



**09-003, Spring Flooding  
April 8, 2009  
12:00 p.m. CDT  
Incident Summary Report #42**

**Incident Overview**

*Subsequent summaries will be published once daily at noon. Continuous evaluation of operations will take place to determine required publication changes in the future.*

**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, Sheyenne and Missouri River Basins.

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

Significant Events

➤ **Deaths/Injuries** – as reported by the N.D. Department of Health

- Deaths – 2
- Injuries – 205 (155 during the week of March 30)
- Illnesses – 58 (47 during the week of March 30)

➤ **Rescues**

- Rescues – 135
- Animal Rescues -- 33

➤ **Ice Jams**

Ransom County

- Ice jams are a continuous problem on the Sheyenne River. On April 5, ice and trees were caught in five bridges. On April 6, ND Highway 32 and ND Highway 27 bridges were cleared of debris with an excavator several times throughout the day and night. On April 7, another ice jam was reported at the ND Highway 32 Bridge. - April 7.
- Civil Air Patrol reported the Sheyenne River from southwest of the City of Lisbon to the Richland County line was clear of ice. –April 7

➤ **Evacuations/Sheltering**

Pembina County

- On April 6, the County Emergency Manager received information that three elderly females from the city of Pembina have moved into a city of Cavalier nursing home after the voluntary evacuation notice was issued March 30th during the city of Pembina public meeting. Family members assisted one lady and the Meals and Transportation organization assisted the other two ladies. – April 7

Statewide

- Animal Shelters currently open - 11
  - Animals presently sheltered = 192 – April 8

➤ **Flooding**

Cass County

- Based on the potential for ice jams, county officials monitoring the West Fargo Diversion are concerned about Sheyenne River flooding. – April 6

➤ **Dam Releases**

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) --Omaha announced an increase of the combined release from the Jamestown and Pipestem Reservoirs as follows:
  - Tuesday April 7 - 1,300 cfs
  - Wednesday April 8 - 1,500 cfs

➤ **Roads**

- The N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT) closed Highway 54 to Oslo on the North Dakota side; the road is not safe for local traffic or emergency response vehicles. NDDOT is implementing an emergency contract to get rip rap in place to save the roadway. The road is expected to be closed for days. – April 7
- **The following highways are closed due to water over the roadway:**
  - **I-29 southbound between Manvel (exit 152) to the Grafton interchange (exit 176). Only trucks and emergency vehicles are allowed. Use detour ND-17 to ND-81 to I-29.**
  - **ND-66 from ND-44 to the Red River crossing.**
  - **US-2 Business Loop, Sorlie Bridge in Grand Forks.**
  - **ND-17 Bridge over the Red River east of Grafton at MM-138.**
  - **ND-200 near Hazen from the junction of ND-200A to the ND-1806 junction.**
  - **ND-5 from I-29 to the Red River east of Joliette MM-332 to MM-335.**
  - **ND-15 at the Fessenden underpass.**
  - **I-29 MM-179 east of Grafton - Alexander Henry Rest Area closed due to flooding.**
- **The following highways have water over the road with traffic allowed:**
  - **ND-17, 9 miles east of the junction with ND-3.**
  - **ND-54 from I-29 to the Red River approximately 10 miles north of Manvel (local traffic only).**

Walsh County

- **The northbound lane of I-29 between Manvel (Exit 152) and Grafton (Exit 176) is now open to traffic. The southbound lane on I-29 at the same location is still closed to traffic due to water on the roadway. – April 7**

➤ **Damages to Homes/Businesses**

- No recent updates

➤ **Livestock Losses**

- The Board of Animal Health is collecting data from producers regarding disaster-related losses of cattle, goats, pigs and turkeys. Reports have been submitted by extension agents in Adams, Barnes, Benson, Dickey, Emmons, Logan, Mercer, McLean, Morton, McHenry, McLean, Oliver, Ransom, Richland, Sargent and Stutsman Counties and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation. – April 7
- **Early losses documented from seven counties total 223 cows, 442 calves, and six yearlings. – April 7.**

Emmons County

- One Emmons County producer lost a large number of cattle and other producers have also sustained losses. – April 7

