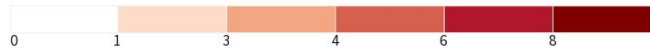
Temperature - Last 30 Days

- Well above normal high temperatures the last 30 days with temperatures 3-8 degrees above normal except for a small area of 1-3 degrees above in the eastern Simcoe Highlands

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



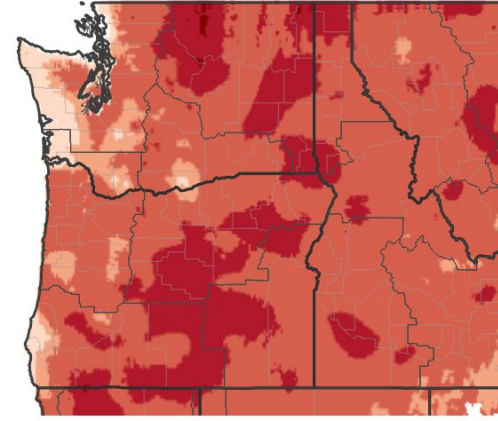
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



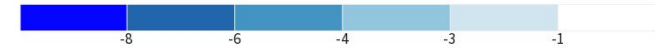
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 08/08/24

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: 08/08/24

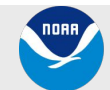
Image Captions:

Right - Temperature for Pacific NW

Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center

Data for the last 30 days ending August 8, 2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Much below normal streamflow (<10th percentile) across the Upper Columbia-Entiat basin, below normal streamflow (10th-25th percentile) across the Naches, Upper and Lower Yakima, Lower Snake, Lower Snake-Tucannon, Lower Snake-Asotin, Umatilla, North and Middle Forks John Day River, Upper and Lower Grande Ronde and Imnaha basins, and above normal (76th-90th percentile) for the Walla Walla basin, elsewhere near normal streamflows (25th-75th percentile).
- Reservoir levels are near to slightly below normal (45-80% full) with a few outliers below to well below normal (15-35%) - this may affect fish and other aquatic species as well as recreation activities through the summer, especially in the Columbia Basin.

Snowpack Impacts

- All snow telemetry (SNOTEL) monitoring sites show snow has melted/no remaining snow. There are no known impacts at this time.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

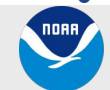
- There are no known impacts at this time

Other Impacts

- [Washington Drought Emergency declared for all counties east of the Cascades](#)
- [Jefferson County Oregon Drought Emergency Declared](#)

