

Big Bend National Park



Daily Report – Thursday, September 17, 2026

Weather Forecast

Today..... Partly cloudy. Mountain highs in the mid 70's, river & desert highs around 100. East winds around 10 mph.

Tonight..... Mostly clear. Lows 71 - 76. East winds 10 - 15 mph.

Tomorrow Sunny! 20 chance of precip. Mountain highs in the upper 70's, river and desert highs around 101. East winds 10 mph. Lows 71 - 76. East winds 15 - 20 mph.

Extended..... Saturday - Wednesday: Partly to mostly cloudy. Chance of t-storms all week..
Highs: low 70's to low 100's Lows: upper 60's to mid 70's

Sunset tonight: 7:54 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 7:39 a.m.

Fire Danger

In the Chisos Mountains: Low

Panther Junction/Foothills: Low

Temperatures and Precipitation

	Temperatures – Last 24 hours				Total Precipitation		
	Elevation	High	Low	8 AM	24 Hours	Month	Year
Panther Junction	3750'	81	72	75	0.00	0.55	10.71
Chisos Basin	5400'	87	67	70	0.00	1.16	13.49
Rio Grande Village	1850'	91	79	79	0.00	0.18	3.79
Castolon	2170'	99	78	79	0.00	0.27	6.42
Persimmon Gap	2970'	94	75	77	0.00	0.07	12.29
Lajitas	2340'	98	72	74	0.00	0.13	5.68

River Levels

	Flood Stage	Today	Yesterday
Presidio International Bridge	15.50	5.04 ft / 235 cfs	8.00 ft / 891 cfs
Castolon	15.50	1.62 ft / 0 cfs	1.74 ft / 2 cfs
Johnson Ranch	15.50	5.30 ft / 28 cfs	5.54 ft / 28 cfs
Rio Grande Village	13.00	2.28 ft / 25 cfs	2.44 ft / 46 cfs
Dryden Crossing	59.00	4.73 ft / 360 cfs	4.74 ft / 361 cfs

Current Park Conditions:

*** Heat safety tips: Avoid strenuous activity between 12 PM and 8 PM. Protect yourself from the sun, wear lightweight, light-colored protective clothing, a hat and sunscreen. Drink plenty of water and supplement with electrolytes. Carry a minimum of 2 liters for short hikes, and 1 gallon or more for full-day hikes. Eat salty snacks and take frequent breaks in the shade to cool down. (Heat Index 90-115, add 15 degrees for the sun; 105-130)

*** Black Gap Road, Old Ore Road and RT 16 (Santa Elena) are closed. Obey all posted signs on other roads, do not drive around closed gates or road cones—they are there for your safety. Do not attempt to cross or go around flooded or muddy roadways., You are fully responsible for the recovery of your own vehicle. Expect rough and/or muddy conditions on all gravel and/or dirt roads. Vehicles that get stuck will need to arrange their own rescue. High clearance, 4-wheel drive vehicles are required on Maverick Road, Old Ore Road, River Road, and Terlingua Ranch Road, and recommended on all other primitive roads. Please watch for debris in roadways.

**** Your safety is your responsibility. Visitors must have the ability to sustain, support and /or recover themselves.

All information posted as of 9:00 am this morning; subject to change without notice.