

At least a thousand square miles of Refuge lands were converted into a vast inland sea. Three feet of water was recorded in the field headquarters cabin on May 13th.



Spring flooding at the Refuge field camp. (PS 5/93)

The summer months were relatively warm and dry. However, few wildfires occurred due to a lack of thunderstorm activity. Temperatures during July reached 87 degrees on the 20th and 21st. As expected, late summer weather turned wet with nearly four inches of precipitation being recorded in August. In a preview of things to come, our first frost was recorded on August 22nd, and was repeated on the 24th and 31st.

The autumn of 1993 was one to remember. A total of 6.18 inches of precipitation (+4.20 departure from normal) resulted in a new record for the wettest September documented. On 9/28, 1.8 inches of snow covered the ground but melted quickly during the next 24 hours when we received 1.04 inches of rain. The Kuskokwim River and its tributaries remained very high throughout the month, threatening to flood the town of McGrath. While we escaped fall flooding, the extreme high water hampered moose hunting efforts, and many families which rely on moose for subsistence were disappointed.

The remainder of the year was relatively warm and dry. Tables B.1 and B.2 summarize temperature and precipitation data for this reporting period.