

Weekly Wildfire Update

WECCSA

September 2, 2026

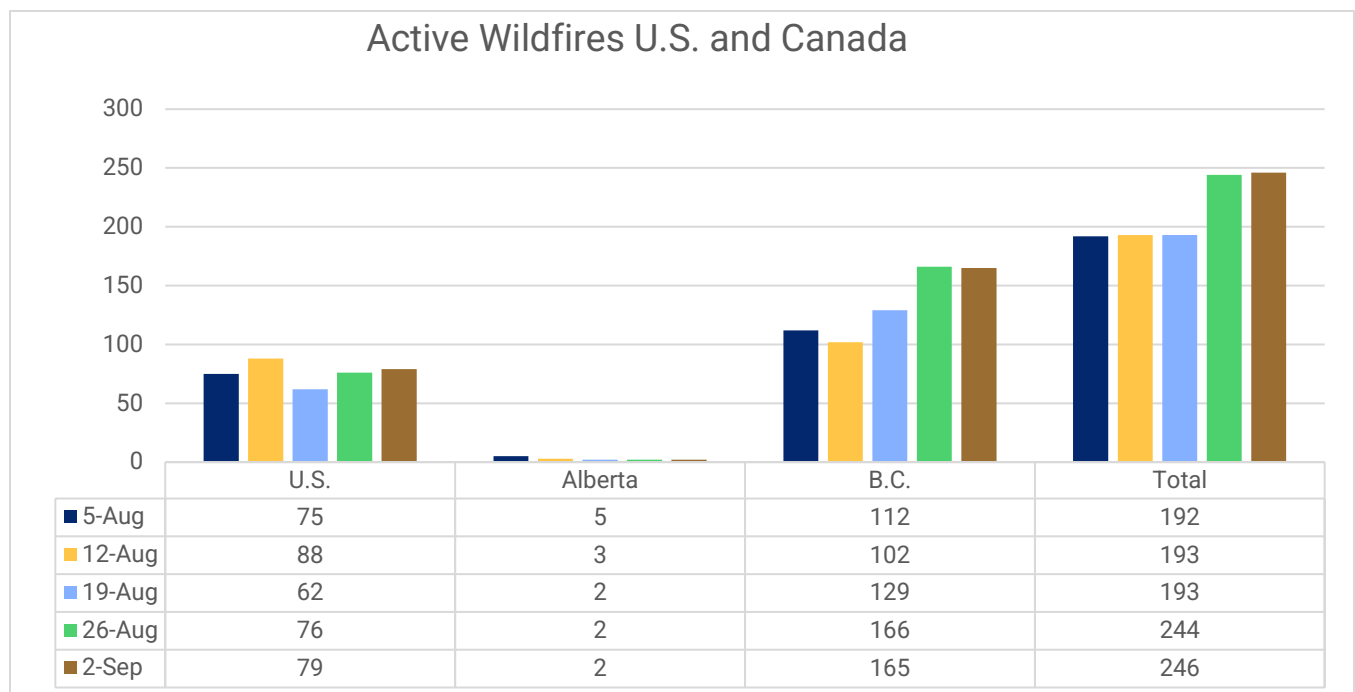
This is a high-level summary of the wildfire risk to the bulk power system. Because fires are dynamic, and circumstances may change quickly, this information is for general purposes only and should not be relied on as accurate.

Active Wildfires (U.S. and Canada)

Large wildfires in the Western U.S. account for 72% of all fires reported in the U.S. Fires in British Columbia and Alberta account for 59% of all fires reported in Canada, excluding the Northwest Territories.

The active fire list includes named fires that are 10 acres or larger and less than 100% contained. There are several dozen hot spots and wildfires that have started during the past week, all less than 10 acres. Alberta has zero fires out of control, and British Columbia has 20 fires burning out of control.

