

NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. by NWS Instruction 10-924)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)	
		NWFO NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA	
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR:	
		MONTH MAY	YEAR 2006
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, Meteorologist-In-Charge	
		DATE JUNE 15, 2006	

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

...Unseasonably Cool And Dry Weather Early In May Became Hot And Dry Late In May...

Heavy rainfall in late April and a series of frontal boundaries in early May briefly eased the drought conditions over southeastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi. During the second week of May, several fronts moved across the region but they only yielded light rainfall. For the week ending on May 7th, areal average rainfall amounts ranged from 0.40 inch in east central Louisiana to 0.85 inch over southeast Louisiana. Areal average rainfall for the week ending May 14th was generally less than 0.25 inch.

From May 15th through May 21st, rainfall amounts were less than 0.05 inch over the isolated locations where rain occurred. As May ended, widely scattered thunderstorms produced rain over much of southeastern Louisiana and southern Mississippi, though amounts were light. Isolated rain amounts over 0.75 inches occurred over the last days of the month at several locations in east-central Louisiana. Areal average rainfall through May 21st was 0.00 inch. Areal averages for the remainder of the month were generally less than 0.20 inch.

Drought...

Through May 9th, moderate drought conditions persisted over much of southeast Louisiana and coastal Mississippi, though conditions were severe over the Lower Atchafalaya River Basin. Abnormally dry conditions persisted over southwest Mississippi. By May 16th, the severe drought region had expanded from the Lower Atchafalaya River Basin to coastal Mississippi. Moderate drought covered the remainder of southeastern Louisiana and conditions over southwestern Mississippi remained abnormally dry.

Severe drought conditions spread over more of Louisiana by May 23rd, covering all but a narrow sliver of land that stretched from Pearl River County, Mississippi west to St. Helena Parish, Louisiana. Southwest Mississippi remained abnormally dry. These conditions persisted through the end of the month.

Dry conditions have persisted for the last eight months since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Rainfall deficits in May generally ranged from 3.0 inches to well over 5.0 inches at some locations in southeast Louisiana and coastal Mississippi. No region received more than 50% of the normal May rainfall; some areas had 5% or less of the normal. Stresses have occurred in the sugar cane, vegetables, rice, and seafood production, along with other agricultural concerns across the region.

Flooding...

No flooding occurred in May 2006.

Issuances...

Flood Warnings	0
Flood Statements	0