

Spring 2007 Northeast Montana Weather Summary

March was warmer and a little wetter than normal. Carlyle 13NW had the most precipitation with 1.73 inches, followed by 1.48 at Homestead 5SE, and 1.33 inches at Wibaux 2E. A number of locations were drier than normal though, the driest being only .02 inches for the month at Hinsdale 21SW, .09 at Glasgow, and .10 at Nashua.

Temperatures typically fluctuated quite a bit through the month. March started cold the first few days, with most highs below freezing, and numerous locations having lows below zero. Most of the colder readings were on the 3rd, led by 14 below at Opheim 10N, and 12 below at Opheim 12SE and Scobey 4NW. Many locations had several days that reached the 70s, very unusual for March. The most unusual weather though was the record warmth that occurred on the 12th, when at least 11 stations reached the upper 70s. These were the warmest ever observed so early in the season. Similar temperatures occurred later in the month, when virtually all places reached the 70s at least one day between the 20th and 26th. Savage and Glendive hit 80, while Terry and Malta 35S hit 79 for highs. Then it turned colder, with highs in the 30s common the last 2 or 3 days of the month, and a few places only having highs in the 20s.

Snowfall was mostly early in the month. Brusett and Carlyle totaled 11.0 inches for the month, while Brockton 20S and Homestead 5E had 8.8 inches. Flatwillow started the month with 14 inches of snow on the ground, all of that leftover from a heavy snowstorm late in February. It all melted away by the 10th of March.

April was wetter than normal with near normal temperatures. Most locations had over an inch of precipitation for the month, and 7 sites had over 2 inches. Brusett had a monthly total of 3.14 inches, while Hinsdale 4SW had 2.76 inches, and Harb had 2.39 inches. There were just a few very dry spots. The Raymond Border station came in with .04, and Brockton 17N with only .05 inches. The Brusett rainfall included 2.20 inches that fell within 24 hours on the 19th.

The month started cold, with many observation sites reporting at least a day or two of below freezing highs. Several lows in the single digits were reported. The coldest readings were on the 6th or 7th, led by 2 at Opheim 12SE, 3 at Redstone, and 4 at Opheim 10N. The coldest high temperature was 24 at Carlyle on the 5th. After a cold first 12 days of the month, spring suddenly returned with much warmer temperatures, highs mainly in the 60s and 70s for the rest of the month. More than a dozen locations reached the lower 80s late in the month, led by 85 at Savage, and 84 in Glendive and Sidney on the 29th. Culbertson, Flatwillow, Mildred 5N, and Nashua also hit the 80s.

The most snowfall was 11.8 inches at Carlyle, 10.0 inches at Savage and Wibaux 2E, and 9.0 inches at Bloomfield.

May featured unusually wet weather, the wettest May ever observed in some cases. Temperatures were a little above normal. Most places had at least double the normal rainfall for the month, while several locations had 4 times the normal. Hinsdale 4SW took

top honors winning the gold medal, with an amazing 9.58 inches. Brusett took the silver medal with 7.56 inches, while coming in third place for the bronze medal was 7.40 inches at Content. Carlyle was 4th, having 7.19 inches. Even the driest spots were wetter than normal. Port of Morgan had 2.00 inches, Dodson 2WNW 2.55, and Whitewater 3.17 inches. Six stations even had more than 2.00 inches of rain fall on a single day, the most being 2.92 inches at Zortman on the 23rd.

Temperatures followed two very different phases. The first 18 days of May were warmer than normal, while the last 13 days were distinctly cooler than normal. Most places hit the 80s on the 17th or 19th. Glasgow #2, Glendive, Savage, and Malta 35S all reached 90; while Fort Peck, Culbertson, and Nashua all had 89 for the warmest readings of the month. Highs in the 50s occurred frequently after the 18th, and a number of stations reported a day or two with highs only in the 40s. Zortman had a high of just 41 on the 23rd, while Bloomfield and Opheim 12SE had highs of 42. Most of the colder low temperatures occurred the last few days of the month, where several stations fell below freezing, led by 28 for a low on the 28th at Opheim 10N. On the other hand, about half of all locations did not have any temperatures below freezing at all in the month.

Most unusual for May was the fact that there was no measurable snow reported at any location in Northeast Montana.