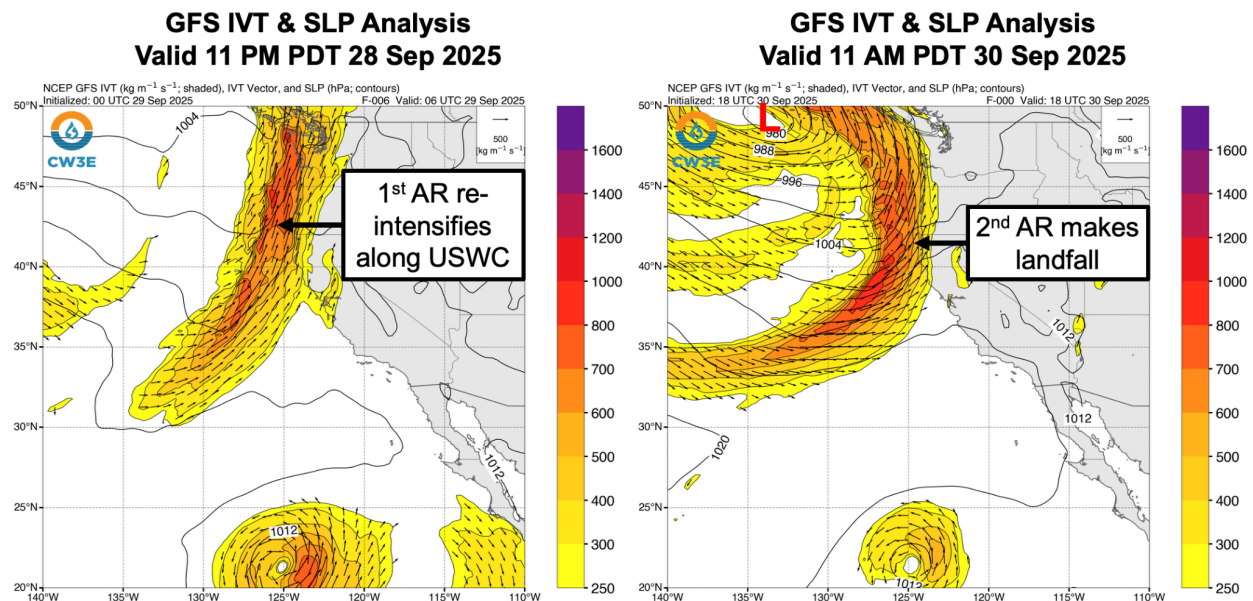


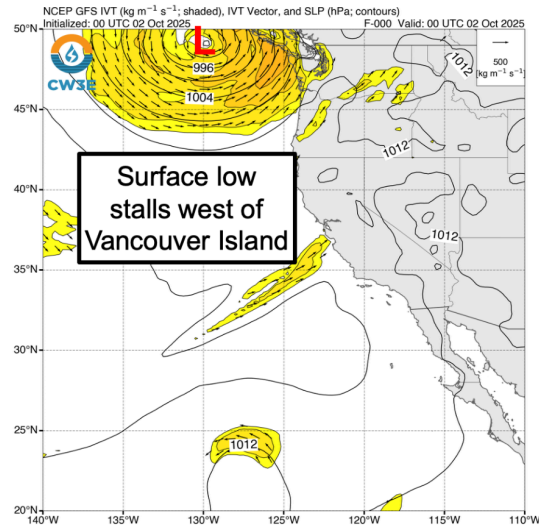
Quick Summary of the Recent Precipitation Events in the Western US

