



2024 OSFM WILDFIRE UPDATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mariana Ruiz-Temple
State Fire Marshal



GROWING WILDFIRE CRISIS

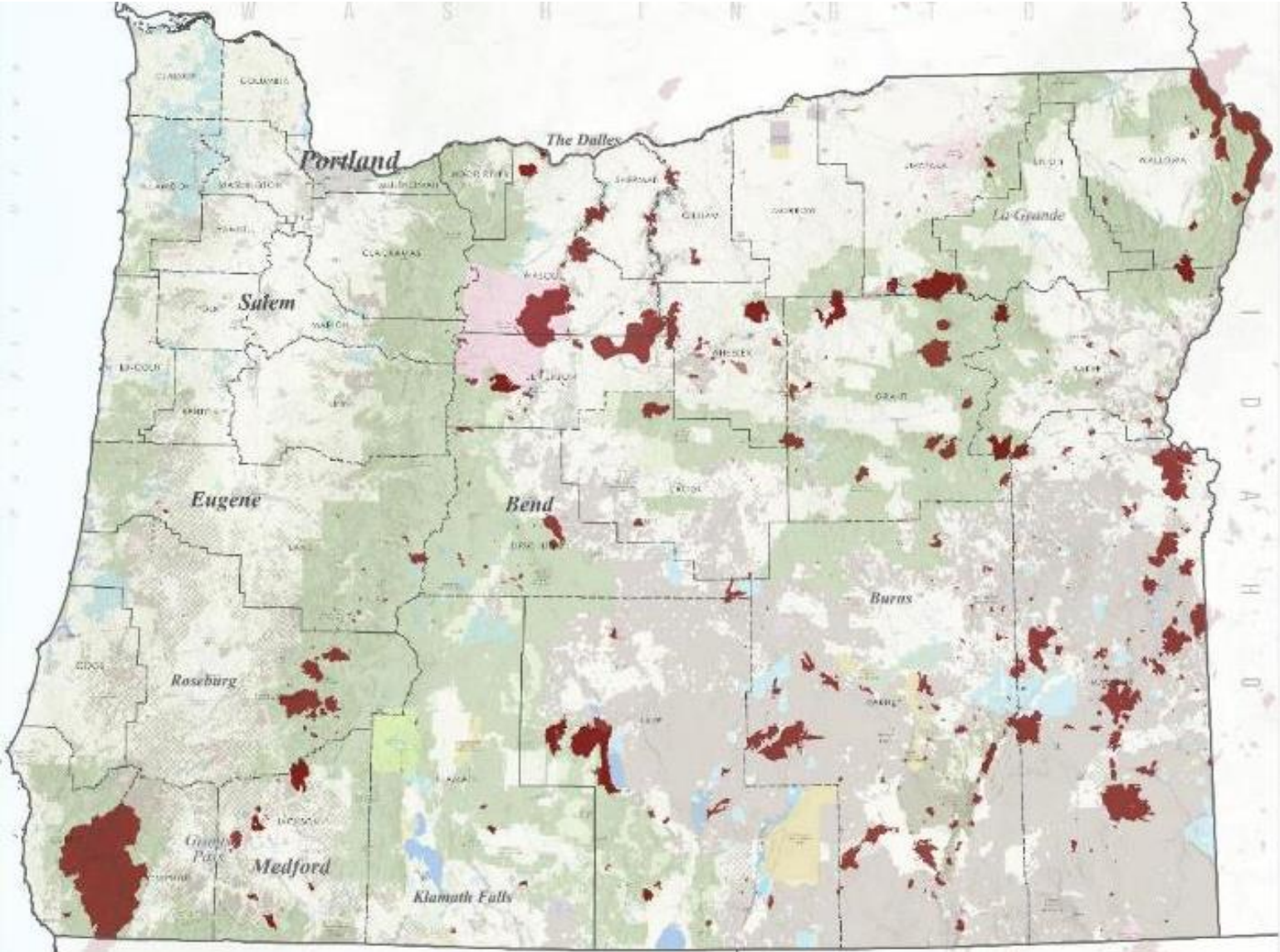
- Nearly 2,000 communities threatened by wildfire
- Almost 100,000 buildings destroyed
- **246% increase** in building loss (1999-2009 vs. 2010-2020)

Fire Season	Buildings Lost	Primary Homes Lost
2020	3,823	2,267
2021	421	166
2022	10	2
2023	127	50

