

NWS FORM E-5 COMMERCE	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF	HSA OFFICE: San Juan, PR (SJU)
SERVICE	NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER	REPORT FOR (MONTH / YEAR): December, 2004
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		DATE: January 3, 2005
TO: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INFO CENTER, W/OS31 SSMC 2 – Room 13468 1325 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY SILVER SPRING, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE: Peter Corrigan
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).		

Summary: December 2004 began with a relatively dry pattern but became quite wet for several days around mid-month, with some flooding and flash flooding. This episode was followed by more tranquil conditions, with only passing shower activity that persisted until the end of the month. At San Juan ASOS, December rainfall was very close to long-term averages at 4.65" or 0.08" above normal. At St. Thomas, USVI (Truman Field) 3.42" fell versus a normal of 2.74".

A weak disturbance, with the surface reflection of an inverted trough crossed the USVI and Puerto Rico during the early part of the week of 13 December. Showers and even an isolated thunderstorm were common across especially the eastern half of the island and rainfall of 1 to 2 inches was common across the northeast third of Puerto Rico during the 24 hours ending 1200 UTC on 14 December. 24-hour totals included 2.00" at Rio Icacos near Naguabo (NGIP4); 1.74" at Rio Mameyes near Sabana (MSAP4) and 1.52" at Barrio Mamays above Jayuya. More intense localized showers were observed over parts of Rio Grande, Canovanas, Carolina, and San Juan during the afternoon of 15 December requiring issuance of an Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory as radar estimated rainfall over 2 inches in few locations. This activity became more widespread over parts of south central Puerto Rico over the next few hours, requiring another Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisory for ten municipalities. Storms also drifted across the north central part of the island prompting a Flood Advisory followed by a Flash Flood Warning for Florida, Utuado and Arecibo. 24-hour rainfall totals, most of which fell in several hours, reached 2.53" at Rio Portugues near Ponce (PRTP4); 2.33" at Barrio Cerro La Mira (UTLP4) and 2.22" at Lago De Matrullas (OROP4). Despite all the products issued, no reports of serious flooding were received by the NWS. The afternoon and evening of 16 December was also quite active with showers covering much of the island. A total of 30 Urban and Small Steam Advisories were issued and one Flash Flood Warning, for Arecibo. Some of the heaviest rainfall was over Barcoleneta, Camuy and Hatillo, with 1-hour estimates over 3 inches. The Flash Flood Warning for Arecibo was issued after the NWS received a report of a house and cars flooded from PREMA. They later reported homes flooded in Arecibo, Camuy and Hatillo and a landslide affecting homes in Vega Alta. San Juan ASOS (JSJ) established a new record for the calendar date of 16 December with 1.08", which easily broke the previous record of 0.44" recently set in 2001. Rainfall for the 24-hours ending at 17/1200 UTC reached 2.56" at Rio Camuy near Bayaney (CMAP4); 2.38" at Anasco Barrio Guacio (ANBP4); 2.14" at Lago Prieto near Adjuntas (PRIP4); 2.03" at San Sebastian (SEBP4); and 2.02" at Villalba. Radar estimates were substantially higher, with over 5 inches in parts of Arecibo

and Barceloneta.

Hydrologic conditions during the second half of the month were basically unremarkable, with frequent passing showers but no concentrated heavy rainfall events. No non-routine hydrologic products were issued after 16 December.

Non-Routine Hydrologic Products Issued:

Hydrologic Outlooks (SJUESFSJU):	0
Flood Watches (SJUFFASJU):	0
Flood Warnings (SJUFLWSJU):	0
Flash Flood Warnings (SJUFFWSJU):	3
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisories: (SJUFLSSJU)	33

cc: USGS Caribbean District
USCE Jacksonville Division
SRH Climate, Weather and Water Division
SERFC
NWS Hydrologic Information Center
Southeast Regional Climate Center