



Drought Information Statement for Eastern OR & South Central WA

Valid November 15, 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 continues to affect the eastern Kittitas Valley while Moderate Drought is affecting portions of the central WA Cascades, Kittitas and Yakima counties, Central and North Central OR and portions of northeast OR
- Abnormally dry conditions continue over most of rest of the area, however, near to above normal precipitation this winter is expected to end or improve drought conditions area wide
- Normal significant fire potential for November through February (Northwest Coordination Center)



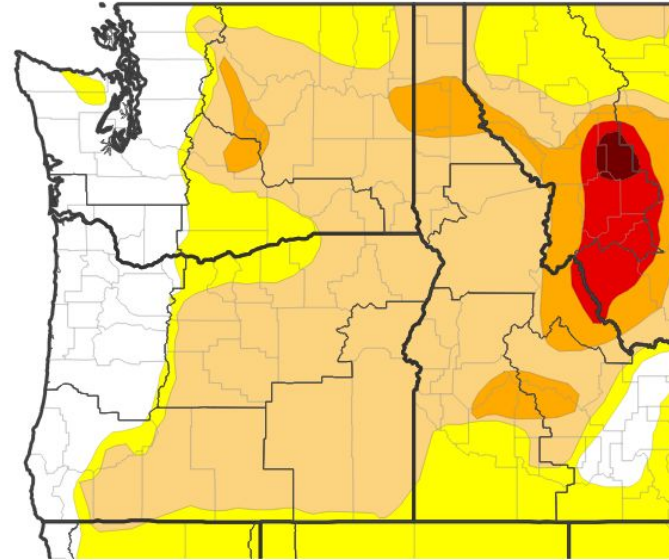


U.S. Drought Monitor

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 and Oregon Cascades, Kittitas and northern Yakima counties, central and north central Oregon, the Ochoco-John Day Highlands, Blue Mountains, Grande Ronde Valley and Wallowa County
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Portions of the WA and OR Columbia Basin, the WA and OR Cascade crest, Simcoe Highlands, Eastern Columbia River Gorge and southern Yakima County

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 11/12/24



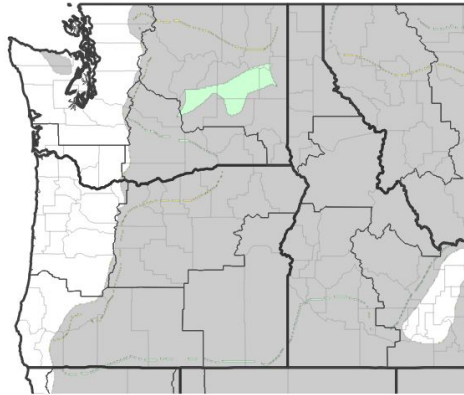


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

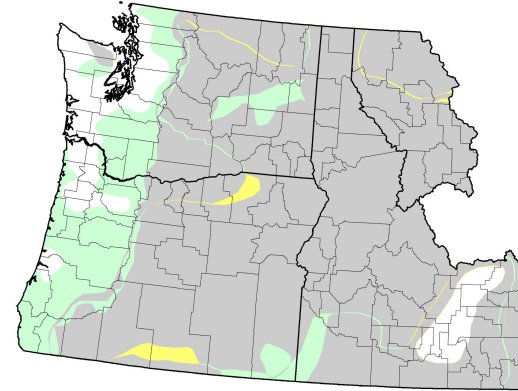
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - No changes
- Four-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - [Drought Worsened \(1 Class Degradation\)](#): Portions of the Oregon Blue Mountains, Oregon Blue Mountain Foothills and Oregon Columbia Basin
 - [Drought Improved \(1 Class Improvement\)](#): Portions of the OR and WA Cascade crest and small areas of Yakima and Benton Counties in WA

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 11/12/24

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



November 12, 2024
compared to
October 15, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

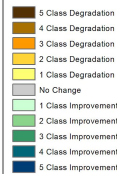
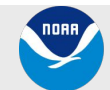


Image Captions:
 Right - 4 Week Drought Class Change
 Left - 1 Week Drought Class Change
 Data Courtesy U.S. Drought Monitor and Drought.gov
 Data over the past 7 days ending November 12, 2024
 Data over the past 28 days ending November 12, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

