



NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

Quarterly Summary
October * November * December
Volume 26, Number 1

October-December 2009 CONDITIONS

By Jeff Thompson

Western Nevada

October 2009 started off with a cold little system diving in on the 3rd and 4th to deliver Sierra snow showers and a shot of Tahoe and Pyramid lake effect snow to areas downwind of the lakes. While most areas saw limited precipitation, Gardnerville accumulated as much as 6.5" along with amounts of 2-4" around Stateline and Highway 50. While this was significant for those spots, most areas saw an October that was highlighted by the powerful early storm system that hit the state hard in the middle of the month. An unusually potent subtropical jet stream carried a deep moisture tap from the tropical Central and Western Pacific, including the remnants of a Western Pacific typhoon, right into the Sierra and Western Nevada. Reno accumulated 1.45" of heavy rainfall on the 14th, just 0.01" shy of the record. Minden reported 1.68" of rain, Carson City had 1.60", and spots around the Tahoe Basin measured amounts as heavy as 2 to 4" of liquid in a 24-hour period. Wind gusts were also extreme, with reports of 75 mph in Washoe Valley, 71 mph at Reno-Tahoe International Airport, and poor visibility due to blowing dust/debris from Lovelock to Fallon to Fernley along Highway 95 and 95-Alternate. Following this unusual event, the latter half of the month settled down, as only one colder system dropped in on the 26th and 27th to deliver a trace of snow to the Truckee Meadows. This cold shot was short lived, as valley temperatures recovered to the 70s for highs by Halloween. For

Reno, October 2009 was the 8th wettest on record, totaling 1.50" of precipitation. Temperatures averaged around normal for the month, with an October high at Reno-Tahoe International Airport of 82 on the 17th and a low of 25 on the 29th.

November 2009 started on the warm and dry side, as the high pressure ridge that expanded over the area around Halloween controlled the weather through the first week or so of the eleventh month. November then took a stormier turn, with three systems that brought shots of cooler weather, gusty winds, and rain and snow. The first around the 12th, delivered mostly wind to the valleys, with a gust of 59 mph recorded near Gardnerville. Spots around the Sierra grabbed a quick 4 to 6 inches of snow above 6,500'. Fed by a powerful Pacific jet, the second system was stronger and generated damaging winds across Western Nevada, including a wind gust at Reno-Tahoe International of 71 mph and gusts up to 130 mph over the Sierra Crest. Damage across the region included downed trees, fence-lines, and power lines. A dust storm along I-80, east of Reno, dropped visibility to zero and caused a multi-vehicle accident. In the wake of the cold front, Reno's North Valleys saw 3" of snowfall, and 8-10" of snow fell in a 12-hour period at Mount Rose Ski Area. The final storm of the three came at the end of November, with another shot of cold air and low snow levels. Minden grabbed a quick 2", with amounts of 4-8" common in the Sierra. Even with three November systems,

precipitation amounts were modest for most areas. Reno only saw 0.24" of liquid accumulated in the rain gauge, a full 0.56" shy of average.

Temperatures were on a yoyo, bouncing up and down through the month. A high of 74 was recorded on the 4th, with a low of 21 on the 29th at Reno-Tahoe International. The mean temperature for November was 43.8, which turned out to be 2.8 degrees above normal.

December 2009 was a very cold and snowy month in Western Nevada, with several shots of snow and the coldest air that the region had seen in a decade. Mild conditions dominated the first week, but this would be atypical for the rest of the month. A sharp cold front slashed south from Western Canada and the Gulf of Alaska on the 7th, spreading accumulating snow into Western Nevada valleys and the Sierra, and ushering in a frigid arctic air mass. At Reno-Tahoe International Airport, the mercury dropped to -4 on the 8th and -6 on the 9th. In that two-day period, other notable lows were -21 in Cold Springs, -13 in South Lake Tahoe, -13 in Lovelock, -14 in Spanish Springs, -9 in Fallon, -13 in Yerington, and -5 in Carson City. This system, and one following on the 11th-13th, also dumped plenty of snow that didn't go anywhere and caused travel issues through the end of the busy holiday travel month. Reno had 9" of snow on the 6th and 7th and then another 5.4" the following week with the second system dropping down from the north. Other snowfall amounts on the 7th included 18.5" in Carson City, 11" in Virginia City, 17" in Glenbrook, 6" in Spanish Springs, and 10" in South Reno. By the 13th, areas like Fernley reported 6.5", Minden piled up 11", Caughlin Ranch in Reno added 7", and Incline Village added another 19.5" to its monthly total. All of this cold and snowy weather made its mark in Reno. In the wake of these systems, deep inversions developed in valley locations, with areas of dense freezing fog and air quality issues. December 2009, with an average temperature of 26.9 degrees, turned out to be the 6th coldest December on record in "The Biggest Little City in the World." With a liquid precipitation total of 1.79", it fell into the top 25% of Decembers for moisture, and the 15.6" of snow on the ground added up to the 5th snowiest December on the books, dating all the way back to 1899. Western Nevada also had plenty of snow on the ground for a "white Christmas," the second in a row for many

areas after the Christmas snowfall that had piled up to 1 to 3 inches on valley floors back in 2008.



