



Status of El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Conditions as of October 10, 2019 Information provided by NWS Portland

ENSO Update

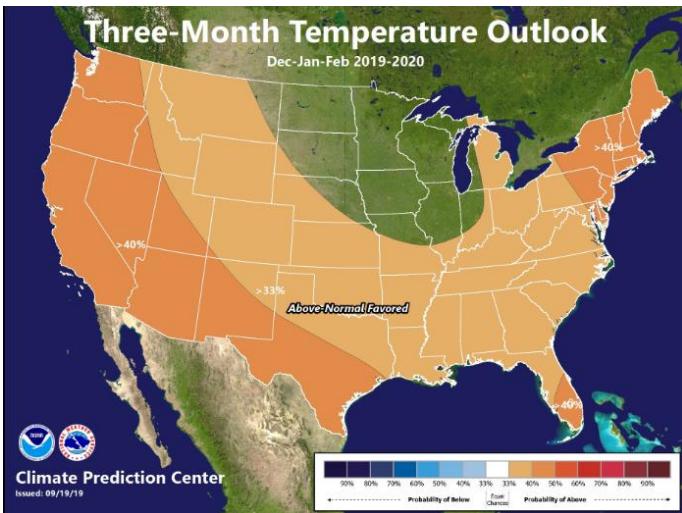
The weak El-Nino episode of the past winter season (2018-2019) is over. ENSO neutral conditions have returned as sea-surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean remain near average. Seasonal forecasts from NOAA indicate ENSO neutral conditions will prevail for the winter months of 2019-2020 and likely persist into spring of 2020. ENSO neutral conditions basically means the tropical sea surface temperatures, rainfall and wind patterns are close to their long term average. During ENSO neutral years, we don't see the predictable influences from La Niña and El Niño episodes, which typically mean cool and wet (La Niña) or warm and dry (El Niño) for the Pacific Northwest.

There have been 18 ENSO neutral episodes since 1950, lasting anywhere from one to three years. The last ENSO neutral episode was during the 2013-2014 winter season.

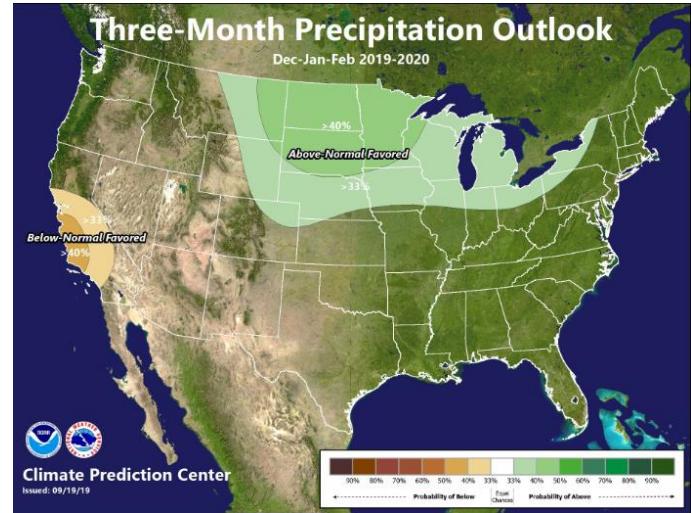
Precipitation and Temperature Outlook for the winter (2019-2020)

With ENSO neutral conditions in the tropical Pacific, the Climate Prediction Outlook for the December 2019 - February 2020 winter season shows high likelihood of above-normal temperatures. There is much more uncertainty in the precipitation outlook for the winter months with equal chances of being above, below or near normal. However, local studies for northwest Oregon and southwest Washington indicate the precipitation will likely be near or slightly below normal.

Temperature Outlook (Dec-Jan-Feb)



Precipitation Outlook (Dec-Jan-Feb)



If you have questions please contact me at:

Tyree Wilde, NWS Portland
Email: tyree.wilde@noaa.gov
Phone: 503-326-2340 x223

iNWS

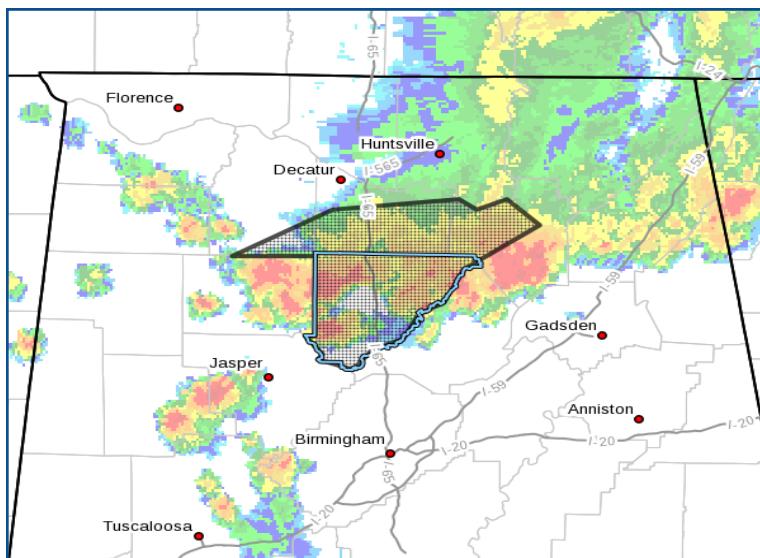
Mobile Decision Support Services

Interactive National Weather Service (iNWS) enables mobile and desktop users to receive customized text message and email alerts for NWS products. It provides another dissemination option for community leaders and decision makers to receive NWS watches, warnings and advisories.

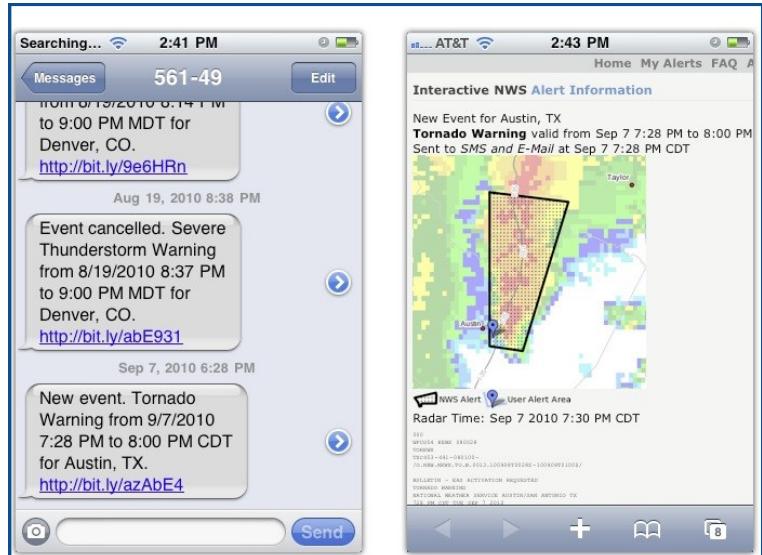
Why iNWS?

Get exactly what you want, and not be over-alerted! In iNWS, you set up the geographic area(s) you care about and configure the weather and flood messages you want to receive!

The SMS text and email alert provides a short headline and embedded hyperlink which the user can select to see additional multimedia information (including graphics and images relevant to the particular weather event). This additional information may include products currently available on the NWS websites or products generated specifically to support decision making by NWS core partners.



You are only alerted when the NWS polygon warning (black) overlaps with your iNWS configured alert area (blue)



Your customized warning text message from iNWS, with a link to more information

Full warning text and polygon graphics showing the storm relative to your alert area(s)

Who can participate?

Similar to NWSChat, users are currently restricted to community leaders and decision makers including:

- ◆ **Members of the emergency management community**
 - Including public safety officials from federal, state, tribal or local governments
 - Safety and emergency personnel from universities or other large-population entities
- ◆ **Members of the news media who...**
 - Operate systems that relay weather and flood watches, advisories, and warnings and other forecast information to a significant part of the population served by an NWS office
- ◆ **Government partners of a NWS office**
 - Including (but not limited to) the FAA, DHS, UGGS, USAF and water and land management officials

iNWS Features

- ◆ iNWS strives to fulfill our mission of protecting life and property by using the latest technology to provide decision support services to our core partners.
- ◆ iNWS uses mobile standards (HTML, SMS and email) that allow alerts to be easily shared and communicated among the emergency management and response community.
- ◆ iNWS is compatible with all major carriers and smartphone types.
- ◆ Users create their own *geographic areas of interest* (cities, counties or custom areas) and *service categories* (severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, high winds, floods, winter weather, fire weather, etc.)
- ◆ Users can access hydrographs, current and forecasted stages, and river impacts on-the-go from their web enabled mobile device.
- ◆ iNWS will only send an alert when the NWS warning affects the user's area of interest.
- ◆ Alerts are delivered by text message, email or both.
- ◆ Alerts are sent instantly by iNWS when they are issued, however, the time it takes for your to receive the alert depends on your mobile services provider's network.
- ◆ iNWS is a unique customizable service and not the same as Wireless Emergency Alerts for the public: www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/wea.html.

