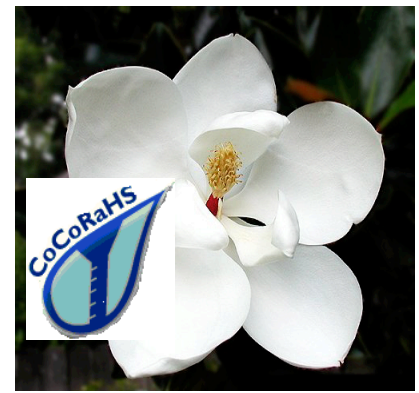
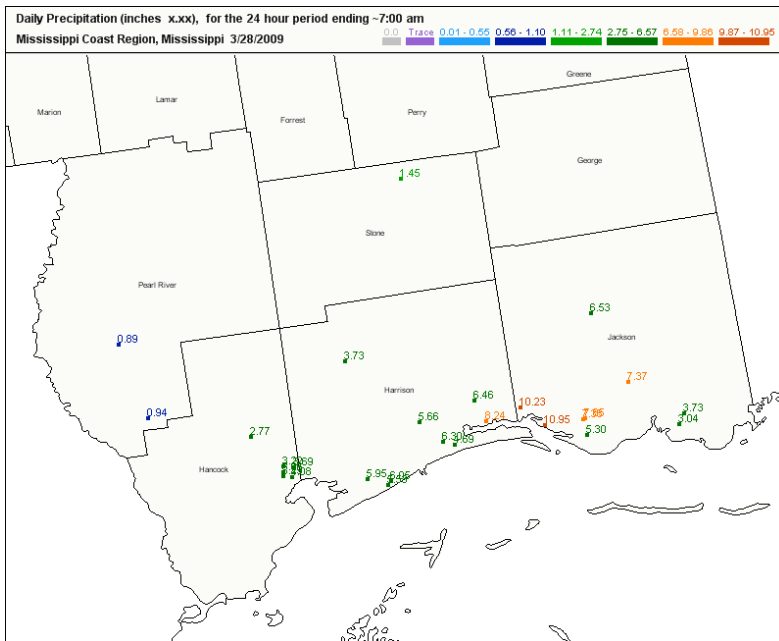


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## Southern Mississippi CoCoRaHS Newsletter

### April 2009



### **Heavy rains cause flooding in the end of March**

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, a slow moving cold front eventually stalled across the Mississippi coast. Most stations accumulated around 2 inches of rainfall on the 26<sup>th</sup> with the initial frontal push. Once the system stalled, rich gulf moisture moved onshore and dumped copious amounts of rainfall along the immediate coast and coupled with heavier rainfall farther inland from the previous night. Rainfall totals the morning of the 28<sup>th</sup> ranged from 3 to 11 inches, with the greatest amounts coming from the Biloxi and Ocean Springs areas. The heavy rains resulted in extensive street flooding and some flooding of homes. The orange and red totals in the image left range from 7 to nearly 11 inches. Thanks everyone for timely reporting of your rainfall totals for this historic event. In many ways, this event resembled the flooding rains of May 9, 1995 - just a few inches less.

### **March Wettest reports**

The wettest location in the Magnolia State for the entire month of March was in Stone County, **Wiggins 5.5 ENE (MS-ST-2)** with 16.96 inches reported in 27 days. Along the coast, the wettest location was **St. Martin 0.7 NNW (MS-JC-7)** with 15.26 inches on a perfect 31 day reporting. Of this high total, 10.23 inches fell on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The single wettest day in Mississippi was reported at **Ocean Springs 1.7 W (MS-JC-15)** with 10.95 inches reported on March 28<sup>th</sup>, and indicated in the image above on the eastern shore of Biloxi Bay.

### **State of the Network**

In March, Mississippi had 99 stations out of 182 active stations record 2424 observations in 31 days. The statewide network appears to have added 23 new members in March. In my southern counties, we are now up to 51 observers with 2 new observers signing in March and 4 more in early April. Several of the new members are involved with the MS Department of Marine Resources – Oyster Stewardship program. The most active observation days were March 26<sup>th</sup> and March 28<sup>th</sup> when 88 people filed measureable rainfall in Mississippi.

### **March Madness**

Preliminary numbers show the state of Mississippi added about 18 new members during March Madness. We added just 2 more folks in the southernmost counties. Do not fret, however, because recruiting is a year-round activity. We really did well in January and February across the southern tier of counties. I will continue to seek out help in the southwestern counties, and hopefully the recent heavy rains will be a good selling point for new recruits.

### **Open House**

This is another reminder that the National Weather Service Office in Slidell will be hosting an open house on Saturday, May 16, 2009. A CoCoRaHS booth will be present along with many other weather and emergency operations activities for all to enjoy. Come out and meet the weather forecasters, our partners and fellow CoCoRaHS observers.