

Western Interconnection Wildfire Assessment

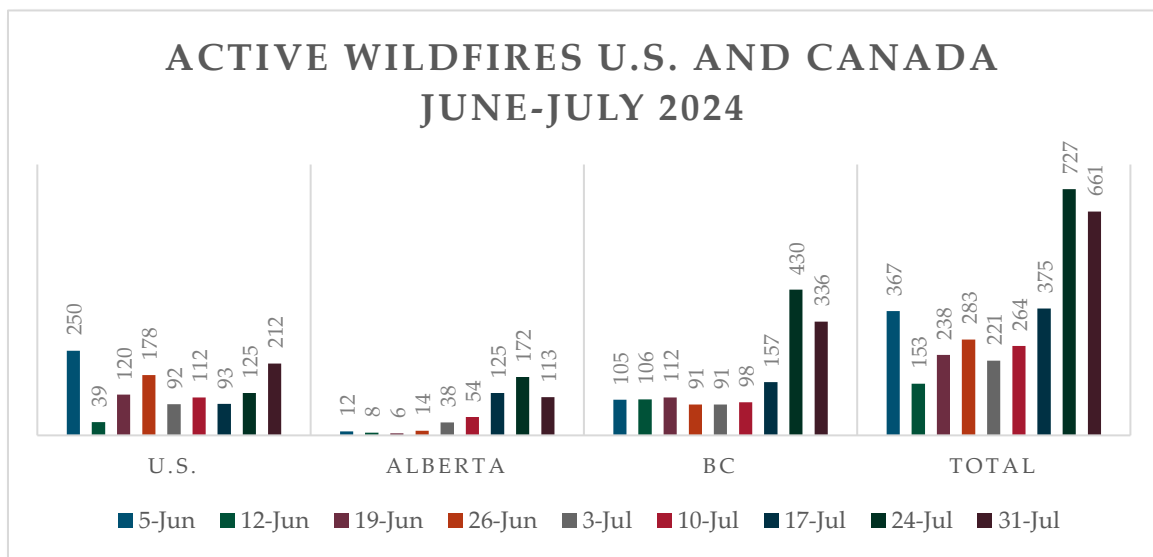
This is a high-level summary of the wildfire risk to the bulk power system. The information is for general purposes only and should not be relied on as accurate, because fires are dynamic, and circumstances may change quickly.

Active Wildfires (U.S. and Canada)

In the Western U.S., the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) reports 88 large (>1,000 acres) wildfires burning in 11 states. Alberta has 22 and B.C. 142 wildfires listed as *out of control*. Alberta and B.C. saw a decrease in fires this week due to lower temperatures and rain helping lower the numbers.

Active fires in the Western Interconnection—July 31, 2024

- Western Interconnection (U.S.)—212
- Alberta—113
- British Columbia—336
- Total—661



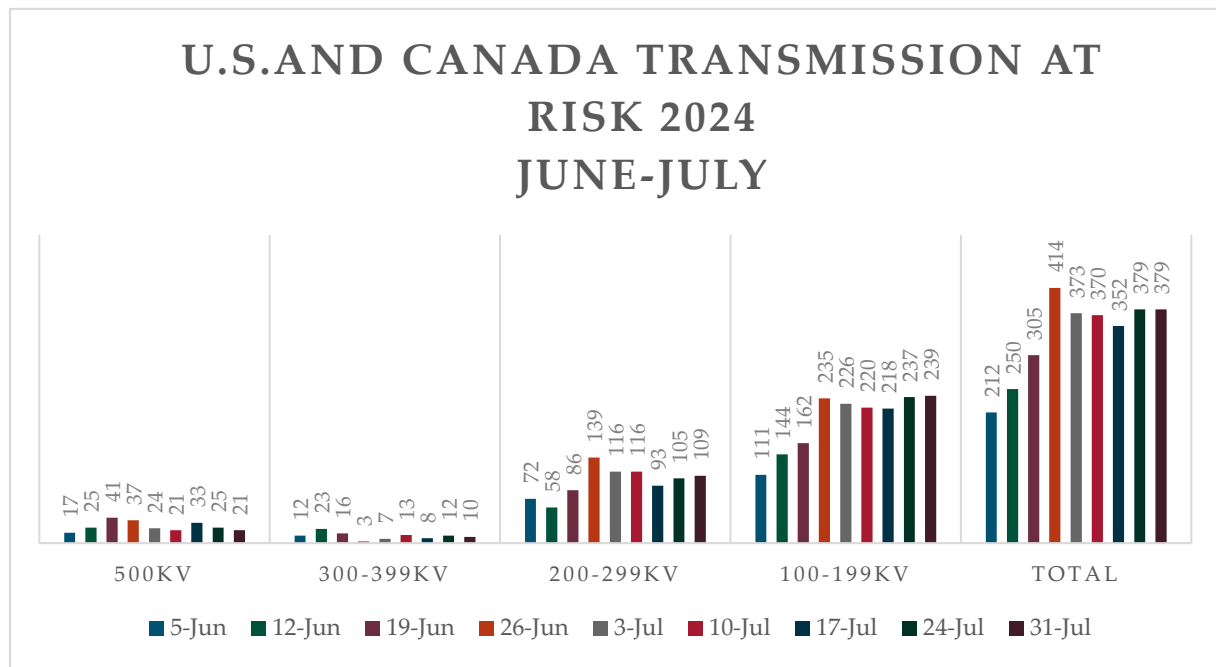
Western Interconnection Transmission Lines at Risk (U.S.)

