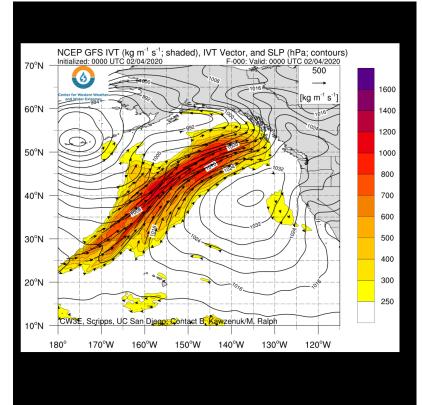
#### For California DWR's AR Program

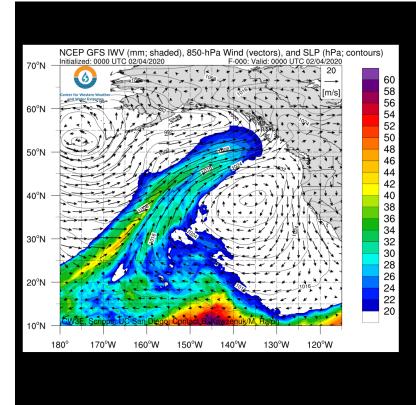


#### A landfalling AR will bring heavy rainfall and mountain snowfall to the Pacific Northwest

- Some areas along the Washington and Oregon coast may experience AR conditions for more than 48 hours
- Prolonged inland penetration of AR conditions is likely over the Intermountain West
- At least 2–7 inches of precipitation are expected over portions of western Washington and northwestern Oregon during the next 3 days, with at least 12" of snowfall in the North Cascades and portions of the Intermountain West
- River flooding is possible once again downstream of the Washington Cascades

• Landfalling AR activity beyond Day 4 (8 Feb) is unlikely as surface high pressure builds over the Northeast Pacific Ocean





#### For California DWR's AR Program





# Flooding Possible Again

Wednesday February 5th- Friday February 7th, 2020



### **Location:**

 Rivers, streams, and urban areas in Western Washington



### **Details:**

- Periods of heavy rain this week, especially Tuesday night through early Friday, will likely produce flooding on many rivers, streams, and urban areas
- Some rivers may reach flood stage as early as Wednesday afternoon.



### **Prepare:**

 If you live near area rivers and waterways, keep an eye on water levels and forecasts



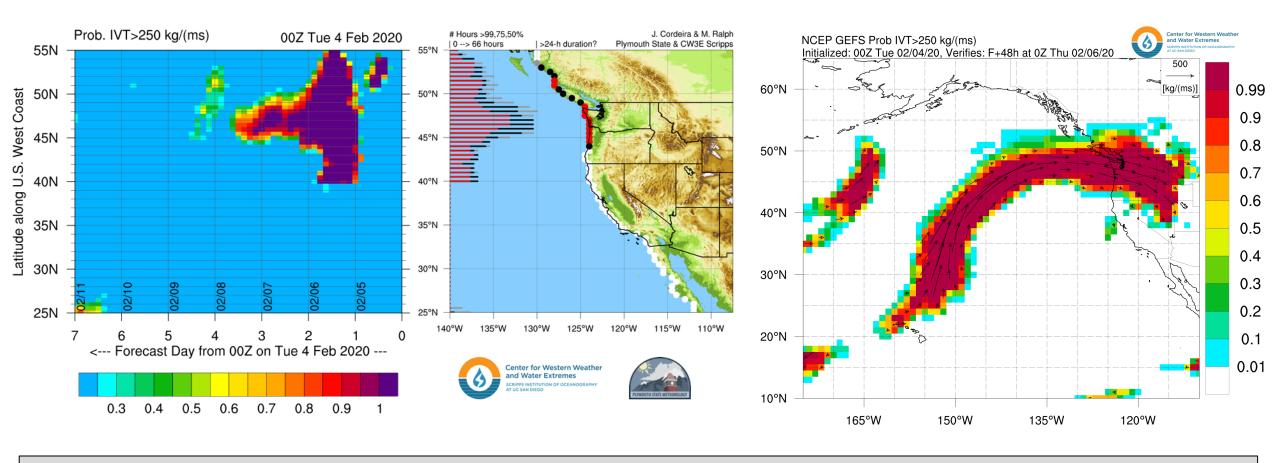
Issued 2/4/2020 by NWS Seattle

### Maximum Forecast AR Scale Forecast valid 7-day Period: 00Z 02/04/20 - 00Z 02/11/2020 GEFS Control AR 5 55°N AR 4 AR3 AR 2 AR 1 50°N No AR 45°N 40°N **AR3** conditions expected 35°N 30°N 105°W 110°W AR Scale based on Ralph et al. (2019; BAMS)

