



NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Monitors River Conditions for Potential Flooding

(Lincoln, Neb.) Potential for 2014 flooding is currently being monitored by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and its partner state agencies. As mountain snowpack begins to melt, potential flooding could occur. NEMA is gathering information and aggressively monitoring conditions to identify and ready potential flood response resources, if needed.

“The historic flooding of 2011 caused significant damage to homes, farms, ranches, businesses and infrastructure,” said Gov. Dave Heineman. “After that flooding, I invited Governors from the basin states directly affected by the Missouri River flooding to discuss the impact of flooding. As a result of our meetings, we reached a consensus that flood control must be the highest priority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the operation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System.”

“The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has notified us that the storage capacity in the reservoirs is greater than normal,” said Earl Imler, response and recovery section manager, NEMA. “The upper three reservoirs in the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System remain 5 to 11 feet below target levels according to the Corps. With this additional space available, the Corps advises that flooding like 2011 is unlikely. Localized weather events could increase the chance for flooding, and we will continue to monitor the river and weather conditions.”

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has scheduled six public meetings in the Missouri River Basin to provide information and updates on current Missouri River Basin conditions. For Nebraska residents, the two closest meetings are:

- April 8, 7:00 p.m. (CDT), Lewis and Clark Center, 100 Valmont Drive, Nebraska City
- April 9, 11:00 a.m. (CDT), Capitol Lake Visitor Center, 650 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D.

Gov. Heineman has instructed NEMA to continue to do risk assessments on the potential for flooding and to be ready to respond, if necessary.

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