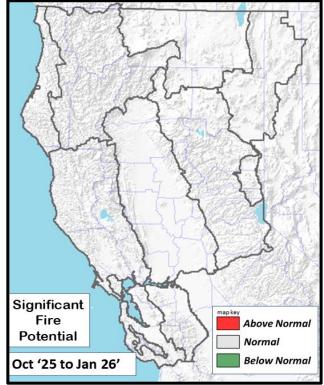
Northern Operations

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS







*Significant Fire Potential per Predictive Service Area (PSA)

**Click on the graphics to expand the view

October 2025 - January 2026 North Ops Highlights

- Whiplash weather patterns expected during the next 4 months with extended cool-moist periods mixed with extended warm-dry ones.
- Normal frequency of northerly-offshore wind periods likely with 2-3 per month.
- Alignment of critically dry dead-live fuels is expected to be minimal or occur during shorter periods.
- Lowland areas will remain susceptible to dry-gusty wind periods until new herbaceous greenup is sufficient enough to offset the amount of carryover standing dead.
- Significant Fire Potential is projected to be normal during the outlook period which means 1 or less large fires per PSA during October and less than 1 per PSA during November through January.

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

ISSUED October 1, 2025 VALID October 2025 - January 2026



Weather Discussion

The atmospheric patterns remained very changeable during September. There were no significant heat wave periods although average temperatures (Fig 2) were near to above normal. Wetting precipitation occurred during different stages of the month and impacted different areas. The most impactful wetting period occurred at the end of the month due to an Atmospheric River event. Precipitation anomalies (Fig. 1) were generally near to above normal altho pockets of below normal occurred. There were a total of 3 breezier dry northerly wind periods with the strongest occurring on the 26th favoring the Sacramento Valley. This event prompted a Red Flag Warning from the National Weather Service and a High Risk from Predictive Services. Other High Risk and/or Red Flag Warning issuances occurred during the first week due to lightning, gusty outflow winds and/or deep instability concerns. Lightning observed (Fig 7) using the Earth Network platform was a little over 15,000 strikes and broke the September monthly record. The 2012-2024 Earth Networks Total Lightning Network (ENTLN) average is a little over 2700 and the record value up to this year was 14,417 in 2017.

Mixed temperature and precipitation anomalies (**Fig 10**) are expected during the next 4 months. The jet stream is likely to be active and make timely if not frequent moisture intrusions at times. The frequency of northerly and/or offshore wind events is likely to be normal, which is generally 2 to 3 varying strength events per month. Expect whiplash weather patterns providing a wide pendulum of outcomes during this outlook period based on all of the atmospheric-oceanic teleconnections in play.

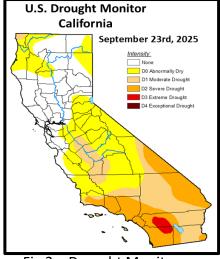


Fig 3 – Drought Monitor

Current and Average Monthly Values						
	Chamise			Manzanita		
Month	2024/25	2023/24	Ave	2024/25	2023/24	Ave
Oct	60	65	63	76	94	84
Nov	69	68	69	98	96	95
Dec	71	73	75	107	109	105
Jan	69	75	77	107	100	99
Feb	78	79	84	104	10	100
Mar	99	89	98	101	96	98
Apr	120	112	113	103	99	99
May	109	126	119	119	124	124
Jun	97	106	99	117	130	132
Jul	77	81	78	108	112	108
Aug	64	66	66	84	88	91
Sep	60	62	62	82	80	83
0ct		60	60		76	81
Courtesy of PG&E						

Fig 4 PG&E live fuel moisture

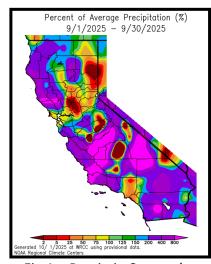


Fig 1 – Precip in September (% of avg.)

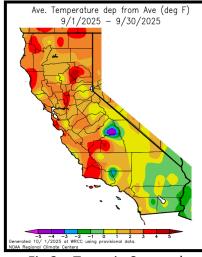


Fig 2 – Temp in September (dep of avg.)

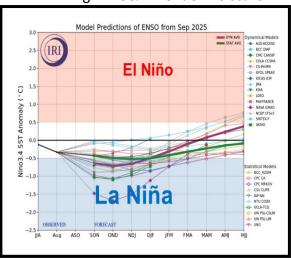


Fig 5 – Current ENSO state and outlook

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

ISSUED October 1, 2025 VALID October 2025 - January 2026



Fuels Discussion

Mixed fuel flammability occurred throughout September. Dead fuels experienced notable fluctuations with critically flammable values front loaded to the first 6 days of the month. Live shrubs and tree canopies continued to cure with most species and elevations in the flammable to critically flammable state. Herbaceous fuels (**Fig 8**) were generally cured to mostly cured and added to the fire spread potential, especially the latter half of the month.

