

Record-cold October in Idaho, Washington, Oregon

Oregon endured fourth-coldest October on record since 1895

By **DON JENKINS**
Capital Press

BOISE, Idaho — Idaho shivered through its coldest October on record, while Washington weathered its second-coldest October and the coolest in more than a century, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Oregon was chilly, too. The month was the fourth-coldest October for the state, according to records that date back to 1895.

The extended region-wide cold snap defied the odds. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center forecast in September that the outlook favored a warmer than normal October.

Unusual atmospheric conditions caused frigid air to blow down from the Gulf of Alaska, Washington State Assistant Climatologist Karin Bumbaco said. Normally, warmer and wetter air from the south flows into the region, she said.



EO file photo

October was unusually chilly in Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

“It was really different than we would typically see this time of year,” Bumbaco said.

The cold damaged some crops, and the northern winds “made farm work outdoors miserable,” according to the USDA's late October crop report for Idaho.

The cold October followed a wet and cool September.

The combination was

not good, said Snohomish County, Washington, organic farmer Tristan Kelsick.

“We didn’t get the growth we normally get in September,” he said. “It set up an unsuccessful October.”

Klickitat County, Washington, rancher Neil Kayser said the September rain was good for pastures.

“Then October came and froze everything back, and now we’re short on pas-

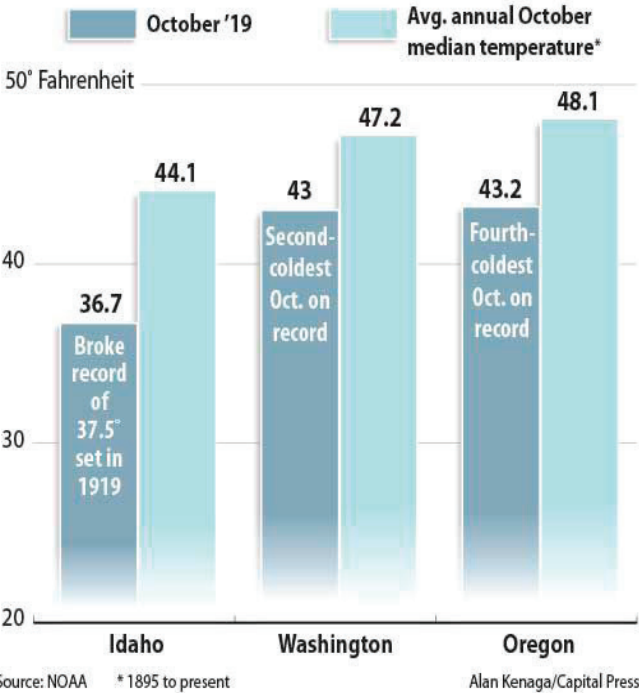
ture,” he said.

Washington and Oregon’s coasts were cooler than normal, and temperatures got even colder than usual inland.

Idaho’s average temperature for the month was 36.7 degrees. That was 7.4 degrees below average. It broke the record of 37.5 degrees set in 1919.

Idaho’s minimum average temperature of 24.7 degrees also set a record,

Northwest October temperatures



breaking the old mark by 7.1 degrees.

In Washington, the average temperature of 43 degrees was the second-lowest on record. The average temperature was 4.2 degrees below normal and the coolest since 1905.