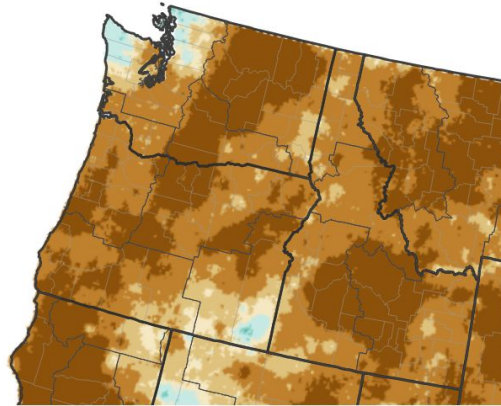
National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



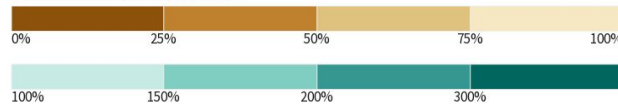
Precipitation - Last 30 Days

- Mostly well below normal precipitation (0-50 percent of normal) with pockets of 50-75% of normal in portions of the OR and WA Columbia Basin, Blue Mountain Foothills and Southern Blue Mountains
- Highest precipitation amounts were 0.50 to 1 inch over the OR and WA Cascade crest and eastern Oregon Mountains

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal

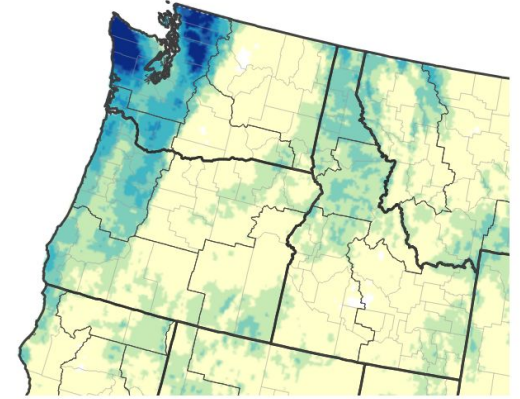


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 10/27/24

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



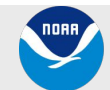
Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 10/27/24

Image Captions:

Right - Precipitation Amount for Pacific NW
Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center
Data over the past 30 days ending October 27, 2024

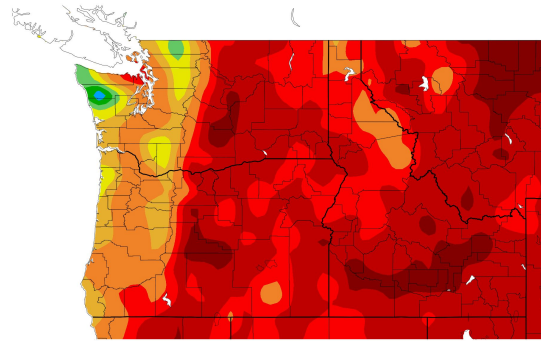




Precipitation - 2025 Water Year

- Below normal precipitation (50-80%) over much of the area for the 2025 water year that began October 1st, 2024
- The exception: pockets of near to above normal precipitation (90-150%) in the WA Columbia Basin, Ochoco-John Day Highlands, the southern Blue Mountains and Hells Canyon

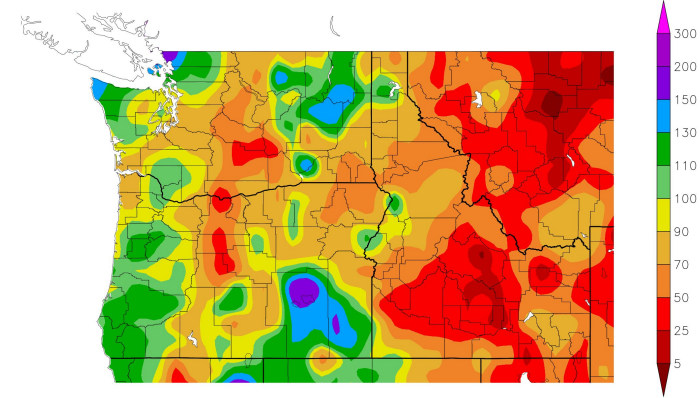
Precipitation (in)
10/1/2024 - 11/14/2024



Generated 11/15/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/1/2024 - 11/14/2024



Generated 11/15/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
 Right - Precipitation Amounts for Pacific NW
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center
 Data for the new 2025 water year beginning October 1, 2024

