Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO Weather Station Monthly Summary Report

Month: May
Year: 2013

Temperature:

Mean T_{max} was 71.8 which is 0.7 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 34th warmest in the 125 year record (1889-2013) tied with 1991.

Mean T_{min} was 44.5 degrees which is the normal for the month. This ranks as the 21st warmest in the 125 year record (1889-2013) tied with 1988.

Mean T_{mean} was 58.2 degrees which is 0.4 degrees above the normal for the month. This ranks as the 27th warmest in the 125 year record (1889-2013) tied with 1897.

Spring (MAM) mean temperature was 47.3 degrees which is 2.1 degrees below the normal for the season. This ranks as the 49th warmest spring in the 125 year record (1889-2013).

The maximum daily temperature was 86 and occurred on 13 May 2013.
The minimum daily temperature was 17 and occurred on 2 May 2013.

A time series of temperatures for Fort Collins, CO is shown in Figure 1 below.

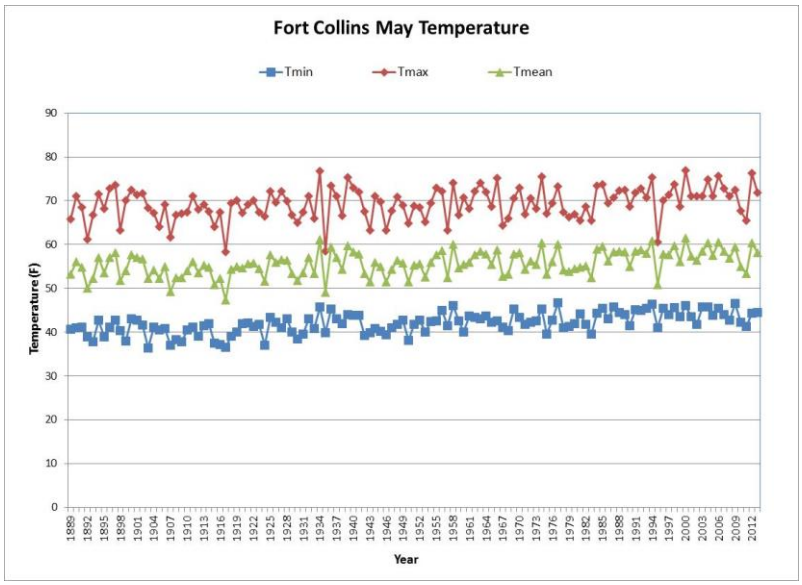

Figure 1: May temperature time series

Misc. Temperature (record status, days above/below thresholds):

Lowest Minimum Temperature:
2 May 2013: The low temperature of 17 degrees broke the old record of 24 set in 1929.

Highest Minimum Temperature:
26 May 2013: The low temperature of 55 degrees broke the old record of 54 set in 1953 and 2012.

Precipitation and Snowfall:

Total monthly precipitation was 2.83" and was 0.40" above the normal for the month (117% of normal). This ranks as the 48th wettest in the 125 year record (1889-2013) tied with 1990.

Spring (MAM) precipitation was 6.65" and was 0.57" above the normal for the spring season (109%). This ranks as the 45th wettest spring in the 125 year record (1889-2013).

Water year 2013 precipitation total was 8.51" and was 0.78" below the normal for the water year through May (92% of normal). This ranks as the 60th driest water year through May in the 124 year record (1890-2013).

Total monthly snowfall was 12.9” which is 12.2” above the normal for the month (1843% of normal, the normal is 0.7”). This ranks as the 3rd snowiest May in the 125 year record (1889-2013). The last May this snowy was 1978 with 27.8”. Table 1 shows the top 5 May snowfall years.

Table 1: Highest five May snowfall totals.

Year	May Snowfall (in)
1978	27.8
1898	13.0
2013	12.9
1908	11.5
1979	9.1

Seasonal snowfall was 79.2” which is 23.4” above the normal for the season (142% of normal). This ranks as the 7th snowiest season in the 124 year snow season record (1890-2013). The last season with this much snow was 2010 with 88.7”. Table 2 shows the highest 10 snowfall seasons.

