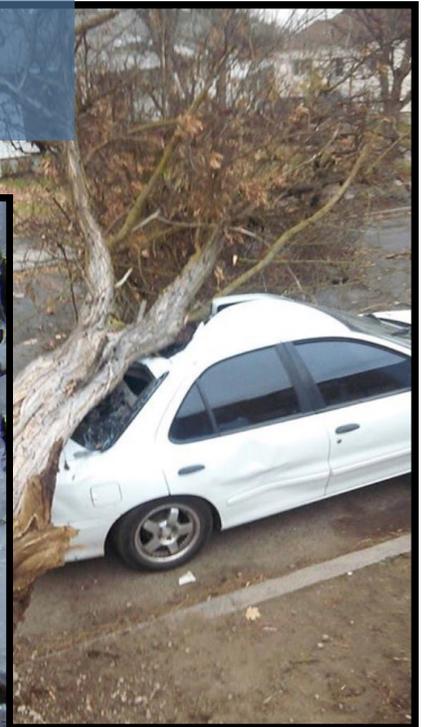




SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

TOP TEN WEATHER EVENTS OF 2015



A CHRONOLOGICAL LIST



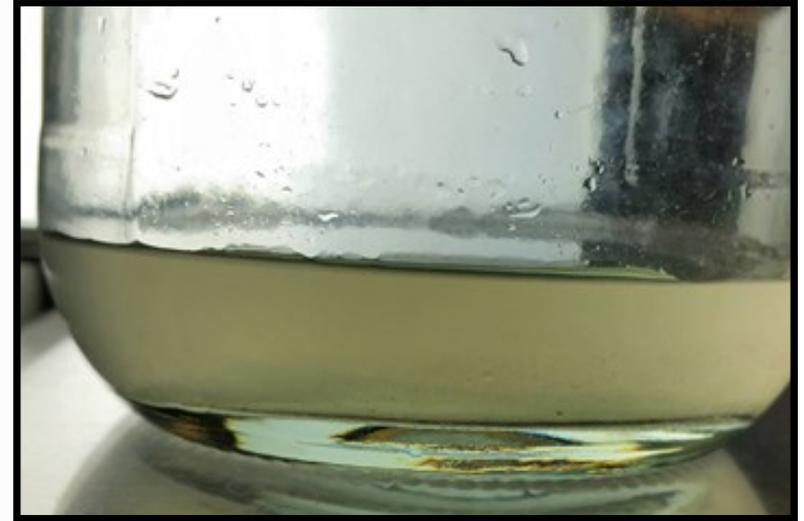
#1. Snow and Ice: Jan 3-5, 2015



Snow and Ice—Jan 3-5: A slow moving winter storm dumped 6 to 12 inches of snow in the Bonners Ferry, Sandpoint, and Metaline Falls areas. The area hardest hit was Leavenworth WA, where 2-4" of snow was followed by an inch of freezing rain. Tree limbs were broken causing power outages.



#2. Milky Rain: Feb 6, 2015



Milky Rain—Feb 6: Rain left unusual white deposits on cars and windows from the Tri Cities to Spokane. The unusual color and texture of the rain generated a national media buzz peaking the interest of weather enthusiasts and conspiracy theorists alike. Months later, soil tests performed by Washington State University traced the white residue to a dry salt lake bed in Summer Lake, Oregon.