Source: NOAA/NWS WFO Seattle, WA, https://www.weather.gov/sew/

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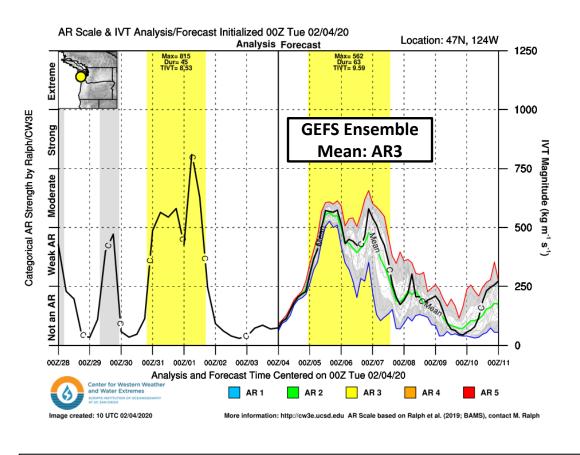


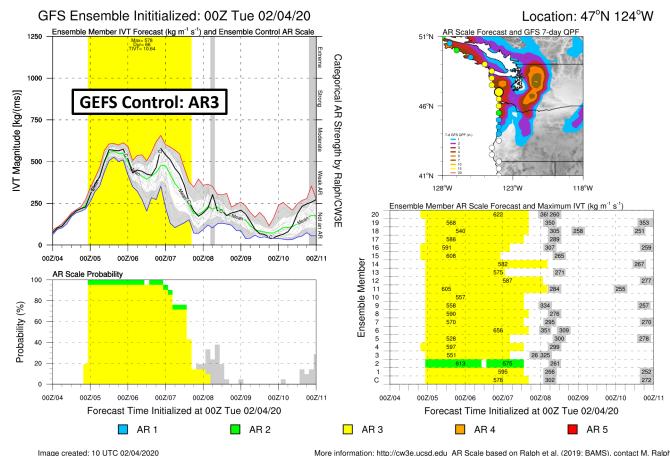
- AR landfall tool shows high confidence (> 90%) in a prolonged period (at least 48 hours) of AR conditions over western Washington and northwestern Oregon beginning around 0000 UTC 5 Feb (late afternoon today)
- There is still some uncertainty regarding how long AR conditions will persist after 0000 UTC 7 Feb
- GEFS IVT probability maps also show high confidence in the inland penetration of AR conditions over the Intermountain West by 0000 UTC 6 Feb

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#### **GEFS IVT Forecast Plumes**



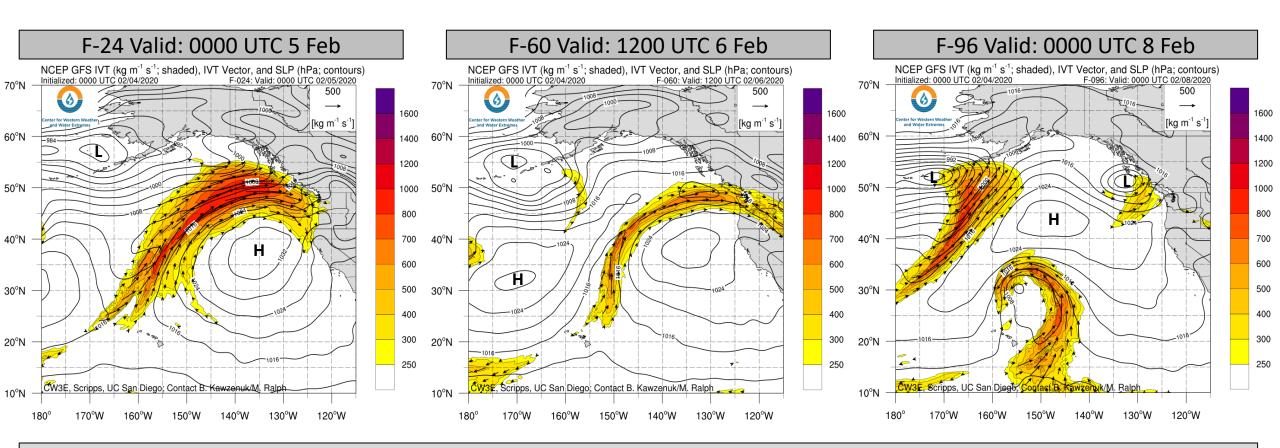


- 0000 UTC 4 Feb GEFS control run and ensemble mean are predicting > 60 hours of weak-to-moderate AR conditions [AR3 based on the Ralph et al. (2019) AR Scale] near Grays Harbor (47°N, 124°W)
- There is generally good agreement among individual GEFS members, with 20/21 members predicting AR3 conditions at this location
- As mentioned earlier, there is some uncertainty in the duration of AR conditions beyond 0000 UTC 7 Feb

