MONTH IN REVIEW FOR NORTHERN ARIZONA FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

...TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OVERVIEW...

A very favorable monsoon flow persisted for the first half of September, bringing substantial rainfall to northern and central Arizona. Deep subtropical moisture brought widespread heavy rainfall and some flooding from the 8th through the 11th. The monsoon pattern ended abruptly by mid-month as drier westerly flow developed. A couple of low pressure systems and associated cold fronts crossed the region late in the month, bringing brief periods of windy weather, along with a few showers and thunderstorms. The first freezing temperatures were observed over the higher terrain on the 23rd as fall arrived. Overall, September was wetter than normal for most areas. High temperatures were below normal, and low temperatures were generally above normal, typical of a moist air mass with abundant cloud cover.

SEPTEMBER DATA AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR SELECTED CITIES:

	Max Temp	Dep Norm	Min Temp	Dep Norm	Precip TOTAL	Dep Norm	% Norm
Flagstaff	71.4	-1.5	42.7	+0.7	3.25	+0.87	137%
Winslow	83.7	-1.5	54.0	+1.7	0.93	+0.05	106%
Prescott AP	80.0	-1.9	53.3	0.0	2.48	+0.97	164%
Prescott WTP	80.0	-1.4	51.4	+0.1	0.85	-1.10	44%
St Johns AP	80.6	-2.3	50.1	-1.8	1.72	+0.23	115%
Grand Canyon AP	73.5	-2.4	42.1	+3.3	2.20	+0.62	139%
Bellemont	71.4	-1.4	39.4	+1.8	2.50	+1.04	171%
Show Low AP	75.9	-2.7	52.2	+1.1	1.50	-0.09	94%
Seligman	81.0	-3.5	49.5	+1.3	1.06	-0.31	77%
Page Airport	84.4	+0.8	62.1	+2.0	1.48	+0.65	178%
Window Rock AP	76.5	-0.4	43.6	+1.6	3.17	+1.76	224%

Here are some additional monthly precipitation totals from our Co-operative weather observers.

LOCATION	SEPTEMBER PRECIP
BAGDAD	0.98
BELLEMONT WFO	2.50
BLUE RIDGE R.S.	2.43
BRIGHT ANGEL R.S.	2.46
CANYON DE CHELLY	1.25

CASTLE HOT SPRINGS	2.20
CHINO VALLEY	1.62
CORDES	2.12
FLAGSTAFF 4SW	3.32
FREDONIA 7SSE	0.95
GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER	
HEBER (BLACK MESA) R.S.	2.56
JEROME	3.04
LEES FERRY	1.09
MCNARY 2 N	2.41
NATURAL BRIDGE	1.74
OAK CREEK	5.56
PAINTED DESERT N.P.	1.10
PAYSON	2.57
PETRIFIED FOREST N.P.	0.67
PHANTOM RANCH	2.47
PINETOP 2E	2.13
PRESCOTT CITY	0.85
SAINT MICHAELS	2.32
SELIGMAN	1.06
SHOW LOW AIRPORT	1.50
SNOWFLAKE	1.70
SPRINGERVILLE	2.65
SUNRISE MOUNTAIN	5.06
SUNSET CRATER N. M.	2.76
WALNUT CANYON N. M.	4.20
WHITERIVER 1 SW	2.99
WILLIAMS	0.93
WUPATKI	4.10

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER...

Sep. 2nd:

Heavy rain caused forest road 514 to be washed out just west of highway 89 around 15 miles north of Flagstaff.

Sep. 3rd:

Strong thunderstorms affected the Prescott area during the afternoon. Two inches of rain was reported in 30 minutes, resulting in flooding. Cars were washed away on Williamson Valley Road just north of Prescott. Occupants had to be rescued from the cars.

Sep. 7th:

Heavy rains affected the South Rim of the Grand Canyon during the afternoon. The basement of the park headquarters was flooded. Flooding and trail damage was also reported on Garden Creek at Indian Gardens.

Sep. 8th:

Heavy rain caused street flooding in Flagstaff around Noon. Water and mud covered portions of South Milton Road.

Havasu creek at Supai flooded during the late afternoon. Trails were flooded and washed out, one bridge was overtopped and portions of the village were flooded.

Sep. 9th:

Low water crossings were flooded in the Payson area during the mid-afternoon.

Several businesses were flooded in Chinle during the late evening. Flooding was reported at the intersection of US 191 and Hospital Drive.

Sep 10th:

Heavy rainfall affected much of northern Arizona. Flash flooding was reported during the morning in the town of Yarnell. Water was running over the road near the junction of Willow and Stahl.

An earthen dam broke around Noon, flooding residences and mobile homes by 2 PM near the US 191 at milepost 467 around 5 miles north of Many Farms

Flooding of several residences was also reported 2 miles northeast of Dennehotso. Water covered the road on US 160 at milepost 408, and US 163 at milepost 400.

Sep 13th: Heavy rain flooded several area roadways and a few residences in East Fork. Another residence flooded in Sevenmile.

Sep 14th: Two photos of a funnel cloud were received. The funnel was associated with a thunderstorm about 6 miles east of Mormon Lake around noon MST.

One inch hail was reported 3 miles east of Whiteriver around 7:45 PM MST.

Sep 25^{th -} 26th Strong Winds:

A deep low pressure system and associated cold front brought two days of strong winds to northern Arizona. Here are the peak wind gusts reported on Sep. 25th & 26th.

Peak Wind Gusts Sep 25th:

AUTOMATED AIRPORT LOCATIONS

FLAGSTAFF	46 MPH
GRAND CANYON	45 MPH
WINDOW ROCK	43 MPH

WINSLOW41 MPH

OTHER LOCATIONS

HOUSEROCK51 MPH
DONEY PARK49 MPH
LEUPP46 MPH
WILLIAMS44 MPH

Peak Wind Gusts Sep 26th:

AUTOMATED AIRPORT LOCATIONS

FLAGSTAFF	64 MPH
GRAND CANYON	55 MPH
SHOW LOW	52 MPH
WINSLOW	51 MPH
WILLIAMS	48 MPH
PRESCOTT	49 MPH
SEDONA	45 MPH
SAINT JOHNS	41 MPH
WINDOW ROCK	41 MPH
PAGE	40 MPH

OTHER LOCATIONS

DONEY PARK56	5 MPH
HOPI RAWS (KYKOTSMOVI)46	MPH 5
FRAZIER WELLS4	2 MPH

Sep 28th – 29th Record Lows:

Very cold overnight lows occurred behind the cold frontal passage late in the month.

Record Lows Sep 28th:

CITY (PERIOD OF RECORD)	NEW LOW	PREVIOUS REC	ORD/	YEAR
COTTONWOOD-TUZIGOOT (1977 - 2013)	43	43 (TIED)	IN	1982
GRAND CANYON NP N RIM (1925 - 2013)	23	26	IN	1974
NAVAJO NM (1939 - 2013)	33	34	IN	1982
PAYSON (1948 - 2013)	35	36	IN	1982
PETRIFIED FOREST (1931 - 2013)	29	35	IN	1985
PRESCOTT AIRPORT (1948 - 2013)	35	38	IN	1996
SPRINGERVILLE (1911 - 2013)	20	23	IN	1996

Record Lows Sep 29th:

CITY (PERIOD OF RECORD)	NEW LOW	PREVIOUS	RECORD/YEAR
BAGDAD (1929 - 2013)	42	47	IN 1965
PETRIFIED FOREST (1931 - 2013)	33	34	IN 1934