



**09-003, Spring Flooding
April 1, 2009
8:00 a.m. CDT
Incident Summary Report #33**

Incident Overview

Updated information is in red.

The following is a summary of key issues related to the 2009 spring flood for the Red River of the North, Souris, Devils Lake, James and Missouri River Basins.

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activation – Level I (Full Activation)

Significant Events

➤ Deaths/Injuries

- Deaths – 2
- Injuries – 50
- Illnesses - 11

➤ Ice Jams

Walsh County

- On Monday, St. Joseph Township officials reported a 2 mile stretch of ice on the Pembina River between Walhalla and Neche – March 31

➤ Evacuations/Sheltering

Cass County

- The Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) located in Casselton and West Fargo were released – March 31
- ND Department of Emergency Services (DES) presence at the Cass County/Fargo EOC will end the afternoon of April 1, 2009 unless the situation changes

Grand Forks

- Following a power outage, some residents of the Manvel area were evacuated by a U.S. Border Protection Helicopter. Additional evacuations may take place. – March 31

Animal Shelters

- Animal Shelters reported open:
 - Prairie Paws Animal Rescue Group, Jamestown
 - Wag N Train, Grand Forks
 - Circle of Friends Humane Society, Grand Forks
 - Luther Kennel, Casselton

- Casselton Veterinary Clinic, Casselton
- Old Cedric Theel Building, Bismarck
- Valley City Winter Show Building, Valley City
- Red River Valley Fairgrounds, West Fargo
- **Total number of animals sheltered = 145**

Ward County

- **The Ward County Sheriff assisted a woman in evacuating her home at the Eastside Estates – April 1**

➤ **Flooding**

Ward County

- Sandbagging operations began Wednesday at the State Fair Center (Arena 1) and the Burlington Fire Department – March 31

➤ **Roads**

Cass County

- Wednesday, I-29 was closed from Grand Forks to the South Dakota border including the I-29 detour on ND Highway 18 and ND Highway 200A – March 31

NDDOT

The following highways are closed due to water over the roadway: effective - March 30

- US Business-2, Sorlie Bridge in Grand Forks.
- ND-17 Bridge over Red River east of Grafton at MM-138.
- ND-13 at MM-384.5. Eastbound traffic use detour at Richland County Road north to Richland County Road 10, then east to Richland County Road 87, then south at ND-210; Westbound traffic use reverse detour.
- ND-200 from the junction at ND-200A to the ND-1806 junction. Use alternate route ND-1806 or US-83.
- ND-66 in Walsh County from the junction of US-81 to the Red River.

Walsh County

- **Tuesday night, the Red River was 6 miles wide in the SE corner of the county with the only access by boat to 12 farms (along a line from N.D Highway 17 south to the county line and east of I-29) – April 1**

➤ **Damages to Homes/Businesses**

Dickey County

- The county emergency manager reported one house in the city of Oakes is under water – March 31

