

MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:
MONTH YEAR
DECEMBER 2008

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31
NOAA's National Weather Service
1325 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE
KENNETH GRAHAM, MIC
DATE
JANUARY 15, 2009

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

An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

...UNSEASONABLY COLD TEMPERATURES AND SNOW MARKED DECEMBER...

December started with cold, dry weather across southeastern Louisiana, southwest Mississippi, and coastal Mississippi. Showers during the first week produced areal average rainfall amounts of less than 0.5 inch. By December 10th, a cold front had crossed Louisiana and Mississippi and produced heavy rains. Very cold air coincided with the influx of Gulf moisture. Significant snow developed across parts of southeastern Louisiana and southwestern Mississippi. The early season snowstorm dumped 8.0 inches at Amite, LA. Five inches of snow or more accumulated at several locations in Louisiana, including Hammond, Covington, Zachary, Bogalusa, and Sun. The heavy rains and snow from December 9th through 11th produced areal average rain totals of more than 1.50 inches, with an average of 2.41 inches over southeast Louisiana.

A series of fronts moved across the region during the second half of December. For the week ending December 21st, areal rainfall amounts were generally less than 0.55 inch for southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi, and coastal Mississippi. Cyclogenesis over the Gulf of Mexico caused light rains on December 22nd and 23rd. After that, a cold front stalled over Louisiana and Mississippi on December 24th. For the week ending on December 28th, areal average rainfall amounts were less than 0.25 inch. One last front pushed across the region on December 28th and produced more heavy rains.

Flooding...

Minor flooding developed on the Lower Pearl River at Bogalusa on December 12th and at Pearl River on December 15th. Flooding continued at both locations until the last days of December.

Extreme Rainfall for the Month (Inches and Departure from Normal)

Gloster, MS	6.28		Centreville, MS	5.93	-0.09
Boothville, LA	6.04	+1.77	Woodville, MS	5.66	-0.64

Drought...

December started with abnormally dry (D0) soil conditions over coastal Mississippi, while soil conditions were normal over southwestern Mississippi. By December 9th, soil conditions had improved. Abnormally dry (D0) conditions only lingered over Hancock County and parts of Pearl River County. Soil conditions over most of southeastern Louisiana remained abnormally dry (D0) throughout December.