

7-Inch Deluge Causes Flood

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Of the State Staff

Thunderstorms across Oklahoma, which dumped more than 7 inches of rainfall in one area, triggered flood threats Wednesday night as rivers and creeks swelled rapidly.

The only immediate serious flooding was in the Daisy area in Atoka County, where about 15 families were reported isolated as water spilled out of Buck and McGee Creeks, inundating roads and bridges.

About 45 Daisy students who attend school at Stringtown 20 miles away missed classes along with two teachers, when a school bus was unable to get through. A 7.32-inch deluge, heaviest rainfall reported in the two days of rain, struck the small Atoka County settlement.

Some minor flooding was developing in the lowlands in other areas Wednesday, but there were no reports of any family evacuations or immediate dangers.

The Tulsa River Forecast Center said a close watch is being kept on the Illinois River near Tahlequah, expected to crest at 12 to 14

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feet late Thursday. Flood stage is 11 feet.

Rain-swollen Poteau River also splashed toward the top of its banks at 12.71 feet early in the afternoon. It is expected to overflow 2 to 4 feet in the next few days.

Rain which moved into the state Tuesday, bringing turbulent weather and some precipitation to almost every section, began diminishing late Wednesday.

Precipitation exceeded an inch in the southeast, with one-inch rains in local areas of the north-central and west. Heavier amounts of 2 inches were common in the southeast, with a band of 3 inches to more than 6 inches from Lake Texoma through Coalgate to Lake Wister and Sallisaw.

Oklahoma City recorded only .17 inch after 6 a.m. Wednesday. The amount brought this year's moisture .01 inch above normal.

A clear sky is forecast for Oklahoma City Thursday along with a high of 57.

High Water Blocks 3 State Roads

Some minor flooding was occurring Thursday in southeastern Oklahoma after heavy rains in that area, but no major flooding was expected.

The state highway department reported rain-swollen creeks had closed S. H. 144 north of Moyers in Pushmataha County and S. H. 93 north of Hugo in Choctaw County.

The Poteau river was out of banks in some areas below Poteau and the Muddy Boggy river was overflowing into fields near Bentley, southeast of Lane in the Atoka area. The area received more than 5 inches of rain Tuesday night and Wednesday.

There was still some minor flooding on Buck Creek, a tributary of the Kiamichi River, with about 1½ feet of water across S. H. 43 about two miles west of Daisy. There was 4 to 5 feet of water in the same area Wednesday.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
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