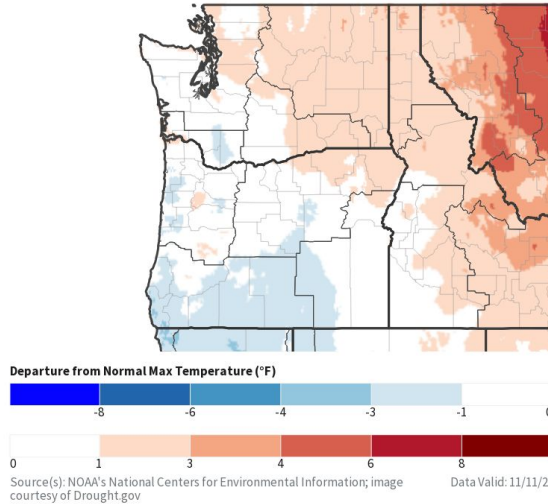




Temperature - Last 7 and 30 Days

- Mainly near to below normal high temperatures of 0 to 4 degrees below normal for the last 7 days over most locations, except for 1 to 3 degrees above normal in northwest Kittitas County and OR and WA Columbia Basin
- Mainly near normal high temperatures for the last 30 days, with highs 1-3 degrees above normal in Kittitas County, WA and OR Columbia basin and Blue Mountain Foothills, northern Blue Mountains, Grande Ronde Valley and Wallowa County.
- Temperatures were 1-3 degrees below normal in small pockets of the Ochoco-John Day Highlands

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



7-Day Temperature Anomaly

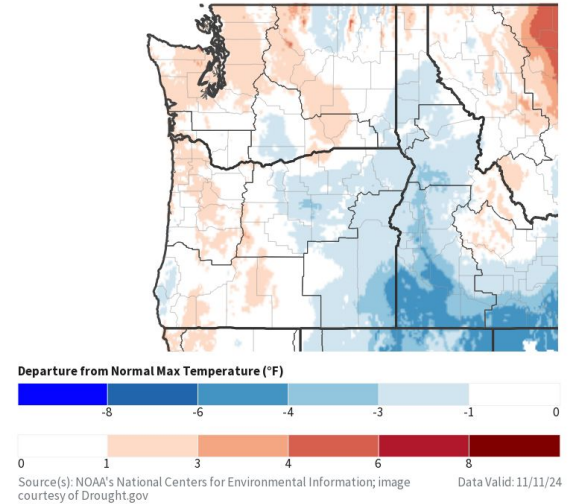
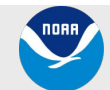


Image Captions:
 Right - Temperature for Pacific NW
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center
 Data for the last 7 days and 30 days ending November 11, 2024





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 Lower Yakima and Lower Grand Ronde basins, below normal streamflow (10th-25th percentile) across the Naches, Upper Yakima, Klickitat, Middle Columbia-Hood, Middle Columbia-Lake Wallula, Lower Snake, Palouse, Upper Columbia-Entiat, Walla Walla, Wallowa, Lower John Day, and Willow basins, above normal streamflows for the Upper Columbia-Priest Rapids basin and near normal streamflows for all other basins
- Reservoir levels are nearly all at or below 15% full with some outliers (Crane Prairie, Haystack, Ochoco and Prineville) in central Oregon at above normal levels (50-85% full) - this may affect fish and other aquatic species as well as recreation activities through the late fall and winter, especially in the Columbia Basin.

Snowpack Impacts

- Most snow telemetry (SNOTEL) monitoring sites show above normal snow (150-300% of normal) but it is too early in the season to be meaningful. 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



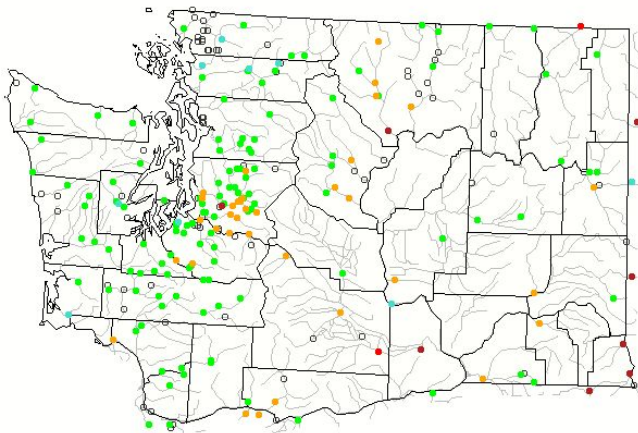
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Washington



