NWS FORM E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (11-88) NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (PRES. by NWS Instruction 10-924) NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE		HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA) WFO Midland, Texas	
MONTHLY	REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS	REPORT FOR: MONTH September	YEAR 2013
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230		SIGNATURE J. DeBerry In Charge of HSA	
	Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283	DATE October 15, 2013	

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.

With the exception of the central Permian Basin, September was a good month hydrologically.

On September 11-12th, a flood event developed over Culberson and Eddy Counties, as training thunderstorms developed between an upper trough over the the inner-mountain west and a ridge over Texas. These showers and thunderstorms trained northward over roughly 18-24 hours, producing the worst flooding in these areas since April 2004. 6-12" of rain fell, with highest amounts concentrated in the Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Multiple roads were closed in the park. Carlsbad Caverns National Park was evacuated/closed. All tributaries to the Pecos, from Eagle Draw in Artesia south to the Delaware River saw notable rises. Dark Canyon went into flood. To the north, Rocky Arroyo increased inflows into Avalon Reservoir, which quickly filled and released outflows into Carlsbad. This all resulted in rises on Tansill Lake, where the lower dam was overtopped by 1' of runoff or more. To the north of Rocky Arroyo, increased flows from Eagle Draw, the Rio Penasco, Fourmile Draw, and South Seven Rivers resulted in rises on the Pecos and inflows to Brantley Reservoir, which increased from 4000 acre-feet to 19,000 acre-feet in 24 hours or so. 60 campers were evacuated from the SKP campground near South Seven Rivers by boat and helicopter. A freight train with 76 cars of crude oil was stranded near South Seven Rivers.

As of the 13th, all approaches/roads to Dark Canyon were still inaccessible, as was Queen. Many low-water crossings elsewhere were still running and impassable.

On September 19th, the focus shifted to the lower Trans Pecos, where a semi-tropical airmass dumped 3-5" of rain, mainly in Terrell County. Independence Creek and the Pecos at Sheffield measured significant rises, no small feat for either of those locations.

To round out the month, thunderstorms developed over the Western Low Rolling Plains. A thunderstorm produced runoff that partially washed out U. S. Highway 180 west of Lamesa in Dawson County.

City	ASOS ID	September	August
Carlsbad, NM	CNM	3.67"	Т
Fort Stockton	FST	0.84"	0.02"
Guadalupe Pass	GDP	8.52"	0.38"
Midland Int'l	MAF	0.27"	1.17"

Precipitation amounts from area ASOS's:

Odessa	ODO	1.25"	Т
Terrell County	6R6	4.33"	0.08"
Wink	INK	2.65"	0.07"

Precipitation amounts from area AWOS's:

City	ASOS ID	September	August
Alpine	E38	1.73"	0.83"
Artesia, NM	ATS	1.91"	0.00"
Big Spring	BGP	0.99"	0.88"
Gaines County	GNC	0.78"	0.63"
Hobbs	HOB	0.07"	0.04"
Marfa	MRF	2.81"	0.18"
Midland Airpark	MDD	0.51"	0.30"
Pecos	PEQ	0.38"	0.77"
Snyder	SNK	1.16"	1.17"

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

McKittrick Canyon, Culberson County	9.58"
Dog Canyon, Culberson County	10.93"
The Bowl, Culberson County	14.59"
Pine Springs, Culberson County	17.10"

99 locations reported rainfall for the month of September, for an average of 2.51".

Normal September precipitation for Midland International Airport is 1.86". Total precipitation for Midland International Airport for 2013 ending October 1st was 4.84", or 6.74" below normal.

Drought conditions have improved over the past month. As of September 24th, in Southeast New Mexico, northwest Eddy County is in severe drought. The rest of the county, as well as Lea County, ranged from moderate drought to no drought. West Texas has improved as well, although portions of Dawson, Ector, Gaines, and Midland Counties remain in extreme drought. The rest of West Texas ranged from severe drought to no drought.

Reservoir levels across the HSA averaged 42.0% of conservation capacity as of October 1st:

Reservoir (County, State)	September Conserv Cap (%)	August Conserv Cap (%)
JB Thomas (Scurry, TX)	1.5	1.7
Colorado City (Mitchell, TX)	27.9	29.0
Champion Creek (Mitchell, TX)	7.7	6.1
Natural Dam Salt Lake (Howard, TX)	48.6	48.6
Moss Creek (Howard, TX)	29.0	25.0
Brantley (Eddy, NM)	67.0	11.0
Avalon (Eddy, NM)	116.0	26.0

Red Bluff (Reeves, TX)	38.1	17.5
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Non-Routine Products Issued for September:

Flash Flood Watches (FFA): 8 Flash Flood Warnings (FFW): 8 Flash Flood Statements (FFS): 12 Flood Warnings (FLW): 12 Flood Statements (FLS): 38

Total Non-Routine Products Issued: 78

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