Active Fires in the Western Interconnection – September 2, 2026

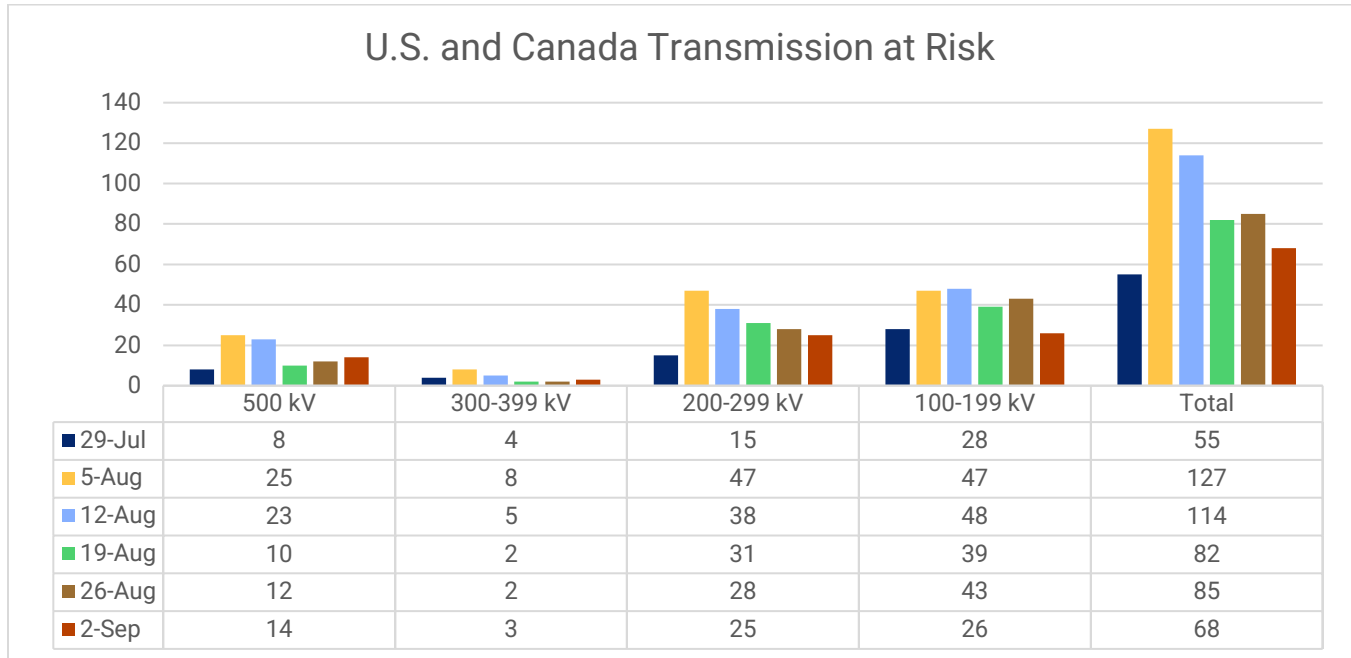


Western Interconnection Transmission Lines at Risk (U.S.)

An at-risk transmission line is any line within two miles of an active wildfire.

Lines at Risk – September 2, 2026

The number of interconnection lines at risk increased from last week, but impact to the bulk power system was minimal.



Events of Note

Western U.S.

Many of the large fires >100k acres in the Pacific Northwest and Reno, Nevada, are at or nearing 100% containment.

Wildfire activity has increased in California as high temperatures have replaced cooler and wet weather, drying out fuels. The Plasket and Timber fires that started last month are burning out of control, forcing thousands to evacuate.

As of today, 74 drone incursions have been reported near wildfires this year. The vast majority of these have occurred in Washington (45), followed by California (nine). Drones in the sky present a critical danger to aircraft with people inside; even a very small drone has the potential to damage the tail rotor on a helicopter or incapacitate an engine and cause a fatal accident. Thus, when an unknown drone is spotted near a wildfire, aerial operations are grounded until the skies are clear. That pause may only last a few minutes, but in wildfire response, every minute matters.

Wildfires of Note (Canada)

British Columbia

One wildfire of note: Pear Lake Fire.