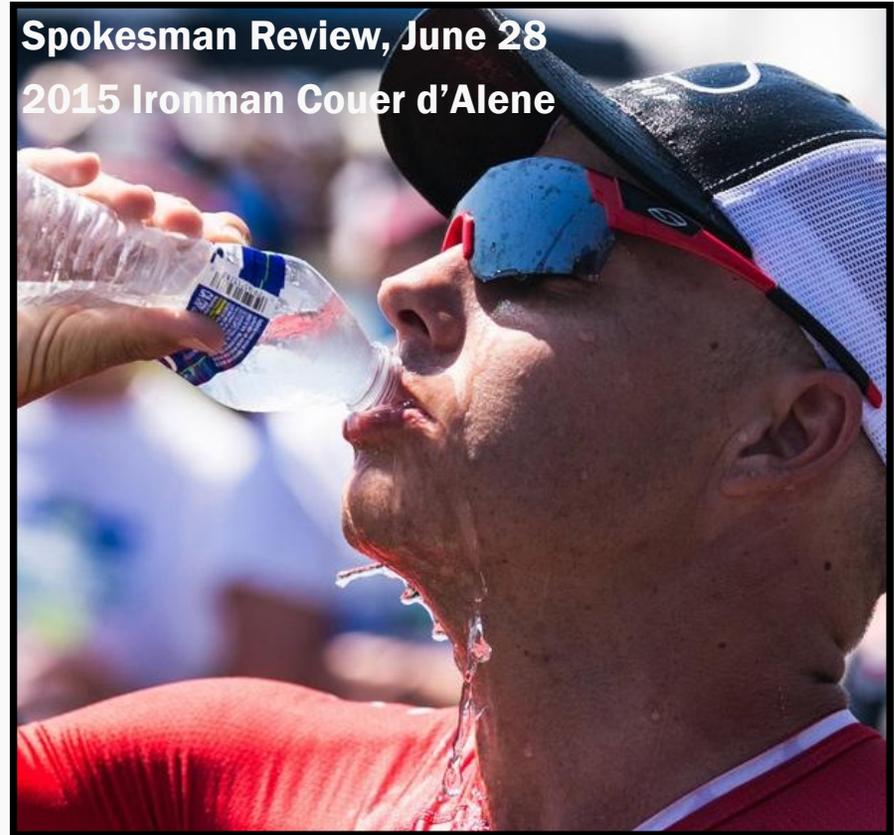


#3. June's Record Heat

June 28 Records

Site	Temp
Moses Lake WA	112
Lewiston ID	111
Omak WA	110
Wenatchee WA	109
Colville WA	108
Pullman WA	105
Spokane WA	105
Bonniers Ferry ID	105

Spokesman Review, June 28
2015 Ironman Couer d'Alene



June's Record Heat: June is typically a transition month between Spring and Summer, but summer arrived early in 2015. It was the hottest June on record for the Inland Northwest. The weekend of June 27-28 shattered high temperature records and brought oppressive heat to Hoopfest and Ironman CDA.



#4. Sleepy Hollow Fire: June 28-30

Spokesman Review
June 28



Sleepy Hollow Fire—June 28-30: The Sleepy Hollow Fire burned 2950 acres, destroyed 29 residences, and 3 businesses in north-west Wenatchee. Months of drought combined with record heat and windy conditions contributed to the rapid spread of this fire.



#5. Dust Storm: Aug 14



KREM Photo

Hwy 395 S of Ritzville



Metroforensics Blog

Hwy 395 S of Ritzville

Dust Storm—August 14: The first of several late summer dust storms. Temperatures around 100 degrees on the 13th were followed by wind gusts of 30 to 35 mph on the 14th creating blowing dust and extreme wildfire behavior. Portions of Hwy 395 and I-90 were closed due to multi-car pile ups.

