

The Catch

PRECIPITATION REMARKABLY WIDESPREAD

FORT COLLINS, CO — Tuesday, July 26, 2005

CoCoRaHS participants

If you don't have time for our e-mails, you don't have to read them. If you have lost interest in our weather patterns -- or never had an interest, we will cheerfully remove you from our list if you would prefer to never again get another CoCoRaHS message.

That being said, I want you to know its raining!! As of 11:30 AM, MDT, we have received 822 reports so far this morning and 785 of them had measurable (at least 0.01") precipitation. In addition, in Nebraska the NeRAIN website has received 351 reports so far today and only 3 of those reported 0.00" This is indeed a very widespread event for this time of year with precip from Las Cruces, New Mexico to Sheridan, Wyoming and from Fruita, Colorado to Nemaha County, in northeast Kansas. I could give you an estimate of the total volume of rain that fell from the sky over the past day, but the number would be too big to comprehend -- the equivalent to one third of an inch depth of water over an area of about 450,000 square miles is a whole lot of water.

Furthermore, there have been numerous reports of rainfall in excess of 1.00" -- much appreciated after our recent run of hot, dry weather. Several stations in Kansas and Nebraska got more than 3" of rain in the past 24 hours, while a number of stations in SE Wyoming and eastern Colorado exceeded 2". While New Mexico was sort of on the edge of this system, still the majority of NM stations also received precipitation.

SO GO AND RECRUIT SOME NEW VOLUNTEERS FOR COCORAHHS

I like being enthusiastic and upbeat, but to tell you the truth, the great 2005 CoCoRaHS volunteer recruiting contest is off to a very slow start. Only 7 or 8 of you have scored any points yet. Yes, I have heard stories of some eager CoCoRaHS ambassadors telling many, many folks about the project -- but unfortunately new folks are just not signing up.

So, maybe this wet weather will get things started. Show potential recruits the website and the maps that have bunches of precip in one area and nearly nothing nearby. Tell them how much their data may help us, the National Weather Service and their community. And, then, of course, tell them the "great" :-) prizes you might win if you win the recruiting contest in your state.

Best wishes to all. I plan to be out of contact from Thursday AM until mid August enjoying eastern Upper Michigan and maybe seeing a few relatives in Minnesota. So if you have any questions, speak now or else write to

info@cocorahs.org

And by all means, if you get pounded by a big storm, please get a report in (Intense Precipitation Report) right away. So many flash floods have occurred around this time of year and if just one of our reports would save a life or spare an injury, think how valuable that would be.

Sincerely,

Nolan Doesken