



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
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FLOOD RELEASES FROM AMISTAD DAM BEGIN

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) advises that rainfall in the Rio Grande Basin is generating significant inflow into Amistad Reservoir, located at Del Rio, Texas-Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila, causing a rise in the reservoir. To evacuate these floodwaters, the International Boundary and Water Commission will begin increasing releases of water from the dam on July 5. Based on current forecasts of inflows to the dam and Rio Grande flow downstream, the Commission expects to increase the releases to 35,000 cubic feet per second (1000 cubic meters per second) by the morning of July 6. As conditions warrant, greater releases are possible. Releases of this volume have the potential to inundate property along the banks of the Rio Grande downstream of Amistad Dam. **Residents in Val Verde County downstream of Amistad Dam should continue to monitor National Weather Service warnings and forecasts for any updated information about conditions in the Rio Grande and to heed any guidance from local emergency management officials.** The last time Amistad Dam was in flood operations was September-October 2008 when releases of 17,657 cubic feet per second (500 cubic meters per second) were made.

Flow downstream from Amistad Dam is entering Falcon Reservoir, located at Falcon Heights, Texas-Nueva Ciudad Guerrero, Tamaulipas. The Commission is closely monitoring conditions at Falcon Reservoir and in the Rio Grande downstream of Falcon Dam to the Gulf of Mexico. As conditions warrant, release of floodwaters from Falcon Dam could become necessary in the coming days.

The Commission is managing its flood control infrastructure taking into account prudent operation of the reservoirs, existing flood conditions in parts of the Rio Grande and its tributaries in the United States and Mexico, impact to property, and forecasts for additional rainfall in the basin, including the potential for additional tropical weather impacts in the coming week.

Information about Rio Grande flow as well as storage and release data from U.S. and Mexican reservoirs in the Rio Grande basin is available on the USIBWC web page at:

http://www.ibwc.gov/Water_Data/Reports/RG_Flow_data.html

For more information:

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