An at-risk transmission line is any line within three miles of an active wildfire, a new incident discovered in the past 24 hours, or a hotspot detected by NOAA satellite.

July 31, 2024, Lines at Risk

The interconnection had a moderate decrease in lines at risk overall. Lines at 115 kV and 230 kV remained high. This is mainly due to many smaller fires throughout the interconnection.

- 500 kV—21
- 345 kV—10
- 230 kV—109
- 100 kV—239
- Total—379



Events of Note

U.S. Western interconnection

Since January, 28,154 wildfires have burned 4,449,282 acres in the United States, a 5% increase in the number of wildfires and 18% increase in acres burned over the past week. Human-caused wildfires continue to be the number one cause including the Park Fire in California, now the fifth-largest wildfire in California history, burning more than 386,000 acres with only 18% containment after seven days.

The [Park Fire](#) continues to pose a threat to the Table Mountain to Round Mountain 500 kV transmission lines, leading to curtailments into California on Path 66, the California-Oregon Intertie (COI) and causing transmission congestion on the east side of the interconnection. WECC has been operating in a Potential Open Loop operation for several days.



Wildfires of Note (Canada)

British Columbia is reporting six fires of note: all are out of control and expected to spread beyond their current perimeter or control line.

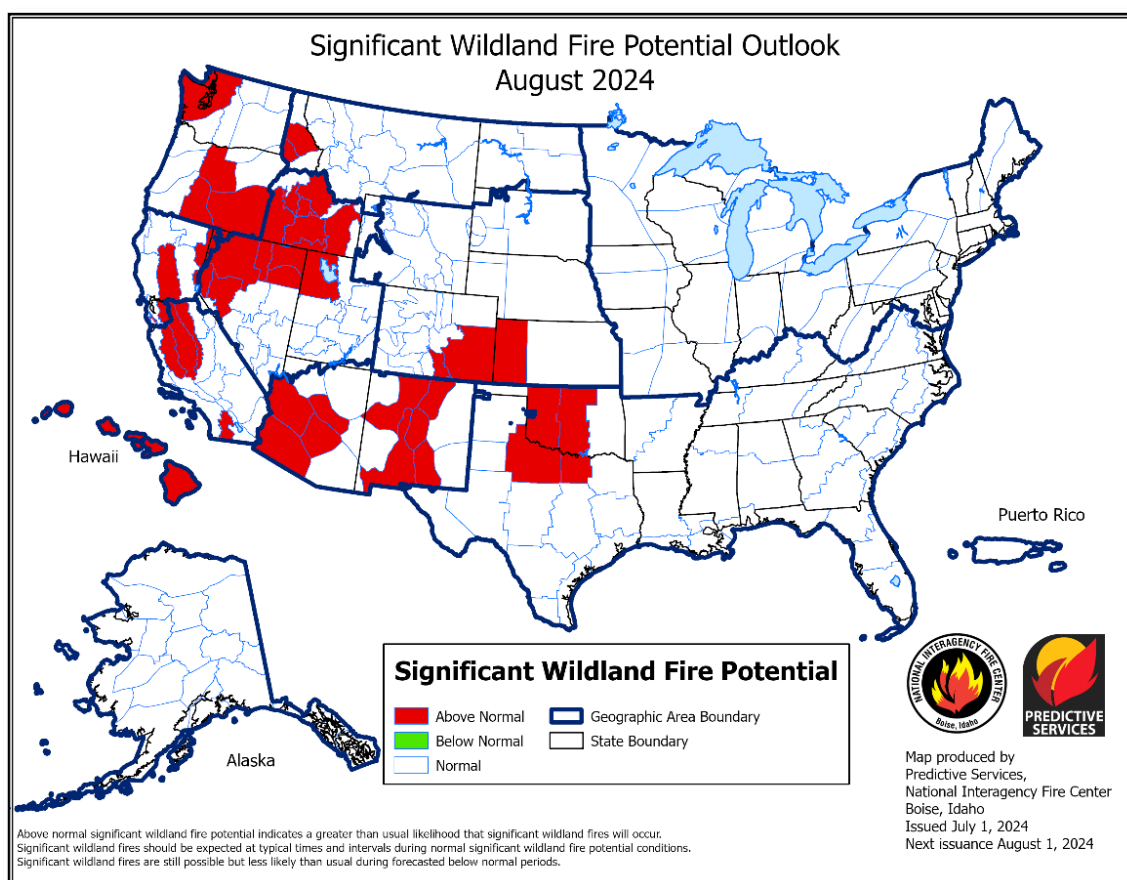
1. Antler Creek, lightning
2. Komonoko Creek, lightning
3. Aylwin Creek, lightning
4. Shetland Creek, lightning
5. Dogtooth FSR, lightning
6. Argenta Creek, lightning

