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

MONTH: **JANUARY** YEAR: **2010**

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH12x1
National Weather Service/Office of Hydrology
1325 East-West Highway #7116
Silver Spring, MD 20910

SIGNATURE:
Kevin Durfee
(In Charge of Hydrologic Service Area)

DATE: February 11, 2010

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 brought a welcome abundance of precipitation as a strong mid latitude jet carried a succession of Pacific storms into the central California interior from the 17th through the 22nd. In this six day period, one to nearly three inches of rain soaked the San Joaquin Valley and the Kern County desert. Foothill locations received up to 7 inches of rain while the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada were buried with 4 to 9 feet of new snow. The upper level trough that opened the door to this stormy period moved southward across the state on the 12th and 13th and produced relatively light precipitation across the HSA.

During the last week of the month, the main storm track shifted northward. Light precipitation brushed the northernmost portions of the HSA from the 23rd through the 25th as storm systems trekked through the Pacific Northwest. Another storm tracked southward along the coast then moved inland across southern California on the 26th and brought measurable precipitation to the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and across the southern portion of the HSA. A relatively weak upper level trough moved southward across the state on the 30th and produced light precipitation in all areas except the Kern County desert.

There were only three notable storm free periods during the month when no precipitation fell. The longest stretch of dry weather occurred from the 1st through the 12th. During this time, an upper level ridge of high pressure resided over central California and brought night and morning fog to the San Joaquin Valley with relatively mild afternoon temperatures elsewhere. The other two breaks from wet weather were very brief and occurred from the 14th through the 16th and from the 27th through the 29th. During these periods, a weak ridge of high pressure resided over the state.

At the end of the month, the snowpack over the southern Sierra Nevada averaged 138 percent of normal. Despite a very wet month, the water storage in most of the major reservoirs as of February 1st averaged only about 45 percent of normal capacity.

HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS ISSUED THIS MONTH

Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory…	San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills; Kern County mountains and desert	2139Z	18-JAN
Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory…	San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills; Kern County mountains and desert	1934Z	19-JAN
Small Stream Flood Advisory	northeastern Kern County desert	2209Z	19-JAN
Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory…	San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills; Kern Co mtns and desert	1714Z	20-JAN
Small Stream Flood Advisory	Kern County desert	2027Z	21-JAN
Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory…	San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothills	0206Z	22-JAN

cc:

W/OH12x1
W/WR2
CNRFC
WFO HNX
WFO STO