From fires under OSFM command

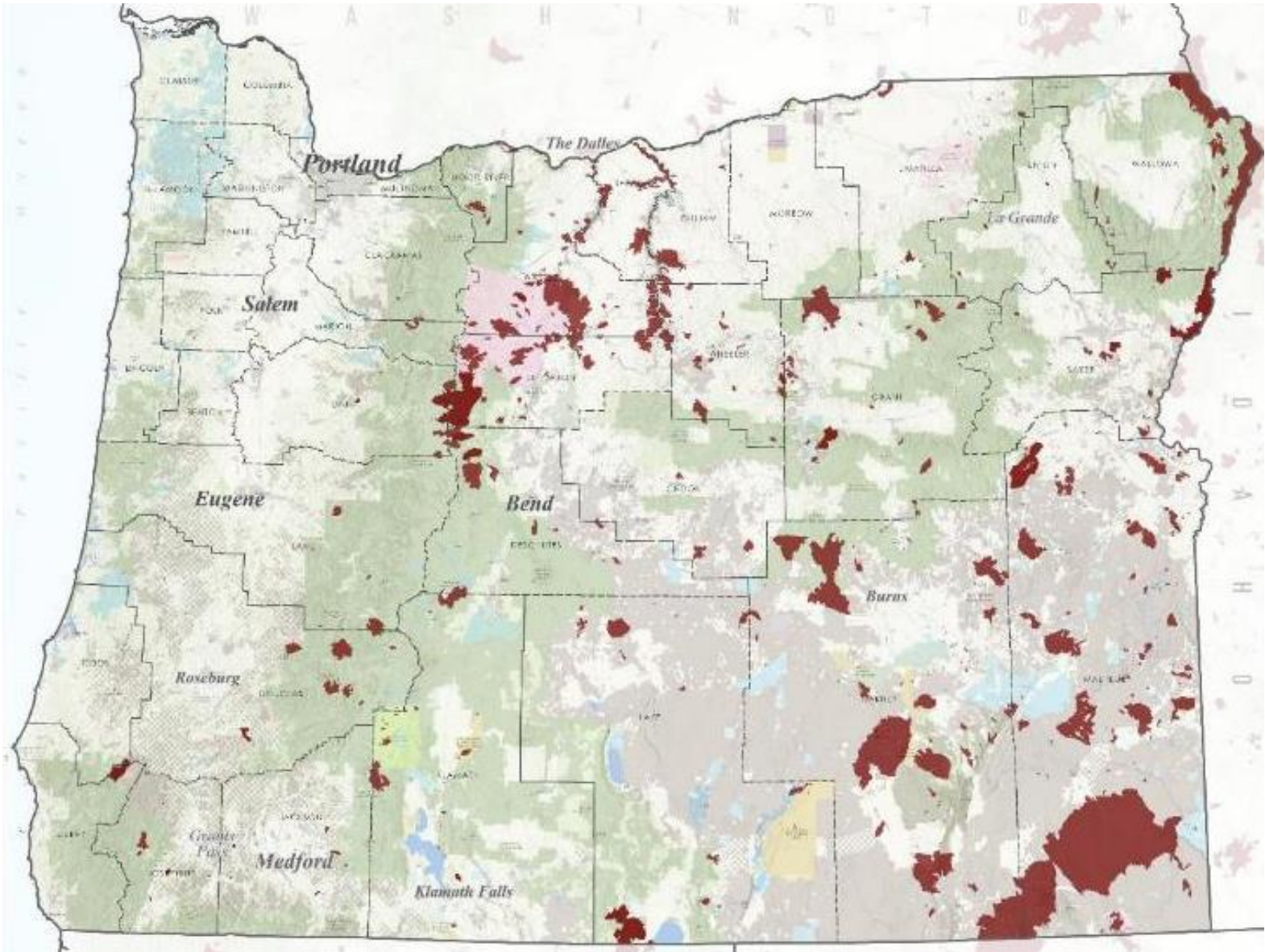


OREGON LARGE WILDFIRE HISTORY 1993-2002



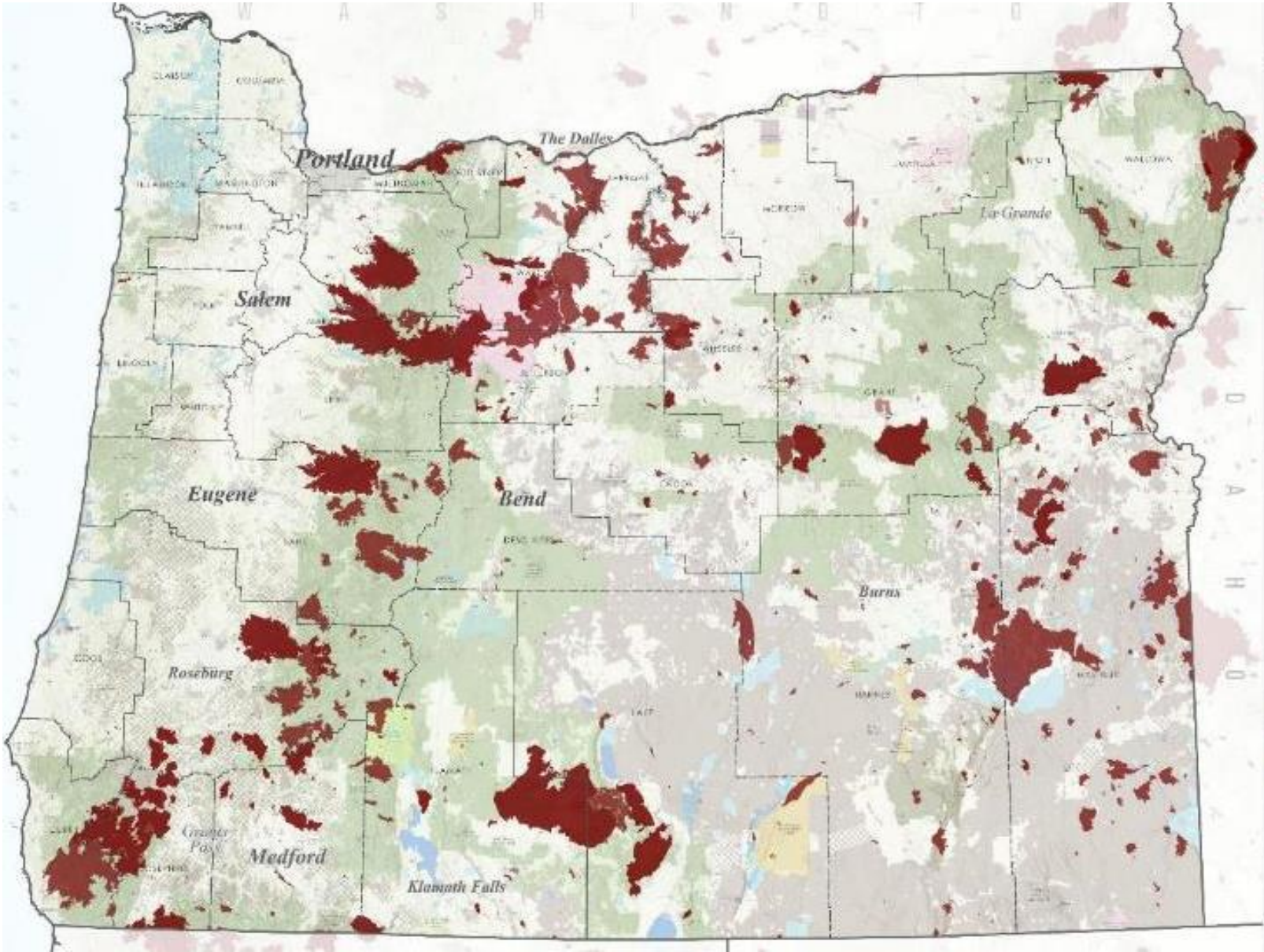


OREGON LARGE WILDFIRE HISTORY 2003-2012





OREGON LARGE WILDFIRE HISTORY 2013-2022





TEMPERATURE FORECAST

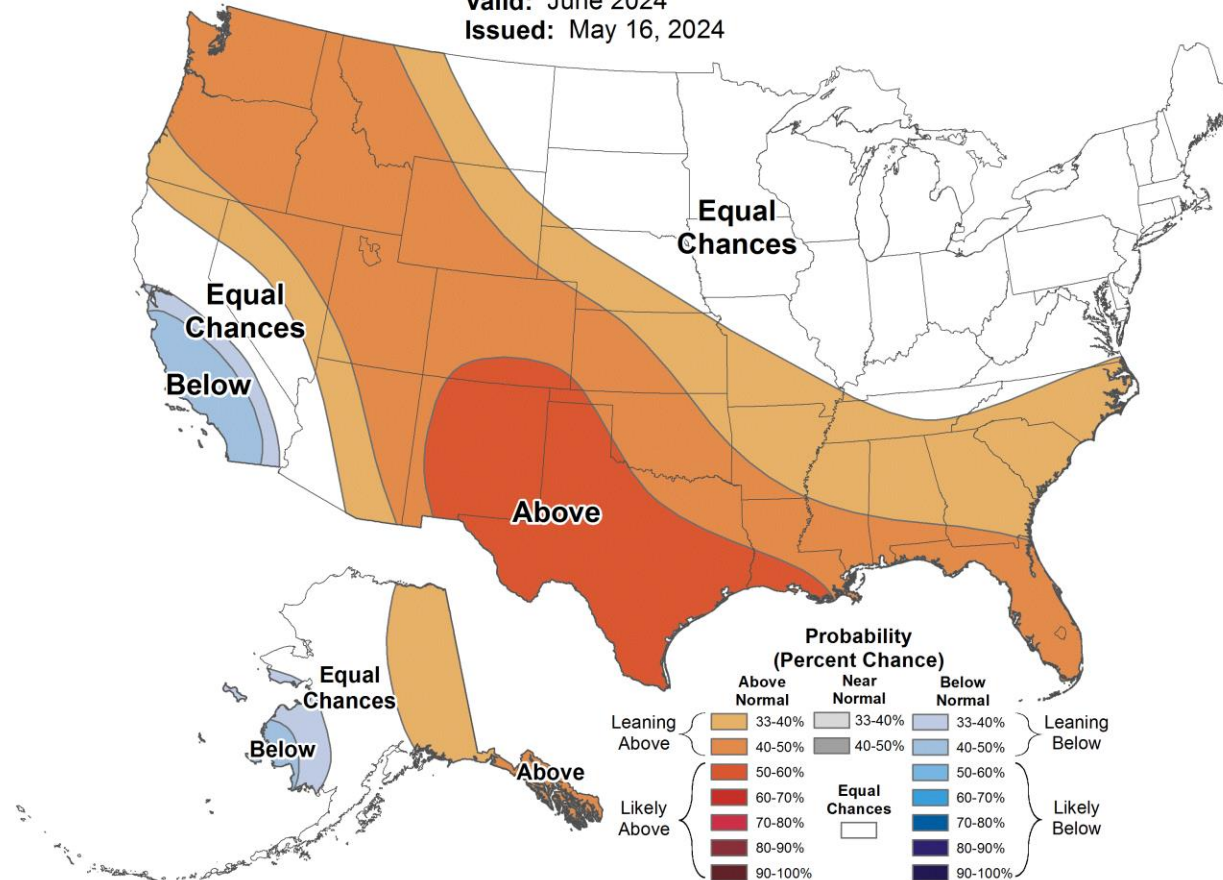
JUNE 2024