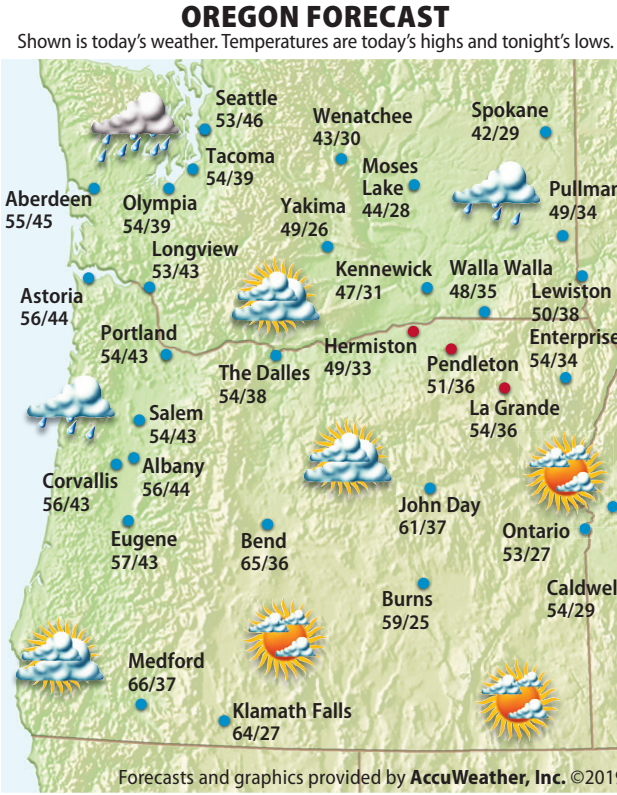
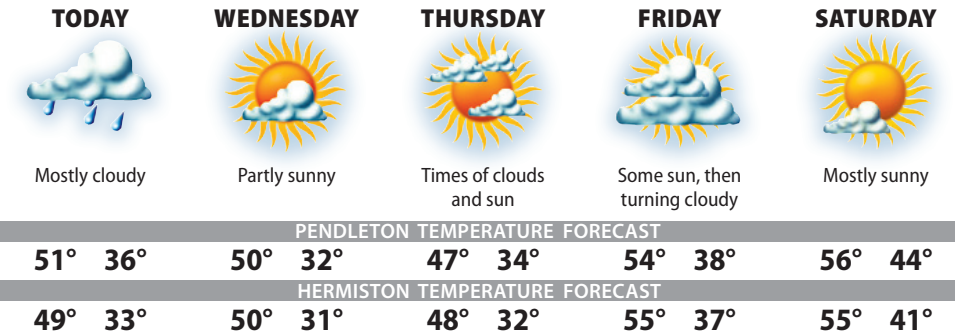
In Oregon, the average temperature was 43.2 degrees, the coolest since 1946 and 4.9 degrees below normal.

Northern California —

on the coast and inland — was cooler than average, but average temperatures were not close to setting records. The north coast had its 34th coolest October, while the Sacramento drainage region had its 31st coolest.

The odds favor warmer than average temperatures in November, December and January throughout the West, according to NOAA's Climate Prediction Center.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



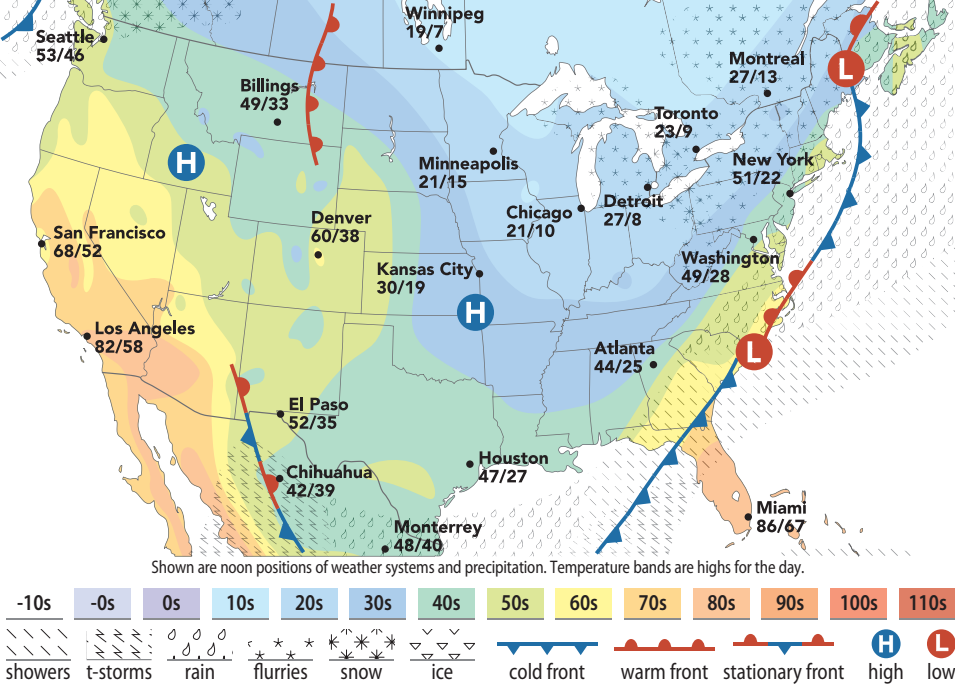
ALMANAC		
PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	32°
Normals	51°	34°
Records	69° (1999)	6° (1978)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	Trace	
Normal month to date	0.45"	
Year to date	11.31"	
Last year to date	8.25"	
Normal year to date	10.44"	
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.		
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	32°
Normals	53°	34°
Records	68° (1990)	4° (1978)
PRECIPITATION		
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"	
Month to date	Trace	
Normal month to date	0.41"	
Year to date	4.94"	
Last year to date	6.46"	
Normal year to date	7.69"	
WINDS (in mph)		
	Today	Wed.
Boardman	SSW 3-6	NE 3-6
Pendleton	SW 4-8	N 4-8
SUN AND MOON		
Sunrise today	6:50 a.m.	
Sunset tonight	4:28 p.m.	
Moonrise today	4:58 p.m.	
Moonset today	6:44 a.m.	

