



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
September 14, 2010

FALCON AND AMISTAD DAM RELEASES INCREASE; NO DIVERSIONS INTO U.S. INTERIOR FLOODWAY EXPECTED

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, will double releases from Falcon and Amistad Dams on the Rio Grande although releases will remain well below the volumes experienced over the summer following Hurricane Alex and Tropical Depression #2. The Commission will increase releases from Falcon Dam, located at Falcon Heights, Texas-Nueva Ciudad Guerrero, Tamaulipas, to 8800 cubic feet per second (250 cubic meters per second) on the evening of September 14. Releases from Amistad Dam, located at Del Rio, Texas-Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila, will increase to 2100 cubic feet per second (60 cubic meters per second) on the morning of September 15. Both reservoirs have continued to rise slowly due to precipitation in the Rio Grande basin. The Commission is increasing the releases to reduce reservoir levels due to ongoing tropical weather activity with the potential to affect the Rio Grande Basin. During July, releases from Falcon Dam were 7 times greater and at Amistad Dam were 17 times greater.

Although Falcon Dam releases will increase, there has been a reduction in releases from Mexican dams on the San Juan River, a tributary that flows into the Rio Grande downstream from Falcon Dam. Even with the increased releases from Falcon Dam, no diversion of Rio Grande flow into the U.S. interior floodway system in Hidalgo, Cameron, and Willacy Counties is expected.

The National Weather Service is not expecting Rio Grande flood conditions based on the increased dam releases. Residents in the affected region who are concerned about the effects of precipitation in the region should monitor National Weather Service warnings and forecasts for information about any flood watches, warnings, and advisories that could be issued for the Rio Grande.

For more information:

Sally Spener
915-832-4175
sally.spener@ibwc.gov