

Narrative Summary – February 2009

February 2009 was cooler than normal, averaging 35.0°F, 2.9° below normal (37.9°F). The warmest February (1958) averaged 44.5°F, while the coldest (1956) averaged 25.6°F. No daily temperature records were established during February 2009.

Precipitation for February 2009 totaled 0.64 inches, 94% of normal (0.68 inch). The wettest February (1961) received 2.10 inches, and the driest (1988 and earlier years) received only a trace amount. The snowfall recorded during the month was 0.7 inches, compared to a normal of 2.6 inches, and a maximum snowfall of 17.0 inches (1989). Snowfall for the 2008-2009 snowfall season through February is 18.7 inches, compared to a normal of 15.0 inches.

The average wind speed for February 2009 was 6.7 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.3 mph below normal (7.0 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 2009 was 43 mph on February 25th. The record wind gust for February was 65 mph in 1999 and earlier years.

The 2008-2009 winter season (December 2008, January and February 2009) was cooler than normal, averaging 30.2°F, 3.6° below normal (33.8°F). The warmest winter (1966-67) averaged 40.6°F, while the coldest (1948-49) averaged 24.2°F. Winter season precipitation totaled 2.74 inches, 103% of normal (2.66 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://hms.pnl.gov/>

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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.