

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 27, 2011

Contact: State Joint Information Center
515-725-3231 or HSEMDPIO@iowa.gov
Contact: Governor's Office
515-725-3518

Missouri River Flooding – State Joint Information Center Update

DES MOINES – This update is provided by the Joint Information Center at the State Emergency Operations Center.

NOTE TO MEDIA: The Joint Information Center Media Briefing Conference Call will be conducted on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday this week.

Next call is scheduled for June 27, at 3:30 p.m.

Conference Call Dial-In Number – 1-800-645-8878

Conference Code: 003252

Note: Same conference call information to be used on each call

NEW - Gov. Branstad, Gen. Derek Hill, Congressman Steve King to tour flood-affected areas along the Missouri River on Monday

Gov. Terry E. Branstad will join Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Gen. Derek Hill and Congressman Steve King on **Monday, June 27, 2011**, in traveling via Black Hawk helicopter for an aerial tour of the flood-affected areas along the Missouri River.

The trio will visit with local officials and hold press conferences in Sioux City and Council Bluffs regarding flood damage and prevention efforts along the Missouri River. They will then conduct an aerial surveillance of the flood-affected areas while traveling from Sioux City to Council Bluffs.

Read the press release at:

<http://www.governor.iowa.gov/>

http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/news_room/press_releases.html

NEW - Residents with special needs encouraged to plan

Residents in potential flood areas who have special needs should contact local officials to request assistance information. However, residents with special needs should also make sure they have a plan in place in case they are asked to leave their home. Considerations for those with special needs include medications, medical equipment, assistive technology, accessible housing and transportation. For more information, residents with special needs may visit <http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/disabled.html>.

Residents Impacted by Missouri River Flooding Urged to Report Damages

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division is asking residents and businesses to begin estimating the amount of flood damage to their property. Damage information may be used to assist in the preparation of a request for federal disaster aid.

Read the press release at:

<http://www.governor.iowa.gov/>

http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/news_room/press_releases.html

Presidential Disaster Declaration Request

On June 18, Governor Branstad requested from President Obama a Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance for six Iowa counties. The six counties in the request are Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury.

The Governor made the request in response to the ongoing flooding along the Missouri River in Iowa. Local and state agencies have been actively preparing for and responding to flooding conditions along the Missouri River since May 25, 2011.

Status: Request has been processed by the FEMA Region VII office in Kansas City and sent to FEMA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Read the press release at:

<http://www.governor.iowa.gov/>

http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/news_room/press_releases.html

State Response Summary

- **HSEMD**
 - The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division (HSEMD) continues to work closely with personnel from various local, state, federal, voluntary and faith-based organizations as well as private partners in response to flooding along the Missouri River in western Iowa. The State Emergency Operations Center will be staffed as warranted to provide response to declared counties.
 - HSEMD has requested technical assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers for all counties along the Missouri River from Woodbury County south.

- **DPH**
 - **NEW** - DPH is continuing to conduct vector control/mosquito tracking.
 - **Flood-Related Health Information**

The Iowa Department of Public Health has issued new information on the health-related dangers of flood waters, the emotional toll flooding can have, and healthy habits that are critical during stressful times. See this and other flood-related health information at: www.idph.state.ia.us/EmergencyResponse/Flooding.aspx.

- **Iowa Finance Authority (IFA)**
 - IFA has developed a rental housing resource guide for individuals who are seeking long term housing due to flooding. Access the guide at: www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/disasters/disaster2011.html and select “Housing Resources.”

- **IDALS**
 - **NEW** - The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship will be sending several members of the Veterinary Rapid Response Team to assist in Minot, North Dakota.
 - The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is working with the Office of Energy Independence to track pipelines and fuel quality.

- **DHS**
 - **NEW** - The Department of Human Services (DHS) Disaster Behavioral Health Response Team (DBHRT) continues to distribute information to households in Pottawattamie County, including evacuation planning and counseling resources. Karen Hyatt, emergency mental health specialist with DHS, said the DBHRT provides resources to help residents who may be feeling anxious and overwhelmed. For additional information on resources provided by the DBHRT, visit <http://www.iowadbhrt.org/>.
 - AmeriCorps is assisting the Disaster Behavioral Health Response Teams (DBHRT) continue distributing information in affected counties.

- **Iowa National Guard**
 - The Iowa National Guard is providing levee patrol support in Fremont, Mills, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties. AmeriCorps will be assisting on the mission in Fremont County.
 - The Iowa National Guard is assisting county emergency management coordinators with critical infrastructure and other issues, and providing expertise regarding Iowa National Guard assets and capabilities to HSEMD.

