



**09-003, Spring Flooding  
July 1, 2009  
12:00 p.m. CDT  
Incident Summary Report #80**

**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 of the Red River of the North, Souris, Devils Lake, James and Sheyenne River Basins.

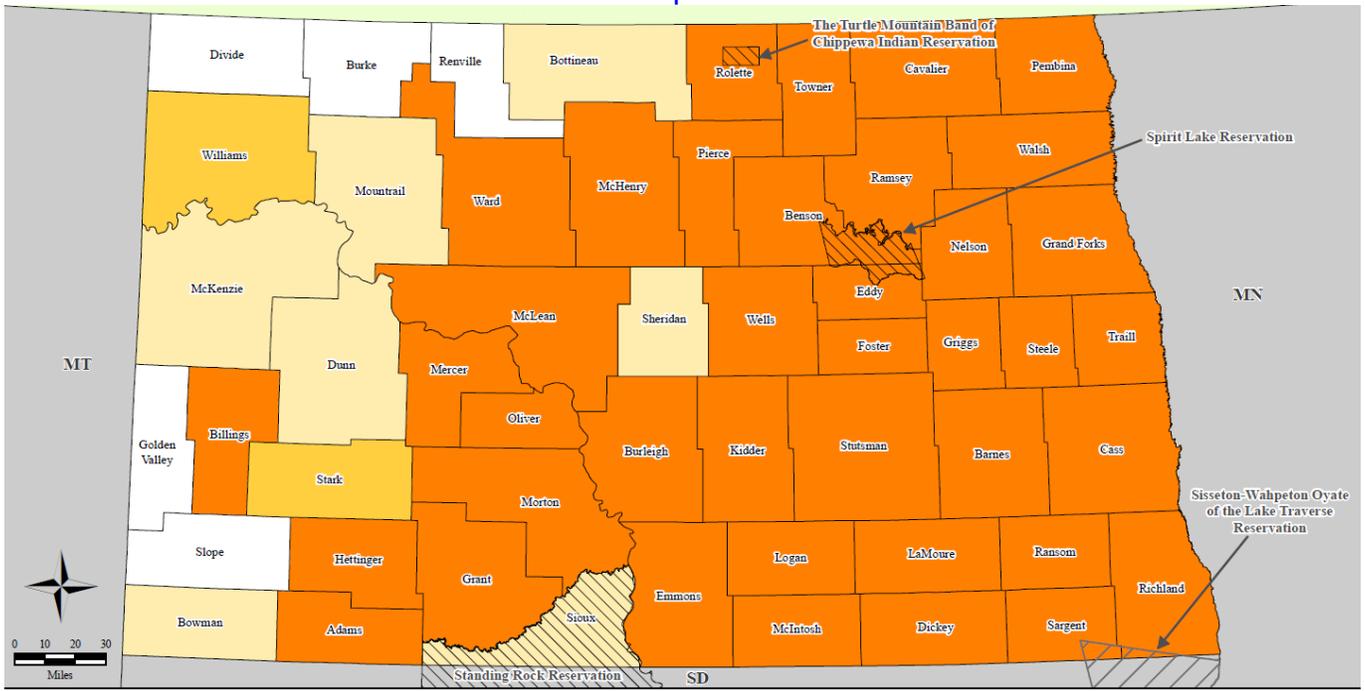
State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Activation – Level III (Monitoring Activation). N.D. Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS) personnel staff the SEOC daily from 8:00 a.m. until to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The NDHLS Duty Officer has responsibility for incident-related calls between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. and on weekends and holidays.

Significant Events

- **Deaths/Injuries/Illnesses** – as reported by the N.D. Department of Health (NDDoH) and the N.D. Highway Patrol (NDHP)
  - Deaths – 3
  - Injuries – 252
  - Illnesses – 71
- **Dams** –June 2
  - **Pipestem and Jamestown Dams** – July 1
    - Combined releases into the James River are currently 1,600 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](http://www.usbr.gov/gp/lakes_reservoirs/north_dakota_lakes.htm)
- **Debris Removal**
  - Debris removal has been completed in Jamestown (Stutsman County), LaMoure (LaMoure County) and Ludden (Dickey County)
- **Levee Removal**
  - The Levee Expert Team met with officials in Kindred, Milnor, Abercrombie and Enderlin last week regarding potential solutions to levee removal issues. – June 29
- **Declarations (See map)**
  - 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 on March 24.
  - Public Assistance: The declaration was subsequently amended and now includes 48 counties and 4 tribal reservations
  - Individual Assistance: 41 counties and 3 tribal reservations.



