

History of Natural Hazards in Wallowa County

February 2021

Hazards covered: Drought, Wildfire, Flood, Severe Weather

Sources include: 2014 Northeast Oregon Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update; 2020 Oregon State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, ODF Fire List, DLCD "Flood Technical Resource Guide" (Andre and others, 2001) and National Climate Data Center Storm events Database

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents>

History of Drought in Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon

Note: Blue highlight indicates hazard occurred within Wallowa County. Other events from the region and the state are included for context.

Year	Location	Description
1904-1905	Statewide	A statewide drought period of about 18 months
1917-1931	Statewide	A very dry period punctuated by brief wet spells in 1920-21 and 1927
1928-1941	Statewide	A significant drought affected all of Oregon from 1928 to 1941. The prolonged statewide drought created significant problems for the agricultural industry. Punctuated by a three-year intense drought period from 1938-1941.
1938-1939	Statewide	The 1920s and 1930s, known more commonly as the Dust Bowl, were a period of prolonged mostly drier than normal conditions across much of the state and country
1959-1964	Eastern Oregon	Stream flows were low throughout eastern Oregon
1976-1981	Statewide	Low stream flows prevailed in Western Oregon during the period from 1976-1981, but the worst year, by far, was 1976-1977, the single driest year of the century.
1977	Central and eastern Oregon	FEMA Major Disaster Emergency Management Declaration EM-3039, April 29, 1977. A severe drought for northeast Oregon
1985-1994	Statewide	A dry period lasting from 1985 to 1994 caused significant problems statewide. The peak year was 1992, when the state declared a drought emergency. Malheur Lake declined in area over a six-year period from 175,000 acres to 400 acres (this was following abnormally large snow accumulations in the years preceding the drought period which increased the size of the lake.)
1994	Regions 4–8	in 1994, Governor's drought declaration covered 11 counties located within regions 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
1999	Wallowa, Baker, Grant, and Union	Wallowa, Baker, Grant, and Union Counties were declared disaster areas by the Department of Agriculture due to drought. Approximately one-third of the wheat crop in those areas was lost due to weather.
2001	Baker, Union and Wallowa	Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties were issued declarations of local drought emergencies.
2002	southern and eastern Oregon	2001 drought declarations remain in effect for all counties, including Region 7's Wallowa, Baker, and Union Counties ; Governor adds Grant County in 2002, along with five additional counties, bringing statewide total to 23 counties under a drought emergency.
2003	southern and eastern Oregon	Governor issues new declarations for Wallowa (EO 03-09), Baker, and Union Counties, which are in effect through December 2003
2004	Region 5-8	Baker County receives Governor-declared drought emergency in June 2004 along with three other counties in neighboring regions
2005	Regions 5–7	Wallowa and Baker Counties receive a Governor's drought declaration (EO-05-06); 13 counties affected statewide
2007	Regions 6-8	Grant, Baker, and Union Counties received a Governor drought declaration; three other counties affected in neighboring regions
2013	Regions 5-8	Baker County receives a drought declaration, as well as four other counties in neighboring regions
2014	Regions 4, 6-8	Grant and Baker Counties receive drought declarations; including eight other counties across other regions
2015	statewide	36 Oregon Counties across the state receive federal drought declarations, including 25 under Governor's drought declaration.
2018	Regions 1, 4-8	Baker and Grant Counties receive Governor's drought declaration, including 9 other counties in 5 other regions
2020	Region 7	Baker County received a determination of a State of Drought Emergency due to unusually low water supplies and hot, dry conditions.

Wildfire History in Wallowa County (>1,000 acres) from 1968-2020

Fire Year	Fire Name	Report Date	General Cause	ODF Acres	Total Acres	Oregon Conflagration Act Executive Orders
2015	Grizzly Bear Complex*	8/2015	Lightning		82,659	EO 15-15
2014	Somers	8/3/2014	Lightning	120	36,185	
2014	5 Mile	8/3/2014	Lightning	389	4,524	
2012	Cache Creek	8/20/2012	Lightning	3925	73,500	
2011	Cactus Mountain	9/7/2011	Miscellaneous	138	8,350	
2009	Big Sheep Ridge	8/29/2009	Lightning	136	3,270	
2007	Battle Creek Complex	7/13/2007	Lightning	82.7	79,299	
2007	Cottonwood	7/14/2007	Lightning	2117	8,100	
2007	Grizzly Ridge	7/14/2007	Lightning	565	6,474	
2006	Jim Creek	8/22/2006	Lightning	0.01	12,946	
2005	Haas/ Tryon Complex	8/8/2005	Lightning	764	42,700	
2005	Turner Creek	9/14/2005	Debris Burning	156	1,419	
2003	Lightning Creek Complex	8/20/2003	Lightning	316	16,028	
2001	Horse Creek	8/14/2001	Lightning	628	16,309	EO 01-20
2000	Jim Creek/Eastside	8/24/2000	Lightning	1371	56,319	
2000	Deep Creek/Eastside	8/24/2000	Lightning	760	32,967	
2000	Thorn Creek/Eastside	8/24/2000	Lightning	370	4,035	EO 00-27
2000	Carrol Creek	8/24/2000	Lightning	232	3,197	
1994	Thomason Complex	8/28/1994	Lightning	698	4,588	
1989	89974761	7/27/1989	Lightning	1033	1,033	
1988	Ward Canyon/Troy	8/23/1988	Equipment Use	7572	7,572	
1988	Teepee Butte	8/25/1988	Lightning	5791	5,791	
1986	Joseph Canyon #1	8/10/1986	Lightning	9548	9,548	
1986	Rye Ridge	8/11/1986	Lightning	4800	4,800	
1986	86974775	8/11/1986	Lightning	1512	1,512	
1968	68974202	8/3/1968	Lightning	1200	1,200	

