

Corps of Engineers says Low Risk for Missouri River Flooding

The Corps of Engineers continues to be optimistic about Missouri River flooding this spring.

Hydrologist Steven Predmore at the river basin forecast center thinks there's more than a fifty percent chance for spring flooding on smaller tributaries but he doesn't think that water will have a major impact on the Missouri River itself. (play audio :15)

Kansas City Corps office spokesman Robin Wankum says several levee repair projects are underway or are in process. (play audio :32)

Meanwhile, northwest Missourians who still see holes in Missouri River levees are hoping the Corps of Engineers is right when it forecasts a limited outlook for significant flooding. Water Management Director Jody Farhat (far-hot) says it would be difficult to see floods this year equal to last year's record event. (play audio :29)

Farhat says the total volume of water stored in the Missouri River Main Stem Reservoir System is currently 56.9-million acre-feet, just 0.1-million acre-feet above the base of the annual flood control pool.

The April 1 run-off forecast above Sioux City is 23.4-million acre-feet or 94-percent of normal.

Farhat says releases from Gavins Point Dam near Yankton will be increased to just under 29-thousand cubic feet per second to support navigation from Sioux City downstream. Peak flows during last summer's flooding maxed out at just over 160-thousand cubic feet per second.

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