

Selected Global Extreme Information

RAPID RESPONSE PROJECT: August 1999 -Last Updated August 31st, 1999

UPDATE OF REPORTED CLIMATE-WEATHER IMPACTS

(Courtesy of [NOAA Office of Global Programs](#))

*The information provided in the RRP updates is gathered from a variety of wire and news sources as well as country and international agency reports. It does not necessarily reflect the focus or interest of NOAA's Office of Global Programs and is meant only as source of condensed information.

Impacts Reported as of 08/02/99- 08/06/99

CHINA (flood) The International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) reported the number of people affected and displaced by flooding along the Yangtze this summer as:

	AFFECTED	DISPLACED
ZHEJIANG	6,530,000.00	1,082,125.00
ANHUI	14,047,000.00	251,808.00
JIANGXI	5,970,200.00	111,900.00
JIANGSU	5,190,000.00	158,000.00
HUNAN	10,805,200.00	45,000.00
HUBEI	16,410,000.00	140,000.00
TOTAL	58,952,400.00	1,788,833.00

CHINA (flood) The GOC reported that 725 people have died throughout the country since June as a result of flooding.

FIRE Fires and hotspots noted in South America and the Northwest Territories. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

INDONESIA (fire) Reuters reported that 236 fires have been noted throughout Sumatra.

IRAN (flooding) OCHA reported that flooding in the Mazandaran province on July 25 and 26 resulted in 37 dead, 14 missing, and 100 injured people. 105 villages and 3 cities were affected. 300 wells were damaged. Transportation and other infrastructure was also damaged.

KENYA (drought) Dry conditions in early 1999, but particularly during March, have reportedly reduced Kenya's tea production in comparison with last year.

KOREA (flooding) Several days' worth of rain have affected both North and South Korea. In South Korea 30 deaths have been reported while 22 are still missing. The flooding in South Korea has displaced some 17,000 people. The North Korean Central News Agency reported that heavy rains and wind had affected 100,000 acres of farmland. Reuters reported that about 74,000

acres of farmland had been inundated while 552,000 poultry, 451 cattle and 8,727 hogs were destroyed. 42 people have died as a result of flooding in North Korea.

PHILIPPINES (flooding) Monsoon rains have resulting in flooding and landslides throughout the country. Flood waters breached the La Mesa dam in Quezon City and inundated the Marikina Valley and adjacent low areas. The most affected provinces are reportedly Bulacan, Pangasinan, Pampanga, and Rizal. 59 people have died as a result of the flooding. 264 houses have been destroyed while 2,114 have been damaged. Damages are estimated at \$2 million USD.

SUDAN (flood) Five people have died and thousands were reportedly displaced following flooding around the city of Omdurman. It has also been reported that thirty-three schools were destroyed or severely damaged. The rainy season began a month earlier in mid-June this year over northern Sudan.

THAILAND (flooding) Flooding in Thailand has reportedly left 6 people dead while displacing 32,000 families. 40,000 acres of fruit orchards have been severely damaged.

UGANDA (drought) The IRIN reported that humanitarian groups noted 250,000 were currently adversely affected by the drought in the northern Karamoja district. Drought affected populations are reportedly wandering to Moroto in search of work.

UNITED STATES (heat wave) The number of fatalities resulting from the heat wave that affected the central and eastern parts of the U.S. since July 19th is now believed to be 225. The AP reported the heat-related deaths by state as: Illinois, 99; Missouri, 44; Wisconsin, 13; Ohio, 14; South Carolina, 9; Oklahoma, 8; Kentucky, 5; Indiana, 7; Tennessee, 3; North Carolina, 3; Kansas, 3; Georgia, 3; Arkansas, 2; Maryland, 2; Nebraska, 2; New York, 2; Pennsylvania, 2; Louisiana, 1; Michigan, 1; Minnesota, 1; Alabama, 1.

UNITED STATES (flooding) Two weeks of heavy rain have triggered mudslides throughout Colorado thereby damaging \$1 million USD worth of roads.

UNITED STATES (drought) The Clinton Administration declared 88 counties of six states (Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia) agricultural drought disaster areas. Monetary losses to farmers in just West Virginia are expected to exceed \$80 million USD.

UNITED STATES (drought)(New Jersey) The governor of New Jersey declared a drought emergency.

VIETNAM (flooding) OCHA reported that 35 people have died or are still missing following flooding. 24,000 hectares of farmland has been inundated and some 8,500 houses damaged and destroyed. The most affected provinces are reportedly Binh Thuan, Lam Dong, Dac Lac and Dong Nai.

Impacts Reported as of 08/07/99- 08/13/99

CAMBODIA (flood) Reuters reported that flooding in the southern part of the country last week resulted in four deaths while temporarily displacing thousands. Some damage to bridges and roads also occurred. OCHA reported that the same floods affecting the Sihanoukville, Koh Kong and Kam Pot provinces resulted in four deaths, made homeless 8,000 people, and destroyed 200 meters of railroad. Flooding of rice paddies also occurred. The IFRC reported seven dead and warned that nearly half a million people could be affected by continued flooding.

