



**09-003, Spring Flooding
May 27, 2009
11:30 a.m. CDT
Incident Summary Report #75**

Incident Overview

Summaries are published after 12:00 p.m. every Wednesday until further notice.

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 Sheyenne River Basins.

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activation – Level III (Monitoring Activation). The SEOC will be staffed daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by N.D. Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS) personnel. The Duty Officer will be responsible for incident-related calls between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

Significant Events

- **Deaths/Injuries/Illnesses** – as reported by the N.D. Department of Health (NDDoH) and the N.D. Highway Patrol (NDHP)
 - Deaths – 3; two were caused by cardiac arrest, as reported by NDDoH; the NDHP classified the third as a traffic fatality.
 - Injuries – 252
 - Illnesses – 71
- **Livestock loss and producer impact reports - May 22**
 - Calf losses – 20,479
 - Cattle losses – 4,719
 - Horse losses – 34
 - Other livestock losses – 448
- **Home and Business Damage**
 - No recent updates
- **Dams – May 26**
 - **Pipestem and Jamestown Dams**
 - Combined releases into the James River are currently 2,600 cfs
 - Current reservoir level along with inflow and outflow rates can be found at the following website: www.usbr.gov/gp/lakes_reservoirs/north_dakota_lakes.htm
 - **Baldhill Dam**
 - Releases from the Baldhill Dam reservoir are currently at 705 cfs.
 - Current reservoir level along with inflow and outflow rates can be found at the following website: www.mvp-wc.usace.army.mil/bulletins/reservoir_bulletin.shtml

➤ Roads

The following is the ND Department of Transportation road report as of May 22:

- The following highways are closed due to water damage:
 - ND-9 nine miles west of Kensal.
- The following highways are closed due to water over the roadway:
 - ND-27 directly east of the junction of ND-32 in Lisbon.
 - ND-54 from I-29 to the Red River.
 - ND-17 bridge over the Red River east of Grafton at mile post 138.
- The following highways have water over the roadway but traffic is allowed.
 - ND-13 one mile east of Lehr and five miles east of Lehr.
- The following highway has water in one lane of traffic. Traffic allowed with reduced speeds.
 - US-2 at mile post 246, 12 miles west of Devils Lake. Water is in eastbound lane.

