

Weather Synopsis

December 5, 2016 – January 20, 2017

According to the National Weather Service Pendleton Reporting Station, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, and the Western Regional Climate Center.

Temperatures

- Between December 5, 2016 and January 20, 2017 (47 days) 40 out of 47 days were below normal temperatures for Deschutes County.
- 21 of those 47 days were 21 degrees F* or more below the normal temperature for that time period: 6-8 DEC, 13-18 DEC, 2-7 JAN, 12-17 JAN. The 6 days that all of our district schools were closed because of weather related events, the temperature was at least 21 degrees F* or more below the average for the months of DEC/JAN.
- Temperatures for the month of December 2016 reached record lows throughout Central Oregon. Redmond and Sunriver recorded the coldest monthly average temperatures in history with Redmond averaging 12.5°F and Sunriver averaging 9.5°F. Sisters recorded their second coldest monthly average temperatures for the month of December with an average low of 10.3°F. Bend recorded its fifth lowest average monthly temperature for the month of December with an average low of 25.2°F.
- January 2017 has had an average temperature of 21.98°F, the 6th lowest in the 116 years of historical data available and the 3rd lowest in 38 years.
- For the month of December 2016, 28 out of the 31 days had an average daily temperature at or below freezing level (32°F). For January 2017, 26 out of 31 days had an average daily temperature at or below freezing level.

Snowfall

- December 2016 and January 2017 have a combined snowfall accumulation of 62.9 inches, the highest recorded amount for the December/January period in 116 years of historical weather data.
- Sunriver recorded its second most monthly snowfall for the month of December with 29.8" of total snowfall.
- As of January 1, 2017, the snow pack for the Upper Deschutes and Crooked water basins was at 120% of its normal annual measurements.

December 2016

- December 8-9, 2016 (15-minute early release on 8th): A frontal boundary pushed northward through the area on December 8th and into December 9th bringing a period of steady snow. Bend, OR received 8.3" of snow and the temperature reached a low of 2°F.
- December 14-15, 2016 (No School due to weather): On December 14th and 15th a strong area of low pressure passed eastward across southern Oregon, while a cold pocket of air remained in place over much of northeast Oregon and southern Washington. Periods of moderate to heavy snow developed over the area, with Bend, OR receiving 13.1" of snow and temperatures dropped to a low of -2°F.
- December 23-24, 2016 (Winter Break was in session): Over the Christmas holiday weekend the Pacific Northwest experienced a storm system that moved through the area bringing a mixture of snow, sleet, freezing rain, and rain. Snowfall was very wet and slick.

January 2017

- More information to follow as the data for January 2017 is published by the National Weather Service.