

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

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

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



Wildfires

Continued from Page 1A

"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 outbreaks.'

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 historykept 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.

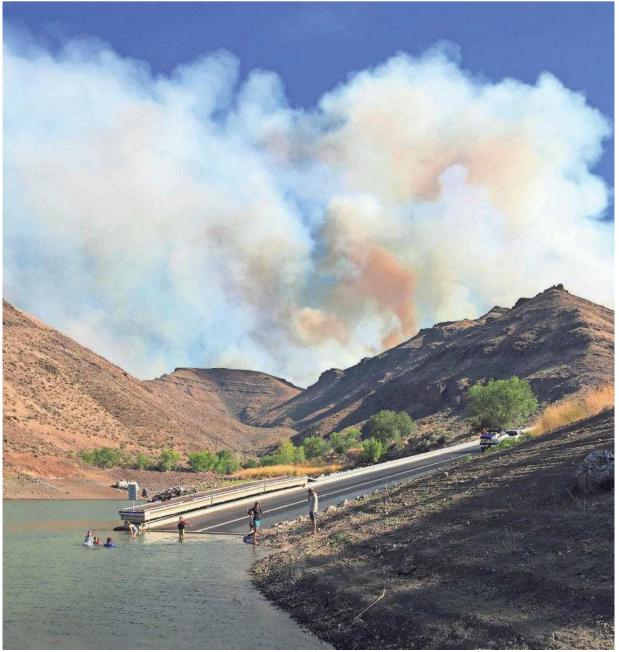
Zach Urness has been an outdoors writer, photographer and videographer in Oregon for eight years. He is the author of the book "Hiking Southern Oregon" and can be reached at zurness@ StatesmanJournal.com or (503) 399-6801. Find him on Zach Urness or @ZachsORoutdoors on Twitter.

Rail Fire (U.S. Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, 41,716 acres

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



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



Statewide, there have been fewer wildfires this year.

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