Hanford Applicator Weather Brief — Sunday, Nov 08

Prepared 4:30 AM PST | Operational planning point: central Hanford Site (approximately 46.56 N, 119.49 W)

1. BOTTOM LINE

- **Today:** Mild and dry, near 61°F, but southwest wind is already established and will be the dominant constraint. Early sustained wind may reach 21-26 mph with gusts to 33-37 mph, easing during the afternoon.
- **Application window:** No preferred Sunday window. A narrow conditional window may develop about 3-5 PM as wind eases, but use it only if field wind is steady and within the product label and site rules. Tuesday and Wednesday are the best tentative work days.
- **Main constraint:** Strong/gusty southwest wind through at least midday; after sunset, rapidly easing wind may instead create dead-calm/inversion drift risk.
- **Next rain opportunity:** Scattered showers Monday afternoon-evening, most likely trace-0.08 inch. A more plausible wetting-rain opportunity is Friday-Saturday, but central-Hanford amounts remain uncertain.

2. TODAY BY TIME BLOCK

Time	Temperature	Sustained wind / gust	Precip.	Operational conditions
5-8 AM	51-56°F	SW 20-26 mph; gusts 33-37 mph	0%; 0.00 in	Mostly cloudy. Strong mechanical mixing; wind is the primary constraint.
8 AM-noon	55-60°F	SW 18-24 mph; gusts 28-33 mph	0%; 0.00 in	Dry and breezy. Open terrain may run higher than nearby airport readings.
Noon-4 PM	58-61°F	SW 10-18 mph; gusts 20-28 mph, decreasing	0%; 0.00 in	Wind gradually eases; verify that the decrease is real at the field location.
4-8 PM	50-57°F	SW 8-12 mph, becoming variable 3-6 mph; isolated earlier gusts near 20 mph	0%; 0.00 in	Dry. Sunset cooling favors rapid stabilization and possible inversion/dead-calm conditions.

Observation grounding: The Hanford real-time page was checked first, using HMS, 200 East, and 200 West as the central-site references. Its public page still displayed an October 19 update and no verified numeric station rows, so those readings are not described as current. At 4:20 AM PST, off-site KPSC reported 54°F, dew point 43°F, SSW wind 16 mph, overcast sky, and 10-mile visibility. Hanford values may differ across exposed terrain.

Hanford network data are best-available operational observations, not guaranteed/calibrated compliance measurements. Most towers measure wind at 10 m and temperature at 2 m, but HMS is a 400-ft tower and some other stations differ. Field measurements at the application location remain controlling.

3. APPLICATION-WINDOW NOTES

Sunday: No clean preferred window. If work must be considered, 3-5 PM is the least unfavorable period as the southwest wind falls toward 10-15 mph. From a 4 PM finish, the forecast is rain-free for roughly 20-22 hours before Monday's earliest shower chance. Confidence is medium because the exact easing time can vary across the Site.

Best tentative windows: Tuesday 9 AM-3 PM and Wednesday 9 AM-3 PM, after any morning inversion breaks and before evening stabilization. Tuesday currently has the better wind detail: SW 3-5 mph and dry. Monday morning is dry but a poor choice for long settling time because shower chances begin after about 1 PM.

Wind shift/easing: Southwest wind remains dominant today, then drops quickly late afternoon and evening. That decrease does not automatically improve drift conditions: dead-calm flow or an inversion can allow suspended droplets to move unpredictably.

Always compare conditions with the specific herbicide label, employer/site rules, and field measurements. This brief does not establish legal or universal spray limits.

4. NEXT 7 DAYS

Day	High / Low	Wind / gust trend	Rain chance / likely amount	Planning note	Conf.
Sun 11/8	61 / 43°F	SW 21-26 mph early; gusts 33-37; easing late	0%; 0.00 in	Likely unsuitable; only a narrow conditional late window	High
Mon 11/9	56 / 44°F	Light/variable; SW near 6 mph overnight	40% after 1 PM; trace-0.08 in	Morning dry, but limited settling time	Med
Tue 11/10	61 / 44°F	SW 3-5 mph; gusts under 15 mph	Under 10%; 0.00 in	**Best tentative work day** after inversion breakup	High
Wed 11/11	60 / 42°F	Light, direction uncertain; no strong-gust signal	Under 10%; 0.00 in	**Good tentative backup**	Med
Thu 11/12	58 / 42°F	Light to moderate; trend uncertain	Under 10%; 0.00 in	Potential dry work day; recheck late-week system	Med
Fri 11/13	61 / 45°F	Increasing/variable; gust timing uncertain	30-40%; trace-0.15 in	Possible showers; low-confidence work window	Low
Sat 11/14	61 / ~44°F	Potentially breezy with passing system	~20%; trace-0.10 in	Possible shower/wind interruptions	Low

Forecast confidence falls after Thursday because guidance agrees on a more active Pacific pattern but not on exact inland timing, wind, or central-basin precipitation.

5. ACTIVATION-RAIN OUTLOOK

Expected accumulation: Next 7 days: 0.02-0.20 inch most likely; a localized total near 0.30 inch is possible but not favored. Days 8-14: roughly 0.10-0.75 inch, with a broad 0.05-1.00 inch envelope because Pacific-system timing and inland rain-shadow penetration are uncertain.

Next rain: Monday afternoon-evening has the first measurable chance, most likely trace-0.08 inch. The next more plausible wetting event is Friday into next weekend, when 0.05-0.25 inch is possible at central Hanford. A trace-only outcome remains possible.

Threshold	Within 7 days	Within 14 days
Any measurable rain	75-90%	Over 95%
At least 0.10 inch	40-60%	80-95%
At least 0.25 inch	15-30%	55-75%

Assessment: MARGINAL, IMPROVING - medium-low confidence. Monday may provide only light, spotty rain; the stronger activation potential is later in the 14-day period. CPC favors above-normal precipitation in Washington during both 6-10 and 8-14 days, but central Hanford remains vulnerable to rain-shadow underperformance. Threshold probabilities are planning estimates synthesized from NWS/WPC/CPC guidance, not a calibrated exact-point exceedance product.

6. EXTENDED OUTLOOK

Days 8-14 (Nov 15-21): Above-normal temperatures and above-normal precipitation are favored for Washington. CPC confidence is 4/5 for days 6-10 and 3/5 for days 8-14. A Northeast Pacific trough supports a stormier West, but the stronger heavy-precipitation signal is west and south of Hanford; inland amounts remain uncertain.

Weeks 3-4 (Nov 21-Dec 4): Above-normal temperatures are favored across the West Coast and northern tier. Above-average precipitation is favored for the West Coast, with several models showing a stronger Northwest signal; confidence in exact Hanford amounts is low.

November: The monthly outlook favors above-normal temperatures in Washington and tilts the broader Pacific Northwest toward above-normal precipitation, with timing and magnitude uncertain. Monthly and weeks 3-4 outlooks are broad tendencies, not day-by-day forecasts, and cannot establish a specific application date.

Sources checked: Hanford Meteorological Station real-time network; NWS Pendleton point/hourly forecast and 9:55 PM PST Area Forecast Discussion; Tri-Cities Airport observation/TAF; WPC day 1-7 QPF and extended discussion; CPC 6-10 day, 8-14 day, week 3-4, hazards, and November outlooks.

Source links: hanford.gov/page.cfm/HMS/RealTimeMetData | forecast.weather.gov | wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml | cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions