



Weather & Climate Summary Bering Land Bridge National Preserve Fall 2018

Nome Fall Weather 2018

Summary: It was the **warmest** fall on record for Nome. It was slightly drier than normal overall, mostly due to a dry September and snowfall totals were close to normal for the season.

September 2018 was warm and dry. Temperatures were above normal for most of the month. In general, temperatures generally cool off through September, but this year the second half of the month stayed warm. A record high temperature of 61°F was recorded on September 30. It was the 7th warmest September on record. It was a dry September, with rainfall totals just over 50% of normal for the month. No snow was recorded in September.

It was the warmest October on record in Nome, beating the old record by a whopping 3.6°F. The average monthly temperature was 38.4°F, which is 9.7°F above normal. Record highs were recorded on October 3rd and 19th. Monthly precipitation was just below normal, totaling 1.69 inches. Only 1.5 inches of snow was recorded in October, on average 4.6 inches falls for the month.

November was warm and snowy. It was the 5th warmest November with an average temperature of 24.9°F, which is 8°F warmer than normal. Temperatures climbed above freezing during the first week of the month and near freezing mid-month, averaging between 14 and 18 degrees F warmer than normal on the warmest days. Total snowfall for the month was 14.7 inches, 121% of normal.

The average fall temperature at Nome was 36.9°F which

Midnight Mountain, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. Photo: NPS, Ken Hill.

is 7.4°F warmer than the 1981-2010 normal and the warmest on record. The total fall precipitation was 4.49 inches, 85% of normal and snowfall between September 1 and November 30 totaled 16.2 inches, or 94% of normal (Figures 1 and 2; Tables 1, 2, and 3)

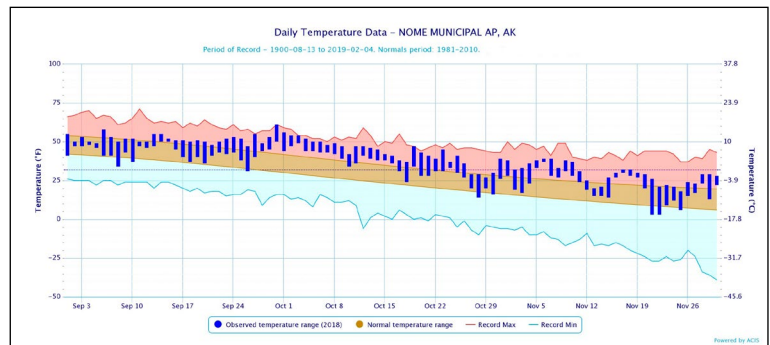


Figure 1. Fall 2018 daily temperatures at Nome showing record maximum (red), record minimum (blue), normal (brown) and observed range (blue bars). <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

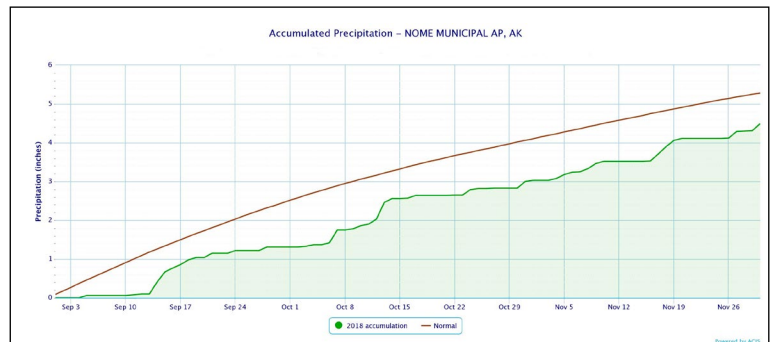


Figure 2. Fall 2018 accumulated precipitation (green) at Nome compared to normal (brown line). <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

Table 1. Temperature: Fall 2018 average monthly temperatures compared to the 1981-2010 normal.

Fall 2018*	Average Monthly Temp (°F)	1981-2010 Normal (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Monthly High (°F / Date)	Monthly Low (°F / Date)
September	47.3	42.8	+4.5	61*** / Sep 30	31 / Sep 26
October**	38.4	28.7	+9.7	56 / Oct 1	14 / Oct 28
November	24.9	16.9	+8.0	39 / Nov 6, 7	3 / Nov 21, 22

Fall Season Temperature Departure from Normal: +7.4°F ; *Warmest fall on record; **Warmest October on record; ***Record daily high

Table 2. Precipitation: Fall 2018 monthly precipitation totals compared to normal.