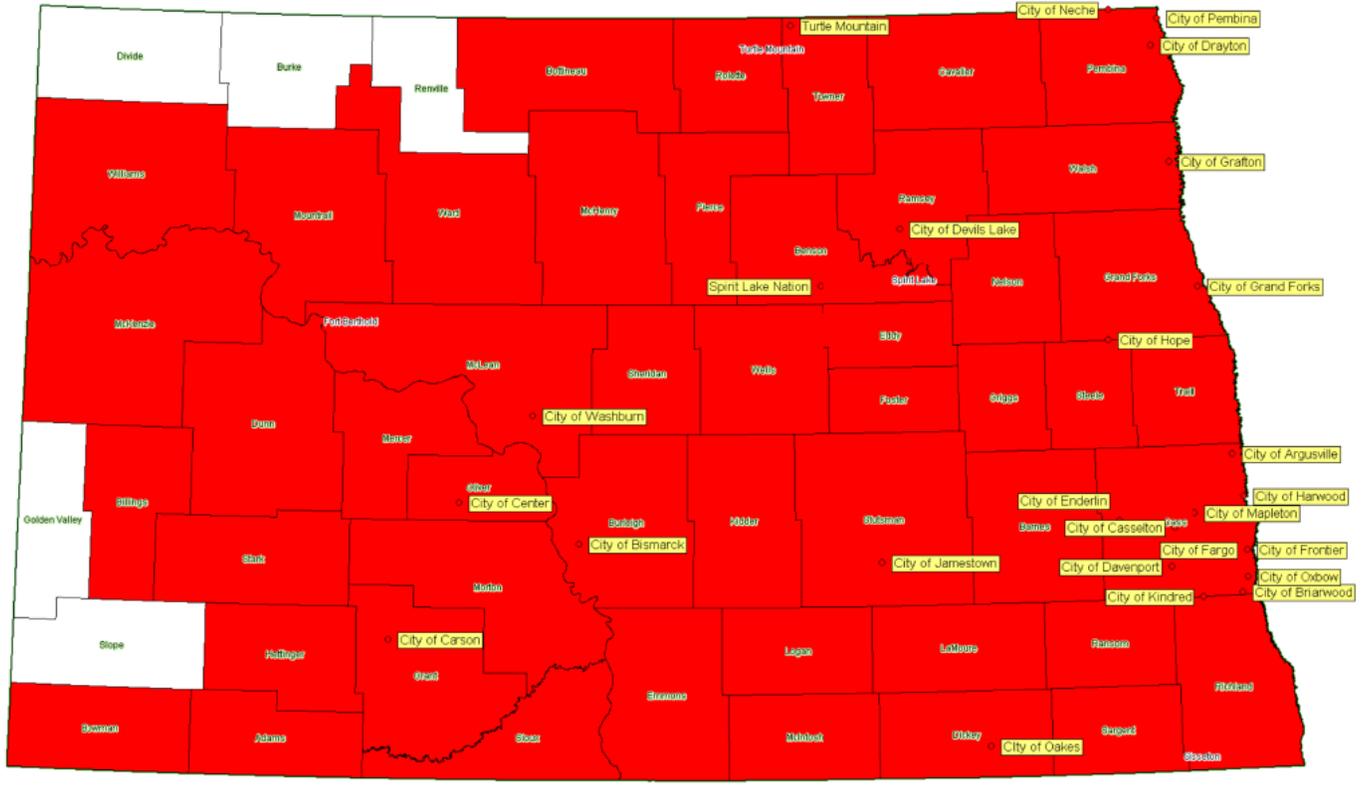
➤ Sewage/Potable Water Systems

- In response to the potential failure of the City of Jamestown sanitary sewer and potable water systems, residents have been urged to stockpile up to five days supplies of potable water. On May 26, Valley Sales Company began distribution of 2,200 cases of water to residents in Jamestown with a 1 case per person per household limit.
- The N.D. Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have agreed to keep mass care supplies in Jamestown for 1,500 people supplied for three days, which includes 60,000 liters of potable water. FEMA reported on Saturday it has a logistics staff identified to support distribution. Additional commodities can be ordered, but will take 72 hours to arrive.
- Additionally, FEMA indicated up to 300 porta-potties have been identified for use; 200 from a Fargo source with delivery within eight hours and up to 100 from a Bismarck source with delivery within 24 hours. All will be required to be staked down.

