

Narrative Summary – February 2015

February 2015 was much warmer than normal, averaging 45.3°F, 7.1° above normal (38.2°F). This makes February 2015 the warmest on record. The previous warmest February (1958) averaged 44.5°F. The coldest February (1956) averaged 25.6°F. The following daily temperature records were established during February 2015:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
6	High Maximum	62	61	1967
7	High Minimum	46	41	1955
8	High Minimum	45	45	1945 (Tied)
9	High Minimum	43	39	1961+
10	High Maximum	65	65	1977 (Tied)
11	High Minimum	42	39	1993+
12	High Minimum	40	40	1977 (Tied)
14	High Maximum	63	62	1997+

+ denotes most recent of multiple occurrence

Precipitation for February 2015 totaled 0.42 inches, 60% of normal (0.70 inch). The wettest February (1961) received 2.10 inches, and the driest (1988 and 1967) received only a trace amount. The snowfall recorded during the month was a trace, compared to a normal of 2.3 inches, and a maximum snowfall of 17.0 inches (1989). Snowfall for the 2014-2015 season, through February is 1.4 inches, compared to a normal of 14.8 inches.

The average wind speed for February 2015 was 7.2 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.3 mph above normal (6.9 mph). The windiest February on record (1999) averaged 11.1 mph, while the February with the lightest winds (1963) averaged 4.6 mph. The peak gust for February 2015 was 48 mph on February 7.

The 2014-2015 winter season (December 2014, January and February 2015) temperature was above normal (34.2), averaging 38.9°F, which makes this winter season the fifth warmest on record. The warmest winter (1966-67) averaged 40.6°F, while the coldest (1948-49) averaged 24.2°F. Winter season precipitation totaled 2.02 inches, 71% of normal (2.84 inches). The wettest winter (1996-97) received 5.45 inches, while the driest (1946-47) received 0.70 inches.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet.

Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/hms>

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Note: The data in this summary pertains specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.