

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - August 2013

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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GULF OF MEXICO

COASTAL WATERS FROM PT MANSFIELD TO RIO GRANDE RIVER TX OUT 20NM COUNTY --- 5.0 N SOUTH PADRE ISLAND [26.15, -97.13]

	08/24/13 06:36 CST	0	Waterspout
	08/24/13 07:50 CST	0	Source: Public

Several beachgoers and at least one fishing boat reported a waterspout 5 miles north of South Padre Island, roughly offshore just south of beach access number six. The waterspout was visible on the South Padre Island Beach Camera. The waterspout remained offshore for its duration and caused no damage, and meandered in the same area for more than an hour based on tracking by beach cameras and photos by the public.

Weak surface troughiness combined with a very moist tropical air mass allowed for scattered showers and thunderstorms to develop over the Lower Texas Coastal Waters. The combination of the tropical air mass and generally light surface winds set up a good environment for waterspout formation. A waterspout was spotted on the morning of August 24th over the nearshore Gulf Waters east of South Padre Island, just south of Beach Access 6.

TEXAS, South

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z251) KENEDY, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

	08/01/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
	08/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

The first week of August picked up where the last week of July left off for the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas. With high pressure ridging across the southern Plains and northern Mexico, La Canicula was in full swing. This pattern suppressed precipitation and allowed for abundant sunshine and above average hot temperatures, with daytime temperatures 3 to 5 degrees above normal for the period.

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	08/06/13 00:00 CST	0	Drought
	08/31/13 23:59 CST	0	

La Canicula kept the Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas firmly in its grip for the first half of the month, allowing the hot, dry, and breezy weather to combine with already dry soil conditions and further deepen drought conditions across the region. By the middle of the month, the ridge shifted northeastward and allowed tropical moisture to stream in from the Gulf of Mexico. This moisture, combined with a trough of low pressure along the Gulf Coast, allowed for isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms to develop starting on the 20th and continuing through the end of the month. Rainfall totals varied greatly across the region, generally between a quarter to half an inch, with heavier amounts in the coastal counties. The welcomed rains allowed for some greening of the grass, but had little to no effect on drought conditions. Extreme to exceptional drought conditions still held firmly across much of the area.