

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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GULF OF MEXICO

WATERS FROM BAFFIN BAY TO PT MANSFIELD TX EXT FROM 20 TO 60NM COUNTY --- 45.0 ESE S BAFFIN BAY [26.96, -96.70]

03/06/08 16:24 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 38 kt)
03/06/08 16:24 CST	0	Source: Buoy

Isolated thunderstorms occurring along a cold front moved across the offshore Gulf of Mexico coastal waters producing gusty winds, the NOAA buoy station 42020, located 45 miles east southeast of Baffin Bay, recorded winds up to 38 knots.

LAGUNA MADRE FROM 5NM N OF PT MANSFIELD TO BAFFIN BAY TX COUNTY --- 27.2 SSW S BAFFIN BAY [26.82, -97.47]

03/06/08 17:30 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 37 kt)
03/06/08 17:30 CST	0	Source: C-MAN Station

A thunderstorm moved over the offshore Gulf of Mexico coastal waters producing gusty winds over the marine areas. The Rincon Del San Jose Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network site recorded winds up to 37 knots.

LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 1.2 SW PORT ISABEL [26.06, -97.22]

03/06/08 19:06 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 37 kt)
03/06/08 19:06 CST	0	Source: C-MAN Station

A thunderstorm passed over the offshore Gulf of Mexico coastal waters east of Port Isabel producing high winds. The Port Isabel Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network site recorded winds up to 37 knots as the thunderstorm moved into the Gulf waters.

A cold front moving through Deep south Texas triggered isolated thunderstorms over the coastal waters. Once the front passed the winds shifted to the northwest with gust to 25 to 30 knots and seas in the 7 to 10 feet range.

LAGUNA MADRE FROM 5NM N OF PT MANSFIELD TO BAFFIN BAY TX COUNTY --- 27.2 SSW S BAFFIN BAY [26.82, -97.47]

03/10/08 15:00 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 43 kt)
03/10/08 16:00 CST	0	Source: C-MAN Station

A thunderstorm, which moved across the Laguna Madre and offshore Gulf coastal waters, produced outflow northerly wind gusts of 38 to 43 knots knots, estimated to be between 4 and 5 PM CDT, at the Rincon Del San Jose Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network site.

WATERS FROM BAFFIN BAY TO PT MANSFIELD TX EXT FROM 20 TO 60NM COUNTY --- 45.0 ESE S BAFFIN BAY [26.96, -96.70]

03/10/08 16:40 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 39 kt)
03/10/08 17:40 CST	0	Source: Buoy

A thunderstorm moving across the offshore Gulf coastal waters produced high winds over the coastal waters. Buoy 42020 recorded winds up to 39 knots as the initial outflow from the thunderstorm passed by.

LAGUNA MADRE FROM PORT OF BROWNSVILLE TO ARROYO COLORADO COUNTY --- 1.2 SW PORT ISABEL [26.06, -97.22]

03/10/08 17:36 CST	0	Marine Thunderstorm Wind (MG 36 kt)
03/10/08 18:06 CST	0	Source: C-MAN Station

A thunderstorm moved over the Laguna Madre and the offshore Gulf of Mexico coastal waters producing high winds. Winds up to 36 knots were recorded at the Texas Coastal Ocean Observation Network Station located northeast of Port Isabel as the thunderstorm and associated outflow moved through.

An upper level low pressure trough moving across northwest Texas generated scattered thunderstorms over the marine areas of Deep South Texas. Some of these thunderstorms produced high winds over portions of the Laguna Madre and Gulf of Mexico coastal waters.

TEXAS, South

(TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

03/02/08 12:00 CST	1.50K	Strong Wind (MAX 42 kt)
03/02/08 18:00 CST	0	

(TX-Z255) CAMERON

03/02/08 12:00 CST	3K	High Wind (MAX 39 kt)
03/02/08 18:00 CST	0	

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Deepening low pressure over West and Southwest Texas, combined with fairly strong high pressure across the eastern Gulf of Mexico and Southeastern U.S., increased southeasterly winds across the Lower Rio Grande Valley from late morning on the 2nd into mid morning on the 3rd. Sustained winds were generally between 25 and 37 mph, with a period of gusts near or above 50 mph during the early and mid afternoon of the 2nd.

(TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

03/17/08 09:00 CST			3K	Strong Wind (MAX 42 kt)
03/17/08 18:30 CST			0	

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO, (TX-Z254) WILLACY, (TX-Z255) CAMERON

03/17/08 11:52 CST			16K	High Wind (MAX 53 kt)
03/18/08 19:05 CST		2	0	

(TX-Z256) COASTAL WILLACY, (TX-Z257) COASTAL CAMERON

03/17/08 16:00 CST			0	High Surf
03/18/08 23:59 CST			0	

A vigorous upper level cyclone moving northeast from northern Mexico through the heart of Texas on the 17th and 18th induced an equally strong surface cyclone over the middle Rio Grande Valley of southwest Texas and extreme northern Mexico. This cyclone moved slowly east through the Lower Rio Grande Valley, producing persistent strong gusty southeast winds during the mornings of the 17th and 18th across the populated portions of the Lower Rio Grande Valley, causing power outages and minor damage in a few areas.

The trough eventually eased across all of Deep South Texas during the afternoon and evening of the 18th, but was followed by surges of very strong west to northwest winds on several occasions, beginning during the mid afternoon and continuing a little past sunset. The post-trough winds produced additional structural damage, particularly in Hidalgo County.

(TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO

03/18/08 14:00 CST			1.12M	Wildfire
03/20/08 10:00 CST		1	50K	

A strong cold front passing through the central portion of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and Deep South Texas during the mid and late afternoon of March 18th brought a combination of wind gusts in excess of 50 mph, falling humidity into the teens, and rapid drying to already drought-affected short-term fuels. These conditions, combined with falling live power lines and other sparking material, produced a number of significant wild fires across Jim Hogg, Brooks, Hidalgo, and Starr Counties between the afternoon of the 18th and the afternoon of the 19th.

In total, aerial and ground surveys suggested that at least 40,000 acres may have burned in total, with at least 25,000 of those related to the "Burns Ranch" blaze which stretched from the border of Starr, Brooks, and Jim Hogg County east-southeast into southern Brooks and Hidalgo County, with the smoke plume extending into Willacy County. Infrared satellite imagery initially pinpointed the "hot spots" soon after ignition; Doppler Radar was able to capture the plume from the "Burns Ranch Fire" into the evening of the 18th.

(TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO

03/25/08 00:00 CST			0	Drought
03/31/08 23:59 CST			0	

Extreme dry conditions continued across Deep South Texas during the month of March. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) reported the soil moisture was abnormally to excessively dry over Deep South Texas. The United States Drought Monitor indicated that the drought conditions deteriorated to severe in western Brooks and Hidalgo County by late March. Fire bans continued over much of Deep South Texas for all of the month.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG

03/03/08 12:00 CST			1K	Wildfire
03/03/08 20:00 CST			0	

The passage of another vigorous surface trough and associated cold front maintained strong and gusty winds behind it, with frequent sustained winds above 30 mph and gusts at or above 40 mph in many locations for a while during the afternoon of March 3rd. Unfortunately, the gusty northwest winds and rapidly falling humidity contributed to the spread of several wild fires, particularly across the Lower and Middle Rio Grande Valley from Starr and Jim Hogg County west to Zapata County.

(TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z252) STARR

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	03/11/08 00:00 CST		0	Drought
	03/31/08 23:59 CST		0	

Extreme dry conditions continued across Deep South Texas during the month of March. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) reported the soil moisture was abnormally to excessively dry over Deep South Texas. The United States Drought Monitor indicated that the drought conditions deteriorated to severe early in the month in Jim Hogg and Starr County. Fire bans continued over much of Deep South Texas for all of the month.

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA

03/01/08 00:00 CST	0	Drought
03/31/08 23:59 CST	0	

Extreme dry conditions continued across Deep South Texas during the month of March. The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) reported the soil moisture was abnormally to excessively dry over Deep South Texas. The United States Drought Monitor indicated that the drought conditions remained severe for all of March in Zapata County; by the end of the month, extreme conditions were knocking on the door as no appreciable rain fell in the area. Fire bans continued over much of Deep South Texas for all of the month.

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - April 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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TEXAS, South

(TX-Z248) ZAPATA, (TX-Z249) JIM HOGG, (TX-Z250) BROOKS, (TX-Z252) STARR, (TX-Z253) HIDALGO

04/01/08 00:00 CST

0

Drought

04/07/08 23:59 CST

0

Severe drought conditions persisted across the western counties of Deep South Texas and the Lower and Middle Rio Grande Valley. The drought would further intensify through the remainder of the month.