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Service Change Notice

National Weather Service Grand Forks ND

241 PM CDT Wed Aug 16 2023

To: Subscribers:

-Family of Services

-NOAA Weather Wire Service

-Emergency Managers Weather Information Network

Other NWS partners, users, and employees

From: Melinda Beerends

Meteorologist in Charge

National Weather Service Grand Forks, ND

Subject: Changes in Gage Zero and Flood Categories for the River
Gage on the Wild Rice River near Abercrombie (NWS site ID ABRN8;
USGS site ID 05053000)

Effective Sunday, October 1, 2023, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) will change the Gage Zero/Gage Datum Elevation for the river gage near Abercrombie on the Wild Rice River (NWS site ID ABRN8; USGS site ID 05053000) from 908.88 feet above North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88) to 898.88 feet above NAVD88. For this location, Gage Zero is the elevation at which the river stage is zero feet. The gage will remain at the same physical location.

In order to accommodate the Gage Zero/Gage Datum Elevation being decreased by 10.0 feet, river stage values for this location will be increased by 10.0 feet for any given water level compared to data prior to this change. These changes are being incorporated to prevent river stage readings below 0.0 feet during times of low flow.

The changes deployed by the USGS on Sunday, October 1, 2023 will also require a change to NWS flood categories:

1. New action stage will be 17.0 feet above Gage Zero. Previous action stage was 7.0 feet above Gage Zero.
2. New flood stage will be 20.0 feet above Gage Zero. Previous flood stage was 10.0 feet above Gage Zero.
3. New moderate flood stage will be 22.0 feet above Gage Zero. Previous moderate flood stage was 12.0 feet above Gage Zero.
4. New major flood stage will be 28.0 feet above Gage Zero. Previous major flood stage was 18.0 feet above Gage Zero.

Associated impact statements and historical crest information available on the NWS Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) webpage will also be adjusted accordingly (i.e., increased by 10.0 feet).

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

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