➤ 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 for North Dakota:**

Today, partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, possibly severe, west and central. Highs in the lower 70s northeast to the lower 80s west.

Tonight, partly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms, possibly severe, west and central. Lows 50 to 60.

Thursday, partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms west and central. Highs 75 to 85.

Friday and Independence Day, partly cloudy with a slight chance of thunderstorms west and central. Lows 50 to 60. Highs 70 to 85.

Sunday, mostly clear with lows 50 to 60 and highs 75 to 85.

[River Forecasts by River Basin – Listing Includes Rivers Above Flood Stage](#)

Rising= Steady= Falling=

Red River Basin

- Wild Rice River at Abercrombie—has dropped below the 10 foot-flood stage—Crested Monday, June 29, at 11.34.feet.
- Red River at Fargo—19.35 ft. —Flood Stage is 18 ft.—Crested Sunday, June 28 at 21.13 ft.
- Red River at Grand Forks—30.22 ft.—Flood Stage is 28 ft.—Crested Tuesday, June 30 at 31.37 ft.
- Red River at Oslo—28.91 ft.—Flood Stage is 26 ft.—Crested Tuesday, June 30 at 29.15 ft.
- Park River at Grafton—12.64 ft.—Flood Stage is 12 ft.—Crested Monday, June 29 at 13.39 ft.
- Forest River at Minto—has dropped below the 6 foot flood stage—Crested Tuesday, June 30 at 6.47 feet.
- Red River at Drayton—31.9 ft.—Flood Stage is 32 ft. — expected to rise above flood stage today, July 1.

James River Basin

- Ludden Dam—14.17 ft—Flood Stage is 12 ft.

Devils Lake Basin

- Devils Lake— 1,450.59 ft.
- Stump Lake—1,450.56 ft.
- Devils and Stump Lakes long-range probabilistic outlook valid June 1, 2009 - September 30, 2009. Chances of Devils and Stump Lakes rising above the given lake levels.

	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%
Creel Bay	1450.8	1450.9	1450.9	1451.0	1451.0	1451.0	1451.1	1451.2	1451.5
Stump Lake	1450.8	1450.9	1450.9	1451.0	1451.0	1451.0	1451.1	1451.2	1451.5

▪ June 26-27 Severe Weather:

The Grand Forks Office of the National Weather Service (NWS) issued flood advisories and warnings for river systems throughout North Dakota after a storm system moved through the state.

- 10:07 p.m. CDT Friday, June 26, 2009: NWS reports indicated one to three inches of rain fell Friday in the Edinburg, Hoople, Park River and Fordville areas in eastern North Dakota.
- 10:10 a.m. CDT Saturday, June 27, 2009: A small stream flood advisory was issued after heavy rain fell in southeastern Benson and Ramsey counties on Saturday; approximately two to four inches of rain fell overnight. This flooding was additional to the long-term flooding already occurring in the Devils Lake Basin.
- 7:04 a.m. CDT Saturday, June 27, 2009: The NWS issued a flood warning for urban areas and small streams in Cavalier and Towner counties. Radar estimated from 1.5 to 5 inches of rain across the counties.
- 7:55 a.m. CDT Saturday, June 27, 2009: The Grand Forks NWS issued a flood warning for urban areas and small streams in Nelson and Walsh Counties until noon. Radar estimated 2 to 6 inches of rain over these two counties. Several road closures were

reported in Nelson County. No travel was advised on any secondary roads in Walsh County. Fields were water filled and some rural roads were washed out.

- 8:53 a.m. CDT Saturday, June 27, 2009: The Grand Forks NWS issued a flood warning for small streams in Grand Forks and Traill Counties until noon Sunday due to excessive rain. Ditches were running full with many fields flooded. Grand Forks County Road 19 south of Fordville was under water. Several observers also reported water in basements in Grand Forks County.