Eastern Nevada

October 2009 was wetter and colder the farther east you traveled across the Silver State. The month went into the books as the 17th coldest and 14th snowiest on record in Elko, and the 3rd coldest, 14th wettest, and 16th snowiest on record in Ely. Unseasonably cool air spilled into the Great Basin to start the month with the same cold trough that had generated lake effect snow showers off of Lake Tahoe and Pyramid Lake to the west. Snow showers popped around Central and Eastern Nevada, and record lows were broken or tied for several locations. Ely, Eureka, and Winnemucca, all fell into the teens for the first time since early spring, and Ely posted a record snowfall of 2.3" on October 4th. The pattern flow then switched from northerly to westerly. Milder Pacific air warmed the region from numbers 10 to 15 degrees below average in the first week, to around 10 degrees above by the third. This milder pattern again gave way to chillier weather by the end of the month, as another cold system out of the north toppled records and produced accumulating snow on the 27th. This up-and-down trend for the tenth month turned out to be more down than up for most of the area. Elko's average temperature for the month was 43.6 degrees, which fell 3.1 short of the climatological normal. Ely only averaged 40.2, which fell 5.2 degrees below the typical October mark. Moisture was above average around White Pine County, but otherwise fell below average for most of the region. Elko and Ely did get a considerable amount of their October moisture in frozen form, amounting to 1.7"

and 5.5" of snow respectively. Winnemucca had a quieter October than points to the east, with below average moisture and only a trace of snowfall. Humboldt County did see a wind gust of 39 mph in Winnemucca on the 26th, with the arrival of the sharp cold front that dropped the high from 69 to 43 in just 24 hours. Winnemucca dropped to a new record low of 20 degrees on the 1st, and tied a record low of 18 on the 7th. These numbers factored into an average of 45.5 for October, which was a cooler-than-average month for Winnemucca by 3.3 degrees.



October Sandstorm (Humboldt Co.)

November 2009 was a big about-face for most of Central and Eastern Nevada after the exciting October. In fact, you could say that it ended up almost opposite in many ways. Just as October was wetter and colder the farther east you traveled, November was warmer and drier for the same areas. Systems that impacted Western Nevada just couldn't get traction against a stubborn ridge of high pressure in areas east of about highway 305. Elko only saw 0.01" of moisture, Ely and Tonopah had a trace, and Eureka was bone dry. Temperatures were also just above average for these areas. Winnemucca was the exception. Humboldt County benefitted some from the systems impacting Western Nevada, grabbing some moisture and plenty of wind. Winnemucca totaled 0.41" of moisture and averaged a below-average 36.3 degrees for November. While this precipitation, including half an inch of snow, was considerably better than areas to the east and south, it still added up to only a little more than half of average. Powerful Pacific jet winds did stir up dust, sand, and poor visibilities on November 20th and 22nd,

when gusts were clocked out of the WSW at 48 and 40 mph respectively.

December 2009 was cold in Eastern Nevada! Consider these numbers. Elko averaged only 16 degrees for the entire month. Winnemucca averaged only 22.6 degrees. Those numbers made this December the 7th coldest on record in both spots. Ely's 16.3-degree average was even more groundbreaking. This number became the all time coldest average for December on record. Areas in the middle of the state were also shivering. Eureka saw an average monthly temperature of only 17.7, and Tonopah didn't do much better at 26.3 degrees. December 2009 in Eastern Nevada was also white! Ely piled up 23.3" of snow, more December snow than had ever before been observed officially. Elko accumulated 20.4" and Winnemucca added up 9.3". The cold settled in following an arctic blast that cut through the state the first week of the month. This frigid air mass then settled into the Great Basin, fostering areas of valley freezing fog between the four main shots of snow with areas of low pressure dropping through the state. A healthy snowpack was on the ground for the 25th for most areas, giving travel headaches, but a White Christmas to residents and visitors. It was a December to remember!

Southern Nevada

October 2009 was a dry and cooler than average month in Southern Nevada. McCarran International Airport only registered a trace of precipitation for the month, and averaged a 1.7 degree cooler-than-average 67 degrees for the 31-day period. Monthly mean highs were slightly below average, while lows came in right at the 56.5 average. Storm systems that rocked the rest of the state with early season rain and snow, only proved to be wind machines in Clark County. Wind gusts of 43, 44, 39, 52, and 45 mph, swept through the Las Vegas Valley on October 4th, 19th, 20th, 27th, and 28th respectively. These events brought areas of blowing dust and debris, along with associated reduced visibility. Each wind event ushered in a temperature drop, with a 13-degree drop in the high between the 3rd and 4th, and even a larger fall late in the month. Residents really felt the change of seasons between the 24th, when the high reached 84 degrees, and the 28th, when the mercury only made it to 58. In addition, the deep, cold low that fired up the wind

