

**WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM**

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**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

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**For the period June 2 – June 8, 2012**

**General Interest:** Drought conditions now plague nearly the entire target area as well as roughly 58% of Kansas. The drought has quickly become a dominant story again this year and in some respects the drought intensified a bit quicker this year than last. Late April through June 10<sup>th</sup> rain totals this time last year were a bit higher than at present also. The latest U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook valid for June 7<sup>th</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup> calls for drought over the entire western half of Kansas, northern Kansas, all of Colorado and points further west to either persist or intensify even further. Short-term, our area can expect a 50% chance of having above normal temperatures and a 33% chance of below normal precipitation for June. Long-term projections are not very encouraging as the June through August temperature forecast calls for a 40% chance of being above normal for temperatures and an equal chance of having below, near normal, or above normal precipitation. The general feeling right now among many folks is for another year of drought, unfortunately.

Source:

Drought Monitor: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

Climate Prediction Center: [www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/index.php](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/index.php)

**Weather:** Widespread storms moved east out of Colorado and into western Kansas Saturday. The area finally experienced a large scale precipitation event. Hot and dry conditions prevailed Sunday while a few storms were noted over eastern Colorado late. A few scattered light showers developed for a short time over portions of western Kansas Tuesday. Although strong heating was in place, these showers remained weak with rainfall amounts likely less than a fifth of an inch under even the strongest of cells. The rest of the week was tranquil with partly cloudy days and humid nights.

**Operations:** There was one operational day this week. Seeding for hail suppression occurred that day.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Program Operations Day #7**

One plane was launched at 5:14 p.m. to investigate a line of storms that rapidly developed just west of the Kansas border moving northeast. A second plane arrived over western Hamilton by 6:00. Seeding for hail suppression began over western Hamilton at 6:42 on a line of storms moving east. Seeding was confined to an area south of the Arkansas River over Hamilton County at 7:15. Seeding stopped at 7:28 over southeastern Hamilton/southwestern Kearny. Although strong winds still posed a threat over Hamilton and Kearny, the threat for hail had subsided.

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**Walter Geiger, Meteorologist**  
**Western Kansas Weather Modification Program**