Ransom County

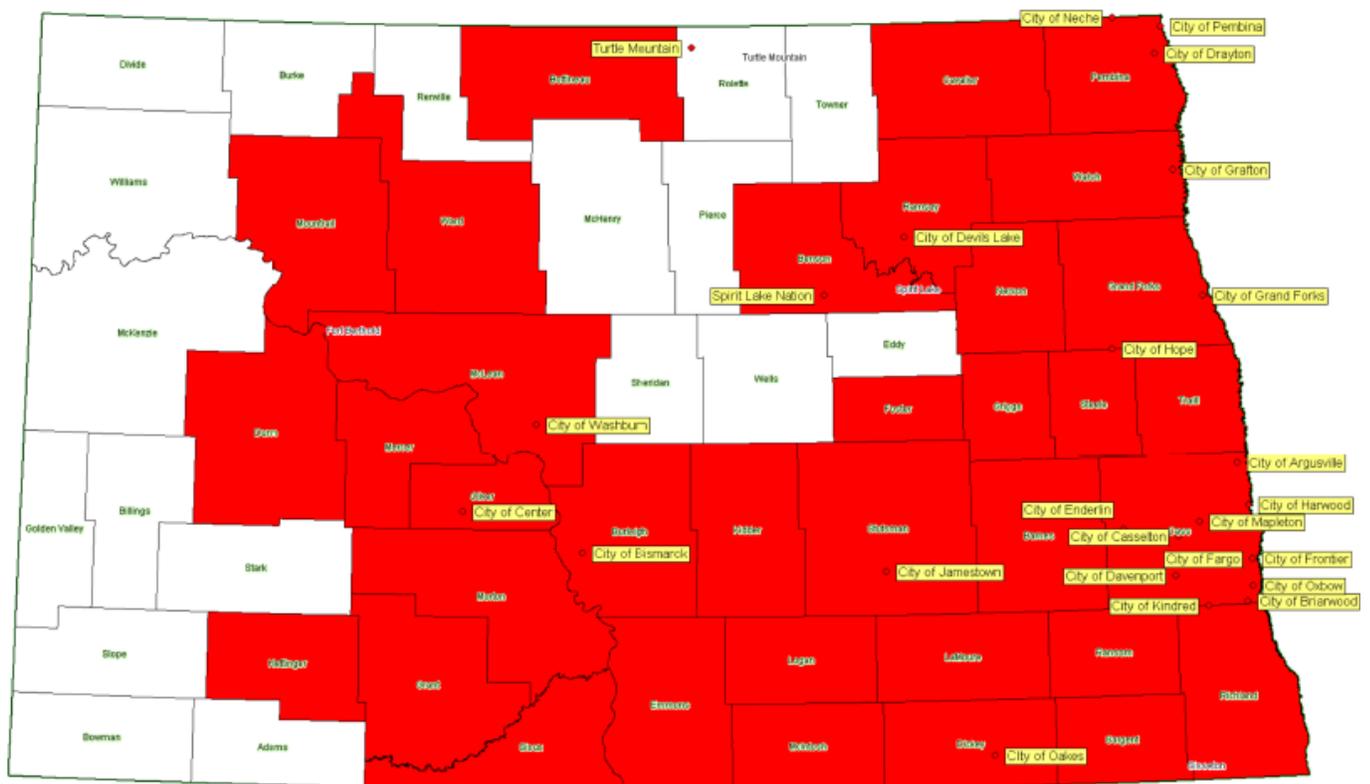
- Fifty head cattle drowned near Enderlin. – April 7

## Richland County

- Several thousand turkeys died due to flooding. – April 7

### ➤ Declarations (See map)

- The state was granted a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 35 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, **Bottineau**, Burleigh, Cass, Cavalier, Dickey, Dunn, Emmons, Foster, Grand Forks, Grant, Griggs, Hettinger, Kidder, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, McLean, Mercer, Morton, **Mountrail**, Nelson, Oliver, Pembina, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, **Sargent**, Sioux, Steele, Stutsman, Traill, Walsh and Ward.
- City Declarations – Argusville, Bismarck, Briarwood, Casselton, Center, Davenport, **Devils Lake**, Drayton, Enderlin, Frontier, Fargo, Frontier, Grafton, Grand Forks, Harwood, Hope, Jamestown, Kindred, Leonard, Mapleton, Napoleon, North River, Prairie Rose, Oakes, Oxbow, Neche, Pembina and Valley City.
- Tribal Declarations - Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and Standing Rock Indian Reservation.



