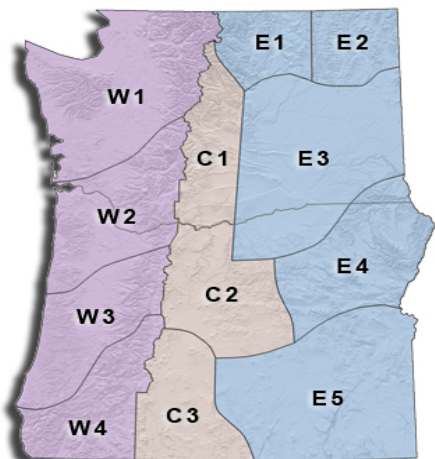


Pacific Northwest 7 Day Significant Fire Potential



Monday, August 24, 2009

Predictive Service

Areas	yd	td	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
W1								
W2								
W3								
W4								
C1					U			
C2								
C3								
E1								
E2								
E3								
E4								
E5								

Legend:

Fuel Dryness

- Moist Fuels - Little or no risk of large fires.
- Dry Fuels - Low risk of large fires in absence of "High Risk" event.
- Very Dry Fuels - Low / Moderate risk of large fires in absence of "High Risk" event.

"High Risk" Events

- ⚡ Abundant Lightning (ignition Trigger)
- W Windy conditions (burn environment)
- U Unstable air mass (burn environment)
- R Heavy Recreation (ignition trigger)

"High Risk" Days

- At least a 20% chance of a "Large Fire" due to an "Ignition Trigger" in combination with appropriately dry fuels
- At least a 20% chance of a new "Large Fire" or significant growth on existing large fires due to a critical "Burn Environment" (dry fuels and weather).

For 10-day ERC and F100 Projections click →
About this Product click →

More info regarding our Large Fire Potential Assessment procedures and techniques can be found at the following sites:

- Developing a Fuel Dryness Level →
- Ignition Triggers →
- NWCC Fire Danger Operating Plan →

Weather Synopsis: A transient ridge of high pressure aloft will bring a general warming and drying trend to the area today as well as significantly lighter winds to the east slopes of the Washington Cascades and Columbia River Basin. A very weak front will approach the coast tonight then shift inland on Tuesday. Precipitation accompanying this system will be rather light and confined to Western Washington. The broader impacts for Tuesday will be increased onshore flow, cooler temperatures and breezy west winds.

Warmer and drier weather will return Wednesday and Thursday as an upper level ridge strengthens over Idaho and Montana. Instability will increase on Thursday as the winds aloft turn southerly. Given the very dry air mass in place, thunderstorms look unlikely with increasing Haines Indices a more significant concern.

The next upper level trough will move inland late Thursday night and Friday once again bringing breezy west winds and a brief cool down through increased onshore flow. Isolated showers or thunderstorms are also possible Friday primarily in Washington and the NE corner of Oregon. Warmer and drier conditions will return for the weekend as a stronger ridge of high pressure builds over the Pacific Northwest.

Large Fire Potential: The periodic but brief upper level troughs are slowing the drying trend of the fuels and will keep fuel conditions near status quo for much of the week. Increasing instability on Thursday will be a concern for all ongoing fires, however C1 is the only PSA anticipated to be in the 'brown' and therefore the only one to reach the high risk threshold for burning environment. Instability will likely be a concern again for the weekend with a thermal trough building beneath the strong ridge of high pressure.

Preparedness Level:

Northwest: 2
National: 2

Julia Ruthford

- <http://nwccweb.us/content/products/fw/guidance/nldr.pdf#zoom=140>
- <http://nwccweb.us/content/products/fw/guidance/DLProduct.pdf#zoom=100>

- http://www.nwccweb.us/content/products/fw/publications/Assessing_Daily_Fire_Severity1.pdf
- http://www.nwccweb.us/content/products/fw/publications/Assessing_Ignition_Triggers.pdf
- <http://www.nwccweb.us/content/products/fw/fdrop/fdrop.pdf>