

NWS Form E-5
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(PRES. BY NWS Instruction 10-924)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA)
San Juan, Puerto Rico

MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:
MONTH YEAR
March 2013

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31
NOAA's National Weather Service
1325 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE
Althea Austin-Smith,
Service Hydrologist
DATE
04/15/2013

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).

An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

Summary: The San Juan ASOS reported 1.94 inches of rain for the month of March; 0.01 inches less than the normal of 1.95 inches. The ASOS rainfall report from Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas was missing (incomplete data) for the month of March; the normal is 1.42 inches. The ASOS rainfall report from Christiansted Airport in St. Croix was 2.52 inches for the month of March; 0.96 inches greater than the normal of 1.56 inches.

"A generally fair and mainly stable weather pattern prevailed across the local islands during the first half of March, with mostly clear to partly cloudy skies and minimal shower activity. The local weather pattern changed a bit by mid-month, when afternoon showers began to develop across portions of the Cordillera Central each day. However, the limited low level moisture helped to suppress significant shower activity across the forecast area. Scattered to locally numerous showers were finally seen across the local islands during the last weekend of the month. These showers were associated with a cold front that dissipated across the local islands and left considerable rainfall amounts across northeast Puerto Rico."

Please see (<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sju/?n=mar2013cr>) for March's Climate Report.

Although the mean flows, obtained from USGS gage data, across the region remained in the normal to below normal range throughout the month of March, the rainfall at the end of the month proved impactful. This rainfall created enough runoff to increase water levels in cisterns across the Virgin Islands, add some much needed flow to water supply reservoirs and lakes across Puerto Rico and initiate some recreational river rescues in the smaller, flashier basins of Northeastern Puerto Rico. Along with the river rescues, the rainfall at the end of the month also led to short periods of road closings with urban, poor drainage, and small stream flooding across sections of Puerto Rico.

Since the end of February, there was a small amendment in the [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) to include portions of the southern slopes of Puerto Rico. These areas remain in the "Abnormally Dry" designation and there were quite a number of wildfire reports across this region. Based on consistency, large sections of the U.S. Virgin Islands could also be categorized as Abnormally Dry.

See details of all flood reports in the LSR reports below:

Local Storm Reports for March 2013			
..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT.LON...
..DATE...MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION..ST..	...SOURCE....
	..REMARKS..		
0330 PM 03/29/2013	FLASH FLOOD	RIO GRANDE RIO GRANDE	18.38N 65.84W PR NEWSPAPER
	A YOUNG MALE RESCUED AT RIO ESPIRITU SANTO RIO GRANDE. HE WAS DRAGGED BY A WATER SURGE.		
0330 PM 03/29/2013	FLASH FLOOD	CEIBA CEIBA	18.27N 65.65W PR NEWSPAPER
	TEN PEOPLE WERE RESCUED AT CHARCO FRIO IN CEIBA DUE TO RISES IN THE RIVER.		
0250 PM 03/29/2013	FLASH FLOOD	RIO GRANDE RIO GRANDE	18.38N 65.84W PR EMERGENCY MNGR
	ROAD 191 AT RIO GRANDE WAS CLOSED DUE TO RIO PALMER OUT OF ITS BANKS.		
0539 PM 03/29/2013	FLASH FLOOD	NAGUABO NAGUABO	18.21N 65.74W PR EMERGENCY MNGR
	EXIT 22 OF HIGHWAY 53 TOWARD ROAD 31 WAS CLOSED DUE TO RIO BLANCO OUT OF ITS BANKS.		

The approximate amounts of Hydrologic Products issued during the month of March are as follows:

Non-Routine Hydrologic Products Issued:	Approximate number of Products for the month
Hydrologic Outlooks (SJUESFSJU)	1
Flood Watches (SJUFFASJU)	4
Flood Warnings (SJUFLWSJU)	0
Flash Flood Warnings (SJUFFWSJU)	6
Flash Flood Statements (SJUFFSSJU)	1
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisories (SJUFLSSJU)	12

For monthly “radar totals” use the archive of the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) - click on the Precipitation interface for San Juan, Puerto Rico and request the duration you would like to view...daily or monthly remembering that the 24 hour totals are from 12z – 12z (8am to 8am in PR) - [AHPS archive of radar totals/ images](#) . Here are the [March 2013 totals](#).