



National Weather Service Forecast Office Tucson, Arizona



Cyclone: Tropical Storm Olivia
Date it affected AZ: October 11, 2000
Affected Arizona as...: Remnants (dissipated west of Baja California, Mexico)

Olivia has the distinction of dissipating farther away from Arizona than any other tropical system since 1965 while still causing flash flooding over the region. Olivia degenerated into a remnant low about 600 miles west-southwest of Cabo San Lucas on the morning of October 10. However, thunderstorms redeveloped in the core of the remnant low overnight on the 11th as it was picked up by an incoming low pressure system and directed northeast into northern Sonora and southeast Arizona. Widespread 1.5 to 4 inch rains fell over southeast Arizona, with surface reports confirming Doppler radar estimates of isolated 8 inches totals near the mountains of Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties. Hereford, AZ, in far southwest Cochise County reported 8.64 inches. By the afternoon of the 11th, virtually every dirt road in Cochise County was reported blocked by debris, mud, or high water. Mudslides were reported in Greenlee County, while numerous reports of serious small stream flooding around Tucson and in Santa Cruz County were received. The flooding would have been worse had it not been for an ongoing drought, and a weak monsoon in 2000.

