



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
October 14, 2010

AMISTAD DAM RELEASES INCREASE; FALCON DAM RELEASES DECREASE;

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, will increase the release of floodwaters from Amistad Dam, located at Del Rio, Texas-Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila, from 2100 cubic feet per second (60 cubic meters per second) to 4200 cubic feet per second (120 cubic meters per second) on the evening of October 14. Even with the increase, the releases from the dam will be only 12% of the peak releases experienced in July 2010. Due to appreciable inflows in recent weeks, the reservoir elevation is nearly 21 inches above normal conservation capacity; by increasing the releases, the Commission intends to reduce lake levels back to normal. The National Weather Service does not forecast any significant flooding downstream as a result of the change.

At Falcon Dam, located at Falcon Heights, Texas-Nueva Ciudad Guerrero, Tamaulipas, the reservoir elevation continues to drop as inflows taper; therefore the Commission will decrease releases from 15,000 cubic feet per second (425 cubic meters per second) to 11,500 cubic feet per second (325 cubic meters per second) on October 15. Even with this reduction, the Commission still expects to continue to divert water into the U.S. interior floodway in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, although at a lower rate. The U.S. interior floodway includes channels known as the Banker Floodway, Main Floodway, North Floodway, and Arroyo Colorado through portions of Hidalgo, Cameron, and Willacy Counties.

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/wad/WAD_quickpick.html

For more information:

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