



# Drought Information Statement for Eastern Washington & North Idaho

Valid September 19, 2024

Issued By: NWS Spokane, WA

Contact Information: [w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated by October 17, 2024 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/otx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- **SLIGHT IMPROVEMENTS, YET DROUGHT REMAINS ACROSS THE INLAND NW**
    - Extreme drought has improved
    - Severe drought remains in central WA into the central ID Panhandle
    - Drought improves across north-central and northeast WA into the far northern ID Panhandle





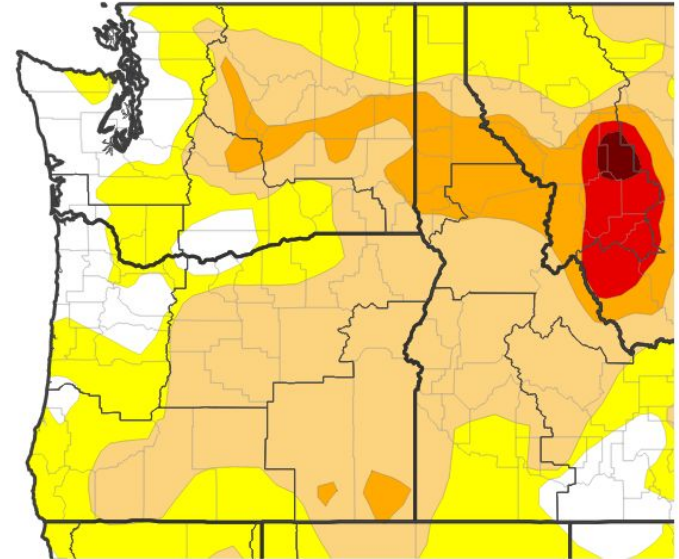
# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for eastern Washington and north Idaho

- Drought intensity and Extent

- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** NONE **0%**
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** central Idaho Panhandle to the lee of the central Cascades ~ **more than 29%**
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** much of central central and eastern WA and the ID Panhandle ~ **less than 43%**
- **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Northcentral and northeast WA, and the far northern ID Panhandle ~ **near 28%**
- NONE: **0%**