Alberta

None

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



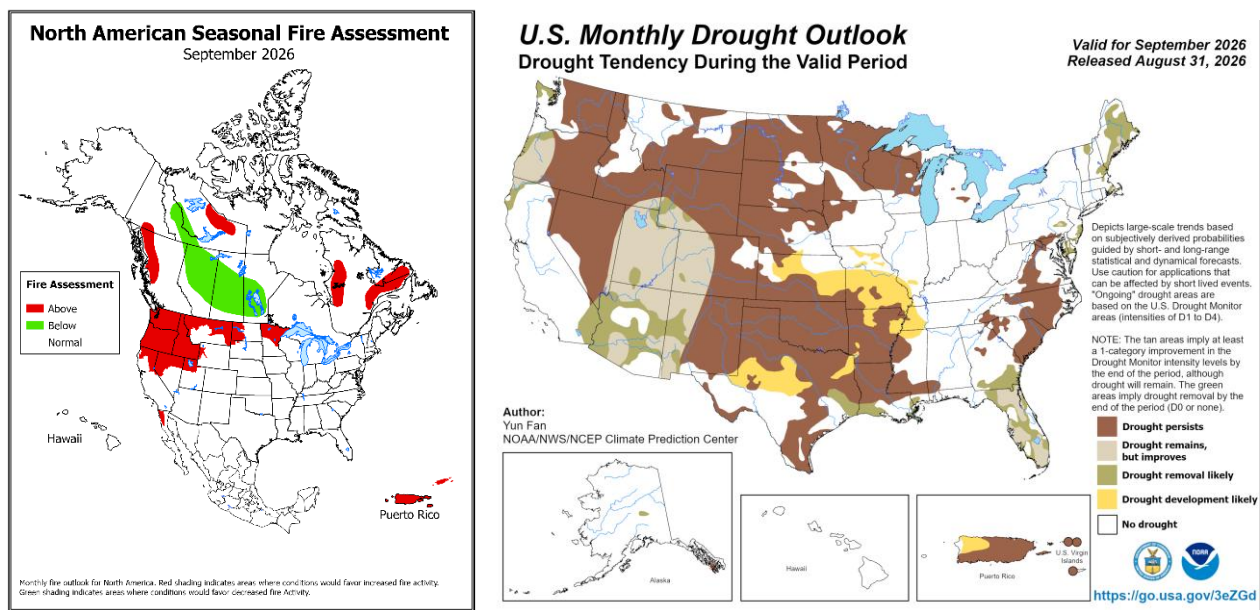
Wildfire and Drought Outlook – September

U.S. and Canada

Wildfire risks are expected to improve as we move into fall. The Pacific Northwest, upper Midwest, and northwest B.C. are expected to have above-normal fire risks, while Alberta is expected to have below-normal risk.

Drought has developed or intensified in the Northwest, portions of the northern Great Basin, and central Rockies. Extreme to exceptional drought is most widespread across the eastern Great Basin, central Rockies, and central High Plains, with smaller areas in central Oregon and south-central Montana.

The August precipitation forecast holds significant uncertainty, though it points toward another dry month for B.C. Additionally, fire danger is forecast to be elevated over the interior of B.C. The southern and central interior of B.C. has a large region of extreme drought. Other areas constituting the southern half of B.C. sit in either moderate or severe drought.



Fire Weather Conditions – [Month]

6–10 Day Outlook

U.S.

Precipitation is forecast to be above normal to normal for the interconnection, which should aid firefighting efforts. In the West, breezy and dry southwest winds will develop in much of western and southern Nevada into far northeast California and southeast Oregon creating elevated fire conditions as minimum relative humidity falls to 7–15%. Farther east, scattered showers and thunderstorms will

