June 2011

Precipitation:

Percent of normal precipitation ranged from approximately 40% to 250% (Figure 1. North Dakota State Climate Office). The northwest, eastern, and southwestern corner had above normal precipitation and below normal elsewhere. The North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN) June rainfall totals ranged from 1.07 inches at Brorson, MT to 6.89 inches at Streeter. The first half of the month

was relatively dry and warm. During the second half of the month there was a significant rain

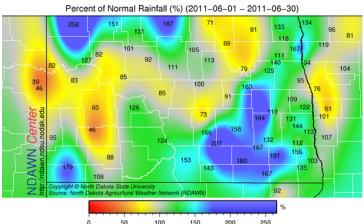


Figure 1. Precipitation Percent of Normal in June 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

event someplace in North Dakota almost daily. Major unprecedented flooding occurred along the Souris (Mouse) river. Heavy rains in western North Dakota and neighboring Canada contributed to the flooding. Towns along the Souris river including Minot, Burlington, Sawyer, and Velva were affected. Minot being the 4th largest city in North Dakota evacuated a fourth of its population. An estimated 11,000 people were evacuated in less than 24 hours. Many homes and business were damaged or lost. At Minot the river crested on the 25th at 1561.72 feet breaking the previous record set in 1881 of 1558 feet. See photos posted at the end of this article.

Temperature:

NDAWN June average air temperatures ranged from 60 °F to 66 °F. NDAWN departure from normal temperatures ranged from 1 °F to -2 °F (Figure 2. North Dakota State Climate Office). The beginning of the month had a few very warm days with above normal temperatures. The 7th through the 11th were cool and below normal for most locations. The rest of the month had fairly steady near normal temperatures. The last couple days of the month were hot with temperatures in the high 80's and 90's. The minimum temperatures in east on the 29th were in the 70's. Fargo set a

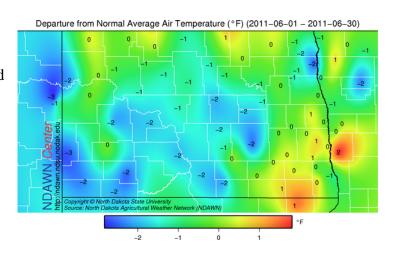


Figure 2. Temperature Departure from Normal in June 2011 for North Dakota (North Dakota State Climate Office)

new record high minimum temperature of 76 °F on the 30th.



Photos by Bismarck National Weather Service Forecast Office.