

Selected Global Extreme Information

RAPID RESPONSE PROJECT: July 1999 - Last Updated August 13, 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 07/01/99- 07/05/99

CHINA (flood) Flooding along the Yangtze over the past week has resulted in 120 deaths. Roughly 6,000 animals were evacuated from the Shanghai zoo. In the Anhui province nearly 150,000 people were evacuated. The most affected provinces were reportedly Anhui, Qinghai, and Sichuan.

JAPAN (flood) Rainfall resulted in flashfloods and landslides in southern Japan on Tuesday of last week. 8,000 homes were flooded and 29 people were killed while 16 were left missing.

ROMANIA (flood, landslide) Heavy rainfall last week resulted in flooding and landslides. OCHA reported 19 deaths, 1,556 houses damaged, 30 houses destroyed, 22,889 hectares of farmland destroyed, 318 km of country roads affected, 0.4 km of railroads damaged, and 183 bridges ruined.

RUSSIA (drought) Officials from Russia are warning of a 15 million tonne grain shortfall this year as a result of drought.

VIETNAM (La Nina) Vietnam is expecting a bumper crop of coffee by October of this year as it expects ample rainfall related to the current La Nina.

AFGHANISTAN (fire) According to an OCHA report the fire which began on June 12 affected 160 sq. kilometers of forest. No human casualties were reported.

CHINA (flood) According to the Xinhua, 240 people have died as a result of flooding in June. 60 million people are currently threatened by the continued flooding. The floods have reportedly affected 3.5 million hectares of land and destroyed 660,000 hectares of cropland. Direct economic losses caused by the floods so far have been estimated between 2.2 and 3.4 billion US dollars. OCHA reported that the floods destroyed 482,000 housing units and damaged another 1.67 million. The most affected provinces are reportedly Anhui, Zhejiang, Hubei, and Jiangxi.,

EASTERN EUROPE (storms, flooding) Storm winds, hail, lightning, and related flooding have affected eastern Europe over the past several weeks. In Romania 150 bridges were damaged as well as 20,000 hectares of farmland. Throughout the region 17 people have died.

Impacts Reported as of 07/08/99- 07/14/99

BANGLADESH (flood) The Hindustan Times reported that flooding in Bangladesh occurred along an embankment near the town of Comilla as rain swelled the Gomti River. 10,000 people were evacuated from surrounding villages. Early monsoon flooding killed 19 people in June of this year, and it is reported that nearly 200,000 people are stranded by flooding in the Comilla district. The BBC reported that possibly 10% of Bangladesh is underwater.

CHINA (flood) According to yesterday's IFRC report, flooding last month along the Yangtze River caused 240 deaths, injured 3,055, and affected 59 million people. In addition some 1.84 million people have been evacuated from flooded areas. 482,000 rooms have been destroyed while another 1.67 million were severely damaged. 660,000 hectares of crops have been completely lost. The Xinhua recently reported that roughly 66,000 tourists (foreign and Chinese) were rescued along the Yangtze. As flooding occurred several locks had been closed and the ships stranded on the river.

ETHIOPIA (drought) UN country team members in Ethiopia launched an appeal for relief of drought affected areas within the country. The IRIN news brief stated the most affected areas were "south Tigray, Wag Harma, north and south Wello, east Harerge, Welayita and Konso."

FIRE Hotspots and fires were noted in western Russia, Manitoba, and Alaska. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

INDIA (flooding) Monsoon rains resulted in 45 deaths and reportedly displaced millions. The most affected area was the state of Tripura.

MEXICO (flood, landslides) Heavy rain caused the evacuation of 200 people from Acapulco as flooding and landslides threatened the area. 60 homes were reportedly flooded.

RUSSIA (drought) The USDA expects that Russia will need food aid again this coming year as a prolonged drought and locust infestations have reduced initial production estimates.

SERBIA (flood) Rains on Saturday reportedly caused power outages and left some people homeless in the capital. One death was reported and 10 were still missing. Road and rail traffic was disrupted.

SOMALIA (famine threat) According to the FAO more than 400,000 people are at risk of famine due to a poor harvest resulting from bad weather, pests, as well as civil war.

TAJIKISTAN (landslide) OCHA reported that heavy rains on the 7 and 8 of July resulted in landslides. The most affected area was Ashd. 18 people were killed, 50 still missing and 23 injured. 167 houses were destroyed and another 209 damaged. The IFRC noted that the government reported 11 bridges destroyed and 120 km of road damaged.

