

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT  
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FLAGSTAFF AZ  
 1040 AM MST THU NOV 5 2009

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

I. TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW

OCTOBER 2009 TEMPERATURES DROPPED TO BELOW NORMAL VALUES COMPARED TO THE THREE PREVIOUS MONTHS. THIS WAS IN PART DUE TO A DEEP TROUGH LOCATED OVER THE WESTERN UNITED STATES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH AS WELL AS A STRONG LOW WHICH BROUGHT WITH IT COLD TEMPERATURES NEAR THE END OF THE MONTH. PRECIPITATION WAS BELOW NORMAL FOR MUCH OF NORTHERN ARIZONA IN OCTOBER. ONE REASON FOR THE DRY CONDITIONS WAS THE LACK OF A MOISTURE TAP AS STORM SYSTEMS APPROACHED THE STATE. MUCH OF THE PRECIPITATION ASSOCIATED WITH LOW PRESSURE SYSTEMS THAT CROSSED NORTHERN ARIZONA OCCURRED EAST OF THE STATE.

OCTOBER 2009 DATA AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES:

	MAX	DEP	MIN	DEP	AVE	DEP	PCPN	DEP
	TEMP	NORM	TEMP	NORM	TEMP	NORM	TOTL	NORM
FLAGSTAFF	60.8	-2.6	29.0	-2.4	44.9	-2.5	0.21	-1.27
BELLEMONT	60.2	-2.7	22.4	-4.4	41.3	-3.6	0.10	-1.60
WINSLOW	70.8	-2.0	37.7	-2.2	54.3	-2.1	0.17	-0.49
PRESCOTT	69.0	-4.7	35.8	-5.7	52.4	-5.2	0.09	-0.72
SAINT JOHNS	68.1	-4.4	36.7	+0.8	52.4	-1.8	0.30	-0.61
WINDOW ROCK	62.9	-3.7	27.7	-5.0	45.3	-4.4	0.39	-0.75
PAGE	68.6	-2.2	46.5	-1.1	57.6	-1.7	T	-1.00
MONTEZUMA CASTLE	80.6	-2.2	42.0	-1.0	61.3	-1.6	0.00	-0.98
GREER	58.7	-1.3	29.6	-1.3	44.2	-1.3	0.99	-1.61

II. SELECTED RECORDS

A STRONG TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE MOVED ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA JUST BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER...WHICH USHERED IN BELOW NORMAL TEMPERATURES. A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE SETTLED IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF OCTOBER RESULTING IN RADIATIONAL NIGHTTIME COOLING UNDER CLEAR SKIES. AS A RESULT... SEVERAL RECORD LOW TEMPERATURES WERE SET ON THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 2ND

SELECTED RECORD LOWS FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA IN OCTOBER 2009:

CITY (PERIOD OF RECORD)	NEW LOW	PREVIOUS RECORD/YEAR
COTTONWOOD-TUZIGOOT (1977 - 2009)	44	44 (TIED) IN 1982
PAYSON (1948 - 2009)	33	34 IN 1971
PETRIFIED FOREST (1931 - 2009)	31	34 IN 1982
PHANTOM RANCH (1966 - 2009)	52	53 IN 1983
WINSLOW (1893 - 2009)	30	33 IN 1927

AN UNSEASONABLY STRONG LOW PRESSURE SYSTEM MOVED ACROSS THE STATE ON OCTOBER 28 CAUSING THE COLDEST WEATHER OF THE SEASON SO FAR TO OCCUR. MANY LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN ARIZONA SAW SOME OF THE COLDEST OCTOBER DAYTIME TEMPERATURES EVER OBSERVED. FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE DAYS MANY STATIONS RECORDED RECORD LOW HIGH TEMPERATURES.

SELECTED RECORD LOW HIGH TEMPERATURES FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA IN OCTOBER 2009:

ON OCT 28 2009:

CITY (PERIOD OF RECORD)	NEW LOW HIGH	PREVIOUS RECORD/YEAR
FLAGSTAFF (1898 - 2009)	32	35 IN 1996
FORT VALLEY (1909 - 2009)	31	32 IN 1972
GRAND CANYON NP S RIM (1966 - 2009)	36	37 IN 1989
GREER (1905 - 2009)	27	35 IN 1991
HEBER RS (1950 - 2009)	31	36 IN 1976
PAGE (1958 - 2009)	42	48 IN 1996
PHANTOM RANCH (1966 - 2009)	48	58 IN 2000
PRESCOTT (1898 - 2009)	38	46 IN 1996
WILLIAMS (1897 - 2009)	30	39 IN 1996
WINSLOW (1893 - 2009)	43	47 IN 1991

ON OCT 29 2009:

CITY (PERIOD OF RECORD)	NEW LOW HIGH	PREVIOUS RECORD/YEAR
ALPINE (1904 - 2009)	25	42 IN 1961
COTTONWOOD-TUZIGOOT (1977 - 2009)	56	58 IN 1991
FORT VALLEY (1909 - 2009)	34	34 (TIED) IN 1974
HEBER RS (1950 - 2009)	34	42 IN 1974
NAVAJO NM (1939 - 2009)	30	32 IN 1991
PAYSON (1948 - 2009)	46	47 IN 1974
SPRINGERVILLE (1911 - 2009)	29	44 IN 1996

III. SIGNIFICANT WEATHER

DRY WEATHER CONTINUES TO BE THE BIG STORY CONTINUING THROUGH THE MONTH OF OCTOBER FOR MOST OF NORTHERN ARIZONA. AFTER ENDURING ONE OF THE DRIEST MONSOONS ON RECORD...NORTHERN ARIZONA CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE A LACK OF PRECIPITATION EXTENDING BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.

SELECTED STATIONS PRECIPITATION TOTALS YEAR TO DATE THROUGH OCTOBER 31ST...  
 ...THE CURRENT YEAR TO DATE RANKING AS DRIEST ON RECORD...AND THE DRIEST YEAR TO DATE PRECIPITATION TOTAL AND YEAR IT OCCURRED:

CITY	YTD TOTAL	YTD RANKING	PREV REC DRIEST YTD (YEAR)
FLAGSTAFF	7.92"	1ST	8.28" (1942)
PRESCOTT	8.57"	5TH	5.92" (2002)
WINSLOW	2.56"	2ND	1.27" (2003)
PAGE	3.72"	8TH	2.58" (1971)
BAGDAD	5.10"	2ND	2.82" (1956)
SELIGMAN	5.00"	7TH	3.76" (1928)
BELLEMONT	8.93"	1ST	9.73" (2002)
TUBA CITY	2.85"	4TH	1.69" (1996)

PLEASE SEND QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS TO W-FGZ.WEBMASTER@NOAA.GOV