Updated: 4 October 2025

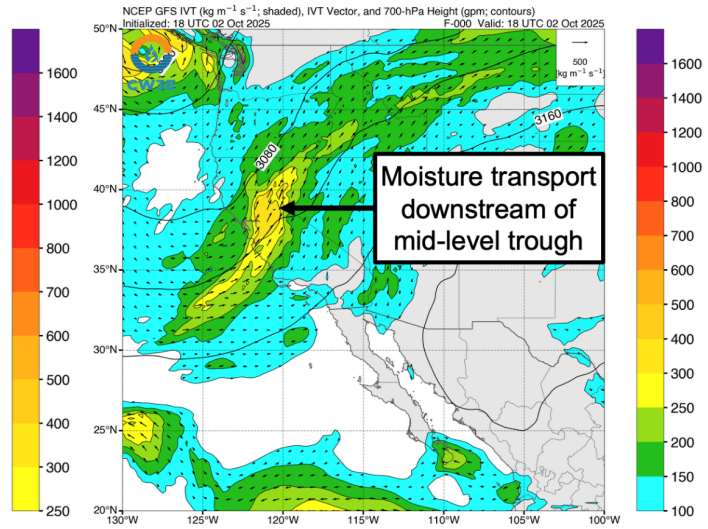
- Multiple atmospheric rivers (ARs) and a complex storm system brought several rounds of precipitation to the western US over the past week.
- The first AR initially made landfall over British Columbia on Fri 26 Sep and then re-intensified prior to making landfall along the US West Coast on Sun 28 Sep.
- The second AR made landfall on Tue 30 Sep ahead of a strong low-pressure system that stalled west of Vancouver Island. Weak AR conditions ($IVT < 500 \text{ kg m}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$) lasted over the Olympic Peninsula into Thu 2 Oct as cyclonic flow continued to transport moisture onshore.
- As time progressed, the mid-level trough associated with the surface low gradually moved eastward and interacted with remnant moisture from the second AR, resulting in a period of enhanced moisture transport over the interior western US.
- The first AR ranked as an AR 2/3 over coastal Washington and Oregon (based on the Ralph et al. 2019 AR Scale) and produced 1–3 inches of precipitation over the Klamath Mountains, Olympic Peninsula, and central and northeastern Nevada.
- The second AR and storm system combined to produce 3–6 inches of precipitation over the Olympic Mountains and 1–3 inches of precipitation across Shasta County, CA, the Northern and Central Sierra Nevada, central and northern Nevada, and southwestern Idaho.
- Total precipitation between Sun 28 Sep and Sat 4 Oct exceeded 30% of normal total water year precipitation in portions of Lander County, NV.
- Impacts were limited, and precipitation from these storms was mostly beneficial for regions experiencing abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions.



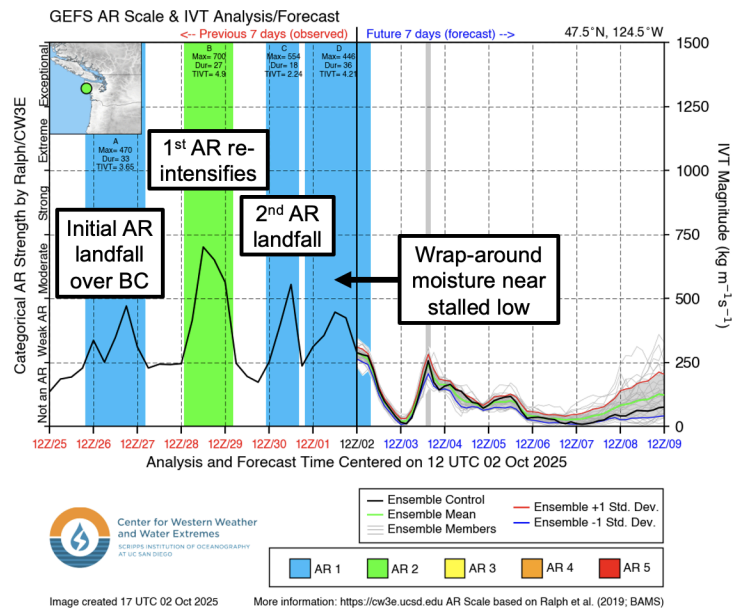
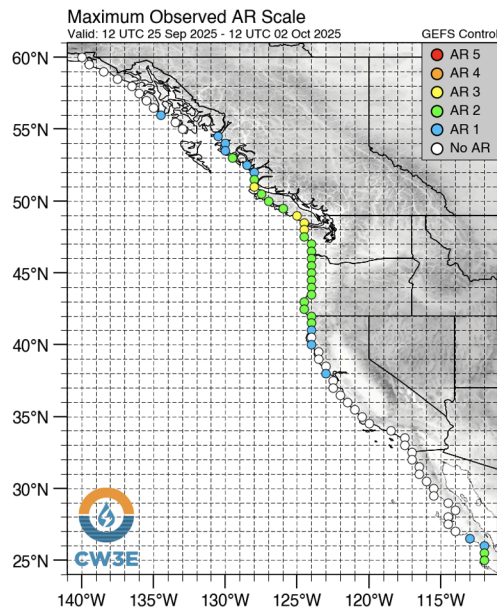
GFS IVT & SLP Analysis Valid 5 PM PDT 1 Oct 2025



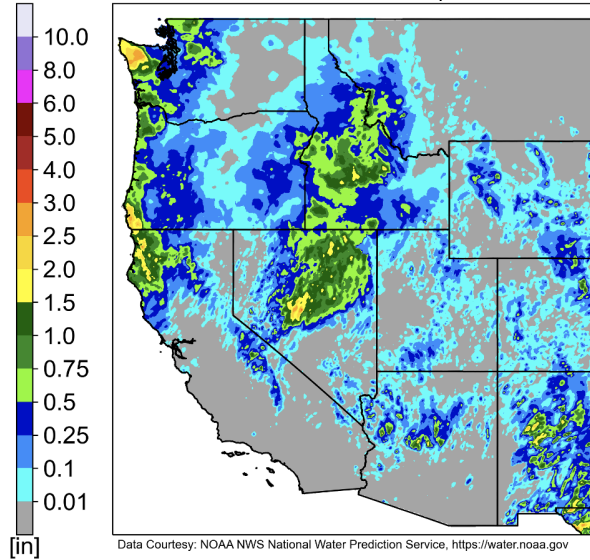
GFS IVT & 700-hPa Height Analysis Valid 11 AM PDT 2 Oct 2025



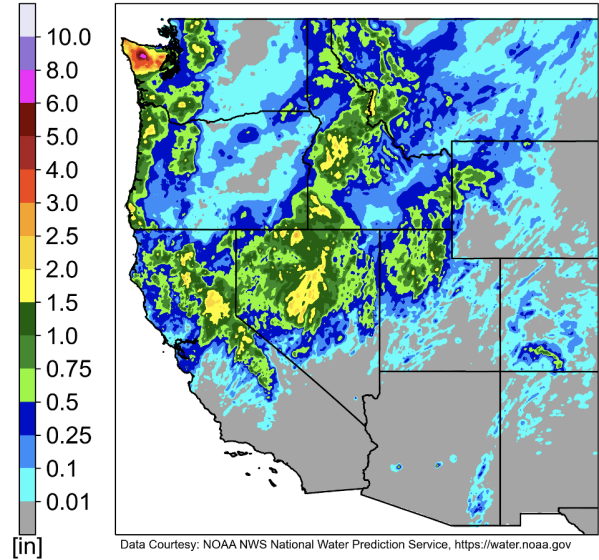
GEFS Control AR Scale Analysis



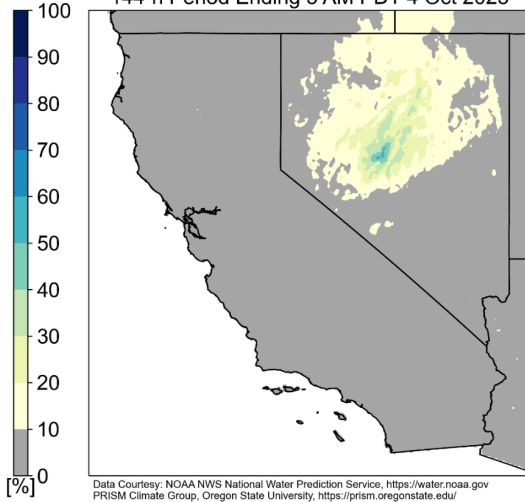
NWS Stage IV 48-h QPE
Valid: 5 AM PDT 30 Sep 2025



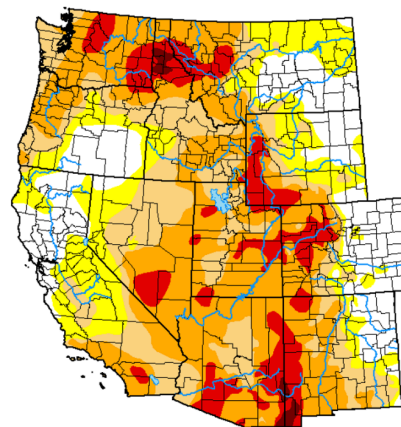
NWS Stage IV 96-h QPE
Valid: 5 AM PDT 4 Oct 2025



Percent of Normal WY Precipitation
144-h Period Ending 5 AM PDT 4 Oct 2025



U.S. Drought Monitor
Western U.S.



September 30, 2025
(Released Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:
Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center