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News

Utah cold spot ties another monthly low record

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Peter Sinks, a frequent cold spot for the continental United States, racked up yet another record last week. Located about 20 miles northeast of Logan, the Sinks logged a minus 15 at 5:44 a.m. -- tying the mark for the lowest May temperature in the Lower 48. The same temperature was recorded in 1964 on White Mountain, Calif., at 14,000 feet, according to extreme weather aficionado Trent McCotter. Peter Sinks sits at 8,164 elevation. The lowest May temperature ever recorded in the United States was minus 25 at Chandalar Lake, Alaska, in 1992. Peter Sinks is unusually frigid because cold air pools at the bottom of a mountain basin, often in still, early-morning air. A monitor at the site has logged the lowest temperature in the nation (including Alaska) on 24 days since October. For 75 days, it was colder than anywhere else in the continental United States.

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