

RAINFALL EVENT REPORT

August 8, 1994

prepared by
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The monsoonal flow returned moist and unstable air to southern Nevada and spawned an intense, localized thunderstorm in the northwest portion of the Las Vegas Valley which in turn caused local street flooding. The storm dropped most of its rain over an area roughly bounded by Lone Mountain Road, Hualpai Way, Flamingo Road and Rainbow Blvd. Five District rain gauges within that area each reported more than 0.60" of rain in less than an hour. The most rainfall recorded in the Las Vegas Valley was 1.57" in the Desert Shores area (Smoke Ranch Road and Buffalo Drive).

Rainfall began in the Valley around 6:15 PM and lasted for approximately one hour. While there were numerous cases of heavy storm runoff in the streets of the area, the flood control facilities generally operated as designed. Flow in the Buffalo Channel was approximately 4 1/2' deep between Lake Mead Drive and Smoke Ranch Road. Water ponded behind the Gowan South Detention Basin to a depth of 12 feet at the outlet; the water level at the outlet of the Gowan North Detention Basin was approximately 5 feet deep.

On the other hand, construction of a bridged crossing of the Cheyenne Channel at Buffalo Drive may have prevented flow in Cheyenne Avenue from entering the Channel and the Gowan South Detention Basin. Outflow from that basin lifted a locking manhole ring and the flow through the rupture inundated the intersection of Cheyenne Avenue and Tenaya Way. Owing to the lack of drop inlets into the Buffalo Channel, not all of the runoff on Smoke Ranch Road was able to enter the channel but continued flowing to the east in the roadway. Similarly, while some of the runoff in Gowan Road did enter the Gowan North Detention Basin, some fraction of the flow continued in the roadway past the basin. Street flow in Gowan Road downstream of the basin was above the level of the curbs for some distance. However, there were no reports of homes flooding in this area, as had been the case in June 1990 when a similar storm was experienced. There were also reports of damage to a stormdrain which was under construction in the vicinity of Buffalo Drive and Charleston Blvd.

While there were many instances of flooded roadways in the northwest, probably the most severe case was the Jones Blvd underpass of US-95 where a number of cars stalled in the flood waters. There were also reports of flooding at a number of residences along Saylor Way in this same area.

The Clark County Public Works Department closed the following roadways due to flooding: Spring Mountain Road from Durango Drive to Rainbow Blvd; Durango Drive from Desert Inn Road to Flamingo Road; and Flamingo Road from Buffalo Drive to Durango Drive.

**Clark County Regional Flood Control District
Rainfall Totals (inches)**

Station ID	4234	4254	4229	4219	4224	4244	4359
08/08/94							
1900	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1845	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1830	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1815	0.20	0.12	0.20	0.08	0.04	0.04	0.00
1800	0.98	0.43	0.08	0.20	0.00	0.20	0.20
1745	0.20	0.20	0.55	0.31	0.16	0.04	0.31
1730	0.20	0.20	0.08	0.08	0.04	0.00	0.12
1715	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.16	0.00	0.00
1700	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1645	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1630	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1615	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS:	1.57	0.94	0.91	0.71	0.39	0.28	0.63

- 4234** Smoke Ranch Road and Buffalo Drive
- 4254** Gowan North Detention Basin (Gowan Road and Tenaya Way)
- 4229** Charleston Blvd and Rampart Blvd
- 4219** Angel Park Detention Basin (Vegas Drive and Rampart Blvd)
- 4224** Hualpai Way and Westcliff Drive
- 4244** Oakey Blvd and Rainbow Blvd
- 4359** Desert Inn Road and Durango Drive