



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

The Cherry Road Fire, pictured above and in the photos below, burned this summer in southeastern Oregon, near the border with Idaho.

Acres burned in Oregon

- 2016: 186,317 acres so far (human caused: 910 fires, 126,409 acres burned)
- 2015: 685,809 (human caused: 1,397 fires, 139,483 acres burned)
- 2014: 984,629
- 2013: 350,786
- 2012: 1,256,049
- 2011: 285,712
- 2010: 93,731
- 2009: 100,668
- 2008: 136,572
- 2007: 648,046
- 2006: 545,870
- 2005: 155,331
- 2004: 30,018
- 2003: 160,191
- 2002: 1,010,952

Largest fires in Oregon this summer

- Rail Fire (U.S. Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, 41,716 acres)
- Cherry Road Fire (Vale District – BLM), 35,308 acres
- Juntura Complex (Vale – BLM), 24,301 acres
- Owyhee Canyon Fire (Vale – BLM), 21,776 acres
- Akawana Fire (Central Oregon District – ODF), 2,094 acres
- Bybee Creek Fire (Crater Lake Nat'l Park – National Park Service), 1,072 acres



The Cherry Road Fire was visible for long distances in southeastern Oregon.



Statewide, there have been fewer wildfires this year.

Wildfires

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“The number of days where we had thunderstorms or dry lightning events was low compared to a normal year,” said Matthew Cullen, meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Portland. “In a typical year, we have a lot more out-breaks.”

Conditions also improved this summer, compared to 2015 and 2014, although not by a huge amount.

Snowpack this winter was far better than in 2015 and '14. However, a hot and dry spring — along

with the Willamette Valley’s fifth-warmest summer in recorded history — kept the state abnormally dry or in drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

“Even if the snowpack was just decent, it at least delayed fire season more than during the past few years, especially in the higher mountains,” Gardetto said.

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