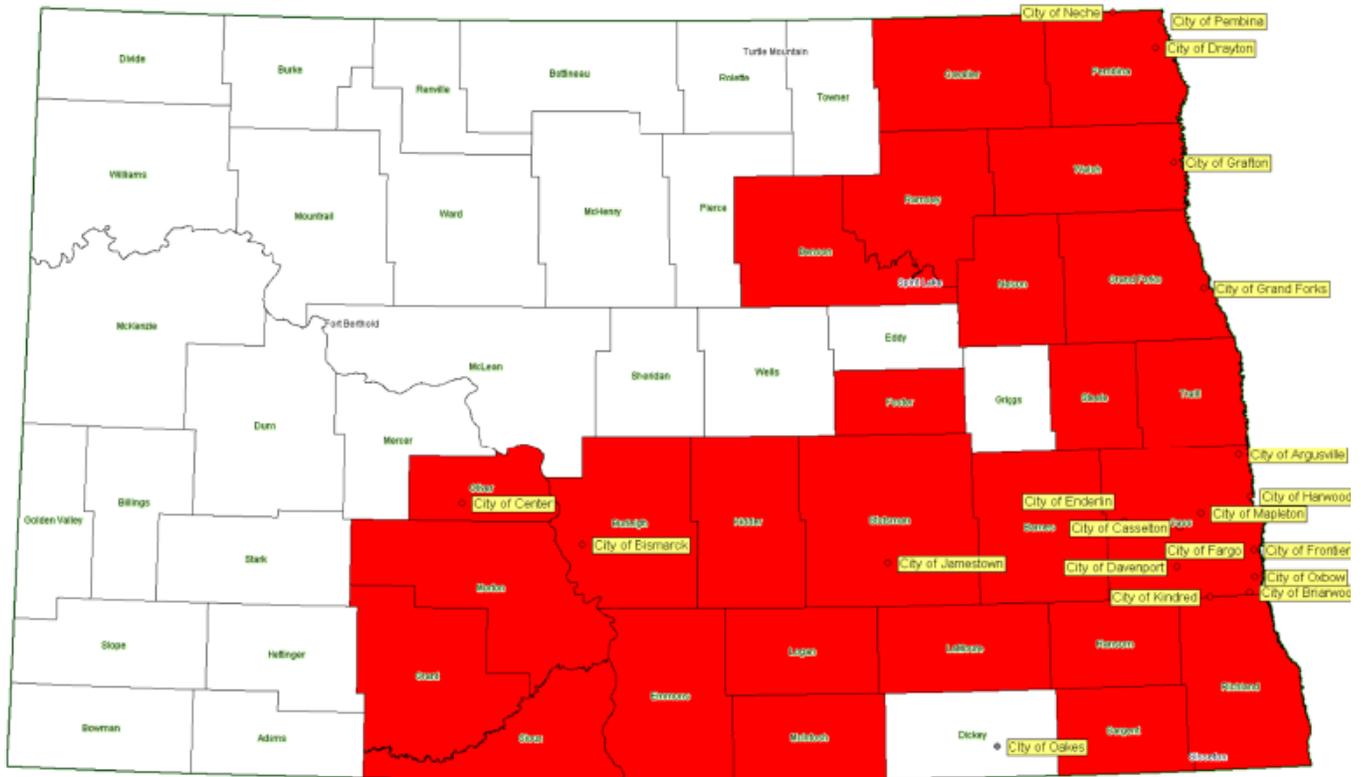
McLean County

- The boil order in Washburn will continue for an undetermined amount of time due to issues of muddy water, lack of water, and other factors – March 31
- On Tuesday officials reported 134 roads washed out and closed. Travel remains hazardous with no travel advised on gravel roads - March 31

➤ **Declarations (See map)**

- The state was granted a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 34 counties and two Tribal Nations in North Dakota. – March 25
- Governor John Hoeven issued a statewide emergency declaration on March 13.
- County Declarations – Barnes, Benson, Burleigh, Cass, Cavalier, Foster, Grand Forks, Grant, Hettinger, Kidder, LaMoure, McIntosh, McLean, Morton, Nelson, Oliver, Pembina, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Steele, Stutsman, Traill, Walsh, Ward.

- City Declarations – Argusville, Briarwood, Casselton, Center, Davenport, Drayton, Enderlin, Kindred, Fargo, Frontier, Grafton, Grand Forks, Harwood, Jamestown, Mapleton, Oakes, Oxbow, Neche and Pembina.
- Tribal Declarations - Turtle Mountain has issued an Emergency Declaration.



[Weather Forecast: WESTERN AND CENTRAL NORTH DAKOTA:](#)

One to two inches of snow accumulation is possible today.

A winter storm is forecast to pass south of North Dakota this weekend. There is a chance for rain or snow with light accumulations along the North Dakota/South Dakota border.

Today: A 20 percent chance of snow and mostly cloudy, with a high near 33. North wind between 11 and 16 mph, with gusts as high as 24 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 9. Northwest wind between 6 and 13 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 35. West wind around 6 mph becoming south.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 15. Southeast wind around 6 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 37. East wind between 6 and 13 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 21.

Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 38.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20.

[Watches, Warnings and Advisories: WESTERN and CENTRAL NORTH DAKOTA:](#)

Flood Warning: Continues for urban areas rivers and small streams in Dickey, Emmons, Foster, LaMoure, Logan, Sioux and Stutsman counties.

- Flood warnings are in effect for the following areas:
 - The Pipestem Creek near Pingree.
 - The James River at LaMoure.
 - The James River near the Ludden Dam.

[Weather Forecast: EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA:](#)

Occasional snow is expected tonight throughout all of eastern North Dakota. The heaviest snow will fall in the Devils Lake Basin where up to 4 inches is possible.

Today: Snow likely, mainly before 7am and cloudy, with a high near 32. North northwest wind around 17 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy, with a low around 21. West northwest wind between 13 and 17 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 34. Northwest wind between 9 and 11 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20. North northwest wind between 6 and 8 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 35. North northeast wind between 8 and 10 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 24.

Saturday: A slight chance of rain and snow and mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

Saturday Night: A slight chance of snow and mostly cloudy, with a low around 21.

[National Weather Service Watches, Warnings and Advisories: EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA:](#)

Flood Warning: Minor to major flooding continues for the Red River and many of its tributaries. Most rivers are receding due to the cold temperatures; an exception exists for Valley City and Lisbon which will continue to be influenced by high releases from Baldhill dam.