Main Takeaways

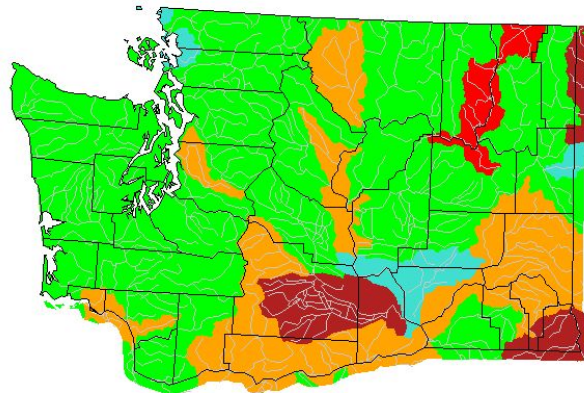
- The Lower Yakima basin has well below normal streamflow (<10 percent of normal)
- The Naches, Upper Yakima, Klickitat, Middle Columbia-Hood, Middle Columbia-Lake Wallula, Lower Snake, Palouse and Upper Columbia-Entiat basins have below normal streamflow (10th-24th percentile)
- The Upper Columbia-Priest Rapids basin has above normal streamflow (76-90% above normal)
- Other river, stream, and creek flows are near normal (25th-75th percentile)

Wednesday, November 13, 2024



USGS

Wednesday, November 13, 2024



USGS

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.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid November 13, 2024

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid November 13, 2024

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch

National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



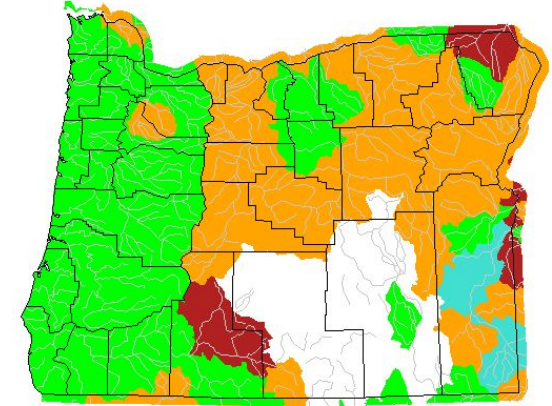
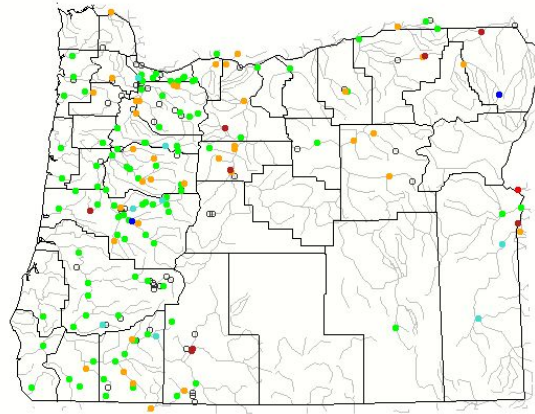
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Oregon

Hednesday, November 13, 2024

Hednesday, November 13, 2024

Main Takeaways

- Well below normal (less than 10th percentile) for the Lower Grande Ronde basins
- Near normal streamflows (25th-75th percentile) for the Walla Walla, Wallowa, Lower John Day, and Willow basins
- Below normal (10th-24th percentile) for all other basins



Impacts

No known impacts at this time

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



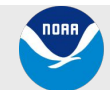
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid November 13, 2024

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid November 13, 2024

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch





Fire Hazard Impacts - September through December

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

Main Takeaways

- [Normal significant wildland fire potential for all areas](#) for November and December 2024
- Normal significant wildland fire potential (i.e., very low risk) for all areas for January and February 2025
- Significant wildland fires are expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions

