

000

TTAA00 KLCH 142332
PRELIMINARY STORM REPORT...TROPICAL STORM FRANCES
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LAKE CHARLES LA
630 PM CDT MON SEP 14 1998

A. HIGHEST WINDS

ASOS...JEFFERSON COUNTY AIRPORT...BPT
2 MINUTE...080 DEGREES AT 33 KT AT 1312Z ON 9/11/98
PEAK GUST...090 DEGREES AT 42 KT AT 1146Z ON 9/11/98

C-MAN...SEA RIM STATE PARK...SRST2
2 MINUTE...090 DEGREES AT 43 KT AT 1130Z ON 9/11/98
PEAK GUST...090 DEGREES AT 57 KT AT 1127Z ON 9/11/98

ASOS...LAKE CHARLES MUNICIPAL AIRPORT...LCH
2 MINUTE...120 DEGREES AT 28 KT AT 1929Z ON 9/11/98
PEAK GUST...110 DEGREES AT 35 KT AT 1914Z ON 9/11/98

ASOS...LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT...LFT
2 MINUTE...090 DEGREES AT 27 KT AT 0034Z ON 9/11/98
PEAK GUST...080 DEGREES AT 35 KT AT 0034Z ON 9/11/98

ASOS...ACADIANA REGIONAL AIRPORT...ARA
2 MINUTE...140 DEGREES AT 23 KT AT 1605Z ON 9/11/98
PEAK GUST...140 DEGREES AT 30 KT AT 1604Z ON 9/11/98

ASOS...SALT POINT...P92
2 MINUTE...140 DEGREES AT 22 KT AT 0438Z ON 9/12/98
PEAK GUST...170 DEGREES AT 33 KT AT 1516Z ON 9/11/98

THE FOLLOWING ARE WIND GUSTS FOR OFFSHORE OIL PLATFORMS.
OBSERVATIONS ARE USUALLY TAKEN THREE TIMES A DAY.

KE12...EAST CAMERON 346...28.1 N 92.7W
WIND EQUIPMENT AT 140 FT ABOVE SEA LEVEL
PEAK GUST...080 DEGREES AT 50 KT AT 1601Z ON 9/09/98
NOTE: PLATFORM WAS EVACUATED BY 0900Z ON 9/10/98

K7R8...SOUTH MARSH 130B...28.3N 92.0W
WIND EQUIPMENT AT 102 FT ABOVE SEA LEVEL
PEAK GUST...130 DEGREES AT 77 KT AT 1953Z ON 9/10/98

KGSM...SHIP SHOAL 207...28.5N 91.0W
WIND EQUIPMENT AT 109 FT ABOVE SEA LEVEL
PEAK GUST...140 DEGREES AT 50 KT AT 1401Z ON 9/19/98

KS58...SOUTH TIMBALIER 300...28.1N 90.7W
WIND EQUIPMENT AT 120 FT ABOVE SEA LEVEL
PEAK GUST...080 DEGREES AT 70 KT AT 1345Z ON 9/10/98

B. LOWEST SEA LEVEL PRESSURE

JEFFERSON COUNTY AIRPORT.....1002.0 MB AT 2100Z ON 9/11/98
LAKE CHARLES MUNICIPAL AIRPORT...1003.7 MB AT 2100Z ON 9/11/98
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT.....1006.8 MB AT 2100Z ON 9/11/98
ACADIANA REGIONAL AIRPORT.....1006.8 MB AT 2300Z ON 9/11/98
SALT POINT.....1007.1 MB AT 2100Z ON 9/11/98
PATTERSON MEMORIAL AIRPORT.....1008.8 MB AT 2300Z ON 9/11/98

C. RAINFALL

STORM TOTALS

JEFFERSON COUNTY AIRPORT.....8.52 INCHES 9/10/98-9/13/98
LAKE CHARLES REGIONAL AIRPORT...8.04 INCHES 9/10/98-9/13/98
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT.....9.04 INCHES 9/10/98-9/13/98
ACADIANA REGIONAL AIRPORT.....7.72 INCHES 9/10/98-9/13/98
SALT POINT.....11.38 INCHES 9/10/98-9/13/98

WSR-88D ESTIMATES...USING THE TROPICAL Z/R RELATION...INDICATE MOST OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS AND SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA RECEIVED BETWEEN FIVE AND TEN INCHES OF RAIN FROM THURSDAY...SEPTEMBER 10TH THROUGH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH. HOWEVER...ADDITIONAL RAINFALL HAS ACCUMULATED TODAY...SO THE STORM TOTALS WILL BE REVISED EVEN HIGHER LATER THIS WEEK.

