FLOOD OF SEPTEMBER 16, 1975 IN THE AÑASCO AREA, PUERTO RICO

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The Rio Grande de Añasco basin is on the northern slope of the Cordillera Central in northwestern Puerto Rico. This basin encompasses an area of 120 square miles (311 square km) with a major river reaches of 6 miles (10 km). The basin is drained by the Rio Grande de Añasco, which provides an important source of water for drinking and irrigation. The basin is located in the municipalities of Añasco and Aguada, and is part of the larger Rio Grande River system. The basin is characterized by a hilly topography with elevations ranging from 60 to 1,500 feet (18 to 450 meters). The climate is tropical with warm temperatures year-round and high humidity. The basin is affected by heavy rainfall, with an average annual precipitation of 80 inches (200 cm). The basin is prone to flooding, especially during the rainy season from June to November. The Añasco Dam, built in 1958, is located on the Rio Grande de Añasco and serves as a water supply for the municipalities of Añasco and Aguada. The dam is a concrete arch-gravity structure with a height of 176 feet (54 meters) and a storage capacity of 4.6 billion cubic feet (130 million cubic meters). The dam is located 1 mile (1.6 km) upstream from the town of Añasco and 4 miles (6.5 km) upstream from the town of Aguada. The Añasco Dam is managed by the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Power Authority (PRAPA). The basin is also home to many species of plants and animals, including a variety of birds, reptiles, and amphibians. The basin is a popular destination for hiking, fishing, and other recreational activities.