

# Drought in the NW Climate Hub Region

January 2019 Newsletter

In the last month, drought conditions have slightly improved in Washington and eastern Oregon, while central Idaho has seen drought conditions worsen (yellow-D0 abnormally dry, tan-D1 moderate drought, orange-D2-severe drought, red-D3 extreme drought). Much of the Northwest Climate Hub region continues to experience some level of drought.

Warm snow drought, warm temperatures leading to rain rather than snow, is occurring in the Interior and Southcentral Alaska where snow water equivalent in basins is currently 54-83% of the 1981-2010 median and water year-to-date precipitation ranges from 78-151% of 1981-2010 average. Click on the icon below to learn more about snow drought.

Many sources of information go into developing drought maps including reports from the public. Click on the icons below to get more information from the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), to submit precipitation data via the CoCoRHaS network, or to report drought impacts for the Pacific Northwest.

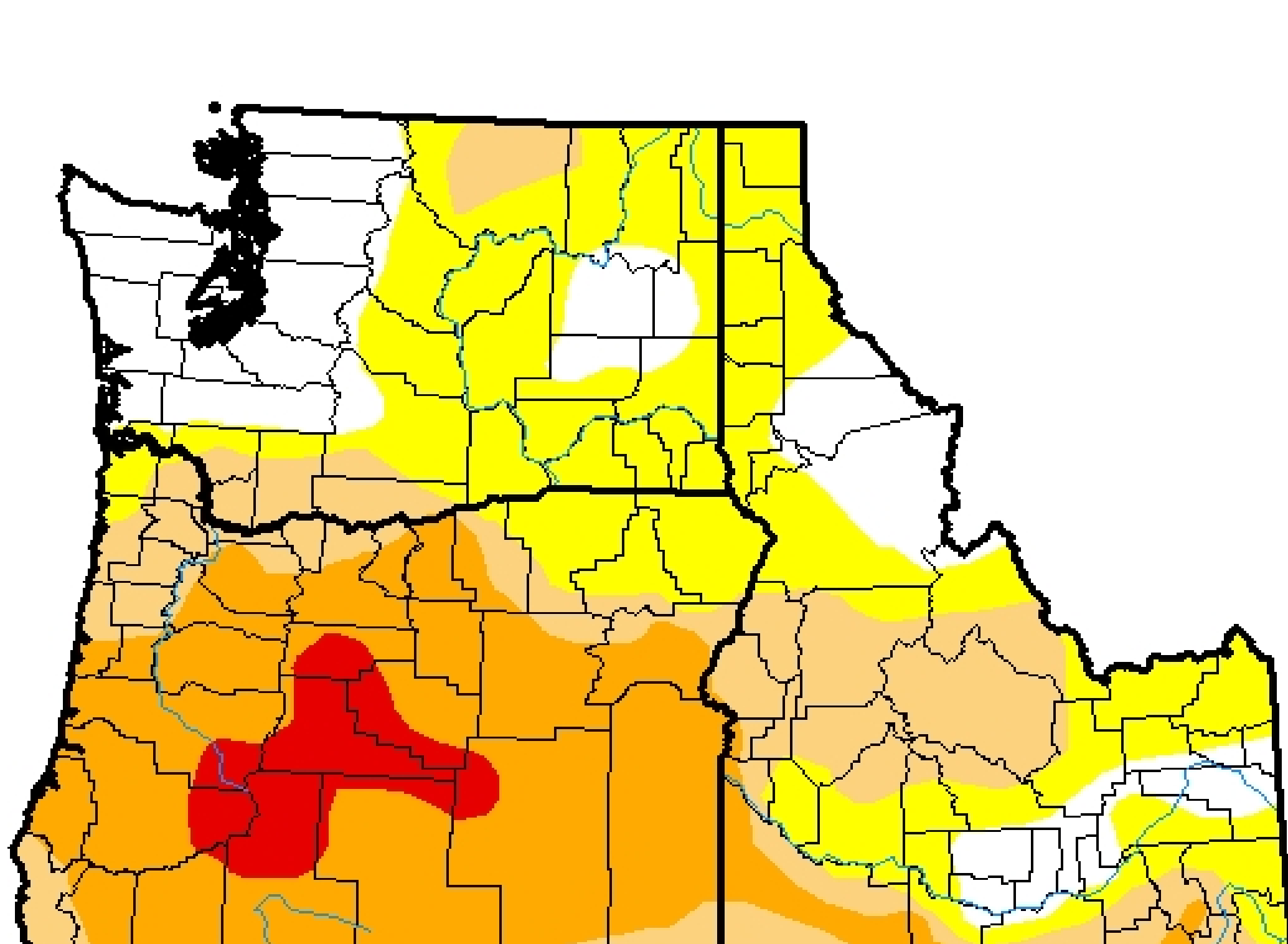




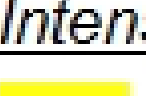







## U.S. Drought Monitor USDA Northwest Climate Hub

January 29, 2019  
(Released Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	71.36	11.58	7.10	8.62	1.34	0.00
Last Week 01-22-2019	71.36	13.13	4.62	9.47	1.42	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-30-2018	69.83	11.14	6.10	8.99	3.93	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019	71.65	11.73	5.73	8.16	2.73	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	67.14	12.24	6.76	10.17	3.69	0.00
One Year Ago 01-30-2018	59.96	38.64	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00

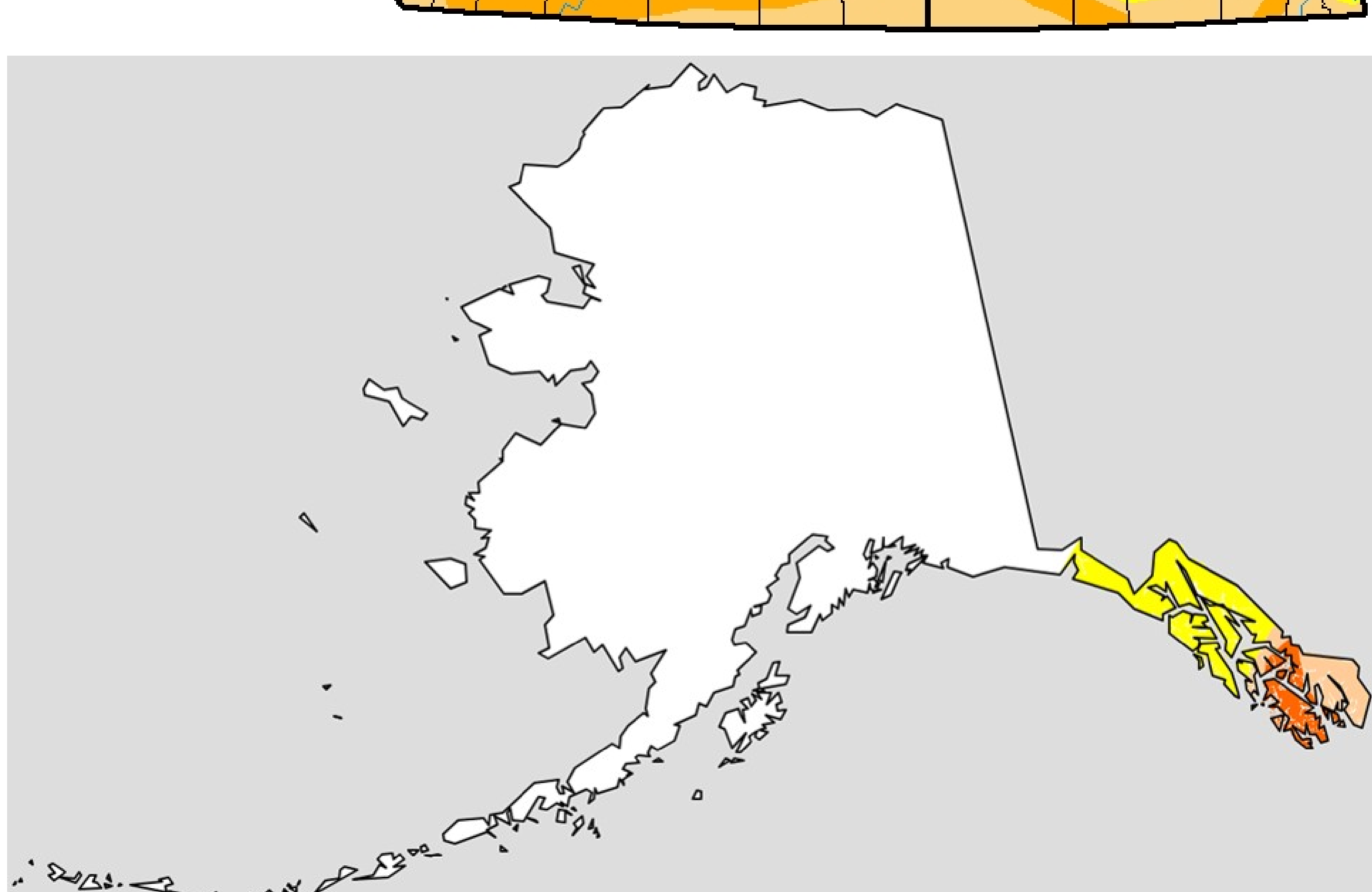
**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Moderate Drought  
 D2 Severe Drought  
 D3 Extreme Drought  
 D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