Mitigation actions

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



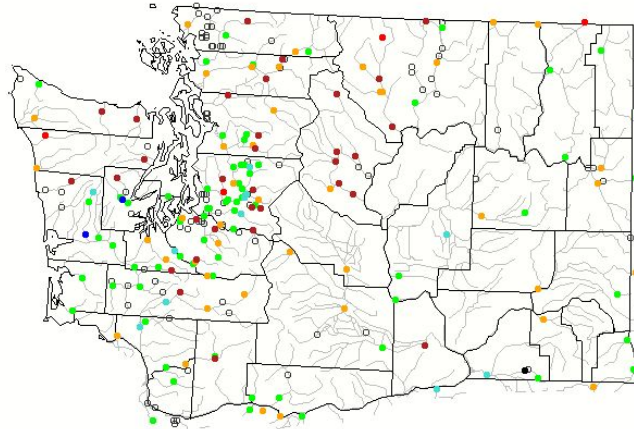


Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Washington

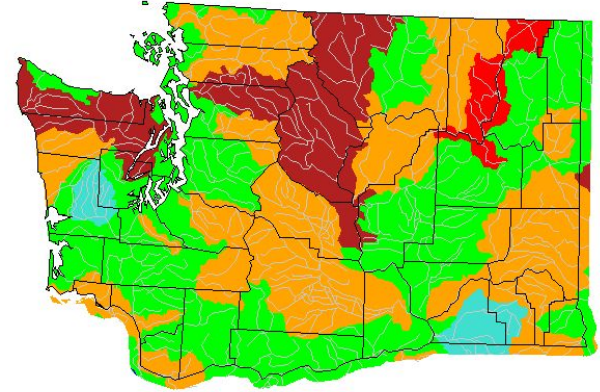
Main Takeaways

- The Upper Columbia-Entiat basin has well below normal streamflow (<10 percent of normal)
- The Naches, Upper and Lower Yakima, Lower Snake, Lower Snake-Tucannon and Lower Snake-Asotin basins have below normal streamflow (10th-24th percentile)
- The Walla Walla basin has above normal flow (76th-90th percentile)
- Other river, stream, and creek flows are near normal (25th-75th percentile)

Sunday, August 11, 2024



Sunday, August 11, 2024



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

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 August 11, 2024

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid August 11, 2024

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Oregon

Main Takeaways

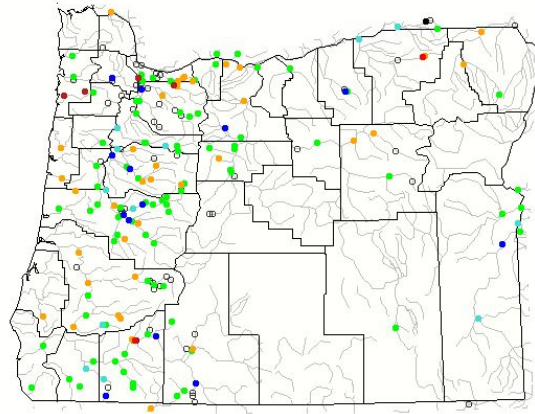
- Below normal (10th-24th percentile) for the Umatilla, North and Middle Forks John Day River, Upper and Lower Grande Ronde and Imnaha basins
- Above normal (76th-90th percentile) for the Walla Walla basin
- Other river, stream, and creek flows are near normal (25th-75th percentile)

Impacts

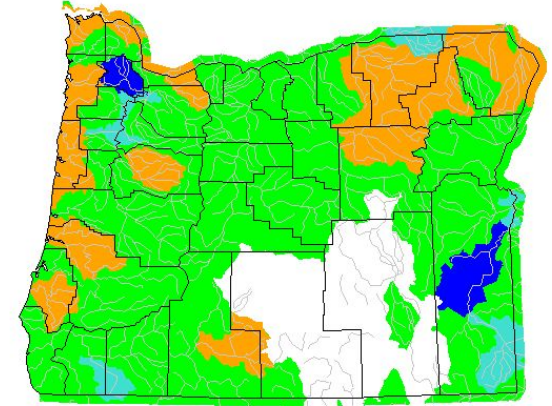
No known impacts at this time

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

Sunday, August 11, 2024



Sunday, August 11, 2024



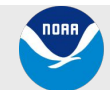
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid August 11, 2024

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid August 11, 2024

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch





Water Supply Forecast - April - September 2024

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

Main Takeaways

- Below to much below normal water supply (52-83% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast for the April-September 2024 period across much of south central and southeast WA into northeast Oregon
- Below-normal water supply (75-90%) is forecast across much of Wallowa county, and parts of the eastern slopes of the WA Cascades and Simcoe Highlands
- Near-normal water supply (83-103%) is forecast across central OR east into the southern Blue mountains and the Ochoco-John Day Highlands