- Flood warnings are in effect for the following areas:
 - The Red River at Fargo.
 - The Sheyenne River at the West Fargo Diversion.
 - The Sheyenne River near Kindred.
 - The Sheyenne River at Harwood.
 - The Maple River near Mapleton.
 - The Maple River near Enderlin.
 - The Red River at Drayton.
 - The Red River at Pembina.
 - The Red River at Wahpeton.
 - The Red River at Oslo.
 - The Wild Rice River at Abercrombie.
 - The Red River at East Grand Forks.
 - The Sheyenne River at Valley City.

Resource/Assistance Requests

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

- The USACE is requesting helicopter support on Wednesday to fly the Missouri River from the ice jam south of Bismarck to Double Ditch (263)
 - ACCEPTED – ND JOC

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- Two security officers for security at the Cheney Middle School shelter in West Fargo. (#223)
 - ACCEPTED - NDNG

N.D. Department of Agriculture (NDDoAg)

- 950 animal crates (#202)
 - ASSIGNED - EMAC

N.D. Board of Animal Health (NDBoAH)

- Requested assistance in transporting 600 large and small pet cages from Louisiana to North Dakota for 60 days. (#271)
 - ASSIGNED -- FEMA
- Forklift and operator needed to lift pallets of pet cages. (#219)
 - ASSIGNED -- NDDOT

N.D. Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI)

- Three additional NDNG soldiers for security at Cheney Middle School Shelter. (#238)
 - ASSIGNED - NDNG
- Install phone and data lines for three computers at Cheney Middle School in West Fargo. (#222)
 - ASSIGNED – N.D. Information Technology Division (ITD)

N.D. Forest Service (NDFS)

- Requesting a command center to be used as ready room and dispatch point for pilots doing medical evacuations within eastern ND (#261)
 - ASSIGNED -- FEMA
- Requested two Air Tactical Group Supervisors or helicopter coordinators, two heli base managers, two air base radio operator, and one air cost unit leader in Cass County. (#254)
 - ASSIGNED- EMAC
- Requesting one mobile command center. (#257)
 - ASSIGNED- ND JOC

N.D. Department of Health (NDDoH)

- Twenty-seven ambulances (#239)
 - ASSIGNED – EMAC

N.D. Department of Human Services (DHS)

- Aerial reconnaissance and damage assessments (#244).
 - ASSIGNED – NDCAP

N.D. State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)

- Transport an individual from Fargo ANG Air Ops to Bismarck on Wednesday. (#270)
 - ASSIGNED – ND JOC
- Five portable radios for the Fargo area. (#259)
 - ASSIGNED – ND Forest Service

N.D. National Guard (NDNG)

- Air support requests are as follows: (#224)
 - MN - Six UH60 helicopters with crew and 2 - CH47 helicopters with crew.
 - WI - Three UH60 helicopters with crew.
 - IA - Two CH 47 helicopters with crew and two UH60 helicopters with crew.

- MO - 20 maintenance personnel - Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD).
- SD – One UH60 helicopter with crew.
- MT - 2 CH 47 helicopters with crew.
- ACCEPTED – EMAC
- Air Operations requested transportation for three passengers from the Army Aviation Support (AAS) Unit on, Wednesday (#274)
 - ASSIGNED – ND JOC

Adams County

- Adams County emergency manager requested 50,000 USACE sandbags. (#255)
 - ASSIGNED- USACE - Omaha district

Burleigh County

- City of Bismarck Emergency Management requested planning assistance (#234)
 - ACCEPTED -- USACE - Omaha District
- Burleigh County Emergency Management requests assistance with hauling sand and salt from Bismarck to Ft Lincoln State Park for the ice dusting mission on the Missouri River south of Bismarck. (#273)
 - ASSIGNED -- NDDOT

Cass County

- The city of Fargo Emergency Management is requesting assistance with dike removal. (#248)
 - AWAITING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION -USACE - St. Paul District
- Requesting U.S. Army Corp of Engineers assistance in the removal of the temporary levees constructed for protective measures. (#251)
 - ASSIGNED- USACE - St. Paul District

Grand Forks County

- Monitors needed for sand bag dikes & pumps in and around Burke Addition. (#257)
 - ASSIGNED/IN PROGRESS – ND JOC

Sargant County

- The Sargant County Highway Department requested a portable temporary bridge to be placed at a location 5 miles south of Rutland on County Road 10 until repairs to the site can be made. This is a major artery for Sargant County's road system. (#272)
 - AWAITING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – SEOC

Ward County

- Ward County emergency manager requested two flat-bottomed boats. (#256)
 - ACCEPTED/IN PROGRESS - Game and Fish Dept.