The customized alerting area setting on the iNWS interface only takes a few minutes to set-up

How do I sign up?

To get started, visit <http://inws.ncep.noaa.gov> and click the "Register" link at the top of the page. Registration is easy and should only take a couple of minutes. Once registered, you will have the opportunity to choose and customize services you would like to receive.

When your area, gets a NWS weather warning you care about...

...a text and/or email will instantly be sent to you.

Just the way you want it!

<http://inws.ncep.noaa.gov>



NWS Chat

Web-based version- <https://nwschat.weather.gov/live>

Overview: What is NWSChat?

The NWS based Instant Messaging service, NWSChat, is used for sharing critical information between the NWS and its partners. NWSChat allows multiple users to send messages to each other in forums known as "chat rooms." For NWS Portland, we have a private chat room (pqrchat) setup to interact with our forecasters.

Steps: (any questions, contact tyree wilde, 503-236-2340 x223 or tyree.wilde@noaa.gov)

I. Obtain NWS chat user account

- <https://nwschat.weather.gov>

- A. From the website referenced above, request a NWS Chat account by selecting "Request NWS Chat account– NWS Partners"

The screenshot shows the NWSChat Prototype website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'NWSChat Home', 'Reset Password', 'Documentation/Help', 'Contacts', 'Online Tools', and 'NWS Toolbox'. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation, a red banner reads 'EXPERIMENTAL, NON-OPERATIONAL'. The main content area has a heading 'NWSChat Prototype' and a paragraph about the service's purpose. It includes a note about media and emergency response partners, a section on how NWS partners can use NWSChat, and a link to the 'Service Description Document'. On the right side, there's a sidebar titled 'Access Online Tools' with fields for 'NWSChat Username (not handle)' and 'Password', and a 'Log In' button. Below this is a section titled 'Important Links' containing links for 'Reset NWSChat Password', 'Request NWSChat Account - NWS Partners', 'Request Account - NWS Personnel', 'Documentation', and 'Office Contacts'. At the bottom right of the sidebar, there's a 'News and Notes RSS' section with a list of recent posts. A large red oval highlights the 'Request NWSChat Account - NWS Partners' link in the 'Important Links' section.

- B. Fill out the on-line form. There are 8 steps to complete and self-explanatory.
- In step 3 (Common name on account), use organization-firstname.lastname. For example (media-john.doe, em-john.doe)
 - In step 8 (Primary office to approve your account), select “Portland (PQR) under the Oregon section”.
 - Once you request a NWS Chat Account, an email will be sent to the NWS Chat Administrator, who will approve access.

