NWS FORM E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA:

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - HANFORD , CA

REPORT FOR:

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

FLOOD CONDITIONS MONTH: FEBRUARY YEAR: 2007

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH12x1 SIGNATURE:

National Weather Service/Office of Hydrology

1325 East-West Highway #7116 Kevin Durfee

Silver Spring, MD 20910 (In Charge of Hydrologic Service Area)

DATE: March 2, 2007

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

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 $\mid$  X  $\mid$  An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred for the month +---+ within this hydrologic service area.

Precipitation was more plentiful this month, thanks to a southward shift of the storm track. Unfortunately, it was not enough to replenish the seasonal deficit, which averaged 2 to 3 inches below normal by the end of the month. Storms that produced heavy snow over the higher elevations of the Sierra this month brought the snowpack up to about 60 percent of normal by the time February drew to a close.

During the first week of February, an upper level ridge centered over the Great Basin brought a continuation of dry weather to the central California interior. A cold front moved slowly southward across the HSA between the 7<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> and brought the first substantial precipitation to the region since January 28<sup>th</sup> with 2 feet or more of snow over the highest elevations of the Sierra Nevada. A second cold frontal passage on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> produced lighter amounts of precipitation. Dry weather prevailed from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>, although a storm system that tracked into southern California during President's Day weekend brushed Kern County with rain on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> and caused minor flooding along portions of state road 166.

A cold storm that originated over the Gulf of Alaska tracked southeastward across the state on the  $22^{nd}$  and  $23^{rd}$  and brought several inches of snow to the Sierra foothills and in the Tehachapi mountains above 2000 feet while up to 2 feet of new snow fell over the highest elevations of the Sierra. This storm system also brought generous rain to much of the valley floor. After a brief respite from wet weather on the  $24^{th}$ , another cold storm system tracked southeastward across the state from the  $25^{th}$  through the  $27^{th}$  and buried many foothill and mountain communities with several additional inches of snow. Enough snow fell below the Kern County mountain passes to shut down Interstate 5 through the Grapevine during the early morning hours of the  $28^{th}$ .

HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS ISSUED

Small Stream Flood Advisory...Kern County mountains

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cc:

W/OH12x1 W/WR2 CNRFC WFO HNX WFO STO