

**Midland, Texas**

**MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS**

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

**October**

**2003**

SIGNATURE

**J. DeBerry**

In Charge of HSA

DATE

**11/1/03**

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

*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)*

[ ] Several flood stages were reached along the Rio Grande in this HSA in October.

The Fall transition continued in earnest in October, bringing abundant rainfall to the HSA. A few flooding events were noted:

On the night of October 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, severe thunderstorms developed over the Permian Basin. Widespread street flooding was reported in Midland in Midland County, and Odessa in Ector County. High water rescues were needed in Odessa, and a vehicle was washed off of Hwy 80 east of Odessa.

On the 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, remnants of Tropical Depressions Nora and Olaf moved into the region from the Baja area, dumping copious amounts of rainfall in northern Mexico and the southern HSA. The Rio Grande rose notably, and flood stages were reached from Presidio 5SE to Johnson Ranch in Big Bend National Park. Little damage was noted. However, a few roads bordering the river in Big Bend National Park were barricaded for a few days afterward. In Pecos County, portions of US Hwys 67 and 385 flash flooded south of Fort Stockton. US Hwy 285 flooded south of Fort Stockton as well, almost washing a motorist off of the road. In Reagan County, the intersection of US Hwy 67 and St. Rte. 137 flooded. Finally, early in the morning on the 10<sup>th</sup>, a slow-moving thunderstorm over northeast Terrell County washed out a 400'-500' section of FM 2400.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, thunderstorms continued over Pecos County. Streets in Fort Stockton flash flooded with up to 1' of runoff. US Hwys 285 and 385 south of Fort Stockton also flooded.

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

Pine Springs, Culberson County	4.67"
Chisos Basin, Brewster County	5.35"
Panther Junction, Brewster County	5.89"
Sheffield, Pecos County	6.27"

The average of all stations reporting was 2.06".

Midland International Airport received 0.72" of precipitation for the month. Normal for the month of October is 1.77". Total for the year so far is 11.15", 2.35" below normal.

Despite the rainfall for October, much of the HSA remains in drought, from extreme in southeast New Mexico to near normal conditions in the lower Trans Pecos.

Reservoir levels across the HSA are averaging 33% of conservation capacity, about 2% higher than in September. Champion Creek Reservoir remains the lowest, at about 9% capacity, while Moss Creek Lake is The highest, at around 75% capacity. The flood threat remains low.

River products issued:  
RVS = 9 FLS = 9 FLW = 10

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