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 09/17/24

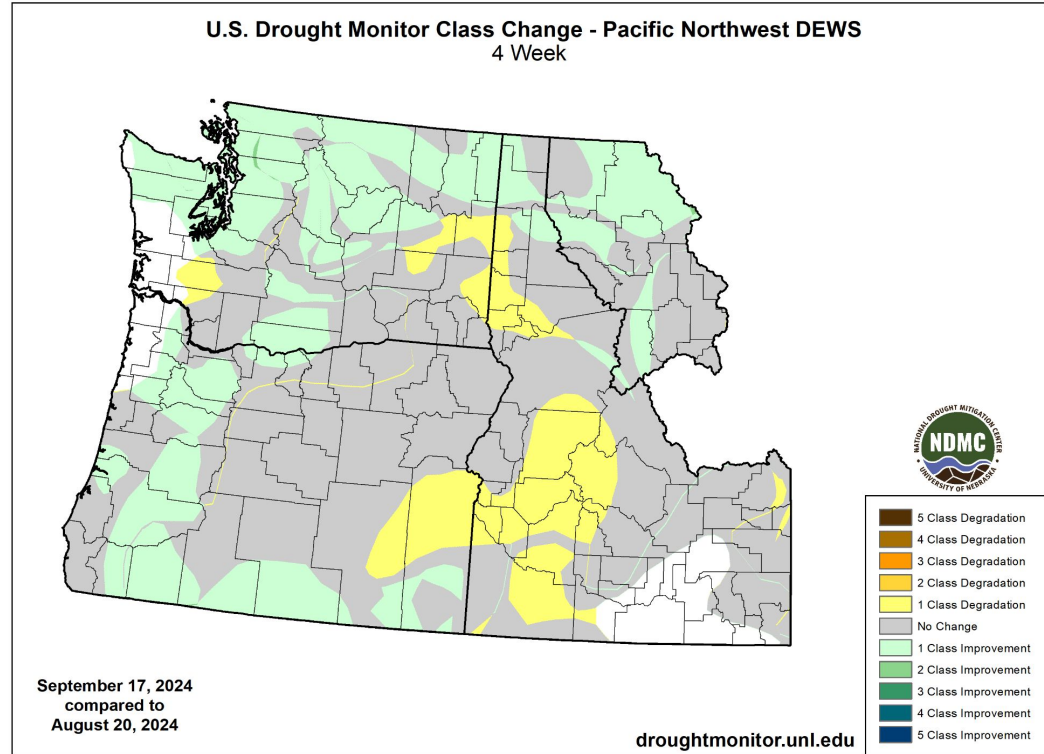




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4 week [change map](#) for eastern Washington and north Idaho

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
  - No Change: Pockets of the Inland NW
  - Drought Improved: north-central and northeast WA and the far northern ID Panhandle.
  - Drought degraded: pockets eastern WA and the southern ID Panhandle





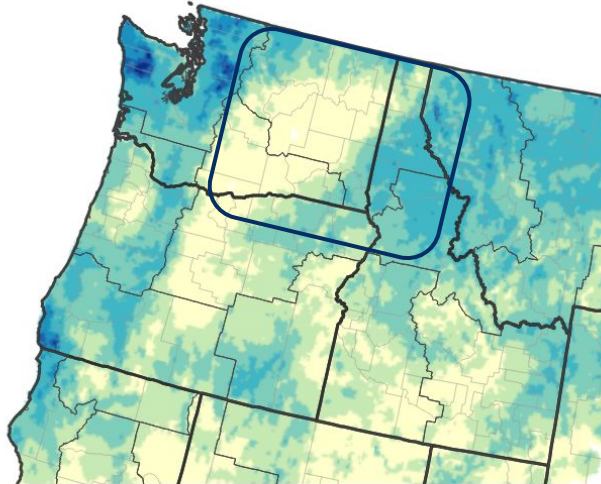
# Precipitation

Last 30 Days

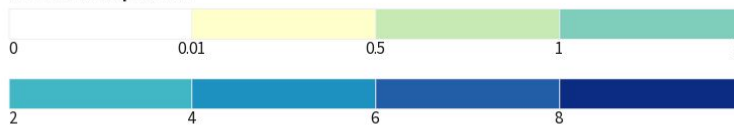
Precipitation over the last 30 days has been concentrated across north-central WA, southeast WA and into the ID Panhandle.

Meanwhile much of the Columbia Basin remains drier than normal.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



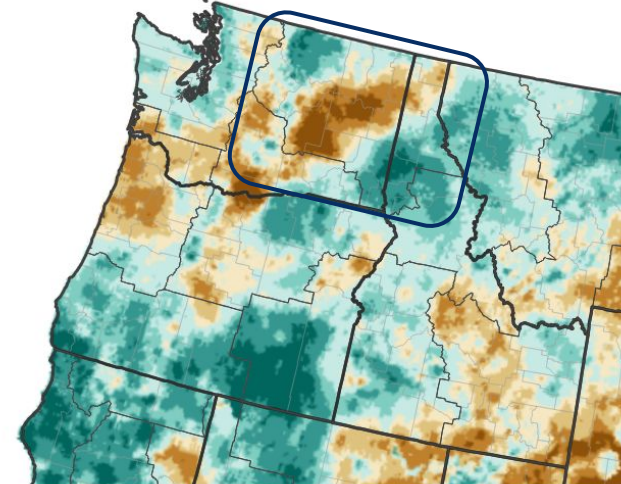
Inches of Precipitation



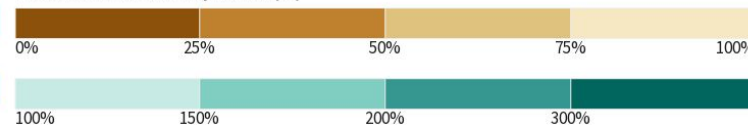
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 09/18/24