Impacts

No known impacts at this time

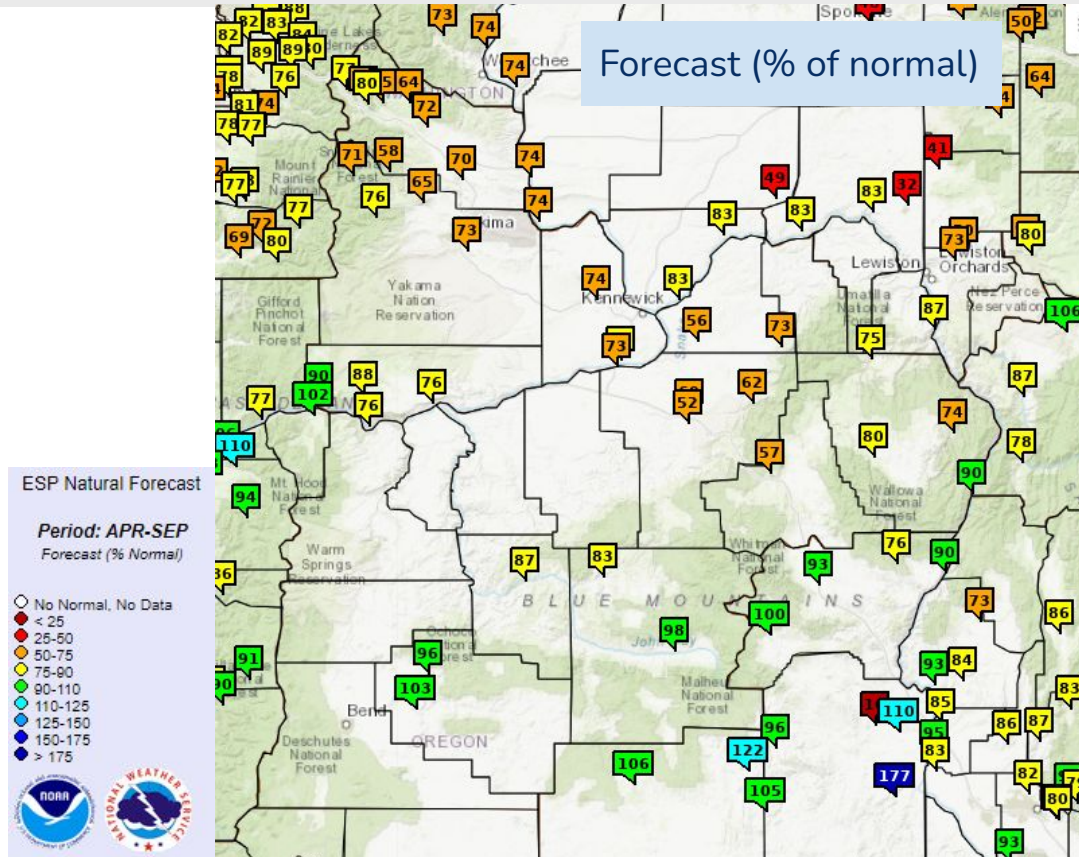
Low reservoir levels would be expected to affect agriculture production, fish, and other aquatic species.

Image Caption:

Ensemble Streamflow Prediction Natural Forecast

Data Courtesy NOAA NWS Northwest River Forecast Center

Issued August 11, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



Fire Hazard Impacts - August through November

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

Main Takeaways

- [*Above normal wildland fire potential for all areas*](#) for August and September 2024
- Near normal wildland fire potential (i.e., very low risk) for all areas for October and November 2024
- Significant wildland fires are expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions

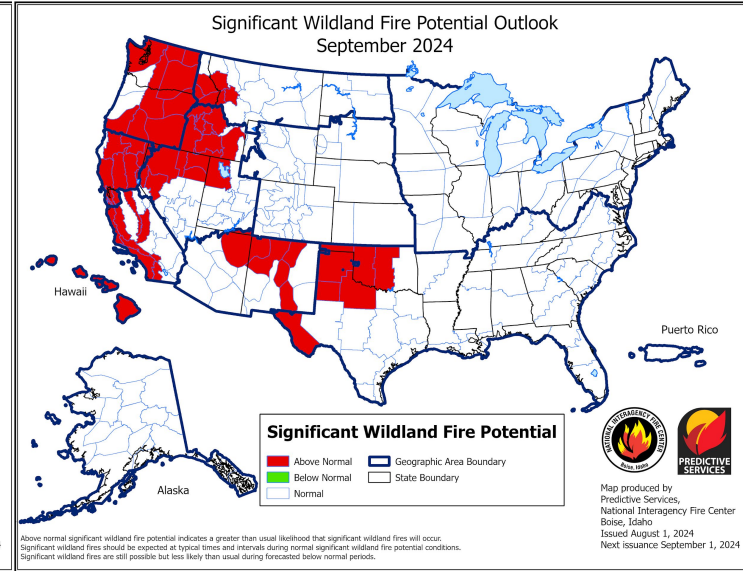
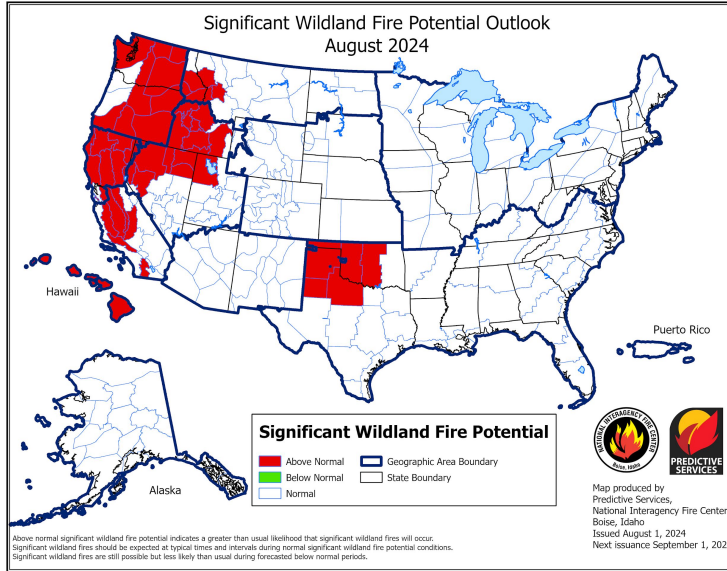


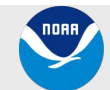
Image Caption:

Left - August 2024

Right - September 2024

Data Courtesy National Interagency Coordination Center

Issued August 1, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

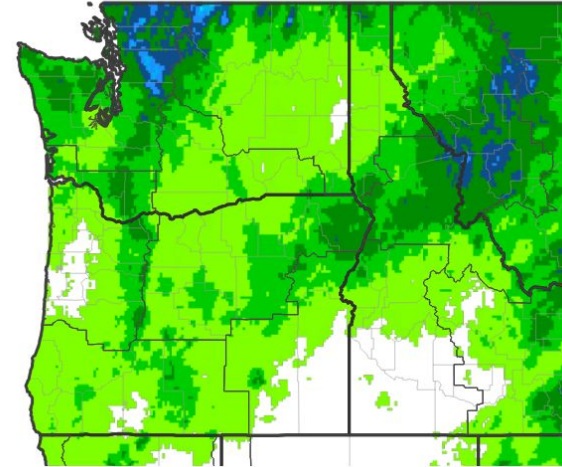
National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



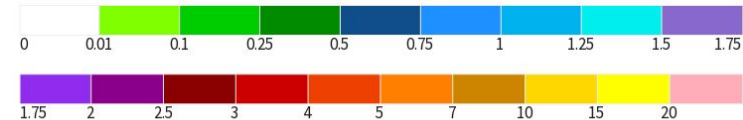
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A persistent trough over the Pacific Northwest will give the area a chance of light rain and mountain thunderstorms for the next week, especially Thursday into next weekend
 - Most lower elevation areas will get a tenth of an inch or less while the mountains will get a tenth to a half of an inch
- Visit weather.gov/Pendleton for the latest weather forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



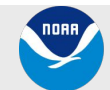
Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 08/12/24

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

- Leaning towards below normal temperatures area-wide (33-60%)
- Leaning towards above normal precipitation area-wide (33-50%)