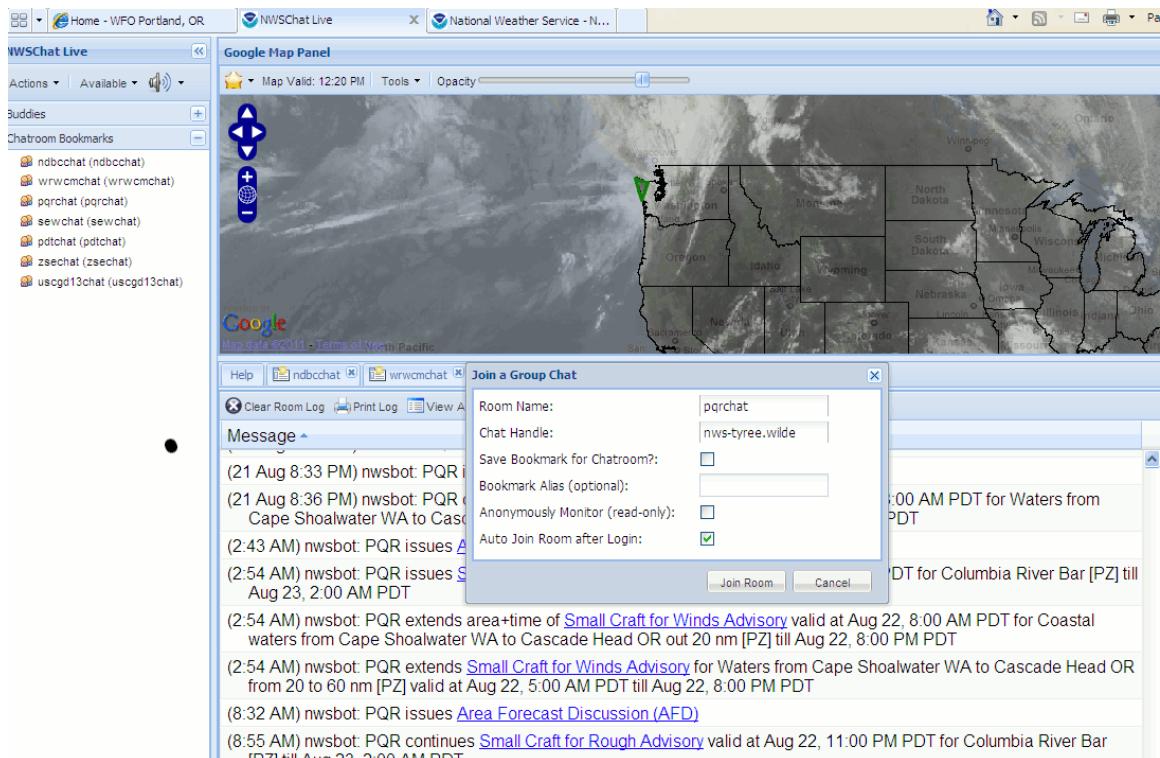
II. Login to NWS chat: (<https://nwschat.weather.gov/live/>)

- A. Once you receive an email approving access, start using NWS Chat by visiting the following website:
- <https://nwschat.weather.gov/live/>
- B. Enter your username and password
- example: em-john.doe
 - password: XYZ123456789!

The screenshot shows the NWSChat Live Login window. On the left is the National Weather Service logo. To its right are two input fields: 'Username:' and 'Password:', each with a red border. Below these fields are three buttons: 'Show Debug', 'Browser Save Login', and 'Login'. Underneath the input fields, a message reads: 'Welcome to NWSChat Live, please log in with your NWSChat account.' Below this message is a blue link: 'Switch to [NWSChat Live without Map](#)'.

C. Join the NWS Portland chat room (pqrchat)

- Under “Actions” pull down menu select “join Group Chat”
- In the “Join Group Chat GUI”, enter:
 - “pqrchat” in the room name
 - your username as the chat handle
 - click the box “auto join room after login”



Each time you login to nwschat.weather.gov/live, you will automatically be logged into the pqrchat room with NWS forecasters.

- D. You can now begin chatting with NWS forecasters by typing in questions at the bottom of the screen.



National Weather Service (NWS) creates Transportation Decision Support Webpage
By
Tyree Wilde
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
NWS Portland, OR

The National Weather Service (NWS) offices in Medford and Portland recently developed a Decision Support Webpage (<https://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mfr/dot/?wfo=pqr&mode=index>) for NWS partners to use in their daily decision making process.

Although initially envisioned for Public Works and Department of Transportation partners to use in displaying weather impacts on roadways, it became evident this webpage could be used by anyone to self-brief on expected weather conditions and stay abreast of changing weather conditions. The webpage has quick access to the following weather tools:

- Highlights any NWS watches, warnings or advisories in effect
- Links to weather observations and roadway temperatures
- Quick access to weather radar and satellite imagery
- Access to weather graphics which include precipitation, wind and snow forecasts
- Access to River gages and any river flooding
- Detailed forecasts for individuals milepost markers
- Color coded route forecasts that color code road segments that have watches, warnings or advisories in effect
- Access to longer range climate forecasts

We encourage you to bookmark this webpage and use it to begin your workday to get a quick glance at expected weather conditions. You can also find more detailed information at our webpage weather.gov/Portland or weather.gov.

The NWS like feedback on this webpage. Feel free to email tyree.wilde@noaa.gov or ryan.sandler@noaa.gov for any feedback.

Be a Force of Nature

Help Build a Weather-Ready Nation™

Do you know what to do in a severe weather emergency? Each year, people in this country are killed or seriously injured by all types of extreme weather, despite advance warning.

