

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

August

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

9/1/01

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 August.

The summertime pseudo-monsoon pattern finally started breaking down in August. Consequently, tropical airmass convection and warm-process rains alleviated some of the short-term drought that plagued much of the HSA this summer.

The first notable event occurred August 9th-10th, when thunderstorms inundated portions of Southeast New Mexico and the Permian Basin. An Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued for Midland County, and many roadways and low-lying crossings in the city of Midland were flooded. Further northeast, an Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued in Mitchell County for roadway flooding, and a Flash Flood Warning was issued for Howard County, where 1.5-2.5" of rain fell, flooding roadways throughout the county and stranding at least one vehicle. A Flash Flood Warning was also issued for Glasscock County, and radar indicated many other areas in the Permian Basin and Stockton Plateau likely received localized flooding that went unreported. Meanwhile, in Lea County, New Mexico, heavy rain from thunderstorms flooded streets over the curbs in Lovington.

On the 20th, a slow-moving storm in Reagan County remained stationary over Big Lake for about 3 hours, producing over 3" of rain and flooding several homes and businesses.

On August 25th-26th, an Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued for Lea County, as nocturnal convection flooded several highways near Tatum. This activity then developed into Loving and Reeves Counties, prompting issuance of additional Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisories. The storms then progressed into Howard, Martin, Pecos, and Reagan Counties. An Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued for Midland County. Low-water crossings flooded up to 5' deep, and other roadways had water over the curb.

Nocturnal convection developed again during the early morning hours of the 28th. 4" of rain fell near Bakersfield in Pecos County, flooding Highway 1901. Later that morning, storms developed near Garden City in Glasscock County, flooding Highway 33. Storms also developed over Reagan and Upton Counties, and Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisories were issued as a result.

The last flooding event took place August 30th-31st, when slow-moving thunderstorms developed over northern and central Lea County, and an Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued. The storms then moved into the Permian Basin, causing minor street flooding in Odessa in Ector County, before moving into Midland County, where an Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued and verified due to widespread street flooding. Highway 349 was closed overnight. Crossing into the 31st, the storms moved into Reagan County, where a Flash Flood Warning was issued and verified when rainfall flooded Highway 137 north of Big Lake near Centralia Draw. Arroyo and Small Stream Flood Advisories were then issued to cover localized flooding in Glasscock, Midland, Pecos, and Upton Counties. Highway 158 near Garden City in Glasscock County, as well as County Road 125, were both underwater in places.

Finally, later that afternoon, storms took one last parting shot at August when they developed over Ector County, causing widespread flooding in Odessa. An Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory was issued For the county, where some roads were covered with as much as 3' of water.

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

Cope Ranch, Reagan County	3.28"
Chisos Basin, Brewster County	4.38"
Knapp 2 SW, Scurry County	5.00"
Garden City, Glasscock County	5.47"

The average of all stations reporting was 1.57". All stations reporting had some rainfall for the month. Boquillas Ranger Station in Brewster County was driest, reporting 0.02".

Midland International Airport received 3.44" of precipitation for the month. Normal for the month of August is 1.69". The total for the year was 7.30", 2.05" below normal. 2.26" of the total fell on the 30th, making that the 3rd wettest August day on record for Midland. 2nd wettest was August 15th, 1965 (2.41"), and the wettest was August 24th, 1934 (5.32").

Due to August rains, short term drought has been alleviated in Southeast New Mexico and areas that are East of the Pecos/south of Midland. Texas areas north of Midland are in moderate drought, and Texas West of the Pecos is in severe drought.

Reservoir levels across the HSA, including Brantley, 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