

Narrative Summary – January 2018

The average temperature for January 2018 was much warmer than normal at 37.7°F, which was 4.3° above normal (33.4°F). Only four days (Jan 1st – Jan 4th) were below normal, and as of Jan 31st we have had a streak of 27 straight days at or above normal.

The following daily temperature record was established:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
18	High Minimum	39	38	1989

Precipitation for January 2018 totaled 1.10 inches, 117% of normal (0.94 inches). The wettest January (1970) received 2.47 inches, and the driest (1977) received 0.08 inch. Snowfall for January 2018 totaled only a trace, compared to a January monthly normal of 4.6 inches, and a record maximum snowfall of 23.4 inches (1950). This is only the 5th time (since 1947) that we have had a January with only a trace of snow or less. Snowfall for the 2017-2018 season through January is 6.1 inches, compared to a normal of 12.5 inches.

The average wind speed for January 2018 was 6.4 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.1 mph below normal (6.3 mph). The windiest January on record (1972) averaged 10.3 mph, while the January with the lightest winds (1985) averaged 2.9 mph. The peak gust for January 2018 was from the SW at 40 mph on January 29th. The record wind gust for January was 80 mph in 1972.

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

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

Or contact:

HMS staff at 373-2716 or email: hms@rl.gov

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.