- **DOT**
 - The Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) is deploying flood mitigation strategies for Interstate 29 and U.S. Highway 30 near Missouri Valley.
 - The Iowa Department of Transportation has made numerous road closures. For complete information on road closures, visit www.iowadot.gov/floods/index.html or www.511ia.org, or call 5-1-1 or 1-800-288-1047.
 - Call center established for road closures: 1-866-452-851

- **DNR**

- DNR is providing technical assistance to waste water facilities, water supplies, industry, fuel stations, etc.
- **DOC**
 - The Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) has crews sandbagging in Mills County. Crews are ready to assist in other communities as requested.
- **DPS**
 - The Department continues to provide flight imagery of the affected counties.
 - The Department of Public Safety continues to monitor roads, road closures and other public safety issues including assisting local law enforcement with security.
- **DIA**
 - **NEW** - Working with North Dakota on potential evacuations of managed health care facilities in Minot. Facility is not directly impacted by flood but could move residents if loss of water and sewer is experienced.

EVACUATION SUMMARY

| County | Location | Population |
|---------------|---|------------------------------|
| Woodbury | | |
| Monona | 17 Homes | 39 |
| Harrison | Modale | 200-300 voluntary evacuation |
| Pottawattamie | 143 homes in the county | unknown |
| Mills | June 23-mandatory evacuation notice issued for residences/businesses south of Gaston Ave. and west of I-29. | unknown |
| Fremont | Mandatory evacuation in effect in the South Hamburg area – between Hamburg and the Missouri River (south end of City of Hamburg) June 22-Fremont County issued evacuation orders for all areas of the county west of I-29 from the north county line to the south county line. | 300+ unknown |

SHELTER SUMMARY – IOWA SHELTERS

| County | Location | Population |
|---------------|--|------------|
| Woodbury | West Middle School, Sioux City, IA 3301 W. 19th St., Sioux City (Standby Status) | 0 |
| Monona | West Monona High School, Onawa, IA 1314 15th St., Onawa | 0 |
| Harrison | Missouri Valley, Missouri Valley High School 605 E. Lincoln Highway, Missouri Valley | 3 |
| Pottawattamie | Assembly Of God 3320 Harry Landgdon Blvd, Council Bluffs | 0 |
| | Lakin Human Services Campus 915 North 16th St., Council Bluffs | 0 |
| Mills | East Mills High School, Malvern Iowa | 0 |
| Fremont | Sidney High School, Sidney, IA 2754 Knox Rd., Sidney | 0 |

County updates

- **Woodbury**
 - Ongoing monitoring is occurring as increased release from Gavins Point reaches Sioux City.
 - <http://www.woodburyiowa.com/>
- **Monona**
 - **NEW:** The Army Corps of Engineers was requested to provide technical assistance to officials in Onawa concerning construction of protective structure around the water treatment plant.
 - <http://www.mononacountypublichealth.org/>
- **Harrison**
 - Five-thousand sandbags are being used in Pisgah to protect their lift station and water treatment plant.
 - <http://www.harrisoncountya.org/>
- **Pottawattamie**

- The Iowa Mutual Aid Compact was utilized to obtain additional pumps from the City of Davenport in Scott County. Read more about the Iowa Mutual Aid Compact at http://iowahomelandsecurity.org/programs/emac_imac.html.
- The City of Council Bluffs issued an Alert Level One late June 22, urging citizens to make preparations to leave the area should the need arise.
- <http://www.pottcounty.com/departments-services/emergency-management/flooding.php>
- **Mills**
 - **NEW** - County has requested direct assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers for a levee structure in the southern portion of the county.
 - Mills County issued a mandatory evacuation order on June 23 for citizens living west of I-29 from Gaston Ave. south to the Fremont County line. County officials said there is no imminent threat to the levee system, however, rural roads that would have to be used in an evacuation in the area are becoming impassable due to the rise in groundwater.
 - <http://www.millscoia.us/flood2011.htm>
- **Fremont**
 - On June 22 Fremont County issued evacuation orders for all areas of the county west of Interstate 29 from the north county line to the south county line. The evacuation order was the result of deteriorating levees and additional expected releases from Gavins Point. The Shelter at Sidney High School remains open for those displaced.
 - <http://www.co.fremont.ia.us/fremontcoemergencymanagement.htm>
 - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/2011-Fremont-County-IA-Flood-Support/232438310105233>

Donations and Volunteering

- **Donations of items such as clothing, food, furniture, etc, are NOT needed at this time.** Unsolicited donations cause additional staffing and storage problems that local officials do not have the resources to manage.
- **If you want to help, cash is best.** It doesn't need to be sorted, stored or distributed, and cash allows the receiving voluntary agency to direct the donation to the most urgent needs. To donate cash, visit www.aidmatrixnetwork.org/CashDonations/Default2.aspx?ST=Iowa.
- If you wish to make a donation to a local organization, information on these funds can be found on the websites listed in the "County Updates" section of this release.
- Those wishing to volunteer in a disaster-related capacity may sign up to do so at <https://volunteer.truist.com/icovs/volunteer/register/>.

Scams

Iowans along the Missouri River should be aware of the potential for disaster-related scams and

price gouging. For information, visit the Iowa Attorney General's website at:
www.iowaAttorneyGeneral.gov.

For More Information

- For more information, please visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org.
- <https://governor.iowa.gov/news/missouri-river-flooding>.

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