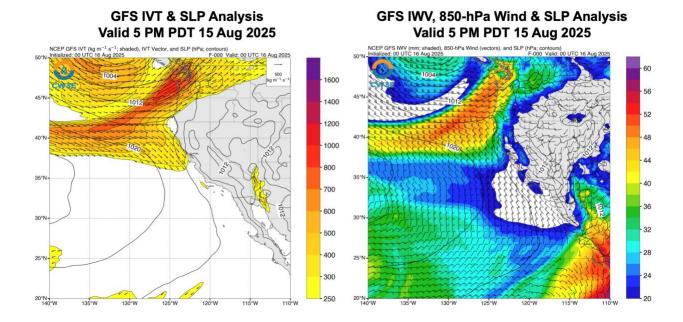


## Quick Summary of the Recent Atmospheric River in Washington

Updated: 19 August 2025

- An unusually potent summer atmospheric river (AR) made landfall over the Pacific Northwest late Thu 14 Aug, bringing strong AR conditions (IVT ≥750 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) and much-needed rainfall to western Washington.
- This AR formed within a plume of very moist air extending eastward from the Western Pacific. Salem, OR, recorded its 3rd highest all-time (and highest summertime) precipitable water (1.79 inches) on Fri 15 Aug.
- GEFS analyses indicated an AR 3 (based on the Ralph et al. 2019 AR Scale) over much of coastal Washington and an AR2 over portions of the Washington Cascades foothills, including the Green River Basin.
- Since 1960, only 14 previous ARs have reached an AR 3 or greater at 47.0°N, 124.0°W (Grays Harbor County, WA) during the month of August. The event maximum IVT of 851 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> makes this the 5th strongest August AR observed at this location since 1960.
- This AR produced an estimated 3–8 inches of precipitation in portions of the Olympic Peninsula and Washington Cascades, with 1–3 inches observed in the Green River Basin.
- Despite the heavy rainfall, hydrologic impacts were limited due to dry antecedent soil conditions and low antecedent streamflow.



## **GEFS Control AR Scale Analysis**

