

**WFO Midland, Texas**

**MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS**

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

**May**

**2012**

SIGNATURE

**J. DeBerry**

In Charge of HSA

DATE

**June 15, 2012**

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)*

An X inside this box indicates that no river flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

May was a good month for the Midland/Odessa HSA, hydrologically, and several hydrologic events were noted.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, thunderstorms developed in Southeast New Mexico and drifted out onto the Western Low Rolling Plains. Flash flooding closed roads in Hobbs in Lea County, and significant street flooding was reported in Seagraves in Gaines County.

On the 8<sup>th</sup>, intense convection developed south of the Rio Grande, then moved across the river at Candelaria. This brought the river just barely into flood stage for 27 minutes. This was the first official river flooding in the HSA since September 2011.

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, a major storm system moved through West Texas, bringing widespread rainfall to the area. Flash flooding was reported in Big Spring in Howard County, Iraan and Sheffield in Pecos County, Odessa in Ector County, Midland in Midland County, and Snyder in Scurry County, resulting in numerous road closures. In Midland in Midland County, a motorist was trapped in her car. Midland received 2.45" of rainfall, breaking the old record of 1.47" set in 1947. This was the largest 1-day total rainfall since June 29, 2010.

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, an upper level shortwave brought thunderstorms to Eddy County, flash-flooding Carlsbad with up to 10" of runoff in some locations.

Precipitation amounts from area ASOS's:

City	ASOS ID	May	April
Carlsbad, NM	CNM	3.11"	0.11"
Fort Stockton	FST	3.59"	0.39"
Guadalupe Pass	GDP	1.83"	0.11"
Midland Int'l	MAF	2.88"	0.05"
Odessa	ODO	2.74"	0.13"
Terrell County	6R6	5.26"	0.91"
Wink	INK	3.20"	0.19"

Precipitation amounts from area AWOS's:

City	ASOS ID	May	April
Alpine	E38	1.76"	0.84"
Artesia, NM	ATS	1.21"	0.00"
Big Spring	BGP	3.00"	0.29"
Gaines County	GNC	2.73"	0.00"
Marfa	MRF	1.72"	0.68"
Midland Airpark	MDD	2.22"	0.04"
Pecos	PEQ	4.38"	0.64"
Snyder	SNK	2.44"	0.86"

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

Jal, Lea County	4.08"
St. Lawrence, Glasscock County	4.62"
Bakersfield, Pecos County	4.83"
Cope Ranch, Reagan County	5.78"

109 locations reported rainfall for the month of May, for an average of 2.59".

Normal May precipitation for Midland International Airport is 1.79". Total precipitation for Midland International Airport for the year ending June 1<sup>st</sup> was 4.23", or just 0.03" below normal.

Due to May's abundant precipitation, the drought has improved considerably, with none of the HSA in exceptional drought. As of May 29<sup>th</sup>, in Southeast New Mexico, most of Eddy and Lea Counties were in extreme drought, with southeastern parts of the counties in severe or even moderate drought. In West Texas, extreme drought extended from the Guadalupe Mountains south through the Davis and Apache Mountains to the Marfa Plateau, covering most of Culberson and Jeff Davis Counties. The rest of the West Texas was either in severe or moderate drought.

Unfortunately, this drought improvement is likely only temporary. While La Nina has ended, as summer is imminent, the summertime synoptic upper level ridge is likely to develop, ending the spring severe weather season and cutting off the foci for convection.

Reservoir levels across the HSA averaged 28% of conservation capacity as of June 1<sup>st</sup>:

Reservoir (County, State)	May Conserv Cap (%)	April Conserv Cap (%)
JB Thomas (Scurry, TX)	1	1
Colorado City (Mitchell, TX)	32	30
Champion Creek (Mitchell, TX)	13	11
Natural Dam Salt Lake (Howard, TX)	49	49
Moss Creek (Howard, TX)	45	42
Brantley (Eddy, NM)	36	45
Avalon (Eddy, NM)	36	36
Red Bluff (Reeves, TX)	13	8

### Non-Routine Products Issued for May:

Flash Flood Watches (FFA): 9  
Flash Flood Warnings (FFW): 14  
Flash Flood Statements (FFS): 15  
Flood Warnings (FLW): 1  
Flood Statements (FLS): 42

**Total Non-Routine Products Issued: 81**

**cc: email: COE ABQ, HIC, IBWC ELP, IBWC PRD, LCRA, NWS ABQ, NWS EPZ, NWS LBB,  
NWS MAF, NWS SJT, SRH, TAMU, TCEQ, USGS CNM, USGS SJT, WGRFC**