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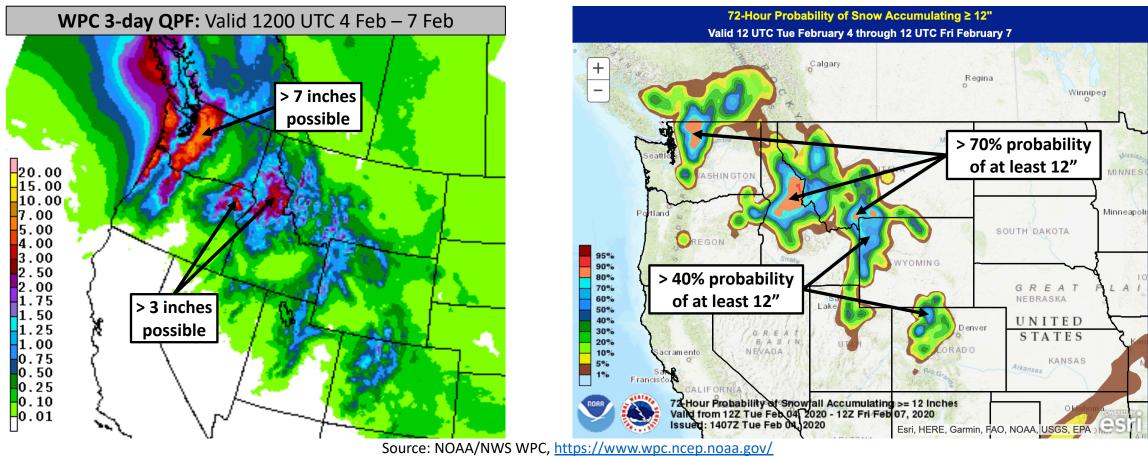
#### **GFS IVT Forecasts**



- An anticyclonically curved AR on the poleward side of surface high pressure is forecast to make landfall along the Washington and Oregon coast just before 0000 UTC 5 Feb
- After the initial pulse of IVT makes landfall on 5 Feb, the AR is expected to gradually weaken and become very narrow
- Decreasing AR width introduces some uncertainty regarding the location and duration of AR conditions beyond 1200 UTC 6 Feb
- By 0000 UTC 8 Feb, the AR has dissipated, and surface high pressure begins to strengthen once again over the Northeast Pacific Ocean

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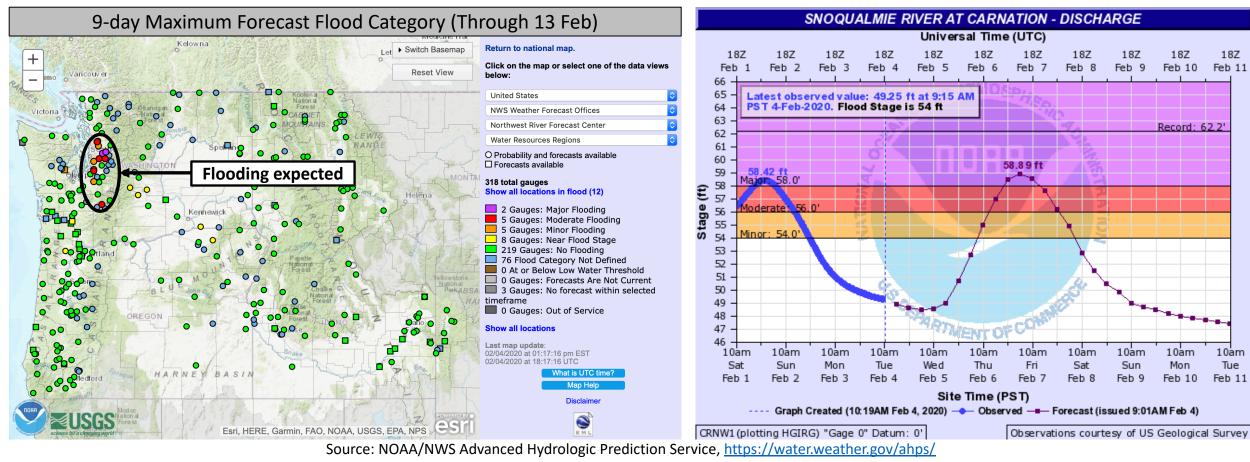




- At least 2–7 inches of precipitation are forecast over the northern Oregon Coast Ranges, the Olympic Peninsula, and the Cascades during the next 3 days, with locally higher amounts over the Washington Cascades
- Lighter precipitation (1–3 inches) is forecast over the Rocky Mountains and elevated portions of the interior Pacific Northwest, with higher amounts possible in northeastern Oregon and North Central Idaho
- At least 12" of snowfall is likely (> 70% probability) across the North Cascades, the Salmon River Mountains and Bitterroots in North Central Idaho, and the Madison Range in southern Montana

#### For California DWR's AR Program





- Given the saturated soil conditions and previous rainfall over the past 4 weeks, river flooding is expected at lower elevations west of the Washington Cascades
- The Northwest River Forecast Center (NWRFC) is currently forecasting the Snoqualmie River (at Carnation, WA) to reach major flood stage late on 6 Feb and remain above flood stage for nearly 48 hours
- The Snoqualmie River exceeded flood stage at the same location as recently as 2 Feb