*This fire began outside of Wallowa County, but burned into the county from Washington State.

Executive Order 00-27: The Carrol Creek and the Thorn Fires were two of several fires near Enterprise. Carrol Creek is 10 miles east of Wallowa Lake. Thorn Fire is 37 miles northeast of Enterprise. Executive

Order 01-20: The Horse Creek Fire was caused by lightning and is located north of Imnaha; threatening the town of Imnaha and residences along the Imnaha River (Conflagration mobilization costs were \$274,704). Executive Order

History of flooding in Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon

Note: Blue highlight indicates hazard occurred within Wallowa County. Other events from the region and the state are included for context.

Date	Location	Description
1894	NE Oregon	Widespread flooding
1910	Powder River and Malheur River	Widespread flooding
1917	NE Oregon	Widespread flooding
1932	NE Oregon	Widespread flooding
1935	NE Oregon	Widespread flooding
May 1948	Columbia Basin/NE OR	Unusually large mountain snow melt produced widespread flooding
Dec 1955-Jan 1956	Snake and Columbia basins	Warm rain melted snow. Runoff on frozen ground.
Dec. 1964-Jan. 1965	Pacific Northwest	Widespread, very destructive flooding, warm rain, melted snow; runoff on frozen ground; record flood on many rivers
Jan 1974	Much of state	Warm rain/melted snow/runoff on frozen ground
Feb 1986	Entire State	Warm rain/ melted snow/ runoff on frozen ground
June 1986	Wallowa County	Severe thunderstorm/rain and hail/flash flooding
May 1991	Union and Baker Counties	Warm rain/ melted snow; considerable damage to cropland and highways. A number of bridges were destroyed
February 1996	Nearly statewide	Damages statewide totaled over \$28 million
January 1, 1997	Imnaha	This flood washed away one house, several parts of the Imnaha road, numerous parts of the Loop road (3900 road). People were without electricity and could not get to town for 2 weeks. Supplies were helicoptered in as well as with a pack string. One house in the River Woods was wiped out by a mudslide. Imnaha River at Imnaha - Maximum discharge, 20,200 feet ³ /s Jan. 1, 1997, gage height, 11.44 feet
May 1998	Eastern and Central OR	Persistent rains; widespread damage
May 22, 1998	Imnaha	3.10 inches of rain fell in a 25 hour period. Springs and streams flowing out of canyons flooded and left 1.0 to 1.5 foot deep ruts in some roads.
July 10, 1998	Joseph Airport	Flash flooding along Hurricane Creek about four miles west of Joseph Airport washed out several roads and stranded some campers. The flash floods caused four mud slides. About 25 people were stranded when the largest slide went across the road and change the course of Hurricane Creek. The slide was estimated to be 150 feet wide and 4 feet deep. One of the mud slides pushed a Chevy Geo about 12 feet into the side of the owners' tent. No one was injured.
July 31, 1998	Lostine	Water overflowed banks of Hurricane Creek. Mudslides in Lostine Canyon covered a few places along the road.
June 2002	Baker and Malheur Counties	Slow-moving thunderstorms dropped very heavy rainfall over the Rye Valley area near the Baker-Malheur County line.
July 2004	Union	\$5,000 in property damage
May 2008	Union and Wallowa Counties	Flooding along Catherine Creek and Grande Ronde River damaged roads in Union County causing \$30,000 in damages; in Wallowa County the Imnaha River crested above flood stage
June 2010	Northeast OR	Flooding occurred on Imnaha River, Wallowa River, Grande Ronde River among other rivers in NE Oregon.
Jan 2011	Wallowa and Grant Counties	Minor damage to homes in the Troy area ; in Grant County Mount Vernon and John Day sustained minor flooding
May 2011	Baker City, Grant County	Powder River near Baker City was source of minor flooding; Canyon City, John Day, Mount Vernon were flooded along the John Day River; Grant Union HS and several basements in Canyon City were flooded