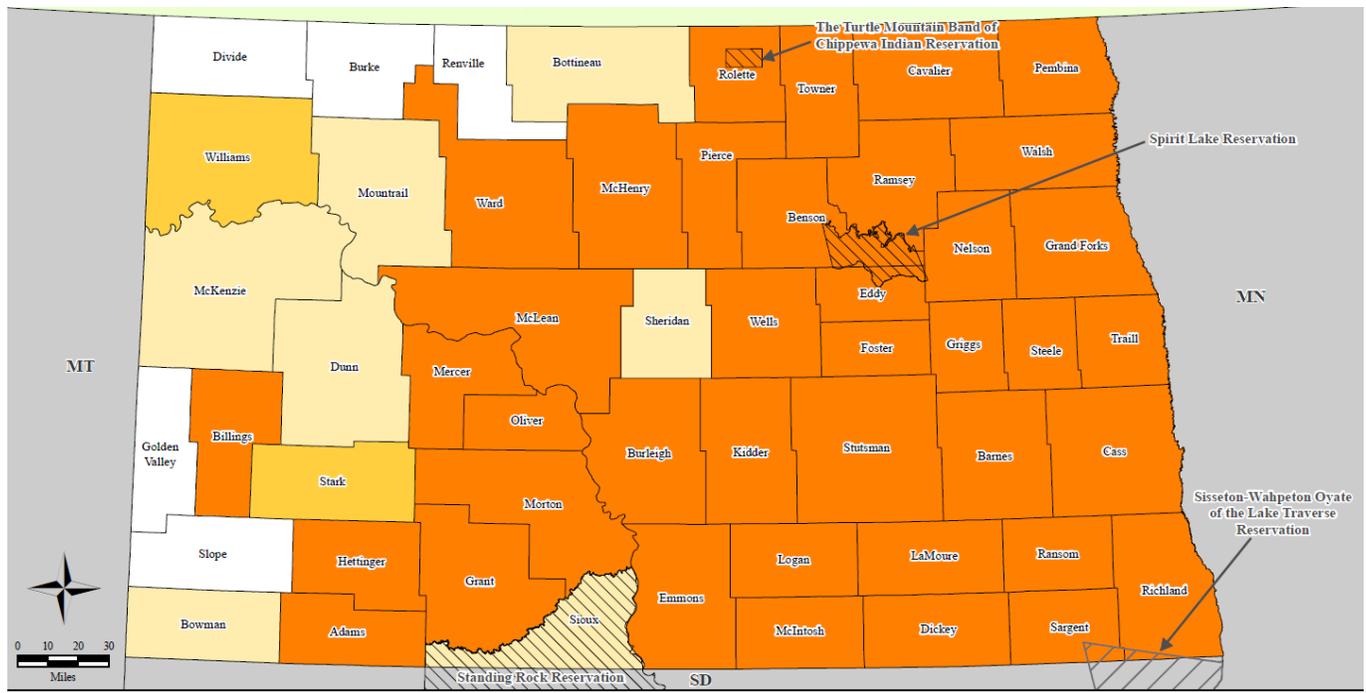
➤ Declarations (See map)

- On May 15 the Presidential Disaster Declaration for the State of North Dakota was amended to include seven additional counties for the Individual Assistance Program. Individual Assistance additions include the following: Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, McLean, Pembina, Rolette and Wells counties.
- Governor John Hoeven issued a statewide emergency declaration on March 13.
- The state was granted a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 34 counties and two Tribal Nations in North Dakota on March 24. The declaration was since amended as follows:
 - **Individual Assistance (IA) Declaration Date:** April 10, 2009
 - **IA:** 41 counties, 3 Tribal Reservations
 - **Fifth Amendment Date:** May 15, 2009
 - **IA Add-On Counties and Tribes:** 7 counties
 - **Public Assistance (PA) Declaration Date:** March 24, 2009
 - **PA:** 34 counties and 2 Indian Reservations
 - **Fourth Amendment Date:** May 13, 2009
 - **PA Add-On Counties and Tribes:** 3 counties and 1 Indian Reservation
 - **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP):** All declared counties and tribes are eligible
- County Declarations – 48 counties
- City Declarations – 41 counties
- Tribal Declarations - 2 tribal nations

Current County Declaration Map



[Current FEMA-DR-1829-ND Declaration Map](#)



Legend

Designated Counties		Designated Reservations	
	No Designation		Public Assistance
	Public Assistance		Individual Assistance and Public Assistance
	Individual Assistance and Public Assistance		
	Individual Assistance and Public Assistance (Category B)		

All counties are eligible for Hazard Mitigation

Weather Forecast: WESTERN AND CENTRAL NORTH DAKOTA:

Today: Sunny, with a high near 76. Southeast wind 6 to 13 mph becoming southwest.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. South wind at 9 mph becoming west.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 79. North wind between 5 and 11 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. North wind between 10 and 13 mph becoming light.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. Calm wind becoming west between 6 and 9 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 57.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77.

Sunday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 75.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

Tuesday: Partly sunny, with a high near 70.

Weather Forecast: EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA:

Today: Sunny, with a high near 69. South southeast wind between 6 and 8 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 48. South southwest wind between 6 and 9 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 72. North northwest wind between 7 and 13 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. North northwest wind between 7 and 11 mph.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 72. West southwest wind between 6 and 14 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45.