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: 09/18/24



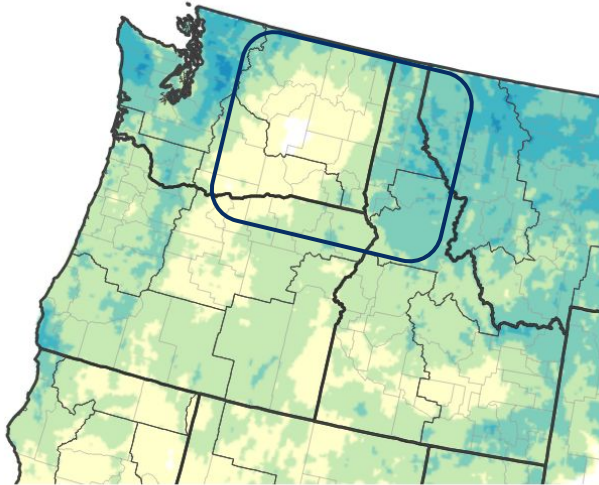


# Precipitation

Last 90 Days

Precipitation over the last 90 days has been noticeably wetter near the international border and across north ID, while the Columbia Basin has remained drier than normal.

NWPS 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



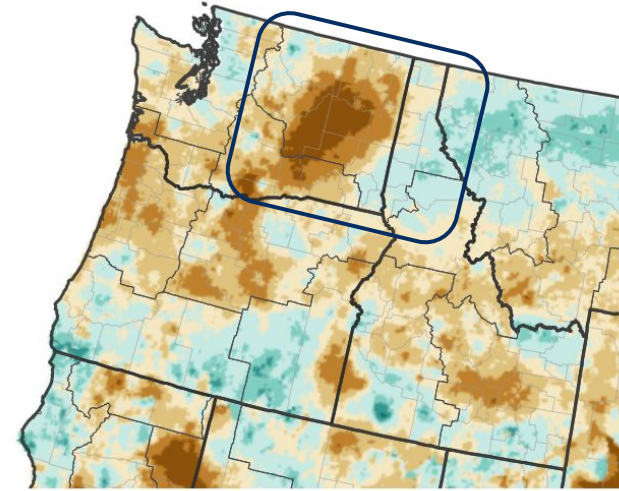
Inches of Precipitation



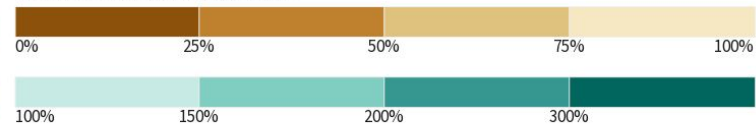
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 09/18/24

90-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: 09/18/24





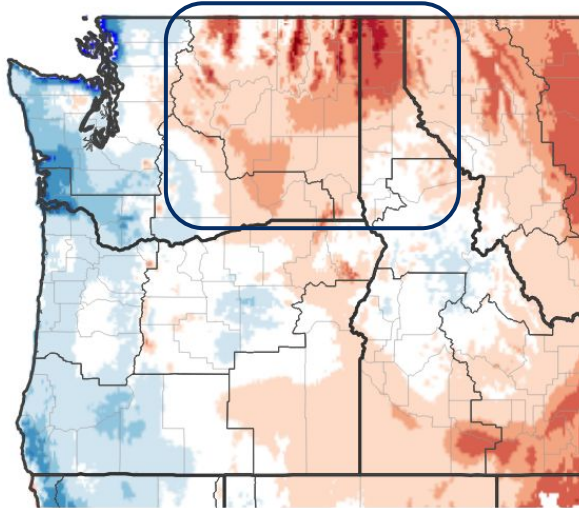
# Temperature

Last 7 Days and 30 Days

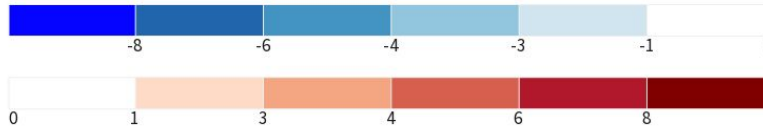
Temperatures the last week have been warmer than normal across much of the Inland NW, especially over northeast WA and far northern ID Panhandle.

