



# Summer 2007



## Arkansas River Flow 2007

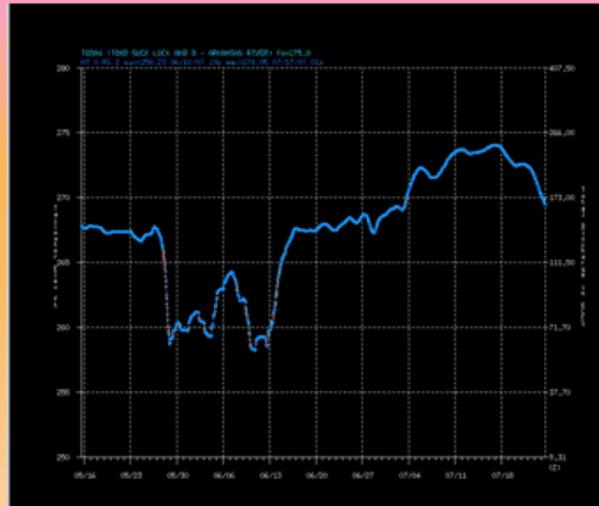
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**R**ecord flooding in southeast Kansas was the result of heavy rainfall day after day. The Verdigris River at Independence, KS crested at 52.40 ft. on July 1 at 8am, 22 ft. above flood stage. This was almost 5 ft. above the previous record of 47.60 ft. set on May 19, 1943. The Neosho River at Erie, KS reached 40.60 ft. July 2 at 7am. The old record was 36.96 ft. on November 5, 1998.



As a result of the heavy and prolonged rains across the area, the Arkansas River has remained high and flowing dangerously swift all spring and into the early summer. Most of the reservoirs in northeast Oklahoma were close to maximum pool. Therefore, the Corps of Engineers needed to steadily release water out of the reservoirs. On May 15 the flow below Toad Suck Lock and Dam was about 150,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) as seen in the image in the next column.

The flow decreased June 10<sup>th</sup> to about 60,000 cfs, but then rapidly rose to 150,000 cfs by June 17 and peaked at about 250,000



cfs July 17. One week later, on July 24, the flow at Toad Suck was 160,000 cfs and continuing to fall. Normally, flow rates would be 20,000 to 50,000 cfs. A Small Craft Advisory is normally issued by the Corps of Engineers when the flow reaches 70,000 cfs. During much of the spring and early summer, flow rates were dangerous for small watercraft.

For the latest information on flow rates along the Arkansas River, visit the Little Rock District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the web at <http://www.swl-wc.usace.army.mil>

