

...APRIL 2012 REGIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY...

SUMMARY FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AND MONTEREY BAY AREA...

APRIL 2012 WAS WETTER THAN NORMAL ACROSS MOST OF THE REGION WHILE TEMPERATURES WERE GENERALLY NEAR NORMAL. THE MOST NOTABLE WEATHER EVENT DURING APRIL WAS A THUNDERSTORM OUTBREAK ON THE EVENING OF THURSDAY APRIL 12.

APRIL STARTED OFF COOL AND DAMP WITH LIGHT AMOUNTS OF RAIN FALLING ON THE 1ST AND 3RD. THE AIRMASS THAT SETTLED ACROSS THE AREA AFTER THESE LIGHT RAIN EVENTS WAS VERY COOL AND FROST ADVISORIES WERE ISSUED FOR SOME OF THE INTERIOR VALLEYS FROM THE 4TH THROUGH THE 6TH. A FEW DAILY LOW TEMPERATURES RECORDS WERE SET ON THE MORNING OF THE 6TH. TEMPERATURES GENERALLY REMAINED BELOW NORMAL DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE MONTH...EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF WARM-UP ON THE 7TH AND 8TH. A DEEP UPPER TROUGH GRADUALLY MOVED THROUGH THE AREA FROM THE 10TH THROUGH THE 13TH. THIS TROUGH MAINTAINED COOL CONDITIONS ACROSS THE REGION AND ALSO GENERATED THE BULK OF APRIL'S RAINFALL. A STRONG COLD FRONT MOVED FROM NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST ACROSS THE AREA LATE ON THURSDAY APRIL 12. A LINE OF THUNDERSTORMS DEVELOPED ALONG THE COLD FRONT AS THE FRONT APPROACHED SAN FRANCISCO. SEVERAL SPECTACULAR PHOTOGRAPHS OF LIGHTNING WERE TAKEN NEAR SAN FRANCISCO THAT EVENING. THE LINE OF THUNDERSTORMS MOVED SLOWLY TO THE SOUTHEAST ACROSS THE REMAINDER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA LATE THAT EVENING...AND FINALLY INTO THE MONTEREY BAY AREA LATER THURSDAY NIGHT. OVER 700 GROUND-TO-CLOUD LIGHTNING STRIKES WERE DETECTED ACROSS THE REGION DURING THIS THUNDERSTORMS EVENT. SOME OF THE THUNDERSTORMS WERE QUITE STRONG AND DOPPLER RADAR DETECTED ROTATION WITHIN A FEW STORMS. A PARTICULARLY STRONG STORM MOVED ONSHORE ALONG THE NORTHERN SAN MATEO COUNTY COAST AROUND 8 PM THAT EVENING...PROMPTING THE ISSUANCE OF A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING. HAILSTONES AS LARGE AS THREE-QUARTERS OF AN INCH IN DIAMETER FELL IN PACIFICA AND THERE WERE SEVERAL OTHER REPORTS OF SMALL HAIL THAT EVENING. HEAVY RAIN WITH THE COLD FRONT PRODUCED RECORD DAILY RAINFALL FOR APRIL 12 AT SOME LOCATIONS. RAINFALL TOTALS FOR THE FOUR DAYS FROM TUESDAY APRIL 10 THROUGH FRIDAY APRIL 13 WERE IMPRESSIVE FOR MID-APRIL...WITH MOST OF THE REGION ACCUMULATING BETWEEN 1.5 AND 3.0 INCHES DURING THOSE FOUR DAYS.

THE SECOND HALF OF APRIL WAS WARMER AND DRIER THAN THE FIRST HALF. THE WARMEST TEMPERATURES OF THE MONTH OCCURRED ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY...APRIL 20TH AND 21ST...WHEN A STRONG RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE DEVELOPED ALONG THE WEST COAST. AFTERNOON HIGHS WERE IN THE 80S AND LOWER 90S ACROSS THE REGION ON THOSE TWO DAYS. ONLY ONE DAILY HIGH TEMPERATURE RECORD WAS TIED DURING THIS WARM SPELL. THE REASON MORE RECORDS WERE NOT SET IS THAT EVEN WARMER WEATHER OCCURRED DURING THE SAME TIME PERIOD JUST THREE YEARS EARLIER IN 2009.

