March Not So Madness

Well after a month of fairly active weather, Louisiana only managed to sign 4 new recruits during the annual March Madness drive. Two were in the southwest part of the state and two were from the north part of the state. Unfortunately, workload issues and busy weather have limited my recruiting activities lately. Recruiting just doesn’t occur in March, however, so the drive to add folks where we are sparsely covered remains a priority. As time allows, I will continue to push for new members in parishes we lack coverage. Meanwhile, welcome to the new members. I am sure the shaky economy and other life issues may play a part in getting new recruits. Many thanks to those of you that take the time and effort to volunteer. I hope you enjoy doing this as much as I do.

March Statistics

- **Wettest Month State & local:**
  - LA-JF-1 Terrytown 3.3 S
  - 6.00” on Mar 30th

- **Driest Month State:**
  - LA-NT-2 Natchitoches 0.9 NE
  - 0.48 inches on 31 reports

- **Number of Rain Days:** 14

- **Wettest Day State & local:**
  - LA-JF-1 Terrytown 3.3 S
  - 6.00” on Mar 30th

- **Hail Days:** 2
  - Mar 26 - 10:45 PM (1/4” Pea)
  - LA-BV-1 Bienville 0.5 S
  - Mar 30 5:30 AM (1 1/4” Half Dollar)
  - LA-CC-14 Lake Charles 4.8 SSE
  - Mar 30 5:30 AM (1 1/2” Ping Pong)
  - LA-SL-1 Grand Coteau 2.7 E
  - Mar 30 6:45 AM (1/4 Pea)
  - LA-LY-5 Lafayette 7.5 SSW

March 29-30 rainfall—Orange dots are 3.61 to 5.40 inches, red dots are 5.41 to 6.00 inches.
"Because every drop counts"

Drought conditions are worsening in Texas and are showing signs of spreading east into Western Louisiana. The National Drought Monitor image below is the latest release, showing D4 or Exceptional Drought conditions emerging over the Texas Piney Woods region. A few heavy rain events in eastern part of Louisiana has slowed the drought spread some, but conditions will have to be continuously monitored for possible deterioration over time.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drought Conditions</th>
<th>Percent Alarea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>10.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Year</td>
<td>13.68</td>
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<td>Previous Year</td>
<td>14.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Previous Year (4yr)</td>
<td>14.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Previous Year (8yr)</td>
<td>14.34</td>
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</tbody>
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**Reporting Statistics (March)**
- Stations reporting: 104
- Number of reports: 2263
- Average daily reporting: 73.0

**Busiest Reporting Day**
- Date: Mar 9th
- Number of Reports: 87
- Average reported rainfall: 0.89”
- Max amount: 4.84”

**Wettest Reporting Day**
- Date: Mar 30th
- Number of Reports: 86
- Average reported rainfall: 1.46”
- Max amount: 6.00”

Baseball sized hail stone fetched from the March 29th severe weather event. This photo was sent from Clinton, LA, forwarded to the NWS office from a Baton Rouge media outlet.

**We're on the Web!**
www.cocorahs.org

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