

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period June 13 – June 19, 2015

General Interest: Flight activity this month has been remarkably low. The average number of seeding days for this program during June is twelve days. With only two seeding days recorded for the month thus far, it is unlikely we will even reach half the normal number of days. Despite the prognostications for a slightly wet June, the month has been very dry with most locations only showing 25% to 75% of normal precipitation to date. Most of the southern half of Kansas is running a precipitation deficit for June also. With hot weather well entrenched in our area, significant topsoil drying has occurred across the area which will somewhat diminish the long-term effects of plentiful rains last month. Normally, June is the severe weather month for western Kansas but this year that distinction had shifted to May. Very little precipitation is expected in the area over the next seven days as prognostications point to only 0.10 to 0.25 inches expected through Sunday June 28th.

Weather: Hot temperatures along with mostly sunny skies persisted for the start of the week. Spotty weak to moderate thunderstorms occurred Wednesday evening primarily over west-central and north-central Kansas. Steamy hot conditions rounded out the remainder of the week.

Operations: There was one operational day this week.

June 17th, Program Operations Day #12

One plane was launched at 6:03 p.m. to investigate small storms forming near a surface boundary over northern Lane. Radar indicated most of these little storms were stationary with brief periods of heavy rain, small hail, and some wind during a rather short life of roughly 25 minutes. Seeding for hail suppression began at 6:35 near Healy. Seeding was terminated at 7:30 over western Lane. Seeding on the same cloud resumed again at 7:45 near Grigston. Seeding was terminated again at 7:53. Seeding resumed again this time over northern and northwestern Scott on a similar storm with cyclic growth before terminating entirely at 8:45.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program