

NWS Form E-5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA: Pocatello, Idaho
	REPORT FOR: MONTH: October YEAR: 2008
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	SIGNATURE Daniel Valle Hydrology Focal Point
DATE: November 12, 2008	
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	An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.
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Precipitation was near normal for the Pocatello HSA. The area had its first significant snowfall of the season over the weekend of October 11th and 12th. Valley areas received up to 6 inches of snow and mountains received up to 2 feet. Ashton reported no precipitation for the month, which ties the record set in 1952. The Idaho Falls ASOS set a daily rainfall of 0.26” on the 4th which broke the old record of 0.16” originally set in 1989. The Pocatello ASOS set daily rainfall records of 0.32” and 0.63 inches on the 3rd and 4th. This breaks records of 0.25” in 1992 and 0.37” in 1994. The Pocatello ASOS also had a new daily snowfall record of 3.2” on the 12th, which broke the record of 1.0” in 1981.

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

Precipitation was near normal for the Pocatello Hydrologic Service Area (HSA) in October. The entire HSA was 94% of normal for 44 of 51 reporting stations with climate data, according to Western Region Climate Center data. Fourteen stations were above normal for the month. Burley ASOS was the highest above normal at 246%. Thirteen stations recorded less than 50% of normal. Ashton was the lowest, reporting no precipitation.

Reservoirs

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is at 46% of capacity¹, up 8% from October 4, 2008².

Reservoir	% Capacity September 30³	% Capacity October 31⁴	Percent Change	% of Average⁴	% of Last Year⁴
American Falls	14	28	14	75	191
Bear Lake	25	24	-1	37	101
Blackfoot	21	21	0	37	103
Henry's Lake	90	91	1	104	114
Island Park	52	58	6	100	220
Little Wood	2	7	5	27	52
Mackay	7	16	9	59	132
Magic	5	7	2	20	143
Oakley	16	16	0	57	62
Palisades	46	43	-3	63	250
Ririe	70	54	-16	130	119
Lake Walcott	75 ¹	43 ¹	-31	n/a	n/a
Milner	94 ¹	84 ¹	-10	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), November 11, 2008; (2) BOR October 4, 2008;
(3) NRCS, September 30, 2008; (4) NRCS, October 31, 2008.

River Levels

Rivers across Eastern Idaho are running near normal for this time of year.

Drought

Much of eastern Idaho is now in a moderate drought. The D1 area was expanded this past month into the central mountains of Idaho, along with the southern and eastern Idaho highlands.

U.S. Drought Monitor Idaho

November 4, 2008

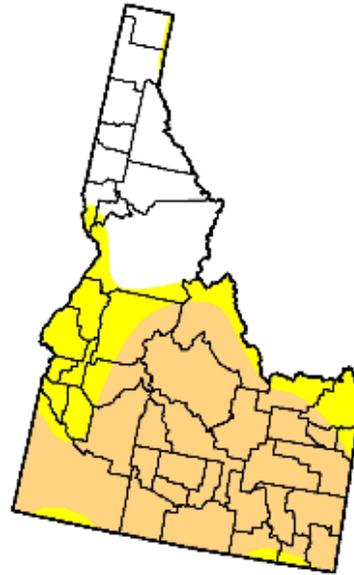
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	23.0	77.0	56.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Last Week (10/28/2008 map)	23.0	77.0	56.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (08/12/2008 map)	21.0	79.0	37.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	0.5	99.5	88.7	51.3	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/07/2008 map)	23.2	76.8	34.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
One Year Ago (11/06/2007 map)	0.0	100.0	100.0	97.8	12.9	0.0

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, November 6, 2008

Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

October 2008 Hydrologic Product Summary

Product	Number Issued
Flash Flood Warning	0
Flash Flood Statement	0
Flood Watch for Flash Flooding	0
Flood Warning	0
Flood Statement	0
Flood Watch for Flooding	0
Urban and/or Small Stream Flood Warning	0
Urban and/or Small Stream Flood Advisory	0
Hydrologic Outlook	0
Hydrologic Statement	0
NOW or Special Weather Statement (with information related to flooding)	0

cc: Daniel Matusiewicz, Western Region WFO Hydrology Program Manager
Harold Opitz, Hydrologist in Charge, Northwest River Forecast Center
Hydrometeorological Information Center
Rick Dittman, Meteorologist in Charge, Pocatello, Idaho
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