Over the last 30 days, temperatures have been seasonal to slightly warmer than normal.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

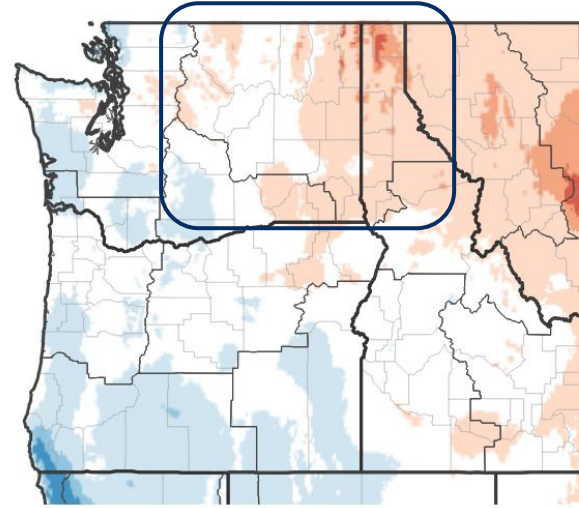


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

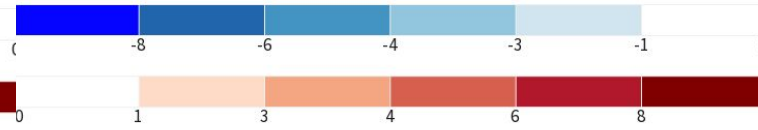


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Data Valid: 09/15/2024 Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 09/15/2024





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows over the past 7 days have seen some improvements. Some areas remain below normal especially along the mid Columbia, while others in southeast WA and the southern ID Panhandle have been above normal with the recent rainfall.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains drier than normal across much of the Inland NW, while the Crop moisture index was Severely Dry in central WA and Abnormally Dry in north ID. Pastures had suffered. Crop yields were down this harvest including winter and spring wheat as well as other dryland crops.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire season was coming to a close. Local wildfires are still possible under dry and windy days. The significant wildland fire potential remains near normal for September and October.

## Mitigation Actions

- The WA [Drought Emergency](#) for much of the state remains in effect.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Stream flows over the past 7 days have seen some improvements. A few areas remain below normal for the lee of the Cascades and much of the mid Columbia and Pend Oreille River Basins. Above normal flows were found across central ID into southeast WA due to the recent precipitation.

