

Concluding Remarks

This section has presented information on rainfall that occurred during the Copper-Nickel Project. What summary can be made from this information? Let us look at some conclusions that the evidence appears to offer.

1. The general rainfall pattern, apparent in most months, is one of higher precipitation along the high ground from the Island Lake Reservoir through Isabella to Eagle Mountain.
2. The precipitation ^{northerly (and annual)} pattern is generally directed parallel to Lake Superior. This pattern ^{does} break up west of ~~the~~ Lake Vermilion, however. There is a ^{axial} ~~drop~~ along the shore, and ^{another} from Mesadunaw through Birch Lake to Basswood Lake.
3. The radar data strongly show that precipitation echoes moving from the Region onto Lake Superior nearly always quickly disappear, indicating sudden death of thunderstorms and convective systems over the Lake. Only a few enormous echoes were found which survived very far out onto the Lake. And as the Lake is cold in the warm season -- ingestion of this cold air into any ^{free-rising} updrafts apparently kills the updrafts in short order. The immediate

land area along the north shore is likely drier than further inland due not only to subsidence (sinking) of air ^{moving} from the west, but also because convective cells from the south and south-southwest cannot generally ~~move over the~~ cross the lake to reach the shore.

4. In a given month, there is about a 3 to 1 ratio in the total precipitation value between the station recording the most precipitation and the station recording the least, the station spacing and number of stations being what they were.

5. Thunderstorms dominate the precipitation events, ^{most strongly} in May, June and July, while general storms dominate in March and April. General storms and thunderstorms are both important in August and September. From October to February, general storms and shower regimes are both important.

6. ^{As might be anticipated} Thunderstorm ~~events~~ events are associated with the greatest variation in precipitation over the region, general storms the least, with ~~showers~~ non-thunderstorm showers being in between in variation.

7. As might be anticipated, most convection cells observed on radar move from between WSW and WNW. Wetter years, ^{and months} seems to favor tracks from the WSW, drier times favor tracks from the west and WNW.