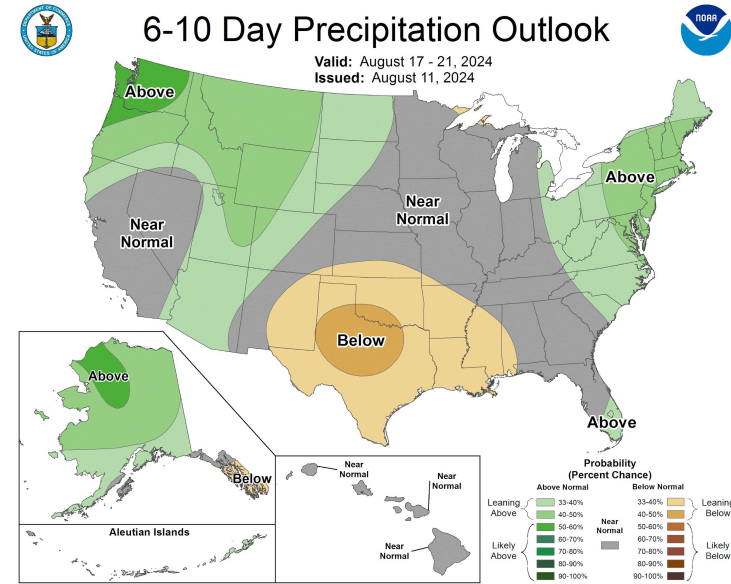
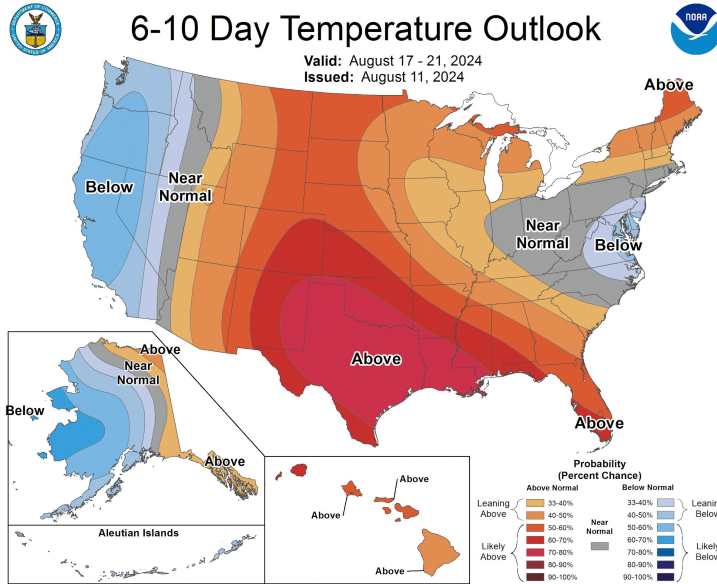


Image Captions:
Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook](#),
Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid August 17-21, 2024





8-14 Day Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Below normal temperatures (33-40% chance) in WA and OR, except equal chance of above, near, or below normal temperatures in the eastern portions of the area
- Above normal precipitation (33-50% chance) in WA and OR

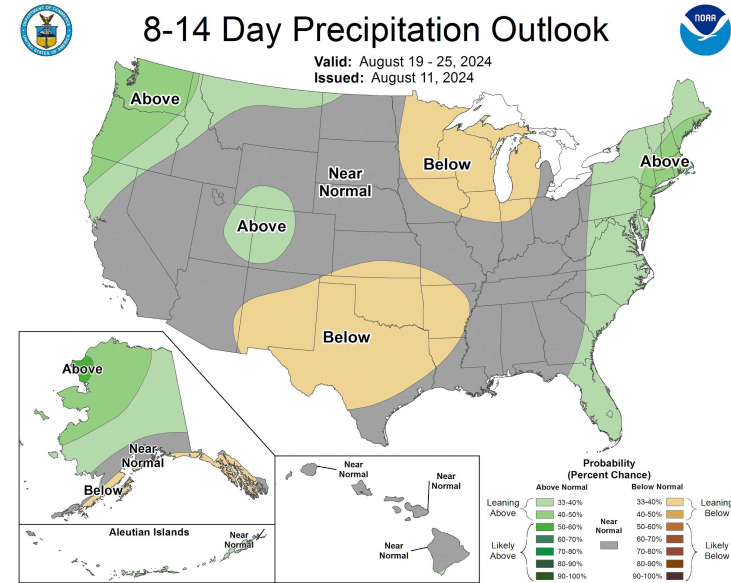
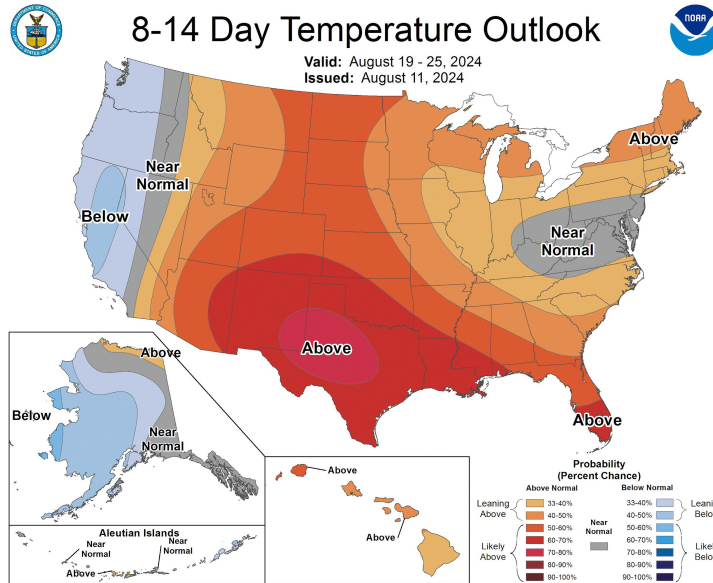


