



Weather & Climate Summary Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve Fall 2025

Caribou on tundra ablaze with fall colors. NPS photo.

Bettles Fall Weather 2025

Overall, the fall season was warmer and wetter than normal in Bettles. Weather highlights for the season include a warm and wet October and a warm November. The average temperature for the fall season was 26.9°F, which is +5.9°F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal. It was the 3rd warmest fall on record (back to 1951). Fall precipitation (rain and melted snow) totaled 6.31 inches, 142% of normal (Table 1, 2 and Figure 1, 2). Most of the precipitation fell as rain during the first week of September and the first two weeks of October.

September

September was warmer and wetter than normal. During the first week of the month the daily minimums were warmer than normal, ranging in the mid to upper 40s, normal overnight lows are in the upper 30s. The third week of the month was unseasonably warm with temperatures reaching 60°F on the 19th. The month ended up 0.8°F warmer than the 1991-2020 normal. September precipitation totaled 3.13 inches, which is just about 1.5 times normal. Most of that fell as rain during the first few weeks of the month. The wettest days were September 8 and 10, both with 0.60 inches of rain and both new daily records. A trace of snow was recorded on a few days in late September but quickly melted.

October

October was much warmer and much wetter than normal. It was the 5th warmest October on record at 28.5°F. Temperatures for the entire month were much warmer than normal with very warm October nights. There was one new record daily high on October 8 at 50°F. Halloween was a balmy 25°F, which is 16°F warmer than normal. Several warm wet storms moved through Interior Alaska in October resulting in warmer than normal temperatures and copious amounts of moisture. Over an inch of rain was recorded on October 7, a new daily record. By the end of the month 2.97 inches of rain and melted snow had accumulated making it the

3rd wettest October on record. Snow fell throughout the month, and although the total was 12.3 inches, with warm temperatures and rain intermixed with the snow, the resulting snow depth at the end of the month was only 3 inches.

November

November was much warmer and drier than normal. November temperatures were 9.8°F warmer than normal. There were only three days out of the month when the daily average temperatures were below normal. Every other day was warmer than normal. It ranked as the 9th warmest November since 1951. November snowfall total was 14.3 inches, normal is 19.1 inches. At the Bettles Snotel site 0.90 inches of precipitation was recorded for the month, 78% of normal (there were several missing precipitation values for the Bettles Airport site in November).

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

Fall 2025	Average Monthly Temp (°F)	1991-2020 Normal (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)
September	42.0	41.2	+0.8
October	28.5	21.3	+7.2
November	10.1	0.3	+9.8

Fall temperature departure from normal: +5.9°F

Table 2. Bettles monthly precipitation totals compared to normal.

Fall 2025	Total Monthly Precip. (in.)	1991-2020 Normal (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
September	3.13	2.13	+1.00
October	2.97	1.17	+1.80
November	0.21	1.15	-0.94

Fall precipitation departure from normal: +1.86 in. (142% of normal).
* Precipitation from the Bettles Snotel site.