UNITED STATES (flood)(California) Flooding in Forest Falls, California over the weekend reportedly left one person dead and five missing. 4 homes were destroyed while 10 others were damaged.

UNITED STATES (flood)(Nevada) Las Vegas experienced flash floods as three inches of rain reportedly fell in two hours. Damage to public property was estimated at \$620,000. 163 people had to be rescued from the flood. Two deaths were reported.

UNITED STATES (drought) The AP reported that low oxygen levels in the Patapsco and Magothy rivers (tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay) have resulted in 200,000 dead fish. It is possible the current drought is causing the low oxygen level according to the article. Species affected are menhaden, silversides, perch, mummichogs, pickerel, catfish and sunfish.

Impacts Reported as of 07/19/99- 07/26/99

BANGLADESH (flood) More than 100,000 people have reportedly been made homeless by the current flooding. Continued flooding is also said to have hampered relief efforts.

CHILE (drought) Reuters reported that Chile's economy continued to suffer, and dips in activity were worse than previously projected. Drought has affected the country for nearly a year resulting in severe reduction in agricultural productivity and frequent power supply problems. The central bank stated the current economic problems were largely a result of the severe drought.

CHINA (flood) The AP reported that on Sunday a dike along the Yangtze broke in central China. 120,000 people were evacuated. The Xinhua reported that 291 deaths have occurred this year as a result of flooding.

ETHIOPIA (drought) According to the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia as reported by the IRIN, the latest estimate for the number of people affected by drought in the country is 5,378,671. Within this number 384,858 displaced people are included.

FIRE Hotspots and fires were noted in Manitoba, southern California, and eastern Russia. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

HUNGARY (flood) Heavy rain on last Friday caused flooding that displaced 3,000 people from their homes. 173,000 acres were reportedly inundated. The GOH estimated damage at 400 million USD.

INDIA (flood) Current flooding has affected the states of Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala, and Tipura. OCHA reported 69 deaths, 3,212 villages affected, and 15,058 houses damaged. The Xinhua noted that the Press Trust of India reported over 200 deaths have been caused by the recent flooding.

IRAN (flood) Heavy rainfall and flooding in northern Iran on Sunday reportedly caused 12 deaths and left several missing.

RUSSIA (fire) According to the BBC fires this year in eastern Russia have burned 200,000 hectares.

SLOVAKIA (flood) OCHA reported that flooding in the middle and northern regions of Slovakia that occurred at the end of June and early July affected 12,617 people. Flooding also affected 5,793 houses and 57,587 hectares of farmland. 2110 km of local roads were damaged as well as 72 km of state roads. 105 bridges were destroyed or damaged. The AFP noted one death and one missing person.

UNITED STATES (flooding)(Iowa) Flooding in northern Iowa along the Cedar River has damaged at least 100 homes. Water levels in certain areas are reported to have exceeded those experienced during the 1993 floods. The flooding which affected north-central Iowa over the previous weekend caused disaster declarations in Worth, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, and Mitchell counties.

UNITED STATES (drought)(Pennsylvania) The governor of Pennsylvania declared a drought emergency in 55 counties.

UNITED STATES (heat wave)(Ohio) Seven people died as a result of a weekend heat wave over Cincinnati.

Impacts Reported as of 07/26/99- 07/30/99

CHINA (flood) Recent flooding in the provinces of Anhui and Zhejiang have caused an estimated \$2.87 billion USD worth of damage and affected 22,905,400 people.

HUNGARY (flood)(update) Heavy rain on last Friday caused flooding that displaced 3,000 people from their homes. 173,000 acres were reportedly inundated. The GOH estimated damage at 400 million USD. Flooding which occurred between July 10 and 15 is reported by OCHA to have damaged 2,388 residential buildings while flooding 80,000 hectares of agricultural land. 180 km of public road was also affected. Damages are expected to exceed 124 million USD.

IRAN (flood)(update) According to Reuters recent flooding in Iran has resulted in 51 people dead or missing. 5,000 homes were severely damaged.

RUSSIA (fire)(update) OCHA reported that fires this year have burned 586,153 hectares.

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

UNITED STATES (heat wave) The heat wave affecting the United States has currently been blamed for 73 deaths. 3,000 head of cattle from Nebraska have reportedly died as a result of the heat wave.

Citing the Article

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