### Weather Forecast: WESTERN AND CENTRAL NORTH DAKOTA:

**Today:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 43 and a north wind around 8 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 25 and an east wind between 6 - 8 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 46 and an east wind between 8 -14 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 27 and an east wind between 6 -10 mph.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 49 and a south wind between 6 -14 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 55.

**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 52.

Weather Forecast: EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA:

**Today:** Partly sunny, with a high near 39 and a north northwest wind between 13 -15 mph, with gusts as high as 21 mph.

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 24 and a north northwest wind between 3 -10 mph.

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 41 and a north northeast wind between 6 - 9 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 26 and a northeast wind between 5 - 9 mph.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 46 and an east southeast wind between 5 -10 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 52.

**Sunday:** A slight chance of rain and mostly cloudy, with a high near 51.

River Forecasts

Rising= $\uparrow$  Steady= $\Rightarrow$  Falling= $\downarrow$

**Major Flood Stage**

- Red River at Fargo $\downarrow$  .....32.05 feet.....Flood Stage is 18 feet.
- Red River at Oslo $\uparrow$  .....43.6 feet .....Flood Stage is 26 feet.
- Red River at Drayton $\downarrow$  .....43.36 feet .....Flood Stage is 32 feet.

**Moderate Flood Stage**

- Red River at Wahpeton $\uparrow$  .....12.43 feet .....Flood Stage is 10 feet.
- Wild Rice River at Abercrombie $\downarrow$ ...15.77 feet ....Flood Stage is 10 feet.
- Sheyenne River at W.F. Div. $\Rightarrow$  .....20.97 feet.....Flood Stage is 18 Feet.
- Red River at Harwood  $\Rightarrow$  .....890.18 msl.....Flood Stage is 884 msl.
- Red River at Grand Forks $\downarrow$  .....45.37 feet ....Flood Stage is 28 feet.
- Red River at Pembina $\uparrow$  .....51.75feet ..... Flood Stage is 42 feet.
- Sheyenne River at Valley City $\uparrow$  ...16.58 feet..... Flood Stage is 15 feet.
- Sheyenne River at Lisbon $\downarrow$  .....18.44 feet ....Flood Stage is 15 feet.
- Sheyenne River at Kindred $\downarrow$  .....20.57 feet ....Flood Stage is 16 feet.
- James River at Ludden $\downarrow$  .....14.73 feet ....Flood Stage is 12 feet.
- James River at Lamoure $\downarrow$  .....12. 23 feet....Flood Stage is 14 feet.

**Minor Flood Stage**

- Pipestem Creek at Pingree $\downarrow$  .....9.98 feet .....Flood Stage is 9 feet.

**Near Flood Stage**

- Maple River at Enderlin $\uparrow$  .....8.9 feet .....Flood Stage is 9.5 feet.
- Maple River at Mapleton  $\downarrow$  .....904.38 msl. .... Flood Stage is 905 msl.
- James River at Grace City $\downarrow$  .....8.47 feet .....Flood Stage is 12 feet.
- Apple Creek at Menoken $\downarrow$  .....13.61feet .....Flood Stage is 15 feet.

**Most Likely Effects on Flooding**

- The first crest of the Red River continues moving north and is expected to reach Pembina by this weekend. Ice remains in the river channel from Oslo north, with jams at most bridges. The river is between 7 and 12 miles wide in some stretches from near Oslo to Pembina. The river will slowly recede the next few days from Oslo to Drayton. – April 7
- Rising temperatures in the next several days will increase the rate of thaw. This will potentially influence second crests at many locations. Projections indicate a 75 percent probability the Red River at Fargo will continue to decline until April 11-13 then rise to a peak at or near 41 feet, during April 15-22. The large snow pack in central North Dakota will influence a significant crest along the Sheyenne River including Valley City in 1-2 weeks.

