

# North Dakota sends team to help with Northwest measles breakout

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota is sending an emergency response team to assist in efforts to control an escalating measles outbreak in the Pacific Northwest.

The North Dakota Department of Health Emergency Preparedness and Response will deploy a five-member unit to relieve existing members of the Washington state response group, the *Bismarck Tribune* reported.

“We are pleased to assist with this serious public health emergency,” said Tim Wiedrich, Emergency Preparedness and Response’s section chief. “Our participation not only assists Washington but also strengthens our North Dakota response capabilities.”

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency on Jan. 25 because of the measles outbreak.

Public health officials in the state have con-

firmed 43 measles cases mostly clustered in southwest Washington. Most patients were under 10 and not immunized.

Public health authorities recommend that all children be vaccinated against the extremely contagious viral illness at ages 12 to 15 months and 4 to 6 years.

Washington submitted a request for the specialized team through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. The mutual aid agency enables a disaster-impacted state to request and receive aid from other member states swiftly and efficiently.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact has been ratified by the federal government in all 50 states, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Washington will reimburse North Dakota’s expenses as outlined in the agency’s request.

# Gov. Brown says feds must do more to manage fire-prone land

By ANDREW SELSKY  
Associated Press

SALEM — The federal government needs to send more resources to do more forest thinning on public lands in Oregon, Gov. Kate Brown said Thursday as she searches for ways to stem wildfires that are getting bigger and more dangerous.

One possible option Brown said she would consider is allowing some fires to burn, but keeping them away from populated areas, as well as prescribed burns and increased thinning.

“Fire is an instrumental part of maintaining a landscape, a healthy landscape,” Brown told reporters in a conference call. But she is being cautious about the approach, citing a megafire in 2017 that wasn’t immediately snuffed out and that threatened the town of Brookings on the southern Oregon coast.

“I still feel the pain of the Chetco Bar fire,” she said, referring to the blaze that scorched 190,000 acres over several months.

Wildfire experts like John Bailey, an Oregon State University professor of silviculture and fire man-



KATU-TV via AP/Tristan Fortsch, File  
**This Sept. 4, 2017, file photo, shows a wildfire as seen from near Stevenson Wash., across the Columbia River, burning in the Columbia River Gorge above Cascade Locks.**

agement, say fires make forests more fire-resilient and healthy. They advocate using prescribed burns more aggressively.

As part of her efforts, Brown announced Wednesday an executive order establishing the Oregon Wildfire Response Council, tasked with evaluating the current response system to large fires.

“We have to re-examine how we fight fire,” Brown said Thursday, noting the current model has been used for a century. She said federal public lands have been mismanaged for many years.

Since the 1970s, there has been little timber harvesting on federal lands, with a resulting increase of 57 percent more standing timber in the United States than existed in 1953, according to a study by Donald Healy, a forestry expert from Lynnwood, Washington, who formerly worked for wood products company Boise Cascade. He said the situation has “set the stage for

disastrous forest fires.”

The council Brown established is to make recommendations in September on the future of Oregon’s wildfire response infrastructure. She said Democrats and Republicans will be members as well as Native Americans, and that it will ramp up quickly.

If its recommendations require changes in state law, legislation could be prepared for the Legislature in time for its 2020 session, Brown said. Some recommendations could be handled by executive order, though determining funding could take a year or two.

Council chairman Matt Donegan should also make sure federal partners are fully engaged, Brown said.

The U.S. Forest Service doesn’t currently dedicate enough resources to properly thin national forests, Brown complained in the conference call. U.S. Forest Service land comprises about 14 million acres in Oregon, or roughly one-quarter of the state.

Brown and the governors of California and Washington state wrote President Donald Trump on Jan. 8 about the issue.

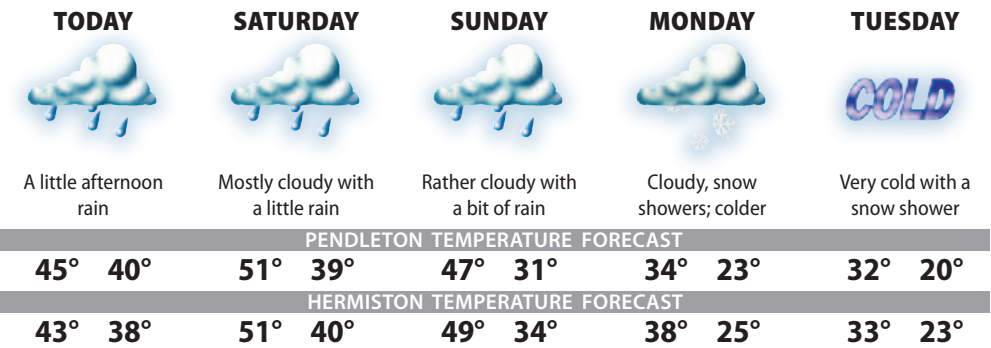
“The federal government is a major landowner and a critical partner in preventing, fighting, and recovering from wildfires,” Brown, California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee told Trump.

