

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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FINAL NEWSLETTER FOR 2013

For the period September 7 – September 15, 2013

General Interest: The 2013 operational season officially came to a close September 15th. Flight numbers and seeding days were much higher than last year with 32 seeding days this year compared to only 18 seeding days in 2012. The average number of seeding days per year since 2003 was 33. Precipitation totals since the start of the year are better than the same period in 2012. However, the majority of the area is still within a yearly moisture deficit while portions of southern Scott and much of Lane County show a yearly moisture surplus. So far, there has been only one significant wet period within the target area this year which came from around middle July and persisted until mid August. During this time, precipitation totals were much higher than average for late July and early August as well as cooler than normal.

Weather: Blast furnace conditions and no rainfall prevailed the first few days of the week. Widely scattered small showers and a few thunderstorms developed during the afternoon Tuesday across a large portion of southwestern Kansas along and to the south of a stationary front stretched over western Kansas. Periods of rain with occasional thunder continued throughout the week across portions of western Kansas as the front wobbled around the region and interacted with disturbances aloft.

Operations: There was one operation day this week. Seeding for rain optimization occurred that day.

September 10th, Program Operations Day # 32

One plane was launched at 4:16 p.m. to investigate storms over northern Kearny traveling northeast. A brief period of seeding for rain optimization was conducted over northeastern Kearny from 4:42 to 4:45. The plane then patrolled several storms over central and northern Wichita County in search of updrafts before turning for base at 5:30.

**Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
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