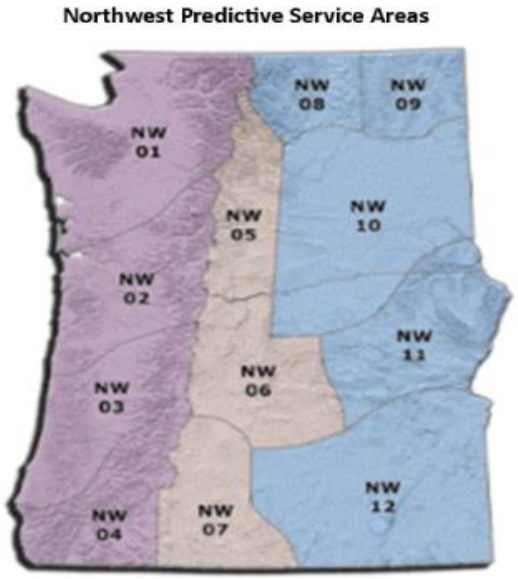
Northwest Coordination Center

Fuel Status



West Side PSAs: NW01 NW02 NW03 NW04

Central PSAs: NW05 NW06 NW07

East Side PSAs: NW08 NW09 NW10 NW11 NW12

Monday, Jun 16, 2025, 14:15

Updated: **Monday, June 16, 2025**

Geographic Area Wide:

During May, persistent low pressure systems moved through the Pacific Northwest but delivered minimal beneficial precipitation. While some PSAs received brief wetting or soaking events, most areas saw less than one consecutive day of rain, with monthly precipitation totals falling below 80% of average—and many locales dropping below 25%. Temperatures hovered near seasonal norms, but snowpack melted rapidly, driven by mild weather and a lack of reinforcing moisture. By month's end, few basins retained snowpack at or above daily averages. The U.S. Drought Monitor showed moderate drought persisting across the Washington Cascades westward to Puget Sound, with abnormally dry conditions expanding across western Washington, northern western Oregon, and into the Blue Mountains. Initial attack activity remained low, though rangeland fire activity increased as lower-elevation live fuels cured. A notable fire in north-central Oregon reached 1,500 acres in one burn period under wind alignment. Prescribed fire operations tapered off by late May.

Northwest Coordination Center

NW01

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW01	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	24 17 15	Above Below Below	Lowland grasses are beginning to cure in exposed locations, with fuels drying 3–4 weeks ahead of schedule. While green live fuels continue to moderate fire spread, large-diameter woody fuels are actively consuming. The snowline remains above the tree line, signaling continued drying at elevation. South- and west-facing aspects are receptive to fire spread, whereas north and east aspects are drying more slowly. Recent samples show 1,000-hour fuel moistures averaging around 46%.	6/16/2025

NW02

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW02	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	32 15 15	Above Below Below	Rapid fuel drying occurred throughout most of May and into early June, culminating in a brief ERC-Y record high during the early June heat spell. Live fuels are actively curing, and 1,000-hour fuels are trending below seasonal averages. Overall, fuel conditions are 1–2 weeks ahead of typical seasonal timelines, signaling elevated potential for fire activity earlier than usual.	6/16/2025

Northwest Coordination Center

NW03

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW03	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	33 15 14	Above Below Below	Fuels in NW03 continue to mirror trends observed in NW02, with ERCs peaking in early June following an extended period of hot, dry weather. Both large dead fuels and live fuels are curing rapidly during warm, dry spells, yet moisture content remains marginal, meaning large fire growth remains unlikely unless other fire environment factors—such as wind, topography, or ignition frequency—become aligned.	6/16/2025

NW04

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW04	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	39 12 13	Above Below Below	Significant fuel drying occurred in early June, with exposed valley grasses now fully cured and highly receptive to ignition. Snowpack is rapidly receding, though persistent snow remains at higher elevations, contributing localized moisture but offering limited mitigation at lower elevations	6/16/2025

Northwest Coordination Center

NW05

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW05	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	44 11 12	Above Below Below	Below-average winter snowpack has accelerated spring curing across fuel types. Fine fuels are nearly fully cured, while large woody fuels are now receptive and will actively consume under favorable conditions. South and west aspects are primed for ignition across most elevations. Meanwhile, north and east aspects are beginning to support active burning, particularly below 4,500 feet.	6/16/2025

NW06

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW06	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	45 10 12	Above Below Below	Energy Release Components (ERCs) are trending above average for early June, signaling heightened potential for fire activity. Rangeland fuels are sufficiently dry to support sustained fire spread when aligned with wind and slope, with the potential for active behavior across multiple burn periods. Live fuels on north-facing slopes above 3,000 feet remain green, offering localized moderation. Sagebrush is curing rapidly, and juniper moisture levels are well below seasonal averages, increasing susceptibility to ignition and consumption.	6/16/2025

Northwest Coordination Center

NW07

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW07	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	40 12 13	Above Below Below	Snow remains present at higher elevations and on north-facing slopes, continuing to moderate drying in some areas. Dead fuels are drier than average, and 1,000-hour fuels are actively consuming during prescribed fires, indicating increased receptiveness. Live fuels are still green and act as barriers to fire spread, contributing to slower-than-expected spread in recent ignitions.	6/16/2025

NW08

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW08	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	49 10 11	Above Below Below	Below-normal winter snowpack has contributed to fuels drying 2–4 weeks ahead of schedule this spring. The accelerated drying, combined with unseasonably warm and dry conditions, has led to higher-than-normal ignition activity across the region.	6/16/2025

Northwest Coordination Center

NW09

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW09	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	43 11 12	Above Below Below	Similar to broader trends across northern Washington, below-normal snowpack has accelerated fuel drying and curing, advancing the season noticeably. Energy Release Components (ERCs) have climbed rapidly since late May, reflecting the increasingly receptive conditions. Live fuels at mid to upper elevations remain in the curing phase, offering some moderating influence for now	6/16/2025

NW10

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW10	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	53 9 10	Above Below Below	Fine fuels are nearly fully cured, especially in valley and exposed areas. Live fuels are curing rapidly. ERCs are above average and climbing since late May, indicating elevated fire potential. Wind-driven fires are becoming more common as fuels dry and ignitions align with wind and slope.	6/16/2025

Northwest Coordination Center

NW11

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to the time of year	Remarks	Updated
NW11	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	41 12 12	Above Below Below	Energy Release Components (ERCs) continue their seasonal climb, remaining above average through much of May and June. However, upper elevations remain green, with live fuels still not contributing to fire spread, helping to moderate overall fire behavior in those areas.	6/16/2025

NW12

Back to top

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)		Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Updated
NW12	ERC 100 hr. 1,000 hr.	46 12 11		Sagebrush fuel moistures are currently well below average, increasing the potential for volatility across the landscape. The dry conditions during April and May significantly limited annual grass development, particularly in exposed areas. Perennial vegetation is showing regrowth in contrast to the limited annual response. Other areas remain relatively green and continue to offer some moderating influence.	6/16/2025