Monthly Temperature Outlook



Valid: June 2024
Issued: May 16, 2024





PRECIPITATION FORECAST

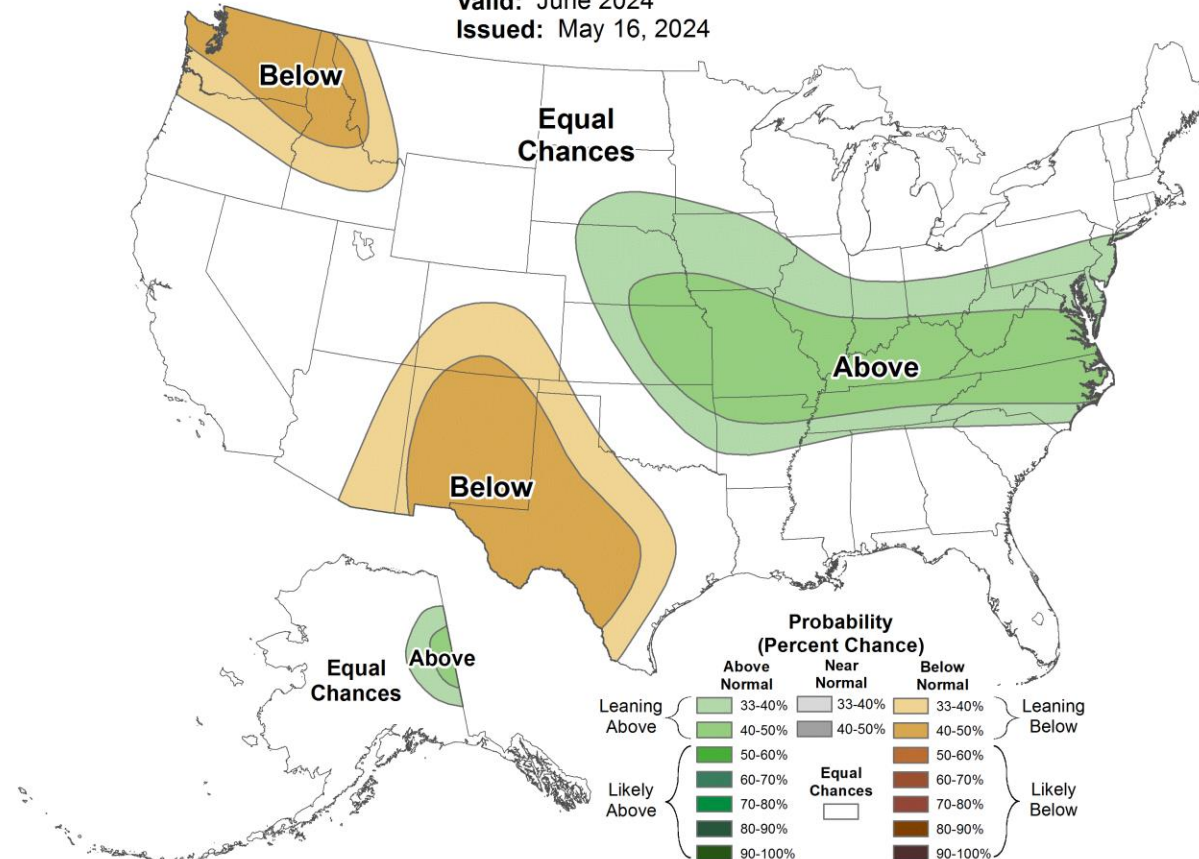
JUNE 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook



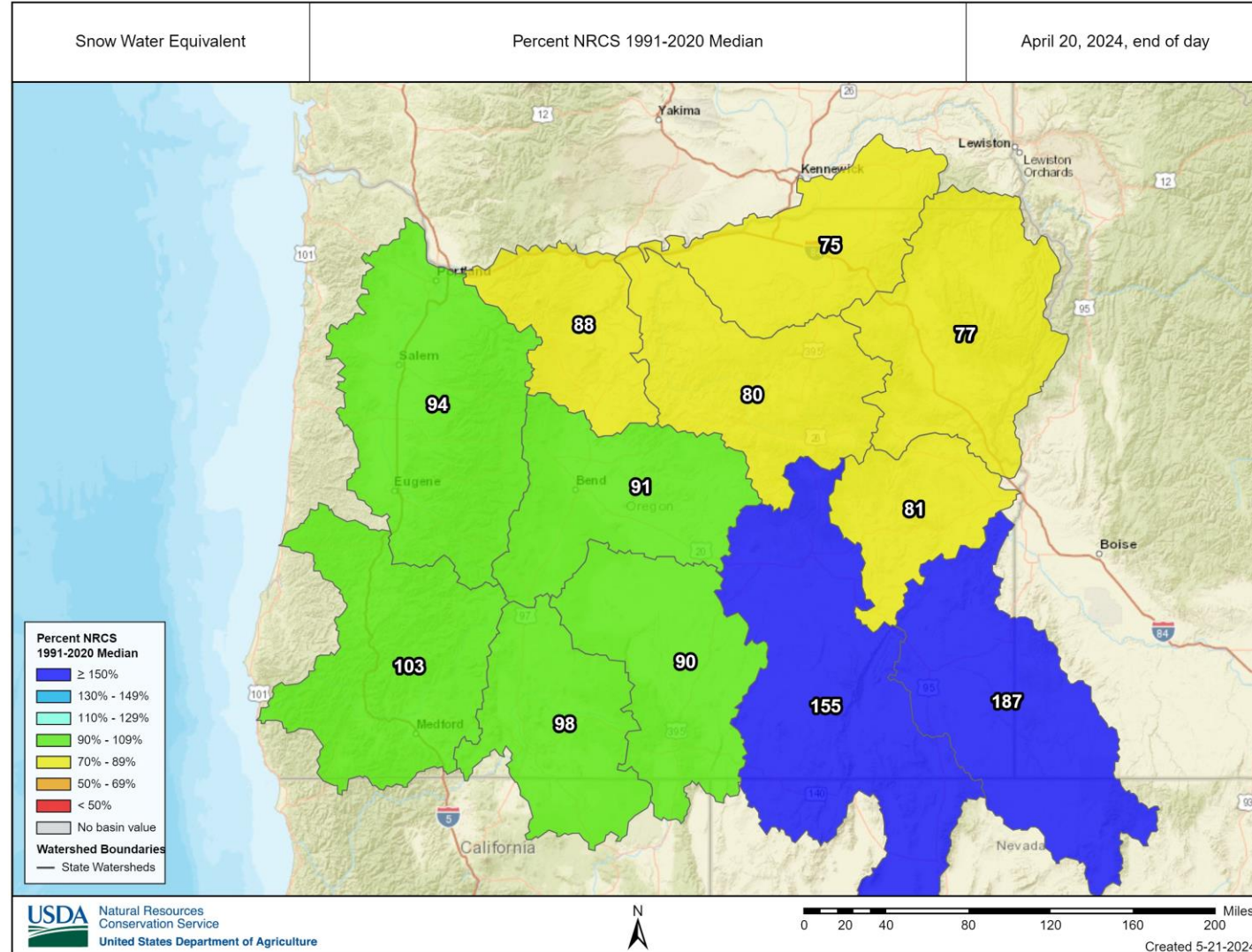
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SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT

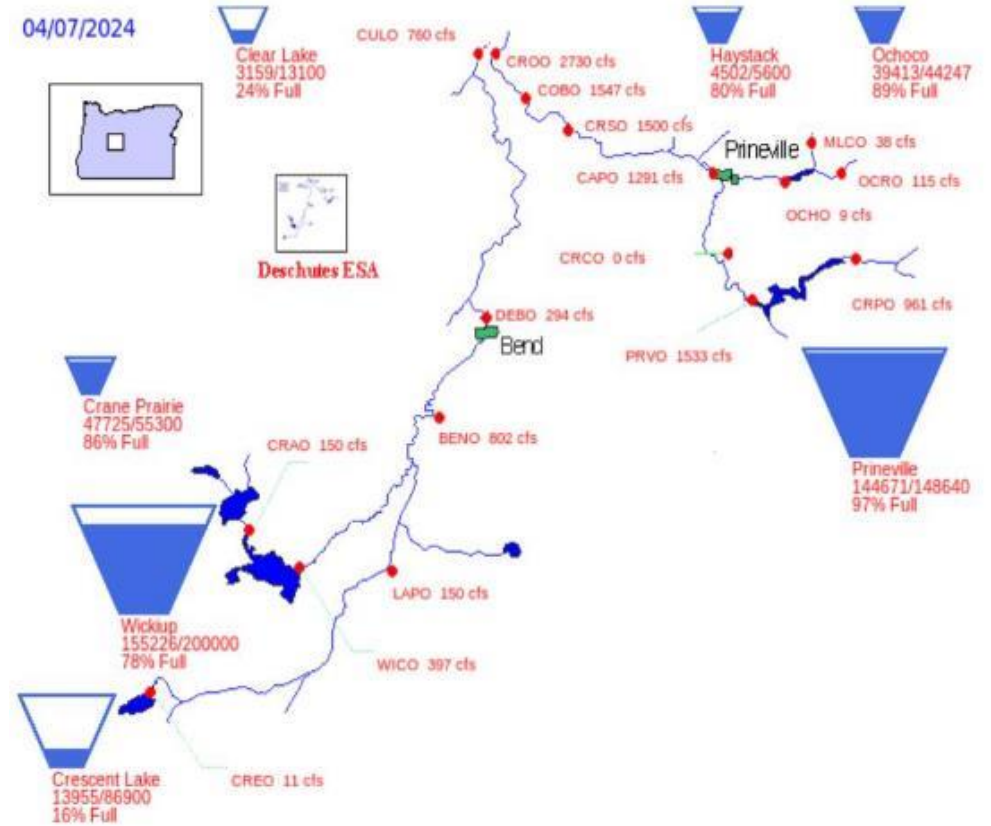
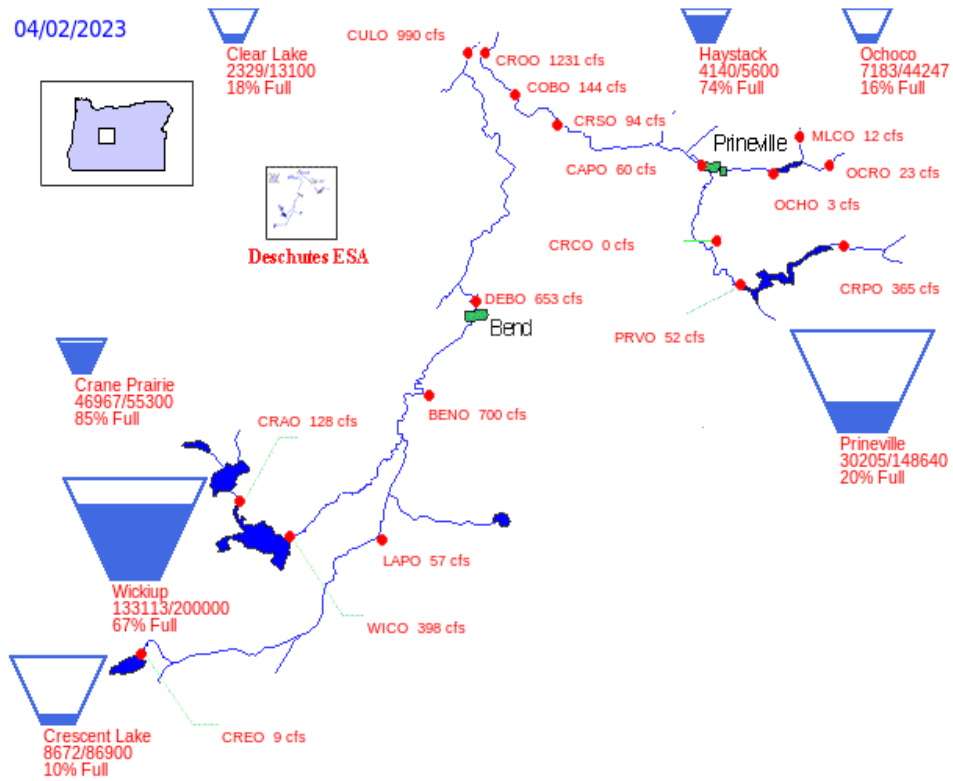
MAY 2024





