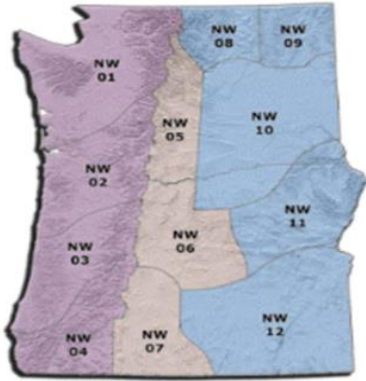




## Fuel Status

Northwest Predictive Service Areas



West Side PSAs:    [NW01](#)    [NW02](#)    [NW03](#)    [NW04](#)

Central PSAs:    [NW05](#)    [NW06](#)    [NW07](#)

East Side PSAs:    [NW08](#)    [NW09](#)    [NW10](#)    [NW11](#)    [NW12](#)

**Updated:**    Tuesday, Oct 15, 2024, 11:54

### Geographic Area Wide:

September began with a series of low-pressure systems mixed with warm to hot high-pressure periods. The hot, dry, and unstable lower levels promoted moderate to strong ventilation of the existing fires. Meanwhile, mixed wet and dry thunderstorms resulted in numerous ignitions during the first two weeks of the month. Mid-month, a significant cold front tempered conditions bringing light to moderate rainfall from the Cascades westward. Little to no rain fell east of the Cascades. Cooler and slower moving low pressure systems over the next several days brought additional rainfall to the westside. Southeastern Oregon also received the first significant rain after 2-3 months. September ended with alternating low-pressure and high-pressure systems primarily bringing significant rain to western Washington and northwest Oregon. Spotty beneficial rain fell east of the Cascades along with periods of moderate to strong winds. Despite the weather pattern change to a more fall-like pattern, parts of central Oregon and eastern Washington have extended the summer rain deficit into the fall months not having received significant rainfall in the past 3-4 months. Regional drought conditions saw little change since August. Portions of the upper Columbia Basin were added to the severe drought category given a prolonged lack of rain. The extreme drought designation for the Washington Cascade east slopes was reduced to severe. Some areas across southern Oregon were reduced from severe drought to moderate drought.

Fire activity increased the first week of September. Lightning started new large fires in eastern Oregon. Instability west of the Cascades supported large fire growth on uncontained portions of long duration fires in southwest Oregon. Initial attack continued to be below average for most of the month with only one spike due to lightning caused ignitions. Large fires east of the Cascades grew rapidly and continued to have periods of growth but not to the extent that was experienced earlier in the summer. Moderated weather conditions have allowed suppression efforts to make gains towards containment objectives. Fires across the Geographic Area have become more easy to suppress. Periods of higher wind east of the Cascades have allowed for wind driven range fires to spread rapidly for single burn periods.



NW01

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW01	ERC 13 100 hr. 20 1,000 hr. 22	Above Below Below	Periods of rain interspersed with drying across the PSA in September continue to keep ERCs around average and 1000-hour fuel values are just below average. Herbaceous fuels continue to benefit from the moisture. Burn windows are shrinking due to seasonality, especially at higher elevations. Long-term drought stressed vegetation allows fuels to be more readily available for ignition and to support active fire spread after shorter periods of drying. More precipitation is needed for a season ending event.	10/15/2024

NW02

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW02	ERC 24 100 hr. 18 1,000 hr. 21	Above Below Below	ERCs peaked in the beginning of September and continue to gradually decline due to the normal seasonal decline in fuel availability. Periods of rain have increased fuel moistures but the amount and duration have not been significant enough to have long term benefit. The Bingham fire started on September 30, and a CIMT was ordered due to the high resistance to control.	10/15/2024



**NW03**

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated									
NW03	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>19</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	31	100 hr.	17	1,000 hr.	19	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	ERCs are trending upward overall as long dry periods are interrupted by short periods of moderate weather with minimal moisture. 100 and 1000 hour fuels are also trending below average. NW03 has seen less overall moisture than NW01 and NW02.	10/15/2024
ERC	31												
100 hr.	17												
1,000 hr.	19												
Above													
Below													
Below													

**NW04**

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated									
NW04	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>13</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	43	100 hr.	13	1,000 hr.	13	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	ERCs are starting October well above average but are forecast to drop the first week. NW05 continues to be the driest area west of the Cascades. Light to moderate east winds with low relative humidity have tested existing large fires in the PSA.	10/15/2024
ERC	43												
100 hr.	13												
1,000 hr.	13												
Above													
Below													
Below													



**NW05**

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW05	ERC 39 100 hr. 15 1,000 hr. 16	Above Below Below	Live fuel moistures have rebounded due to recent precipitation. Freezing overnight temperatures at upper elevations will cause live fuels to cure rapidly and become available to burn although burn periods will be short. Warm dry weather will support active fire behavior in fuels at the lower elevations.	10/15/2024

**NW06**

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW06	ERC 44 100 hr. 13 1,000 hr. 14	Above Below Below	Fuels in central Oregon remain very dry. Moisture received in September only moderated fuels temporarily. Live fuel moistures have rebounded a little from recent precipitation and have moved closer to average values, but forecast high pressure will once again dry live fuels. New ignitions still have potential to grow rapidly but less than what was experienced in September.	10/15/2024

**NW07**

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW07	ERC 45 100 hr. 13	Above Below	Select areas at the north end of the PSA has been absent of rain for 5 months. Fuels are dry with the 100-hour fuel moistures approaching their historical minimum values for early October. Larger fuels remain below the threshold for significant fires and continue to decline.	10/15/2024



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1,000 hr.

14

Below





NW08

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW08	ERC 41 100 hr. 13 1,000 hr. 14	Above Below Below	Fuels remain dry with the 100-hour fuel moistures approaching their historical minimum values for early October. Forecasted warm and dry conditions will keep ERCs above average. Live fuel moistures rebounded from precipitation in the northern portion of the PSA but are rapidly declining and still available to burn.	10/15/2024

NW09

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW09	ERC 40 100 hr. 13 1,000 hr. 14	Above Below Below	Early October high maximum ERC values were reached. Fuels remain dry with the 100-hour fuel moistures setting a new record minimum value for early October. Fuel moisture in the 1000-hour fuels is beginning to increase but remains below the threshold for significant fires.	10/15/2024



NW10

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW10	ERC 43 100 hr. 13 1,000 hr. 14	Average Below Average	Significant precipitation has missed the Columbia Basin in September and low elevation fuels remain critically dry. Live fuels remain cured and support rapid fire growth when aligned with slope and wind. Even with shorter burn periods and colder nights, recent fires have grown more than 1,000 acres in a burn period. Burning conditions will remain elevated any time wind slope and fuels align until season ending moisture is received.	10/15/2024

NW11

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW11	ERC 47 100 hr. 12 1,000 hr. 14	Above Below Average	Limited precipitation in the higher terrain areas had a temporary effect on fuel moistures. Fuels remain dry and will support active fire behavior. Fires continue to show high resistance to control.	10/15/2024

NW12

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PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW12	ERC 53 100 hr. 10	Average Below	Fuels continue to be extremely dry in southeast Oregon. Precipitation had only temporary effects on live and dead fuels and was very spotty. Cooler, longer nights will limit fire spread potential in rangeland fires but the high fuel continuity will elevate spread potential for any ignitions aligned with wind and slope.	10/15/2024



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1,000 hr.

13

Average

