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Southern Mississippi CoCoRaHS Newsletter
January 2009

End of Year Summary

The state of Mississippi has been officially within the national CoCoRaHS network since August 1, 2008. The table below contains the total amount of rain reported by you at the close of 2008. There were a total of 153 official reporting days.

Carriere 3.2 SSW (MS-PR-1) leads with the most observations. **Liberty 6.4 ENE (MS-AM-1)** accumulated the most rainfall with 33.43" and had the highest average for locations with more than 50% reporting days (>77 obs). Please find your station and see how you compare with the rest of our network observers in the southern counties.

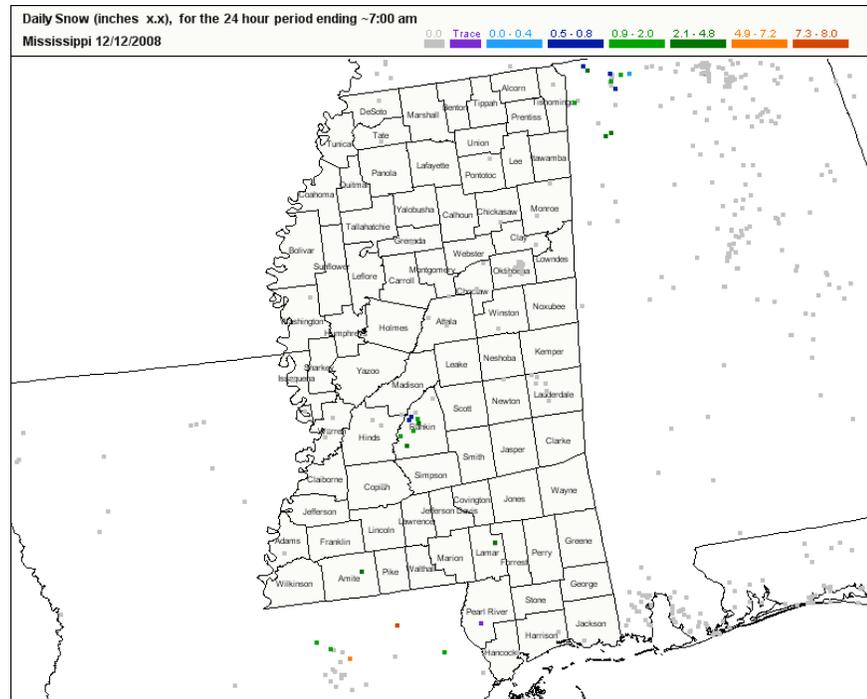
<i>Station ID</i>	<i>Station Name</i>	<i>Rain (in)</i>	<i>Num obs</i>	<i>Avg/ob</i>
MS-AM-1	Liberty 6.4 ENE	33.43	121	0.28
MS-HC-1	Bay St. Louis 1.8 NW	2.41	8	0.30
MS-HC-2	Diamondhead 0.6 WNW	10.76	21	0.51
MS-HC-3	Diamondhead 1.6 ENE	14.06	24	0.59
MS-HC-4	Kiln 8.2 N	4.77	17	0.28
MS-HC-5	Diamondhead 0.9 NNW	4.66	31	0.15
MS-HR-1	Biloxi 2.1 W	2.64	14	0.19
MS-HR-2	Biloxi 6.6 NNW	15.50	145	0.11
MS-HR-3	Biloxi 4.3 NNW	25.24	130	0.19
MS-HR-4	Long Beach 1.2 S	0.00	0	0.00
MS-HR-5	Gulfport 2.9 ENE	1.19	2	0.60
MS-JC-1	Ocean Springs 3.0 E	11.70	121	0.10
MS-JC-2	Ocean Springs 3.3 E	7.30	91	0.08
MS-JC-3	Ocean Springs 0.7 S	0.00	0	0.00
MS-JC-4	Vancleave 4.9 SSW	0.00	0	0.00
MS-PK-1	Summit 0.7 SSW	0.00	0	0.00
MS-PR-1	Carriere 3.2 SSW	28.79	149	0.19

December Monthly Maxima

For the entire state of Mississippi, the wettest location for the month of December was **West Point 1.0 SSE (MS-CY-1)** in Clay County with 13.32 inches. Across Southern Mississippi, **Liberty 6.4 ENE (MS-AM-1)** took a clean sweep in all categories for December. This location had the wettest single day reported on December 11th with 2.11" of liquid with some 2.6 inches of melted snow depth. This added to the leading monthly accumulation of 6.42 inches on 26 reports from **Liberty 6.4 ENE**. The wettest single day in the entire state was 5.78 inches measured on December 10th at **Cary 0.2 WSW** in Sharkey County.

Rare early snow in the Magnolia State

On the morning of December 11th, the area was treated to a rare winter wonderland in early December. A cold rain during the overnight hours turned over to sleet then snow shortly after daybreak that Thursday morning. The heaviest snow swath occurred just south of the Mississippi state line in Southeast Louisiana, where locations in Tangipahoa and Livingston Parishes reported 6 to 8 inches. This is the earliest recorded measured snow event in southern Louisiana. Trace snow on the ground was still being reported two morning's later. Thank all of you that measured and reported snow. You helped tremendously in filling in the gaps where snow depth can have a large range of measurements. On the image right, the orange dot south of Pike County in Louisiana was one of the highest measurements for this event. Some snow measurements were noted as far north as the Jackson area.



State of the Network

We added one new observer in December in Jackson County. This now brings the total in my area to 17 in southern Mississippi. I may be visiting Mike Reader at WLOX-TV to discuss announcements for public participation in CoCoRaHS. I also have a contact at the Biloxi Sun Herald and will be meeting with her to discuss possibly running a story on CoCoRaHS. Hopefully, this will help to expand the word and increase membership.

CoCoRaHS meeting with the Mississippi oyster industry

I will be in Long Beach, MS the evening of January 13th to discuss CoCoRaHS and see if we can assist the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Shellfish Bureau with their Oyster Stewardship program. I am told this is a group of about 100 oystermen that may be added to the observer rosters if they approve. At stake is a means of using higher density rainfall observations to regulate when the oyster beds are opened or closed for harvesting due to rainfall runoff contamination into the bays during excessive rain events. CoCoRaHS will simply be providing an easy means of entering and monitoring rainfall reports from the Mississippi coastal counties. I will let you know how things went in the next newsletter. If you see a huge influx of new observers along the coast, then you will know it was a success.

Keep those rain reports coming. Make every drop count.

Happy New Year!!!