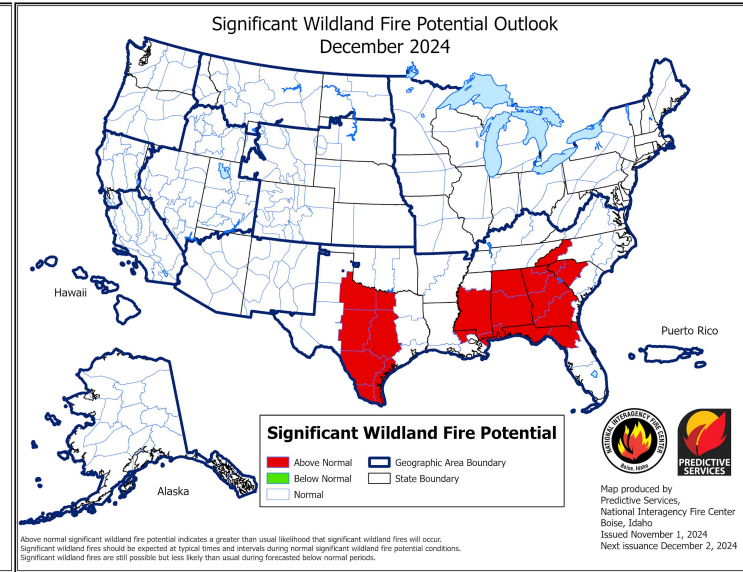
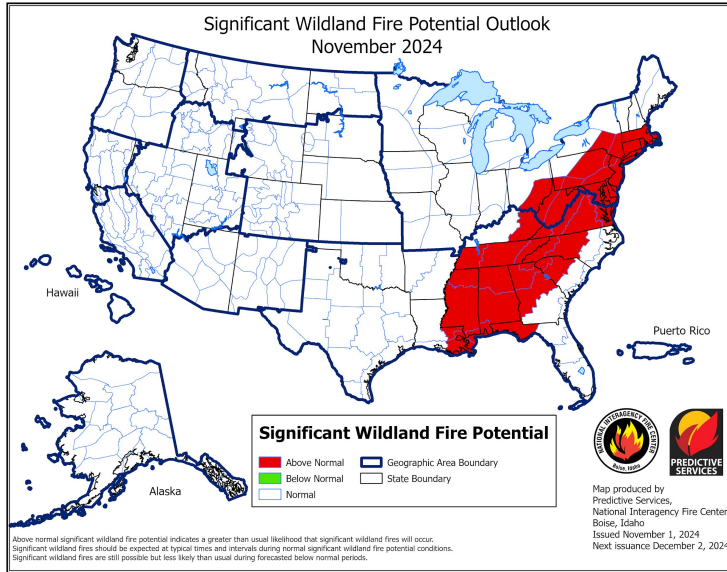


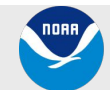
Image Caption:

Left - November 2024

Right - December 2024

Data Courtesy National Interagency Coordination Center

Issued November 1, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Pendleton, OR



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A progressive weather pattern with a couple of cold fronts will bring rain and mountain snow to the area through late next week.
 - Mountain areas will get a half to 2 inches of precipitation while the lower elevations will get a half inch or less of rain.
- Visit weather.gov/Pendleton for the latest weather forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for November 14, 2024–November 21, 2024

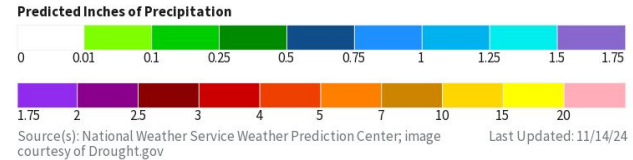
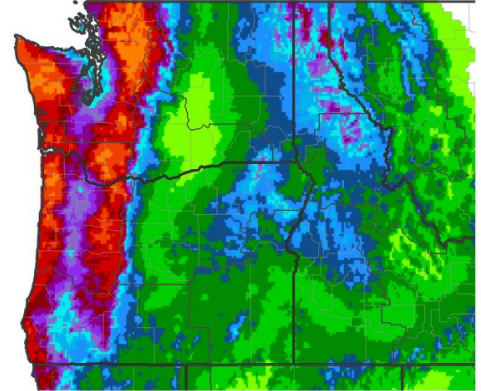
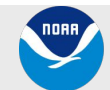


Image Caption:
Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](https://weather.gov/Pendleton)





6-10 Day Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Leaning towards near normal temperatures in western areas and leaning towards below normal temperatures in the east (33-40%)
- Leaning towards below normal precipitation in most areas (33-50%) except leaning towards near normal precipitation in the Washington Cascades

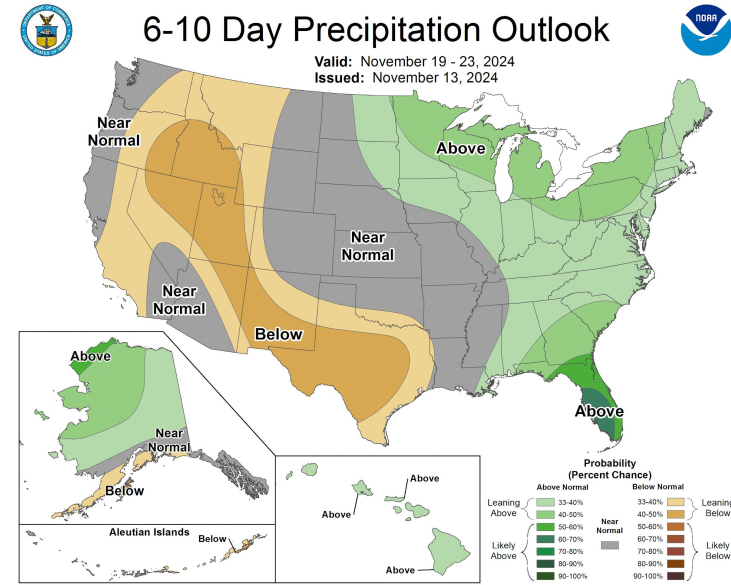
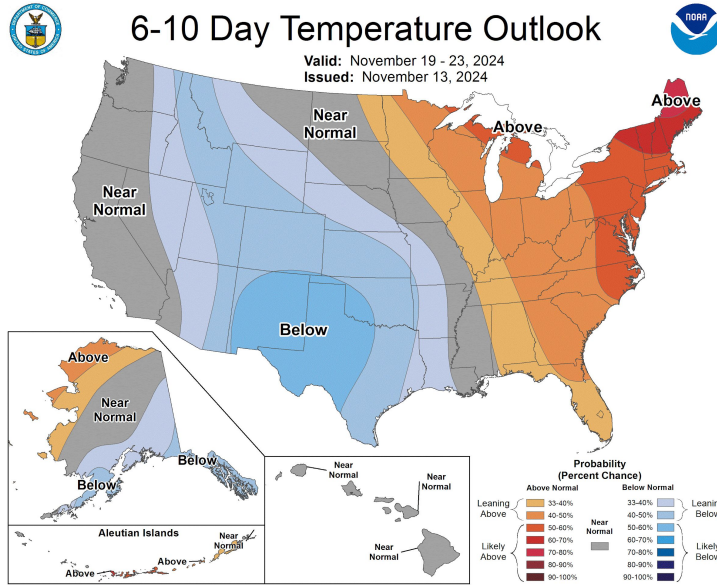


Image Captions:
 Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook](#),
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook](#),
 Valid November 19-23, 2024





8-14 Day Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

- Leaning towards above normal temperatures (33-40% chance) in the Cascades, Columbia Gorge, central and north central Oregon and leaning towards near normal elsewhere
- Leaning towards near normal precipitation area-wide

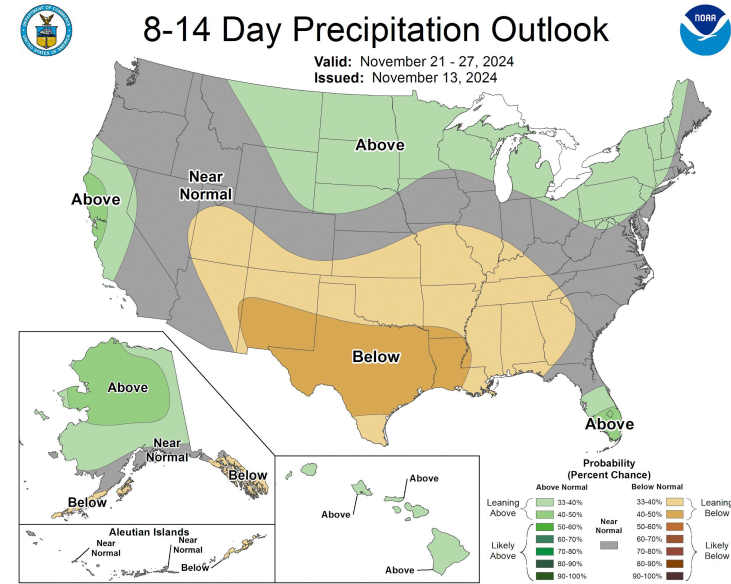
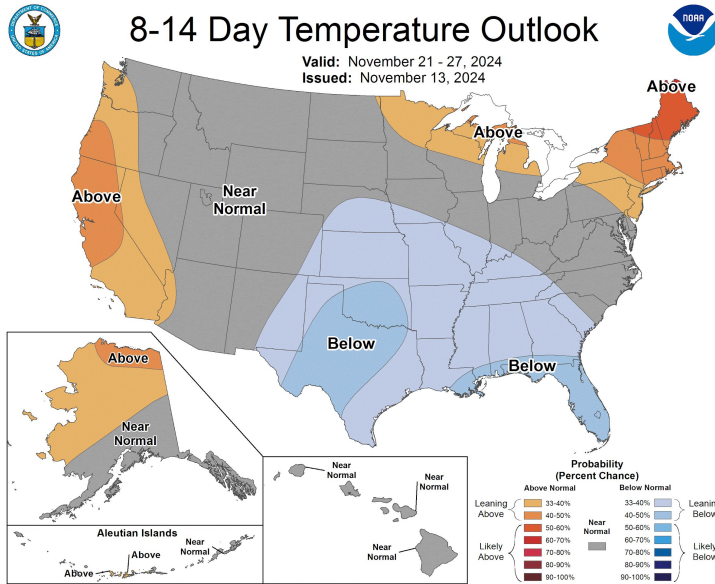
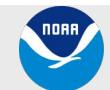


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid November 21-27, 2024





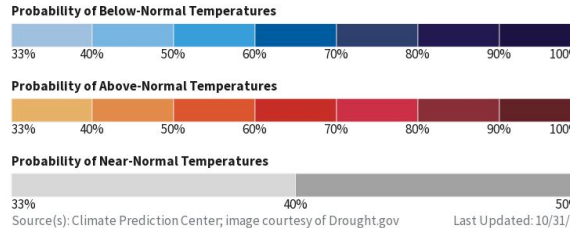
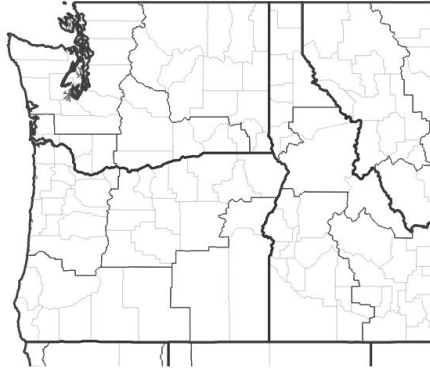
Monthly Climate Outlook

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

Main Takeaways for November

- Equal chances of above, below or near normal temperatures in all areas
- Odds favor above normal precipitation area (33-50%) area wide

Monthly Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2024–November 30, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2024–November 30, 2024

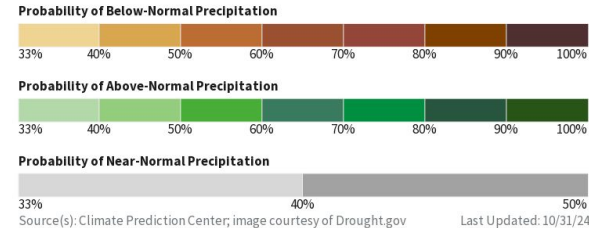
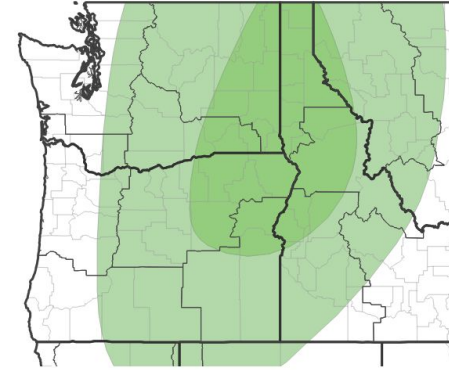
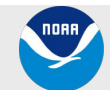


