

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:	YEAR
		DECEMBER	2013
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	
		JANUARY 15, 2014	

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.

...Minor Flooding in December after Copious Rains over Southeastern Louisiana and Southern Mississippi ...

Warm, moisture-laden air from the Gulf of Mexico spread over southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi and coastal Mississippi by December 4th. Record-breaking temperatures occurred at some locations by December 8th. The first in a series of weather systems pushed southeast across Louisiana and Mississippi by December 6th as a cold front. Widespread rainfall developed as the boundary eventually stalled along the Gulf Coast. During that week, McComb, MS measured 2.12 inches of rain on December 8th. Areal average rainfall totals ranged from 0.2 inch to 0.5 inch across Louisiana, with 1.57 inches over coastal Mississippi by December 8th.

Periods of heavy rainfall developed on December 9th. The heaviest downpours occurred over east-central Louisiana, where local rain totals over 2.0 inches were recorded at several locations. In that event, 3.12 inches of rain fell at Clinton, LA. Another significant rainfall event developed that same week, when a warm front pushed north from the Gulf of Mexico by December 14th. Areal average rainfall totals for the week ranged from 0.15 inch over coastal Mississippi up to around 2.15 inches over parts of south-central Louisiana by December 15th.

After another brief warning trend, a vigorous cold front crossed the region and produced downpours and bouts of hazardous weather on December 21st and December 22nd. Rainfall totals were generally less than 1.0 inch for the two-day period, though heavier local amounts over 2.0 inches occurred. The greatest total in Louisiana was 2.3 inches, recorded at New Orleans Lakefront Airport, on December 22nd. The greatest total in Mississippi occurred on December 22nd, when Saucier, MS measured 5.04 inches. Areal average rain totals ranged from 0.15 inch to near 1.0 inch.

More downpours developed on December 23rd with that vigorous front. Across east-central and southeast Louisiana, several locations had rain totals of 2 to 3 inches. The greatest amounts measured were 3.5 inches at Galliano, LA; 3.01 inches at Terrytown, LA; 2.52 inches at Slidell, LA; and 2.37 inches at New Orleans Audubon. Around December 28th, an area of low pressure developed over the Gulf of Mexico. Widespread rain and drizzle spread over the region. The heaviest rains occurred over the southeast and east-central Louisiana, along with coastal Mississippi. Areal average rain totals for the weather week that ended December 29th ranged from around 0.6 inch to near 2.75 inches.

Over the last two days of 2013, a cold front pushed through with little significant rainfall. Where rain occurred, amounts were less than 0.25 inch.

Monthly Reports by Agricultural Region	Areal Average	Departure from Normal
Southwest Mississippi (1 Site)	3.85	N/A
South Central Mississippi (1 Site)	5.41	-0.03
Coastal Mississippi	5.20	+0.08
Central Louisiana (2 Sites)	3.82	-1.63
South Central Louisiana (7 Sites)	3.80	-1.21
East Central Louisiana	4.31	-0.90
Southeast Louisiana	4.56	-0.10

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

Saucier, MS	9.40	+4.05	Diamondhead, MS	1.50	-3.66
Galliano, LA	7.58	+3.55	Terrytown, LA	0.54	-4.12
Ocean Springs, MS	6.42	+1.54	Baker, LA	0.31	-5.70

Flooding...

Flooding developed on the Lower Pearl River at Bogalusa, Louisiana on December 1st and ended on December 4th.

Flooding developed on the Biloxi River at Lyman, Mississippi on December 22nd and ended on December 23rd.

Drought...

December started with normal soil conditions over all of southeastern Louisiana, southwestern Mississippi, and coastal Mississippi. As the month came to an end, soil moisture contents had declined, primarily over the Lower Atchafalaya River Basin. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions spread over all of Iberia and St. Mary Parishes and over parts of St. Martin, Iberville, Assumption, and Terrebonne Parishes by December 31st.