## Most Dangerous Effects on Flooding

- Significant rain and snow are possible with two major storms posing a threat to the Northern Plains in the next two weeks. These potential events could influence new record levels of flooding at several locations simultaneously throughout areas of North Dakota. This combination of events could push the crest of Red River at Fargo in the mid-42 foot range.

### Resource/Assistance Requests

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- **Reconnaissance flight of the Red River. (#325)**
  - **ASSIGNED – SEOC Air Operations Branch**

#### U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- The United States Department of Agriculture is requesting a flight over the Linton/Beaver Creek area for a photojournalist, NDSU Extension Service Videographer, representatives from the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Development and Extension Service. (#312)
  - **ASSIGNED – SEOC Air Operations Branch**

#### N.D. State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)

- Air support to transport the Homeland Security Director, USACE, FEMA and NDNG officials to Valley City, Jamestown and Devils Lake. – (# 315)
  - **ASSIGNED – SEOC Air Operations Branch**
- North Dakota National Guard preparations to execute evacuations of isolated farmsteads (possibly up to 10) along the Sheyenne River, downstream of Valley City. In addition, be prepared to assist with destruction and/or removal of any ice jams on the Sheyenne River. (#303)
  - **ON STAND BY – NDNG**

#### Barnes County

- **Four diesel 4-inch pumps and two diesel 6-inch pumps and hoses for Valley City. (#327)**
  - **ACCEPTED – USACE, St Paul District**
- 100 National Guard men from April 8 -11, to help finish work on the dikes. The NDNG soldiers are to report to the Winter Show Building and no equipment is required. (#301)
  - **ACCEPTED – NDNG**

#### Cass County

- Re-mobilize US Fish & Wildlife Service assets effective 8:00 a.m. April 13, 2009. The request is for six boats with crew, plus a spare, including support staff (2 mechanics) and two supervisors to insure continuity of command. (#316)
  - **ASSIGNED – USFWS**
- ND National Guard Quick Response Forces (QRF) for evacuation, rescue and support. Additional resources needed include: three LCTV Troop transport vehicles (deuce and a half) and one medical equipped Humvee.
  - ND National Guard assets to be assigned to the Cass County Sheriff's Office Tactical Operations Center to be used as Quick Response Forces (QRF) for evacuation, rescue and support: six additional LCTV troop transport vehicles (deuce and a half).
  - Request the following personnel be assigned to the Cass County operations: Captain Grant Larson assigned to the Sheriff's Office Tactical Operations Center; Major Greg McDonald assigned to the Cass County EOC. (#320)
    - **ASSIGNED – NDNG**

### Grand Forks County

- Grand Forks County requested two airboats with crews and mechanic, one airboat without crew and one overhead. The airboats are needed April 13, 2009 through April 20, 2009. (#311)
  - ACCEPTED – USFWS

### Grant County

- Extension of assignment for the soldiers and equipment presently on site; and a D-7 dozer through Friday, April 10, to assist with building a road. - April 7 (#322)
  - ASSIGNED – NDNG

### LaMoure County

- Two power take off (PTO) driven pumps, 20,000 sand bags, and technical assistance. Delivery of the sand bags and pumps to the city of LaMoure. (#326)
  - ASSIGNED – USACE, Omaha District
- Transport two PTO driven pumps, 20,000 sand bags from Bismarck to LaMoure. (#332)
  - ASSIGNED – NDNG

### Pembina County

- Technical assistance for installation of 400 feet of Hesco Bastion. (#328)
  - ACCEPTED – NDNG
- Air reconnaissance to obtain an aerial view of water, ice jams, and dams when an aircraft is available. – (#321)
  - ASSIGNED – NDNG
- 10 National Guard personnel to assist dike security. Soldier's assistance is needed from April 5 –15, 2009. (#307)
  - ACCEPTED – NDNG

### Ransom County

- Technical assistance regarding recurring ice jams and debris buildup at bridges along the Sheyenne River. (#324)
  - ACCEPTED - SWC
- 20 Soldiers requested earlier will be needed for approximately 7 days, not 2 to 3 days as previously requested. – (#306)
  - ACCEPTED – NDNG
- 2,500 ft Hesco Bastion (preferably 4 ft high), 25,000 sandbags and 30 rolls of plastic for the city of Enderlin. (#309)
  - ACCEPTED – USACE, St Paul District

