

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - HANFORD, CA

REPORT FOR:

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND
FLOOD CONDITIONS

MONTH: **JUNE** YEAR: **2019**

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: July 3, 2019

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

June, 2019 began uncharacteristic of June...unsettled and showery. It was a rare low latitude storm trekking eastward across southern California that brought showers and thunderstorms into the HSA during the first two days of the month. The shower and thunderstorm threat moved out of the San Joaquin Valley and into the mountains by the 3rd but not before bringing locally heavy rain and, believe it or not, another tornado! The tornado was the 7th one of the season and was spawned by a severe thunderstorm approximately 15 miles east of Bakersfield during the late afternoon hours of June 2nd. The EF0 tornado touched down briefly in a rural area and fortunately caused no reported damage or injuries. Nearly a quarter of an inch of rain fell at Meadows Field airport in Bakersfield that afternoon. Meanwhile, isolated afternoon thunderstorms on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley during the first two days of June dumped nearly an inch of rain in some locations in addition to small hail. Although the storm system exited into the Great Basin by June 3rd, isolated afternoon thunderstorms continued to pop up over the mountains through the 5th.

Dry weather prevailed over the HSA during the remainder of the month. June 30th marks the end of the traditional rain season in central California which runs for a 12-month period. In reflection, the 2018-19 rain season was overly wet across much of the HSA. Most climate stations received at least 90 percent of their seasonal precipitation. The highest elevations of the Sierra in Fresno County and Tulare County as well as the northeastern corner of Kern County were extremely wet. These regions received more than 150 percent of their normal seasonal precipitation. The highest elevations of the Sierra received phenomenal precipitation with totals of 30 inches to as much as 80 inches for the season. Maps depicting precipitation for the 2018-19 season are posted below this summary.

An unusually deep snowpack over the southern Sierra, which began the month at about 190 percent of normal, persisted through at least the middle of June. In spite of melting and sublimation, the highest peaks of the Sierra still remained snow covered at the end of the month with a snowpack that averaged about 27 percent of normal. Most of the reservoirs were nearly 90 percent full throughout the month and maintained fairly large water releases to accommodate the rate of melting snow over the high Sierra. The rivers downstream continued to run fast, cold and deep throughout the month as a result. Fortunately the flooding that occurred was minimal and confined to the Merced River in Yosemite National Park and a portion of the Kings River in the San Joaquin Valley between Reedley and Kingsburg. Locations along the Kings River that were impacted by minor flooding included the Riverland RV resort, Lindy's Landing, Club Royal Oak and the Kings River Golf and Country Club. As a safety precaution, the Tulare County sheriff's office closed this section of the Kings river to swimmers, rafters and recreational boaters on June 4th and kept this portion of the river closed for the duration of the month. The Merced River at Pohono Bridge in Yosemite National Park briefly rose just above flood stage during the predawn hours of June 6th and crested just below flood stage at the Happy Isles location. The river rose just under flood stage at Pohono Bridge and Happy Isles the following morning and again during the early morning hours of the 13th with little disruption to campers within the park. The Merced River at Stevinson flowed just above monitor stage until midday June 5th then receded through the end of the month.

Temperature-wise, June, 2019 averaged much warmer than normal. It was the 8th warmest June on record in Fresno and the 11th warmest June in Bakersfield. High temperatures were at or above the century mark on only a handful of days in the San Joaquin Valley. The longest stretch of triple digit heat lasted only 3 days (June 10th through June 12th). Intrusions of marine air in the San Joaquin Valley were rare. The most notable marine pushes occurred on the 7th and 8th, the 21st and again from the 26th through the 28th. In each instance, afternoon temperatures in the San Joaquin Valley were no higher than the 80s with overnight lows in the 50s outside of the major urban areas of the valley.

HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS ISSUED

Flash Flood Warnings

Ferguson Burn Scar in Mariposa County	2027Z	01-JUN
Kern County mountains and desert	0014Z	02-JUN
West side of the San Joaquin Valley (Kings County/Kern County)	0144Z	02-JUN
West side of the San Joaquin Valley (Kings County/Kern County)	0203Z	02-JUN
West side of the San Joaquin Valley (Kings County/Kern County)	0302Z	02-JUN
Ferguson Burn Scar	2137Z	02-JUN
Kern County mountains (Bodfish, Lake Isabella)	2238Z	02-JUN
West side of the San Joaquin Valley (Fresno County)	0110Z	03-JUN

Flood Warnings

Merced River @ Pohono Bridge	1540Z	06-JUN
Merced River @ Pohono Bridge	1549Z	12-JUN

Flood Advisories

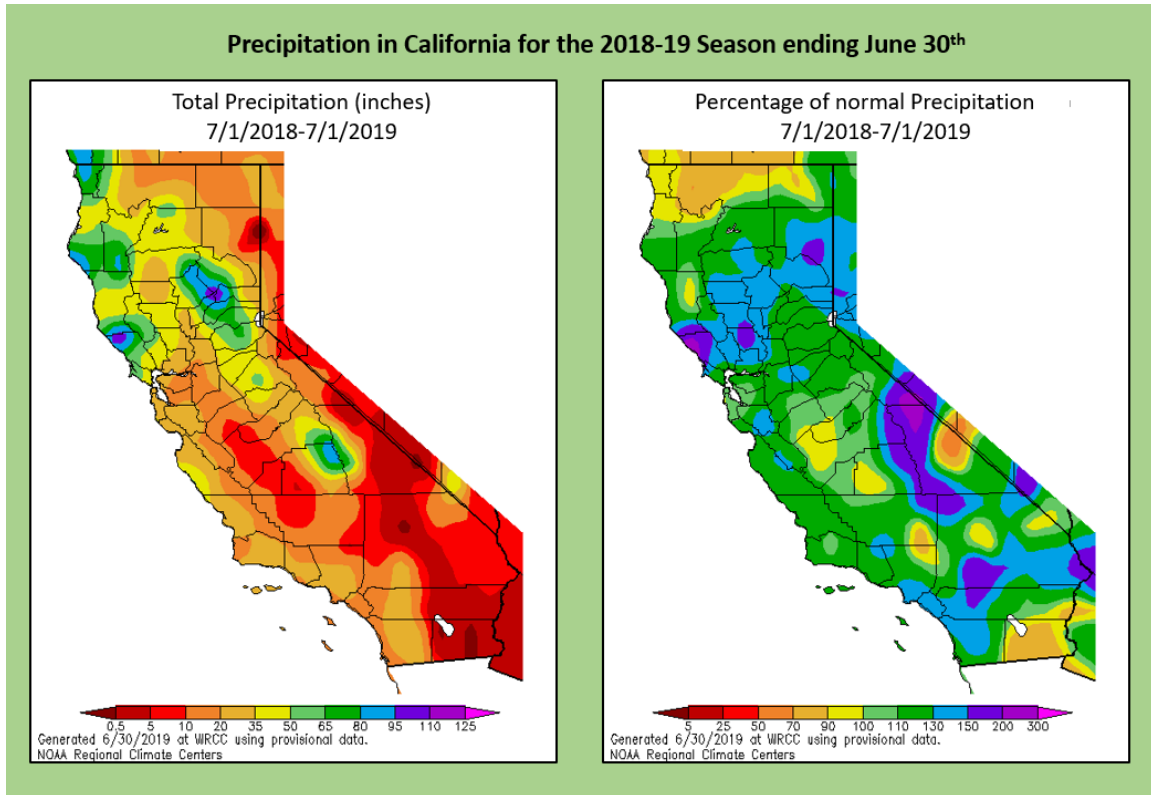
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1513Z	01-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1450Z	02-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1603Z	03-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	0349Z	05-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	0356Z	07-JUN
Merced River @ Pohono Bridge	1636Z	07-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	2007Z	07-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1546Z	09-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	0339Z	12-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1553Z	13-JUN
Merced River @ Pohono Bridge	1641Z	13-JUN
Merced River @ Pohono Bridge	1540Z	14-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	0338Z	16-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	1535Z	18-JUN
Kings River below Pine Flat Dam to Kingsburg	0751Z	20-JUN

Hydrologic Outlooks

Foothills and higher elevations of the Sierra	2313Z	07-JUN
Foothills and higher elevations of the Sierra	2237Z	09-JUN
Foothills and higher elevations of the Sierra	2257Z	11-JUN

Hydrologic Statements

Merced River @Stevinson	1529Z	01-JUN
Merced River @Stevinson	1559Z	02-JUN
Merced River @Stevinson	1554Z	03-JUN
Merced River @Stevinson	1532Z	04-JUN
Merced River @Stevinson	1710Z	05-JUN



CC:

W/OH12X1
W/WR2
CNRFC
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