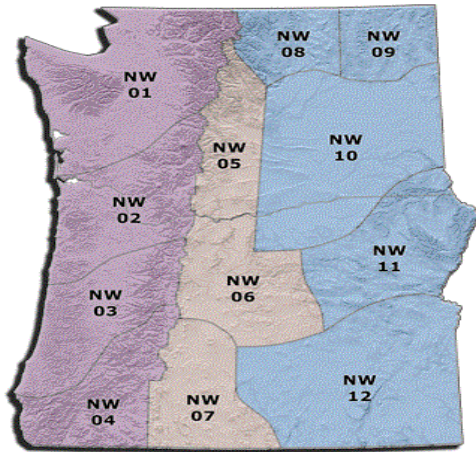


Pacific Northwest 7 Day Significant Fire Potential



Monday, August 20, 2018



Predictive Service

Areas	ytd	tdy	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
NW01								
NW02								
NW03								
NW04		⚡						
NW05								
NW06		⚡						
NW07		⚡						
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 normal 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: A low pressure center in the upper atmosphere remains over the Pacific Northwest continuing the chance for isolated thunderstorms for the next couple days. As the upper level low moves across the region, lightning will be possible over a variety of areas but will be less intense than the last few lightning events. Placement of the thunderstorm threat is still uncertain, and abundant smoke aloft will moderate the development of convection in many areas, but the main risk this afternoon/evening will be along and east of the Oregon Cascades. General winds remain fairly light for most of the region except in northeastern Washington, where strong north to northeast winds ramped up overnight and will peak early this afternoon. Northwest Washington may also experience some gusty offshore flow today from the north Cascades across to the northwest Olympic Peninsula. Check the latest NWS advisories and forecasts for details and timing for your area. A marine push is expected to sweep across the region mid-week, bringing westerly winds along with cooler, moister air.

Fire danger remains above average, but appears to be on a downward trend through the week. While thunderstorms will be isolated over the next couple days, any lightning should exhibit the same efficiency in starting new fires in available fuels that the last rounds did. Channeled northerly/northeasterly winds will be a concern today for NE Washington, especially through the Okanogan Valley and into the Columbia Basin. Warm, dry offshore flow in northwest Washington could bolster the behavior of existing fires and the threat of new significant fires today. Conditions will ease a bit after the marine air mass moves in mid-week.

Preparedness Level:

Northwest: 5
National: 5

- Eric Wise