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

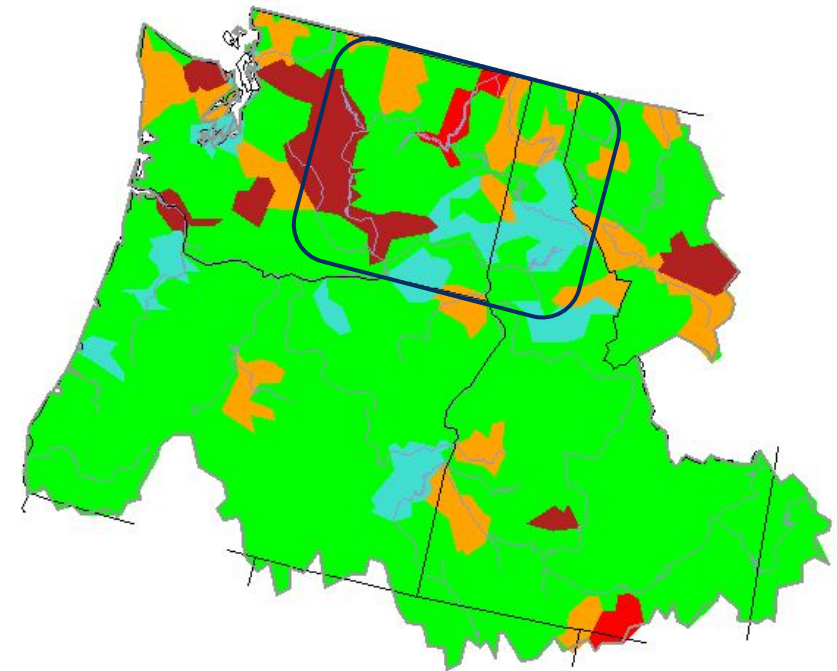


Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map](#) valid September 18, 2024

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			



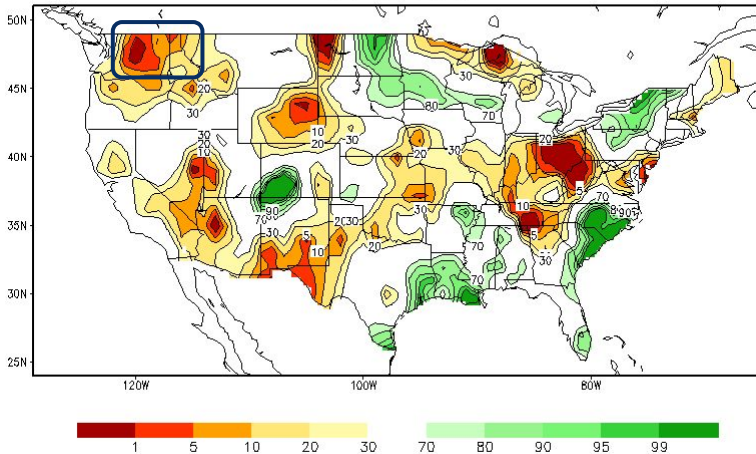




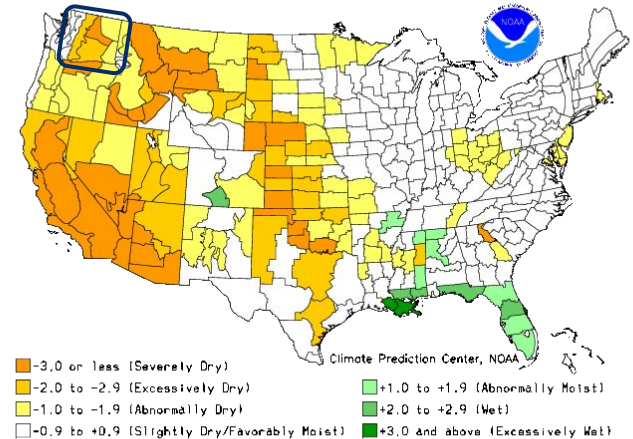
# Agricultural Conditions and Impacts

- Soil moisture remains drier than normal across much of the Inland NW, especially in central WA with soil moisture percentiles in single digit percentiles.
- Crop moisture index remains Severely Dry in central WA and Abnormally Dry in extreme eastern WA and north ID. Pastures had suffered. Crop yields were down this harvest including winter and spring wheat as well as other dryland crops. Irrigated crops were doing well with harvests underway.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
SEP 18, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending SEP 14, 2024  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