Detailed Reports

Refer to previous Incident Summaries, as necessary.

LOCAL

Cass County

- Fargo public schools will open on Monday, April 6 – March 31

Nelson County

- The Nelson County Emergency Manager reported a 41 year-old woman has been missing since about 1 a.m. March 24th. The Nelson County Sheriff Department is coordinating a search and rescue mission – March 31

Pembina County

- The county emergency manager reported that arrangements are underway to stage large equipment at the Joliette Truck Stop, I-29 exit 203 and ND Highway 5 – March 31

Walsh County

- **In response to flooding 917.5 yards of sand has been used with 80,500 sandbags in the county – April 1**

STATE

N.D. Department of Agriculture (NDDoAg)

- ND Board of Animal Health reports releasing supplementary staff. Staff will be on standby status. - March 31

N.D. Department of Health (NDDOH)

- NDDoH reported Monday that a pre-hospital stabilization and staging area for up to 100 people in need of immediate emergency care was established at the Casselton School – March 31

N.D. of Human Services (NDHS)

- The NDHS has established a hotline (211) for anyone wanting to volunteer or give donations. Volunteers may also call 1-877-422-0062 – March 31

N.D. Division of Homeland Security

- A Federal-State Interagency Air Operations Branch is established at Fraine Barracks. A written search and rescue (SAR) Incident Management Plan is under development for SAR operations in the Red River Valley and interface with the Incident Management Team in Casselton – March 28

N.D. National Guard (NDNG)

- **The NDNG transported one patient and several medical staff to St. Francis Hospital, Breckinridge, MN, -- April 1**
- The 957 EN Bridge Company consisting of 151 personnel remains ready to provide support within a 2 hour notice – March 31
- Personnel Strength Report is reported as 1,875.
- The Joint Task Force Aviation Section has two daily flights departing from Fargo to Bismarck: 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. – March 31
- **Detached a HEMMT fueller and 3 personnel to Joint Task Force Aviation (JTF). – April 1**

N.D. State Electrical Board

- Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is flying air reconnaissance of power lines in Cass, Grand Forks, Pembina, Traill and Walsh counties as requested by Min-Kota. - March 31

N.D. State Water Commission

- Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is conducting a flight of the Missouri River Basin as requested by the State Water Commission. - March 31

FEDERAL

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (U.S. ACE)

- The U.S. ACE issued plans Tuesday for releases from the Jamestown and Pipestem reservoirs where releases have been held to zero since March 23. Releases will be initiated at 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) and gradually increased to 750 cfs. Based on U.S. ACE and National Weather Service projections both reservoirs will exceed record levels and releases of 1,800 cfs may be required – March 31
- The U.S. ACE announced award of a contract to build temporary emergency levees in Jamestown. Levees should be complete this week at which time the U.S. ACE may increase releases from the Jamestown and Pipestem reservoirs to the 1800 cfs level if needed – March 31

Transportation Safety Administration (TSA)

- The TSA has been evaluating the condition of railroads in North Dakota:
 - The Amtrak Empire Builder is detoured via the Burlington Northern Sante Fe (BNSF) KO Subdivision through at least April 9.
 - The BNSF, Grand Forks Subdivision at rail mile post 107 is closed.
 - The BNSF, Hillsboro Subdivision (Fargo to Grand Forks Line) is closed.
 - The BNSF Jamestown Subdivision main line open to Driscoll, rail mile post 161.9 siding closed and underwater.
 - The Northern Plains Railroad, Oslo, MN. railroad bridge is impacted by a ice dam and there is an embargo on all rail traffic through this area.
 - An attempt Monday to break up the Oslo bridge ice dam by dropping 3,000 pound sandbags on the ice from a Chinook helicopter failed. Currently they have placed planking on the top and excavators are breaking ice and pushing it under the decking. Explosives are being considered but may be problematic.

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (USCBP)

- Customs Border Search and Rescue Teams (BORSTAR) will have 6 Rescue boats (3 in Fargo and 3 in Grand Forks) operational by Monday 3/30/2009. BORSTAR teams are swift water rescue trained – March 29

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

- The USCG boat teams have rescued 67 people and 27 pets; the USCG helicopter teams have rescued 26 people and 6 pets. – March 31

U.S. Air Force

- Two UH-1 USAF Rescue Aircraft from Grand Forks Air Force Base will be prepositioned at Hillsboro Airport for continuous rescue coverage.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

American Red Cross (ARC)

- **The ARC call center was activated in Ward County: 858-9366. Residents are urged to call 911 in an emergency – April 1**

**Division of Homeland Security
Greg M. Wilz, Director**

**Division of State Radio
Mike Lynk, Director**