DESCHUTES RIVER BASIN RESERVOIR LEVELS

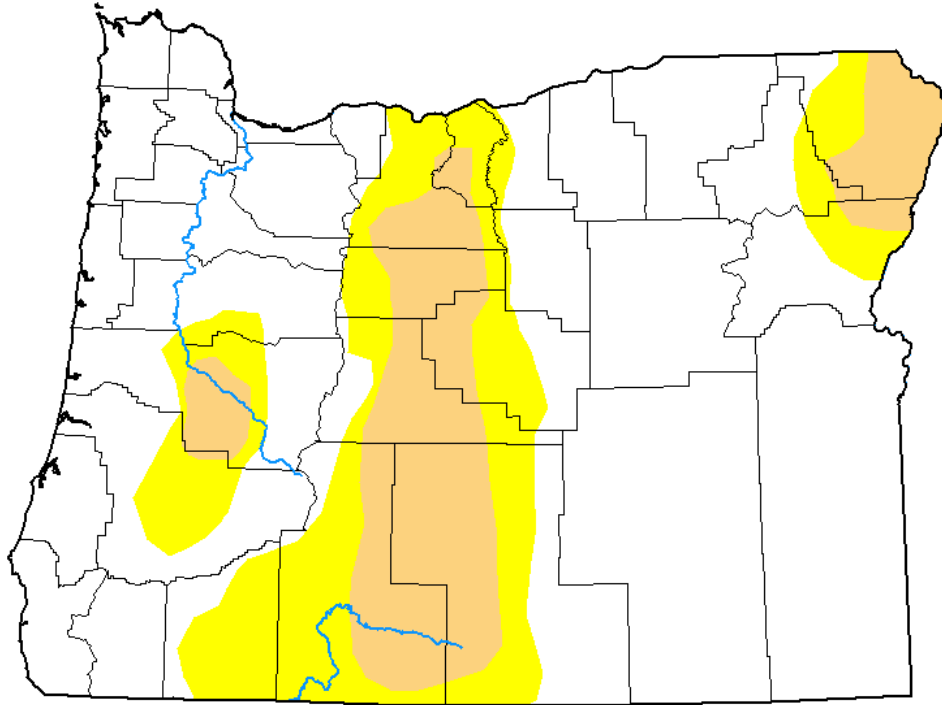
APRIL 2023 VS. 2024



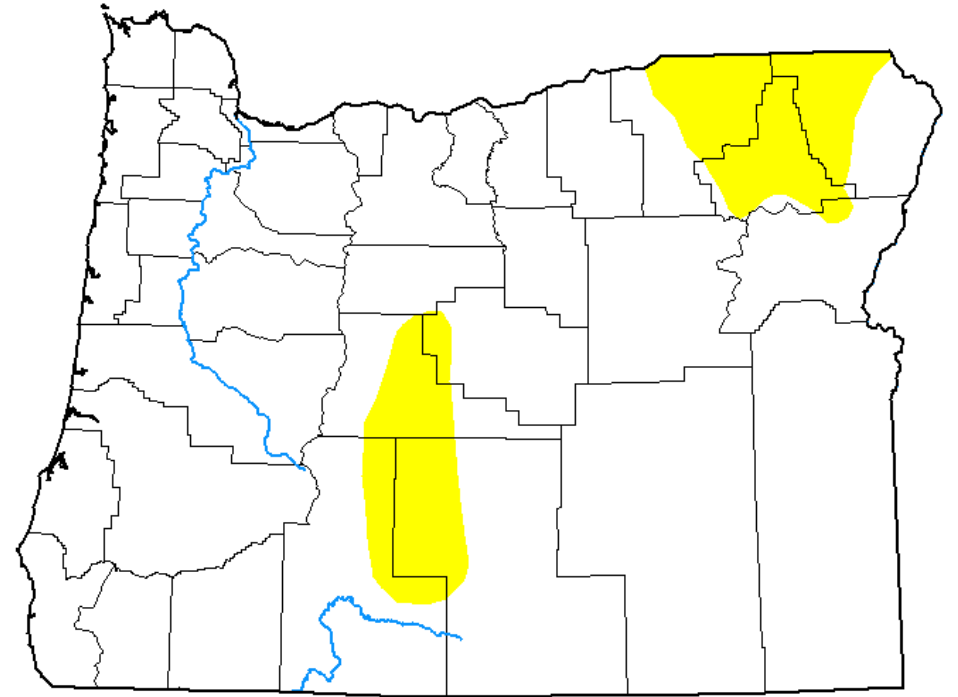


U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR

Intensity:



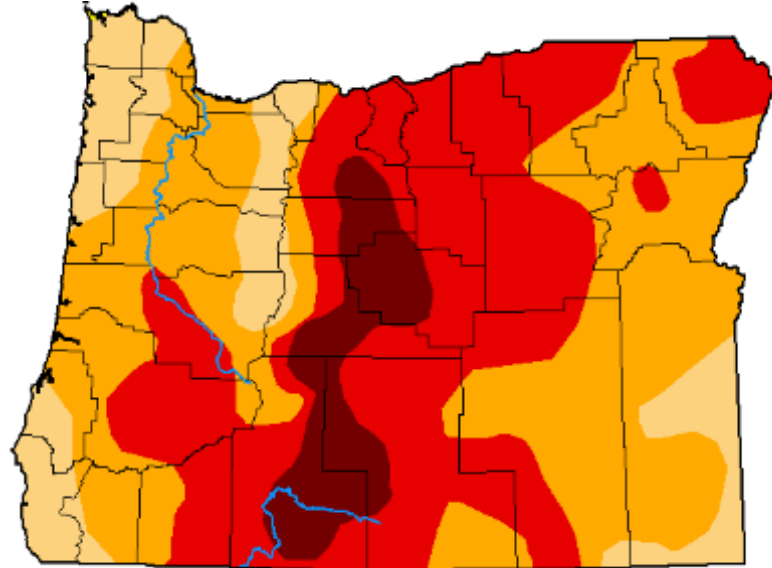
February 13, 2024



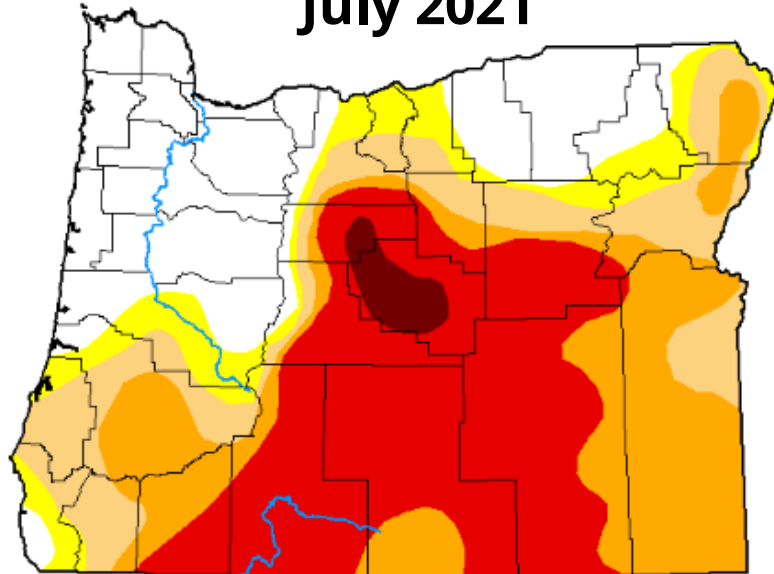
May 14, 2024



STATEWIDE DROUGHT INDICATORS



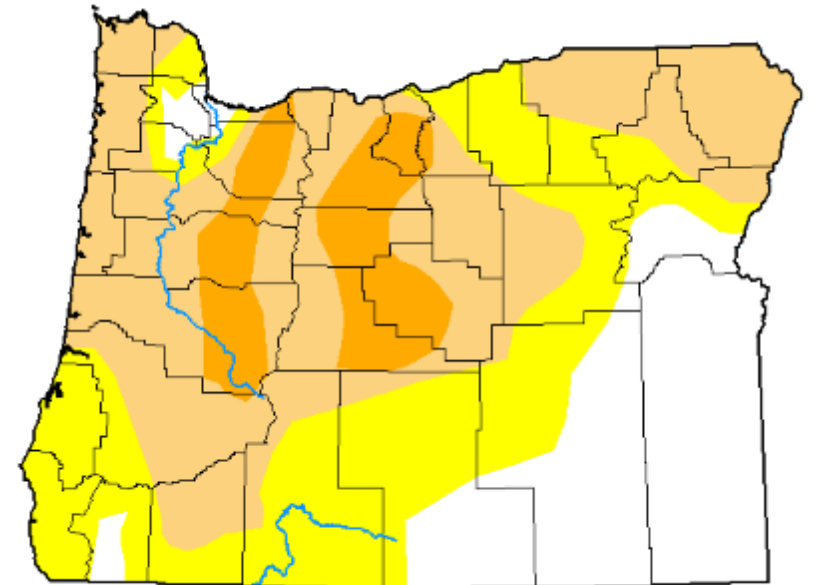
July 2021



July 2022

Intensity:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| None | D2 Severe Drought |
| D0 Abnormally Dry | D3 Extreme Drought |
| D1 Moderate Drought | D4 Exceptional Drought |

