WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

No. 2014-3

For the period April 26 – May 2, 2014

<u>**General Interest:**</u> County rainfall averages for April

County precipitation averages indicate a strong monthly moisture deficit for all target area counties. Last year, the same was true for April as every target area county received less than 50% of normal April rainfall. For the month, there were no significant daily rains but rather a few days, particularly during the first half of the month, where light snow/showers provided perhaps up to 0.20 inches during a 24-hour period. Hopefully May will be better than April as we are now entering the region's three month rainy period where monthly averages have historically been close to 3.00 inches. However, it would be overly optimistic to expect 3.00 inches this month due to the ongoing drought and long-term prognostications suggesting the drought will continue and perhaps intensify through May.

Precipitation reports from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), www.cocorahs.org, indicate the highest 2014 April county precipitation average was in Scott County with 0.62 inches or 64% below normal for Scott while Kearny County reported 0.58 inches or 61% below normal.   The report for Lane was unavailable. However, the Lane County average looks to be somewhere around 0.60 inches, give or take a tenth of an inch, according to the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service webpage which would put Lane around 69% below normal.

<u>**Weather:**</u> The first half of the week was cool with daytime highs in the upper 40's to mid 50's under partly cloudy skies and very windy conditions. A few showers passed over Tuesday. Temperatures warmed by Thursday and Friday into the 70's with windy conditions persisting.

<u>**Operations:**</u> There were no operational days this week.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
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