The blue line found on the North Ops 1000-hour dead fuel moisture chart (**Fig 6**) shows critically flammable values of 12% or less during the first week. Distinct moistening occurred during the 2nd week with fluctuations thereafter. Grey line is the historical average based on 23 years of data. Dashed lines represent various flammable percentile thresholds from the 40th to 3rd.

Due to a few expansive and intense moisture periods during September localized herbaceous germination (**Fig 9**) took place across the low elevations of the N. Coast, NW Mtns and upper Sacramento Valley. The germination however didn't serve as a fire spread inhibitor due to the higher ratio of the amount of standing dead compared to the amount of moisture laden grasses and forbs. Live fuel moisture samples of shrubs and tree canopies was near average with some species and areas recording a little below normal while other areas a little above normal. Live fuels typically reach their lowest readings during September and October. Sampling (**Fig 4**) within the PG&E service area through the 3rd week of the month suggested near normal and flammable to critically flammable values. No change occurred in the drought classification (**Fig 3**) between late August to late September.

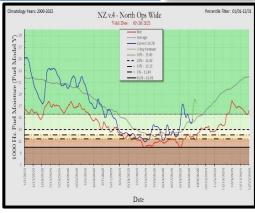


Fig 6 – North Ops 1000-hr Fuel Moisture - September 30th



Fig 7 September ENTLN observed ltgn



Fig 8 Herbaceous curing trends Lassen NP

Fig 9 Subtle herbaceous greenup during Sep

Webpage: GACC.NIFC.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/index.htm Contact: redding.fwx@fire.ca.gov Page 3

Northern Operations

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

ISSUED October 1, 2025 VALID October 2025 - January 2026



NORTH OPS FIRE BUSINESS & TRENDS

Wildfire business fluctuated during September with the busiest period found during the first few days when abundant lightning overlaid with a flammable to critically flammable fuel bed. The daily wildfire ignition average during September was 16 compared to 26 observed during August. September 2008-2024 daily ignition average is 15. Two large fires were reported and both ignited within the NW Mtns PSA. The Root fire located near Castella grew to nearly 700 acres on the 1st and required a type 3 incident management team. The regional average of September large fires based on a 1992-2023 database is 9. The North Ops planning level (PL) went from 4 to 3 on the 9th and then to a 2 on the 30th. Prescribed burning including larger landscape burns increased during September, especially the last week of the month due to favorable fuel and weather conditions plus resource availability.

Based on the current fuel state and future weather predictions, normal large fire potential is projected for October through January. Unusually flammable live and dead fuel alignments is likely to be minimal or occur for short periods during the outlook time frame. The region is expected to undergo an important transformation during October and November with timely moisture events maintaining additional germination and growth of the herbaceous fuels across the lowest elevations. The longer nights and lowering sun angles will also lessen the risk or shorten the burn periods. Normal amounts of dry-gusty wind events are likely to occur and if there is enough drying ahead of the event some spread potential will be found in the grass/shrub dominated areas or until the new growth can sufficiently offset the carryover standing dead.

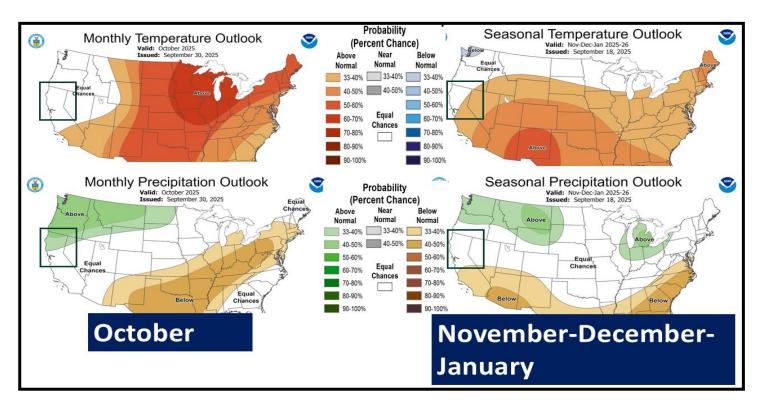


Fig 10 - CPC Monthly and Multi-Month Outlooks

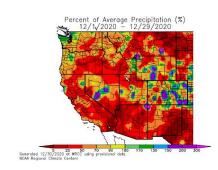
Webpage: GACC.NIFC.gov/oncc/predictive/weather/index.htm **Contact**: redding.fwx@fire.ca.gov

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

ISSUED September 1, 2025 VALID September - December 2025



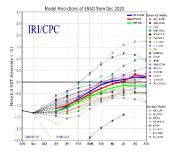
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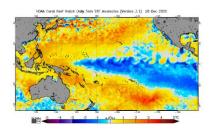
Western Region Climate Center Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies



California Daily Snowpack Map



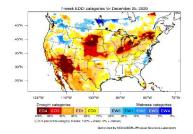
Monthly El Niño Southern Oscillation Analysis and Outlook



Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly Maps



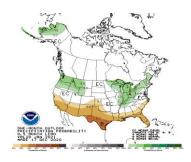
Drought Monitor Product for California



Evaporative Demand Drought Index



Daily Fuels Indices Charts



NOAA/NWS Climate Prediction Center