

NWS FORM E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA:

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - HANFORD , CA**

REPORT FOR:

**MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND  
FLOOD CONDITIONS**

MONTH: **FEBRUARY** YEAR: **2008**

**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 14, 2008

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

The month began stormy and wet as a deep upper level trough dropped southward from the Gulf of Alaska. The storm dumped nearly 20 inches of snow in the high Sierra with up to a half foot of powder in the Kern County mountains. Beneficial rain fell in the lower elevations from this storm during the first few days of the month. Dry weather took hold by the 5<sup>th</sup> and persisted through the 19<sup>th</sup> as High pressure anchored itself over Idaho and a predominantly offshore flow prevailed over California. A welcome change to a wet pattern began on the 20<sup>th</sup> as a series of Pacific storms trekked eastward across the state. In the 5-day period ending the 25<sup>th</sup>, as much as 5 feet of new snow fell over the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada. The storms also brought generous rain to much of the San Joaquin Valley (except at the south end) and adjacent foothills during this period. The remaining four days of the month were dry and relatively tranquil as a ridge of High pressure settled over California. In summary, the month averaged slightly cooler than normal. Precipitation-wise, the San Joaquin Valley ended up slightly below normal for the month while the higher elevations fared much better.

As February drew to a close, the snowpack in the Southern Sierra Nevada averaged about 120 percent of normal. Water capacity at most reservoirs was around 70 percent of normal.

NO HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS WERE ISSUED THIS MONTH.

cc:  
W/OH12x1  
W/WR2  
CNRFC  
WFO HNX  
WFO STO