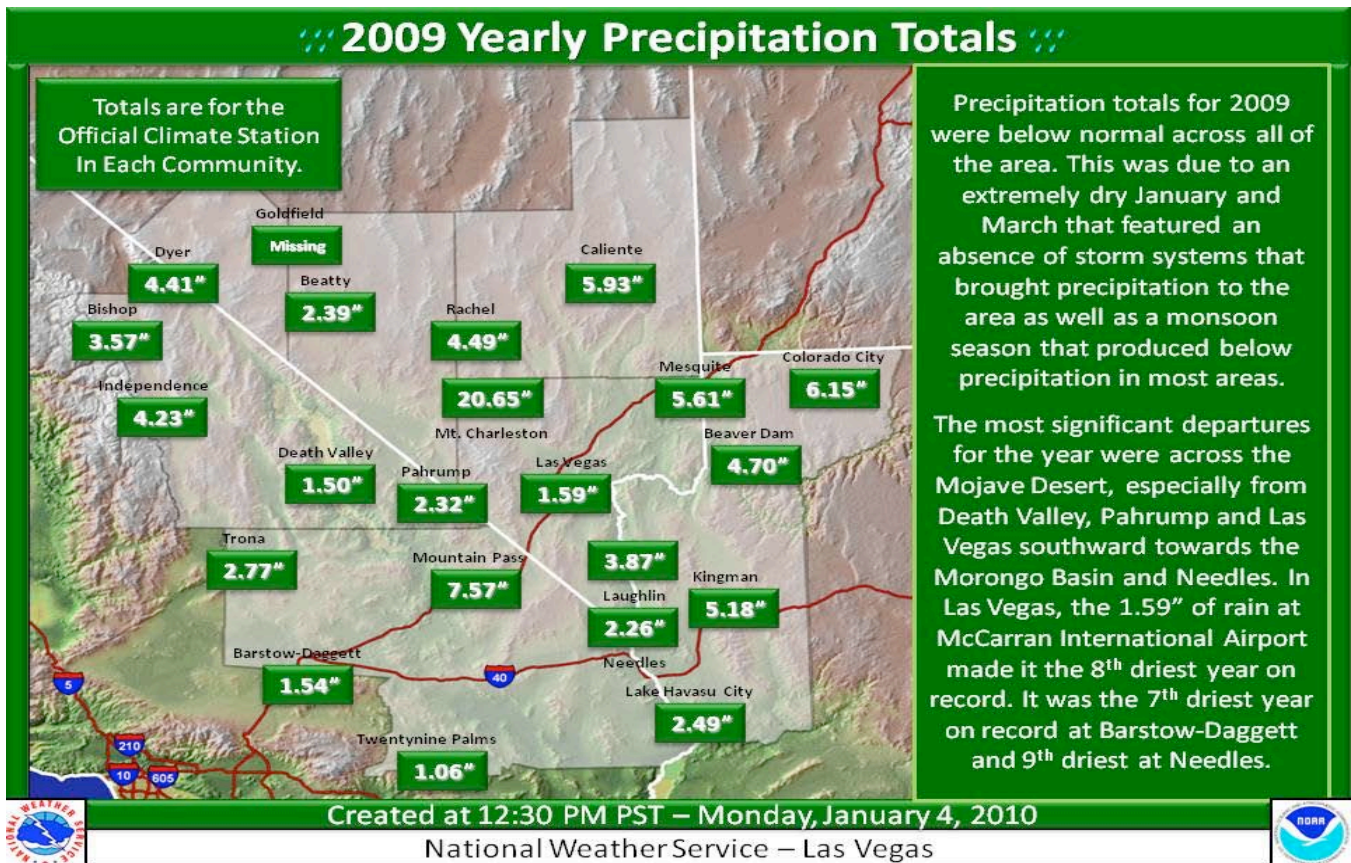
event on the 4th came with a dramatic air pressure drop. A new record low sea level pressure of 29.33” was set for Las Vegas for the month of October. This replaced the old mark of 29.35” set on October 14, 1994.

November 2009 was less windy in Southern Nevada than October, and a late-month system did provide measurable precipitation, something that had not been seen in Las Vegas since August 22nd. After only a trace was measured on the 12th and 13th with a storm that delivered measurable rain and snow to the rest of the state, 0.02” of rain fell on the 28th, accounting for the monthly total for Las Vegas. Peak monthly wind gusts around 36 mph were also recorded with these two events.

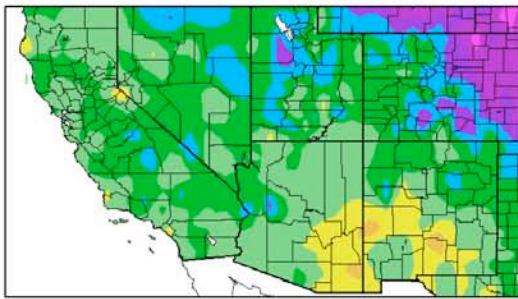
Temperatures ran above average for November. The high temperature at McCarran International for the month was 83 on the 5th, and the low came on the 16th, when the temperature slid to 39 degrees. One record was broken. On the 6th, the temperature only fell to 62, breaking the old record high minimum temperature of 57 set back in 1970. This mark also tied the warmest low temperature for the entire month, set back in 1981.

December 2009 brought colder and snowier weather to Nevada than residents had seen in a

decade in some areas. This was the case in all but Southern Nevada. This is definitely one of the many reasons that so many people have moved to this part of the state in the past 10 years! The powerful arctic air mass and low-pressure areas that dropped in from Western Canada and the Gulf of Alaska did register some impact on Clark, Lincoln, and Southern Nye Counties, but nothing like areas to the north. A steady, cool rain fell on the 7th, from around 2 PM until 7 PM. McCarran International Airport recorded 0.28” of precipitation with this system. This was extremely mild, considering that Northern Nevada was buried in snow that day and temperatures were on the threshold of dropping well below 0 in the following days. Las Vegas then recorded 0.01” of light rain on the 12th, with the second, cold low that dropped down the west coast and funneled in more moisture and reinforced cold air. While temperatures were not as extreme as in other parts of the state, Las Vegas did feel the chill. Lows dropped into the 30s 20 days in December, bottoming out at 30 degrees on the mornings of the 9th and 10th. It was not unusual to see lows in the 30s, but those numbers, along with below-average highs, cooled the mean monthly temperature to 45.4, or 1.6 degrees below the average mark for the twelfth month.