Table 2: Highest 10 seasonal snowfall totals.

Year	Seasonal Snowfall (in)
1980	114.0
1988	89.4
2010	88.7
1984	83.5
1917	82.2
1909	79.9
2013	79.2
1979	79.0
1907	77.2
1920	77.2

Time series of May and water year precipitation are shown in figure 2.

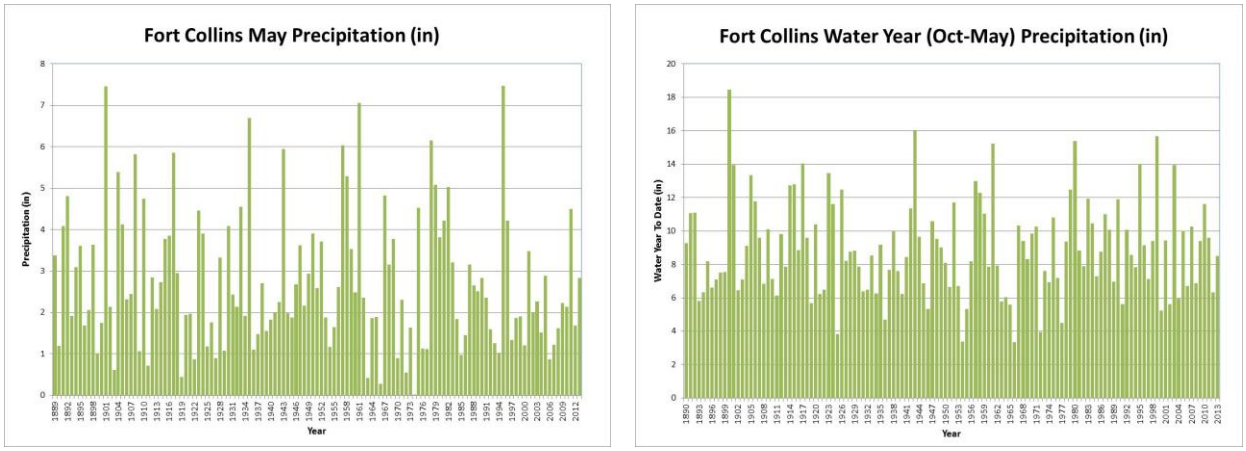

Figure 2: May (left) and water year (right) precipitation time series.

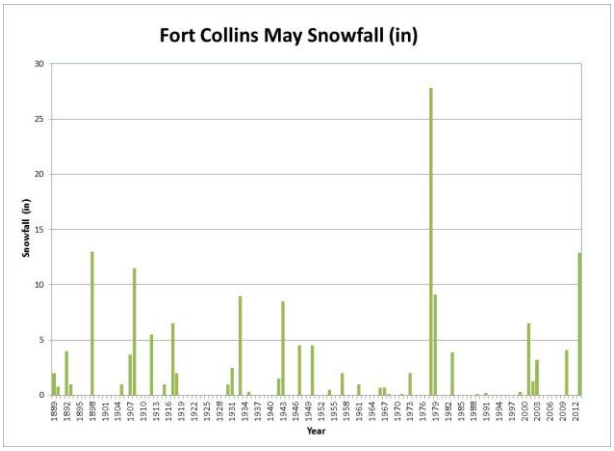

Figure 3: May snowfall time series.

Misc. Precipitation (predominant type, record status, etc.):

Maximum Daily Snowfall:
1 May 2013: Daily snowfall of 12.8" breaks the old daily snowfall record of 2.0" set in 1973.

Wind:

In May 2013 there were 18 days with maximum wind gusts ≥ 20 mph and 3 days ≥ 30 mph.

The maximum daily wind gust for the month was 35 mph and occurred on 14 May 2013 at 10:10 MST from 140°.

Evaporation:

May 2013 pan evaporation was 5.87” which was 0.05” below the normal (99% of normal).