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Assessing the U.S. Climate in 2018

Warm temperatures and significant precipitation round out 2018



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For 2018, the nationally averaged precipitation for the contiguous U.S. was 34.63 inches, based on preliminary analysis. This total was 4.69 inches above average, the

wettest in the past 35 years, and third wettest since the modern record began in 1895. The total was largely driven by record and near-record annual precipitation across much of the eastern United States. The average annual temperature for the contiguous U.S. was 53.5°F, 1.5°F above the 20th century average. This was the 14th warmest year on record and made 2018 the 22nd consecutive warmer-than-average year for the U.S. (1997 through 2018).

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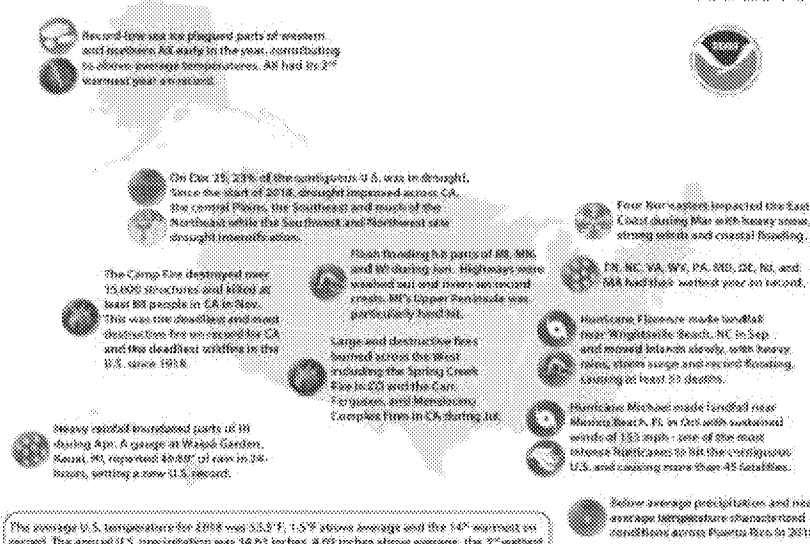
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