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Date	Location	Description
April 2012	Wallowa County	Flooding along the Imnaha River
March 2014	Union and Grant Counties	Heavy rain fell across much of the northern Blue Mountains and Wallowa County throughout the first week of March.
May 2016	Baker County	A strong thunderstorm dumped up to a quarter of an inch of rain over a 15 minute period over terrain scorched by wild fire in August of 2015 causing flash flooding and debris flows.
March 2017	Wallowa County	An extended period of snow melt, combined with a period of heavy rain, caused an extended period of flooding along portions of the Grande Ronde River.
September 2017	Baker County	Thunderstorms producing heavy rain over the 2016 Rail Fire burned area on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest resulted in flash flooding and debris flows.
May 2018	Grant and Wallowa Counties	Heavy rain from slow moving thunderstorms caused rock slides and water on roadways within an area that includes Mount Vernon, John Day and Canyon City.
June 2018	Baker County	Thunderstorms with heavy rainfall developed over southwest Baker County, Oregon on June 20th, leading to flash flooding and debris flow on the Rail and Cornet-Windy Ridge fires burn scar areas.
April 2019	Union, Grant, and Wallowa Counties	Snow water equivalents near 200% of normal in the Blue Mountains coupled with warm temperatures and near record rainfall totals for April produced significant river flooding across eastern Oregon.
Feb 2020	Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties	DR-4519 ; severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides

Severe Weather Events in Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon

Note: Most events listed dating from 1990 to the present are specific to Wallowa County; prior to that other events in the northeast are included for context and continuity with the prior NHMP update listings.

Date	Location	Remarks
December 22, 1861	Statewide in OR, Pacific Northwest	Winter Storm: storm produced 1–3 feet of snow throughout Oregon; in NE Oregon temperatures ranged from 0°F to -30°F. Over 10,000 cattle starved in eastern Oregon
December 1892	Northern Counties, Oregon	Winter Storm: 15–30 inches of snow fell throughout the northern counties
August 5-11, 1898	Eastern Oregon	Extreme Heat: record breaking heat east of the Cascades; Pendleton reached 119°F
January 1916	Statewide	Winter Storms: two storms; heavy snowfall, especially in mountainous areas
April 1931	NE Oregon	Windstorm: unofficial wind speeds reported at 78 mph. Damage to fruit orchards and timber
February 1933	Statewide	Cold Spell: coldest February to date for eastern Oregon. Seneca reached -54°F, an all-time record for Oregon
Jan. and Feb. 1937	Statewide	Winter Storm: deep snow drifts
January 9-18, 1950	Statewide	Winter Storm: Heaviest snowfalls on record for January especially from the 9 th through the 18 th ; ice; extreme low temperatures; property damage throughout state
November 10-11, 1951	Statewide	Windstorm: widespread damage, transmission and utility lines, wind speeds 40-60 mph, gust 75-80 mph
December 4, 1951	Statewide	Windstorm: wind speed up to 60 mph in Willamette Valley
December 21-23, 1955	Statewide	Windstorm: wind speeds 55-65 mph, with 69 mph gusts. Considerable damage to buildings and utility lines
August 14, 1956	Wallowa County	Windstorm: Thunder and Hail 1.5 " in diameter recorded
January 25-31, 1957	Statewide	Cold Spell: Low temperature of -43°F in Seneca
November 3, 1958	Statewide	Windstorm: wind speeds up to 51 mph, with 71 mph gusts. Major highways blocked by fallen trees
March 1-2, 1960	Statewide	Winter Storm: heavy snow throughout the state; many automobile accidents; two fatalities
October 12, 1962	Almost all of Oregon	Windstorm: Oregon's most famous and most destructive windstorm, the Columbus Day Storm. Total damage estimated at \$170 million
July 7, 1963	Wallowa County	Hail: 1" in diameter recorded
June 11, 1968	Wallowa County	Tornado: Category 7 damage – possibly the strongest tornado to strike the Northwest; \$25 million in damages reported; 1.75 " of hail reported
January 25-30, 1969	Statewide	Winter Storm: heavy snow throughout state; \$3-4 million in property damage
June 23, 1969	Wallowa County	Tornado: \$25,000 in damages reported
July, August 1971	Eastern Oregon	Extreme Heat: temperatures were high in Eastern Oregon for four consecutive weeks. Ontario had 32 consecutive days of 100°F or more
January 9-11, 1980	Statewide	Winter Storm: series of storms, extreme winds across state; many injuries and power outages. One death in Baker along with 5 others across the state.
November 13-15, 1981	Pacific Northwest	Winter Storm: Two storms back to back
February 1985	Statewide	Winter Storm: 2 feet of snow in northeast mountains; downed power lines; fatalities reported
January 7, 1986	Northeast Oregon	Windstorm: Elgin High School gymnasium received damage; sustained winds of 80-90 mph in La Grande

