"Because every drop counts"

Community Collaborative Rainfall, Hail, and Snow Network

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Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter

It was early June since the last newsletter. Apologies for the long delay but I have been involved with other obligations recently that needed some attention. The NWS office in Slidell hosted four college student volunteers that were engaged in exciting research projects for the past two months. I served as mentor and project lead. These projects are above and beyond the routine grind, and when we get extra help from students, it makes for great opportunities to delve into the science. I will summarize the past two months below in narrative form this time to get everyone up-to-speed.

June Summary

"Record high temps!!" - comment of the month from Baton Rouge 1.4 WSW (LA-EB-46) on the 26th, summarizing a few hot days with temperatures around 101 on the 25th and 26th.

June averaged 76.3 reports per day statewide, with 98 stations reporting at least once during the month for a total of 2290 observations. The busiest reporting day was June 1st, with 83 stations reporting an average of 0.45 inches per station. The highest report was 2.13 inches that day. The wettest average day was June 10th, with an average of 0.79 inches and a max of 5.64 inches on 73 reports. The wettest location statewide (and locally) was **LSU (LA-EB-33)** with a monthly total of 12.24 inches on a perfect 30 days reporting. The single wettest day was also at **LSU** on the 7th, when 7.35 inches of rain was recorded. The driest location locally was **New Roads 2.7 ESE (LA-PC-2)**, with only 1.15 inches measured on 22 days. There were 19 rain days (more than 0.01" average). On the 7th, many locations reported multiple inches of rainfall, between 3 to 7 inches in the Baton Rouge area. Four locations measured more than 10 inches for the month. Some small hail was reported in the Lafayette and Baton Rouge areas on the 6th.

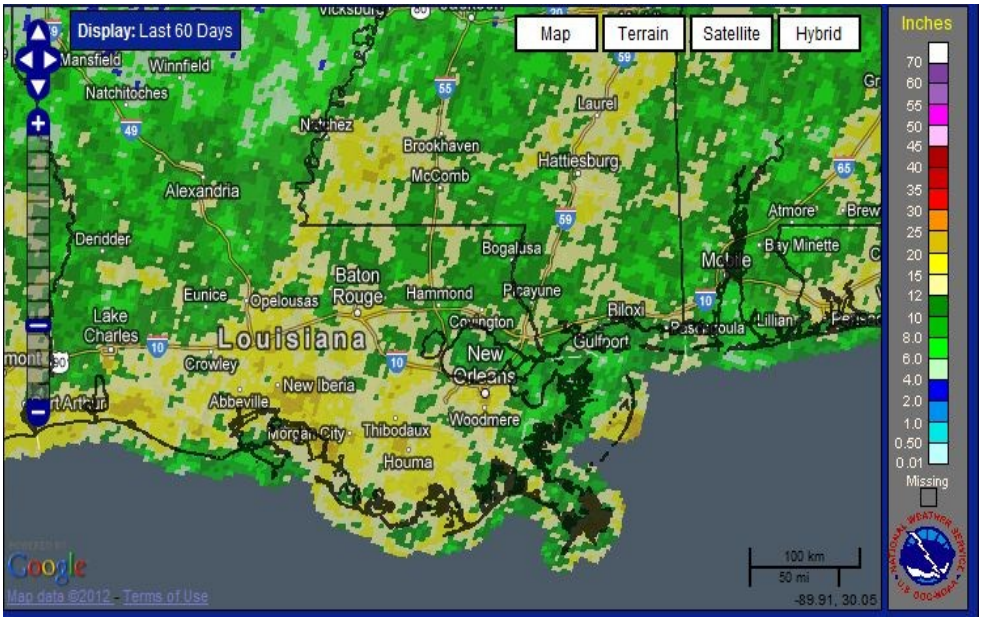
July Summary

"Third day in a row with at or above 3 inches of rain. Lawns oozing water all night, backyard completely flooded with no where for additional rain to go." - comment of the month from Meraux 0.8 WNW (LA-SB-1) on the 28th.

July was a very wet month in some locations across southeast Louisiana. **Meraux 0.8 WNW (LA-SB-1)** recorded 18.97 inches on 31 reports for the wettest location in the state. The single wettest day statewide was **Baton Rouge 3.5 E (LA-EB-14)** when 4.83 inches was reported the morning of the 9th. Meanwhile, not too far away, **Zachary 3.5 WNW (LA-EB-28)** on measured 4.85 inches for the entire month for the driest location locally. No hail was reported for the month statewide. Louisiana averaged 78.7 reports per day with 104 observers logging 2440 observations. The busiest reporting day was the 12th, with 93 stations averaging 0.62 inches and a max reading of 2.80 inches. The wettest average day was the 21st, when 78 stations averaged 0.99 inches and a max of 4.42 inches. In all, 17 stations reported more than 10 inches of rainfall statewide, primarily in the southern half of the Bayou State.

A wet summer in the Deep South while the rest of the nation experiences drought

While the rest of interior part of the United States is baking in record heat and very little rainfall, the same can not be said across the Middle Gulf region. The past 60 days have seen rainfall totals ranging from 6 to 25 inches. The image, below, is courtesy of the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center, depicting the last two month's rainfall accumulation. The greens are generally 6 to 12 inches, while the yellows are 12 to 25 inches. The National Drought Monitor indicates that nearly 62 percent of the nation is experiencing drought conditions at this time. As shown in the image far below, the mid-Gulf states are not in such conditions. These are different times compared to this time last year when the Gulf States were undergoing drought and dryness while river flooding was occurring farther north.



New Members

The NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge Office recently placed a CoCoRaHS recruitment banner on the top of the webpage. This showed some success, as we added a few more observers to the roster as a result. Welcome to those new individuals in Tangipahoa and Livingston Parishes.