

DATA SUMMARIES AND CLIMATIC-EXTREMES ASSESSMENTS FOR THE NORTHERN COLORADO PLATEAU NETWORK

Summarized from: *Climate Monitoring Protocols for the Park Units in the Northern Colorado Plateau Network*

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Climate Station Summaries for the NCPN

- The common variables summarized for all stations will include minimum, maximum, and average temperature, and precipitation.
- Assessments of climatic extremes will compare current-year conditions with historical trends. Extremes are defined as values that occur near or exceed historical limits.
- Assessments of climatic extremes will eventually be performed using a web-tool application. This tool will allow a user to implement customized analyses of climatic extremes.
- All climatic parameters stored for the NCPN are stored in an NCPN climate database. When implemented, users of the database will be able to select specific climatic parameters for analysis, to specify observational periods for comparisons, and to specify types of analytical summaries. This web application will provide park staff with the capability to perform assessments of climatic trends and extremes on an as needed
- Network-wide comparisons will consist, at a minimum, of arraying key climatic variables along environmental gradients of the NCPN park units, and a similar qualitative comparison of climatic extremes. The network comparison of climatic extremes initially will focus on trends in the percentage of observations that exceed a specific historical level.