### Sargent County

- Assess and provide technical assistance to the city of Milnor. (#323)
  - ASSIGNED – USACE, St Paul District

### Ward County

- Four palletized load system (PLS) trucks with operators and 20 soldiers for sandbagging production at Burlington and the State Fairgrounds. – (#329)
  - ACCEPTED – NDNG
- 2,500 lb. capability forklift from the National Guard to support sandbag production at Burlington and the State Fairgrounds. (#330)
  - ASSIGNED – NDNG
- 2,500 lb. capability forklift from the NDDOT to support sandbag production at Burlington and the State Fairgrounds. (#332)
  - ASSIGNED – NDDOT

## Walsh County

- Technical assistance for dike inspection by USACE. (#308)
  - ACCEPTED – USACE, St Paul District

### Detailed Reports

*Refer to previous Incident Summaries, as necessary.*

## LOCAL

### Bottineau County

- Aerial reconnaissance of the county on April 6 revealed the area east and north of Willow City had very little snow cover. – April 7
- The county emergency manager was informed the area north and west of Souris is receiving a large amount of runoff from Stone and Boundary Creeks. There is a large amount of runoff coming from Canada. – April 7

### Cass County

- Fargo City Hall Meeting 7:00 a.m. April 7th, 2009:
  - On April 8, the city of Fargo will reinstate the 8:00 p.m. flood meeting carried live on local cable, followed by press conference.
  - The city will restart sandbagging at 8:00 a.m. Thursday in the Fargo Dome parking lot.
  - Special Needs/Vulnerable Population: Public Health reports an increased interest in “shelter-in-place” by some facilities. Elevations are being recorded as part of a comprehensive plan.
  - The city continues to receive acquisition questions and will address the issue at a later date. The city estimates flood clean up will continue into June, 2009.
  - County officials requested restaging of air and ground support for the second crest.
  - The city EOC will reopen Thursday morning. – April 7
- Temporary levees will remain in place until more data becomes available regarding a second crest at Fargo, forecasted for the April 15-22 time frame. The National Weather Service (NWS) will conduct an informational meeting on Friday, April 15. – April 6
- City and county officials started the “Spirit of Fargo” flood fund. – April 6

### Pembina County

- The Cities of Drayton and Pembina continue to have National Guard personnel patrol the dikes. – April 7
- Drayton officials are presently working with the Corps concerning the city’s temporary dike’s ability to withhold all the water from the anticipated prolonged crest. – April 7
- The Pembina City Fire Chief has requested an airboat be staged in the area for potential emergency rescues. – April 7
- The emergency manager has received requests for an aerial view of water, ice jams, and dams within the next two days when an aircraft is available. – April 7

### Sargent County

- The City of Milnor will keep the emergency dikes in place and encourage home owners to keep sandbags in place until after the next melt and runoff. The city of Milnor is requesting a site visit from the Corp of Engineers. - April 7

- Four families do not have access to their homes due to high water. Emergency Response to these locations is currently not available due to road conditions. - April 7

#### Ransom County

- The city of Lisbon requested 10,000 sandbags from Fargo be delivered by the National Guard. – April 8

#### Ward County

- Requested U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for analysis, identification of potential flood areas, and potential mitigation actions. In addition, the following support has been requested:
  - 10,000 feet of poly sheeting for barrier building (5,000 feet for Burlington).
  - Sand bag production equipment.
  - 3,000 feet of Hesco Bastion. – April 7
- The Ackerman/Estvold Engineering Company recommended several areas for barrier protection in the city of Minot. Specific projects include one 1,600 foot barrier two-and-one-half feet high, one 1,000 foot barrier three feet high, and one 70 foot barrier four feet high. The required number of sandbags is estimated at 60,000 to 100,000. – April 7
- Engineers continue assess potential flood areas and expect more specific projects to emerge over time. – April 7
- The city of Burlington is in the process of declaring an emergency and is pursuing operation agreements with USACE. – April 7

### **STATE**

#### Civil Air Patrol

- No recent updates

#### N.D. Department of Transportation

- ND Highway 54 is open to local traffic from I-29 to the Red River approximately 10 miles north of Manvel. Water remains on the highway and flaggers will be in place to direct traffic. - April 8
- Both lanes on I-29 southbound, south of Harwood are open.