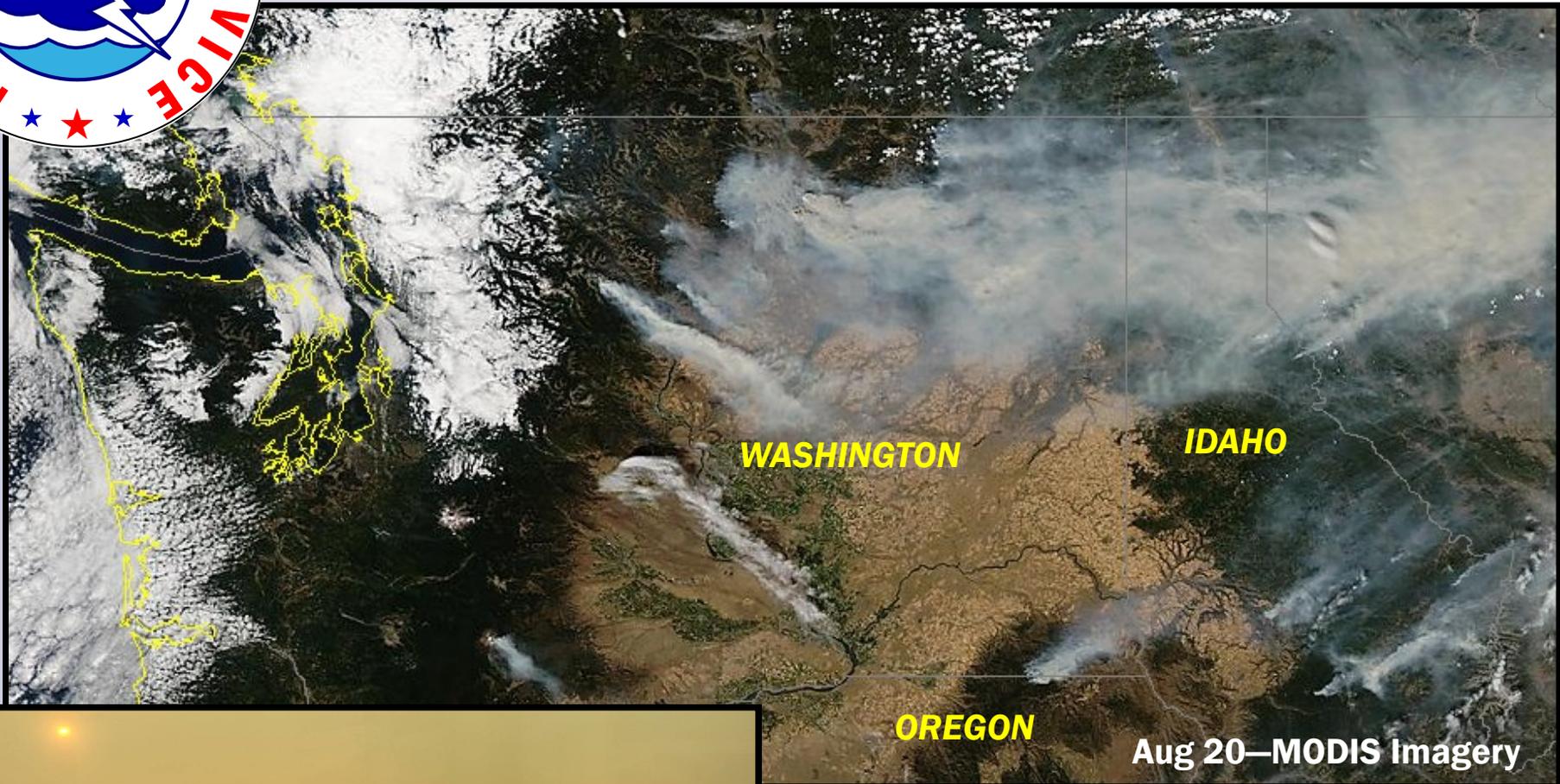


KXLY Photo

Marble Valley Fire S of Colville



#6. August Wildfire Smoke



Wildfire Smoke plagued the Pacific Northwest for weeks this summer with the worst air quality in mid to late August. On Aug 20-21, strong west winds produced a “Smoke Storm” in Spokane and north Idaho as smoke from half a dozen large fires choked NE WA and far N ID.