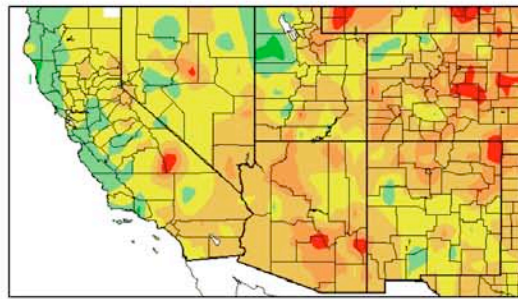


Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/1/2009 – 10/31/2009



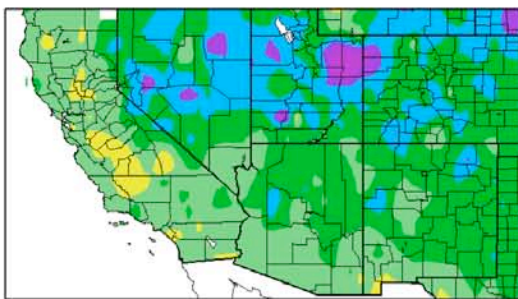
Generated 11/11/2009 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/1/2009 – 11/30/2009



Generated 12/11/2009 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/1/2009 – 12/31/2009



Generated 1/11/2010 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

TEMPERATURES across the Silver State were above average in most locations for **November**, running especially warm in Southern and Central Nevada. Averages of 2 to 6 degrees above were noted in parts of Clark and Lincoln, as well as Lander, W. Elko, and Douglas Counties.

October and **December** were both cooler-than-average months for Nevada. Humboldt, Elko, White Pine, and S. Nye Counties ran as much as 4 to 6 degrees below average for October. December proved to be even colder, with parts of Elko, Nye, Churchill, and Lyon Counties averaging 6 to 8 degrees below normal, and all counties other than Clark averaging at least 2 degrees below.

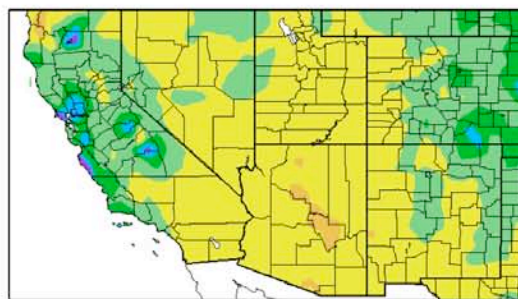
PRECIPITATION was up in October and December.

October saw precipitation totals come in around average (within approx. 1.0" above or below) for most of Nevada, running above for Western Nevada, and Elko and White Pine Counties.

December was wetter, above average for all of Nevada except along the Oregon and Idaho borders and in S. Nye and Clark Counties.

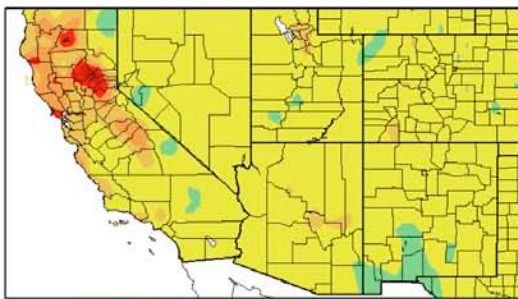
November was drier for most areas. Almost all of Nevada totaled amounts slightly below average, with systems that delivered more wind than water.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
10/1/2009 – 10/31/2009



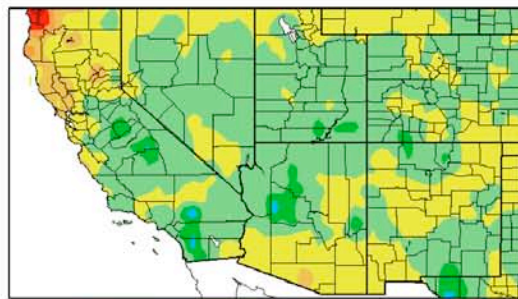
Generated 11/11/2009 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
11/1/2009 – 11/30/2009



Generated 12/11/2009 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
12/1/2009 – 12/31/2009



Generated 1/11/2010 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate Centers

U.S. Drought Monitor

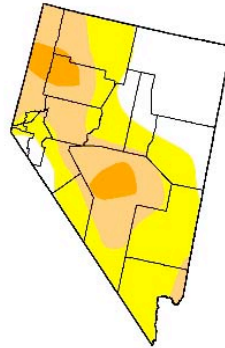
Nevada

October 27, 2009
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	25.9	74.1	34.3	6.6	0.0	0.0
Last Week (11/02/2009 map)	26.7	73.3	33.1	6.6	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (08/04/2009 map)	24.1	75.9	36.0	10.6	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/06/2009 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	29.2	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.1	8.6	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (10/28/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	25.4	0.0	0.0

Intensity:

■ D0 Abnormally Dry ■ D3 Drought - Extreme
■ D1 Drought - Moderate ■ D4 Drought - Exceptional
■ D2 Drought - Severe



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, October 29, 2009
Author: M. Rosencrans, CPC/NOAA

The last quarter of 2009 saw little change in the drought situation for the Silver State.

OCTOBER

Western Nevada saw little change, with Eastern Nevada enjoying at or above average moisture for the month. Areas of Extreme Drought (Washoe, Pershing, and Nye Counties) saw little improvement.