February 1986	Northeast mountains, Oregon	Winter Storm: heavy snow; school closures; traffic accidents; broken power lines; 6 to 12" of snow in the basins and valleys of northeastern Oregon
June 17, 1987	Wallowa County	Hail: 1" in diameter reported
June 26, 1988	Wallowa County	Windstorm
December 26, 1988 – January 22, 1989	Northeast Oregon	Winter Storm: Summerville was perhaps the most affected with three blizzards in a 4-week period; 15-foot drifts; wind over 60 mph
February 1-8, 1989	Statewide	Winter Storm/Cold Spell: Heavy snow and cold temperatures throughout the state
February 11-16, 1990	Statewide	Winter Storm: heavy snow throughout state
December 1990	Wallowa County	Windstorm: Wind damage to City of Joseph Elementary School and post office.
January 6-7, 1991	Eastern Oregon	Winter Storm: the higher lands of eastern Oregon accumulated between 1 and 6 inches of new snow
March 1991	NE Oregon	Windstorm: severe windstorm
December 12, 1991	NE Oregon	Windstorm: severe windstorm
July 22, 1992	Wallowa County	Tornado
December 1992	Northeastern mountains	Windstorm: severe windstorm
December 1993	NE Oregon	Windstorm: high winds ranged between 70 to 80 mph with gusts of up to 103 mph. No significant damage was reported
January 1994	Northeast mountains, Oregon	Winter Storm: heavy snow throughout region
May 15, 1994	Eastern Oregon	Windstorm: severe wind storm, blowing dust; winds 55 to 65 mph; particularly damaging in Baker County
December 12, 1995	Statewide	Windstorm: strofunnelngest windstorm since November 1981; DR-1107
January 1998	Northeast Oregon	Winter Storm: heavy snow throughout region
July 2, 1998	Minam, Wallowa County	Hail: 0.75" in diameter reported
Winter 1998-99	Statewide	Winter Storm: one of the snowiest winters in Oregon history (snowfall at Crater Lake: 586 inches)
June 1999	Wallowa and Imnaha	Thunderstorm/Hail/Windstorm: Dime-sized hail (0.75") fell in Imnaha on June 18 th . Strong winds from a thunderstorm knocked down several trees in Wallowa on June 24 th . Hail also fell with this storm.
December 14, 2000	Wallowa County	Windstorm: High winds during the evening blew down trees and brought widespread power outages to portions of the Grande Ronde Valley and Wallowa County. In Wallowa County, several trees were downed on Highway 3 in Minam Canyon. A wind gust of 52 mph was recorded by a spotter in Joseph at 6:30 pm.
January 11, 2001	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: Heavy snow fell overnight and throughout the morning in the Wallowa Valley. Joseph, at an elevation of 4100 feet, received 7 inches. Another location just west of Lostine at an elevation of 3400 feet recorded 9 inches.
May 24, 2001	Enterprise and Imnaha	Lightning: Lightning struck a 75 foot radio antenna and short-circuited many electronic devices such as faxes, computers and phones, which were located next to the tower. One business owner estimated total losses of over \$25,000. Lightning strikes cut power to 800 customers in the nearby towns of Wallowa Lake and Joseph. Thunderstorm: Winds from a severe thunderstorm estimated at 70 mph felled several trees just north of Imnaha. Several other locations near town also lost trees and large branches. An estimated 0.8 inches of rain fell in 30 minutes just north of Imnaha.

