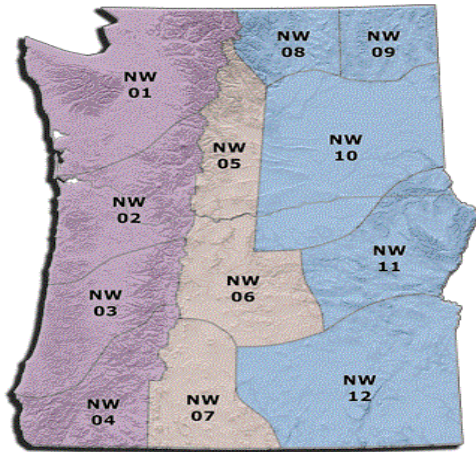


Pacific Northwest 7 Day Significant Fire Potential



Tuesday, August 21, 2018



Predictive Service

Areas	ytd	tdy	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
NW01								
NW02								
NW03								
NW04								
NW05								
NW06		BEN						
NW07		BEN						
NW08								
NW09								
NW10								
NW11								
NW12		⚡						

Legend

Fire Environment (FEN) 4 levels

Minimal	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a very low risk for Large fires (less than 1% chance)
Normal	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a <u>normal</u> risk for large fires (1 - 4% chance)
Elevated	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a moderately high risk for large fires (5 - 19% chance)
High Risk	The risk for large fire(s) is very high (≥ 20%) Triggers: 1. ⚡ (Significant Lightning) 2. BEN (Critical Burn Environment)

The assessment of the overall fire environment considers multiple factors including weather, lightning amount and fuel dryness. Large Fire probabilities are derived objectively via statistical methods. **High Risk** levels (≥ 20% probability of a large fire) are almost always due to significant lightning as burning conditions alone rarely result in a large fire probability much above about 10%.

Fire Potential: An elongated trough of low pressure will linger over the region for a couple more days before finally moving off to the east late Wednesday. The circulation around the low pressure center will keep a slight chance for thunderstorms in the area with the threat mainly in southeastern Oregon. General winds should remain light today, but locally breezy conditions could occur especially in the Columbia Basin. A stronger trough will move across the area Thursday clearing out some smoke and bringing cooler temperatures and moisture along with gusty westerly winds. Models suggest a chance for widespread showers Sunday and Monday as another system traverses the region, but confidence is not high at this time. Check the latest NWS fire weather planning forecasts for details for your area.

Fire danger remains above average, but trends downward through the week, which by early next week should bring us down close to average risk for significant fires for this time of year. While thunderstorms will be isolated today, any lightning should be efficient in starting new fires. General winds should not be an issue today, but offshore flow will warm and dry the west side again today. Significant fire risk will ease a bit after the cool, moist marine air moves in mid-week, although gusty westerly winds through mountain gaps could be an issue Thursday. If the rain materialize Sunday/Monday, the risk of new large, costly fires could drop to below seasonal norms across most of the Pacific Northwest.

Preparedness Level:

Northwest: 5
National: 5

- Eric Wise