MONTH IN REVIEW FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA FOR DECEMBER 2015

... DECEMBER TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW ...

December 2015 was drier than normal across most of northern Arizona. The exception was far east central and northeast Arizona where above normal amounts were reported. Average temperatures were cooler than normal for most areas. The first 10 days of December featured fair and mild weather. Starting on December 11th, a series of storm systems and cold fronts brought occasional snow and rain to the region through the end of the month.

DECEMBER DATA AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES:

	Max T		Min T				
	Avg	Dep	Avg	Dep	Precip	Dep	% Normal
Flagstaff	41.6	-0.9	14.2	-2.6	1.03"	-0.84"	55%
Winslow	49.4	+0.8	20.8	+0.2	0.35"	-0.21"	63%
Prescott AP	51.1	-0.1	23.7	-1.6	0.30"	-0.66"	31%
Prescott WTP	50.0	-1.5	21.8	-1.6	0.63"	-0.83"	43%
St Johns AP	48.2	-0.4	18.8	-0.9	0.67"	-0.21"	76%
Grand Canyon AP	44.0	+0.2	8.6	-3.9	MM		
Bellemont	42.5	-1.8	9.9	-3.3	0.99"	-0.74"	57%
Show Low AP	43.8	-3.1	23.9	+0.7	1.21"	-0.30"	80%
Page Airport	45.2	+1.5	28.5	-1.0	0.03"	-0.52"	5%
Cottonwood	59.1	+0.6	27.6	-2.0	0.07"	-1.09"	6%
Seligman	53.1	+0.2	19.5	-3.1	0.12"	-0.77"	13%
Window Rock Airport	44.7	+0.8	12.5	-1.6	0.91"	+0.12"	115%

Additional Precipitation Reports from our COOP Stations:

December Precipitation (inches) Location 0.45 Baqdad 0.99 Bellemont NWS 1.50 Blue Ridge Ranger Station Bright Angel Ranger Station 2.39 Canyon de Chelly 0.98 0.25 Castle Hot Springs 0.32 Chino Valley Flagstaff Airport 1.03

Grand Canyon Visitor Center	0.83
Heber	0.77
Jerome	0.43
McNary	2.22
Page	0.03
Payson	1.81
Phantom Ranch	0.76
Prescott Airport	0.30
Prescott City	0.63
Saint Johns	0.67
Seligman	0.12
Show Low Airport	1.21
Sunset Crater N.M.	0.73
Walnut Canyon N.M.	0.39
Williams	0.60
Window Rock	0.91
Winslow Airport	0.35
Wupatki	0.30

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER...

December 11th Strong Wind:

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*****PEAK WIND GUST****

...APACHE COUNTY...

PETRIFIED FOREST 63 143 PM 12/11

ST. JOHNS AIRPORT 62 115 PM 12/11

PAINTED DESERT AT I-40 55 156 PM 12/11

WINDOW ROCK AIRPORT 54 159 PM 12/11

LUPTON 50 306 PM 12/11

...COCONINO COUNTY...

FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT 39 1145 AM 12/11

...NAVAJO COUNTY...

WINSLOW AIRPORT 55 103 PM 12/11

MOGOLLON AIRPARK 49 915 AM 12/11
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December 11th - 12th Snow:

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...STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL REPORTS THROUGH 7 PM MST DECEMBER 12TH...
...APACHE COUNTY...
              8.6 500 PM 12/12
  2 N MCNARY
                    4.0 500 PM 12/12 ESTIMATED
  ST. JOHNS
...COCONINO COUNTY...
  FOREST LAKES 7.5 528 PM 12/12
  DONEY PARK 6.0 1230 PM 12/12 5-6"
  PARKS
                    5.5 1028 AM 12/12
                    4.5 500 PM 12/12 NWS OFFICE
  BELLEMONT
  FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT 4.0 500 PM 12/12 KFLG
             4.0 238 PM 12/12
  TIMBERLINE
...GILA COUNTY...
  TONTO VILLAGE 5.0 1040 AM 12/12
PAYSON 4.0 145 PM 12/12
                    4.0 145 PM 12/12 3-4"
  PAYSON
...NAVAJO COUNTY...
  3 SE PINETOP-LAKESID 13.1 630 PM 12/12
               10.0 500 PM 12/12
 PINETOP
                    8.0 707 PM 12/12 8-9"
  SHOW LOW
                5.0 500 PM 12/12 5000 FT
  FORT APACHE
  1 NNW WINSLOW 1.0 1120 AM 12/12
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December 14th – 15th Snowfall:

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...APACHE COUNTY...
           5.1 630 AM 12/15
 MCNARY
                 3.0 530 PM 12/14
 GANADO
 WINDOW ROCK
                 2.0 530 PM 12/14
                  T 500 PM 12/14
 CHINLE
...COCONINO COUNTY...
 BLUE RIDGE 12.0 800 AM 12/15
                12.0 500 AM 12/15
 FOREST LAKES
  JACOB LAKE
                 12.0 500 PM 12/14
 GR CANYON NORTH RIM 10.7 500 PM 12/14
  FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT 6.6 1100 PM 12/14
  KACHINA VILLAGE 5.4 1100 PM 12/14
            4.6 1100 PM 12/14
  BELLEMONT
 TIMBERLINE
                  4.5 545 PM 12/14
  SUNSET CRATER N.M. 6.0 900 AM 12/15
...GILA COUNTY...
 14 NE PAYSON 6.0 1210 PM 12/14
            4.8 930 PM 12/14
  PAYSON
...NAVAJO COUNTY...
 PINETOP-LAKESIDE 6.0 230 PM 12/14
  3 SE PINETOP-LAKESID 4.0 320 PM 12/14
  SHOW LOW
                  3.0 530 PM 12/14
 CIBECUE
                  2.5 530 PM 12/14
                  2.0 510 PM 12/14
 HOTEVILLA
  KEAMS CANYON 1.0 525 PM 12/14
...YAVAPAI COUNTY....
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PRESCOTT 3NW	3.0	1100 AM 12/14
PRESCOTT	1.9	0600 AM 12/15
CHINO VALLEY	1.5	1100 AM 12/14

Christmas Day Strong Winds (December 25th): A strong cold front moved into northern Arizona on the early morning hours of Christmas Day bringing strong southwest winds ahead of and along the front. Below are peak wind gusts reported. The cold front was followed by light snowfall accumulations across much of northern Arizona generally from Flagstaff north to the Utah border.

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...APACHE COUNTY...
  WINDOW ROCK
                           623 AM 12/25
                       48
                       46 124 AM 12/25
  CONCHO
  ST. JOHNS
                       44 526 AM 12/25
...COCONINO COUNTY...
  FLAGSTAFF
                       60
                          205 AM 12/25
  17 NNE GRAND CANYON
                       51 507 AM 12/25
                                        GR CANYON NORTH RIM
  16 ESE WINONA
                       48
                           554 AM 12/25
                                        TWO GUNS
  DONEY PARK
                       46
                           430 AM 12/25
  BELLEMONT
                       46
                           447 AM 12/25
  WILLIAMS
                       46 1155 PM 12/24
  GRAND CANYON AIRPORT
                       43 428 AM 12/25
...NAVAJO COUNTY...
  SHOW LOW
                       61 1135 AM 12/25
  HEBER-OVERGAARD
                       55 735 AM 12/25
                                        MOGOLLON AIRPARK
                       39 635 AM 12/25
  WINSLOW
...YAVAPAI COUNTY...
  PRESCOTT
                       37
                          115 AM 12/25
  SEDONA
                       35
                           735 AM 12/25
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December 26th Strong Wind: Following the Christmas Day cold front passage, strong northeast winds developed across portions of northern Arizona throughout the day of December 26th. The following is a peak wind report from Flagstaff Airport, but there were likely strong winds in other areas along and southwest of the Mogollon Rim.

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..TIME... ...EVENT... ...CITY LOCATION... ...LAT.LON...

1029 AM NON-TSTM WND GST FLAGSTAFF 35.19N 111.62W

12/26/2015 M63 MPH COCONINO AZ ASOS

MEASURED AT FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT.
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RECORD REPORTS:

December 12th Winslow Rainfall:

A RECORD RAINFALL OF 0.32 INCHES WAS SET AT WINSLOW AZ AIRPORT ON DECEMBER 12. THIS BREAKS THE OLD RECORD OF 0.31 SET IN 1943.

December 10th High Temperature Winslow:

A RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURE OF 73 DEGREES WAS SET AT WINSLOW AZ AIRPORT ON DECEMBER 10. THIS BREAKS THE OLD RECORD OF 69 SET IN 1929.

December 8th High Temperature Flagstaff:

A RECORD HIGH TEMPERATURE OF 63 DEGREES WAS SET AT FLAGSTAFF AZ AIRPORT DECEMBER 8. THIS BREAKS THE OLD RECORD OF 62 SET IN 1976.