

MONTH IN REVIEW FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA FOR MARCH 2014

...TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW...

The majority of the month of March was dominated by high pressure that brought warmer than normal temperatures to northern Arizona. Early March received some much needed precipitation as a Pacific storm system brought moisture into the region. By the middle to latter part of the month, spring winds returned as a series of mostly dry cool fronts impacted the state. Some of the stronger wind events caused significant blowing dust in northeastern Arizona. Additional light precipitation fell in some areas throughout the rest of the month, but the bulk of the monthly precipitation totals were from the early March storm.

MARCH DATA AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES:

	Max	Dep	Min	Dep	PCPN	Dep	%Normal
Flagstaff	55.1	4.7	25.3	1.7	1.24	-0.88	58%
Winslow	65.5	1.9	32.4	2.0	1.00	0.46	185%
Prescott AP	64.5	4.3	35.2	2.5	0.51	-0.56	48%
Prescott WTP	64.1	4.5	31.6	0.6	1.62	-0.07	96%
St Johns AP	62.9	1.2	30.4	2.1	0.64	-0.08	89%
Grand Canyon AP	56.9	3.9	19.0	-1.6	0.42	-1.22	26%
Bellefont	54.8	3.0	19.9	0.4	1.20	-0.44	73%
Show Low AP	58.9	1.1	31.5	0.8	1.71	0.61	155%
Cottonwood	73.2	4.0	39.7	2.1	0.72	-0.36	67%
Seligman	66.8	4.1	30.5	1.7	0.41	-0.67	38%
Page Airport	64.8	4.0	41.5	1.8	0.26	-0.42	38%
Window Rock AP	58.9	3.4	22.9	0.0	0.65	-0.24	73%

Here are some additional monthly precipitation totals from our Co-operative weather observers.

LOCATION MARCH PRECIPITATION

ALPINE R.S.	:	1.04
BAGDAD	:	0.64
BELLEMONT WFO	:	1.20
BETATAKIN	:	0.33
BRIGHT ANGEL R.S.	:	0.96

CAMP VERDE 3N	:	0.87
CANYON DE CHELLY	:	1.14
CASTLE HOT SPRINGS	:	1.65
CHINO VALLEY	:	0.46
FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT (ASOS)	:	1.24
FREDONIA 7SSE	:	0.17
GISELA	:	2.14
GRAND CANYON AIRPORT (ASOS)	:	0.42
GRAND CANYON EAST ENTRANCE	:	0.42
GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER	:	0.62
HEBER (BLACK MESA) R.S.	:	2.10
JEROME	:	0.50
KEAMS CANYON	:	0.07
LEES FERRY	:	0.13
MCNARY 2 N	:	2.04
METEOR CRATER	:	0.96
NATURAL BRIDGE	:	2.04
OAK CREEK	:	3.26
PAGE (ASOS)	:	0.26
PAINTED DESERT N.P.	:	1.26
PAYSON	:	1.75
PETRIFIED FOREST N.P.	:	1.30
PHANTOM RANCH	:	0.28
PINETOP 2E	:	2.19
PRESCOTT AIRPORT (ASOS)	:	0.51
PRESCOTT CITY	:	1.62
SAINT JOHNS (ASOS)	:	0.64
SAINT MICHAELS	:	0.70
SELIGMAN	:	0.41
SHOW LOW AIRPORT	:	1.71
SNOWFLAKE	:	1.79
SPRINGERVILLE	:	0.73
SUNRISE MOUNTAIN	:	1.29
SUNSET CRATER N. M.	:	0.82
TUZIGOOT N.M.	:	0.82
WALNUT CANYON N. M.	:	1.70
WALNUT GROVE	:	1.31
WHITERIVER 1 SW	:	1.57
WILLIAMS	:	1.12
WILLLIAMS 35NNW	:	0.27
WINDOW ROCK (ASOS)	:	0.65
WINSLOW AIRPORT (ASOS)	:	1.00
WUPATKI	:	0.31

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER...

February 27th – March 2nd Rain & Snow:

...WET STORM BRINGS MUCH NEEDED PRECIPITATION TO NORTHERN AZ...

A VERY WET YET RELATIVELY WARM PACIFIC STORM SYSTEM BROUGHT SIGNIFICANT RAINFALL TO MUCH OF NORTHERN ARIZONA...FOLLOWED BY LIGHT

TO MODERATE SNOWFALL AMOUNTS OVER THE HIGHEST ELEVATIONS. BELOW ARE
TOTAL PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS FROM THE PERIOD FEB 27 - MAR 2.

