



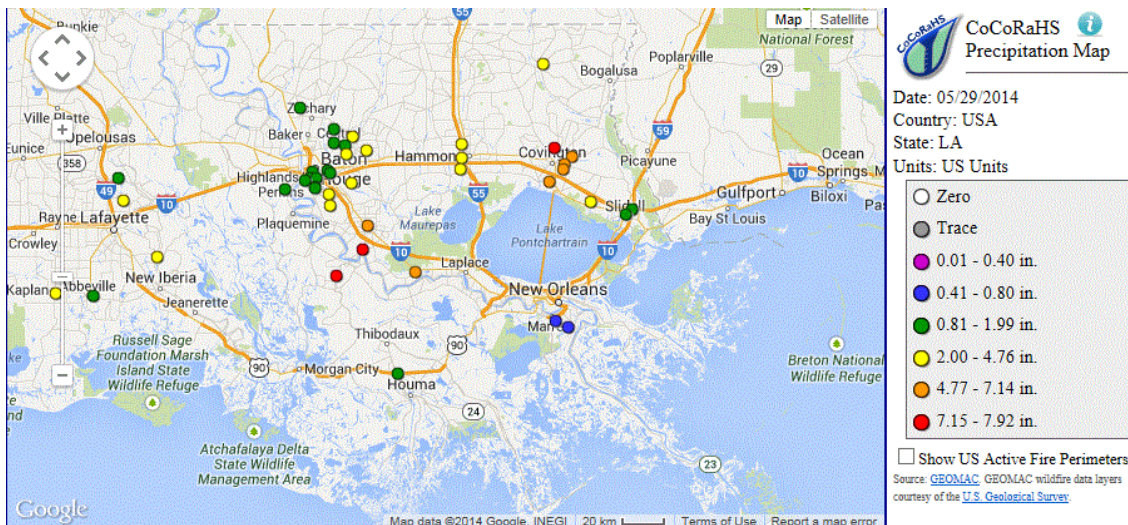
Southeast Louisiana CoCoRaHS Newsletter

Jun 1, 2014

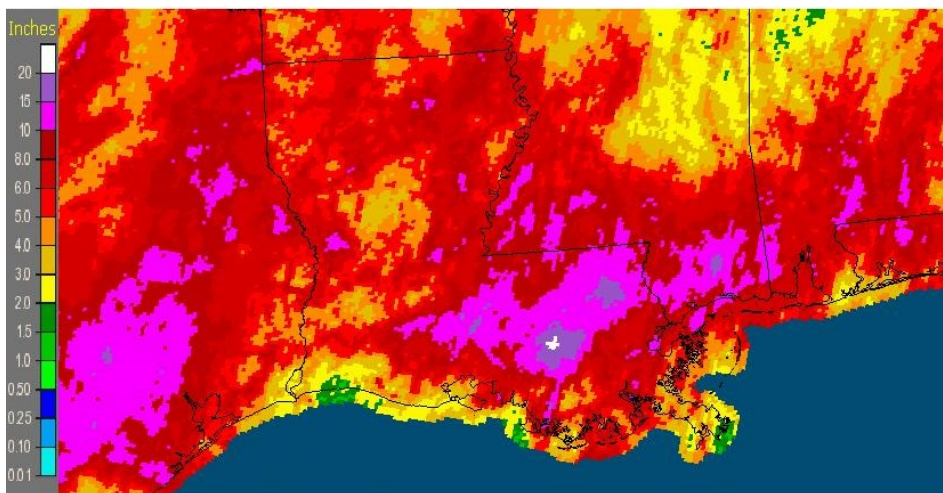
"Because every drop counts"

Two wet periods in May with a 2 week dry spell in between

Heavy rain episodes hit parts of Southeast Louisiana in two distinctive bouts. The first wet episode was on the 9th, when flooding occurred in New Orleans and the River Parishes up to Baton Rouge. Rain amounts ranged from 4 to 9 inches in one day. Then high pressure settled into the region and maintained a two week dry spell for middle May. An upper level low pressure system then developed and became stuck over the Ark-La-Tex region. This is typically a wet pattern and the last few days of May followed suit. A band of heavy rains became established from Morgan City to Convent to Covington, where an axis of 4 to 8 inches of accumulation took place on the 28th and early 29th. The image below shows this band with the orange and red dots (4.77 to 7.92 inches) flanked by relatively lower amounts on both sides. Incidentally, the City of New Orleans was spared, but outskirts had significant flooding in Convent, Gonzales and Covington. The monthly totals also show the maximum white bull's eye greater than 20 inches in the vicinity of Gramercy (image far below). In all, much of southeast Louisiana had more than 8 inches for the month, with 50 observations over 10 inches for May.



Louisiana: May, 2014 Monthly Observed Precipitation
Valid at 6/1/2014 1200 UTC- Created 6/1/14 23:37 UTC



MAY STATISTICS

Wettest/Driest/Hail/Reporting

- ◆ Wettest Month, State & Local - 24.26" on 29 reports at Gramercy 0.4 NW (LA-SJ-2)
- ◆ Wettest Day, State & Local – 11.42" on the 28th at Gonzales 4.0 S (LA-AS-5)
- ◆ Number of Rain Days—13 with at least 0.01" average on a given day in the state.
- ◆ Driest Month, State — 2.85" on 26 reports at Lake Charles 11.5 SSW (LA-CM-3)
*NOTE: This is the second consecutive month this location was the driest.
- ◆ Driest Month, Local— 4.35" on 15 reports at Zachary 0.9 WSW (LA-EB-45)
- ◆ Hail Reports: None.
- ◆ Snow Reports: None.
- ◆ Stations Reporting: 104; Number of Reports: 2389; Average per day: 64.9
- ◆ Busiest Reporting Day: 14th, average: 0.46", max amount: 1.70", number of reports: 96
- ◆ Wettest Reporting Day: 10th, average 2.51", max amount 6.19", number of reports 91
- ◆ Number of perfect 31 report observers: 34 stations statewide (30 percent); 16 locally

Comment of the Month - From Gramercy 0.4 NW (LA-SJ-2) on May 28, 2014.

“Had to go out in a thunderstorm because my gauge was about to overflow.”

This location received 9.88" on this day, only to be outdone by Gonzales 4.0 S with 11.42" that day. It is very rare that the gauges will overflow, but this was very close. This was a great measure of dedication in getting a significant reading during a significant rain event. This comment was one of 342 entries submitted from Louisiana observers in May.

Hurricane Season starts once again

June 1st marks the start of the 2014 Atlantic hurricane season. This is a good time to review your preparedness plans in the event of a threat. Many may have heard the pre-seasonal outlook for a below normal season. These outlooks have very little utility other than for comparative purposes in a historical sense. The truth is—it only takes one storm to strike your area to make it a bad year. Hurricane Andrew was a devastating Category 5 storm that struck the Miami-Homestead area in 1992, a season that only saw 4 named storms. We can hope and pray that we are spared this season. If there is a threat, remember to not stay behind to read the rain gauge. CoCoRaHS can wait for a safe return to get a multi-day report.

Keep those DAILY rainfall reports coming!