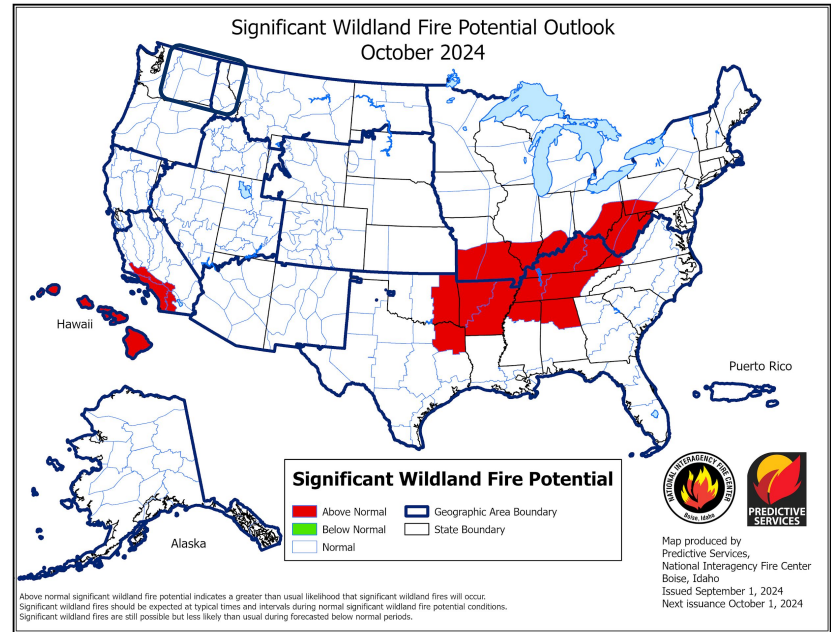
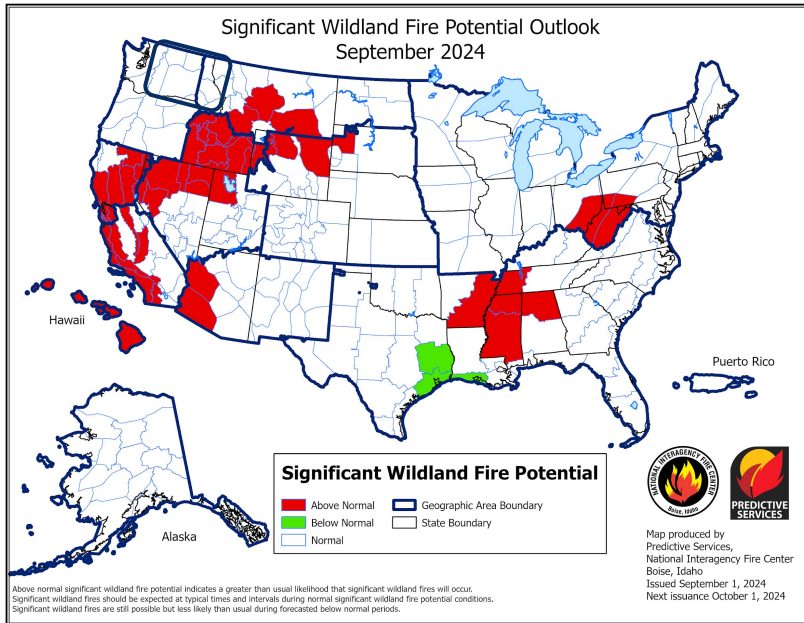




# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Wildfire season was coming to a close. Local wildfires are still possible under dry and windy days.
- The significant wildland fire potential remains near normal for September and October.