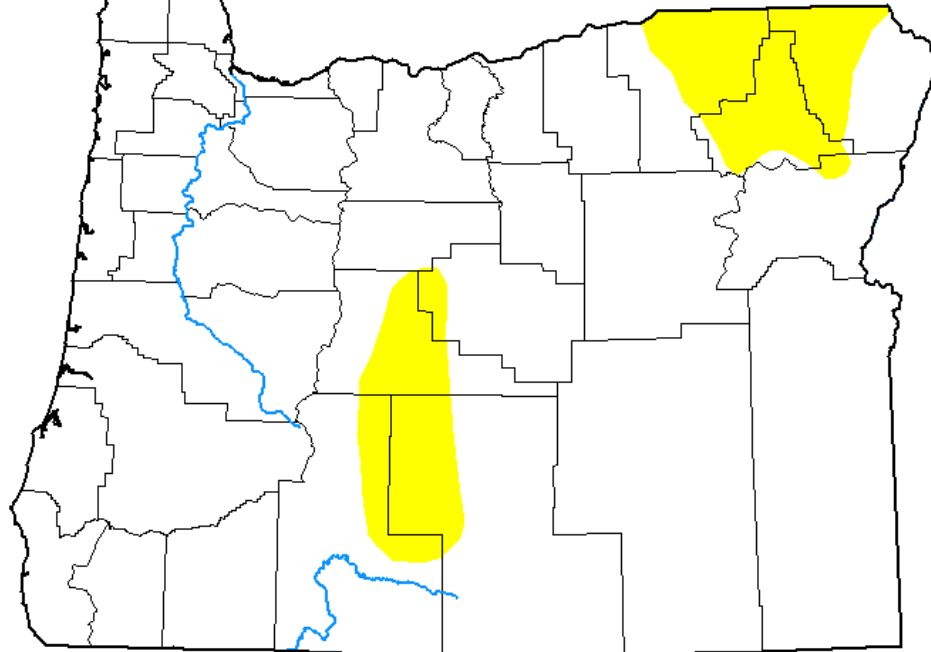


July 2023



DROUGHT & WILDFIRE POTENTIAL

May 2024



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

June 2024

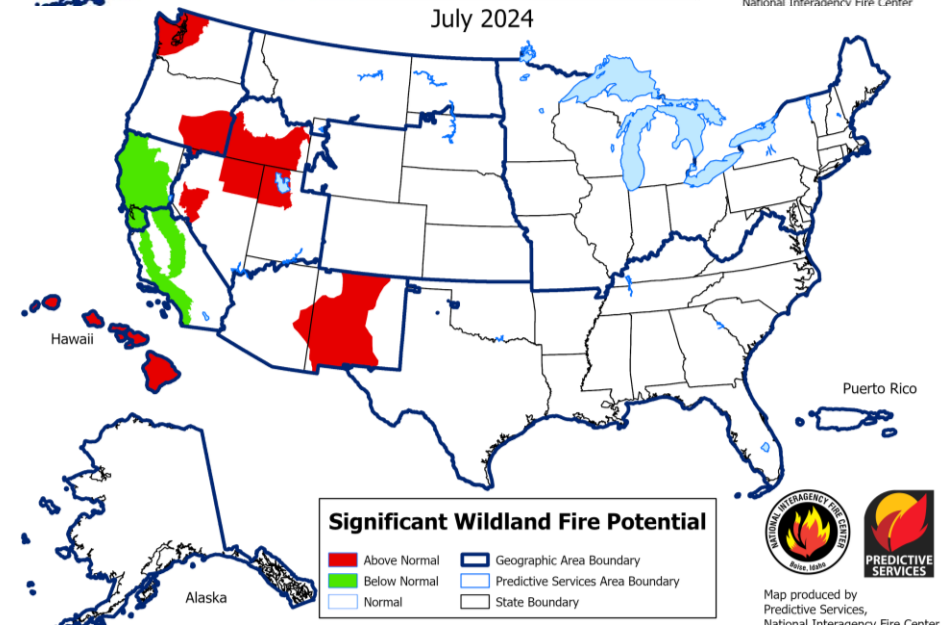


Significant Wildland Fire Potential

■ Above Normal	□ Geographic Area Boundary
■ Below Normal	□ Predictive Services Area Boundary
■ Normal	□ State Boundary



July 2024



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

■ Above Normal	□ Geographic Area Boundary
■ Below Normal	□ Predictive Services Area Boundary
■ Normal	□ State Boundary

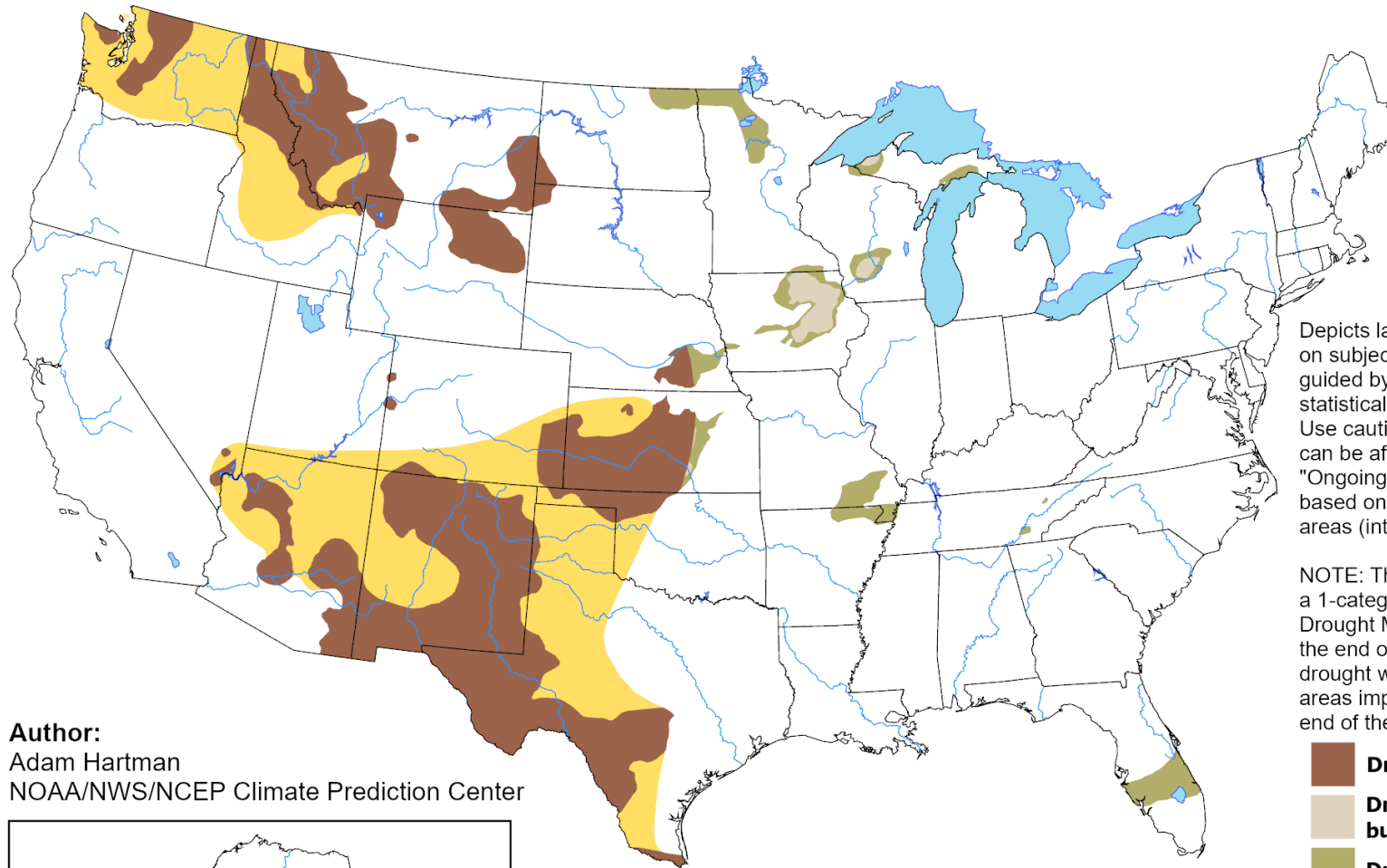




U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for May 16 - August 31, 2024
Released May 16, 2024

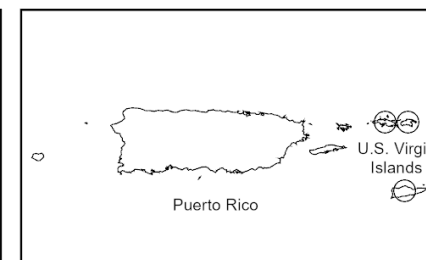
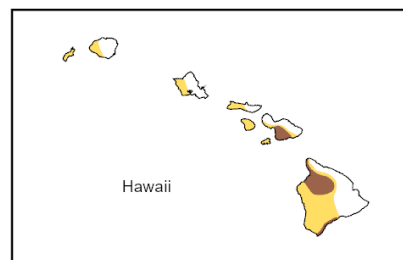
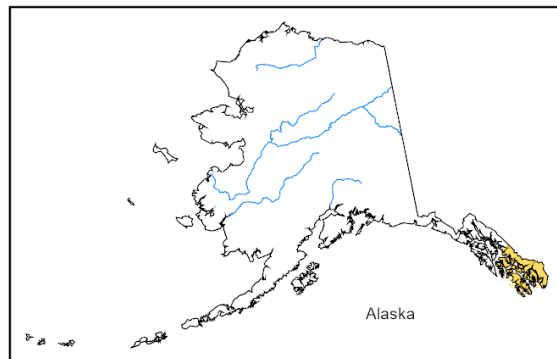


