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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: **AUGUST** YEAR: **2011**

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: September 1, 2011

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.

August was characteristically dry with temperatures averaging slightly above normal. A southwesterly flow aloft prevailed over the HSA for much of the month as central California remained situated between an upper level ridge of high pressure that extended from Texas to the Four Corners region and a quasi-stationary trough off the Pacific Northwest coast. On a few occasions, retrogression of the ridge brought triple digit heat into the San Joaquin Valley and the Kern county desert . However, during most of the month, afternoon temperatures in the San Joaquin Valley and lower foothills were modified by shallow intrusions of marine air, thanks to a healthy onshore flow.

A brief influx of subtropical moisture occurred on the 26th and 27th and was channeled northward into the mountains and desert between an upper level low off the central California coast and the Four Corners ridge of high pressure. Isolated thunderstorms that developed as a result produced locally heavy rain. One slow moving thunderstorm in the Kern county desert produced flash flooding along Garlock road just west of U.S. 395 during the evening of the 27th.

After a historically wet Winter and Spring, it was no surprise that there was still some snow left on the highest peaks of the southern Sierra during the first week of August. In fact, as of August 4th, up to a half foot of snow was observed on the north side of Donahue Pass (elevation 12,023 feet). Although flows continued to diminish along all of the rivers, water levels in many of the major reservoirs remained higher than normal and were at or above 70 percent capacity as the month drew to a close.

NO HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS WERE ISSUED THIS MONTH

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