Saturday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 67.

Saturday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Sunday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 68.

Sunday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Monday: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 69.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.

River Forecasts by River Basin – Listing Includes Rivers Above Flood Stage

Rising= Steady= Falling=

Red River of the North

- All gauges on the Red River have dropped below flood stage.

Sheyenne River

- All gauges on the Sheyenne River have dropped below flood stage.

James River Basin

- James River at Kensal — 11.65 ft—Flood Stage 9 ft—Crest (no forecast)
- James River at Jamestown — 12.97 ft—Flood Stage 12 ft—Crest (no forecast)
- James River at Ludden Dam — 14.96 ft—Flood Stage 12 ft—Crest 18.2 ft on Apr 24

Devils Lake Basin

- Devils Lake — 1,450.4 ft — continuing its record rise.
- Stump Lake — 1,450.03 ft — continuing its record rise.

Souris River Basin

- Souris River at Westhope — has dropped below the 10 foot flood stage—Crest 16.2 ft on Apr 29

Resource/Assistance Requests

- The State Emergency Operations Center has processed 622 requests for assistance since March 12, 2009.

N.D. Division of Homeland Security

- Transport 100,000 NDDES (unfilled) sandbags from the Baler Building in Bismarck to Camp Grafton. (#621)
 - ASSIGNED – NDNG

Barnes County

- Removal of temporary levee (#622)
 - ASSIGNED – USACE, St Paul District

Detailed Reports

Refer to previous Incident Summaries, as necessary.

LOCAL

Ramsey County

- US Highway 2, twelve miles west of Devils Lake, has water on roadway with traffic moving slowly at that location.
- Township roads in the area are treacherous because of 2.5 inches of rain across the Devils Lake Basin this past weekend.
- Record lake elevation levels continue with developing shoreline, sewer, erosion, road and dike problems.
- The County Emergency Manager requested filled sandbag availability from stockpiles around the state. The SEOC advised that Barnes County has 40,000 sandbags and provided contact information to arrange shipment of two flat bed trailers full of sandbags.

Stutsman County

- The animal shelter operated by Prairie Paws Rescue, a local organization in Jamestown, closed on Friday, May 15. The shelter was continuing to house two dogs and alternative shelter locations were found for both of them. The animal shelter can be reactivated within hours if the needed.
- The city of Jamestown continues to have four main concerns as the water releases continue from both Jamestown and Pipestem Dams. They are as follows:
 - Possible neighborhood flooding from rapid rate rainstorms. The National Guard continues to assist the city with pump operations.
 - Possible failure of temporary dike systems due to the lengthy period of time required to pass the flood storage from the two dams. Of particular concern is the northwest loop of the dike system, which is getting saturated. Failure could impact 12 to 15 families. The County Emergency Manager indicated, three to four feet of water would result in major damage. The National Guard continues to assist the city with dike monitoring.
 - Possible failure of the sanitary sewer system due to long term excessive flood water infiltration rates. The city has received permission from the N.D. Department of Health to pump four of its lift stations directly into the James River on a continual basis. About a million gallons of highly diluted sewage is being pumped to the river daily. Even with this pumping activity going to the river, the overall sanitary system has become even more overloaded than what was reported earlier. The amount of sewage being pumped

through the main lift station has gone from about 6 million gallons pumped daily, to as much as 10 million gallons. Under normal conditions, a typical average day of pumping is 1.5 million gallons. It's believed the increase is a result of soils that are becoming super-saturated because of the extended releases from Pipestem and Jamestown Dams.

- Two of the city's six water wells are having intermittent problems and have been in and out of operation, which may require the city to enact water usage restrictions. Residents have been encouraged to stock up on a 3-5 day supply of potable water.
- The Jamestown City Engineer feels that the Voluntary Odd/Even Sanitary Sewer Usage Program that was incorporated on May 14 has helped to eliminate most of the peak usage issues that were jeopardizing continued operation of the sewer system.
- Officials anticipate the need of state support for traffic control assistance as the first dikes – those built for protection from combined releases of 4,000 cfs – are dismantled. Heavy construction traffic will likely occur as dismantling operations take place.