*****STORM TOTAL RAINFALL (RAIN/MELTED SNOW)*****

YOUNG (20 S)	3.66	IRON SPRINGS	1.27
MUNDS PARK (4S)	3.39	PAINTED DESERT	1.26
OAK CREEK CANYON	3.25	CONCHO	1.13
RED LAKE (10 NE YOUNG)	3.12	FRAZIER WELLS	1.05
HAPPY JACK RANGER STN	3.04	WINSLOW	0.99
CROWN KING	2.85	GRAND CANYON N RIM	0.96
MORMON LAKE	2.80	KYKOTSMOVI	0.81
MT. UNION	2.64	SUNSET CRATER	0.79
PINE	2.51	SKULL VALLEY	0.74
BLUE RIDGE RANGER STN	2.43	LYMAN LAKE	0.66
PINETOP (2E)	2.18	BAGDAD	0.64
HEBER	1.95	PRESCOTT AIRPORT	0.63
BLACK CANYON CITY (5 SW)	1.94	ASH FORK	0.62
MCNARY (2N)	1.89	GRAND CANYON VIS CTR	0.62
TONTO NATURAL BRIDGE	1.82	SAINT JOHNS AIRPORT	0.58
WET BEAVER CREEK	1.76	WINDOW ROCK AIRPORT	0.54
PAYSON	1.72	GRAND CANYON AIRPORT	0.52
WALNUT CANYON NATL MON	1.70	WILLIAMS AIRPORT	0.51
CASTLE HOT SPRINGS	1.65	JEROME	0.50
SHOW LOW	1.64	GRAND CANYON E ENTRANCE	0.42
PRESCOTT (COOP STN)	1.62	BETATAKIN NAVAJO NM	0.36
LAKE SIDE	1.59	GRAND CANYON INDIAN GDN	0.34
SEDONA AIRPORT	1.54	WUPATKI NATL MON	0.31
FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT	1.44	PAGE AIRPORT	0.31
WHITERIVER	1.42	PHANTOM RANCH	0.30
SUNSET POINT	1.40	LEES FERRY	0.24
BELLEMONT	1.31	SELIGMAN	0.24

*****STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL*****

ARIZONA SNOWBOWL	20.0
SUNRISE SKI RESORT	19.0
FOREST LAKES (1E)	12.0
MORMON LAKE	4.0
MCNARY (2N)	2.3
HAPPY JACK	2.3
CLINTS WELL	2.0
PINETOP-LAKESIDE (3SE)	2.0
WILLIAMS (3SSE)	1.9
FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT	1.1
BELLEMONT	1.0
HEBER-OVERGAARD (2ESE)	1.0
KACHINA VILLAGE	0.8
HUTCHINSON ACRES (1N)	0.5
SHOW LOW AIRPORT	T
EAGAR (1SWW)	T

March 15th Wind & Blowing Dust:

STRONG WIND GUSTS OCCURRED ACROSS NORTHERN ARIZONA AS THE RESULT OF A DRY COLD FRONTAL PASSAGE. BLOWING DUST WAS REPORTED IN THE CHINLE VALLEY WITH VISIBILITIES AS LOW AS ONE QUARTER MILE.

Peak Wind Reports:

GRAND CANYON APT	32 MPH
FLAGSTAFF AIRPORT	37 MPH
WILLIAMS	40 MPH
PAGE APT	43 MPH
PRESCOTT APT	44 MPH
KYKOTSMOVI	44 MPH
SHOW LOW APT	45 MPH
WINSLOW APT	47 MPH
TUBA CITY	47 MPH
WINDOW ROCK APT	49 MPH
PETRIFIED FOREST NP	56 MPH
SAINT JOHNS APT	60 MPH

Dust Reports:

0115 PM	DUST STORM	16 ENE KAYENTA APACHE	36.81N 109.99W AZ NWS EMPLOYEE
		VSBY UNDER A QUARTER MILE	
0118 PM	DUST STORM	MANY FARMS APACHE	36.35N 109.62W AZ TRAINED SPOTTER
		VSBY UNDER A QUARTER MILE	
0120 PM	DUST STORM	CHINLE APACHE	36.15N 109.58W AZ PARK SERVICE
		VSBY UNDER A QUARTER MILE	

March 17th Wind:

A DRY COLD FRONT MOVING THROUGH NORTHERN AZ BROUGHT STRONG WEST TO SOUTHWEST WINDS TO MUCH OF NORTHERN ARIZONA.

PEAK WIND GUSTS MONDAY

GRAND CANYON APT	40 MPH
HAPPY JACK	40 MPH
WILLIAMS	40 MPH
PAGE APT	40 MPH
SHOW LOW APT	43 MPH
PETRIFIED FOREST NP	46 MPH
WINDOW ROCK APT	48 MPH

March 30th Strong Wind & Blowing Dust:

Peak Wind Reports:

LOCATION	PEAK WIND GUST (MPH)
KYKOTSMOVI	67
FLAGSTAFF	63
GRAND CANYON	60
PETRIFIED FOREST	59
WINDOW ROCK	59
NAVAJO NM	56
PARIA POINT	54
WINSLOW	54
SAINT JOHNS	53
WILLIAMS	53
SHOW LOW	52
PAGE	48
HEBER	48
PRESCOTT	47
COTTONWOOD	47
PAULDEN	46
SEDONA	44

Wind Damage:

0600 PM NON-TSTM WND DMG CANYON DE CHELLY 36.15N 109.54W
03/30/2014 APACHE AZ PARK SERVICE

SHINGLE DAMAGE ON ROOF AND SHED BLOWN OVER NEAR CANYON DE CHELLY.
ESTIMATED TIME BETWEEN 3-7 PM MDT.

Dust Reports:

1140 AM VISIBILITY DOWN TO 1 MILE IN BLOWING DUST (TUBA CITY PD).

1250 PM VISIBILITY INTERMITTENTLY DOWN TO ZERO BETWEEN MARBLE CANYON AND
CLIFF DWELLERS.

1259 PM VISIBILITY DOWN TO 0.5 MILE IN KAYENTA.

325 PM DUST STORM CHINLE 36.15N 109.58W
APACHE AZ LAW ENFORCEMENT

500 FT VSBY FROM ROCK POINT TO CHINLE