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: **JULY** YEAR: **2012**
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 **AUGUST 15, 2012**

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.**

…Copious Rains in Strong Thunderstorms Staved Off Drought in July...

Extremely wet weather patterns developed consistently throughout much of July across southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi and coastal Mississippi. By July 8th, areal average rainfall totals ranged from around 0.5 inch over southern Mississippi to 1.90 inches over southeastern Louisiana.

From July 9th on, the weather was dominated by instability and protracted rainfall, as frontal boundary lagged north of this region through July 12th. An area of low pressure became centered over Louisiana and interacted with a tropical wave at the surface for days. After copious rainfall over much of the region, areal rainfall totals for the weather week averaged from near 2.0 inches over southeastern Louisiana to over 4.0 inches across southern Mississippi.

Bouts of rainfall developed during the remainder of July, as a series of surface and upper level weather events evolved over the Lower Mississippi River Valley. By July 20th, a weak trough of low pressure became anchored on the southeastern Louisiana coast. This surface trough was augmented by an upper air disturbance, leading to heavy rainfall across south Louisiana and south Mississippi. Flash flooding developed at many locations, particularly across the New Orleans metropolitan area.

By July 22nd, Houma, LA measured 9.35 inches of rain; New Orleans Lakefront, LA had 7.83 inches; and Convent, LA had 7.82 inches. Many areas measured over 5 inches of rain. For the weather week, areal rainfall totals averaged from near 2.0 up to 4.8 inches over the southeast agricultural district of Louisiana.

Although typical summer thunderstorms developed over the last days of July, rainfall totals were generally low. Most of the weather occurred over the southern parishes of Louisiana and coastal Mississippi. Areal rainfall totals for the weather week ending July 29th ranged from 0.25 inches over southern Mississippi to around 0.8 inch over parts of south-central Louisiana. As July ended, the weather was generally dry over the region.

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	**Areal Average**	**Departure from Normal**
Southwest Mississippi (2 Sites)	11.64	N/A
South Central Mississippi (2 Sites)	6.85	+1.14
Coastal Mississippi	10.01	+3.22
Central Louisiana (2 Sites)	9.28	+3.79
East Central Louisiana	8.57	+2.59
South Central Louisiana (7 Sites)	8.28	+2.04
Southeast Louisiana	11.52	+4.55

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

Houma, LA	18.14	+10.29	Lutcher, LA	12.78	
Convent, LA	16.50		Carville, LA	12.10	+6.11
New Orleans Lakefront, LA	14.78		Woodville, MS	11.86	+6.62

Drought…
From the start of July through mid-July, abnormally dry (D0) conditions covered southwestern Mississippi and parts of the Florida Parishes, as well as the northern reaches of the Atchafalaya River Basin. With the copious rains during July, soil moisture contents steadily improved. From July 24th on, normal soil moisture conditions were established area-wide.