## Workshops

**Healthy Soils, Healthy Region Workshop**



• [Link to updated agenda](#)

**Healthy soils, healthy region workshop 12-14 March 2019, Pendleton, OR**  
*Coming together to increase the adoption of soil health practices through coordination and training.* The workshop will bring together agricultural professionals and producers from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho for a 3-day workshop to improve awareness of existing, new, and evolving regional soil health practices and assessment methods. The workshop will provide hands-on training on soil health practices, improve understanding of the practical barriers producers face when implementing soil health practices, and increase familiarity with tools that can be used by producers to make decisions related to soil health. We will also strive to get the various groups working on soil health in the region on the same page regarding sampling protocols, method selection, and the current state of the science.  
**Early registration deadline EXTENDED to 12 February, register now to get the \$90 rate!**

**17th Annual Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop (CPASW) 11-13 June Charleston, South Carolina.**  
 This workshop will bring together a diverse community to share developments in research and application of weather and climate information for societal decision-making. The meeting format will include a combination of symposia, panel sessions, discussions, and keynote speakers that address the workshop theme: "Climate Information for Coastal Risk Reduction". Participants include researchers, service producers, resource managers, planners, practitioners, social scientists, and others making weather and climate-sensitive decisions. Abstract deadline EXTENDED to 15 February. Registration available after 1 April.

## 4th National Climate Assessment




The National Climate Assessment (NCA) assesses the science of climate change and variability and its impacts across the United States, now and throughout this century. Volume I presents an assessment of the physical science underlying Volume II provides information on impacts, risks, and adaptation in the United States. Below are links to a few of the 29 chapters that are of particular interest to our region.

- Chapter 1: Overview
- Chapter 2: Our Changing Climate
- Chapter 3: Water
- Chapter 6: Forests
- Chapter 8: Coastal Effects
- Chapter 29: Reducing Risks Through Emissions Mitigation
- Chapter 10: Agriculture and Rural Communities
- Chapter 15: Tribes and Indigenous Peoples
- Chapter 24: Northwest (ID, OR, WA)
- Chapter 26: Alaska
- Chapter 28: Reducing Risks Through Adaptation

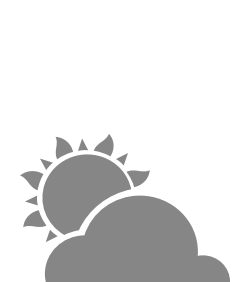
## Conference

**2019 North American Agroforestry Conference 24-27 June Corvallis, OR.**  
*Agroforestry for Sustainable Production + Resilient Landscapes* hosted by Oregon State University as well as the 16th biennial conference for the Association for Temperate Agroforestry. Abstract deadline 1 February (may be extended further due to federal government shutdown).

