

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Des Moines IA
140 PM CST Tue Mar 8 2016

...Changes to River Forecast Services in Central Iowa...

To: Family of Services /FOS/ Subscribers...NOAA Weather Wire Service /NWS/ Subscribers...Emergency Managers...Weather Information Network /EMWIN/ Subscribers...NOAAPORT Subscribers...Other National Weather Service /NWS/ Customers and Partners...NWS Employees

From: Jeffrey Zogg
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Subject: New River Forecast and Flood Warning Services at one Location...Changes to Flood Stages at Three Locations...and Change to Forecast Issuance Stages at One Location

Please note...these changes will take effect at different dates and times. The effective dates and times for each change are mentioned in the below respective section for each change.

...New River Forecast and Flood Warning Services along the Iowa River in Tama County...Effective on May 16th 2016 at 12 pm CDT...

Per coordination with local officials...the NWS will begin providing river forecast and flood warning services for the Iowa River near Tama IA Hwy E49 /Site ID of TMAI4/...effective at the date and time mentioned in the above headline. Forecasts and warnings for TMAI4 will be valid along the reach of the Iowa River extending from the confluence with Timber Creek /near Le Grand/ to the confluence with Salt Creek /near Belle Plaine/.

The NWS will provide river forecasts when the observed or forecast stages go above the Action Stage. In addition...the NWS will issue river Flood Warnings and follow-up river Flood Statements when the observed or forecast stages go above the Flood Stage. Below are the stage thresholds for TMAI4.

- * Action Stage...11 ft.
- * Flood Stage and Minor Flooding...12.5 ft.
- * Moderate Flooding: 13 ft.
- * Major Flooding...14 ft.

The Iowa River near Tama Hwy E49 is a real-time U.S. Geological Survey /USGS/ streamgauge which provides stage and discharge data. This streamgauge has a period of record back to 2011. It is maintained by the USGS Iowa Water Science Center and is funded by cooperatively by the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa as well as by the USGS Water Science Center in Iowa City.

...Changes to Flood Stages at Three Locations...Effective on April 4th 2016 at 12 pm CDT...

Per coordination with local officials...the NWS will change the Flood Stages for the below river forecast points...effective at the date and time mentioned in the above headline.

NWS Des Moines will provide river Flood Warnings when the river is expected to reach or exceed Flood Stage. References to minor... moderate and major flooding are provided in river Flood Warnings. Minor flooding begins at Flood Stage.

The table below shows the new and existing values for the Flood Stages...as well as the change from the existing to new values for the Flood Stages.

...Table of New Values for Flood Stage...

Site ID	Location Name	New Flood Stage	Existing Flood Stage	Change
EDYI4	Des Moines River at Eddyville	63.0 ft	61.0 ft	+2.0 ft
OTMI4	Des Moines River at Ottumwa	11.5 ft	11.0 ft	+0.5 ft
CLVI4	Walnut Creek at Clive I-80/35	9.0 ft	12.0 ft	-3.0 ft

...Changes to Forecast Issuance Stage for the Walnut Creek at Clive I-80/35...Effective on April 4th 2016 at 12 pm CDT...

Per coordination with local officials...the NWS will change the Forecast Issuance Stage for Walnut Creek at Clive I-80/35 /Site ID of CLVI4/...effective at the date and time mentioned in the above headline. This change only affects when the NWS releases river forecasts. River forecasts will be released when either the observed or forecast stage is at or above the Forecast Issuance Stage.

As a result of these changes...the NWS will begin issuing river forecasts at lower stages than what was done before. This lower Forecast Issuance Stage was necessitated by the new lower Flood Stage for the same location...which was mentioned in the previous section.

* Walnut Creek at Clive I-80/35 /CLVI4/...Lower the Forecast Issuance Stage from 10 ft to 8 ft.

...Concluding Remarks...

As with other NWS river forecast points...river forecasts for the above locations will be available on the NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service /AHPS/ Website. In addition...river forecasts for these locations will be updated as needed while the stream remains at or above the Forecast Issuance Stage. At a minimum...the river forecasts will be updated once per day in the morning...when either the observed or forecast stage is at or above the Forecast Issuance Stage.

More information is available on our Website at...
<http://www.weather.gov/desmoines> .

The NWS welcomes public feedback. If you have any questions or comments on this change...please contact...

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