How worried should we be about the earthquake heading for the Pacific Northwest? Learn ten important geographic facts about the Pacific Northwest from About.com. The Pacific Northwest is a region in western North America bounded by the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. It is home to the Cascadia subduction zone, which is a potential earthquake threat. The region is also known for its vibrant culture, beautiful landscapes, and strong sense of community. Discover the Pacific Northwest's unique geography, culture, and history in this article.