

MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:
MONTH YEAR
JANUARY 2009

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
FEBRUARY 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.

...JANUARY...

January started with severe weather and heavy rain over southwest Mississippi, coastal Mississippi, and southeastern Louisiana, as a cold front extended through the Lower Mississippi River Valley. Copious rainfall occurred. Flash floods developed over some areas, particularly over metropolitan New Orleans and over the River Parishes. Localized rainfall totals of over three inches occurred on January 3rd. Record-breaking rainfall, 4.98 inches, fell at New Orleans International Airport. In the end, some areas measured up to 6 inches.

During the week of January 8th through 14th, the Gulf Coast region experienced another significant period of wet weather. A warm front lifted north from the Gulf of Mexico and drenched all of southern Mississippi, as strong thunderstorms rumbled across Louisiana.

Throughout the remainder of January, a series of weaker boundaries produced periods of light rainfall. By the end of January, high pressure dominated the weather and drier conditions were the rule.

Flooding...

Minor flooding developed on the Lower Pearl River at Bogalusa on January 8th and continued until January 22nd. Minor flooding started on the Lower Pearl River at Pearl River on January 10th and ended on January 24th.

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	Areal Average	Departure from Normal
Southwest/South Central Mississippi (4 Sites)	3.13	-3.74
Coastal Mississippi	2.02	-4.31
Central Louisiana (3 Sites)	3.60	-2.81
East Central Louisiana	2.96	-3.30
South Central Louisiana (6 Sites)	3.56	-2.18
Southeast Louisiana	2.37	-3.41

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

New Orleans Audubon, LA	6.71	+1.19	New Orleans Algiers, LA	6.67	+0.94
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Drought...

Rain totals were significantly below normal for January 2009. The month started with abnormally dry (D0) soil conditions over southeastern Louisiana and a small portion of Pearl River and Hancock Counties in Mississippi. Moderate drought (D1) conditions were established over the Atchafalaya River Basin and over much of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. By January 27th, abnormally dry (D0) conditions had spread across all of coastal Mississippi. Soil moisture conditions were normal over southwestern Mississippi throughout the month.