



Weather & Climate Summary Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve Summer 2016

Eagle Summer Weather

The summer of 2016 was warmer and wetter than normal.

In June, the monthly average temperature was 59.8°F, which is 1.9°F warmer than normal. The warmest temperatures were around solstice; the high temperature for the month was 86°F recorded on June 18 and 19. Total rainfall for the month was right at normal with 1.64 inches. 13 of the 30 days in June had measurable rainfall amounts (> 0.01 inches).

July was a bit warmer than normal and quite wet. The monthly average temperature was 0.6°F warmer than normal at 61.0°F. The high temperature for the month was 90°F on July 16, a record high for that day. The first week of July was quite soggy – a total of 1.74 inches of rain fell between July 1 and 7. The total for the month was 3.90 inches; 160% of normal. There were 22 days with measurable rainfall and 3 days where a trace of rain was recorded.

August was quite warm and the wet trend continued. The average monthly temperature of 57.2°F was 3.6°F above the 1981-2010 normal. The August rainfall total was 143% of normal at 2.76 inches.

The average summer temperature was 59.3°F, 2.0°F warmer than normal and the 9th warmest summer on record. A total of 8.30 inches of rain fell during the summer, which is 2.31 inches more than normal. It was the 8th wettest summer on record (see Figures 1 and 2; Table 1, and 2).

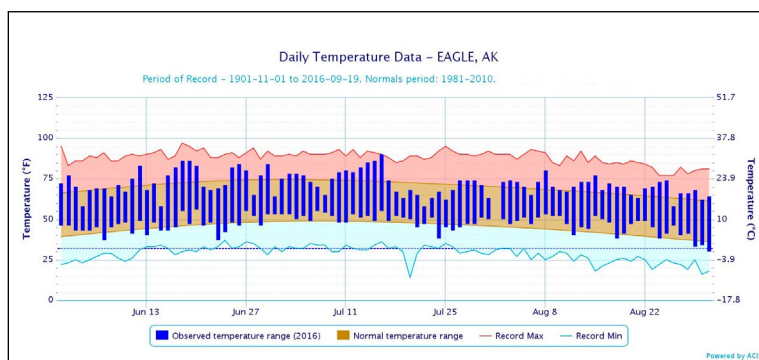


Figure 1. Summer 2016 daily temperatures at Eagle showing **record maximum** (red), record minimum (blue), **normal** (brown) and **2016 observed** daily range (blue bars).

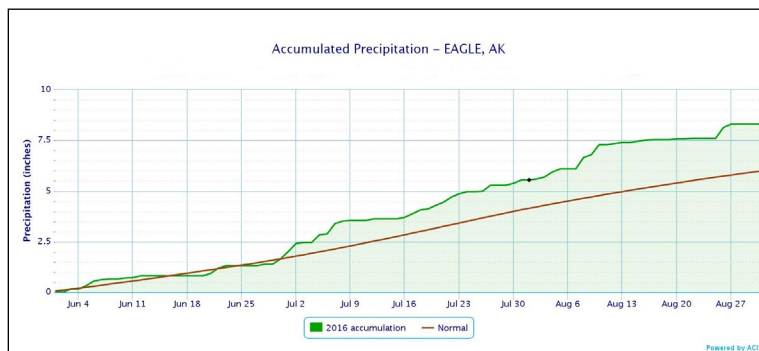


Figure 2. Summer **2016** accumulated precipitation at Eagle (green) compared to **normal** (brown line).

Table 1. Temperature: Summer 2016 average monthly temperatures compared to the 1981-2010 normal.

Summer 2016	Average Monthly Temp °F	1981-2010 Normal °F	Departure from Normal °F	Monthly High °F / Date	Monthly Low °F / Date
June	59.8	57.9	+1.9	86 / Jun 18, 19	37 / Jun 7, 23
July	61.0	60.4	+0.6	90* / Jul 16	38 / Jul 24
August	57.2	53.6	+3.6	80 / Aug 8	30-Aug-31

*Record Daily High; Summer Season Temperature Departure from Normal: +2.0°F

Table 2. Precipitation: Summer 2016 monthly precipitation totals compared to normal.

Summer 2016	Total Monthly Precip. in.	1981-2010 Normal in.	Departure from Normal in.	Greatest 24 -hr. total in. / Date	# Days with >=0.01 in. water
June	1.64	1.64	0.00	0.27 / Jun 22	13
July	3.90	2.43	+1.47	0.50 / Jul 7	22
August	2.76	1.92	+0.84	0.56 / Aug 8	16

Summer Season Departure from Normal: +2.31 inches (139% of normal)

Climate Monitoring in Yukon-Charley

The NPS climate stations in Yukon-Charley Rivers have been in operation for a decade (Figure 3). The Coal Creek and Upper Charley stations complement long-term records available from the National Weather Service station in Eagle. There is also a fire RAWS that has been in operation for several decades and is the featured station this month.

