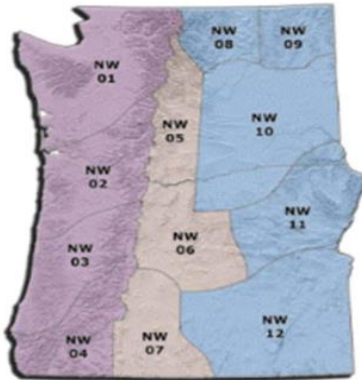




Fuel Status

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: Monday, Sep 02, 2024, 17:02

Geographic Area Wide:

August started hot and dry with an upper ridge over much of the west coast. Moisture rotated north around the high pressure which brought a mix of dry and wet thunderstorms. Strong level instability, combined with periodically enhanced diurnal winds, resulted in increased growth on new and existing fires. Occasional smaller scale upper low-pressure systems briefly displaced the upper ridge and often brought gusty general winds to areas east of the Cascades. A pair of large upper low-pressure systems crossed the region the second and third week of the month bringing additional thunderstorms and periods of rain. The first one on the 17th was especially active with over 6,000 lightning flashes occurring over a single 24-hour period. It brought moderate to heavy rain along the Cascade crest and westward, however, storms further east arrived with much less rain. Several days later a second upper low reinforced cooler wetter conditions from the first. However, it still produced drier thunderstorms across the far eastern parts of the Geographic Area which were also missed by rains from the first low. Ultimately, these lows took the edge off the fire season to date and returned conditions near to, or below, average. The month finished under hot and dry weather as high pressure returned was undercut by another smaller scale low the last few days.

Fire activity continued to moderate in August and overall was much lower than July. Initial attack was below average for most of the month with only two spikes in lightning caused ignitions. Large fires east of the Cascades continued to have periods of growth but not to the extent that was experienced earlier in the summer. Periods of moderate weather conditions allowed suppression efforts to make gains towards containment objectives. Fires along the Cascade Crest and southwest Oregon continued to show a high resistance to control. Fire growth on forests was steady and larger growth periods coincided with favorable weather conditions. Two precipitation events near the end of August slowed fire spread across southwest Oregon.



NW01

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd:									
NW01	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>19</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	30	100 hr.	14	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	Varying amounts of rain across the PSA in August continue to linger with mostly normal ERCs and 1000 hour fuel values. Some herbaceous fuels showed some green up after the precipitation as well. The return to warm, dry conditions is quickly transitioning the area back to elevated indices with dead fuel moistures decreasing accordingly. Exposed areas and southern aspects up to 6000' elevation are available to burn. Abnormally dry conditions along with drought stressed vegetation makes fuels more readily available for ignition and to support active fire spread. The 2620 Road wildfire burned nearly 400 acres in mid-August and observations showed good consumption in large fuels, indicating the drought conditions.	9/2/
ERC	30												
100 hr.	14												
1,000 hr.	19												
Above													
Below													
Below													

NW02

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd:									
NW02	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>16</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	35	100 hr.	14	1,000 hr.	16	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	ERCs peaked in the beginning of August and gradually declined to record low values by the end of August. ERCs started to rebound the last week of August and are forecast to rebound to the 97th percentile by the first week of September. Rain received mid-month, slowed seasonal drying of live fuels, which were just becoming critical. Live fuels were not as dry as they were in southern Oregon. Large fire growth has been limited to a single incident in the Columbia Gorge which has limited periods of growth. Live fuels are still a viable barrier to spread at mid to upper elevations.	9/2/
ERC	35												
100 hr.	14												
1,000 hr.	16												
Above													
Below													
Below													



NW03

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.									
NW03	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>16</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	39	100 hr.	12	1,000 hr.	16	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	ERCs are on a similar trend as in NW02, and currently above average and forecast to rise during the first week of September. 100 and 1000 hour fuels ended the month at below average values and are forecast to stay dry during the beginning of September. Live fuels remain relatively moist similar to northwest Oregon and western Washington. Large fire load is low with only a couple of large incidents currently in the area. These incidents are showing a high resistance to control.	9/2/.
ERC	39												
100 hr.	12												
1,000 hr.	16												
Above													
Below													
Below													

