

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period July 25 – July 30, 2015

General Interest: County rainfall averages for July

County precipitation averages for July were significantly above normal for all target area counties. Although there were spotty locations within each county that recorded below to perhaps well below normal, the averages for each county were fairly impressive. Rain reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2015 July county precipitation average was in Scott County with 5.41 inches or 70% above normal for Scott. Following Scott, Lane County reported 4.91 inches (52% above normal for Lane), and Kearny County with 4.14 inches or 54% above normal. Within southwest and west-central Kansas, the county with the highest localized rainfall was southern Morton where 10.00+ inches fell in July while the county with the least was Ford where a small area within the northern portion of the county only reported between 0.50 to 1.00 inches.

The southwest and west-central Kansas forecast total precipitation out to August 7th shows a rather broad range of the total precipitation increasing from west to east. For the period, 0.25 to 0.50 inches can be expected along the Colorado border while 1.00 to 1.25 inches can be expected along a line extending from WaKeeney south to Ashland

Weather: The week started with steamy hot daytime highs and muggy overnights. Scattered to numerous showers and storms occurred both Saturday and Sunday nights across portions of western Kansas with some of these storms being severe primarily for high winds Sunday evening. The weather for the remainder of the week was primarily dominated by a southern US upper ridge of the high pressure resulting in mostly cloudy and muggy mornings transitioning to partly cloudy afternoons with highs in the middle to upper 90's.

Operations: There was one seeding days this week.

July 26th, Program Operations Day #19

Two aircraft were launched at 8:20 p.m. to begin working a line of storms traveling east and extending along a line from Stanton County north into Logan County in west-central Kansas. Seeding for hail suppression began at 8:44 over extreme eastern Hamilton. Seeding continued across Kearny County through 9:30. Radar indicated other storms forming over Scott and Lane but had remained below hail limits through 9:30. Seeding was terminated at 9:40 over extreme northeastern Kearny as the gust front associated with this particular section of the squall line had become significantly detached. The planes turned for base at 9:50.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
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