## Information

-  Due to the partial government shutdown many government programs deadlines or timelines as well as webinars may be rescheduled. Check in with your local government office to determine if the program you are interested in has been rescheduled.
-  **Tribal Climate Tool:** Future climate projections for Pacific Northwest and Great Basin Tribes. This tool is designed to help tribes in the Pacific Northwest and Great Basin understand how the climate is expected to change in places that they care about. It provides maps, graphs, tables and descriptions of projected changes.
-  **4th Oregon Climate Assessment Report** produced by the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI) is available. This report is a periodic assessment of the state of knowledge of climate science as it pertains to Oregon, fulfilling the legislative mandate that created the institution.

## Webinar

 Pacific Northwest Drought Early Warning System, Drought and Climate Outlook webinar series 25 February 2019 11am-12pm PT. Click on text to go to registration page for this webinar.

## Funding opportunity

**U. S. Forest Service announces a Citizen Science Competitive Funding Opportunity**  
 To promote collaboration in support of these goals by bringing together partners, volunteers and the Forest Service in pursuit of sound science and meaningful community engagement. This is the second year this program is offered and is emphasizing shared learning and developing an incubator for 2019: Ideation (\$10,000), Project Development and Implementation (\$25,000) and Ongoing Project (\$10,000). *Deadline extended due to government shutdown.* For questions, email: FSCCS@fs.fed.us.

## Voices from the Land

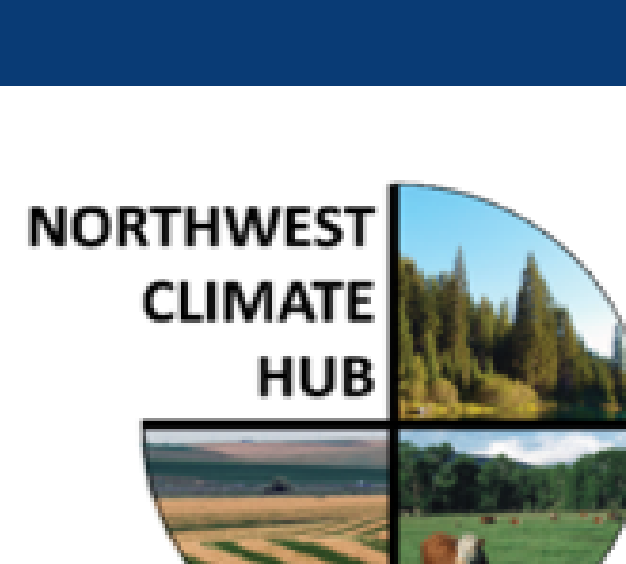
Voices from the Land is a video series produced by elementary and middle school children to use art in education and explore local landscapes and ways of life. Check out videos from the Bethel, Alaska and Hood River, Oregon.

- Voices From the Land: Gladys Jung Elementary School: Bethel, Alaska :: Mamterillermiut
- Voices From the Land: Hood River Middle School : Hood River, Oregon

## New email addresses coming in 2019

As a part of the OneUSDA initiative all Forest Service employees have new email addresses that end with @usda.gov. Currently, we are in a transition period and both @fs.fed.us and @usda.gov email addresses will work. Come spring 2019 we'll be transferring over to @usda.gov. You can start using these email addresses now to contact us:

- Katherine Smith, Acting Director [katherine.l.smith@usda.gov](mailto:katherine.l.smith@usda.gov)
- Holly Prendeville, Coordinator [holly.prendeville@usda.gov](mailto:holly.prendeville@usda.gov)
- Gabrielle Roesch-McNally, Fellow [gabrielle.roeschmcnally@usda.gov](mailto:gabrielle.roeschmcnally@usda.gov)



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