January 3, 2002	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: Heavy snow fell overnight in Wallowa County. Joseph, at 4085 feet reported 8 inches of snow. Enterprise, at 3800 feet, reported between 7 and 8 inches of snow.
March 24, 2002	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: 11 inches near Imnaha. Trees down and power outages which affected 300 people.
December 28, 2002	Central and Eastern Oregon	Heavy Snow: A winter storm brought heavy snow to all of central and eastern Oregon, resulting in numerous minor motor vehicle accidents. Two flights were cancelled out of Redmond due to the heavy snow. Pendleton saw the most snow from this storm since a storm which dumped 16 inches in 1994. Snow amounts from the storm included: Wallowa County: Wallowa 11 inches, Joseph 8 inches
June 2003	Baker and Wallowa Counties	Windstorm: 65 mph winds in Baker City caused property damage and power outages; \$1,000 in property damage in Wallowa County
December 28, 2003 – January 9, 2004	Statewide	Heavy Snow: Federal Disaster Declaration DR-1510. Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties declared in Region 7. Eleven inches of snow fell in Wallowa and eight (8") inches in Joseph . Two feet of snow in the Blue Mountains in eastern Oregon. The eastbound lanes of I-84 closed at Ladd Canyon east of La Grande. 60 mph wind gusts in Union County created whiteout conditions, prompting the closure of I-84 between La Grande and Baker City. There were two (2) fatalities.
May 20, 2004	Enterprise, Wallowa County	Funnel cloud sighted by a trained spotter.
September 1, 2004	Imnaha and Enterprise, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm: High winds from a thunderstorm knocked down large trees near the confluence of north/south forks of the Imnaha River. Hail (3/4") reported in Imnaha and Enterprise
November 1, 2005	Joseph, Wallowa County	Windstorm: High winds blew down approximately eight trees and a stop sign in the Joseph area. Several power poles were snapped under the force of the wind two miles east of Joseph on the Imnaha highway. Power outages were also reported due to the wind, including Joseph High School. In Enterprise, two inch diameter tree limbs were snapped due to high winds. An automated weather station in Joseph recorded a peak wind of 58 MPH.
February 16, 2006	Joseph, Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: Snowfall of 12-14 inches in Joseph.
May 19 and 21, 2006	Roberts Butte and Paradise, Wallowa County	Hail: Quarter size hail reported.
June 4, 2006	Enterprise, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm: Large tree fell in storm blocking the road to Freezeout Trail.
July 21, 2006	Wallowa County	Extreme Heat: Daily maximum temperatures between 100 and 113 degrees were observed at lower elevations, with temperatures 90 to 100 degrees at elevations up to 4000 feet. Several people were treated for heat related illness.
August 8, 2006	Flora	Hail: 3/5" inch hail reported by the general public
August 16, 2006	Lostine	Lightning: Lightning started a barn fire which was quickly extinguished by neighbors and the Lostine Volunteer Fire Department.
August 21, 2006	Enterprise	Tornado: Brief landspout tornado observed moving north by several golfers at Alpine Meadows Golf Course northwest of Enterprise. Tornado hit trees and broke off branches up to 2 inches in diameter.
November 12-15, 2006	Wallowa County	High Wind: A strong low pressure system moving across northern Washington brought high winds and damage.

November 12, 2007	Wallowa County	Windstorm: A deep low pressure area moving across British Columbia combined with very strong upper level winds produced damaging surface winds across northeast Oregon. The winds were most devastating near Wallowa Lake where dozens of trees were downed and crashed into buildings and vehicles. \$500,000 in damages resulted from the windstorm in Wallowa Lake State Park and it was temporarily closed as a result of the damage. A wind gust to 111 mph was measured at Sheep Ridge, near Enterprise at an elevation of 7000 feet.
November 18, 2007	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: A moist southwest flow aloft combined with cold air at the surface brought heavy snow to northcentral and northeast Oregon. Snowfall amounts in inches in Wallowa County included Flora (4"), 7 miles south of Lostine (5.5").
Jan. 2–Feb. 9, 2008	Northern Blue Mountains including Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: Heavy snow and freezing rain across eastern Oregon; 5–13 inches of snow. Snowfall of 5-12 inches was reported north of Wallowa and in Joseph on January 26 th .
May 26, 2008	Wallowa Lake, Joseph and Enterprise	Funnel Cloud: Several people observed and photographed funnel clouds near Joseph, Enterprise, and Wallowa Lake.
August 15, 2008	Wallowa County	Excessive Heat: Multiple days of at least 100° temperatures. Wallowa recorded temperatures of 102°F and 103°F
March 7, 2009	Eagle Cap Wilderness	Avalanche: A 50 year old Enterprise, Oregon man died in an avalanche while backcountry skiing in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Two other people were rescued. The quarter mile long slap avalanche occurred about 1 pm. Heavy snow had fallen in the area earlier in the week.
May 6, 2009	Wallowa	Tornado: An upper level trough combined with an approaching cold front and daytime heating produced severe thunderstorms. A brief tornado was observed near Wallowa in Wallowa County also near Adams in Umatilla County. Eyewitnesses saw the cover being ripped off the sewer ponds and rotating debris being blown into the air across the Wallowa River.
May 18, 2009	Flora	Hail: Daytime heating combined with an unstable air mass produced a severe thunderstorm over Wallowa County. Hail .8" in diameter was reported in Flora.
August 29, 2009	Enterprise, Lostine and Wallowa	Thunderstorm/Hail: An upper level low pressure area over the Columbia Basin combined with daytime heating produced late afternoon and evening severe thunderstorms with heavy rainfall across northeast Oregon
October 3, 2009	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: An unseasonably cold and strong upper level low pressure system produced early season heavy snowfall across portions of central and northeast Oregon. Snowfall amounts in inches included 1 mile south southeast of Joseph (4"), Enterprise (6"), 6 miles east of Joseph (11").
November 17, 2009	Wallowa County	High Wind: A powerful low pressure area from the Pacific and strong upper level winds brought damaging downslope winds to the southern Grande Ronde Valley and the Joseph area. Wind gusts included 88 mph 3 miles north of Joseph, which caused long term power outages.
May 5, 2010	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: A deep and cold upper level low pressure area dropped south southeast from British Columbia and brought a heavy late season snowfall to Wallowa County. Snowfall amounts included Joseph (7"), 6 miles south of Joseph (12"), 6 miles south of Lostine (12"), and 3 miles south of Joseph (8").
June 28-29, 2010	Lostine, Roberts Butte, Joseph, and Enterprise	Thunderstorm/Hail: An upper level trough combined with a moist unstable atmosphere to produce severe thunderstorms across Union and Wallowa Counties during the late afternoons of these days.
August 5, 2010	Imnaha	Thunderstorm/Hail: 1.75" hail reported in Imnaha as part of a thunderstorm.