Image Captions:
 Left - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook](#),
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook](#),
 Valid August 19 - 25, 2024





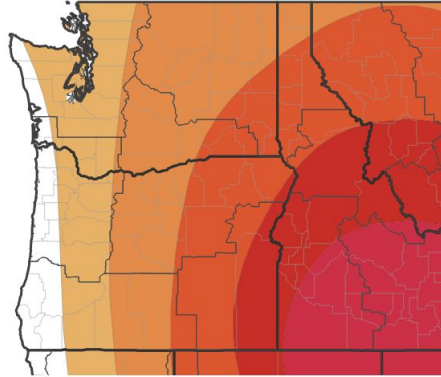
Monthly Climate Outlook

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

Main Takeaways for August

- Odds favor above normal temperatures area wide (40-70%)
- Odds favor below normal precipitation area wide (33-50%)

Monthly Temperature Outlook



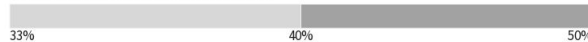
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



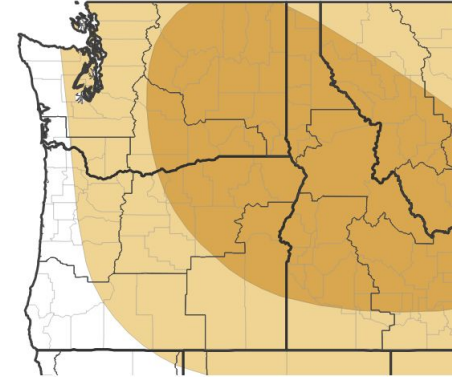
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 07/31/24

Monthly Precipitation Outlook



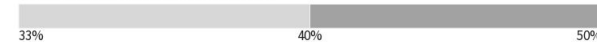
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

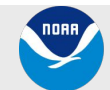
Last Updated: 07/31/24

Image Captions:

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

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

Valid August 2024





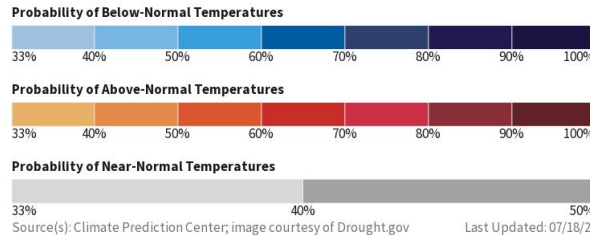
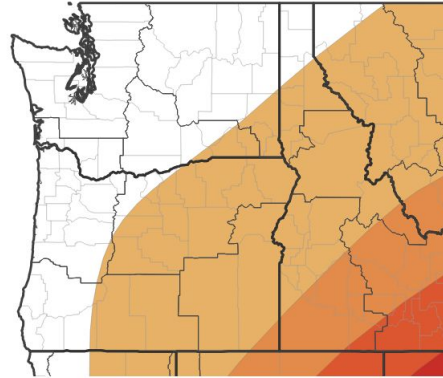
Seasonal Climate Outlook

