

WESTERN KANSAS WEATHER MODIFICATION PROGRAM

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

No. 2014-6

For the period May 17 – May 23, 2014

General Interest: The previous week's multi-day precipitation event turned out being pretty disappointing for a significant portion of southwestern Kansas. This is especially true given the strong level of drought we find ourselves in and because it's certainly not that often a slow moving storm system passes through this area providing for a chance of multi-day moderate to high precipitation probabilities. According to precipitation maps provided by the NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service, the precipitation estimate for the period May 21 to 5:00 p.m. on May 24 shows a noticeable dry spot stretching from about Hamilton County eastward to about Great Bend. More accurately, the following counties averaged in the range of a tenth to one-half inches: Hamilton, Kearny, Scott, Grant, Finney, Gray, Hodgeman, Ford, Ness, Kiowa, Edwards, Pawnee, Barber, Pratt, Stafford and Barton. The rest of western Kansas fared pretty good for the period with the county precipitation averages running in the 0.50 to as much as 1.75 inches. Across Kansas, the areas which received the most was across nearly all of the northern half of the state and then within a semi-triangular shaped region from Wichita to Salina to Topeka. The storm system will track east of the area by Tuesday leaving in its wake tranquil and warming conditions through the week.

Source: NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

Weather: Hot temperatures along with mostly sunny skies dominated the first few days of the week. A few light showers and storms occurred across portions of the region on Wednesday. Scattered showers and storms continued Thursday and Friday as disturbances rotated through western Kansas from a cut-off low pressure system slowly moving through the southwestern United States. Although severe weather occurred over Colorado and portions of northwestern Kansas on Wednesday and Thursday, storms over west-central and southwest Kansas were primarily non-severe with the primary hazard being lightning and perhaps a localized high wind event around the stronger storms.

Operations: There were no operational days this week.

Walter Geiger, Meteorologist
Western Kansas Weather Modification Program