SUMMARY of the FEBRUARY 2002 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA

General: Temperatures in February averaged above normal for the first time in eight months. Rainfall was light and there was very little fog. Winds were less than seasonal expectation. No hail or thunderstorms were reported.

Temperature: At last, the warm up! After seven consecutive months with below-normal temperatures, February turned in a positive-anomaly average: 53.9°F vs. 53.2°F. Daytime temperatures accounted for all the positive anomaly: 63.5°F vs. 61.7°F, average maximum, while the night time minimum temperature readings averaged a bit below normal: 44.3°F vs. 44.7°F. February 2002 started like the previous month ended – cold, at least by Monterey Peninsula standards! The turn around came about a third of the way through the month, and by month’s end eight days in the 70’s had been recorded, with 77°F as the highest, on 27 February. Along with February 1988 and February 1963, that is the most February days with maxima 70°F or above since 1954, when 15 such temperature days were recorded. The last 20 days of February 2002 closely match early May averages … hopefully a taste of things to come! Two daily maximum temperature records were set: 75°F on the 10th topped the previous record by 1°F, set in 1988, and the 73°F on the 28th was also record setting. Previous record was 72°F in 1992. The database is 51 years for these statistics. Frost and/or freezing temperatures were recorded at all of the reporting stations. See Comparative Weather Data page.

Precipitation: Not much to be excited about here! Only 1.58” fell in February 2002, on seven days with measurable precipitation, giving the area the driest February since 0.21” in February 1996 and the 14th driest February rainfall amount in 51 years of record keeping. 3.33” is the February normal. Hail and thunder were both absent in February 2002. The rain-year (1 July 2001 – 30 June 2002) total to the end of February stands at 12.73” (normal = 14.20”), which is almost two inches less than last year at this time. Recall that rain-year 2000/2001 was below normal. At month’s end there is considerable promise of returning back to "wet" by March 6 or 7.

Fog: Only three fog-days in February 2002. Combining February 2001 (with 1 fog day) and February 2002, represents the least number of fog-days for two consecutive February’s since February 1973, with no fog-days, and 1974 with two fog-days.

90-Day Average Temperature and Precipitation Outlook for the Central Coast: The National Weather Service 90-day outlook for March through May indicates near-normal rainfall, with temperatures near-to-above normal. Above-normal temperatures are expected east, and especially southeast, of the Monterey Peninsula through California, Nevada and Arizona.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature (°F)</th>
<th>Precipitation (inches)</th>
<th>Wind (mph)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Avg. Max.</td>
<td>Highest</td>
<td>Avg. Min.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWSCS</td>
<td>63.5</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>44.3</td>
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<td>NWSFO</td>
<td>65.5</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>42.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPS</td>
<td>61.9</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>42.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ft. Ord (NPS)</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>40.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marina</td>
<td>63.9</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>40.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Carmel Valley | 67.9 | 80 | 40.4 | 30 | 0.90\(^a\) | 11.78 | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
Salinas | 66.8 | 82 | 41.9 | 32 | 0.90\(^d\) | 6.55 | 11.23\(^+\) | ---- | ---- |
Carmel | ---- | ---- | ---- | Data not Available | at Publication time |
Seaside | 66.0 | 81 | 42.4 | 32 | 1.08\(^b\) | 9.81 | ---- | ---- |
Pacific Grove | 60.8 | 71 | 44.9 | 36 | 1.39\(^d\) | 11.56 | ---- | ---- |

**FOOTNOTES:**

Observations for precipitation: \(a = 5\) or \(6\) PM PST, \(b = \) midnight PST, \(c = 4\) PM local, \(d = 7\) or \(8\) AM local

(Note: for \(d\): 24-h rainfall measured \(8\) AM, first day of the month counts for previous month)

\(@ = 51\)-year average, \(# = 45\)-year average, \(+ = 17\)-year average, \& = 19-year average.

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**NWS Climate Station, Monterey, CA**

**February 2002**

**Temperature (degree F)**

**Precipitation (inches)**

- **Total = 1.58**
- **Average = 44.3**
- **Average = 63.5**

**Legend:**
- Yellow: Precipitation
- Blue: Minimum Temperature
- Red: Maximum Temperature