

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: July YEAR: 2009
TO: Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2 National Weather Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Silver Spring, Maryland 20910	SIGNATURE Troy Lindquist Service Hydrologist
DATE: August 5, 2009	
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).	

	An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.
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July 2009 began with an unsettled weather pattern in place over the HSA. This caused scattered showers and thunderstorms, some of which produced heavy rain and flash flooding. During the second week of July the weather pattern transitioned to a more typical mid summer regime and brought hot and dry conditions to the HSA. With the end of spring runoff and irrigation demand increasing area rivers gradually receded through the month.

On the Snake River at Blackfoot (SNAI1) water levels remained above flood stage through early afternoon on July 1st. Flood stage was initially reached on June 20th and the river crested at 11.1 feet on the 25th and 26th of June which is just above the moderate flood stage of 11.0 feet. Water inundated a park adjacent to the river in Blackfoot and greenbelt areas adjacent to the river and Interstate 15. Some BLM owned land and farmland west of Blackfoot in the Thomas area flooded. Flood damage was mainly to crops and generally considered minor.

On July 3rd rainfall from thunderstorms triggered a mudslide on the 2007 Castle Rock Fire Burn Area about 3 miles west of Ketchum. The slide was about 2 feet deep and 30 feet wide and blocked Warm Springs Road.

A Flash Flood occurred in the city of Pocatello the evening on July 4th. Two thunderstorms merged over the northern portion of the city and dumped heavy rainfall resulting in flooding of streets, parking lots, and drainage areas. Runoff from the storm flowed into the Red Lion Hotel in Pocatello. Rainfall amounts of .95” to 1.45” occurred in and around Pocatello.

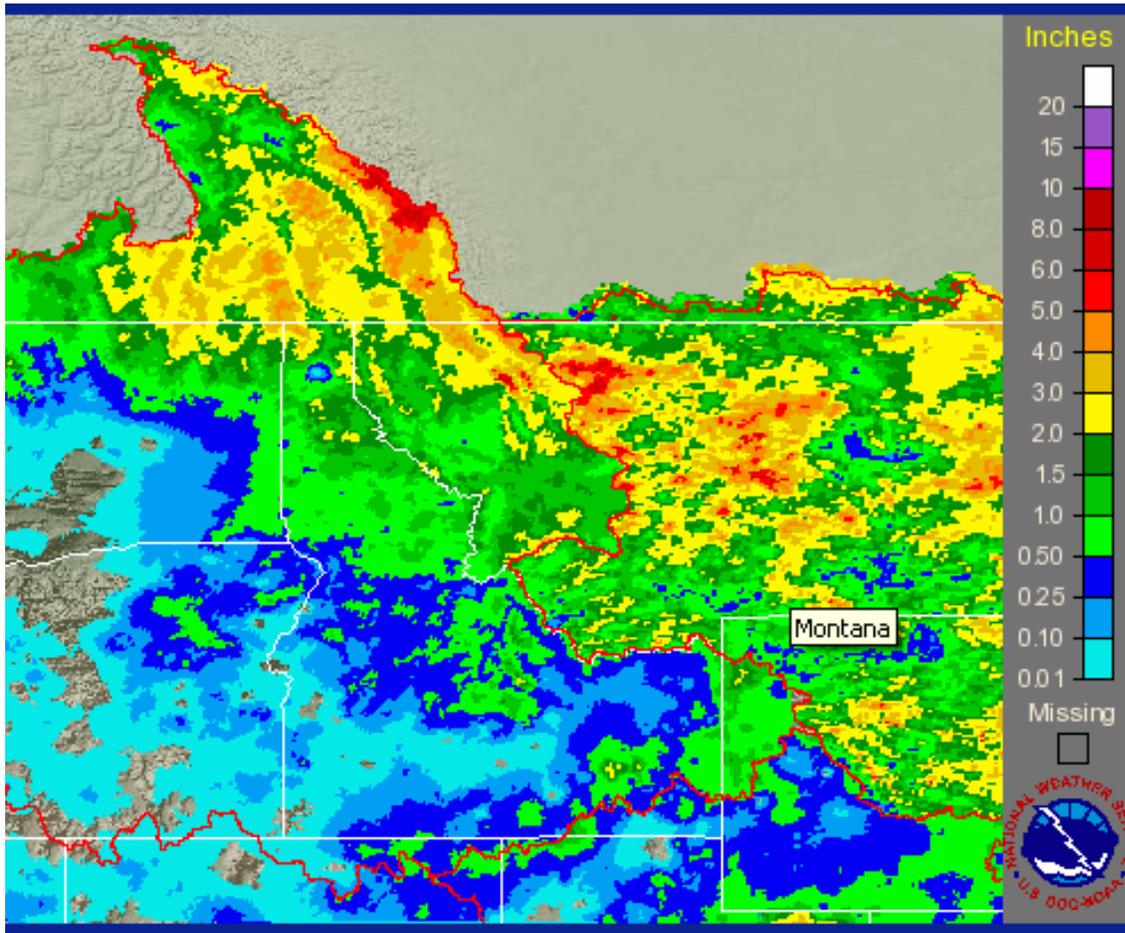
Late in the afternoon on July 4th slow moving thunderstorms resulted in flash flooding in the town of Inkom. Rapid Creek and smaller creeks feeding into it exceeded their banks and flooded numerous homes, roads, and fields with water and mud. Damage occurred to area roads, driveways, landscaping, and the interior of homes, fences, and trees. Residents placed sandbags around some homes and cleared debris from bridges and culverts.

