
Hurricane Harvey—Effects, What We Learned, and Next Steps

Douglas Schnoebelen

USGS Texas Water Science Center, 5563 De Zavala Rd., Ste. 290, San Antonio, Texas 78249

GCAGS Explore & Discover Article #00281*

http://www.gcags.org/exploreanddiscover/2017/00281_schnoebelen.pdf

Posted October 30, 2017.

*Article based on an abstract published in the *GCAGS Transactions* (see footnote reference below), which is available as part of the entire 2017 *GCAGS Transactions* volume via the GCAGS Bookstore at the Bureau of Economic Geology (www.beg.utexas.edu) or as an individual document via AAPG Datapages, Inc. (www.datapages.com), and delivered as an oral presentation at the 67th Annual GCAGS Convention and 64th Annual GCSSEPM Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, November 1–3, 2017.

ABSTRACT

Hurricane Harvey ended a 12-year span in which no hurricanes of such intensity had made landfall in the United States. In a four-day period, many areas received more than 40 in (100 cm) of rain as the system slowly meandered over eastern Texas and adjacent waters, causing catastrophic flooding, with peak accumulations of 64.58 in (164.0 cm). The resulting floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and prompted more than 17,000 rescues. This presentation will focus on the effects of the storm, what we learned, and how we can better gather data in the future, and also on how we as scientists can better understand, prepare and communicate our information to the public.