

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) NEW ORLEANS/BATON ROUGE, LA
	MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS	REPORT FOR: MONTH AUGUST YEAR 2011
		TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

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)

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

...The Days Were Hot, Hot, Hot in August 2011...

Hot, record-breaking temperatures and drought persisted throughout August across southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi and coastal Mississippi. As August started, a weak tropical disturbance over the northern Gulf of Mexico produced rain and embedded thunderstorms. By August 7th, areal average rainfall totals ranged from near 0.25 inch up to 2.35 inches. The greatest rainfall amounts were recorded over east-central and south-central Louisiana.

Several frontal boundaries and weather disturbances moved across the region during August. Stronger thunderstorms occasionally produced severe weather and periods of heavy rain, though the weather overall was drier than normal for the month. For the week ending August 14th, areal average rainfall totals were less than 0.6 inch. Areal average rainfall totals ranged up to around 0.75 inch for the week ending August 21st. By August 28th, areal average rainfall totals were generally less than 0.25 inch for that week.

As the month ended, a stationary front lingered along the Gulf coast and Tropical Storm Lee was advancing toward the region. With strong return flow in place, moisture increased dramatically and humidity levels returned to normal levels. Isolated storms began first over extreme southeast Louisiana. The greatest rain amount reported in August ahead of Tropical Storm Lee was 1.16 inches on August 31st at Boothville, LA.

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	Areal Average	Departure from Normal
Southwest Mississippi (2 Sites)	0.95	N/A
South Central Mississippi (1 Sites)	N/A	N/A
Coastal Mississippi	1.26	-4.43
Central Louisiana (3 Sites)	2.04	-3.56
East Central Louisiana	3.24	-2.27
South Central Louisiana (6 Sites)	2.93	-2.94
Southeast Louisiana	1.93	-4.37

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

Slidell (LIX), LA	5.87	+0.23	New Orleans/Audubon, LA	1.12	-5.22
Denham Springs, LA	4.99	-2.06	Galliano, LA	1.76	-5.37
Slidell, LA	4.98	-0.87	Hammond, LA	1.03	-5.52

Drought...

At the start of August, soils moisture contents over coastal Mississippi, southwestern Mississippi and southeastern Louisiana were at moderate (D1) to severe (D2) drought levels. By August 9th, soils improved to abnormally dry (D0) levels over the northern sections of Walthall, Amite, and Pike Counties, over the southern parts of Jefferson, Orleans, and Terrebonne Parishes, and over all of Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. Extreme drought (D3) conditions spread over parts of the Mississippi River Basin and the Atchafalaya River Basin. With sparse rainfall during the remainder of the month, soil moisture contents declined through August 30th. Extreme drought (D3) conditions spread into Wilkinson County, Mississippi and persisted over the same areas of the Mississippi River Basin and the Atchafalaya River Basin in Louisiana. Exceptional drought (D4) conditions spread into Pointe Coupee Parish.