

# The Catch

## **MORE OPPORTUNITIES**

FORT COLLINS, CO — Thursday, July 7, 2005

### **Weather folks**

This will be short. (OK -- not short, but shorter) There are a few more things I wanted to mention that I didn't get to yesterday.

We have some needs for more volunteer help. We also have some opportunities for those of you who would like to share your information with your local media.

First, there is a hail pad party coming up for the Denver Metro area

Steve Hamilton is hosting the second KOSI hail pad party off the summer on Saturday, July 16 from 10 AM to 1 PM

The location is the KOSI-FM studios, 4700 S. Syracuse St. Denver, Corporate Center, Tower 1, Suite 1050— the view is great, so hope there are some thunderheads developing -- If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Steve Hamilton at: [CoCoRaHS@gmail.com](mailto:CoCoRaHS@gmail.com)

### **CoCoRaHS Volunteer "Positions"**

#### **First position**

Wanted --"Historic Data Quality Inspector" We are looking for one volunteer who loves climate data (precipitation data in particular), who likes staring at computer screens, and has time to look over older CoCoRaHS maps and reports to find errors in older data (anywhere from one month ago to several years back).

We've noticed that some bad data have crept into our system from well-intentioned observers who have either gotten off by a day in their data entry or who have missed by one or two decimal places, or have entered zeroes by mistake. If you would like to pour over older CoCoRaHS data (it is really easy with the new database "search" functions) and do something that will really help the credibility of our data and our program, then please let me know.

nolan@atmos.colostate.edu

## **Second Position**

Wanted "Northern Colorado CoCoRaHS phone checker" We get quite a few phone calls every day on our Larimer/Jackson county CoCoRaHS phone line. One volunteer has faithfully checked this phone and entered the data into the computer. She is still willing to help but would like a team member to share this responsibility. It probably takes an average of 20 minutes per day once you're experienced. If you are interested, please contact me. It is recommended that you reside within local calling distance of Fort Collins or else that you have unlimited free long distance service so that you can call, with no cost to you, to a Fort Collins phone number.

If you are interested in helping enter phone messages into the computer, please contact me.

## **Additional Positions**

County volunteer coordinators

As we have expanded into all of Colorado and many adjacent states, we have outgrown our capacity to easily recruit new observers, provide training, distribute supplies and stay in touch in a personal way. If you are in one of our counties where there is no local contact point for CoCoRaHS and no easy way to get supplies, etc. AND if you have a few hours to spare now and then to help out, then let us know. Most counties in New Mexico, Kansas, and Texas do not have local coordinators. So if you'd like to help, let us know.

## **Opportunities to share weather data and expertise.**

KOA Radio in Denver is seeking weather spotters to call in severe or interesting weather. If you live anywhere in the large listening area of 850 KOA Radio and would like to share your observations and possibly do on-air interviews, please contact:

Kathy Walker  
News Director  
KOA-Denver  
303-713-8500  
KathyWalker@850koa.com

Other radio stations throughout our multi-state area would also appreciate their own "weather eye-witnesses". KOA was not the only station to ask me about this. We do NOT give out our volunteer's names and contact info, but if this sort of news reporting appeals to you, call your favorite radio station and offer your help. Don't expect any reimbursement except to occasionally hear your voice on the radio. We highly recommend that anyone interested in helping in this way also take the severe weather spotter training classes offered by all National Weather Service offices across our multi-state area.

### **Print Media opportunity**

YourHub.com is a website and publication of the Rocky Mountain News and they are looking for weather volunteers from the Denver area, especially the Lakewood, Edgewater, Golden area, who might be willing to write occasional weather columns (for free, I presume). This could expand to other areas. If you would like more information about this opportunity (which I don't know much about other than they contacted me personally) then please contact:

Brendan Leonard  
Community Journalist  
YourHub.com  
303 892-2492  
leonardb@YourHub.com

End of Message—expect to say that reports today showed that no one reported in excess of 1" of precipitation anywhere across the region for the first time in awhile. So far, out of 615 reports received today, the greatest precip. was 0.47" at Colorado City SW of Pueblo, CO Only 52 out of 615 stations reporting had measurable precip. with only 11 reports of more than 0.05" Remember, it is easy to compile this sort of statistics on the new site if you are so inclined. Just click View Data: Daily Precipitation Reports Click the state of your choice or "Select State" to get reports from all states at the same time. Then click on "Total Precip" in the column heading and it will sort all of the reports from largest to smallest for whatever data you select.

If you have better things to do with your summer (and there are plenty) then wait for a cold, windy, dark winter day and try this then.

Hope to hear from some new volunteers.

*Nolan Doesken*