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

Main Takeaways for August-September-October

- Odds leaning towards equal chances of above, near and below normal temperatures, except leaning towards above normal temperatures (33-40%) for the eastern and southern portions of the area
- Odds leaning towards equal chances of above, near and below normal precipitation area-wide

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook

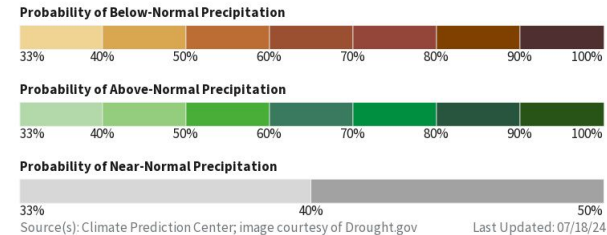
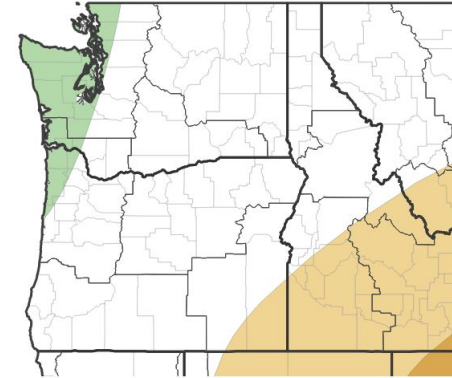
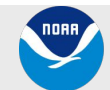


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid August, September and October 2024





Drought Outlook

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

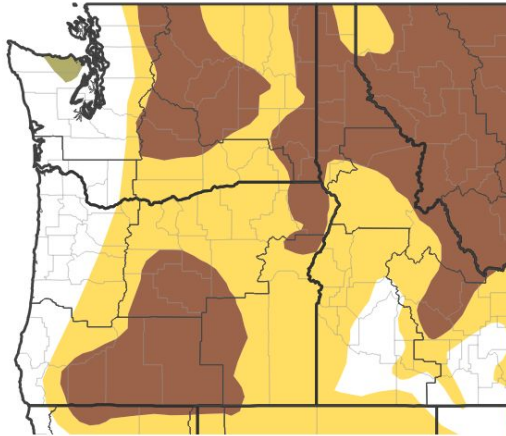
Main Takeaways

- Drought is expected to persist over Kittitas and eastern Yakima counties, the northern Blue Mountains, Wallowa county and central OR into the western Ochoco-John Day Highlands
- Drought is expected to develop over the rest of southeast WA and northeast OR
- These areas are vulnerable due to below normal precipitation and the warm seasonal outlook

Possible Impact

- Reduced streamflows and reservoir levels, possible reduction in agricultural yield, crop loss, and poor pasture conditions where irrigation water is not available.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



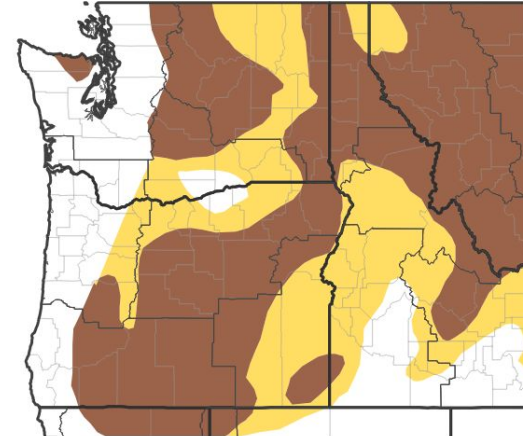
Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 07/18/24

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 07/31/24

Image Captions:

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) Released July 31, 2024

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#) Released July 31, 2024