The Bismarck Office of the NWS also issued flood advisories and warnings. Data issued on Friday, August 26, is as follows:

- Hettinger County: 1.25 inch hail 2 miles west of Regent with a 10-minute duration; heavy rain and 40 to 60 mph in New England.
- Pierce County: 1.25 inches of hail 3 miles north of Martin.
- McLean County: Hail ranged from nearly 1 inch 5 miles south and southeast of Riverdale to 2.75 inches west of Turtle Lake. A tornado touched down for three minutes 10 miles north of Washburn, and another was reported two miles west/southwest of Mercer. Wind gusts of up to 70 mph were recorded.
- Slope County: Up to 1.4 inches of rain 7 miles west/northwest of New England.
- Morton County: A funnel cloud was reported 15 miles west of Mandan. Up to 60 mph winds were recorded, and one-half inch of rain fell.
- Burleigh County: Wind gusts of up to 52 mph were recorded two miles south of Bismarck and 3.6 inches of rain east of Bismarck.

#### Resource/Assistance Requests

- The State Emergency Operations Center has processed 626 requests for assistance since March 12, 2009.

**Detailed Reports**

*Refer to previous Incident Summaries, as necessary.*

#### **LOCAL**

##### **Cavalier County**

- County officials reported 2.5 to over 5.0 inches of rainfall, causing washed out roads and culverts, water in basements and downed trees – June 29

##### **Emmons County**

- The City of Linton/Emmons County Flood Recovery Task Force will be holding a public meeting for residents impacted by the 2009 flood. It will be held Wednesday, July 1 from 5:00 p.m. CDT to 6:30 p.m. CDT at the Emmons County Auditorium in Linton.

##### **Nelson County**

- Officials reported weekend storms produced two to six inches of rain with the heaviest amounts falling in the northern portion of county. Four and one-half to six inches of rain fell within 45 to 60 minutes in the Whitman and Dahlen areas.

- On June 26, the Nelson County Sheriff issued a no travel advisory for secondary roads due to the heavy rains. The County Road Department barricaded and flagged several roads mainly in the northeastern part of county.
- County Roads (CRs) closed included:
  - North of the city of Dahlen: CR-14 north of CR- 2 to the Walsh County line (culvert out)
  - South of the city of Dahlen: West of the CR-1 and CR-14 intersection (water on road)  
Note: Reopened 6/27/09)
  - 48th Street at the Nash/Dahlen Township line between 125th Ave NE and 126 Ave NE (culvert out)
  - Enterprise Township: Between 111th Ave NE and 112th Ave NE (muddy and soft)
- Roads flagged:
  - CR-5 approximately 5-7 miles north of Petersburg: Three areas flagged due to water on and over road.
  - Enterprise Township: Three areas with water on road between 108th Ave NE and 111th Ave NE have been flagged.

### Ramsey County

- The county highway department reported numerous township road closures due to heavy rains this past weekend. – June 29
- Four homes in the city of Crary have been isolated by flood waters. City officials have requested FEMA inspectors to conduct a second assessment based on the recent damages. – June 29
- The county emergency manager has received several reports of severe erosion along the Devils Lake shoreline due to high wind causing wave action. – June 29
- The Mayor of Churches Ferry is requesting U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) technical assistance for protection of the city sewer system due to rising lake levels on Devils Lake. – June 29

### Walsh County

- On June 26, severe thunderstorms caused power outages and flash flooding across the county. The following is a summary of impacts:
  - Electrical Power: (Power was restored to all communities by noon on June 27)
    - Leaning power lines/poles one mile west of I-29 along County Road 15
    - Power lines down in the city of Minto
    - No power at farmsteads north of Grafton
    - No power in the cities of Auburn, Hoople and Lankin
  - Transportation Infrastructure:
    - Railroad tracks washed out in the city of Lankin
    - Water over road on County Road 12B, six miles south of Park River
    - 15th Street in the city of Grafton flooded
    - County Road 19 between CR-14 and ND-32 closed due to flooding
    - County Road 14 south of the Walsh/Nelson County line closed due to flooding.
  - Downed trees and large branch debris were reported throughout the county and water was reported running into the American Legion building in Lankin.
- On June 29, the Walsh County Emergency Board (CEB) met to file a USDA Flash Situation Report. Much of the county received 3-4 inches of rain, with the Lankin area reporting up to 7.5 inches. Subsoil is saturated, rivers and dams are full and overland flooding has occurred in many areas of county. Many fields or parts of fields were under water for up to 24 hours and extensive flooding has been reported in low lying pasture and hay areas. Sheet and reel

erosion is common throughout the county along with cumulative gullyng. Areas severely impacted include Lankin, Adams, Minto, Warsaw, and Nash.

