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Corps Taking Steps to Reduce MO River Basin Flood Risk

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is taking steps to reduce flooding risks in the Missouri River Basin after recording higher than expected water levels at many of its reservoirs.

Corps officials said Monday they expect to hold more water back over the summer, using the storage capacity of reservoirs to limit downstream flooding when possible.

Jody Farhat of the Missouri River Basin Water Management Division says the Corps anticipated drought conditions earlier this year, but shifted its focus after the Midwest and Plains states experienced far more rain than predicted. Some states have seen as much as 10 inches in the last 30 days.

The basin covers parts of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, the Dakotas and all of Nebraska.

Associated Press