FROM 1200Z 9/10/98 TO 0000Z 9/11/98...BETWEEN 0.50 AND 1.00 INCH OF RAIN FELL ACROSS CAMERON...VERMILION...IBERIA...AND ST MARY PARISHES. THE REST OF THE REGION SAW LESS THAN 0.50 INCHES.

FROM 0000Z 9/11/98 TO 1200Z 9/11/98...AROUND TWO INCHES OF RAIN FELL ACROSS JEFFERSON COUNTY...AND OVER AN INCH OF RAIN FELL ACROSS VERMILION PARISH. THE REST OF THE REGION SAW BETWEEN 0.50 AND 1.00 INCH OF RAIN.

FROM 1200Z 9/11/98 TO 0000Z 9/12/98...A LARGE SECTION OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA RECEIVED BETWEEN 3 AND 4 INCHES OF RAIN...FROM LAKE CHARLES...TO DERIDDER...OAKDALE...AND JENNINGS. EVERYONE ELSE RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE INCH OF RAIN.

D. STORM TIDES

CAMERON.....5.4 FT ASL (5.1 FT ABOVE NORMAL) AT 1600Z ON 9/11/98
SABINE PASS...5.3 FT ASL (4.2 FT ABOVE NORMAL) AT 1100Z ON 9/11/98

E. BEACH EROSION

JEFFERSON COUNTY TEXAS...
MINOR TO MODERATE BEACH EROSION OCCURRED ALONG THE JEFFERSON COUNTY COAST FROM SABINE PASS TO HIGH ISLAND...ACCORDING TO SEA RIM STATE PARK OFFICIALS.

CAMERON PARISH LOUISIANA...

AT HOLLY BEACH...BETWEEN ONE AND TWO FEET OF SAND WAS PILED ON THE BEACH. AT CONSTANCE BEACH...THERE WERE SEVERAL 5 TO 6 FOOT DEEP HOLES IN THE BEACH. OTHER BEACHES WERE INACCESSABLE DUE TO HIGH WATER THROUGH THE WEEKEND.

THE WORST DAMAGE FROM THE TIDES OCCURRED AT CONSTANCE BEACH IN CAMERON PARISH LOUISIANA. AT LEAST FIVE CAMPS WERE COMPLETELY DESTROYED AND WASHED AWAY...AND ANOTHER TEN CAMPS RECEIVED MAJOR DAMAGE. A ROAD ALONG THE BEACH WAS ALSO COMPLETELY WASHED AWAY.

PEOPLE IN BOTH CAMERON PARISH AND JEFFERSON COUNTY AGREE THE STORM SURGE WAS THE WORSE SINCE HURRICANE CARLA IN 1961. A COMBINATION OF A SLOW-MOVING TROPICAL STORM AND A STRONG RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE TO THE NORTH HELPED CREATE SUCH HIGH TIDES.

F. FLOODING

JEFFERSON COUNTY...

FLOODING IS ONGOING...ESPECIALLY ALONG HIGHWAY 87 BETWEEN PORT ARTHUR AND SABINE PASS...AND BETWEEN PORT ARTHUR AND BRIDGE CITY. MANY LOCATIONS IN WESTERN JEFFERSON COUNTY ARE ALSO UNDER WATER. HIGHWAY 87 BETWEEN SABINE PASS AND PORT ARTHUR BECAME IMPASSABLE OVERNIGHT ON 9/10/98. EVERY ROAD IN SABINE PASS WAS UNDER WATER...EXCEPT HIGHWAY 87 RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL. OVER 70 HOMES AND BUSINESSES HAD SOME FORM OF FLOOD DAMAGES IN SABINE PASS.

ORANGE COUNTY...

FLOODING IN ONGOING...MAINLY AROUND VIDOR AND BRIDGE CITY. SEVERAL ROADS HAVE BEEN CLOSED BETWEEN 9/11/98 THROUGH 9/13/98.