Fall 2018	Total Monthly Precip. (in.)	1981-2010 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)	Greatest 24 -hr. total (in. / Date)	# Days with ≥ 0.01 in. water
September	1.31	2.45	-1.14	0.31 / Sep 14	12
October	1.69	1.61	+0.08	0.43 / Oct. 13	17
November	1.49	1.22	+0.27	0.19 / Nov 18	18

Fall Season Precipitation Departure from Normal: -0.79 inches (85% of normal).

Table 3. Snowfall: Fall 2018 monthly snowfall totals compared to normal.

Fall 2018	Total Monthly Snowfall (in.)	1981-2010 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)	Greatest 24-hr snowfall total (in. / Date)	Cumulative snowfall since 1-July in.
September	0.0	0.6	-0.6	–	0.0
October	1.5	4.6	-3.1	0.8 / Oct 17	1.5
November	14.7	12.1	+2.6	2.8 / Nov 30	16.2

Serpentine Hot Springs Fall Warmth

2018 was the warmest fall on record at the Serpentine Hot Springs weather station in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve. We have been recording data continuously at this site since 2011 and this is the first time that the average fall temperature was above freezing. Over the past 8 years there has been a significant increase in the average fall temperatures at this location (Figure 3).

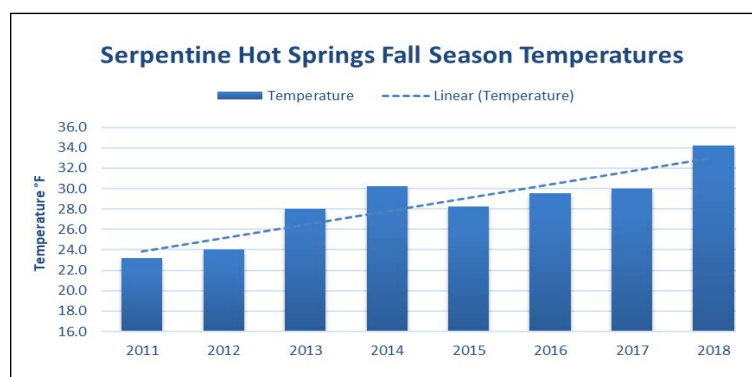


Figure 3. Fall temperatures at Serpentine Hot Springs 2011-2018.

Statewide Fall Warmth

2018 was the 2nd warmest fall on record for Alaska with records dating back to 1925. The west coast of Alaska was the warmest on record (Figure 4). The decline in sea ice over the past several years has been a factor in the recent statewide warming trend.

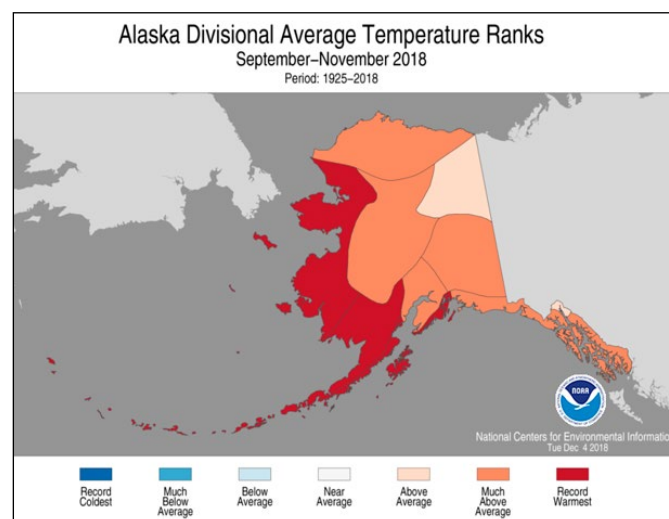


Figure 4. Record warm fall along Alaska's west coast for 2018. Graph courtesy of NCEI (<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag>).

More Information

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[Current Weather in Bering Land Bridge N Pres.](#)

<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/arcn>

Data disclaimer: Please note that the near-real time data used to generate these reports is subject to change. QA/QC data from the NPS CACN climate stations are available at [NPS Data Store](#)