CHAD (flood) Flooding in parts of southern Chad has affected 128,506 people while destroying 5,226 homes. 1,257 head of cattle also drowned, and 165,144 hectares of land have been flooded. The most affected area is reportedly the town of Ati.

DJIBOUTI (drought) OCHA reported 100,000 people in the districts of Ali-Sabieh, Dikhil, Tadjourah, Obock, and the Djibouti periphery are currently affected by drought.

PHILIPPINES (flood) OCHA updated estimates for the recent flood and landslide related damages in the Philippines. It is now reported that 130 were killed while 32 were injured. 798 houses destroyed while 10,964 damaged. Monetary damages estimated at \$18 million USD.

PHILIPPINES (El Nino/La Nina) The GOP reported that agricultural output decreased in 1998 as a result of El Nino and La Nina.

UGANDA (drought) Reuters quoted the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) for noting that drought in coffee growing regions of Uganda had resulted in a 16 percent decrease in July exports from last year during the same month. However, coffee exports for the first 10 months of the season are reportedly up 3.1 percent. Last season El Nino related rains damaged the crop while also damaging access and transport roads.

UNITED STATES (tornado) A F2 tornado struck Salt Lake City last night. One person was killed while at least another 100 were injured. 121 homes were reportedly damaged. Early estimates place the damage at \$150 million USD.

Impacts Reported as of 08/14/99- 08/22/99

INDIA (flood) The Hindustan Times reported that continued flooding in the state of Bihar has resulted in 221 deaths while affecting 4.8 million people of 2768 villages in 17 districts.

SUDAN (flood) Reuters reported that an al-Bayan newspaper noted flooding in the Nile state of Sudan destroyed at least 800 homes and severely damaged or destroyed 200 wells.

UNITED STATES (drought) Reuters reported that the US Federal government believes drought assistance to farmers could be greater than \$8 billion USD this year.

Impacts Reported as of 08/23/99- 08/27/99

BOLIVIA (fire) According to OCHA Bolivia launched an appeal for international assistance in order to cope with current fires. The impact on government declared emergency zones was reported as follows:

Ascensi'n de Guarayos

- 510 houses burned/destroyed
- 502 urban families affected (rural census still ongoing)
- 2, 417 persons affected (1315 adults/1102 children)
- 24 communities affected (influence area 60 kms²)

San Ignacio de Moxos

- 40 houses burned/destroyed
- 40 families affected
- 220 persons affected (80 adults/120 children)

Canandoa

- 50 houses burned/destroyed
- 60 families affected
- 300 persons affected

CHAD (flooding) OCHA noted that heavy rains since mid-July have resulted in flooding in 11 of the countrys 14 provinces. The GOC Ministry of Interior estimated at least 128,000 people affected, 5,200 houses destroyed, 165,000 hectares of agricultural area inundated, and 5,000 head of cattle destroyed.

FIRE Fire and hotspots noted in South America, California, and Nevada. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

SAHEL (storm) Reuters reported heavy rains throughout West Africa. In Gambia 53 fishermen were reported missing, and it was estimated that 800 homes were destroyed. Senegal reported 165 fishermen missing. In Niger flash floods reportedly killed three while displacing 2,000 people. The IRIN noted that flooding in Gambia could possibly have displaced 10,000. The most affected regions are Central River, Upper River and Western administrative divisions

SUDAN (flooding) OCHA reported that localized flash floods have affected the states of North, River Nile, Khartoum, Kassala, North Kordofan and Unity. Fourteen deaths have been recorded while some 10,000 people have been affected. Nearly 650 families have been displaced.

UNITED STATES (hurricane Bret)(Texas) Reuters reported that the Southwest Insurance Information Service estimated between \$50-70 million in insured damages resulted from hurricane Bret. This does not include flood-related losses.

UNITED STATES (flooding)(New York City) Heavy rains on Thursday resulted in significant commuting delays. It was reported that six subway lines were temporarily halted while another six experienced limited service.

Impacts Reported as of 08/28/99- 08/31/99

BANGLADESH (flood) According to Reuters heavy rains and associated flooding in northern and central Bangladesh affected 50,000 families. 10 deaths were reported.

MAURITIUS (drought) Reuters reported that drought affecting Mauritius is expected to reduce revenues from sugar exports by \$158 million USD.

SOUTH AFRICA (storm) Strong winds affecting the Cape Town area reportedly caused 4 deaths and left 5,000 homeless.

UNITED STATES (hurricane)(Dennis) As a result of trees downed by wind caused by hurricane Dennis, 56,000 people were temporarily without power.

UNITED STATES (drought) The USDA reported that the drought affecting much of the eastern United States could cost farmers as much as \$1.1 billion (USD) in lost income.

Citing the Article

Ross, Tom; "Selected Global Extreme Information August 1999"; August 1999; NOAA's National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, NC