NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. BY WSOM E-41)	**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE** NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)	**New Orleans/Baton Rouge, LA**
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	REPORT FOR: MONTH: **NOVEMBER** YEAR : **2003**
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283	SIGNATURE **Paul S. Trotter, MIC** In Charge of HSA DATE **December 15, 2003**

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

...Dry Weather Persisted 0ver The Area Through November...

Several weak to moderate upper-level weather systems moved across the Lower Mississippi River valley during November. However, at the surface, high pressure was the dominant weather feature. Therefore, the weather was dry most of the month.

Monthly rainfall totals were below normal over coastal and southwest Mississippi, as well as parts of south central Louisiana. Rainfall totals were above average for southeast Louisiana. No flooding occurred during November.

Several weak disturbances rippled through the atmosphere during the month of November, but little significant rainfall developed during the early portion of the month. Only light rainfall amounts were recorded in showers over southeastern Louisiana and Mississippi, with less than 0.50 inch reported across the region.

By the middle of the month, a stronger storm system pushed into the lower Mississippi River Valley, bringing severe weather, as well as periods of heavy rainfall. Rainfall amounts over the lower Mississippi River Valley were on average about two-thirds of an inch. As the cold front pushed through the state by November 18, rainfall amounts around 1.0 inch developed at some locations. Another cold front around November 23, produced local amounts to one inch over several locations again.

At the end of November, the weather became more dynamic, as two potent weather systems pushed over the region. The first system produced mainly light rainfall. The second more significant weather system developed on Thanksgiving Day (November 27) and produced copious rainfall over southeastern Louisiana and Mississippi. Many sites reported rainfall amounts over 5.0 inches with this event alone in southern Louisiana. Over southern Mississippi, rainfall amounts ranged from near 1.0 inch to more than 3.0 inches at several locations on Thanksgiving Day. With this copious rainfall, urban flooding developed. Although water rose in the river channels of southeastern Louisiana, no river flooding occurred.

Normal rainfall totals in November are generally from 4.8 inches to 5.8 inches for south Mississippi and southeastern Louisiana. For November 2003, areal rainfall amounts over the coastal Mississippi and southeastern Louisiana river basins were just below or around the normals. Measured rainfall amounts generally averaged between 2.0 and 4.5 inches; most of this rainfall occurred during the Thanksgiving Day event. For southwest Mississippi and parts of south central Louisiana, rainfall amounts were generally below the monthly normal. Rainfall totals of less than 2.0 inches were reported at a few locations.