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 **OCTOBER** YEAR **2011**
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283	SIGNATURE KENNETH GRAHAM METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE DATE **NOVEMBER 15, 2011**

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)

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

…Arid Weather Allowed Drought to Expand in October…

High pressure dominated the weather over southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi, and coastal Mississippi through most of October. Arid conditions yielded precipitation totals well below normal values across the entire region. No rainfall was recorded during October at the following locations: Ansley, MS; Killian, LA; Boothville (BVE), LA; and New Orleans/Algiers, LA.

After isolated showers through October 9th, more favorable conditions for rainfall coalesced during the following week. Spotty rainfall occurred when a front moved across Louisiana and Mississippi. Areal average rain totals were less than 0.05 inch up to October 9th and during the weather week that ended October 16th.

Another cold front pushed across the region around October 18th and produced light rain. Areal rainfall totals averaged less than 0.05 inch again. As October ended, the heaviest rains occurred. Areal rainfall totals for the week ending October 30th were generally 0.20 inch or less.

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	**Areal Average**	**Departure from Normal**
Southwest Mississippi (2 Sites)	0.66	N/A
South Central Mississippi (2 Sites)	0.38	-3.26
Coastal Mississippi	0.22	-2.96
Central Louisiana (3 Sites)	0.29	-3.41
East Central Louisiana	0.26	-3.34
South Central Louisiana (7 Sites)	0.39	-3.47
Southeast Louisiana	0.19	-3.16

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

Butte La Rose, LA	1.41		St. Gabriel, LA	0.34	-3.75
Zachary, LA	1.07	-3.18	Brusly, LA	0.44	-3.71
Gloster, MS	0.95		Port Allen, LA	0.23	-3.91

Drought…

With Tropical Storm Lee and other periods of rainfall during September, soil moisture contents returned to normal levels. By October 11th, soil moisture declined to abnormally dry (D0) conditions due to the extended periods of dry weather. Normal soil moisture levels remained only over Jackson County in Mississippi, along with most of the southeast Louisiana agricultural zone and Washington Parish in Louisiana. Soil moisture contents continued to decline through the end of October, as moderate drought (D1) conditions spread into Atchafalaya River Basin.