

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
GULF OF MEXICO				
WATERS FROM BAFFIN BAY TO PT MANSFIELD TX EXT FROM 20 TO 60NM COUNTY --- 45.1 ESE S BAFFIN BAY [26.97, -96.69]				
	10/13/09 07:46 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 39 kt)
	10/13/09 07:46 CST	0		Source: Buoy
NOAA Buoy 42020, approximately 40 nm east of uninhabited Padre Island east of Kenedy County, reported a wind gust near 39 knots as a morning thunderstorm briefly became intense in the Gulf of Mexico.				
A strong pulse thunderstorm developed and briefly produced a dangerous wind gust approximately 40 nm east of uninhabited Padre Island east of Kenedy County during the morning of October 13th.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 8.6 ENE ARROYO CITY [26.26, -97.29]				
	10/25/09 15:00 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 34 kt)
	10/25/09 15:00 CST	0		Source: Buoy
The Texas Coastal Ocean Observing Network location at the Realitos Peninsula recorded a wind gust just above 34 knots from a pulse thunderstorm.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 1.0 SSW PORT ISABEL [26.06, -97.21]				
	10/25/09 15:24 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 34 kt)
	10/25/09 15:30 CST	0		Source: C-MAN Station
A developing small cluster of pulse thunderstorms moved through the south end of the Laguna Madre during the late afternoon October 25th, producing a brief downburst of gale force gusts as recorded by the Port Isabel C-MAN site. Gusts lasted for at least six minutes.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 8.6 ENE ARROYO CITY [26.26, -97.29]				
	10/25/09 15:54 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 34 kt)
	10/25/09 15:54 CST	0		Source: Buoy
A quick moving pulse thunderstorm that raced northward across the Laguna Madre produced a quick moving microburst that produced gale force gusts earlier between Port Isabel and South Padre Island also produced a brief gale force gust along the Realitos Peninsula, as recorded by the Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network.				
A few clusters of thunderstorms developed in the Laguna Madre, initially between South Padre Island and Port Isabel, but moved north to the Cameron/Willacy County line before moving into the Gulf waters and weakening rapidly, during the late afternoon of October 25th.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM 5NM N OF PT MANSFIELD TO BAFFIN BAY TX COUNTY --- 6.9 NNW S BAFFIN BAY [27.30, -97.40], 4.6 NNW S BAFFIN BAY [27.26, -97.41]				
	10/26/09 12:24 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (EG 57 kt)
	10/26/09 12:36 CST	0		Source: Buoy
A Texas Coastal Ocean Observing System Buoy located in Baffin Bay reported a wind gust of 65.3 mph. Wind gusts greater than 60 mph continued for at least 12 minutes. Note: Estimation of wind over the Laguna Madre just east of Kenedy County, or only 2 miles south of the buoy location, is given by proxy.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM 5NM N OF PT MANSFIELD TO BAFFIN BAY TX COUNTY --- 28.1 SSW S BAFFIN BAY [26.80, -97.47]				
	10/26/09 13:06 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 57 kt)
	10/26/09 13:15 CST	0		Source: Buoy
A thunderstorm wind gust to 65.5 mph was recorded at the Texas Coastal Ocean Observing Network buoy near Rincon del San Jose, beginning at 1:06 PM CST and continuing until at least 1:15 PM CST until the sensor briefly went offline.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM ARROYO COLORADO TO 5NM N OF PT MANSFIELD TX COUNTY --- 1.8 ENE PORT MANSFIELD [26.56, -97.40]				
	10/26/09 13:15 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	10/26/09 13:25 CST	0		Source: COOP Observer
The Port Mansfield Harbormaster estimated a wind gust of 60 mph as a line of strong to severe thunderstorms swept across the Lower Texas coast. Location of marine report is approximate and is a practical eastward extension of the land report, which is less than a mile from the Laguna Madre waters.				
LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 8.6 ENE ARROYO CITY [26.26, -97.29]				
	10/26/09 13:54 CST	0		Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 50 kt)
	10/26/09 14:24 CST	0		Source: Buoy

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A line of strong to severe thunderstorms produced a long duration microburst as it swept across the Laguna Madre and into the Lower Texas Gulf coast. At 154 PM CST, a 57 mph wind gust was recorded at the Realitos Peninsula Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network. Gusts of 50 mph or greater occurred until 324 PM before the sensor temporarily became non operational. Times are accurate within 6 minutes.				

WATERS FROM BAFFIN BAY TO PT MANSFIELD TX EXT FROM 20 TO 60NM COUNTY --- 45.1 ESE S BAFFIN BAY [26.97, -96.69]				
	10/26/09 14:10 CST		0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 53 kt)
	10/26/09 14:20 CST		0	Source: Buoy

A line of strong to severe thunderstorms preceded a cold front into the Lower Texas Gulf waters, producing at least 15 minutes of gale force sustained winds with gusts to storm force. The peak gust of 53 knots (61 mph) occurred at 214 PM CST, with sustained winds of 43 knots (49 mph) lasting for at least 10 minutes beginning at 210 PM CST.

LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 1.2 ENE PORT ISABEL [26.08, -97.18]				
	10/26/09 15:30 CST		0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (EG 37 kt)
	10/26/09 15:48 CST		0	Source: C-MAN Station

Wind gusts associated with a line of strong thunderstorms preceding a cold front increased to just over 37 knots at the Port Isabel C-MAN station, located a mile from the southmost portion of the Laguna Madre. Gusts at or above gale force (34 knots) continued for 18 minutes, and returned an hour later as the frontal gradient moved across the area.

WATERS FROM PT MANSFIELD TO RIO GRANDE TX EXT FROM 20 TO 60NM COUNTY --- 40.2 ENE SOUTH PADRE ISLAND [26.22, -96.50]				
	10/26/09 15:30 CST		0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 58 kt)
	10/26/09 16:30 CST		0	Source: Buoy

A line of strong thunderstorms, enhanced by the strong cold front catching up to it, produced wind gusts nearing 70 mph as recorded by a Texas A&M University Automated Buoy System observation east of South Padre Island, beginning at 330 PM CST. The microburst following the front maintained storm force gusts through at least 4 PM CST.

A vigorous cold front moved through Deep South Texas and the adjacent Gulf of Mexico coastal waters toward the end of October, producing a line of strong to severe thunderstorms which began in western Kenedy County then migrated south southeast through Willacy and Cameron County, as well as the adjacent coastal waters.

Wind gusts between 55 and 65 mph were common as the storms intensified; interestingly, persistent winds within the microburst core maintained these gusts for 15 minutes or more in some areas, with up to an hour of sustained winds above Gale Force. Post-frontal winds behind the line continued with near Gale Force gusts for several hours.

TEXAS, South

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z251) KENEDY				
	10/01/09 00:00 CST		0	Drought
	10/31/09 23:59 CST		0	

Rains that fell across Deep South Texas in September resulted in improvement in the drought across the County Warning Area in early October. In general, average rainfall from 3 to 5 inches across the northern tier of counties from Brooks to Zapata in September was followed by around an inch in October. The lesser rains were balanced by lowering temperatures and longer nights, increasing dew formation. Only Kenedy County received above average rainfall each month; however, recovery on the King Ranch was much slower due to prolonged drought going back into 2007, as Hurricane Dolly and other soaking events in the Rio Grande Valley missed this area.

KENEDY COUNTY --- 23.1 E SARITA [27.26, -97.43]				
	10/26/09 12:24 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	10/26/09 12:36 CST		0	Source: Buoy

A Texas Coastal and Ocean Observing Network site at Baffin Bay, just a few miles northeast of Kenedy County, recorded wind gusts up to 65 mile per hour when line of strong to severe thunderstorms rapidly developed in western Kenedy County and raced east. Wind gusts at or above 60 mph continued until 1236 PM. Note: Wind gust value is used as a proxy to estimated value on the nearby promontory of northeast Kenedy County.

KENEDY COUNTY --- 17.4 E NORIAS [26.81, -97.52]				
	10/26/09 13:06 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 56 kt)
	10/26/09 13:15 CST		0	Source: Buoy

The Rincon Del San Jose TCOON site reported a wind gusts to 66 miles per hour during a thunderstorm which moved through the coastal areas early in the afternoon. Note: This location is immediately east of the Kenedy County Laguna Madre coastline and is used as a proxy to estimate winds over this area.

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WILLACY COUNTY --- PORT MANSFIELD [26.55, -97.43]				
	10/26/09 13:15 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	10/26/09 13:25 CST		0	Source: COOP Observer

The Port Mansfield Harbor Master reported wind gusts up to 60 miles per hour were measured during a strong thunderstorm which moved through Port Mansfield in the early afternoon. Duration of gusts estimated by proxy with similar conditions as the line passed Laguna Madre-side locations farther north.

CAMERON COUNTY --- 1.6 NNE LOS FRESNOS [26.09, -97.47], 0.4 SSE PORT ISABEL ARPT [26.17, -97.35]				
	10/26/09 13:50 CST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 49 kt)
	10/26/09 14:05 CST		0	Source: ASOS

A line of strong to severe thunderstorms marched through central and eastern Cameron County during the mid afternoon of October 26th. Long duration wind gusts associated with the microburst produced peak winds of 56 mph at the Cameron County Airport, and 57 mph at the Realitos Peninsula Texas Coastal Ocean Observing Network site less than 10 miles to the northeast.

NWS employees from Rancho Viejo (west of this track) and just north of Los Fresnos reported several small limbs down; an 8 to 12 inch diameter limb blown down in Rancho Viejo was rotting.

CAMERON COUNTY --- 1.4 ENE PORT ISABEL [26.08, -97.18]				
	10/26/09 14:15 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
	10/26/09 14:15 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio

An amateur radio operator reported that the Isla Grande Resort weatherbug station recorded a peak wind gust of 59 miles per hour when a thunderstorm moved through the resort during the passage of a cold front.

A vigorous cold front moved through Deep South Texas and the adjacent Gulf of Mexico coastal waters toward the end of October, producing a line of strong to severe thunderstorms which began in western Kenedy County then migrated south southeast through Willacy and Cameron County, as well as the adjacent coastal waters.

Wind gusts between 55 and 65 mph were common as the storms intensified; interestingly, persistent winds within the microburst core maintained these gusts for 15 minutes or more in some areas, with up to an hour of sustained winds above Gale Force. Post-frontal winds behind the line continued at 25 to 35 mph for several hours.