HARDIN...JASPER...AND NEWTON COUNTIES...

FLOODING BECAME WORSE THIS WEEKEND...9/12/98 AND 9/13/98 AND IS ONGOING. SEVERAL LOCATIONS HAD TO BE EVACUATED AND SHELTERS ARE STILL OPEN TODAY IN NEWTON COUNTY.

CAMERON PARISH...

HIGHWAY 82 WAS CLOSED OFF AND ON FROM 9/10/98 TIL 9/13/98. THE WORST SPOTS INCLUDED BETWEEN HOLLY BEACH AND JOHNSON BAYOU...DOWNTOWN CAMERON...AND BETWEEN OAK GROVE AND GRAND CHENIER. SOME PLACES HAD AS MUCH AS THREE FEET OF WATER OVER IT. HACKBERRY IN NORTHERN CAMERON PARISH ALSO RECEIVED FLOOD WATERS ON 9/11/98.

CALCASIEU PARISH...

THE DEATONVILLE AND MOSS LAKE AREAS WERE FLOODED FROM 9/11/98 THROUGH TODAY...AND ALONG THE CALCASIEU RIVER NORTH OF LAKE CHARLES. IN DOWNTOWN LAKE CHARLES...THE YACHT CLUB WAS FLOODED...AND SEVERAL HOMES ON THE LAKE SIDE OF LAKESHORE DRIVE HAD WATER ENTER THEM.

G. TORNADOES

CONFIRMED TORNADOES SO FAR:

1555Z ON 9/11/98...4 MILES WEST OF LAKE ARTHUR LA...ONE SMALL ONE STORY CAMP WAS DESTROYED...RIGHT DOWN TO THE CONCRETE SLAB. DEBRIS FROM THIS CAMP WAS STREWN FOR OVER HALF A MILE TO THE NORTHWEST. NO ONE WAS HOME...SO THERE WERE NO INJURIES. A LARGE HOUSE NEXT DOOR HAD SEVERAL WINDOWS BLOWN OUT ON THE SOUTH TO SOUTHEAST SIDE.

2218Z ON 9/11/98...IN MIDLAND LOUISIANA...TORNADO HIT THE SCHOOL... TEARING PART OF THE ROOF OFF AND DESTROYING SEVERAL OUT BUILDINGS. MOVING NORTH TO NORTHWEST...THE TORNADO THEN HIT MIDLAND...AND DAMAGED AROUND 12 HOMES.

2250Z ON 9/11/98...IN BASILE LA...THE SAME STORM THAT HIT MIDLAND REDEVELOPED SOUTHEAST OF BASILE...AND MOVED NORTHWEST...THROUGH THE CENTER OF TOWN BEFORE DISSIPATING IN SOME FIELDS NORTHWEST OF TOWN. THE WORST DAMAGE OCCURRED AT THE SCHOOL...WHERE THE ROOF WAS RIPPED OFF. AROUND 25 HOMES AND BUSINESSES RECEIVED SOME FORM OF DAMAGE FROM THIS TORNADO.

THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AN ADDITIONAL TWO TO FIVE TORNADOES... CONFIRMATION STILL INCOMING.

H. STORM EFFECTS

NO DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED...BUT SEVERAL INJURIES DID OCCUR IN BOTH THE BASILE AND MIDLAND TORNADOES...ALL MINOR. TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS PARTIALLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE HEAVY RAIN AND WINDS ALSO CAUSED SOME INJURIES ACROSS THE AREA.

EARLY DOLLAR FIGURE DAMAGE ESTIMATES WILL BE IN EXCESS OF \$10 MILLION. THIS INCLUDES \$2 TO 5 MILLION FOR THE TORNADOES...\$2 TO 5 MILLION FOR BOTH CAMERON PARISH AND JEFFERSON COUNTY COASTAL FLOOD PROBLEMS.

CAMERON PARISH CIVIL DEFENSE REPORTS 70 PERCENT EVACUATION...OR AROUND 5000 PEOPLE FROM LOWER CAMERON PARISH. SEVERAL THOUSAND OFFSHORE OIL WORKERS AND FISHERMEN EVACUATED THE ENTIRE LAKE CHARLES CWA COASTLINE.

ERICKSON