

NWS FORM E-5
(11-88)
(PRES. by WSOM E-41)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)

Midland, Texas

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

September

2002

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
NOAA / National Weather Service
1325 East West Highway, Room 7230
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE

J. DeBerry
In Charge of HSA

DATE

10/1/02

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924)

[X] No flood stages were reached in this HSA in September.

The synoptic pattern began to evolve into a more fall-like regime during September, as Northern Pacific storm systems began to break down the upper-level ridge. Several severe/flooding events were noted as a result.

On September 13th, a severe thunderstorm event occurred. Most events were from damaging winds, but some flooding was noted in Odessa in Ector County, where up to 8" of runoff flooded low-lying streets.

On the 14th-15th, a cold front spawned numerous thunderstorms from the Permian Basin southward into the Lower Trans Pecos. Radar estimates indicated the heaviest rains were likely over the Lower Trans Pecos. However, this is a sparsely-populated region, and this portion of the Pecos River is not prone to flood easily. As such, no flood products were issued, and no flooding was reported. However, thunderstorms did develop in western Eddy County during the morning of the 15th. Dark Canyon flooded, which in turn flooded low-water crossings in western Carlsbad under 2-3' of runoff, stalling at least 1 car. The occupants had to be rescued. Later that afternoon, a thunderstorm crossed the Rio Grande from old Mexico to Presidio, causing street flooding there.

Some locations in the HSA that received notable amounts of precipitation for September were:

Fort Stockton, Pecos County	1.85"
Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy County	2.68"
Knapp, Scurry County	3.23"
Hope, Eddy County	4.61"

The average of all stations reporting was 0.85".

Midland International Airport received 0.08" of precipitation for the month. Normal for the month of September is 2.31". Total for the year so far is 4.32", 7.41" below normal.

As a result of sparse precipitation in September, West Texas west of Midland and the Pecos are in severe short-term drought conditions. However, the rest of West Texas and Southeast New Mexico are in near-normal conditions.

Reservoir levels across the HSA are averaging about 25% of conservation capacity, about the same as in August. Champion Creek Reservoir remains the lowest, at about 8% capacity, while Lake Colorado City is the highest, at around 55% capacity. The flood threat remains low.

River products issued:

RVS = 0 FLS = 2 FLW = 0

cc:mail: DOA IBWC-ELP IBWC-PRS SWFED USGS-CNM USGS-SJT

cc:email: HIC W/SR2 W/SR3 W/SR-ABQ W/SR-ELP W/SR-FWR W/SR-LBB W/SR-MAF W/SR-SJT