

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - HANFORD , CA

REPORT FOR:

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND
FLOOD CONDITIONS

MONTH: **NOVEMBER** YEAR: **2014**

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 4, 2014

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.

November, 2014 ended up being a hydrologic disappointment for drought stricken CA. Had it not been for a moisture laden storm on the 1st, much of the San Joaquin Valley would've ended up with no measurable precipitation for the month. Nonetheless, the month began with a thorough rain soaking in the lower elevations and a sizeable dump of snow over the high Sierra, all of which completely melted by the end of the first week. When November 1st dawned, precipitation was already dwindling over the HSA as the Halloween storm exited into the Great Basin. For much of the rest of the month, the storm track resided over the Pacific Northwest. Three of them, one on the 13th, another on the 19th and 20th and the last one on the 30th, brought beneficial precipitation to the mountains but barely enough rain to settle the dust in the San Joaquin Valley from Fresno county southward. Even in the mountains, precipitation amounts dwindled significantly from north to south with each storm, ranging from less than a tenth of an inch in the Tehachapi mountains to two tenths to a half inch in the southern Sierra. Precipitation averaged well below normal for the month and further exacerbated the seasonal deficit. (The rain season traditionally begins July 1st.) For details, please see the map of Seasonal Precipitation departures for California on the next page.

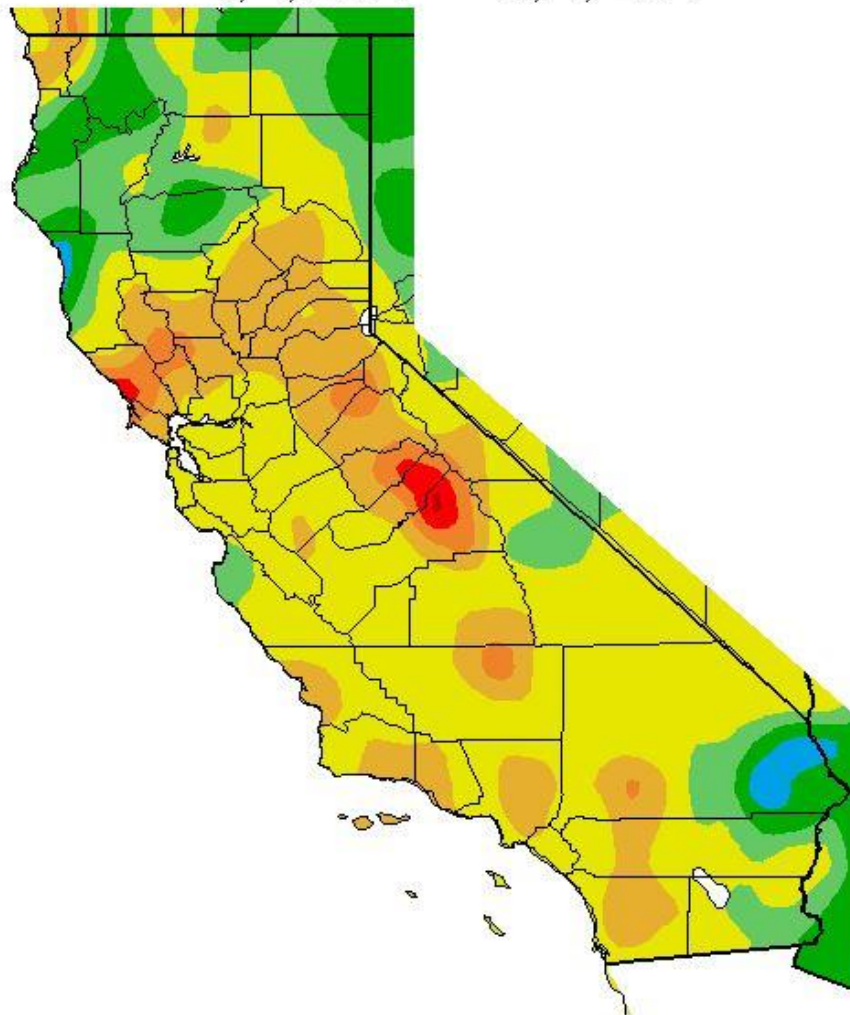
Other weather highlights for the month included a Red Flag event that began during the midday hours of the 16th and persisted through the 18th. A very dry, polar air mass that was brought into the Kern county mountains and desert on brisk easterly winds behind a backdoor cold front quickly raised the wildfire threat in this region where relative humidities spent several hours in the single digits. In contrast, minimum humidities of 50 percent or higher occurred in the San Joaquin Valley during this period where winds remained very light.

Temperatures averaged much warmer than normal for the month. In Bakersfield and Fresno, November, 2014 was the 9th and 10th warmest on record, respectively. On several days, thermometer readings soared into the 70s in the San Joaquin Valley and lower foothills. November 6th was the warmest day of the month with high temperatures in the lower 80s in the southern San Joaquin Valley. The nights were seasonably cool to chilly in these regions with minimum temperatures generally in the 40s, although the normally colder locales observed low temperatures in the mid 30s. A few nights and mornings, particularly during Thanksgiving week, impacted motorists with patches of dense fog in the San Joaquin Valley. In each instance, the fog was shallow and burned off by 9 am.

Water in the major reservoirs within the HSA remained much lower than normal. Despite a briefly small recharge at the beginning of the month, water levels gradually lowered through the month and ended up averaging only 13 percent of their normal water capacity by November 30th.

NO HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS WERE ISSUED THIS MONTH.

Precipitation Departure from Average (in.)
7/1/2014 – 12/1/2014



-7.5 -6 -4.5 -3 -1.5 0 1.5 3 4.5 6 7.5
Generated 12/02/2014 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

cc:

W/OH12x1
W/WR2
CNRFC
WFO HNX
WFO STO