



Bering Land Bridge N Pres. • Cape Krusenstern NM
Gates of the Arctic NP & Pres. • Kobuk Valley NP • Noatak N Pres.

Fall 2024

Weather & Climate Summary

Bering Land Bridge National Preserve

Fall 2024

Nome Fall Weather 2024

Fall 2024 was warmer and drier than normal. The average temperature for the season was 0.4°F warmer than normal, with cooler average temperatures in September and warmer than normal temperatures for October and November. Total precipitation was about an inch shy of the 1991-2020 average or 80% of normal (Table 1 and 2, Figures 1 and 2).

September

September was cooler than normal with near normal precipitation for the month. The average monthly temperature was 0.9°F below normal. The first two days of September had high temperatures in the normal range, but overnight low temperatures were cooler than normal at 32°F. The last week of the month also had minimum temperatures that were cooler than normal. September precipitation was near normal.

October

October was warmer and drier than normal in Nome. Temperatures were close to normal most of the month, except for October 18-22 when a storm system brought warm temperatures and wet conditions. The most impactful day was October 20 with near record warm temperatures and 0.88 inches of rain (a daily record). The coastal storm surge caused extensive property damage in Shishmaref, including the devastating erosion of the historic cemetery (Thoman 2024). During this storm the overnight low temperatures remained very warm. Overall, October ended up 1.2 °F warmer than normal. The total precipitation (rain and melted snow) was 89% of normal.

November

November was almost a degree warmer than normal with very little precipitation. November 19-25 was especially mild with little daily temperature variability. The daily temperatures hovered around the freezing threshold of 32°F for nearly a week. The previous week saw temperatures that were well below normal. There is generally much more variability in temperatures during the cold season and roller coaster weeks like this are not uncommon. The November precipitation total of 0.46 inches was 36% of normal.

Cowpack Inlet, Bering Land Bridge N Pres. NPS Photo/Pam Sousanes

Table 1. Nome average monthly temperatures compared to the 1991-2020 normal.

Fall 2024	Average Monthly Temp (°F)	1991-2020 Normal (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)
September	42.2	43.1	-0.9
October	31.6	30.4	1.2
November	19.0	18.2	0.8

Fall temperature departure from normal: +0.4°F

Table 2. Nome monthly precipitation totals compared to normal.

Fall 2024	Total Monthly Precip. (in.)	1991-2020 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
September	2.18	2.20	-0.02
October	1.63	1.84	-0.21
November	0.46	1.27	-0.81

Fall precipitation departure from normal: -1.04 in. (80% of normal).

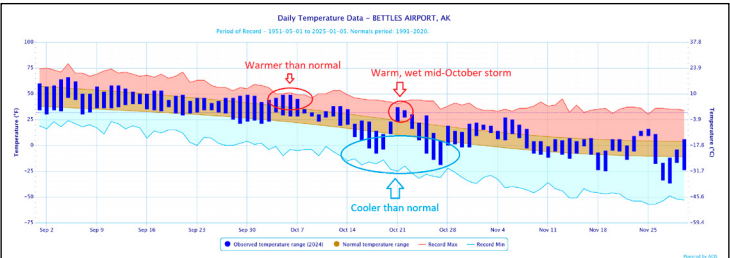


Figure 1. Fall 2024 daily temperatures at Nome showing record maximum (red), record minimum (blue), normal (brown) and observed range (blue bars). Data from: <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

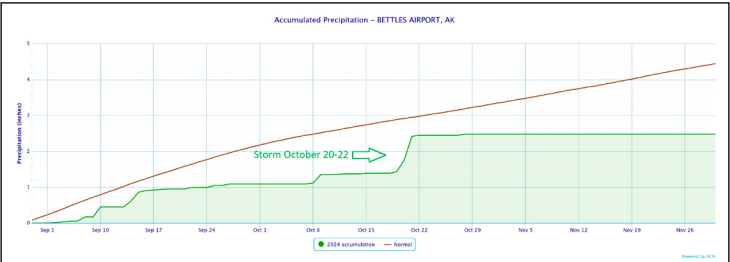


Figure 2. Fall 2024 accumulated precipitation at Nome (green) compared to normal (brown line). Data from: <http://xmacis.rcc-acis.org/>

Water Year (Oct. 1 - Sep 30) Precipitation Wrap Up

For Nome, it was the wettest year since 1998 and the 4th wettest year on record (back to 1910, including years with less than 15 days missing). Total annual precipitation was 153% of normal with 26.37 inches for the water year. The three wettest months, in order, were July (262% of normal), August (202% of normal), and January (176% of normal). It was a wet year statewide, particularly in northwest Alaska (Figure 3). We use the water year for annual calculations to capture the entire winter season.

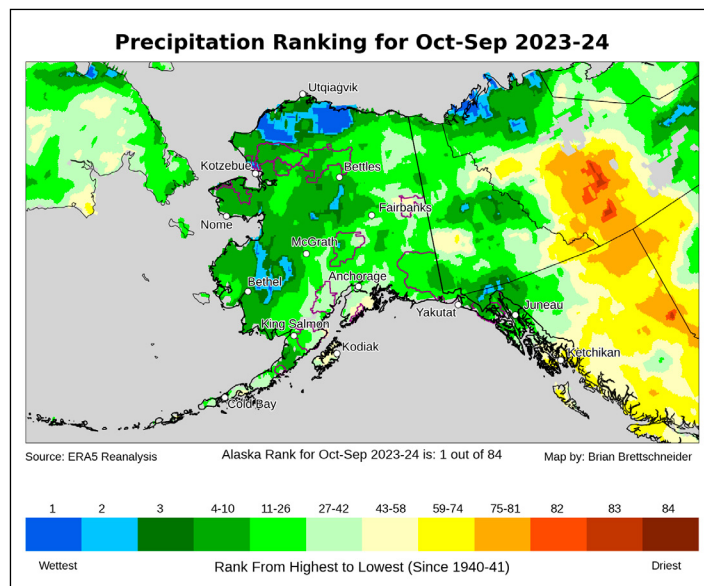


Figure 3. Statewide precipitation ranking for the 2024 water year October 2023 – September 2024 (back to 1940). Map courtesy of Brian Brettschneider using ERA5 reanalysis data. Dark blues/greens on map indicates wetter years.

