

The Coast Range is long and narrow and runs from Washington all the way to the Klamath mountains near California. It lies next to the Pacific Ocean. The average elevation is 1500 feet and the highest point is 4,097 at Mary's Peak. Saddle Mountain is 3,260 feet high. Heavy rain in this region makes for very dense forests and great habitat for animals. There are many rivers and streams and salmon used to be extremely thick in the coast region. Changes to the environment has caused a reduction to their population- (There aren't as many fish anymore).

The Willamette Valley is the only large, wet lowland in Oregon, and it was formed from rivers dropping silt for thousands of years. The dirt is excellent for farming and it gets plenty of water, which is great for plants. The ground is almost flat and has good drainage. A few hills and buttes rise about 325 feet above the valley, but overall it is very flat.

The **Cascade Range** is the backbone of Oregon and divides the state into two broad regions: **Eastern** Oregon and **Western** Oregon. The Cascades extend in Oregon from California to Washington and is unbroken. There are two sub-regions: The **High Cascades** on the east and the **Western Cascades** on the west. The High cascades feature several volcanic peaks that are over 8000 ft high. The average elevation is between 3000 ft and 5000 ft. Several passes cross the region below 5000 ft but there is no low, easy pass.

Eastern Oregon is a large and extremely diverse region of the state. It is a fairly high elevation, and since it is in the rain shadow of the Cascade Mountains it receives little precipitation. For this reason, trees are less abundant over much of eastern Oregon. The largest forests in the region are in the mountainous areas that receive more rain and snow. Farming, ranching, and mining are the main industries. Due to the lack of water, farmers must irrigate or artificially water the land. Dams were built to assist in water irrigation.