



March 14, 2012

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To Whom It May Concern:

Included with this letter you will find information you requested from our office concerning weather observations for the area of Dade City, Florida. Hourly observations provided were taken from the Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) stations located at the Brooksville Hernando County Airport and the Tampa International Airport, which are approximately 19 and 33 miles, respectively, from the location of interest. Daily observations were taken from the National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Network station at Saint Leo. Data are provided for October 6-8, 2010, though the focus of this report will be on the 7th, which is the listed day of the incident. Also attached is a list of conversions and meteorological identifiers that will help you decipher the information. A map of the area, courtesy of Google Maps, has also been included. Note the locations of the stations and area of interest, marked by push-pins or other identifiers.

The ASOS system serves as the nation's primary surface weather observing network and is designed to support weather forecast activities and aviation operations as well as the meteorological, hydrological, and climatological research communities. ASOS detects significant changes, disseminating hourly and special observations via the networks. These observations are on archive and were provided by the National Climate Data Center (NCDC).

A review of the hourly observations at the Brooksville Hernando County Airport on the 7th revealed that the station reported a period of fog and mist from 0149 to 0653. During this five-hour period, there were times when the visibilities were reduced, with the lowest visibility reported at 0.50 miles. There were no reports of rain or measured precipitation at the Brooksville Hernando County Airport on the day of interest.

Hourly observations from the Tampa Bay International Airport indicate no rainfall, fog, or mist during the entire day on October 7.

Observations of temperature and precipitation were taken from the NWS Cooperative Network station in Saint Leo. These cooperative (COOP) stations are sites where observations are taken or other services rendered by volunteers or contractors. Observers record temperature and precipitation daily and send those reports monthly to NCDC or a NWS office. The COOP stations vary in the times that they report the weather information they've collected, so these totals are for the 24-hour period, usually beginning/ending between 7:00AM and 9:00 AM, though some stations report outside of the desired time window.



Daily values of temperatures and precipitation from each station are included with this report. Any variable listed as -999 represents a missing value for the day. Daily data is collected by the cooperative station and is reported from 5:30 pm to 5:30 pm, which means rainfall that fell on the day of the incident (listed as 10/07/10) could be reported the following morning (10/08/10). Below you will find a table with information from the 6th to the 8th for the Saint Leo station.

Station	Time of Observation	Rainfall Total 10/06/10	Rainfall Total 10/07/10	Rainfall Total 10/08/10
Saint Leo	1730	0.00"	0.00"	0.00"

Official copies of radar images were requested and provided by NCDC for the day of the event. The images provided are known as Base Reflectivity Images, which is a display of echo intensity measured in dBZ (decibels of Z, where Z represents the energy reflected back to the radar). The scale of dBZ values is also related to the intensity of rainfall. The images were taken from the Tampa, FL, radar site, located at the Tampa International Airport. However, for the date in question, the radar had been switched to 'clear-air' mode from 12:00 AM until 10:00 AM and from 2:00 PM through the rest of the day. Clear-air mode is often used when no significant precipitation echoes are on radar or when light precipitation is on radar. The radar is more sensitive in this mode and can also give 'false' echoes that are created by dust, insects, birds, and boundaries between two different air masses. During the four-hour window when the radar was in precipitation mode, there were no indications of rainfall on the radar images near or around the area of Dade City, FL.

I hereby certify that the data provided are true copies of the specified records and/or publications for the times and places indicated thereon on file at the National Climatic Data Center in Asheville, NC and the Southeast Regional Climate Center in Chapel Hill, NC.

Sincerely,

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