

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period June 11 – June 17, 2016

General Interest: The central United States jumped into the frying pan this past week with temperatures similar to or even above what would be more appropriate for middle summer. The average normal high temperature for Scott City and Healy during the June 12 – 17 period is only 86 degrees while this year the temperatures were roughly 14 degrees warmer at around 100. The warmest week of the year is July 13 – 19 with the average maximum daytime high reaching 93 degrees. The heat was primarily due to a stagnate ridge of high pressure which essentially provided for a heat dome over the region. This week will feature yet another extended period of summerlike conditions with temperatures running roughly 8-10 degrees above normal with a slight chance of precipitation during the second half of the week. The 7-day precipitation forecast for period June 20 – 26 calls for very little precipitation. Scott and Lane counties are projected to receive perhaps 0.25 inches through the period which would be about 60% below normal rainfall for the period.

Weather: Dry and unseasonably warm conditions started the week. Widespread showers and a few strong storms pushed through western Kansas Monday evening into the overnight. By Tuesday, severe weather broke out across the high plains due to the approach of an upper level storm system which interacted with plentiful moisture and strong instability. Large hail and some isolated tornadoes occurred. Widespread showers and storms rolled through western Kansas Sunday evening. While no severe weather occurred, a large part of southwestern Kansas received brief heavy rains. Hot and dry weather occurred Monday through Thursday. While still very hot Friday, widespread thunderstorms formed during the heating of the day across a large swath of northwestern Kansas and eastern portions of west-central Kansas. An additional round of showers and storms pushed through eastern portions of southwest Kansas Friday night.

Operations: There was one operational day this week. Two observations flights occurred June 17.

June 11, Program Operations Day #9

Two planes were launched at 7:19 p.m. to investigate a line of storms advancing southeast through Wichita and Logan counties. Radar indicated this line was being driven by an outflow boundary and strong daytime heating. A brief period of seeding for hail suppression was conducted from 7:54 to 8:03 just west of Pence in northeastern Wichita County. Planes patrolled the loosely defined storm line for about an hour before returning to base.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program

Forfeited