U.S. Drought Monitor

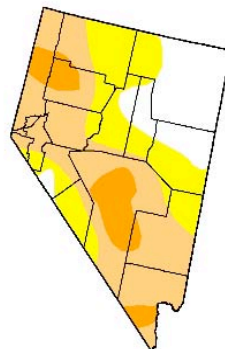
Nevada

December 1, 2009
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	20.2	79.8	52.4	11.2	0.0	0.0
Last Week (11/24/2009 map)	24.1	75.9	52.0	11.2	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (09/08/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.0	8.6	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/06/2009 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	29.2	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.1	8.6	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (12/02/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	26.8	0.0	0.0

Intensity:

■ D0 Abnormally Dry ■ D3 Drought - Extreme
■ D1 Drought - Moderate ■ D4 Drought - Exceptional
■ D2 Drought - Severe



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, December 3, 2009
Author: Anthony Artusa, CPC/NOAA

NOVEMBER

Southern Nevada slid into moderate to severe drought with only trace amounts of moisture recorded at most locations. Western Nevada had a dry month also, with Douglas, Storey, and S. Lyon Counties falling into moderate drought designation.

U.S. Drought Monitor

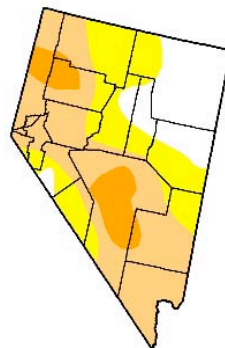
Nevada

December 29, 2009
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	20.2	79.8	52.4	9.9	0.0	0.0
Last Week (12/22/2009 map)	20.2	79.8	52.4	9.9	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (10/06/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.1	8.6	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/06/2009 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	29.2	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.1	8.6	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (12/30/2008 map)	0.0	100.0	79.0	29.2	0.0	0.0

Intensity:

■ D0 Abnormally Dry ■ D3 Drought - Extreme
■ D1 Drought - Moderate ■ D4 Drought - Exceptional
■ D2 Drought - Severe



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, December 31, 2009
Author: Richard Heim, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

DECEMBER

Nevada drought designation was unchanged for most of the state, even as abnormally cold, and snowy weather descended on the Silver State. Southern Nevada finally saw enough moisture for the month to lift Clark County from a level of "severe" drought to "moderate" drought.

Nevada Drought Summary

Even with an abnormally wet and cold December in some parts of the state, Nevada drought conditions showed little change in the last quarter of 2009. Less moisture in **Eastern Nevada** saw the return of the “abnormally dry” classification to Elko and Lander Counties. **Western and Southern Nevada** continued to see moderate drought in many areas with extreme drought indicated in Central Washoe, Pershing, and Nye and W. Lincoln Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor

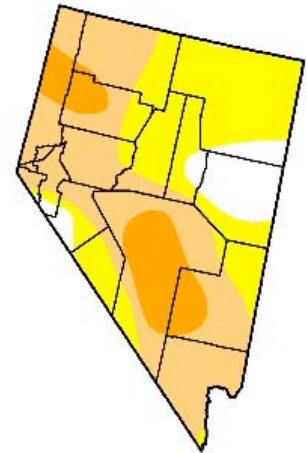
Nevada

February 2, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	9.7	90.3	54.9	13.3	0.0	0.0
Last Week (01/26/2010 map)	9.6	90.4	54.9	13.3	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (11/10/2009 map)	24.8	75.2	40.2	6.6	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/05/2010 map)	20.2	79.8	54.4	9.8	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	23.8	76.2	36.1	8.6	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (02/03/2009 map)	0.0	100.0	77.1	30.5	0.0	0.0

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

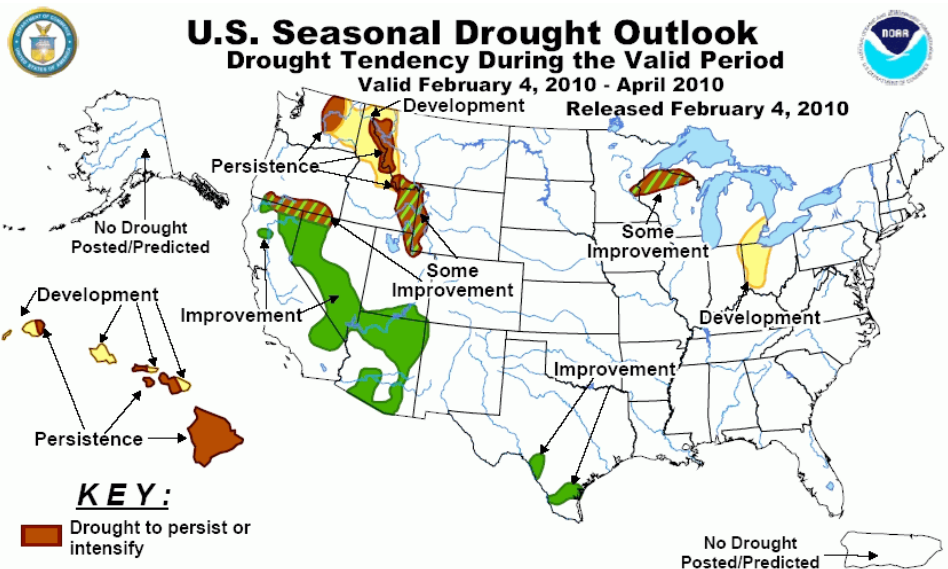
<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, February 4, 2010
Author: M. Rosencrans, CPC/NOAA

Seasonal Drought Outlook

The continuing El Nino pattern indicates a stronger subtropical jet stream impacting the Southern Coastal United States, the Southwest, and California. These trends are reflected in the outlook, with some relief predicted for all but North-central and Eastern Nevada. While December was wet and cold, it was not until January that the El Nino pattern really started to verify for Nevada. This pattern remains a factor.



