

Midland, Texas

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

June

1999

SIGNATURE

Steve Drillette

In Charge of HSA

DATE

7/5/99

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
NOAA / National Weather Service
1325 East West Highway, Room 7230
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

On June 12-13, moderate to major river flooding was observed along the Colorado River Basin in Scurry County. The most serious flooding occurring along Deep Creek from Snyder, to the river forecast point, located 2 miles northwest of Dunn. The headwater forecast point in Snyder (SYDT2) reached 15.5 ft, which was 4.5 ft above flood stage, and damaged at least one business and several homes. At the river forecast point near Dunn (DEET2), the crest was estimated to be around 26 feet, according to reports from local law enforcement officials. At DEET2, water was lapping at the bridge along FM 1606, with extensive flooding of adjacent ranch and farm land. Minor overbank flooding was also believed to have occurred along the Colorado River, at the river forecast point near Ira (IRAT2), with no damage. There is no gaging equipment at either IRAT2 or DEET2.

Moderate overbank flooding also occurred along the Colorado River, above Lake JB Thomas, in Borden County. Bankfull at this river data point is estimated to be 9.5 ft. The river crested at 12.8 feet at 6:15 AM on the 14th. Flooding of adjacent ranch land resulted, but with no damage reported. Bankfull conditions were also reached at this location on June 8th, when the stage reached 10.5 ft. Lake JB Thomas did benefit, as the pool elevation rose over 16 feet for the month.

On the 14th and 15th, River Flood Warnings were also issued along two sections of the Rio Grande as arroyo runoff from heavy rainfall resulted in minor flood waves along the river. Flooding did not materialize, however bankfull stages were reached at the Presidio International Bridge (PRST2) on the 14th and at Boquillas (BOQT2) on the 15th.

There was one flash flood related fatality, which occurred along Highway 84, 8 miles northwest of Snyder. The same intense rain that resulted in the Deep Creek flood, was also responsible for this flash flood event. At 2:47 AM CDT June 12, a 48-year old woman and her parents were traveling northbound along Highway 84, when water 2-3 feet deep washed the sedan into a flooded median. The parents were rescued by a man in a following vehicle, but was unable to save the woman. Flash Flood Warnings were out and at 1:45 AM, a FFS was issued relaying a DPS report that water was flowing across Highway 84 north of Snyder.

Several other flash flood events were spread out across the month. However no significant damage is known to have occurred.

Rainfall for the month was rather generous, with nearly all areas reporting above normal precipitation. The Midland International Airport recorded 2.87 inches, which was 1.32 inches above normal. However, Midland remains 0.25 inches below normal for the year with a current total of 5.71 inches. The good news is that we have already surpassed the annual rainfall total of last year.

Despite the recent rains, reservoir levels across the HSA and in northern Mexico remain below conservation levels and the flood threat remains low.

River products issued:

RVS = 10 FLS = 8 FLW = 3

cc:mail: HIC W/SR2 WGRFC NWSFO LBB
cc: USGS USCE IBWC-ELP IBWC-Presidio