

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT

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NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FLAGSTAFF AZ
145 PM MST WED AUG 5 2009

...MONTH IN REVIEW FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2009...

I. TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW

JULY 2009 TEMPERATURES WERE GENERALLY ABOVE AVERAGE...WITH PRECIPITATION BELOW AVERAGE FOR MUCH OF THE AREA. MANY LOCATIONS RECEIVED LESS THAN HALF OF THE NORMAL PRECIPITATION TYPICALLY RECEIVED DURING THE MONTH OF JULY. THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO A BELOW NORMAL SUPPLY OF MONSOONAL MOISTURE FOR MOST OF THE MONTH.

JULY 2009 DATA AND DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES:

	MAX	DEP	MIN	DEP	AVE	DEP	PCPN	DEP
	TEMP	NORM	TEMP	NORM	TEMP	NORM	TOTL	NORM
FLAGSTAFF	83.5	+2.0	52.4	+1.8	68.0	+1.9	1.00	-1.40
GRAND CANYON	85.8	+0.7	52.8	+2.7	69.3	+1.7	0.99	-0.91
WINSLOW	96.4	+2.9	64.5	+2.4	80.5	+2.7	0.24	-1.00
PAGE	97.1	+0.5	71.8	+1.9	84.4	+1.2	0.45	-0.05
PRESCOTT	92.1	+2.8	63.7	+2.3	77.9	+2.5	1.58	-1.20
ST. JOHNS	93.1	+2.9	62.8	+3.4	78.0	+4.3	0.17	-1.87
WINDOW ROCK	88.9	+3.4	53.8	+0.1	71.4	+1.8	2.04	0.29
BELLEMONT	82.2	+0.6	45.7	-0.4	64.0	+0.1	1.63	-1.05
SEDONA	98.9	+2.4	70.5	+6.6	84.7	+4.5	0.37	-1.19

II. SELECTED RECORDS

A RIDGE OF UNUSUALLY STRONG HIGH PRESSURE IN THE MIDDLE AND UPPER LEVELS OF THE TROPOSPHERE SETTLED IN OVER ARIZONA DURING THE MIDDLE OF JULY. THIS RESULTED IN ABOVE AVERAGE TEMPERATURES ACROSS THE STATE OF ARIZONA. FROM JULY 17 THROUGH JULY 19 SEVERAL RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURES IN NORTHERN ARIZONA WERE EITHER TIED, OR BROKEN.

DATE	CITY	PREVIOUS RECORD	NEW RECORD
JULY 17	COTTONWOOD	111 IN 1998	111 (TIED)
JULY 17	FLAGSTAFF	91 IN 1980	93
JULY 17	WINSLOW	105 IN 2005	105 (TIED)
JULY 18	NAVAJO NM	95 IN 1959	95 (TIED)
JULY 18	PAGE	105 IN 2005	107
JULY 18	SEDONA	109 IN 2005	109 (TIED)
JULY 19	NAVAJO NM	95 IN 1998	98 (TIED)

III. SIGNIFICANT WEATHER

THE UNUSUALLY WEAK START TO THE MONSOON SEASON AND RESULTING LACK OF ACTIVE WEATHER IS PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT WEATHER NOTE TO MENTION FOR JULY. BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION WAS RECEIVED AT THE MAJORITY OF WEATHER STATIONS ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS WERE THOSE STATIONS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN LOCATED UNDERNEATH SOME OF THE ISOLATED HEAVY RAINFALL PRODUCING THUNDERSTORMS. OVER ONE HALF OF FLAGSTAFF'S PRECIPITATION IN JULY FELL WITHIN THE FIRST FOUR DAYS OF THE MONTH WHICH IS CLIMATOLOGICALLY THE DRIEST PART OF THE MONTH. AFTER JULY 4 FLAGSTAFF RECEIVED ONLY .46 (21 % OF NORMAL) INCHES OF RAIN WHEN NORMALLY THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN 2.22 INCHES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MONTH.

SELECTED STATIONS RAINFALL TOTALS COMPARED TO NORMALS FOR JULY:

CITY	JULY TOTAL	NORMAL TOTAL	% OF NORMAL
BAGDAD	0.80	1.40	62%
FLAGSTAFF	1.00	2.40	42%
HOLBROOK	0.72	1.37	53%
JEROME	1.42	2.59	55%
KEAMS CANYON	0.21	1.54	14%
LEES FERRY	0.35	0.76	46%
OAK CREEK	0.18	2.25	8%
PAINTED DESERT	0.24	1.28	19%
ST. JOHNS	0.17	2.04	8%
SEDONA	0.37	1.78	21%
TUBA CITY	0.36	0.71	51%
WINSLOW	0.24	1.24	19%
WALNUT GROVE	0.99	2.12	47%
WUPATKI	0.52	1.39	37%

A FEW FORTUNATE LOCATIONS RECORDED BENEFICIAL HEAVY RAIN AND ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL VALUES FOR JULY. ON JULY 18 RADAR ESTIMATES OF 1 TO 3 INCHES OF RAIN HAD FALLEN OVER AREAS EAST OF GRANITE CREEK SOUTH OF THE VERDE RIVER. THIS RESULTED IN THE RISING OF SEVERAL STREAMS AND INITIATION OF FLOW OF NORMALLY DRY WASHES. AS A RESULT A SMALL STREAM FLOOD ADVISORY FOR THAT AREA WAS ISSUED.

SIMILAR ADVISORIES WERE ISSUED THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR AREAS NEAR HIGHWAY 260 AND COTTONWOOD WASH IN NAVAJO COUNTY. RADAR ESTIMATES THERE WERE APPROACHING 2.5 INCHES OF RAINFALL AT THE TIME THE ADVISORY WAS ISSUED. ON JUNE 20 OTHER ISOLATED EVENTS CAUSED FLOOD ADVISORIES TO BE ISSUED IN AREAS OF COCONINO AND APACHE COUNTIES AS WELL. INTERMITTENT FLOOD ADVISORIES WERE ISSUED ON THE MORE ACTIVE DAYS IN JULY...ALTHOUGH THOSE DAYS WERE STILL DETERMINED TO BE OF AN ONLY MARGINAL MONSOON. SOME OF THE STATIONS IN AREAS THAT BENEFITED MOST FROM THE JULY RAINS WERE:

CITY	JULY TOTAL	NORMAL TOTAL	% OF NORMAL
CASTLE HOT SPRINGS	1.60	1.36	118%
PLEASANT VALLEY	3.75	2.98	128%
SUNSET CRATER	2.71	2.44	111%
WINDOW ROCK	2.04	2.33	114%

AS OF THE 4TH OF AUGUST LITTLE PRECIPITATION HAS FALLEN ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA...THE WETTEST MONTH OF THE YEAR FOR MUCH OF THE REGION. WE WILL SEE IF THIS PATTERN CONTINUES.

PLEASE CONTACT ANDREW.LATTO@NOAA.GOV WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
