

Narrative Summary – April 2011

April 2011 was much cooler than normal, averaging 48.4°F, 5.0° below normal (53.4°F). This makes April 2011 the fourth coldest on record. The warmest April (1994) averaged 58.2°F, while the coldest (1955) averaged 47.5°F. The following daily temperature record was established:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
12	Low Minimum	26	26	1997 (and others)
15	Low Maximum	48	54	2006

Precipitation for April 2011 totaled 0.25 inches, 45% of normal (0.55 inch). The wettest April (2003) received 2.23 inches, while the driest (1999 and earlier years) received only a trace. Total precipitation for 2011 (through April) is 1.68 inches, 61% of normal (2.76 inches).

The average wind speed for April 2011 was 10.2 miles per hour (mph), 1.7 miles per hour above normal (8.5 mph). The windiest April (1959 and 1972) averaged 11.1 mph, while the April with the lightest winds (2004) averaged 7.2 mph. The peak gust for April 2011 was 48 mph on April 21. The record wind gust for April was 73 mph in 1972.

This will be the last climatological summary for HMS produced by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Meteorological and Climatological Services will now be managed by Mission Support Alliance (MSA).

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet. Address: <http://hms.pnl.gov/> This website will re-direct you to the new address after May 8.

Ken Burk 373-3215
HMS Staff 373-2716

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.