

Pacific Northwest



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Location

The Pacific Northwest is an area in the northwest corner of the United States and Canada.



Boundaries

The boundaries include Washington, Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia. The parts of southeast Alaska and western Montana are also a part of the Pacific Northwest.

Geography/Regions

The Pacific Northwest is a very diverse region. It includes 4 different sub regions: mountain ranges, forests, temperate rainforests and the Columbia Plateau.

Mountains

The mountain ranges that are in the Pacific Northwest are the Coast Mountains, the Cascade Range, the Olympic Mountains, the Columbia Mountains, and the Rocky Mountains.



The highest **peak** is Mount Rainier, which is in the Washington Cascades and stands 14,410 feet high.



Forests

The Pacific Northwest has some of North America's most extensive forests. The area is greatly populated with Coast Douglas fir trees.



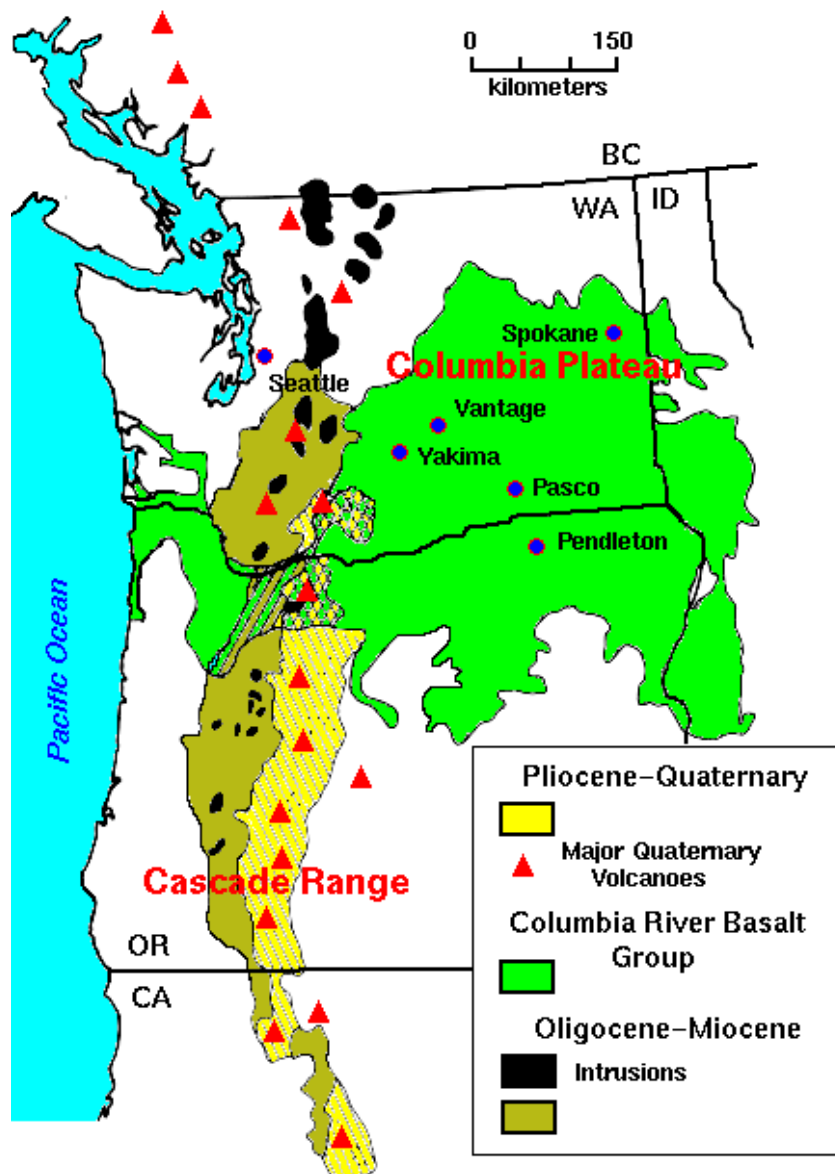
This region also grows the Coast Redwoods, which is a specimen of the tallest trees on earth and are located in Southwestern Oregon.

The Pacific Northwest also includes the Olympic **temperate rainforest**. It rains between 140 to 167 inches, which is 12 to 14 feet!



Columbia Plateau

The Columbia Plateau is described as a wide flood **basalt plateau** between the Cascade Range and the Rocky Mountains.



This region has **temperate** and **subtropical** grasslands, **savannas**, and shrub lands.



