

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

May

1999

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

SIGNATURE

Steve Drillette

In Charge of HSA

DATE

6/16/99

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 for the month above.

No river flooding occurred across southwest Texas or in southeast New Mexico during the month. A persistent upper level trough across the southwestern United States provided numerous thunderstorm outbreaks across the HSA. Tremendous rainfall amounts fell across portions of the HSA, primarily in Southeast New Mexico and the northwest Permian Basin. This resulted in several flash flood events, with some of these severe, resulting in considerable damage. Minor overbank river flooding also occurred along the upper Colorado River above Lake JB Thomas, the lower Pecos, and along sections of the Rio Grande. No flood stages were reached and no significant damage was reported.

The most serious flash flood event occurred in Gaines County, May 1-3. As much of a foot of rain fell from southern Lea County New Mexico into much of Gaines County. The Red Cross reports that the flooding was extensive which forced at least 50 families out of their homes, with water up to the rooftops of some. Numerous highways were flooded and impassable.

Minor overbank flooding occurred at the gaging site above Lake JB Thomas (JBGT2) on the 2nd. Bankfull at this location is estimated at 9.5 feet, and the river crested at 10.83 feet. Significant within bank rises were noted along the Rio Grande from the forecast point above Presidio (PIOT2) on the 24th, all the way downstream to Dryden (DYNT2) on the 27th. Significant within bank rises are also believed to have occurred along the lower Pecos river, south of Iraan on the 29th and again on the 31st. RVS's were issued, however there are no gages downstream of Iraan to verify this, as the Pandale gage in Val Verde county was inoperative.

Most areas across the HSA received above normal precipitation for the month. The exception was the central Permian Basin and a few locations along the Rio Grande, especially in the Presidio Valley. Extremes ranged from 0.21 inches at Presidio to 7.57 inches at Seminole.

Midland reported 1.10 inches for the month, which was 0.88 inches below normal. Midland remains below normal for the year as well, reporting 2.84 inches, which is 1.57 inches below normal.

Reservoir levels across the HSA and in northern Mexico remain well below conservation levels and the flood threat remains low.

River products issued:

RVS = 3 FLS=2

cc:mail: HIC W/SR2 WGRFC NWSFO LBB
cc: USGS USCE IBWC-ELP IBWC-Presidio