Walsh County

- Rain on Monday, May 25, ranged from 1.7 to over 3 inches with an average amount of 2.25 throughout the county. Runoff caused the Park River to rise with a forecast crest of 11.4 feet, just below the 12-foot flood stage. Homme Dam reservoir levels increased with 1.6 feet of water overtopping the spillway. Minor flooding is occurring in low-lying areas and extensive erosion along the river channel continues.
- Crop land is again saturated and many acres remain unseeded. Producers reported frost is still in the ground under the first two feet of the surface.
- Eighty-one county and township roads were reported still closed due to water over the roads, bridge and culvert damage, and washouts. – May 27

Ward County

- As of May 26 County Road 5 in Shealy Township is still under water. This road started out with 9 feet of water over the road and is now down to 8 inches.
- County Road 23, three miles north of US-2, is open to one lane traffic.

STATE

N.D. Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS)

- State Emergency Operations Center efforts continue in support of flood response and recovery operations across the state in coordination with local, state and federal agencies.

State Water Commission (SWC)

- Releases from Devils Lake through the Devils Lake outlet began Thursday, May 21.

FEDERAL

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, awarded a \$128,500.00 contract to Strata Corporation of Grand Forks, N.D., to remove sandbags in Grand Forks County. Work was scheduled to begin Saturday, May 23, and the contractor has seven days to complete the work.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- A series of mitigation workshops have been scheduled around the state to help North Dakotans protect their homes and property against future disasters. Federal, state and local officials will be on hand to discuss flood maps, flood-fighting home improvement projects, benefits of flood insurance, possible funding sources and other issues. Meetings are scheduled as follows:

City	Date	Location
Linton	May 26	Emmons County Courthouse: 100 4th St. NW
Valley City	June 2	VFW Club: 138 Main St. E.
Center	June 3	Civic Center: 312 N. Lincoln Ave.
Jamestown	June 4	Civic Center (Exchequer Room): 212 3rd St. NE
Wahpeton	June 8	TBA
Cavalier	June 9	Emergency Operations Center: 308 Courthouse Dr.
Grafton	June 10	TBA
Mayville	June 11	Mayville Armory: 332 Center Ave. S.

- The deadline to register for individual disaster assistance has been extended to August 10 for individuals and business owners in 41 North Dakota counties and three Indian Reservations. The additional 60 days will provide North Dakotans in all declared areas the opportunity to register for assistance. – May 18
- DRC Locations:
 - **Barnes County**, Barnes County Courthouse, 230 4th St. NW, Valley City;
 - **Cass County**, Cass County Courthouse Annex, 1010 2nd Ave. South, Fargo;
 - **Pembina County**, Emergency Operations Center, 308 Courthouse Drive, Cavalier
 - **Ramsey County**, Ramsey Armory Meeting Room, 417 5th St. NE, Devils Lake;
 - **Spirit Lake Nation**, Dakota Tribal Industries, Main Lobby, 1 Main St., Fort Totten;
 - **Stutsman County**, Buffalo Mall, 2400 8th Ave. SW, Suite B, Jamestown;
 - **Wells County**, Fessenden-Bowden School Gymnasium, 500 North @nd Street, Fessenden
- **FEMA Cumulative Individual Assistance Registrations: 4,757 – May 22**
 - **Small Business Administration Approvals: 145**
 - **Eligible Requests for Public Assistance: 240**
 - **Disaster Unemployment Assistance Claims Received: 1,380**
 - **Dollar Amounts Approved:**
 - **Individual and Household Program: \$5,306,936**
 - **Disaster Unemployment Assistance: \$138,183**
 - **SBA Applications: \$6,212,200**
 - **Public Assistance Obligated: \$6,463,164**

VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

No recent updates

Division of Homeland Security
Greg M. Wilz, Director

Division of State Radio
Mike Lynk, Director