A wildfire of note is determined to be of significant public interest and may pose a threat to public safety, communities, or critical infrastructure.

Alberta has 20 wildfires listed as out of control, 18% of the total fires in the province.

Wildfire Outlook—July 2024

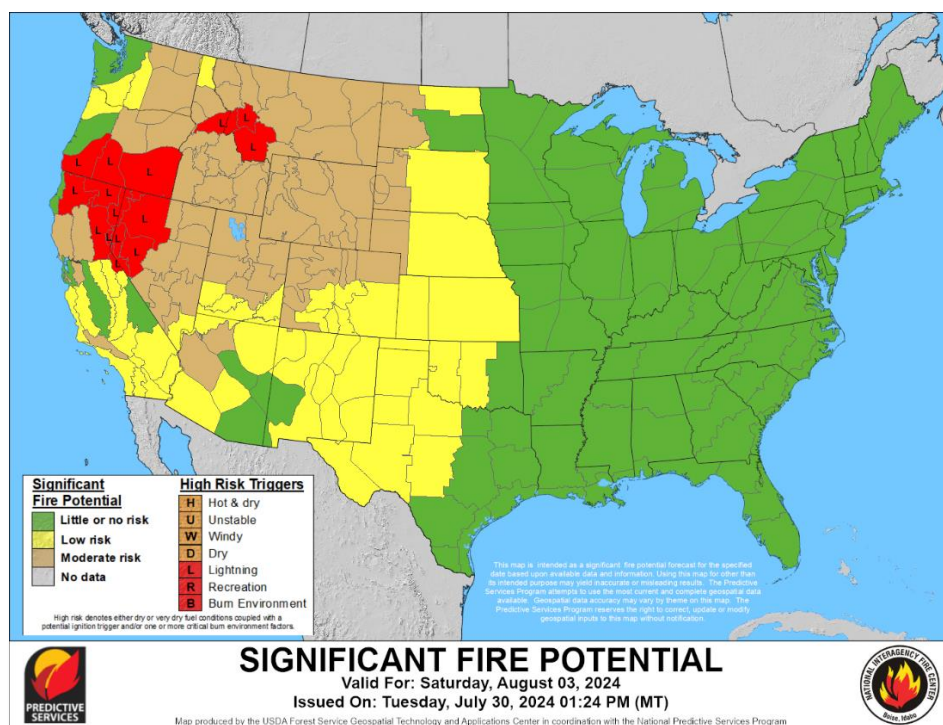
Wildfire potential for August will remain high throughout much of the interconnection with extreme high temperatures and continued drought drying out abundant wildfire fuel.

