



DISTRICT UPDATE

Upper Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District

"Maintaining and Improving Flood Control Structures and Public Safety in the Upper Brushy Creek Watershed"

Record Rain Event Hits District

September 2010 - The Upper Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District endured a large rainfall event associated with Tropical Storm Hermine between 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 7, 2010 and 6:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 8, 2010. Estimates place the event as the statistical equivalent of a 100-year storm event, i.e., a rainfall which has a one percent chance of occurring in any given year. The most intense rainfall occurred at Dam 13a with 4.1 inches an hour. The largest total amount of rainfall recorded was 12.4 inches in twenty-four hours at Dam No. 5.

The heavy rainfall occurred mainly in the portion of the District west of IH 35. The flood storage pool of six dams became completely full which caused an automatic release of water through their auxiliary spillways. These six dams worked as they were designed to operate – while releasing some water, they stored more than four billion gallons of flood water (13,365 acre-feet). Collectively, the District's 23 dams held back a volume of water almost equal to Lake Austin between Tom Miller Dam and Mansfield Dam (21,725 acre-feet).

The District learned of two sites where private property was impacted by the flood water storage. At least one home immediately adjacent to the inundation easement of Dam No. 3 received minor flooding and several homes built within the inundation easement of Dam No. 6 were significantly flooded.

Four of the 23 District's dam sites incurred minor damage during the storm event. Erosion of the auxiliary spillway occurred at Dams Nos. 4, 6 and 8; and several portions of Dam No. 13A's exterior surface experienced minor slides. District engineers have examined all of these sites and, although they will need to be repaired, they will continue to function properly in their current state.