November 16, 2010	Northeastern Oregon	High Wind: A cold front combined with a strong jet stream aloft and tight surface pressure gradient produced high winds across central and northeast Oregon. Damage was reported in Condon, Enterprise, La Grande, Imbler, Elgin, Summerville, Camp Sherman, Lostine and three miles south southeast of Joseph.
December 27, 2010	Northeastern Oregon	Heavy Snow: Over a 48 hour period, the mountains above 4000 feet received over 2 feet of snow. Reported snowfall amounts included Flora (7.5"), 13 miles northeast of Lostine (5"), and 6 miles northwest of Flora (12"). The heavy wet snow caused some tree damage and power outages.
February 19, 2011	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: Upper level low pressure systems rotating through a broad upper level trough brought heavy snowfall to Deschutes and Wallowa counties. Snowfall amounts reported included 1.5 miles west southwest of Bend (10"), 2.3 miles west southwest of Bend (8"), Joseph (13") and 20 miles south of Imnaha (6").
June 22, 2011	Joseph, Troy	Thunderstorm/Hail: An unstable atmosphere ahead of an upper level trough produced severe thunderstorms during the late afternoon and early evening. Large hail was reported in Troy.
January 17, 2012	Northern Oregon	Winter Storm: Modified arctic air moved into the region followed by a series of moderate to strong upper level storm systems riding on a moist subtropical jet stream. The result was widespread heavy snow and local high winds. Snowfall amounts for January 17-18 in inches include Lostine (5") and 1 mile southeast of Flora (15").
March 20, 2012	Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A moist southwest flow ahead of an upper level low pressure brought heavy snowfall to the areas just east of the Cascade Mountains and to the Blue Mountains. Snowfall of 8" was reported in Flora.
April 4, 2012	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A large upper level low pressure system near the Pacific Coast brought considerable moisture from the south which produced heavy snowfall over northeast Oregon. Snowfall amounts reported included Enterprise (5"), 5 miles east of Joseph (5"), Joseph (6.5"). An unstable atmosphere in the afternoon produced showers and localized hail.
July 17, 2012	Flora, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm/Hail: In Flora it was reported that wind gusts up to 40 mph preceded the hail.
November 19, 2012	Wallowa County	Windstorm: A strong upper level jet and tight surface pressure gradients aided in high winds of approximately 68 knots. Other reports of wind damage include: County wide power outage in Wallowa, a large tree came down on Bear Creek Road and took down several power poles.
January 28, 2013	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: Heavy snow was reported across the Blue Mountains, the John Day Highlands, and the John Day Basin. Wallowa County was not as badly hit as other areas. Snowfall of 5" reported near Joseph .
May 9, 2013	Lostine	Tornado: A very weak EF0* tornado briefly touched down 4 miles northeast of Lostine on Thursday May, 9th. The track was 0.1 miles and had a width of 10 yards. The COOP observer noted as the source for this report sent in pictures and a brief video of the short lived tornado.
August 22, 2013	Roberts Butte	Thunderstorm: A severe thunderstorms knocked down several trees along a state highway in Wallowa County.
December 8, 2013	Wallowa County	Extreme cold: A strong Arctic front pushed in from Canada and brought very cold temperatures and dangerous wind chills to the area.
December 20, 2013	Wallowa County	Winter Storm: A complex weather system moved across the area, with high predictable waters associated. The system would start off as snow before changing over to rain several hours later.