- CEB determined approximately one-third of the alfalfa crop was cut and is a 100 percent loss, 50 percent loss of hay, and 20 percent loss of pasture. Hay that was cut is lost; bales are in water; and water is knee deep in some pastures. All low lying hay areas are inundated.
- Assessments of crop damage have not yet been completed. Many fields were completely or partially inundated. It is suspected wheat and corn will survive but edible beans and sugar beets are questionable.
- City of Minto officials reported minor flooding in the City Park. – June 30
- City of Grafton officials reported severe flooding in the park, which inundated the pool and pool house. – June 30
- The communities of Park River and Lankin have reported additional road damage due to the recent storm. – June 30
- A barn on a farmstead in 32 Oakwood Township was reported downed along with several uprooted trees; a trailer was moved due to high winds.– June 30

#### Ward County

- The city of Sawyer requested assistance from the USACE with levee removal. – June 23

### **STATE**

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

- NDDoH approved a request from the North Dakota State Water Commission (SWC) to rescind the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) Permit for the Devils Lake outlet, which will allow the SWC to increase releases as necessary. – June 26

#### N.D. Division of Homeland Security (NDHLS)

- State Hazard Mitigation staff has been working with cities throughout North Dakota concerning outreach activity, acquisition information, and multi-hazard mitigation plan development and updates.
- Community acquisition workshops will be held the week of July 12.
- SEOC continues operations in support of flood response and recovery operations across the state in coordination with local, state and federal agencies.

### **FEDERAL**

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Residents may register for assistance by calling FEMA toll-free at **1-800-621-FEMA (3362)** or **TTY 1-800-462-7585** for the speech- or hearing-impaired. The registration line is open daily from 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. CDT until further notice. Registration may be completed online at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov).
- Homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes may also be eligible for Small Business Administration (SBA) low-interest disaster loans. For more information, call SBA at **1-800-659-2955**, or **TTY (1-800-877-8339)**, e-mail [disaster\\_customerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disaster_customerservice@sba.gov), or visit the Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance>.
- **FEMA Cumulative Individual Assistance Registrations: 6,410 – June 30**
  - **Small Business Administration (SBA) Approvals: 318**
  - **Disaster Unemployment Assistance Claims received: 1,717**
  - **Eligible Requests for Public Assistance: 365**
- **Dollar Amounts Approved: - June 30**
  - **Individual and Household Program: \$6,853,819**

- Disaster Unemployment Assistance: \$583,827
- SBA Applications: \$10,880,500
- Public Assistance Obligated: \$9,318,804

## **VOLUNTARY AGENCIES**

### **Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)**

- Resources Agencies Flood Team (RAFT) is a cooperative effort to find resources to assist in recovery for individuals with unmet needs. A request form can be downloaded from the Lutheran Disaster Response website at [www.ldrnd.org](http://www.ldrnd.org). RAFT Team members are:
  - Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota & Minnesota /Lutheran Disaster Response
  - Thrivent Financial
  - Northern Plains Conference UCC
  - Seventh Day Adventist
  - Catholic Charities North Dakota /Catholic Charities USA-Disaster Response Office
  - Dakotas Conference United Methodist Disaster Response
  - American Red Cross
  - The Salvation Army
  - Presbytery of the Northern Plains (PCUSA)
  - United Way in various communities
- Lutheran Disaster Response ND is working collaboratively with Hands Across North Dakota partners to help producers repair or replace fences or remove debris from pastures and tillable fields. Volunteers are asked to call 1-800-366-9841 or email [LDRvolunteer@lssnd.org](mailto:LDRvolunteer@lssnd.org) to register. Producers who need help with debris cleanup or fencing may call 1-800-950-2901 or email [SWillgohs@lssnd.org](mailto:SWillgohs@lssnd.org) to register.

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

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