

Late winter storms bad omen for fire season

By Associated Press

The late winter storms that helped bolster Nevada's lagging snowpack also jump started the growth of grasses and brush that potentially could fuel another big wildfire season.

"I hate to use the term 'worst-case scenario,' but it's kind of leading into another potentially very active fire season," National Weather Service meteorologist Chris Smallcomb told Gov. Brian Sandoval Wednesday.

Smallcomb said the late precipitation push in March raised the snowpack from 36 percent of normal in February to 85 percent of normal as of March 27 at Tahoe.

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