NOAA's Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) initiative is about helping our nation become more resilient to increasing extreme weather, water and climate events. NOAA is working to keep these threats from becoming disasters with greater accuracy in forecasts and warnings, evolving services to community decision makers, and better ways to communicate risk to stakeholders and the public.

As part of the WRN initiative, NOAA partners with emergency management officials, businesses, and the media to motivate individuals and communities to prepare for a potential weather disaster. And these actions can save lives – at home, in schools, and in the workplace.

What Does a Weather-Ready Nation Look Like?



A Weather-Ready Nation takes well-informed communities, businesses and individuals that are ready, responsive and resilient to extreme events. Key actions include:

- **Know your risk** by discovering the weather risks where you live and closely following National Weather Service forecasts and warnings.



- **Take action** by creating a family emergency plan and kit, and making sure you can receive emergency messages (e.g., NOAA Weather Radio, wireless emergency alerts).
- **Be an example** by using social media to share important hazard information.

How Your Organization Can Help Build a Weather-Ready Nation

Building a WRN requires the participation and commitment of a vast nationwide network of “Ambassadors” – organizations contributing in the best ways they can:

- Broadcasters advocating preparedness on-air
- Schools/universities teaching about the risks associated with severe weather and resiliency best practices
- Companies within the weather enterprise building the technological infrastructure for weather information and alerts
- Insurance companies providing discount incentives to policyholders who meet certain mitigation criteria

By becoming a **WRN Ambassador**, your organization can serve a pivotal role in affecting societal change by:

- Promoting Weather-Ready Nation messages
- Collaborating with NOAA
- Sharing your success stories
- Serving as an example



WRN Ambassadors are change agents and leaders of their communities. You will inspire others to be better informed and prepared – helping to minimize or even avoid the impacts of natural disasters.



NOAA meteorologist teaches elementary school children about weather observation

We can *all* contribute to a better informed and prepared public, smarter business and community planning, and more resilient infrastructure.

America's Weather Industry and NOAA: A Valued Partnership

Building a Weather-Ready Nation requires more than government alone. It requires the entire Weather Enterprise to provide information for better community, business, and personal decision making, and innovative partnerships across all segments of society.

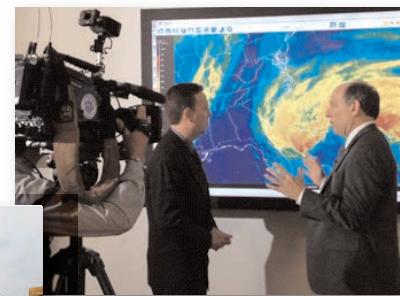
NOAA relies on the enormous contributions of America's weather industry – our private sector partners in the Weather Enterprise. America's weather industry delivers timely weather warnings to the public through a variety of media, and provides tailored services to help businesses protect their customers, employees, and bottom line in the face of adverse weather.

Together, this partnership takes the best features of the private sector – quick to market, customer focus, product diversity – and marries it to equitable and reliable services from the government to give everyone vital information about weather-related threats.

Building a Weather-Ready Nation Takes All of Us

Ultimately, a Weather-Ready Nation empowers everyone to make life-saving decisions that also prevent devastating economic losses. It's all of us working together to become a nation known for its resiliency in the face of deadly weather events.

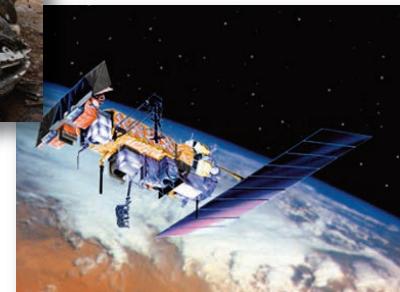
To learn more about the Weather-Ready Nation initiative or becoming a WRN Ambassador, visit the WRN website at www.noaa.gov/wrn or e-mail NOAA's Weather-Ready Nation team at wrn.feedback@noaa.gov.



Storm forecast media interview



Tornado damage



Rendering of NOAA-N Prime Weather Satellite courtesy of Lockheed Martin

"We can't stop extreme events from happening. But we surely can come together and find ways to make our societies more dynamically resilient in the face of those threats."

NOAA Administrator Dr. Kathryn Sullivan
American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting
January 10, 2013