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: **NOVEMBER** YEAR: **2013**

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: December 1, 2013

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.

Most of the month's precipitation fell from one storm and during a 3-day period from the evening hours of the 19th into the evening hours of the 22nd. Subtropical moisture entrained in the storm kept snow levels above 8000 feet. By the time colder air arrived at the tail end of the storm, the heaviest precipitation was over and little more than a dusting of snow fell down to the 5000 foot elevation. Otherwise, the storm brought generous rainfall to the district with Kern county getting the lion's share of it. It was indeed the first wetting rain of the season in the San Joaquin Valley with 3 day totals ranging from a quarter of an inch to just over an inch at the south end. Bakersfield broke their daily rainfall record on the 21st with 0.65 inches of rain. Over the higher terrain, which included the Kern county desert, the storm brought a thorough soaking with rain totals of nearly seven tenths of an inch in the desert to as much as 1.5 inches in the foothills and higher elevations. Although minor street and highway flooding occurred in the San Joaquin Valley and the Kern county desert, much of the storm's rain easily percolated into the soil.

Another storm over the eastern Pacific initially held promise of bringing more water into the central California interior during the Thanksgiving holiday. Unfortunately the storm remained too far offshore and tracked too far south to bring measurable precipitation any farther north than the Tehachapi mountains on the 28th and 29th. Even in this region, rainfall, albeit spotty, was paltry and tallied less than a few hundredths of an inch. Nonetheless, the close brush with this storm and the heavy handed hydrologic impact with the previous storm brought monthly precipitation in Kern county to just above normal while the remainder of the HSA ended up drier than normal for the month.

A strong blocking upper level ridge of high pressure over the eastern Pacific dominated the weather pattern during the first 11 days of the month. Retrogression of this ridge allowed room for cold fronts to move southward across California thereafter, in addition to the storms mentioned above. Most of the cold fronts were dry and brought little more than mid and high clouds to the HSA in addition to gusty breezes in the usual wind-prone areas of the district such as the west side of the San Joaquin Valley and just below the mountain passes of Kern county. By the end of November, the upper level ridge over the Pacific regained its control and brought tranquility back into the weather pattern. Temperature-wise, the month averaged slightly above normal. In fact, there were several afternoons when thermometer readings rose into the 70s in the San Joaquin Valley, lower foothills and the Kern county desert. The warmest day was on the 10th when high temperatures peaked in the low to mid 80s in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

Water levels at all of the major reservoirs averaged much lower than a typical November. Despite a brief but small recharge from the rain storm between the 19th and 22nd, water capacities at the reservoirs averaged only 16 percent of normal by the end of the month.

HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS ISSUED THIS MONTH

Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisory…San Joaquin Valley	0107Z	21-NOV
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisory…Kern county mountains/desert	0004Z	22-NOV

cc:

W/OH12x1
W/WR2
CNRFC
WFO HNX
WFO STO