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

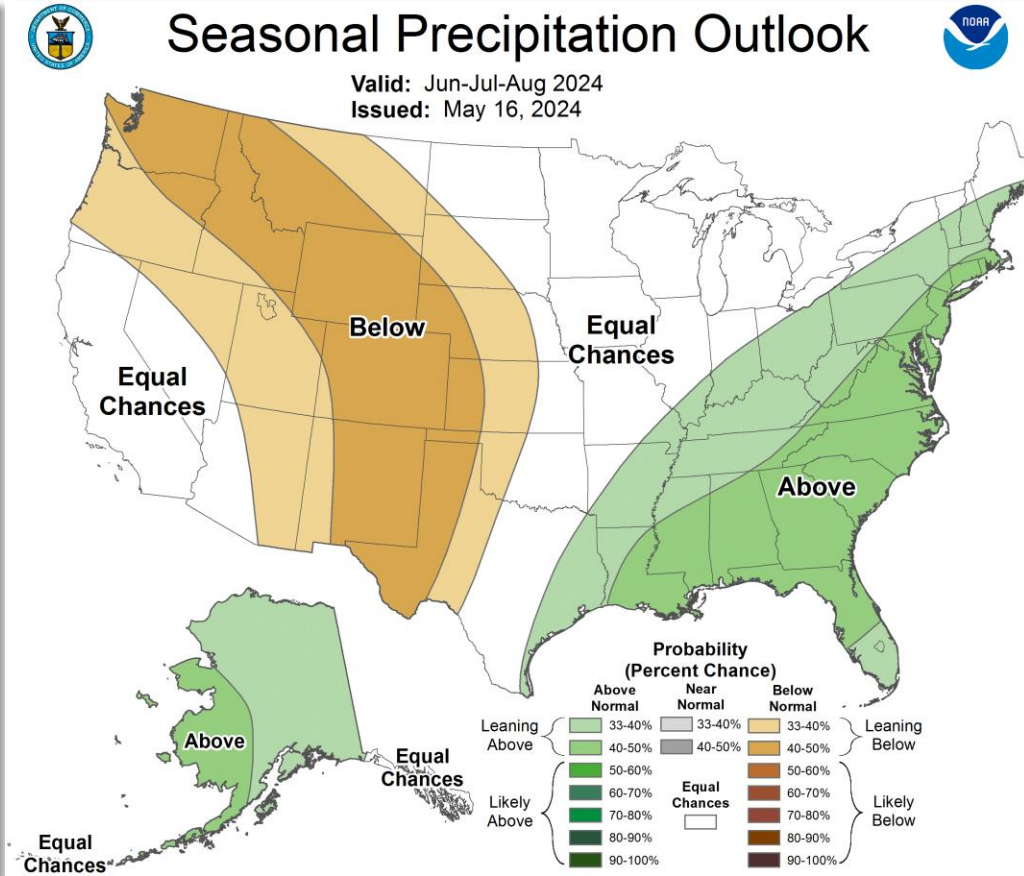
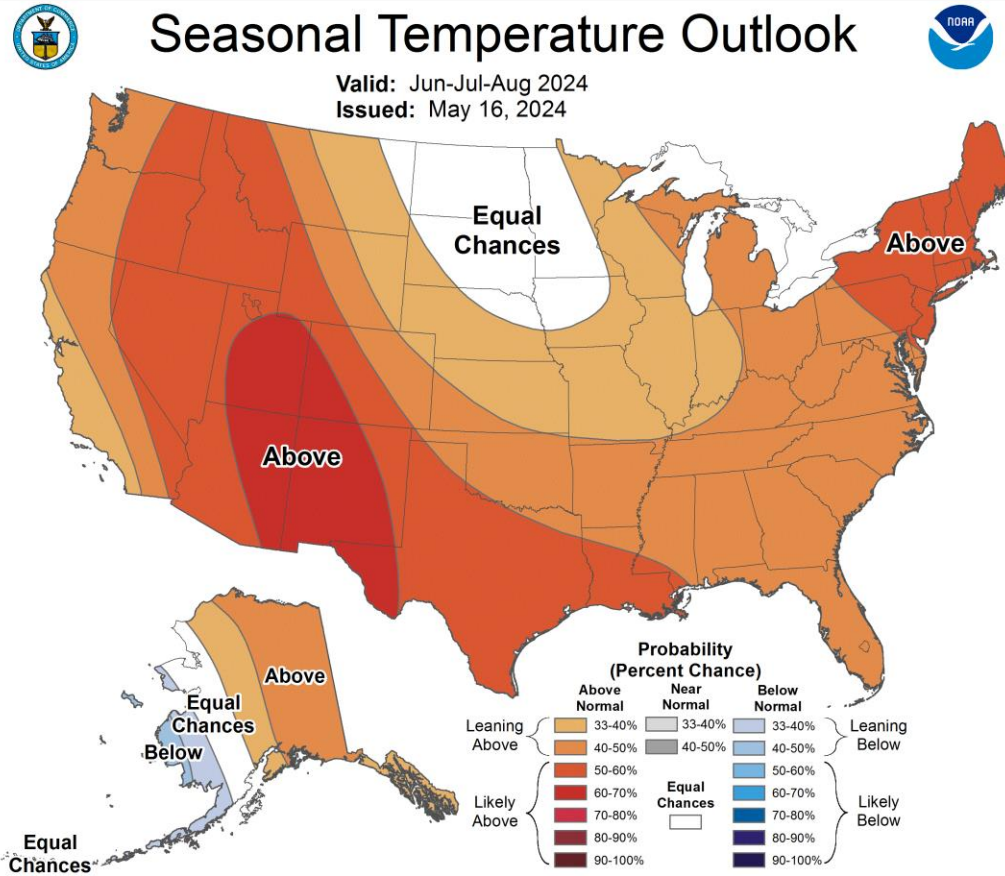
- Drought persists**
- Drought remains, but improves**
- Drought removal likely**
- Drought development likely**
- No drought**