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid November 2024





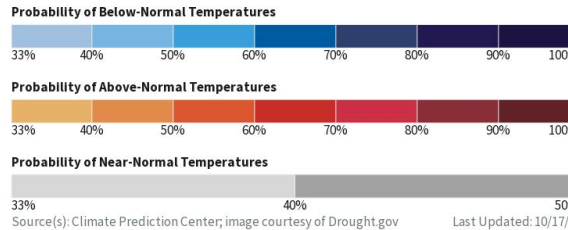
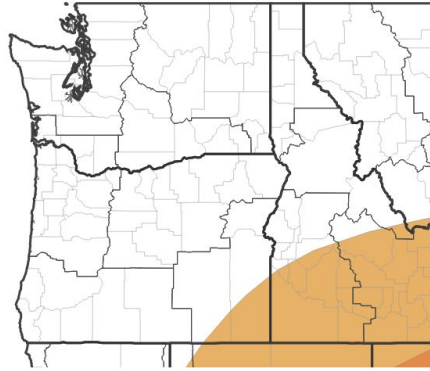
Seasonal Climate Outlook

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

Main Takeaways for November-December-January

- Equal chances of above, near and below normal temperatures for all areas
- Odds leaning towards above normal precipitation (33-50%) for most areas except equal chances of above, near and below precipitation in central Oregon

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2024-January 31, 2025



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2024-January 31, 2025

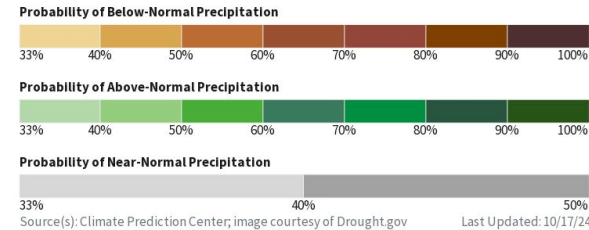
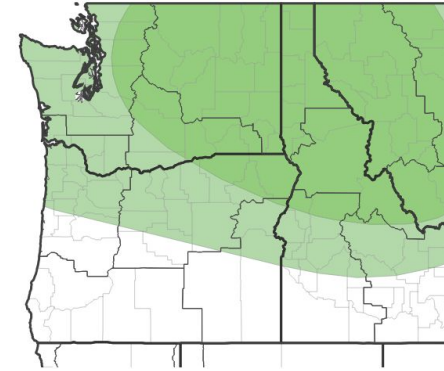
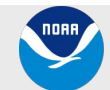


Image Captions:

- Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).
 Valid November and December 2024 and January 2025





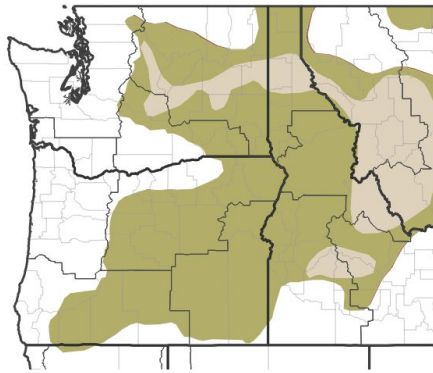
Drought Outlook

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

Main Takeaways

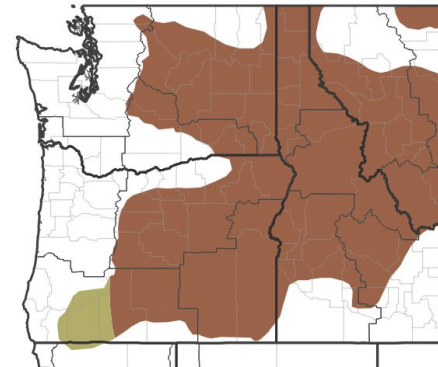
- During November, current conditions are expected to persist over areas currently experiencing drought conditions while the Eastern Columbia River Gorge, Simcoe Highlands and western Columbia Basin will continue to have no drought
- November through January, drought is expected to continue but improve over eastern Kittitas county and either end or continue to have no drought over the rest the region

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 31, 2024–January 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...
Persist Improve End Develop No Drought
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/31/24

1-Month Drought Outlook for November 1, 2024–November 30, 2024



Drought Is Predicted To...
Persist Improve End Develop No Drought
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/31/24

Possible Impact

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

Image Captions:
Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) Released October 31, 2024
Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#) Released October 31, 2024