Cool fall season at Serpentine Hot Springs

The average fall season temperatures at Serpentine Hot Springs hover below freezing at 28.9°F. This fall was 1.5°F cooler than average with records back to 2012 (Figure 4). 2018 was the warmest fall season to date at 34.3°F and 2021 was the coolest fall season at 22.1°F. Nome fall season temperatures (grey dots on graph) average about 3°F warmer than Serpentine.

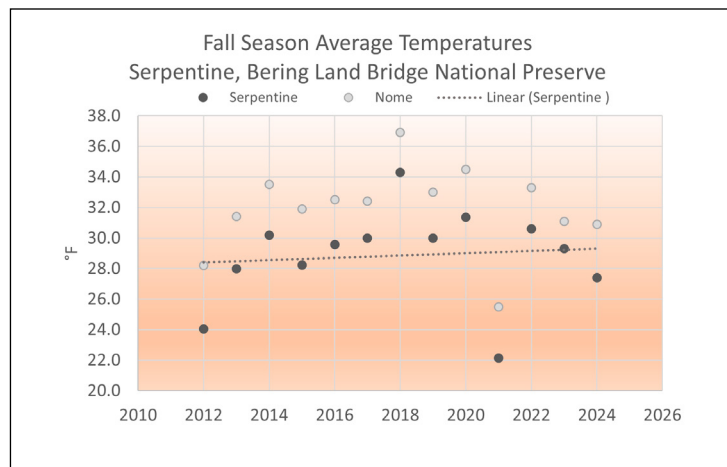


Figure 4. Fall season average temperatures at Serpentine Hot Springs (and Nome in light grey).

Fall wind

The fall season winds were predominantly out of the northeast at Serpentine, although southerly winds are not uncommon (Figure 5). The dark green and blue shading on the wind rose indicates stronger winds.

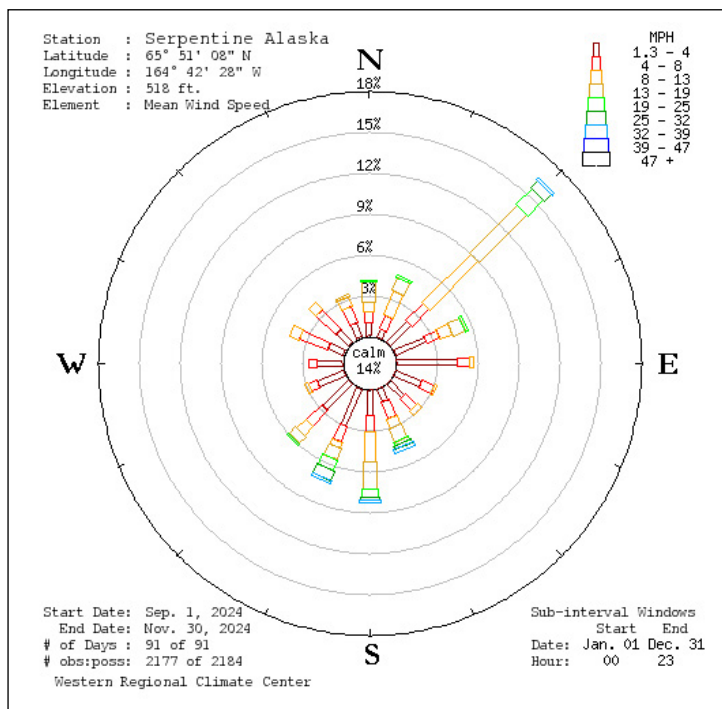


Figure 5. Wind rose at Serpentine Hot Springs for the fall season 2024.

[Click here](#) for current weather in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve (Figure 6).

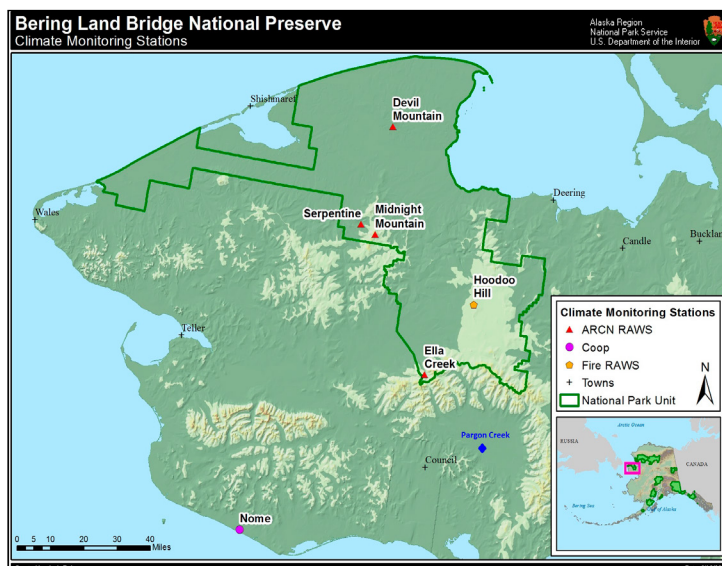


Figure 6. Arctic Network climate stations in Bering Land Bridge National Preserve.

More Information

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<https://www.nps.gov/im/arcn/climate.htm>

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 ARCN climate stations are available at [NPS Data Store](#)