NW04

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.									
NW04	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	44	100 hr.	12	1,000 hr.	15	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Average</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Average	Below	Below	A temporary drop in ERC at the end of August was quickly followed by a rapid increase in ERCs to above average values late in August and forecast to continue to rise in September. The Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory was rescinded as fuels moderated from the rapid drying that occurred in July. Conifer mortality in southwest Oregon is increasing. On previous fires, snags from cumulative conifer mortality over the past years are contributing to frequent spotting and increased time needed to complete line construction or secure the fire's edge due to the need for fallers to pass through an area before folks can safely and successfully engage in work.	9/2/.
ERC	44												
100 hr.	12												
1,000 hr.	15												
Average													
Below													
Below													



NW05

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Update
NW05	ERC 48 100 hr. 11 1,000 hr. 15	Above Below Below	ERCs at the end of August rapidly approached the 97th percentile and are forecast to continue to rise in September, is increasing overall fire potential. 100 and 1000 hour fuels are also trending near record low values. Curing of live fuels has rebounded due to recent moisture. Upper elevation live fuels will become subject to overnight freezing and will cure rapidly and will be available to burn during shortened burn periods.	9/2/20

NW06

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Update
NW06	ERC 49 100 hr. 10 1,000 hr. 14	Above Below Below	Fuels in central Oregon remain very dry. Moisture received in August only moderated fuels temporarily. Most RAWS did not record any precipitation. Live fuels 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 July.	9/2/20

NW07

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Update
NW07	ERC 48 100 hr. 11 1,000 hr. 15	Above Below Below	Fuels, both live and dead, continue to rebound from mid to late August rains. Shorter days, lower sun angle and cooler overnight temperatures will continue to moderate fuel drying rates. Low elevation fires can still burn with increased intensity, but will be limited to a couple of burn periods and will be easier to suppress overnight compared to earlier in the summer.	9/2/20



NW08

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.									
NW08	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>15</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	45	100 hr.	12	1,000 hr.	15	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	<p>Significant rain near the end of August dropped ERCs to record low values. A significant warming and drying trend started the last week of August and ERCs began to rise rapidly. By the end of the month ERCs were around average and forecast to continue to increase. Live fuels also responded positively to the moisture and have increased steadily through the month of August, before plateauing at the end of the month. Fire activity in northern Washington has dropped significantly due to the precipitation event.</p>	9/2/
ERC	45												
100 hr.	12												
1,000 hr.	15												
Above													
Below													
Below													

NW09

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.									
NW09	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ERC</td> <td>46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 hr.</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,000 hr.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </table>	ERC	46	100 hr.	15	1,000 hr.	12	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Below</td> </tr> </table>	Above	Below	Below	<p>Following the same trend as NW08, fuels in northeast Washington are rebounding quickly from precipitation in later August and ERCs are forecast to reach the 97th percentile during the first week of September. Live fuels have been increasing in moisture for most of August and leveling off at the end of the month as temperatures warm and dry. The fire load in northeast Washington continues to be very light.</p>	9/2/
ERC	46												
100 hr.	15												
1,000 hr.	12												
Above													
Below													
Below													



NW10

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.
NW10	ERC 55 100 hr. 10 1,000 hr. 13	Average Average Average	Precipitation amounts in the Columbia Basin were much less than other parts of Oregon and Washington but enough to drop ERCs temporarily before the end of the month when they began to rebound. Annual grasses have completely cured for the season but woody fuels have moistened significantly from low values that occurred at the end of July. As always, wind and slope alignment can produce rapid fire spread, but with longer, cooler nights most new ignitions will be relatively short-lived.	9/2/

NW11

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.
NW11	ERC 57 100 hr. 10 1,000 hr. 13	Above Below Average	ERCs did not drop in northeast Oregon as much as other PSAs and rebounded to the 97th percentile by the end of August. Even though conditions are still dry, fuels are not in the critical condition they were in July. Live fuels have plateaued after moderate increases through August and will moderate fire behavior especially at mid and upper slopes.	9/2/

NW12

Ba

PSA	ERC, 100, 1000 (average of Key Stations)	Relative to this time of Year	Remarks	Upd.
NW12	ERC 61 100 hr. 9 1,000 hr. 11	Average Above Average	Fuels continue to be extremely dry in southeast Oregon. Precipitation had only temporary effects and was very spotty. Cooler, longer nights will limit fire spread potential in rangeland fires but the increase continuity will elevate spread potential for any ignitions aligned with wind and slope.	9/2/



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