

## Activity 2: Classified Precipitation Map of Oregon

The map labeled “Rainfall in Oregon” shows annual rainfall (in inches/year) for stations in Oregon. Your task is to create a classified precipitation map for Oregon by drawing lines for the precipitation zones noted on the map. Color-code the data into the following annual precipitation zones:

<u>Precipitation Zone</u>	<u>Map Color</u>
<15 in/yr	Yellow
15-40 in/yr	Red
40-65 in/yr	Green
65-90 in/yr	Blue
>90 in/yr	Purple

*Here's how you do it:*

- At each station, read the annual precipitation and color-code each value by using a colored pencil and the zone colors listed above. Do not color the entire map at this time, only color-code the station.
- Now you have the stations color-coded. **Use a regular pencil** to draw map boundary lines between each color-coded interval, separating the stations by color. *NOTE: make sure you interpolate between data points and **draw a boundary line for each precipitation zone.** Don't leave out intervening zones that may not have data points. In other words, have the rainbow of colors between the data points that are not in adjacent zones. Like a staircase, all the steps need to be between higher zones and lower ones. See 'useful websites' for some guidance.*
- Color in the entire map, filling in the appropriate color for your boundary lines. Do this quickly, but neatly (don't spend the rest of the period coloring...just get on with it).



*Answer the following questions in the space provided:*

1. Compare the Physiographic Map (Part A) to the Precipitation Map (Part B). What inferences can you make with regards to landforms and precipitation in Oregon?
2. Which REGIONS of the state are driest?
3. Which REGIONS of the state are the wettest?
4. Which direction do weather systems come from in Oregon: northerly, southerly, easterly, westerly?
5. How do these weather patterns relate to the precipitation-landscape relationships that you observed above?
6. What does the term "rain shadow" mean?
7. How does it form in Oregon?
8. Which parts of Oregon are in a "rain shadow"?