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.

October-December 2009 Climate Notes

Did you know...?

1. The National Weather Service Office in Reno celebrated its 104th birthday November 11th.
2. Las Vegas recorded its lowest sea level pressure on record for October at 29.33" on October 4th.
3. October was the 3rd coldest on record in Ely, averaging only 40.2 degrees.
4. A wind gust of 80 mph was reported in Douglas County on the morning of November 20th.
5. December lows on the 8-10th were the lowest in a decade for much of Northern Nevada.
6. Reno accumulated 15.6" of snow in December (Airport).
7. December saw a blue moon rise over Nevada on New Year's Eve.



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OFFICE WEBSITE is
UP AND RUNNING!
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web at
www.climate.unr.edu**

December Deep Freeze	
Location	Monthly Low
Reno	-6 (9 th)
Cold Springs	-21 (8 th)
Carson City	-5 (9 th)
Lovelock	-13 (9 th)
Fallon	-9 (9 th)
Yerington	-13 (9 th)
Winnemucca	-12 (9 th , 10 th)
Beowawe	-22 (9 th)
Elko	-22 (9 th)
Ely	-19 (9 th)
Eureka	-16 (9 th , 10 th)
Tonopah	-1 (9 th)
Las Vegas	30 (4 th , 9 th , 10 th)

References:

- Climate Prediction Center: www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov
- US Drought Monitor: www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html
- National Weather Service: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>
- Western Regional Climate Center: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu>

2009

TOP Weather Headlines

Jeff Thompson



December To Remember

Heavy snow and the coldest temperatures of the decade descended on the Silver State in December with a deep low-pressure area that dropped through the region early in the month. Morning lows on the 7th, 8th, and 9th, dipped below zero for much of Northern and Central Nevada. This and a second low around the middle of the month dumped 6-12" of snow on valley floors, and several feet in the mountains. Freezing fog and bitter temperatures persisted through the end of the year, with the deep snowpack.

June Monsoon

Monsoonal flow dominated the month of June, making it one of the wettest and mildest Junes in recent memory. Elko added up 2.94" of moisture, making June 2009 the second wettest on record. Numerous showers and thunderstorms helped Reno to one of its top-three wettest Junes, accumulating 1.52" of water. Temperatures were also mild, running well below average for most of the state. June 2009 lifted drought concerns for Eastern Nevada, and put the damper on the remainder of the 2009 wildland fire season.

Mid-October Rain Machine

After a dry, mild start, October ushered in the storm season early with a powerful Pacific storm that brought heavy rain and wind to the western half of the state. Rainfall amounts of 1-2" were common in Western Nevada and the Sierra, thanks to a strong subtropical jet tapping into typhoon energy and moisture from across the Pacific. Reno saw a one-day total of 1.45" on the 13th, just missing the daily record by only 0.01".

November Windstorm

November 20th was a date attached to many Western Nevada insurance claims. A potent jet stream powered a fast-moving, very windy storm through the area. Trees were toppled and fences and power lines were blown down in 60 to 80 mph valley wind gusts. A resulting dust storm also caused a multi-vehicle pileup along I-80 near Lovelock.

March Storm Salvages Snowpack

March came in like a lion, delivering a wet storm to the Sierra. Starting off mild, with high snow levels, colder air soon arrived dropping snow levels and a lot of snow. The Sierra grabbed a quick 4 to 6 feet early in the month. This lifted previously low snowpack moisture back up to 90% of average.