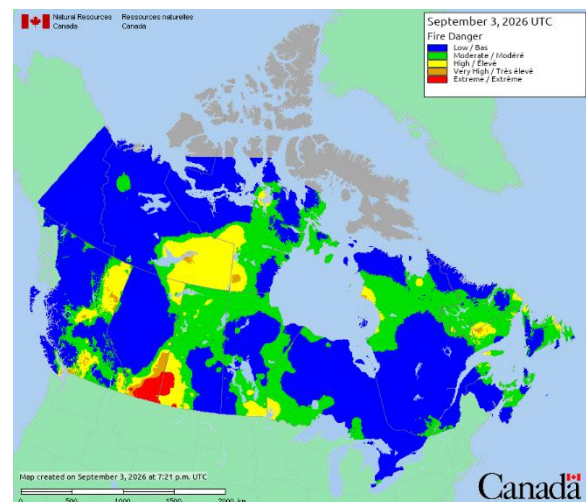
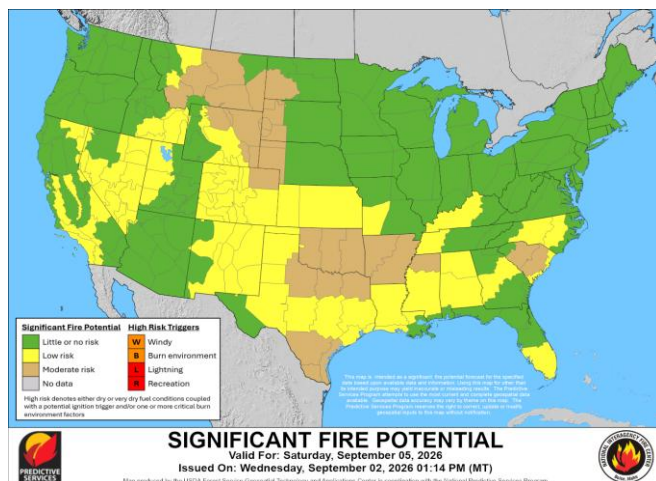
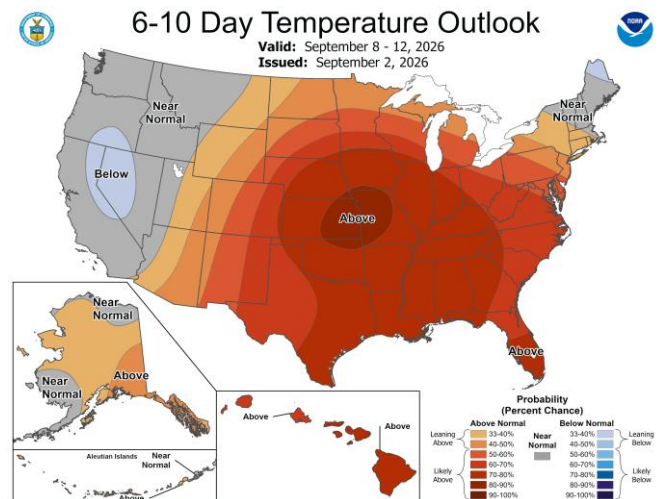
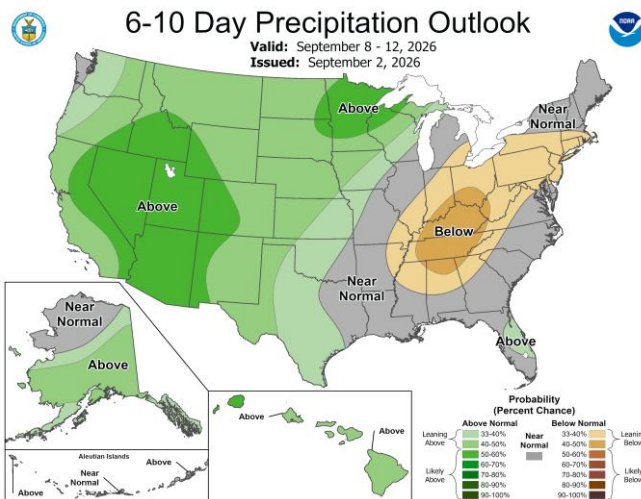
develop in far northeast Oregon to central Idaho and southwest Montana then southward into the central Rockies, while isolated thunderstorms develop in the Southwest. Much cooler temperatures are expected west of the Cascades and Sierra due to strong onshore flow.

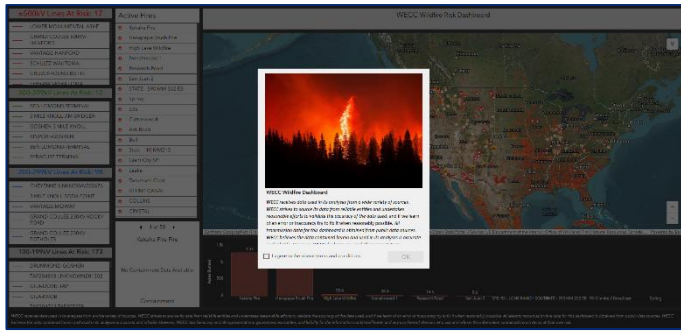
Alberta

Mild temperatures and rain are expected throughout the week and weekend into next week, keeping fire danger down.

British Columbia

B.C. is moving into a more fall-like weather pattern with seasonal temperatures and increased relative humidity. However, drought remains a concern, especially in the Southern Interior and southeast areas of the province. Wildfire risk remains elevated, and open fire prohibitions remain in place for many areas. There is potential for lightning for the next few days, which could bring new fire starts and holdover fires.





Current Wildfire Conditions

The WECC Wildfire [Dashboard](https://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.