January 11, 2104	Northern Blue Mountains	High Wind: Strong winds moved into the interior Pacific Northwest over the January 10-12th weekend. Several reports of high wind gusts and damage were recorded with these winds. In Wallowa a roof peeled off of a house was reported on our social media. Wind gusts of 59 mph were reported north of Joseph among other places.
November 13, 2014	Wallowa County	A warm front from the south collided with an arctic air mass from the north and produced significant winter weather across most of central and northeast Oregon. Although no snowfall totals are reported for Wallowa County locations, Cove received 7" of snowfall.
December 10-11, 2014	Northern Blue and Wallowa Mountains	Windstorm: A deep strong low pressure system off the coast provided strong southerly flow to the forecast area. With a strong upper level jet and associated strong low level jet running perpendicular to the mountain terrain, and a strong surface low that set up over the Washington Basin would tighten the gradients along the Blue Mountain Foothills. A few gusts ranging from (68-75 mph) near Joseph . A gust of (60) across the Grand Ronde Valley in Ladd and Pyles Canyon.
December 24- 29, 2014 through January 4, 2015	Northern Blue Mountains	Winter Storm: A series of four pacific winter storms moved across the interior pacific northwest providing significant accumulations to several areas ranging from 7"-14" over the course of these storms. The January 4, 2015 storm provided the heaviest snowfall over Wallowa County , with a trained spotter reporting 7 inches near Wallowa.
February 5, 2015	Enterprise, Wallowa County	Windstorm: A low pressure system off the Pacific provided a moist southerly flow to the forecast area. Strong southerly winds associated with the warm front would mix down to the surface across several areas in central and northeast Oregon. As a result strong wind gusts and several reports of damage occurred. In Joseph wind gusts of 86 mph were recorded. A 55ft crank up ham radio tower was lost in the wind event. A tree fell on a house in Enterprise and there were power outages in Wallowa County.
Dec. 6-23, 2015	Statewide storm events	Heavy Snow: Federal Disaster Declaration DR-4258. Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Tillamook, Yamhill, Polk, Lincoln, Linn, Lane, Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties declared. Several pacific storm systems moved across the region over the Dec 12-13 weekend. Another series of storms moved across Oregon on Dec 16-17 and Dec 21-23. Each storm system brought several inches of snow to the mountain areas. A narrow but long-lived band of precipitation moved across Wallowa County the morning of December 19th. Several reports of moderate snow occurred over the Joseph and Enterprise areas. Snowfall amounts in inches ranged from 5 to 6 inches, with northern Wallowa County receiving reports of up to 9 inches just outside of Flora . On December 21st heavy snow fell over portions of central Washington and Oregon due to a cold front. Snowfall amounts are as followed: 14" recorded at the Milk Shakes SnoTel in Wallowa County.
May 5, 2016	Wallowa	Thunderstorm/Hail: A few strong to severe thunderstorms moved across northeast Oregon on May 5th. Although some wind gusts were around 40 mph, the main threat was heavy rain and hail. Hail sizes in inches reported as followed: (1.25) 10 miles W of Cove, (1.00) 3 miles SE of La Grande, (1.00) 13 miles E of Elgin, (0.75) in Imbler, (0.75) in Summerville.
July 12, 2016	Roberts Butte	Tornado: A thunderstorm produced a brief EF0* tornado in rural Wallowa County. No other severe weather reports were received with this storm.
July 19, 2016	Lostine, Imnaha, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm/Hail: A thunderstorm produced wind damage 8 miles north northwest of Imnaha and moved through Wallowa County on July 19th. 12 large trees were downed along Fence Line Rd. Also 1 inch hail was still seen 15 hours after the storm had passed, indicating hail was likely a lot larger during the storm. The hail destroyed a canvas tent and damaged a horse trailer and fire tower. Penny size (0.75) was also reported in Lostine on this day.