Sizzling September

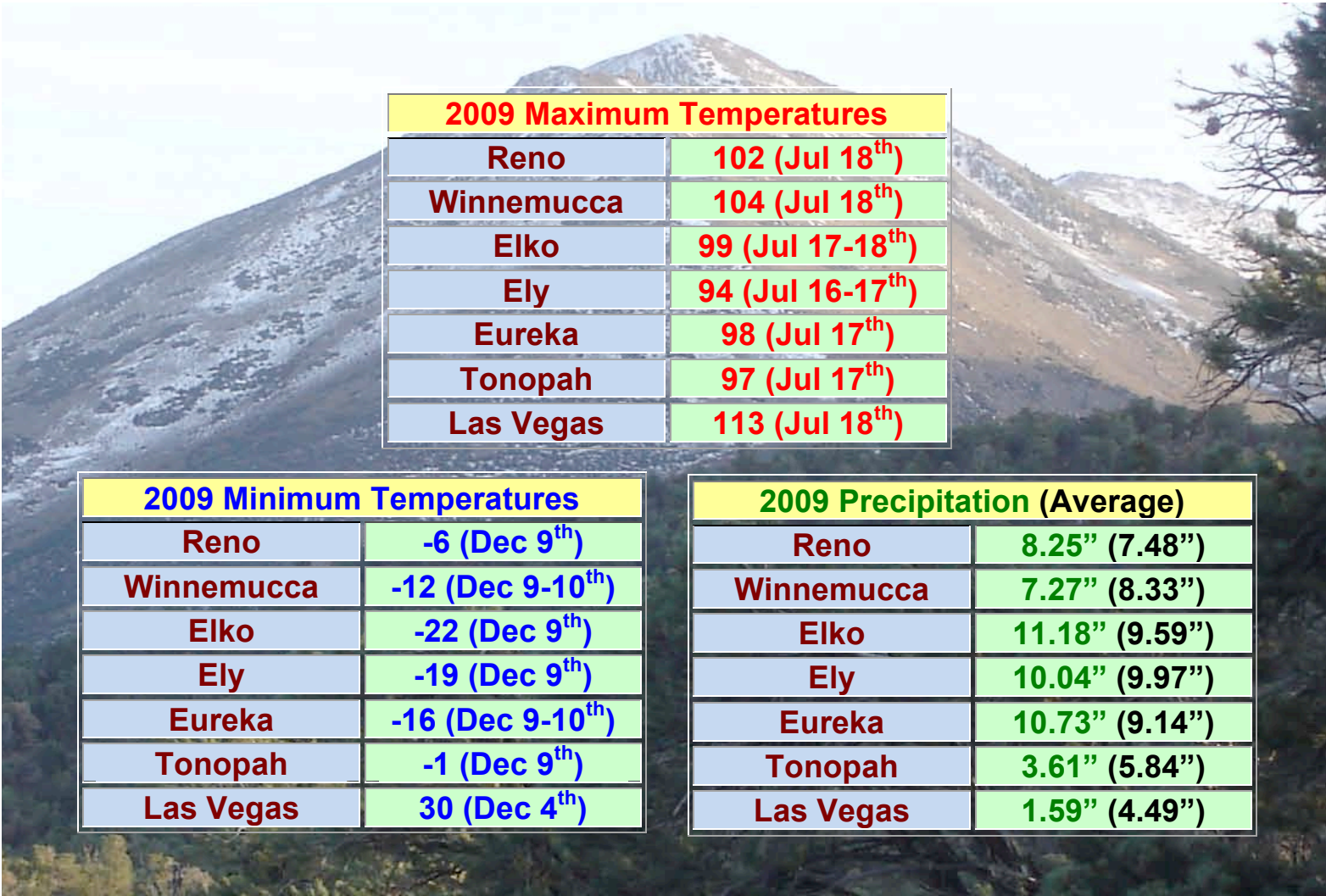
September was not only very warm and dry; it was the warmest on record for much of the state. September averages were the warmest recorded for Las Vegas (86.2 degrees) and Reno (69.6 degrees). Elko saw its 4th warmest, Winnemucca had its 6th, and Ely experienced its 16th toastiest September on the books. Record highs and high minimums also fell or were tied in many spots, including Eureka and Tonopah.

February Rain Train

Much needed moisture came to Southern Nevada in the month of February. Las Vegas grabbed 5 days of measurable rainfall, totaling an above-average 0.78". On the 7th, it was a very wet day at McCarran International airport, as a record 0.58" fell in just 24 hours. This train of systems was fast moving, dropping rounds of snow to other parts of the state, but total moisture amounts were less impressive.

Mild May

It was a very warm May in Las Vegas. In fact, it was abnormally warm. May 2009 was the only May on record to not fall below 65 degrees. Daytime highs were also toasty, as 28 May days saw the mercury rise to 90 or above, matching a mark set back in 1940.



2009 Maximum Temperatures	
Reno	102 (Jul 18 th)
Winnemucca	104 (Jul 18 th)
Elko	99 (Jul 17-18 th)
Ely	94 (Jul 16-17 th)
Eureka	98 (Jul 17 th)
Tonopah	97 (Jul 17 th)
Las Vegas	113 (Jul 18 th)

2009 Minimum Temperatures	
Reno	-6 (Dec 9 th)
Winnemucca	-12 (Dec 9-10 th)
Elko	-22 (Dec 9 th)
Ely	-19 (Dec 9 th)
Eureka	-16 (Dec 9-10 th)
Tonopah	-1 (Dec 9 th)
Las Vegas	30 (Dec 4 th)

2009 Precipitation (Average)	
Reno	8.25" (7.48")
Winnemucca	7.27" (8.33")
Elko	11.18" (9.59")
Ely	10.04" (9.97")
Eureka	10.73" (9.14")
Tonopah	3.61" (5.84")
Las Vegas	1.59" (4.49")

STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2009									
	Extreme High	Day	Extreme Low	Day	Average High	Average Low	Average Monthly Temp	Precip	Snowfall
Climate Division 1 (NW)									
Carson City	79	*	18	*	65.1	33.8	49.5	1.67	0
Cold Springs	78	17 th	17	29 th	63.0	31.5	47.3	1.38	0
Fernley	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Flanigan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gardnerville	81	17 th	17	29 th	67.3	31.5	49.4	2.21	8.0
Hay Creek*	73	18 th	21	4 th	60.2	34.4	47.3	2.54	0.5
Jacks Valley	76	17 th	27	30 th	62.7	41.4	52.3	2.88	*
Lahontan Nat'l Fish Hatchery	79	17 th	20	29 th	69.6	36.9	53.3	1.74	*
Minden	82	*	16	*	67.4	30.5	49.0	2.26	4.0
Mogul	77	17 th	19	29 th	64.3	36.9	50.7	2.06	*
Reno, N. Virginia	79	17 th	23	29 th	62.8	35.9	49.4	0.98	0
Sheridan Acres	78	17 th	21	29 th	65.0	35.9	50.5	3.65	8.0
Stillwater (Precip. only)								0.52	*
Truckee-Tahoe	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wellington	78	18 th	17	29 th	65.8	33.8	49.8	1.92	6.0
Verdi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Vya	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Climate Division 2 (NE)									
Jarbidge	74	17 th	9	28 th	53.1	30.4	41.7	2.14	9.2
Reese River	81	17 th	5	29 th	62.3	22.8	42.5	0.12	*
Climate Division 3 (Central)									
Gabbs	82	18 th	27	2 nd	66.9	36.8	51.9	0.10	0
Marietta	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pioche - Lister Ranch	71	10 th	5	26 th	61.8	27.3	44.0	0.17	0
Tonopah	72	2 nd	21	29 th	62.9	33.3	48.3	0.00	0
Climate Division 4 (S)									
Amargosa Farms	90	*	38	*	76.8	45.9	61.3	0.00	0
Las Vegas	93	*	44	*	77.5	56.5	67.0	0.00	0
Lee Canyon	68	19 th	12	28 th	57.0	26.8	41.9	0.03	0.0
Sandy Valley (precip. only)								0.00	0