Palouse Falls State Park



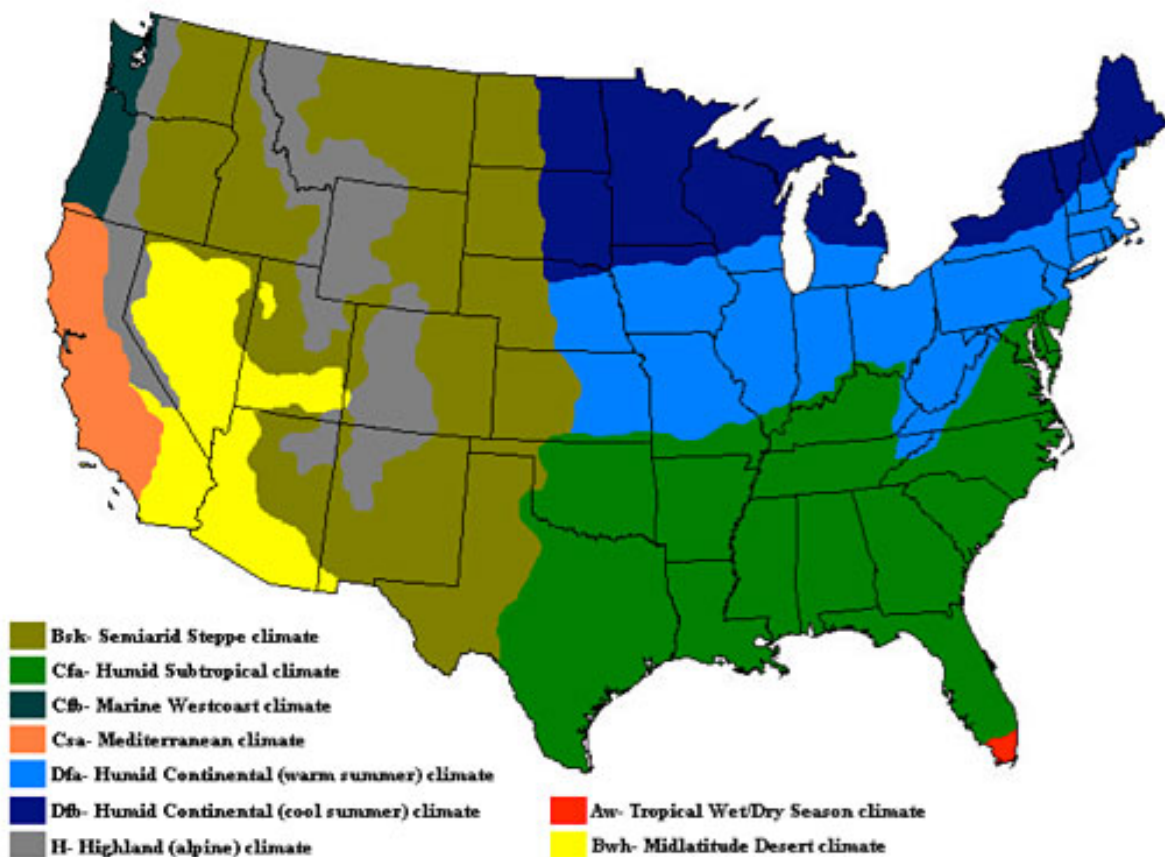
Palouse, WA

Climate

The Pacific Northwest experiences a lot of different climates. The different climates include

- Marine West Coast Climate
- Alpine Climate
- Semi-arid and Arid

Climate Zones of the Continental United States



Population

Ten Largest Cities in the Pacific Northwest

1.	Seattle, WA.....	668,342
2.	Portland, OR.....	619,360
3.	Vancouver, BC.....	603,502
4.	Surrey, BC.....	468,251
5.	Burnaby, BC.....	223,218
6.	Spokane, WA.....	208,916
7.	Boise, ID.....	205,671
8.	Tacoma, WA.....	198,397
9.	Richmond, BC.....	190,473
10.	Vancouver, WA.....	161,791

Comprehension Questions

1. What are the boundaries of the Pacific Northwest?
2. What are the 4 different sub regions and how do they differ from one another?
3. What city is the largest city in the Pacific Northwest?

Glossary

Alpine Climate

-Average weather, referring to the mountain or highline climate.

Basalt

-Dark, fine-grained volcanic rock.

Marine West Coast Climate

-Warm summers and cool winters, relatively narrow annual temperature range.

Peak

-Highest point of a mountain.

Plateau

-An area of level high ground.

Savanna

-Grassy plain in tropical and subtropical regions with a few trees.

Semi-arid

-Semi-dry and has less than 20 inches of rain a year.

Subtropical

- Relating to the regions of Earth bordering on the tropics.

Temperate

- Mild weather

Temperate Rainforest

- Wooded area with mild climate with in the temperate zone that receives heavy rain.

Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.2

Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.5

Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter or section fits into the overall structure of a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.7

Integrate information presented in different media or formats as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic

Work Cited

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