They asked the president to double the investment for managing federal forests in the three states, noting that the federal forest management budgets have remained flat in recent years.

Senate Republican Leader Herman Baertschiger Jr., of Grants Pass, said he’s encouraged by the governor’s actions.

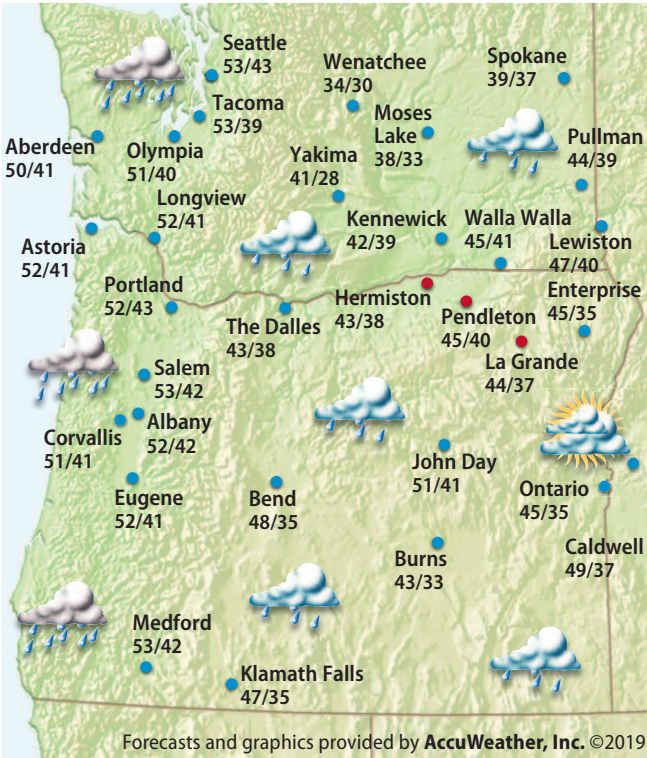
“This is a great first step, but we need to take a serious look at how we manage our forests, including creating a long term 100-year plan to prevent these massive fires from occurring in the first place,” Baertschiger said.

