**SUMMARY of the February 2007 WEATHER ON THE MONTEREY PENINSULA**

**General:** Overall, February 2007 was very cool, with moderate to heavy rainfall in the local area. Several days with small hail, a few fog days and uncomfortable wind-chill conditions on several days, completed the mix of February weather.

**Temperature:** The average temperatures were up from January but not enough to exceed the normal. The 51.6°F overall average was 1.5°F below normal (based on 56 years of record), driven mostly by the cool days. February's average daily maximum of 58.1°F is 3.4°F below the 61.5°F normal. This is the seventh consecutive month of below normal daily maximums as well as the overall daily means. As a slight balance, the nighttime minimums averaged 45.2°F, which is above normal by 0.5°F.

There were 22 daytime maximums below normal in February! The very singular warm day, 17 February, saw the temperature rise to a record 76°F – a one-day heat wave, followed by a 52°C high the next day! Nighttime minimums were mostly in the 40’s and very low 50’s, with a low point of 38°F on the last day, during the final stages of a prolonged cold storm. The coolness was felt more sharply with gusty wind conditions at times, especially during the late-month storm. Example: a reading of 39°F and wind gusts of 20 mph late evening 27 February equates to an 18°F wind-chill temperature!

Record daily temperatures (for period 1949 –2007): COLD: 49°F maximum 1 February – new record for date (was 50°F in 1972), and to close out the month a 50°F maximum 28 February is a new record for the date (was 51°F 1990). The 76°F maximum 17 February is a record warm maximum for the date (was 74°F in 1977).

**Precipitation:** This part of the weather scenario was very active and varied. 3.80” fell in two extended rainfall periods: 7-13 February and 21-28 February. That amount exceeded the 3.27” normal (56 year database) and brought the NWS Climate Station Monterey closer to normal: 11.23” vs. 14.16” normal. There were thirteen rain days (rain day is a day with 0.01” or more) versus a normal of nine.

Temperatures were cool/cold the last week of the month, and small hail became a recurrent feature of the rain events. The NWSCS recorded small hail (diameter = 1/8th inch or less) on four days, mostly during the many shower events the last three days of February. Reports from Pacific Grove, Carmel and Seaside are similar, with (apparently) fewer hail events in the Carmel Valley and in the Salinas area. There was snow on the regional mountains to the east and south of the Monterey Peninsula most days from 22-28 February. Snow levels as low as 1500 feet were reported. Our Carmel observer experienced small hail and/or snow on Highway 1, on the approach to Big Sur area, on 22 February.

It appears that El Nino ocean conditions in the equatorial eastern North Pacific Ocean are about over – a transition from neutral to La Nina (cold equatorial temperatures) conditions may be underway within the next few months. See forecast page.

**Wind:** Maximum wind gusts didn’t exceed the low 30’s (mph) and were associated with the effects of the approach and passage of several weather systems during the month. Dates of maximum gust varied widely among the stations (see data page). 28 mph was the maximum gust at the NWS Climate Station, on 5 February.
Fog: The number of fog days was even less than the February norm would suggest – three vs. six days. Fog occurrence stays low for another two months – seven and eight days, respectively, in March and April.

NOTE: The Monthly Monterey Peninsula Weather Summary is available electronically using the following website address: http://www.weather.nps.navy.mil/renard_wx/. Click on a given month and year to see the desired weather summary. Listings go back to January 1992. The latest weather summary is generally available by the fifth of the month following.

Temperatures and Precipitation Outlook for the Central Coast for period March 2007 thru May 2007: The latest National Weather Service outlook for the Central Coast area indicates nearly equal probabilities of below-, near-, and above-normal temperature and precipitation in the three-month period. Eastern California and the intermountain western states can look forward to a greater likelihood of above normal temperatures, and, relatively dry conditions are expected in southeastern California, southern Nevada, southwestern Utah and western Arizona.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rainfall (inches)</th>
<th>Normal Max/Min Temps (°F)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 3.14</td>
<td>March 62.1 45.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1.62</td>
<td>April 63.4 45.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 0.50</td>
<td>May 64.6 48.1</td>
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</table>

Comparative Weather Data for Stations on/near the Monterey Peninsula & Salinas

February 2007

Following are comparative figures from eleven local observation sites:

1. National Weather Service Climate Station (NWSCS), (elevation 385') located in the western hilly section of Monterey;
2. National Weather Service Forecast Office (NWSFO) site (elevation 122'), located in the flat area of eastern Monterey, on the NPS Annex grounds adjacent to Airport;
3. Naval Postgraduate School Campus (NPS) site, Monterey; (elevation 45');
4. Ft. Ord (NPS) site (elevation 167') located just north of the Marina Municipal Airport (formerly Fritzschie Army Airfield).
   This is the site of the Naval Postgraduate School's wind profilers managed by Department of Meteorology;
5. Marina site, SE end of Marina located about 2-1/2 miles ESE of Monterey Bay (elevation 80');
6. Carmel Valley site near Carmel Village, vicinity of Ford Rd. and Lilac Lane (elevation 475');
7. Salinas site, vicinity of W. Blanco Rd. within 1/2 mile of S. Main St.;
8. Carmel, located on Rio Road near east end;
9. Seaside, vicinity of Paralta and Military Aves;
10. Pacific Grove site, vicinity of Sunset and Congress Streets;
11. Big Sur Ranger Station, Highway 1, Big Sur.

<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 Avg. Min. Lowest</td>
<td>This Month 01 Jul-28 Feb (rain year) Normal Peak Gust (dates) Avg. Speed</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWSCS</td>
<td>58.1</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>45.2 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Precipitation</td>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWSFO</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>44.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPS</td>
<td>58.9</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>44.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ft. Ord (NPS)</td>
<td>59.3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>40.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marina</td>
<td>60.8</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>43.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carmel Valley</td>
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<td>Big Sur</td>
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**FOOTNOTES:**

Observations for precipitation: a = 5 or 6 PM PST, b = midnight PST, c = 3 or 4 PM local, d = 6 to 8 AM local (NOTE: for d: 24-h rainfall measured 8 AM, first day of the month counts for previous month) @ = 56-year average, # = 50-year average, + = 24-year average, & = 20-year average.