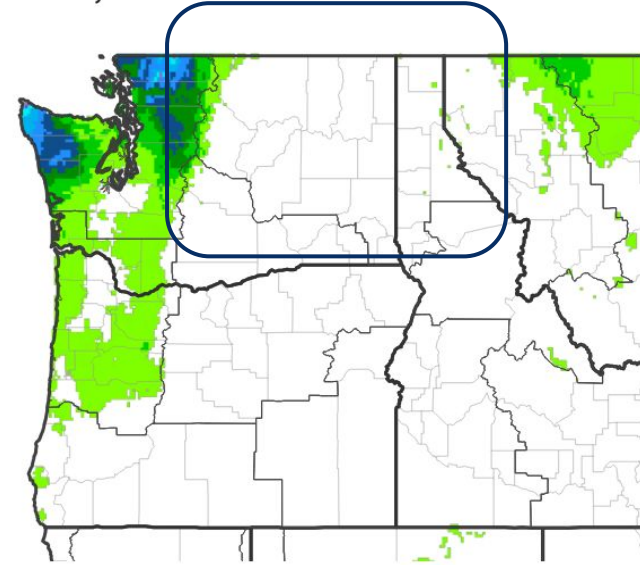




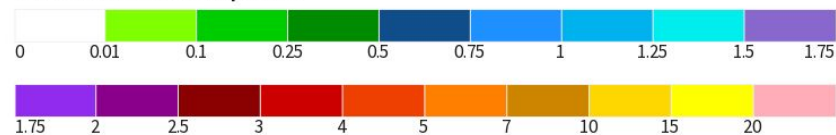
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Here is a forecast of precipitation for the Pacific NW for the upcoming week.
- It remains dry and seasonal for much of the Inland NW. Chances of showers will be found near the crest of the Cascades for the upcoming work week.
- The 8-14 day outlook favors
  - 30-50% of **above normal temperatures**
  - 30-50% of **below normal precipitation** for late September.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for September 19, 2024-September 26, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24



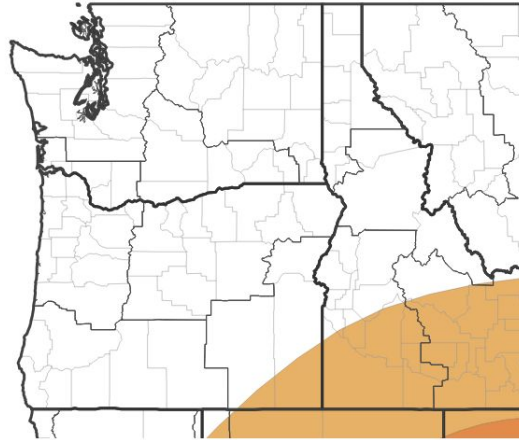


# Monthly Outlook

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

**OCTOBER** is favoring equal chances of near, below, to above normal temperatures and equal chances to above normal precipitation across the Inland NW.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for October 1, 2024–October 31, 2024



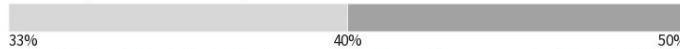
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



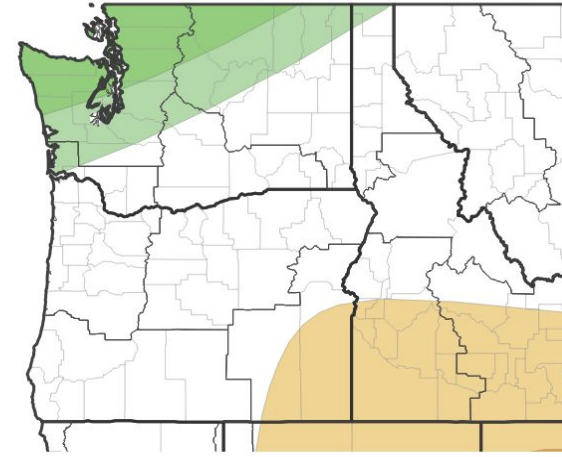
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for October 1, 2024–October 31, 2024



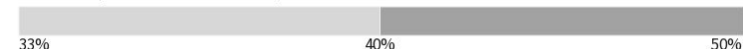
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24



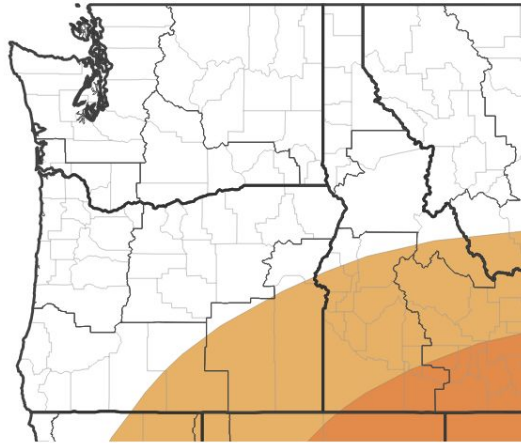


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

**OCT-NOV-DEC** outlook has equal chances of near above, to below normal temperatures and up to 40% chance of above normal precipitation across the Inland NW.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for October 1, 2024–December 31, 2024



