

Missouri River expected to rise significantly

(KLZA)-- The forecast for heavy rain over parts of eastern Nebraska and western Iowa has led to the National Weather Service issuing flash flood watches in those areas.

A slow moving cold front is expected to trigger thunderstorms with rainfall amounts of up to five inches expected Monday evening through Wednesday morning. Up to two inches is possible in other parts of the states.

These storms are following heavy rain that occurred over the weekend in much of the same area.

The flood warnings continue along with Missouri River and the flood levels could be increasing another 2 – 5 feet at some gauges along the river.

At Rulo Monday morning the river reading was 22.73 feet with the crest predicted for Saturday afternoon at 24.8 feet. Flood stage is 17 feet at Rulo.

At Brownville Monday the river level was 39.94 feet which is nearly 6 feet above the 34 foot flood stage. The crest is predicted for Saturday afternoon at 44.8 feet which would be the second highest level on record. The record level was on March 16 of this year at 45.73 feet.

At Nebraska City the river level was 21.73 feet Monday morning. Flood stage is 18 feet and the crest is predicted for Friday morning at 24.1 feet.

Downstream at St. Joseph the river level was 23.84 feet Monday. 6.84 feet above flood stage with a crest of 26.4 feet predicted for Sunday morning.

At Atchison, Kansas, the Missouri River level Monday was 25.16 feet with a crest predicted at 28.9 feet Sunday evening. Flood stage at Atchison is 22 feet.

In addition, the National Weather Service has issued a flood warning for the Tarkio River at Fairfax. The Tarkio River is predicted to reach 24.7 feet Wednesday afternoon which is 7.7 feet above flood stage.