Aug 21
NWS Office Spokane



#7. Wind Storm: Aug 29



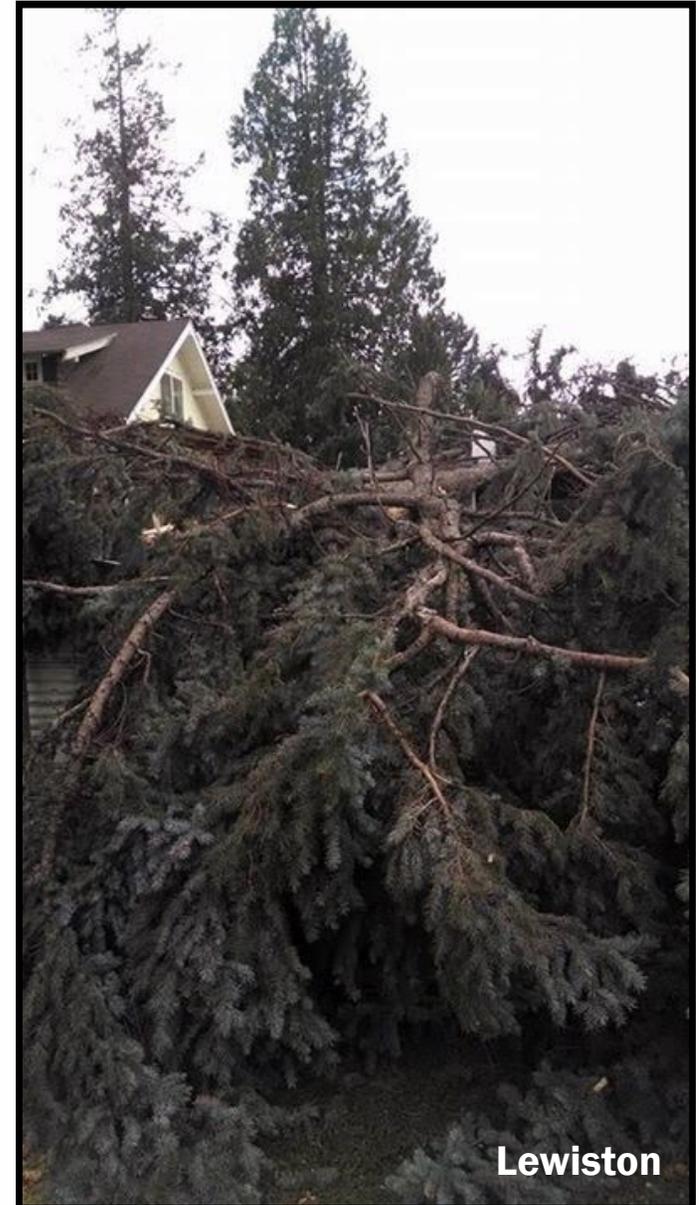
Lewiston Orchards



Spokesman Review

Spokane South Hill

Wind Storm—Aug 29: A wind storm produced power outages, blowing dust, and extreme fire behavior across the Inland Northwest. Lewiston recorded a wind gust of 72 mph that left 10,000 Avista customers without power. Tree damage also occurred in Spokane, and highways were closed due to blowing dust including I-90 near Vantage.



Lewiston



#8. Summer Wildfires



Aug 13
Stickpin Fire



Aug 21
Okanogan Complex



Aug 31
Carpenter Rd Fire



Aug 21
Wolverine Fire

Over 1 million acres burned this summer in Washington and north Idaho. Low mountain snowpack, record June heat, and weeks without rain this summer led to dozens of large wildfires.



#9. Okanogan Wind Storm: Aug 21



KXLY Photo, Aug 21
Okanogan Complex



Wenatchee World Photo
Twisp River Fire, Aug 20

Okanogan Wind Storm—Aug 21: Fire crews in north central Washington were on high alert as north winds funneled down the Okanogan Valley causing a half dozen wildfires to grow rapidly. Gusts as high as 60mph were measured at Omak and Oroville causing the Okanogan Complex to double in size (88,000 to 162,000 acres). Officials estimated 5000 people evacuated their homes during this event and 35 homes were destroyed. –Source Wenatchee World



#10. Wind Storm: Nov 17



Inlander Photo
Spokane South Hill



Inlander Photo
Spokane South Hill



Spokesman Review
Spokane

Wind Storm—Nov 17: The wind storm on Nov 17th was a true record breaker. The 71 mph wind gust at the Spokane Airport was the strongest non-thunderstorm wind gust on record. The 200, 000 Spokane county residents left without power was also a record surpassing the 1996 Ice Storm.