## Forecast for Pendleton Area



## OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



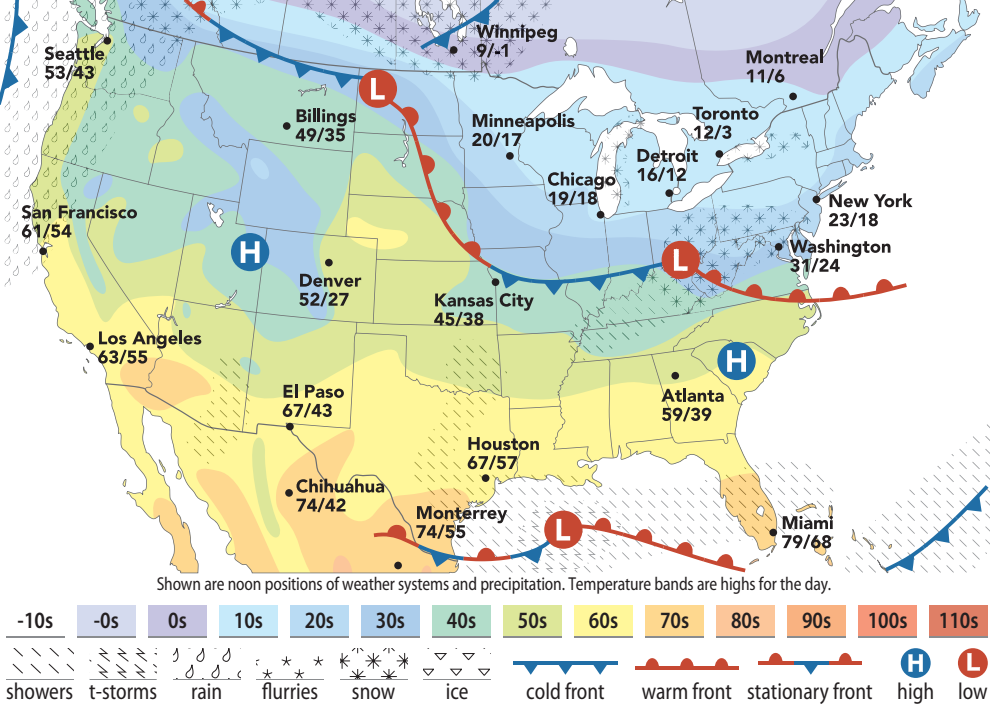
| ALMANAC                        |            |             |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest. |            |             |
| TEMP.                          | HIGH       | LOW         |
| Yesterday                      | 33°        | 29°         |
| Normals                        | 43°        | 28°         |
| Records                        | 70° (1995) | -15° (1950) |
| PRECIPITATION                  |            |             |
| 24 hours ending 3 p.m.         | 0.00"      |             |
| Month to date                  | 2.07"      |             |
| Normal month to date           | 1.38"      |             |
| Year to date                   | 2.07"      |             |
| Last year to date              | 1.59"      |             |
| Normal year to date            | 1.38"      |             |
| HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest. |            |             |
| TEMP.                          | HIGH       | LOW         |
| Yesterday                      | 35°        | 33°         |
| Normals                        | 44°        | 29°         |
| Records                        | 69° (1971) | -27° (1950) |
| PRECIPITATION                  |            |             |
| 24 hours ending 3 p.m.         | 0.00"      |             |
| Month to date                  | 1.53"      |             |
| Normal month to date           | 1.28"      |             |
| Year to date                   | 1.53"      |             |
| Last year to date              | 1.10"      |             |
| Normal year to date            | 1.28"      |             |
| WINDS (in mph)                 |            |             |
|                                | Today      | Sat.        |
| Boardman                       | NNE 3-6    | NE 3-6      |
| Pendleton                      | S 6-12     | NE 6-12     |
| SUN AND MOON                   |            |             |
| Sunrise today                  | 7:17 a.m.  |             |
| Sunset tonight                 | 5:01 p.m.  |             |
| Moonrise today                 | 5:12 a.m.  |             |
| Moonset today                  | 2:19 p.m.  |             |

## NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday’s National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 79° in Tamiami, Fla. Low -53° in Cotton, Minn.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



# Police: Man executed in Texas in 1999 killed Oregon woman

PORTLAND (AP) — A convicted murderer called the “Animal,” who was executed by the state of Texas in 1999, has been identified by DNA as the person who killed a young woman in Portland nearly 40 years ago.

Anna Marie Hlavka, 20, was killed in an apartment on July 24, 1979. Authorities said Thursday her killer, Jerry McFadden, was identified using the same technology that led to an arrest last year in California in the “Golden State Killer” case.

Hlavka was sexually assaulted and strangled with an electric cord. The Portland Police Bureau said at a news conference retired detectives submitted evidence to the state crime lab in 2009 for forensic testing.

Authorities said that evidence eventually showed McFadden, who was executed in Texas for the rape and killing of an 18-year-old high school cheerleader, was Hlavka’s killer.

The 51-year-old McFadden was a notorious criminal in Texas. He was sentenced to death for a daylong murder rampage in 1986 that took the life of the cheerleader as well as two other people.

Authorities said it took years of research and detective work to determine that



The News-Journal via AP/Kevin Green, File  
**In this Aug. 31, 1999, file photo, convicted murderer Jerry “Animal” McFadden, left, looks at his attorney Vernard Solomon, right, while Upshur County Sheriff R.D. “Buck” Cross, center, follows him out of the Upshur County Courtroom after his execution date was set in Gilmer, Texas.**

McFadden killed Hlavka.

Portland police said an “unknown male DNA profile” was found in 2011 in evidence collected from the scene of the 1979 slaying. The profile was deemed especially good considering how much time had passed.

From 2012 to 2016, detectives collected and submitted eight subjects’ DNA profiles in an attempt to identify the killer, but authorities said all came back negative.

Last May detectives researched forensic genealogy using unidentified DNA profiles from homicide scenes, the technology used

to bring about the May 2018 arrest of the suspect in the “Golden State Killer” case.

Detectives contacted Parabon NanoLabs and the Oregon State Police Crime Lab and it was determined that the evidence from the Portland cold case was a good candidate for that technology.

Scientists were able to map three of the four familial lines of the Portland killer and identified him as McFadden.

Detectives traveled to Texas to interview McFadden’s relatives and obtain further DNA samples.

**CORRECTIONS:** The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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