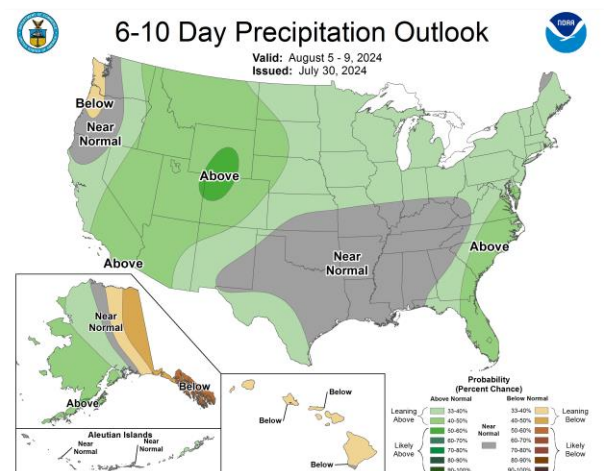
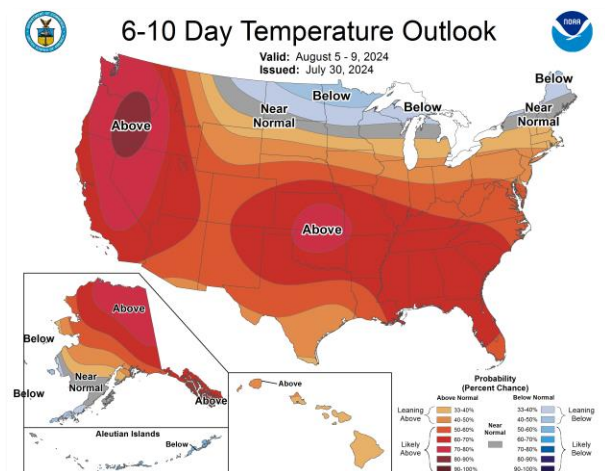


Fire Weather Conditions

Extreme temperatures and normal precipitation are expected in the next 6 to 10 days throughout most of the West. The interior of Oregon will see extremely high temperatures along with the threat of lightning in Oregon, California, and Nevada, elevating the fire danger risk. Red flag warnings continue over parts of the Northwest.

The Western Interconnection remains stable in the presence of abnormal weather conditions. High temperatures continue across the West, fire weather conditions are unfavorable, and heavy smoke from wildfires extends across much of the Northwest. Red flag warnings are present throughout the Rocky Mountains.



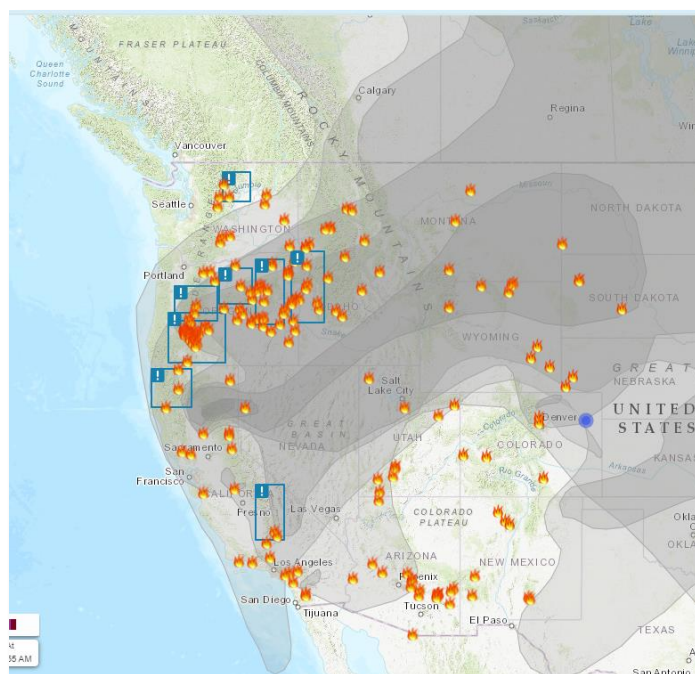


Wildfire Smoke and Air Quality

Wildfire smoke continues to increase and move throughout the Western Interconnection. As smoke density increases, solar generation may see some degradation.

Current Wildfire Conditions

The [WECC Wildfire Dashboard](https://www.wecc.org/wildfire-dashboard) posted on WECC.org shows the current wildfire conditions. Users new to WECC.org must create a user ID and password for access.



Source information:

- Alberta - <https://www.alberta.ca/wildfire-status>
- British Columbia - <https://wildfiresituation.nrs.gov.bc.ca/map>
- National Interagency Fire Center Boise, Idaho <https://www.nifc.gov/>
- Transmission at risk – [WECC Wildfire Dashboard](https://www.wecc.org/wildfire-dashboard)