

## California Monthly Climate Summary August 2006

### **Summary**

After an exceptionally hot July, August 2006 quietly ended up as a run-of-the-mill August. While temperatures across the state fluctuated near their climatic normals for most of the month, 28 temperature records were tied or broken. The majority of these new records were for new daily low maxima or new daily low minima. A steady succession of upper-level troughs throughout the month helped keep the state's temperatures in check. In Monterey, cloudy weather on August 24 led to a high temperature of 58°, 2 degrees lower than the January average high temperature. Record daily low temperatures were set in Thermal, Palmdale, Riverside, Campo, Yorba Linda, Palomar Mountain, Lake Arrowhead, Ramona, Paso Robles, Lancaster, Monterey, Stockton, Sacramento, and Eureka. Additional temperature information is included in the tables below.

The succession of troughs crossing the state during August created conditions suitable for some thunderstorm activity. High level moisture from the remains of Hurricane Hector passed through the state during the middle of the month resulting in some high clouds. Notable rainfall events for the month include 0.01 inches of rain in Red Bluff on August 6<sup>th</sup> which beat the previous daily record trace precipitation set in 1945 and 1.46 inches of Rain in Blythe which was the maximum precipitation recorded for the month in the co-operative network. The statewide average precipitation for the month was 0.05 inches of rain with only 25% of the stations in the National Weather Service's cooperative network reporting precipitation. Climatology for August shows 0.3 inches of rain for the 1971-2000 averages. Additional precipitation statistics are shown in the table below.

The El Nino/Southern Oscillation is now being classified as an El Nino episode. Equatorial sea surface temperatures are continuing to develop positive anomalies (warmer than normal values). El Nino conditions are expected for the rest of the year and into spring of 2007. Further discussion can be found at [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/enso\\_advisory/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/). ENSO conditions along with current trends indicate a warmer than average remainder of the year for California. Long-range precipitation and temperature outlook plots can be found at: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/longrang/>. General weather information of interest can be found at <http://www.noaawatch.gov/>.

For anomaly information please see [http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal\\_anom.html](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal_anom.html).

Crops are now being harvested. For crop information, please see <http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/index.asp>

### **Other Climate Summaries**

[California Climate Watch \(DRI\)](#)

[Golden Gate Weather Service Climate Summary](#)

[NOAA Monthly State of the Climate Report](#) (August)

### **Statewide Extremes**

High Temperature – 117 deg F (Salinas and Buttercup)

Low Temperature - 18 deg F (Bodie, North Lohantan)

High Precipitation – 1.46 inches (Blythe, Colorado Desert)

Low Precipitation –0 inches (many sites)

### **Statewide Precipitation Statistics**

Hydrologic Region	Region Weight	Basins Reporting			Stations Reporting			Percent of Historic Average	
		Basins	Aug	Oct-Aug	Stations	Aug	Oct-Aug	Aug	Oct-Aug
NORTH COAST	0.27	5	4	4	19	10	8	26.5%	158.0%
SAN FRANCISCO BAY	0.03	2	2	2	6	5	4	0%	160.0%
CENTRAL COAST	0.06	3	3	3	11	6	5	0%	139.0%
SOUTH COAST	0.06	3	1	1	15	4	4	9.8%	83.0%
SACRAMENTO RIVER	0.26	5	5	4	43	12	11	3.1%	145.0%
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER	0.12	6	6	6	25	14	12	0%	143.0%
TULARE LAKE	0.07	5	3	4	28	10	10	0%	132.0%
NORTH LAHONTAN	0.04	3	3	3	14	8	8	34.6%	138.0%
SOUTH LAHONTAN	0.06	3	2	2	15	6	6	0%	126.0%
COLORADO RIVER	0.03	1	1	1	6	2	2	107.4%	68%
STATEWIDE WEIGHTED AVERAGE	1.00	36	30	30	182	77	70	13.2%	140.0%

### **Statewide Mean Temperature Data by Hydrologic Region (degrees F)**

Hydrologic Region	No. Stations	Minimum	Average	Maximum
North Coast	32	54.1	65.3	75.5
SF Bay	17	56.3	66.0	75.9
Central Coast	32	54.9	63.6	74.2
South Coast	68	64.5	72.5	81.0
Sacramento	94	55.6	69.8	80.2
San Joaquin	75	51.6	69.2	81.4
Tulare Lake	17	43.2	62.5	82.2
North Lahontan	28	52.3	59.0	67.6
South Lahontan	23	50.6	69.2	87.8
Colorado River	24	76.0	89.6	91.4
Statewide Weighted Average	410	54.5	67.8	79.1