



North Dakota

Monthly Climate Summary

January 2013

Precipitation:

Precipitation amounts were below normal for most of North Dakota with most areas being less than 50% of normal based on the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC) analysis (Figure 1). The far southeast corner had above normal precipitation of ~140%. HPRCC total precipitation amounts were less than 0.6 inches for all but the southeast corner which had approximately an inch of precipitation. A winter storm that tracked across the state on the 11th and 12th brought two day snow totals ranging from 7 inches to less than an inch. The winter storm on the 28th brought a wintry mix that turned to snow. The National Weather Service (NWS) had the highest snow accumulations in the east and included Mooreton with 13", Colfax with 10.5" and Lidgerwood with 10". The U.S. Drought Monitor January 29th report listed 65.47% of the state as having anywhere from Abnormally Dry (D0) through Severe Drought (D2). The Severe Drought (D2) was reported for 30.55% of the state with 34.53% of the state having no drought conditions.

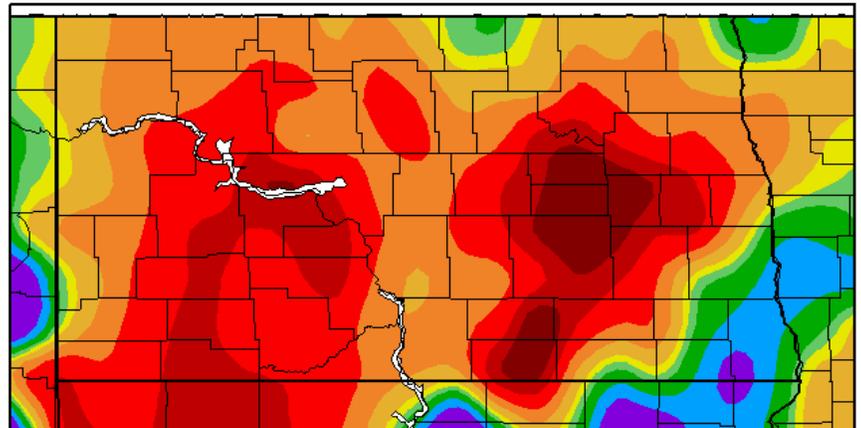


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in January 2013 for North Dakota (High Plains Regional Climate Center, HPRCC)

Temperature:

NDAWN January average air temperatures ranged from ~4 °F in the northeast to ~18 °F in the southwest. Departure from normal average air temperatures ranged from -2 °F to 3 °F (Figure 2). Daily average air temperatures were near normal or above for the first 10 days. Arctic air moved in on the 11th and brought below normal temperatures that lingered through the 14th. Temperatures rebounded to near normal for most areas from the 15th through the 18th. Cold air moved in on the 19th driving temperatures well below normal with minimum air temperatures dropping to below -20 °F over the next few days in the northeast. Temperatures gradually climbed to near normal by the 28th but then took a sharp turn to below normal temperatures for most that lasted through the end of the month.

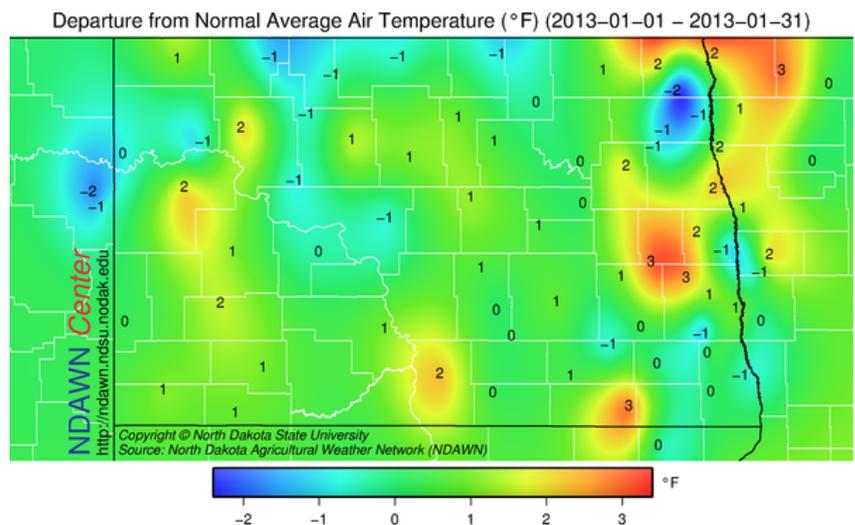


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in January 2013 for North Dakota (North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network, NDAWN)