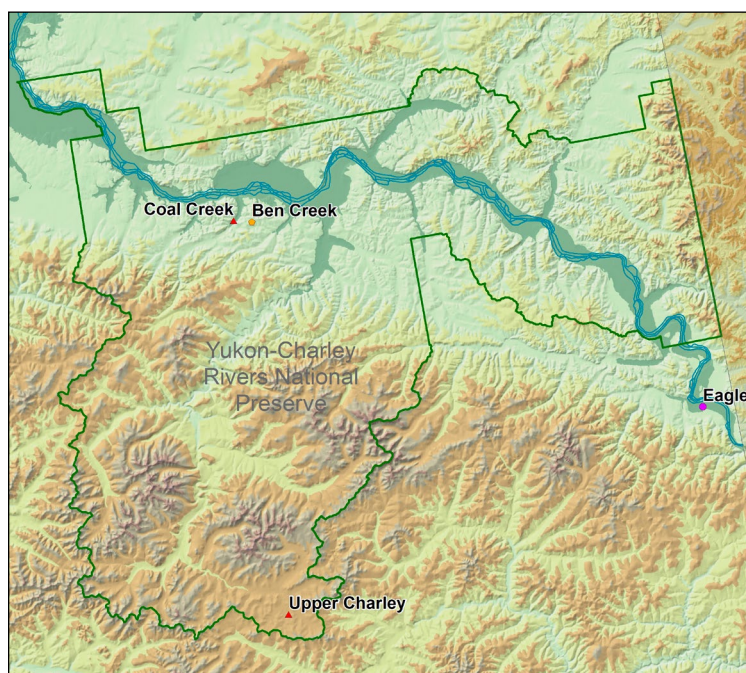


Figure 3. NPS Climate stations in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

Featured Station: Ben Creek Fire RAWS

The Ben Creek station is a fire RAWS that was installed in 1990; the primary purpose is to provide weather data for potential wildfire conditions to fire managers, but this station (and other stations that are part of this network) are also a valuable resource for climate monitoring. The Ben Creek site is ~ 1000' higher than the Coal Creek station and provides an opportunity to look at temperature variations with elevation. The data are available in real-time from the Alaska Fire and

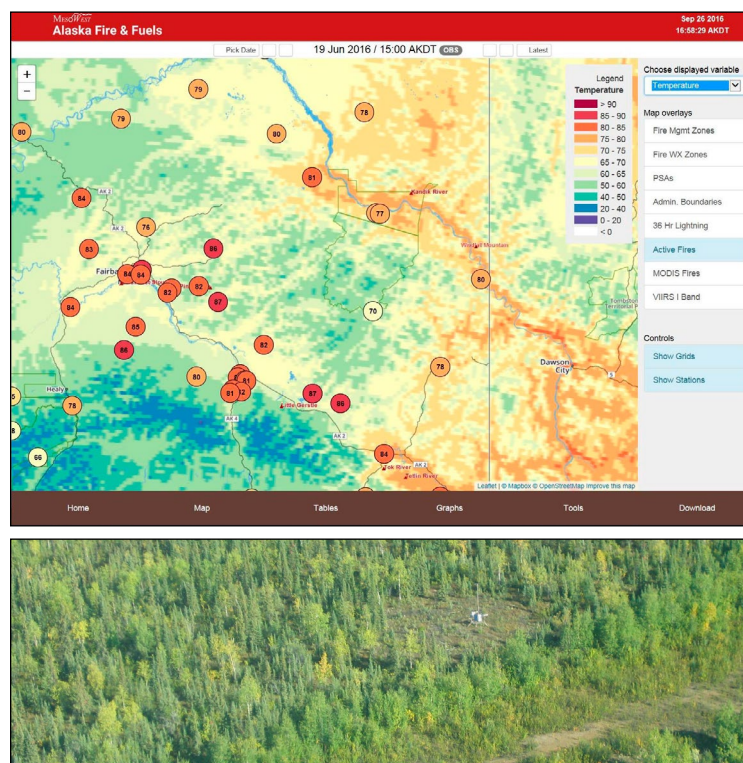


Figure 4. Alaska fire and fuels data portal and the Ben Creek station.

Fuels data portal through Mesowest (Figure 4). The real-time data along with lightning data and fire perimeter data are useful tools for summer field operations. In the past, these stations operated in the summer only, but with better technology and battery systems they now run year-round.

More Information

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[Current Weather in Yukon-Charley Rivers](#)