

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - HANFORD , CA**

REPORT FOR:

**MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND  
FLOOD CONDITIONS**

MONTH: **OCTOBER** 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: November 2, 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).

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

Precipitation remained well below normal during the month with temperatures averaging slightly above normal. The first storm of the season brought a healthy dose of precipitation to the Sierra Nevada on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> with 1-2 inches of rain north of Kings Canyon National Park. Measurable rain fell in the San Joaquin Valley north of Kern County for the first time in months, but amounts were generally less than a tenth of an inch. The weather remained pretty uneventful until the 9<sup>th</sup>, during which time an upper level low dropped southward from British Columbia. This low deepened over the Great Basin during the second weekend of the month and brought an unseasonably cool, Canadian airmass into central California. From the 10<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>, overnight temperatures fell into the mid 30s in the coldest spots of the San Joaquin Valley where patchy frost occurred while maximum temperatures averaged about ten degrees below normal. A major warmup began on the 14<sup>th</sup> and continued through the 17<sup>th</sup> as a strong upper level ridge of high pressure anchored itself over California. Temperatures cooled to seasonable levels by the 19<sup>th</sup> as a weak upper level trough moved in from the Pacific and nudged the high pressure ridge eastward. However, by the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and for several days thereafter, the upper level ridge regained control of the pattern and brought a return of unseasonably warm weather to the central California interior.

During the last two days of the month, a storm system over the eastern Pacific brought a northward influx of tropical moisture into the HSA. As October drew to a close, the storm dumped 1-2 inches of rain on the Sierra foothills with 2-5 inch rain totals over the higher elevations north of Kern County. Mild air associated with this storm kept snow levels mainly above 9000 feet. Rainfall in the San Joaquin Valley was comparatively light with amounts of a tenth of an inch or less north of Kern County.

**HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS ISSUED**

Flash Flood Watch ...for the Telegraph Fire burn area in Mariposa County      1120Z      31-OCT

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