October 14, 2016	Joseph, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm/Windstorm: Early in the morning on Oct 14th a fast moving squall developed and produced brief but strong wind gusts across a few locations in northeast Oregon. Wind gust reports varied from 60 mph in the Joseph area to 78 mph 4 miles NW of Cayuse.
December 4, 2016	Wallowa County	Winter Storm: Heavy snow was expected and occurred the Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington. Snow fell east the Blues over Wallowa County as well.
December 14, 2016	Wallowa County	Winter Storm: A Pacific system brought heavy snow to the Washington Cascade east slopes, the Blue mountains, Wallowa County and the Grande Ronde Valley.
December 27, 2016	Wallowa County	Winter Storm: A Pacific system brought heavy snow to the Washington Cascade east slopes, the Blue mountains, Wallowa County and the Grande Ronde Valley.
January 17, 2017	Northern Blue Mountains	Ice Storm: A major winter storm brought significant snow and ice to the region. Also the Grande Ronde valley experienced high winds and blizzard conditions.
October 12, 2017	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A Pacific storm system lowered snow levels to between 3500 and 4500 feet. This was followed by a second system that produced significant early season snow in the Blue Mountains. Measured heavy snow accumulation of 6 inches overnight, 1 mile southeast of Flora .
November 26, 2017	Wallowa Valley	Windstorm: Locally high wind gusts occurred near the south end of the Wallowa valley in Wallowa County due to a low pressure system moving through southeast Washington state.
December 24, 2017	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: A Pacific system spread snow across much of southeast Washington and northeast Oregon on Christmas Eve and early Christmas Day.
January 11, 2018	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A Pacific system brought rain and snow the region during the second week of January. Snow levels were relatively high for this time of year, with snow accumulating above 3800 feet in the Blue mountains. Ten inches of snow was reported 9 miles SW of Ski Bluewood in NW Wallow County.
Feb. 14-23, 2018	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow/High Wind: A cold front moved south from Washington through eastern Oregon February 13th and 14th. This front caused widespread snow across the area. Persist upslope flow into the Northern Blue Mountains of Oregon resulted in additional accumulations. On February 17 th a Pacific storm system moved across the region causing strong winds over a good portion of the area from late morning into the evening. A pair of disturbances brought snow to the region late Friday February 23 rd and on Saturday February 24 th . The most significant snow fall occurred in the northern Blue mountains.
March 1-2, 2018	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: A Pacific storm system brought snow to the region on the first two days of March 2018.
March 17, 2018		Heavy Snow: Snow fall was heavy above 4500 feet in the Northern Blue Mountains of Northeast Oregon 17 th of March 2018. This snowfall was due to moisture wrapping around from the east on the north side of an upper low.
May 25, 2018	Imnaha	Thunderstorm/Hail: Thunderstorms developed late morning and continued well into the evening. The storms produced locally heavy rain and some flooding. Also some hail occurred with the storms. The hail was mainly small, but did reach to 1 inch in diameter.
February 3-4, 2019	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A pair of storm systems brought significant snow to all elevations on the 3 rd and 4 th of February. Wraparound moisture from the first system brought 8 to 12 inches of snow to the Blue Mountains as well as the Grande Ronde and Wallowa Valleys . Initial precipitation with the second system combined with lingering wraparound moisture brought between 4 and 7 inches to all elevations on the 4 th of February. Numerous accidents were reported due to slippery conditions. Interstate 84 for closed for several hours between Baker City and Pendleton during the day on the 4 th to clear multiple accidents.

February 10-12, 2019	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A winter storm brought heavy snowfall to the Columbia River Gorge, Northern Blue Mountains and the Blue Mountains, 10 to 13 inches in the Northern Blue Mountains, 8 to 20 inches in the Grande Ronde Valley and 4 to 9 inches in Wallowa County were reported.
February 19, 2019	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow: A winter storm brought heavy snow to the Blue Mountains and adjacent valleys. Storm total accumulations in the northern Blue Mountains ranged from 6 to 14 inches with 4 to 6 inches in the Grande Ronde Valley and 3 to 6 inches in Wallowa County . Interstate 84 between Pendleton and La Grande was closed for several hours due to heavy snow and near zero visibility.
February 23, 2019	Northern Blue Mountains	Winter Storm: Persistent troughing off the coast of the Pacific Northwest focused a stream of mid-level moisture over the Inland Northwest resulting in a long duration snow event between the 22nd and 27th of February. Snowfall rates were in excess of 1 inch per hour in some places. Storm total snowfall amounts were measured at: 40 inches in Sisters, 33 inches in Bend, 30 inches in Redmond, 26 inches in Meacham, 22 inches in Prineville, 21 inches in Elgin, 16 inches in Mitchell, 14 inches in Lostine and La Grande, 12 inches in Pendleton and Joseph and 10 inches in John Day. In Bend a few roofs collapsed under the weight of the snow.
January 10-11, 2020	Northern Blue Mountains	Heavy Snow was reported over the mountains and High Valleys with 6 to 12 inches of accumulation reported in many locations. Six inches of snow reported SE of Flora and 7.5 inches reported WNW of Joseph .
February 4-5, 2020	Wallowa County	Winter Storm/Flooding: Winter storm with copious moisture dumped 1 to locally 2+ feet of snow over the eastern mountains and valleys February 4th and 5th. This was the precursor to significant flooding that occurred later in the week when the snow melted due a warm-up and heavy rains. Snowfall in Wallowa amounted to 8" and in Joseph 6" was reported.
March 31, 2020	Wallowa County	Heavy Snow: An early spring winter storm produced heavy snow over Wallowa County dropping up to a foot of snow in some areas.
May 31, 2020	Joseph, Wallowa County	Thunderstorm/Hail: A major severe weather event occurred over central and northeast Oregon and southeast Washington. A powerful upper level storm system moved across the area during the afternoon and evening helping to trigger severe thunderstorms. Nickle to quarter size hail covering the ground in Joseph.