COOLER-THAN-NORMAL WEATHER DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE MONTH WAS OFFSET BY WARMER-THAN-NORMAL WEATHER DURING THE SECOND HALF. THE END RESULT WAS THAT AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURES WERE NEAR NORMAL

IN MOST LOCATIONS.

ONE MORE PRECIPITATION EVENT OCCURRED NEAR THE END OF THE MONTH ON THE 25TH AND 26TH WHEN LIGHT TO MODERATE AMOUNTS OF RAIN FELL. RAIN TOTALS FOR THE MONTH WERE WELL ABOVE NORMAL IN MOST LOCATIONS...AND MORE THAN DOUBLE THE 30-YEAR AVERAGE AT SEVERAL CLIMATE STATIONS. ONLY A FEW CLIMATE STATIONS ENDED THE MONTH WITH NEAR NORMAL OR BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION. THESE DRIER LOCATIONS INCLUDED GILROY IN THE SOUTHERN SANTA CLARA VALLEY...AND A FEW STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY VALLEYS.

AS OF APRIL 30TH...SEASON-TO-DATE RAINFALL RANGED FROM A HIGH OF 80 PERCENT OF NORMAL IN SALINAS TO A LOW OF ONLY ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF NORMAL IN THE SOUTH BAY VALLEYS...AS WELL AS SOME EAST BAY VALLEY LOCATIONS. MOST OF THE REST OF THE REGION'S SEASON-TO-DATE RAIN TOTALS FELL INTO THE RANGE FROM TWO-THIRDS TO THREE-QUARTERS OF NORMAL.

...APRIL REGIONAL TEMPERATURE SUMMARY...

LOCATION	AVG HIGH	NORMAL HIGH	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	AVG LOW	NORMAL LOW	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
NORTH BAY...						
KENTFIELD	67.2	68.4	-1.2	46.7	46.0	0.7
NAPA	72.1	71.2	0.9	46.4	45.2	1.2
NAPA AIRPORT	68.0	68.1	-0.1	44.7	41.5	3.2
OCCIDENTAL	65.2	66.1	-0.9	45.6	45.4	0.2
PETALUMA	67.7	68.7	-1.0	44.9	43.8	1.1
SAINT HELENA	71.3	72.0	-0.7	46.4	45.0	1.4
SAN RAFAEL	68.0	66.5	1.5	47.9	47.3	0.6
SANTA ROSA	68.8	70.4	-1.6	44.6	44.8	-0.2
SONOMA COUNTY AP	69.0	68.8	0.2	44.4	42.4	2.0
SONOMA	67.6	69.6	-2.0	46.7	43.3	3.4
SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...						
HALF MOON BAY	61.7	60.5	1.2	45.5	43.3	2.2
PALO ALTO	68.8	69.7	-0.9	45.3	44.7	0.6
REDWOOD CITY	69.6	69.0	0.6	47.7	46.3	1.4
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	64.0	64.7	-0.7	49.8	49.1	0.7
SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN	62.6	63.1	-0.5	49.7	49.2	0.5
EAST BAY...						
CONCORD	72.2	71.5	0.7	49.1	48.9	0.2
CONCORD AIRPORT	69.9	69.8	0.1	47.8	47.4	0.4
FREMONT	68.0	69.0	-1.0	48.0	48.5	-0.5

HAYWARD AIRPORT	65.9	66.1	-0.2	49.1	49.3	-0.2
LIVERMORE	72.2	70.7	1.5	46.2	46.0	0.2
LIVERMORE AP	70.4	68.6	1.8	46.3	44.7	1.6
MARTINEZ	70.7	71.9	-1.2	M	42.7	M
MOUNT DIABLO						
JUNCTION	61.6	64.4	-2.8	44.5	43.7	0.8
OAKLAND	66.5	66.3	0.2	50.1	50.0	0.1
OAKLAND AIRPORT	64.6	66.5	-1.9	48.3	48.3	0.0

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

GILROY	69.3	73.0	-3.7	43.8	45.1	-1.3
LOS GATOS	70.8	70.0	0.8	45.2	44.6	0.6
MOFFETT FIELD	68.4	68.7	-0.3	49.8	49.4	0.4
SAN JOSE	70.1	69.3	0.8	49.3	48.6	0.7
SANTA CRUZ	68.7	69.5	-0.8	45.0	46.0	-1.0
WATSONVILLE	63.1	67.6	-4.5	43.4	45.5	-2.1
WATSONVILLE AP	69.1	66.5	2.6	48.1	44.5	3.6

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

CARMEL VALLEY	69.2	69.4	-0.2	42.2	43.4	-1.2
HOLLISTER	68.7	70.3	-1.6	45.3	44.3	1.0
KING CITY	73.7	74.5	-0.8	44.7	43.5	1.2
MONTEREY AIRPORT	62.3	61.4	0.9	47.1	46.9	0.2
SALINAS	67.4	66.6	0.8	44.5	44.6	-0.1
SALINAS AIRPORT	68.1	67.1	1.0	47.4	46.3	1.1

...APRIL REGIONAL PRECIPITATION SUMMARY...

