

NWS FORM E-5
(11-88)
(PRES. by WSOM E-41)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)

Midland, Texas

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

July

YEAR

2001

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

SIGNATURE

J. DeBerry

In Charge of HSA

DATE

8/1/01

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)

[X] No flood stages were reached in this HSA in July.

Summertime pseudo-monsoon conditions continued through July. As a result, rainfall was sparse, and largely confined to mountainous areas.

In fact, the only notable flooding event occurred on July 11th, when a thunderstorm produced flash floods near Paisano Pass in Brewster County, briefly closing Highway 67.

Some locations in the HSA that received notable amounts of precipitation for July were:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Valentine, Jeff Davis County | 3.33" |
| Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy County | 3.40" |
| Mount Locke, Jeff Davis County | 3.80" |
| Marfa # 2, Presidio County | 5.03" |

The average of all stations reporting was only 0.79". This is misleading however, as the above 4 stations make up 28% of all rainfall reported, and most significant rainfall was confined to the Davis Mountains. No precipitation was reported in 6 counties (mostly in the Permian Basin), and a total of 14 stations reported no precipitation as well.

Midland International Airport received only a trace of precipitation for the month, which tied for the second driest July on record. Normal for the month of July is 1.89". The total for the year was 3.86", 3.79" below normal.

The benchmark period for West Texas/Southeast New Mexico droughts occurred in the 1950s, and is commonly considered the most severe drought on record.

The current severe long-term drought rivals that of the 1950s, and if the current predictions of dry conditions continue, then a new benchmark drought is in the making.

From 1950 through 1958, 100.21" of precipitation fell at Midland, Texas. From 1992 through 2000, 107.70" fell.

Considering the amount of precipitation that has fallen from 1993 through July 2001, and adding the normal expected amounts for the rest of the year, the total amount from 1993 through 2001 would be 98.30", which would be 1.91" less than 1950-1958.

Reservoir levels across the HSA, with the exception of Brantley Lake, New Mexico, remain below conservation levels, and the flood threat remains low.

River products issued:

RVS = 0 FLS = 0 FLW = 0

cc:mail: DOA IBWC-ELP IBWC-PRS SWFED USGS-CNM USGS-SJT

cc:email: HIC W/SR2 W/SR3 W/SR-ABQ W/SR-ELP W/SR-FWR W/SR-LBB W/SR-MAF W/SR-SJT