WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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For the period June 29 – July 5, 2013

General Interest: County rainfall averages for June

County precipitation averages for June indicate a continued moisture deficit for all target area counties. June totals last year were far worse with all counties averaging between 42% to as low as 90% below normal monthly rainfall. This year, June rains came almost entirely during the first half of the month with only trace amounts recorded during the second half. Rain reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), <u>www.cocorahs.org</u>, indicate the highest 2013 June county precipitation average was in Scott County with 2.68 inches or 5% below normal for Scott. Following Scott, Wichita County reported 2.22 inches (13% below normal for Wichita), Hamilton County with 1.93 inches (23% below), Kearny County recording 1.81 inches (39% below), and Lane County with 1.25 inches (55% below).

Weather: A significant break in the scorching temperatures started the week as a cold front passed through Friday night. Mild temperatures settled into the area for Saturday and Sunday with partly cloudy skies. Some storms were noted in Colorado Saturday and Sunday but remained there except for an area of light rain which passed south through Hamilton County on Sunday. Unseasonably cooler weather continued across most of Kansas on Monday and Tuesday with partly to mostly sunny skies. Tranquil weather with increasing temperatures occurred throughout the remainder of the week.

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

June 27th, Program Operations Day #18

Two planes were launched at 1:59 p.m. to investigate new storm development along a surface boundary over northern Scott County. Seeding for rain optimization began at 2:26 over Scott County with the seed track extended into Lane County by 2:30. Seeding for rain optimization began at 2:35 over northern Kearny County. Rain optimization seeding continued over Kearny County through 3:00 while periods of rain optimization and hail suppression continued over Scott and Lane counties. By 3:38, seeding was confined to an area from Lakin to near Deerfield and also over southern Lane where a larger cluster of storms remained concentrated. In general, storms were traveling southeast at around 16 mph. Seeding was terminated at 3:47 over southern Lane as this cloud was exiting out of the target area. Seeding was terminated at 3:56 over southern Kearny as these clouds were also ready to exit the target area. The planes turned for base at 3:58.

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