A Flash Flood occurred 4 miles northeast of Almo in Cassia County the afternoon of July 4th. Birch Creek flowed out of its banks resulting in the closure of a road.

Other Hydrologic Interests

Precipitation

Rainfall in general was a little below normal across the HSA although there were 8 reporting stations with above normal precipitation for the month and some records were established. The station with the greatest percent above normal was the Blackfoot Fire Department at 455%, and 2.14” of rain for the month. At the Malad Airport only .01” of rainfall occurred resulting in 1.25% of normal for the month, which was the lowest percent of normal across the HSA.



July, 2009 Observed Precipitation. From NWRFC.

Station	Record
Pocatello ASOS	2.28” ties total for month record set in 1984
Pocatello ASOS	.94” on July 2 breaks old record of .36” set in 1980
Pocatello ASOS	1.33” on July 4 breaks old record of .46” set in 1980
Burley ASOS	.41” on July 5 breaks old record of .41” set in 2001
Challis ASOS	.37” on July 12 breaks old record of .28” set in 1992
Stanley ASOS	.17” on July 12 breaks old record of .12” set in 1976

July, 2009 Precipitation Records

Reservoirs

The Upper Snake River Basin reservoir system was at 84% of capacity July 30, down 14% from June 30, 2009.

Reservoir	% Capacity June 30 ³	% Capacity July 31 ⁴	Percent Change	% of Average ⁴	% of Last Year ⁴
American Falls	100	73	-27	120	179
Bear Lake	44	No report			
Blackfoot	62	No report			
Henry's Lake	98	95	-3	103	99
Island Park	99	80	-19	108	102
Little Wood	100	76	-24	143	237
Mackay	100	75	-25	134	178
Magic	88	68	-20	111	219
Oakley	47	40	-7	98	140
Palisades	100	89	-11	108	96
Ririe	100	96	-4	116	110
Lake Walcott	98 ¹	99 ²	1	n/a	n/a
Milner	116 ¹	99 ²	-17	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), July 2, 2009; (2) BOR July 30, 2009; (3) NRCS, June 30, 2009; (4) NRCS, July 31, 2009.

July, 2009 Hydrologic Product Summary

Product	Number Issued
Flood Watch for Flash Flooding	0
Flash Flood Warning	9
Flash Flood Statement	12
Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory	0
Flood Watch for Flooding	0
Flood Warning (River Forecast Point)	1
Flood Statement (River Flooding)	2
Flood Advisory	0
Hydrologic Statement (River Statement)	2

cc: Daniel Matusiewicz, Western Region WFO Hydrology Program Manager
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