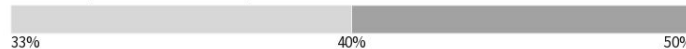
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



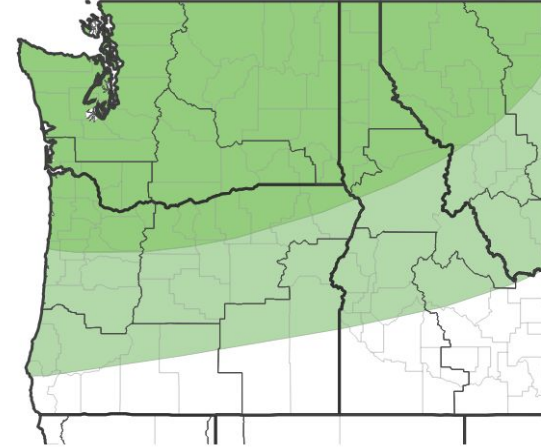
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for October 1, 2024–December 31, 2024



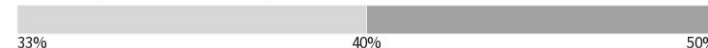
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 09/19/24





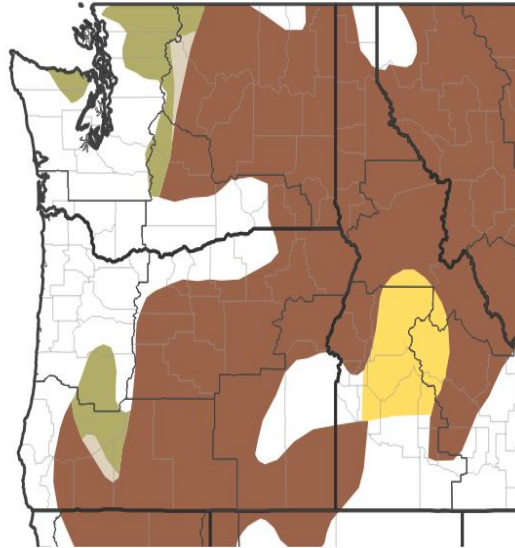
# Drought Outlook

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

The Monthly Drought Outlook shows drought improving across the Cascades while drought is likely to persist across the rest of the Inland NW.

The Seasonal Drought Outlook shows drought likely to improve or end across the Inland NW by late November.

**1-Month Drought Outlook for September 1, 2024–September 30, 2024**



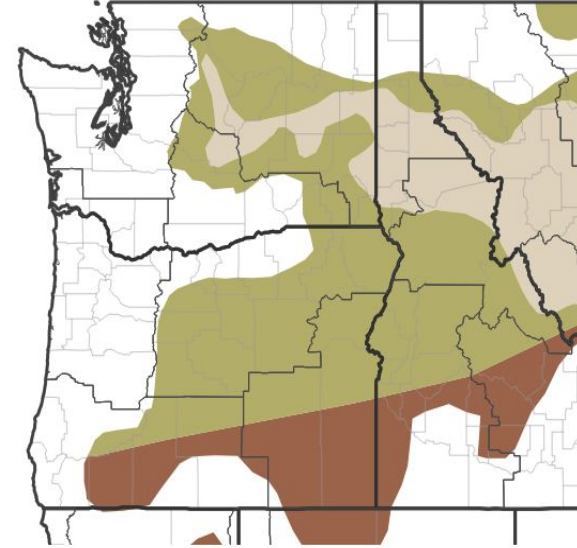
Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 08/3

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for August 31, 2024–November 30, 2024**



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 09/3