NATIONAL EXTREMES

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

High 93° in Palm Springs, Calif. Low -30° in Rudyard, Mont.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Oregon wants to reunite vets with their missing medals

By **KATE DAVIDSON**
Oregon Public Broadcasting

SALEM — An Oregon agency wants to reunite veterans or their heirs with military medals now in state custody.

The Oregon Department of State Lands is the guardian of a lot of unclaimed property — about \$600 million worth.

“Could be money,” said Claudia Ciobanu, Oregon’s unclaimed property administrator. “Could be gift certificates that were not used. Could be stocks and bonds. Could be safe deposit boxes.”

Could be military medals.

Ciobanu said institutions, such as hospitals, banks, law firms and retirement homes, send in about

1,000 abandoned safe deposit boxes every year. The owners may have died or stopped paying rent. Those boxes sometimes contain military medals.

“We have several World War II campaign medals. We have a Vietnam War campaign medal, and then a good conduct medal. There’s a Purple Heart in there, and then several other pins, ribbons, and other insignia,” she said.

In honor of Veterans Day, the state is reminding people that they can see these medals online and possibly claim them. You might even spot your relative’s name, as the department lists the owners of the orphaned safe deposit boxes.

A new Oregon law ensures the Department of State Lands won’t sell or

destroy military medals. If the department can’t find the service member who earned a medal, or their heir, the law allows it to entrust military medals to a custodian, such as a veterans’ organization.

Other unclaimed tangible property in Oregon eventually gets auctioned off or destroyed if no owner or heir can be found.

Administrator Claudia Ciobanu said unclaimed property speaks to her heart.

That’s not only because the state holds hundreds of millions of dollars worth of financial assets in perpetuity until an owner or heir appears. It’s because those assets are held in trust in the Common School Fund, so the money they earn gets distributed to K-12 schools.

BRIEFLY

Klamath Falls man dies in crash on Highway 97

KLAMATH FALLS — Oregon State Police say a 23-year-old Klamath Falls man died in a single-vehicle crash on Highway 97.

Police say William Ogle was heading north in a Honda Civic on Saturday night when he veered off the highway for unknown reasons near milepost 281.

The vehicle rolled several times.

1 person seriously injured in Portland stabbing

PORTLAND — Authorities say one person was stabbed and seriously injured on a multi-use path in Portland.

KOIN reported the stabbing happened in the Lents neighborhood about 10:40 p.m. Sunday. The victim was taken to a hospital and a suspect was found and arrested.

2nd noose found at Oregon schools in 2 weeks

PORTLAND — Officials at Oregon Health & Science University are investigating the placement of a noose found in a secure area of campus. The noose was found looped over a construction cone Thursday.

It was the second time a noose was found recently at a Portland campus. A noose was found two weeks ago at Chapman Elementary School. Nooses often are seen as symbols of hatred because of their association with lynching. At OHSU, campus police removed the noose. Officials say surveillance cameras did not capture the area where the noose was found. Investigators also are reviewing who had access to the area.

OHSU officials say in a statement the posting of the noose “is abhorrent, and we recognize that the symbol can be traumatic to members of our community.”

— EO Media Group and Associated Press

CORRECTION: In the Page A3 story “Council to vote on rezone for mini-storage,” published Saturday, Nov. 9, the date of the Hermiston City Council meeting was omitted. The meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 12, starting with a work session at 6 p.m.

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.

EAST OREGONIAN

— Founded Oct. 16, 1875 —

211 S.E. Byers Ave., Pendleton 541-276-2211
333 E. Main St., Hermiston 541-567-6211
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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East Oregonian (USPS 164-980) is published daily except Sunday,
Monday and postal holidays, by the EO Media Group, 211 S.E. Byers
Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801. Periodicals postage paid at Pendleton, OR.

Postmaster: send address changes to
East Oregonian, 211 S.E. Byers Ave. Pendleton, OR 97801.

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