#### N.D. Department of Health (NDDoH)

- Documents providing flood-related safety, health, and clean-up information have been translated into Spanish, Somali, Bosnian and Arabic and can be accessed at the Department of Health's website at [www.ndhealth.gov/flood](http://www.ndhealth.gov/flood). Topics include information about carbon monoxide poisoning, drinking water safety, and mold. – April 8

#### N.D. of Human Services (NDHS)

- No recent updates

#### N. D Insurance Department

- As North Dakotans begin the process of recovery, North Dakota Insurance Commissioner Adam Hamm announced questions and answers about flood coverage and insurance can be found on the Insurance Department website by clicking on the new '09 flood button on the home page at [www.nd.gov/ndins](http://www.nd.gov/ndins). - April 6

#### N.D. National Guard (NDNG)

- The NDNG provided the following personnel and equipment for flood fight operations:
  - One sand bag machine to the 164 Engineer Battalion for Ward County's flood prevention operations. - April 7
  - One sand bag machine from the 119<sup>th</sup> Wing Air Base in Fargo to Valley City for sandbagging efforts. – April 7
  - One sand bag machine from the Raymond J. Bohn Armory in Bismarck to Minot for Ward County's flood prevention operations. – April 7

- One dozer to Grant County. – April 7
- Four PLS trucks and 20 personnel to the cities of Burlington and Minot for five days.- April 8
- The NDNG provided personnel and equipment to Pembina County for the emplacement of 4,500 lineal feet of Hesco Bastion. – April 6
- One hundred soldiers have been deployed to Valley City in support of flood operations. – April 6
- Continue to maintain liaison relationships with Richland, Ransom, Sargent, Lamoure, & Dickey Counties.
- Establish on-the-ground liaison relationships with Pembina and Walsh Counties.

#### **N.D. State Water Commission (SWC)**

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has requested the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to install temporary stream gages into the Sheyenne and James Rivers. The ND SWC will assist the USGS with installation, which will take place on April 8 & 9. – April 7

#### **FEDERAL**

##### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

- No recent updates

##### **United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**

- No recent updates

#### **VOLUNTARY AGENCIES**

##### **AmeriCorps**

- Ten AmeriCorps personnel are assisting call centers for 3 weeks in Cass County. – April 6

##### **American Red Cross - ARC**

- The Red Cross call center has received calls from residents who need assistance in flood preparations around their homes. The ARC is looking for volunteer groups who can be matched with residents to assist them in their efforts.
- Volunteer groups and individuals can call the Red Cross Call Center (701-858-9366) Monday through Friday 9am – 4pm to get on a list to assist residents who need help.
- Sand bagging operations continue at the following two locations: 1 -The State Fair Arena # 1 site, open Monday thru Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 2 - The Old Burlington Fire Department Building, open Monday through Friday 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers may just show up to help. – April 6
- Shelter teams are on standby in Grand Forks, Valley City and Jamestown with sheltering trailers.
- The teams are also providing supportive feeding for sandbaggers and disaster response workers in the three cities.

##### **Lutheran Disaster Relief**

- The relief agency needs volunteers for clean up and mucking out. This request is being sent through 211 and First Link. Lutheran Disaster Relief has put in a request for dehumidifiers, moisture meters, etc.
- The Great Plains Food Bank is sending cleaning supplies, trash bags, soap and other items which are expected to arrive at the beginning of the week. The local volunteer number is 701-321-0180 in the Linton area. – April 6

##### **Presbyterian Disaster Response**

- Presbyterian Disaster Response is working with the Northern Plains Presbytery. The organization also has Tyvek suits, etc. if needed. They have a national call number for from volunteer groups and can help with local volunteer assistance. – April 6

## Dakota Adventists

- A Distribution/Collection Center at the Adventist Church in Bismarck, ND was opened.

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

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