* - Incomplete data
 data
 Recorded

m - Missing
 nr - Not

STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2009

	Extreme High	Day	Extreme Low	Day	Average High	Average Low	Average Monthly Temp	Precip	Snowfall
Climate Division 1 (NW)									
Carson City	70	*	11	*	57.3	26.2	41.8	0.05	0
Cold Springs	74	4 th	13	21 st	55.0	24.0	39.5	0.44	2.0
Fernley	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Flanigan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gardnerville	75	4 th	13	15 th	59.3	21.0	40.1	0.17	0.3
Hay Creek*	69	1 st	18	15 th	*	*	*	0.61	2.0
Jacks Valley	68	4 th	25	16 th	58.1	36.3	47.6	0.21	*
Lahontan Nat'l Fish Hatchery	74	5 th	19	14 th	60.2	28.2	44.2	0.15	*
Minden	80	*	16	*	61.1	26.7	43.9	0.31	2.0
Mogul	68	5 th	17	15 th	54.1	28.3	41.4	0.13	*
Reno, N. Virginia	70	4 th	19	29 th	55.2	28.2	41.7	0.21	0
Sheridan Acres	71	4 th	18	15 th	55.0	27.9	41.4	0.29	0
Stillwater (Precip. only)								0.30	*
Truckee-Tahoe	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wellington	73	4 th	3	30 th	57.1	20.4	38.8	0.40	6.0
Verdi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Vya	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Climate Division 2 (NE)									
Jarbridge	72	4 th	8	14 th	50.4	24.0	37.2	0.48	8.0
Reese River	74	3 rd	-2	15 th	56.0	13.6	34.8	0.00	0
Climate Division 3 (Central)									
Gabbs	73	6 th	15	30 th	58.9	29.8	44.3	0.00	0
Marietta	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pioche - Lister Ranch	74	1 st	9	16 th	58.3	19.4	38.8	0.35	0
Tonopah	76	3 rd	20	13 th	57.1	29.8	43.5	0.00	0
Climate Division 4 (S)									
Amargosa Farms	84	*	28	*	69.4	37.1	53.2	0.02	0
Las Vegas	83	*	39	*	70.0	48.3	59.2	0.02	0
Lee Canyon	55	27 th	8	16 th	*	*	*	*	5.5
Sandy Valley (precip. only)								0.02	0

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STATISTICS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2009

	Extreme High	Day	Extreme Low	Day	Average High	Average Low	Average Monthly Temp	Precip	Snowfall
Climate Division 1 (NW)									
Carson City	53	*	-6	*	39.9	15.3	27.9	0.73	18.5
Cold Springs	56	20 th	-22	8 th	38.7	11.4	25.1	2.01	23.1
Fernley	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Flanigan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Gardnerville	57	21 st	-17	9 th	40.4	14.0	27.2	1.36	12.2
Hay Creek*	50	2 nd	-3	8 th	34.6	13.5	24.0	2.23	22.8
Jacks Valley	54	21 st	4	10 th	41.5	25.0	33.5	2.51	*
Lahontan Nat'l Fish Hatchery	58	3 rd	-10	9 th	43.3	16.5	29.9	*	*
Minden	59	*	-2	*	43.7	20.7	32.7	0.40	4.0
Mogul	52	16 th	-6	8 th	38.0	17.5	27.6	2.84	*
Reno, N. Virginia	50	1 st	-8	7 th	36.4	17.2	26.8	1.32	19.8
Sheridan Acres	52	20 th	-11	9 th	37.4	17.8	27.6	1.33	17.1
Stillwater (Precip. only)								1.25	10.1
Truckee-Tahoe	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wellington	46	5 th	-20	9 th	36.5	6.6	21.6	0.88	12.5
Verdi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Vya	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Climate Division 2 (NE)									
Jarbridge	53	20 th	-2	5 th	36.9	15.8	26.3	0.93	19.0
Reese River	54	4 th	-25	8 th	37.0	0.2	18.6	0.77	*
Climate Division 3 (Central)									
Gabbs	50	17 th	-6	9 th	38.3	17.4	27.9	0.64	6.8
Marietta	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pioche - Lister Ranch	57	1 st	-5	6 th	40.5	10.4	25.3	0.52	*
Tonopah	52	4 th	0	6 th	38.2	16.7	27.5	0.81	10.5
Climate Division 4 (S)									
Amargosa Farms	67	*	15	*	54.2	27.3	40.7	0.22	0
Las Vegas	64	*	30	*	53.7	37.2	45.4	0.29	0
Lee Canyon	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sandy Valley (precip. only)								0.00	0

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