LOCATION	APR TOTAL	NORMAL APR PRECIP	PERCENT OF NORMAL
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NORTH BAY...

KENTFIELD	2.41	2.49	97
NAPA	2.48	1.59	156
NAPA AIRPORT	1.72	1.04	165
OCCIDENTAL	3.31	3.58	92
PETALUMA AIRPORT	1.56	1.63	96
SAINT HELENA	3.34	1.98	169
SANTA ROSA	2.43	1.82	134
SONOMA COUNTY AP	2.12	2.09	101
SONOMA	1.82	1.78	102

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	2.41	1.90	127
PACIFICA	3.34	2.02	165
PALO ALTO	1.99	0.98	203
REDWOOD CITY	3.12	1.16	269
SAN FRANCISCO			

AIRPORT	2.79	1.29	216
SAN FRANCISCO			
DOWNTOWN	2.64	1.46	181
WOODSIDE	3.74	1.85	202

EAST BAY...

CONCORD	2.59	1.12	231
CONCORD AIRPORT	2.41	1.12	215
FREMONT	2.13	1.16	184
HAYWARD AIRPORT	2.82	1.24	227
LIVERMORE	2.01	1.01	199
LIVERMORE AIRPORT	1.84	1.00	184
MARTINEZ	2.94	1.21	243
MOUNT DIABLO			
JUNCTION	4.41	1.63	271
OAKLAND	2.61	1.42	184
OAKLAND AIRPORT	2.98	1.34	222

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

BEN LOMOND	3.86	3.24	119
GILROY	1.02	1.25	82
LOS GATOS	2.16	1.40	154
MOFFETT FIELD	1.68	0.98	171
SAN JOSE	1.88	1.18	159
SANTA CRUZ	3.10	1.97	157
WATSONVILLE	3.13	1.69	185
WATSONVILLE AP	3.00	1.17	256

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

CARMEL VALLEY	2.49	1.38	180
HOLLISTER	2.94	0.97	303
KING CITY	2.01	0.78	258
MONTEREY AIRPORT	1.95	1.12	174
PINNACLES NATL MON	2.98	1.19	250
SALINAS	1.67	1.03	162
SALINAS AIRPORT	1.85	0.93	199

...DAILY TEMPERATURE RECORDS FOR APRIL 2012...

LOCATION		RECORD MAXIMUM TEMP	PREVIOUS RECORD
4/21	REDWOOD CITY	89	89 IN 1931

RECORD MINIMUM	PREVIOUS
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	LOCATION	TEMP	RECORD
4/06	SAN RAFAEL	38	39 IN 2010
4/06	OAKLAND AIRPORT	36	39 IN 1955
4/07	OAKLAND AIRPORT	38	38 IN 1948

...MONTHLY RANKS FOR DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO...

AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURE....62.6....53RD WARMEST OUT OF 136 YEARS
 AVERAGE LOW TEMPERATURE.....49.7....59TH WARMEST OUT OF 136 YEARS
 PRECIPITATION..... 2.64 IN....29TH WETTEST OUT OF 162 YEARS

...MONTHLY EXTREMES FOR SELECT LOCATIONS...

LOCATION	WARMEST DAY(S)	COOLEST DAY(S)	WETTEST DAY(S)
SANTA ROSA AIRPORT	4/21 89 DEG	4/06 33 DEG	4/12 0.94 IN
SAN FRANCISCO	4/21 79 DEG	4/05 4/06 43 DEG	4/12 1.24 IN
SAN JOSE	4/21 91 DEG	4/06 38 DEG	4/12 0.82 IN
SALINAS AIRPORT	4/21 88 DEG	4/06 36 DEG	4/13 0.61 IN

NOTE: THIS CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA IS PRELIMINARY. FOR OFFICIAL
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