

Volume 3, Number 5

June 2010



SERVING NWS BOISE WEATHER SPOTTERS AND COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS

Sage Winds

National Weather Service, Boise, Idaho



June 2010

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/boi/>

Looking back at April

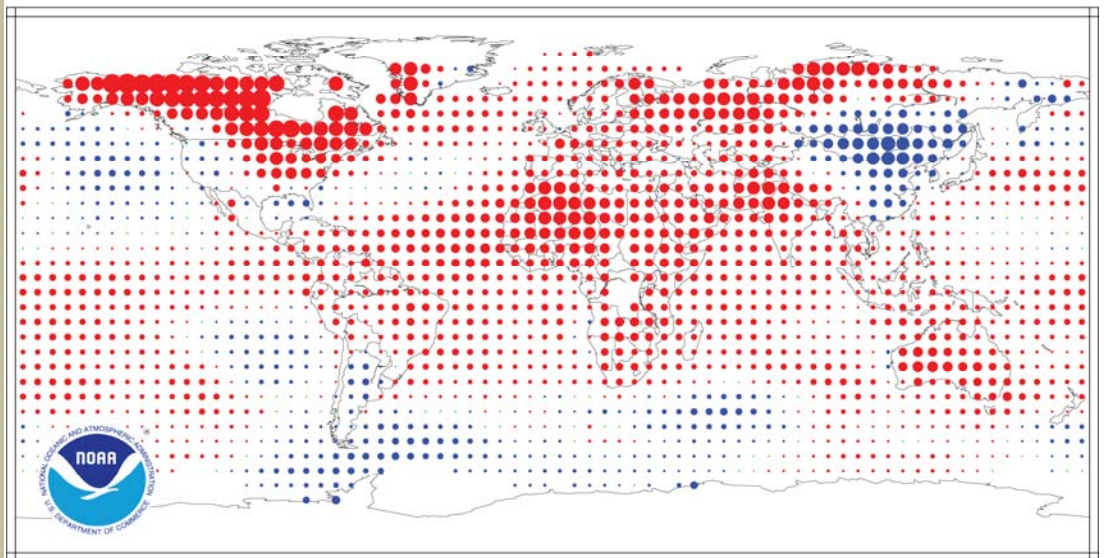
It may have been a bit cooler than normal across the Pacific Northwest in April, but worldwide, it was the warmest on record. The combined global land and ocean surface temperature was the warmest on record for both April and for the period from January-April, according to NOAA. Additionally, last month's average ocean surface temperature was the warmest on record for any April, and the global land surface temperature was the third warmest on record. The full document describing April's temperatures is located at...

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100517_globalstats.html

Temperature Anomalies April 2010

(with respect to a 1971-2000 base period)

National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



Degrees Celsius



SkyWarn Spotter Training

We have scheduled a spotter training session in Burns in cooperation with the Harney County Ham radio club. This training will be held Saturday August 14 at 10am in the Harney County Courthouse in Burns.

Watch the SkyWarn web page (<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/boi/awareness/skywarn.php>) for details.

CoCoRaHS

For the CoCoRaHS observers among us...and if you're not a CoCoRaHS observer, please consider joining up at <http://www.cocorahs.org/>

CoCoRaHS observations now cover all 50 states. This data network of observers (just like you) helps to create a database of rainfall across the country. The extent of these observations is now quite vast and continues to grow. If you're not an observer, check out the web site and see if this might be something you can participate in. It only takes a few minutes each day, and in our dry climate, most days requires just a few seconds entering a zero observations because of the large number of rain free days we have.



Submitting Hail Reports Via CoCoRaHS

By Megan Thimmesch, WFO-Boise

Hail is one of several weather parameters that must be measured by a human observer. To meteorologists, it is a rare but invaluable resource. The National Weather Service uses hail information in several ways. Instantaneous hail information helps NWS meteorologists discern severe storms from non-severe storms, while historical hail data can help forecasters analyze hail storm patterns and probabilities.

When hail is observed at your station, submission of an "Online Hail Report" will provide needed information to help local NWS forecasters make decisions during times of significant or severe weather. "Severe hail" is defined as hail with a diameter of 1 inch or greater. Reports of hail with diameters less than 1 inch (e.g. pea-sized hail covering the ground) are also important. These reports, of "non-severe" hail, help forecasters determine the overall threat of a particular storm.

Follow the steps below when submitting a hail report for your station. Reports should be submitted as soon as possible...during or shortly after the hail event.

EASY AS 1.2.3...

3 Steps to Submitting a Hail Report:

1. Click on “Hail” from the far left “Enter My New Reports” column.

2. Enter in the date, time, size of hail observed, beginning & ending times (if event has already ended), hail consistency, and any damage you’ve observed. (Note: The section regarding hail pads may be ignored.)

3. Finally, click on “Submit Data” to send your report. Your hail information will be added to the daily hail reports and maps, and will be viewable by NWS personnel.

NOTE:

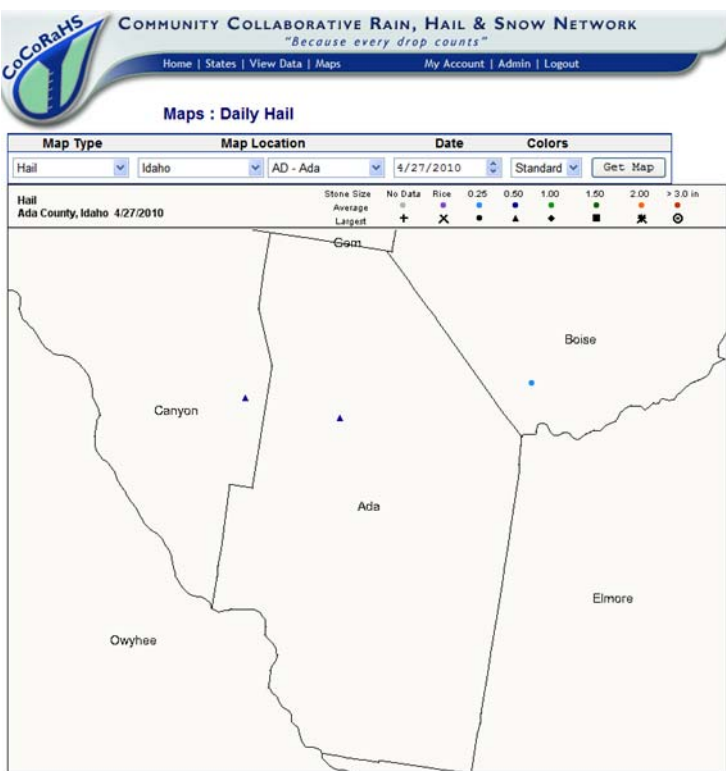
For those of you who are both SkyWarn Spotters and CoCoRaHS observers, it is **NOT redundant to submit both an e-spotter report (or phone call) AND a Co-CoRaHS hail report.**

CoCoRaHS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE RAIN, HAIL & SNOW NETWORK
"Because every drop counts"

Home | States | View Data | Maps | My Account | Admin | Logout

Data Entry : View Hail Report

Hail Report		Edit
Hail Report Information		
Station Number:	ID-AD-11	NO HAIL PAD IMAGE
Station Name:	Boise 6.1 SW	
Date:	4/27/2010 5:10 PM	
Submitted:	4/28/2010 3:14 PM	
Taken at registered location:	True	
Notes:		
Hailstone Information		
Largest Size:	1/2" Grape	
Average Size:	3/8"	
Smallest Size:	1/4" Pea Size	
Stone Consistency:	Soft	
Hail Storm information		
Duration Minutes:	5	
Duration Accuracy:	3min	
Timing:	Continuous	
More Rain than Hail:	True	
Hail Started:		
Largest Hail Started:		
Damage:		
Hail pad information		
Angle of Impact:		
Number of Stones On Pad:		
Distance Between Stones On Pad:		
Depth Of Stones on Ground:		
Has Samples:	False	

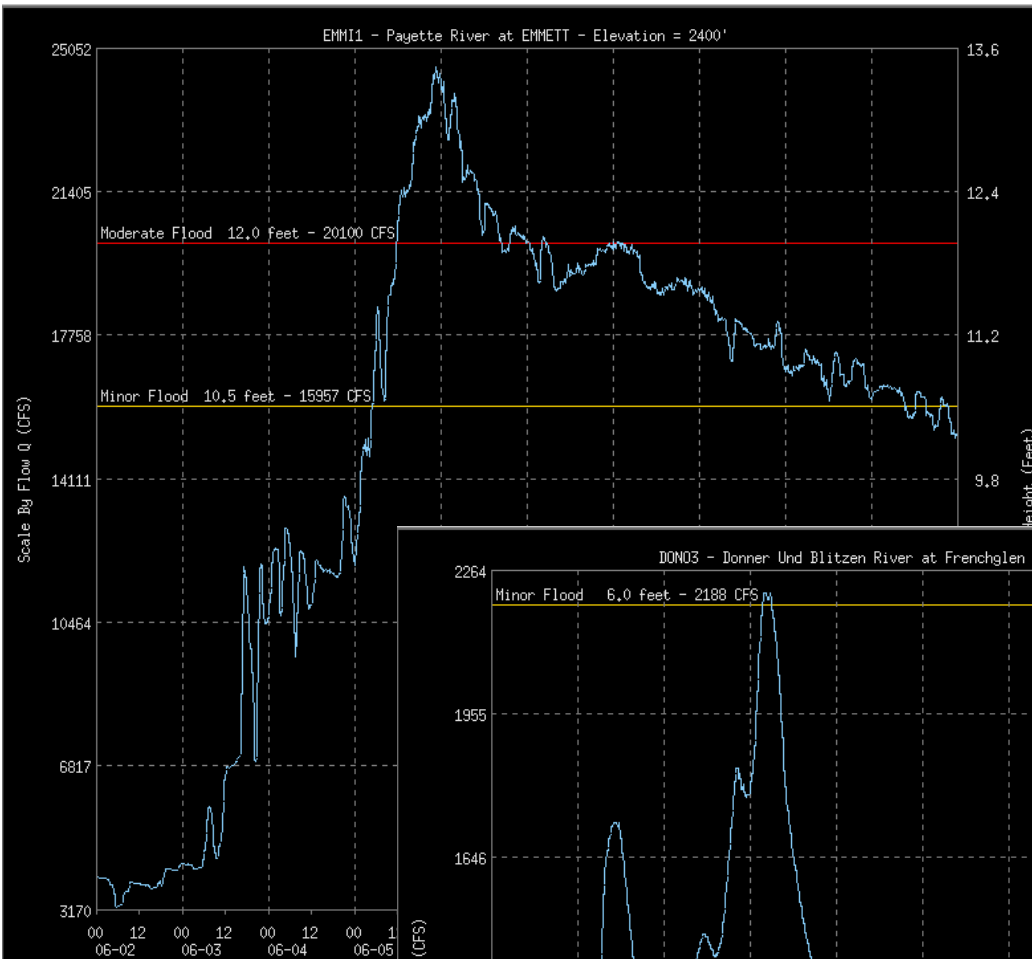


"Because every drop counts!"

Late Spring (or was it early summer?) Flooding

As winter was coming to a close, the thought was that main stem river flooding had a low probability of occurrence across southwest Idaho and southeast Oregon. The winter snowpack was below normal and it looked like the snow was melting at a fairly steady (although slow) rate. All that changed in early June as a stream of moist air moved across the Pacific and headed straight for southwest Idaho.

Between June 2 and June 4 as much as 4 inches of rain fell in southwest Idaho. This rain brought many rivers above flood stage. The two charts below show how the Payette and the Donner und Blitzen Rivers responded.



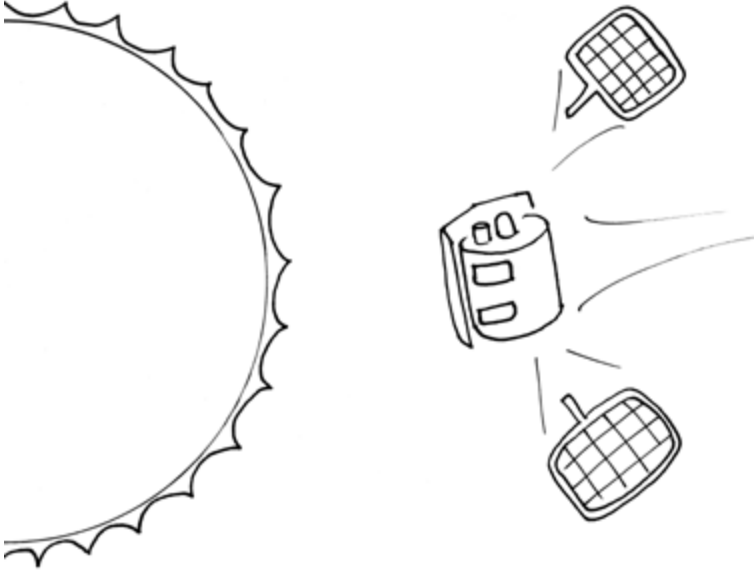
The Page Springs campground along the Donner und Blitzen River was closed during this event due to the high water.

Many back country roads were washed out as rivers rose and eroded their banks.

Six Idaho counties had state emergency declarations as a result of the flooding.



As mentioned before, in late April the flood potential outlook for the area was considered low. It only took 2 days of heavy rain to turn our area rivers from lazy streams to raging torrents.



The Messenger loses the solar panels because the engineers attached them to it with wax. It seems nobody reads classic literature any more.

National Weather Service

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Weather in the News

2010 Hurricane Outlook: The Atlantic Hurricane outlook has been issued, showing a more active season than normal. It doesn't mean that they will all impact land, just that there are more expected than normal.

http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100527_hurricaneoutlook.html

The eastern Pacific Outlook looks less active,

http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100527_pacifichurricanes.html

Road Washouts in Idaho due to the early June heavy rain—

[http://www.idahostatesman.com/2010/06/17/1234370/backcountry-campground-and-roads.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+IdahostatesmancomIdahoOutdoors+\(IdahoStatesman.com+Idaho+Outdoors\)](http://www.idahostatesman.com/2010/06/17/1234370/backcountry-campground-and-roads.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+IdahostatesmancomIdahoOutdoors+(IdahoStatesman.com+Idaho+Outdoors))

Lightning strike at Old Faithful—<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/37474114/ns/weather/>

Flooding in China—<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/37976245/ns/weather/>

Fire Season has begun—[http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2010-06-27-](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2010-06-27-wild-)

[wild-](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2010-06-27-wild-)

[fire_N.htm?csp=34weather&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+\(Weather++Top+Stories\)](http://www.usatoday.com/weather/wildfires/2010-06-27-wild-fire_N.htm?csp=34weather&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+usatoday-WeatherTopStories+(Weather++Top+Stories))