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>



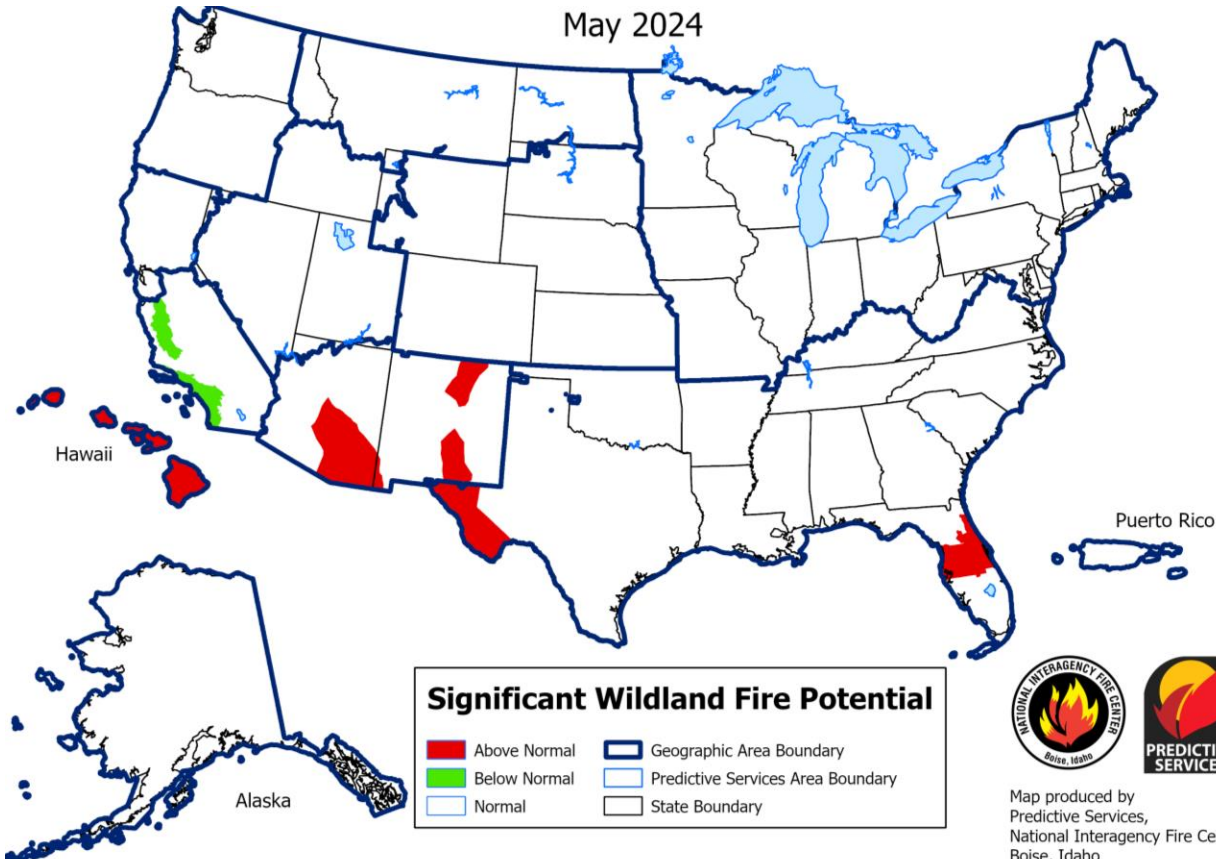
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2024 OUTLOOK





SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOK

May 2024



June 2024



Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

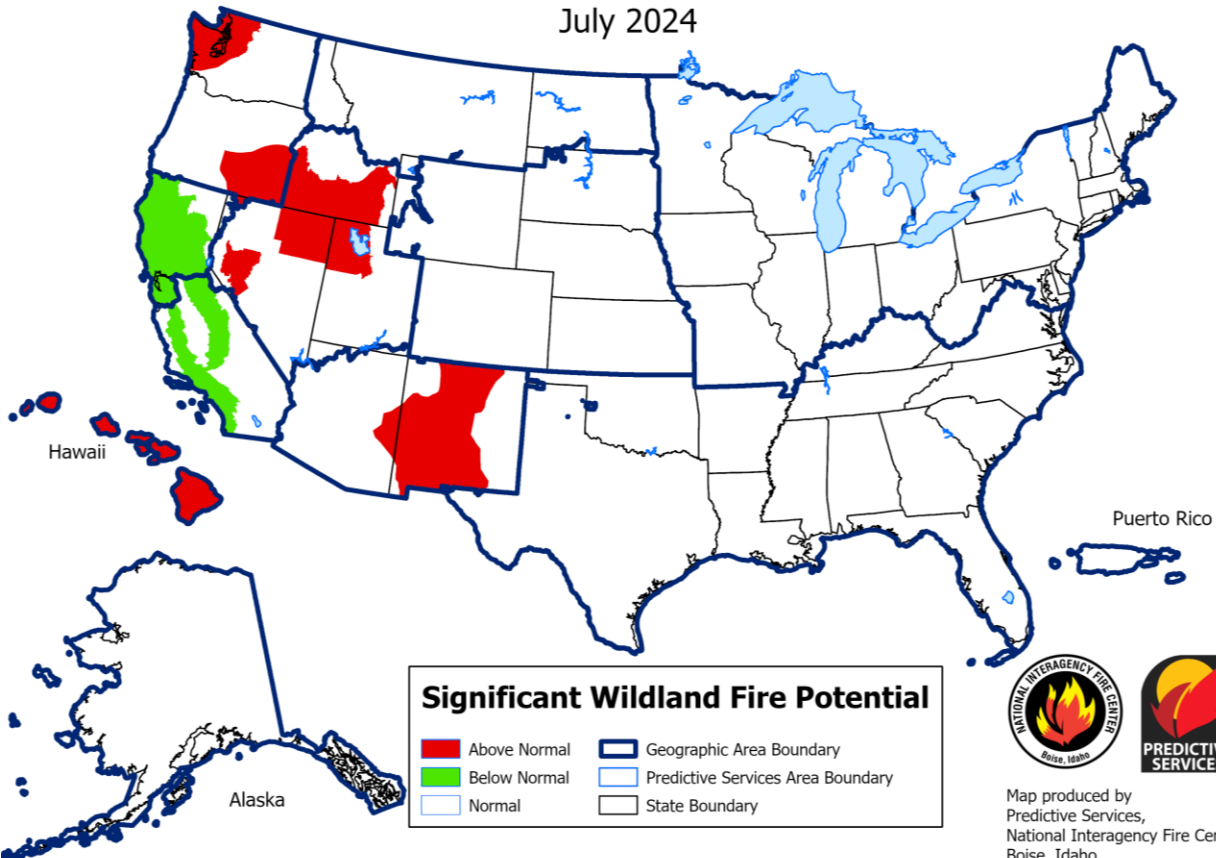
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SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOK

July 2024

August 2024



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

Above Normal	Geographic Area Boundary
Below Normal	Predictive Services Area Boundary
Normal	State Boundary

Significant Wildland Fire Potential

Above Normal	Geographic Area Boundary
Below Normal	Predictive Services Area Boundary
Normal	State Boundary



Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency Fire Center
Boise, Idaho
Issued May 1, 2024
Next issuance June 1, 2024



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FIRE SEASON 2024 OUTLOOK

- Conditions point to a normal start to the 2024 fire season
- Potential for warm, dry June with increased wildfire risk for the east slope of Cascades, Northeast and Southeast Oregon
- Drought has eased across the entire state



OREGON'S RESPONSE SYSTEM

State response

- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal

Federal response

- U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- National Parks Service



OREGON FIRE MUTUAL AID SYSTEM

- 11,000 firefighters
- 304 fire agencies
- 7 regional mobilization coordinators
- 33 Fire Defense Board chiefs
- Oregon fire service mobilization plan





OSFM RESPONSE TOOLS

Immediate Response

- Developed out of Senate Bill 762
- Short term surge capacity
- Includes aerial resources through ODF partnership
- Not exclusive to wildfire (*Pendleton Flower Mill, John Day fires*)

Pre-Positioning

- Developed from Senate Bill 762
- Allows the OSFM to stage firefighters and equipment ahead of increased fire danger
- Uses the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System





HOW WE'RE INVESTING FOR SUCCESS

- **Tribal Nations Investments**
- **Wildfire Season Staffing Grant**
\$6 million
- **OSFM Engine Program**
\$25 million
- **Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant**
\$18 million

Community wildfire risk reduction





DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

- Launched in June 2023
- Free defensible space assessments
- 1,285+ assessments completed statewide
- 74 partner agencies including ODF
- 352 users trained to complete assessments





2023 WILDFIRES

REPORTED WILDFIRES IN OREGON

1,312	Human-caused fires
564	Lightning-caused fires
7	Conflagrations
16	Immediate response assignments
5	Pre-positioning assignments

OREGON FIRE SERVICE

52	Oregon task forces
5	California strike teams





FACTORS IMPACTING READINESS

- Reduced capacity across Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System
- Rural capacity – volunteer fire service
- Competition of national resources
- Drought





WHAT CAN YOU DO?



- Go to oregondefensiblespace.org to request a free defensible space assessment
- Know restrictions in your area
- Sign up for alerts in your county at oralert.gov
- Understand evacuation notices



OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL