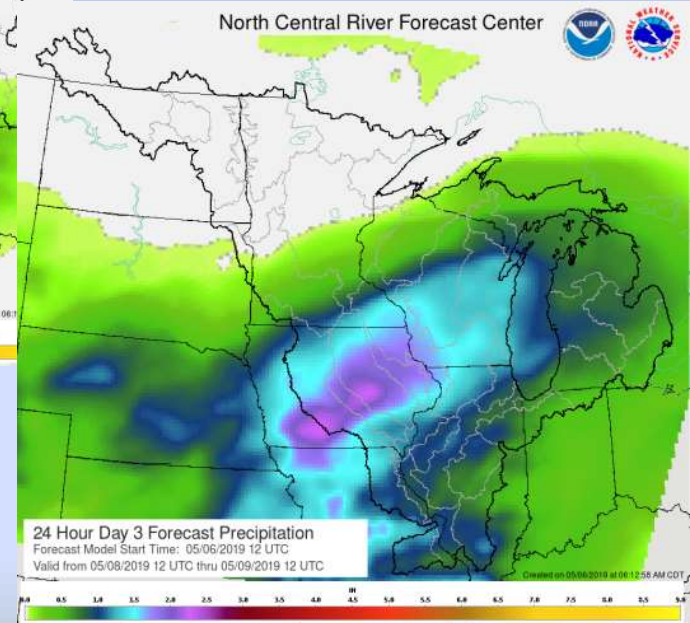
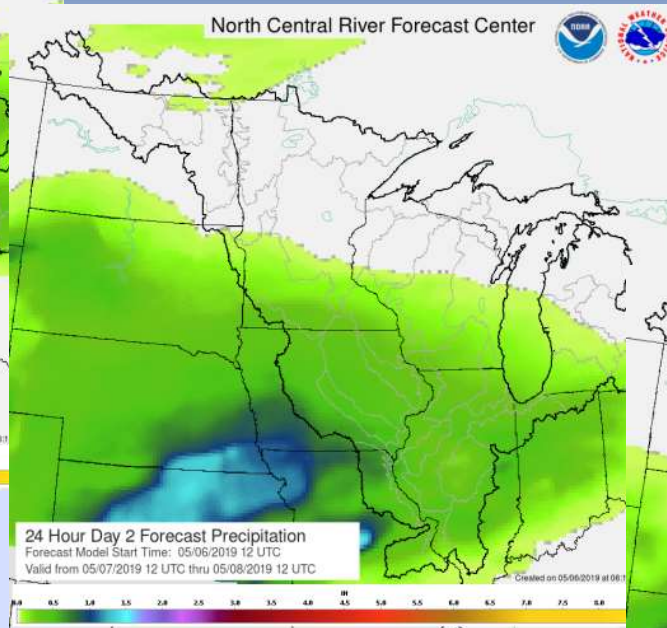
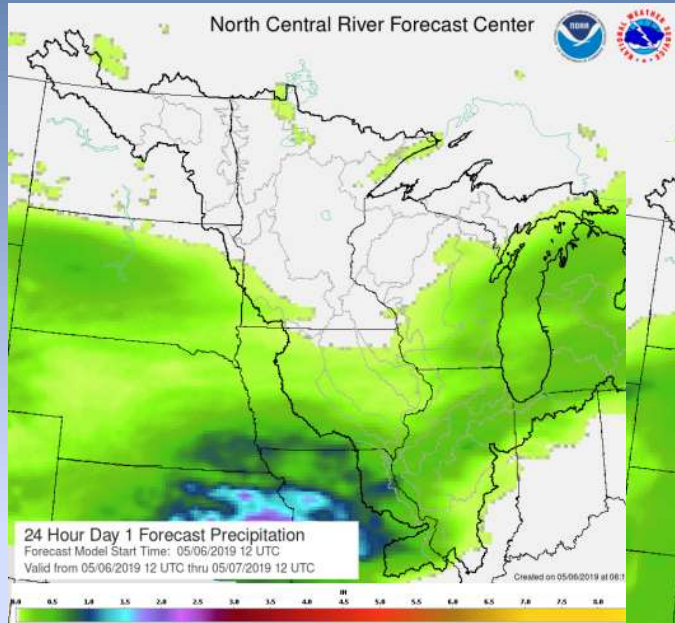




NWS Quad Cities Flood Update

May 6, 2019



National Weather Service

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Main Points

- Almost all rivers are currently experiencing receding river levels.
- Rain is forecast for the next 3 days, decent degree of uncertainty still in the rainfall forecast.
*****Forecast rainfall beyond 24 hours is NOT in the current forecast*****
- New rises are expected for the Mississippi River and many tributaries after the expected rainfall through Thursday.
- Risk of the Mississippi River rising back to previous crest levels has a low probability unless rainfall amounts exceed current forecast rainfall significantly.
- The entire region remains very susceptible to additional river rises with heavy rains.
- The longer the rivers stay at high levels, the more chances there will be for the occurrence of heavy rains and subsequent river rises.





Current River Levels

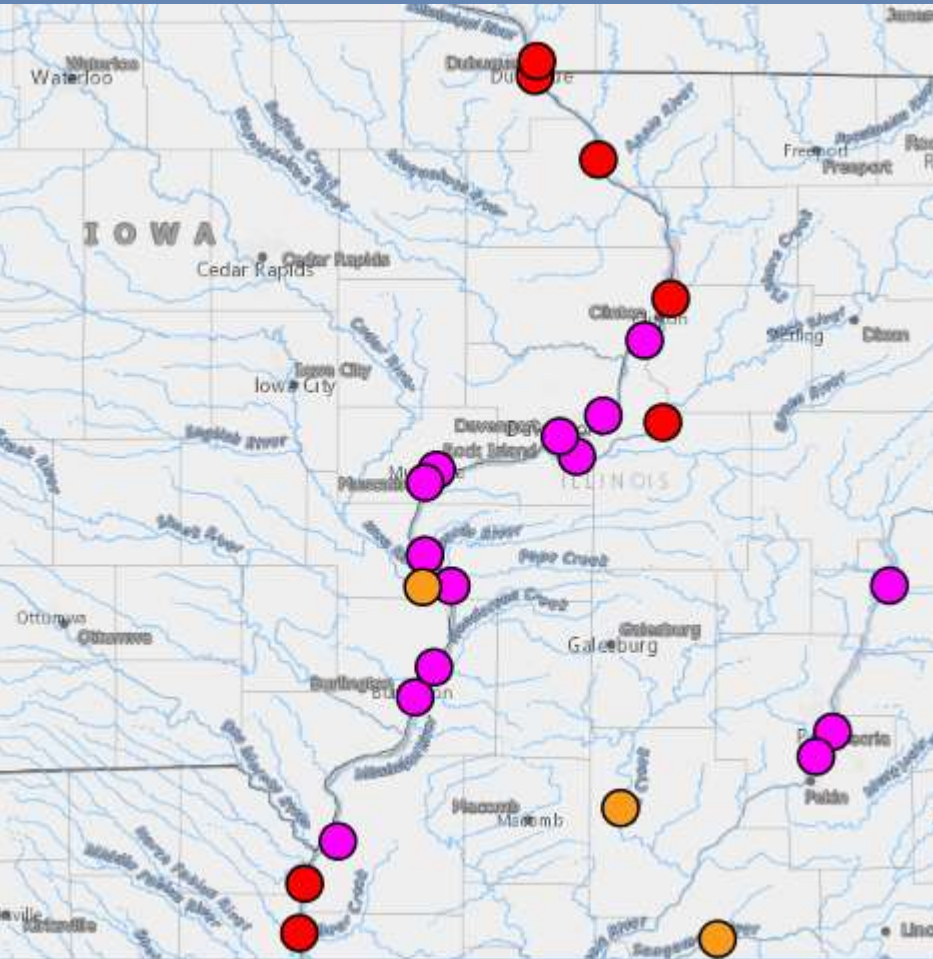
Mississippi River – receding

Tributaries: most are receding

Exceptions:

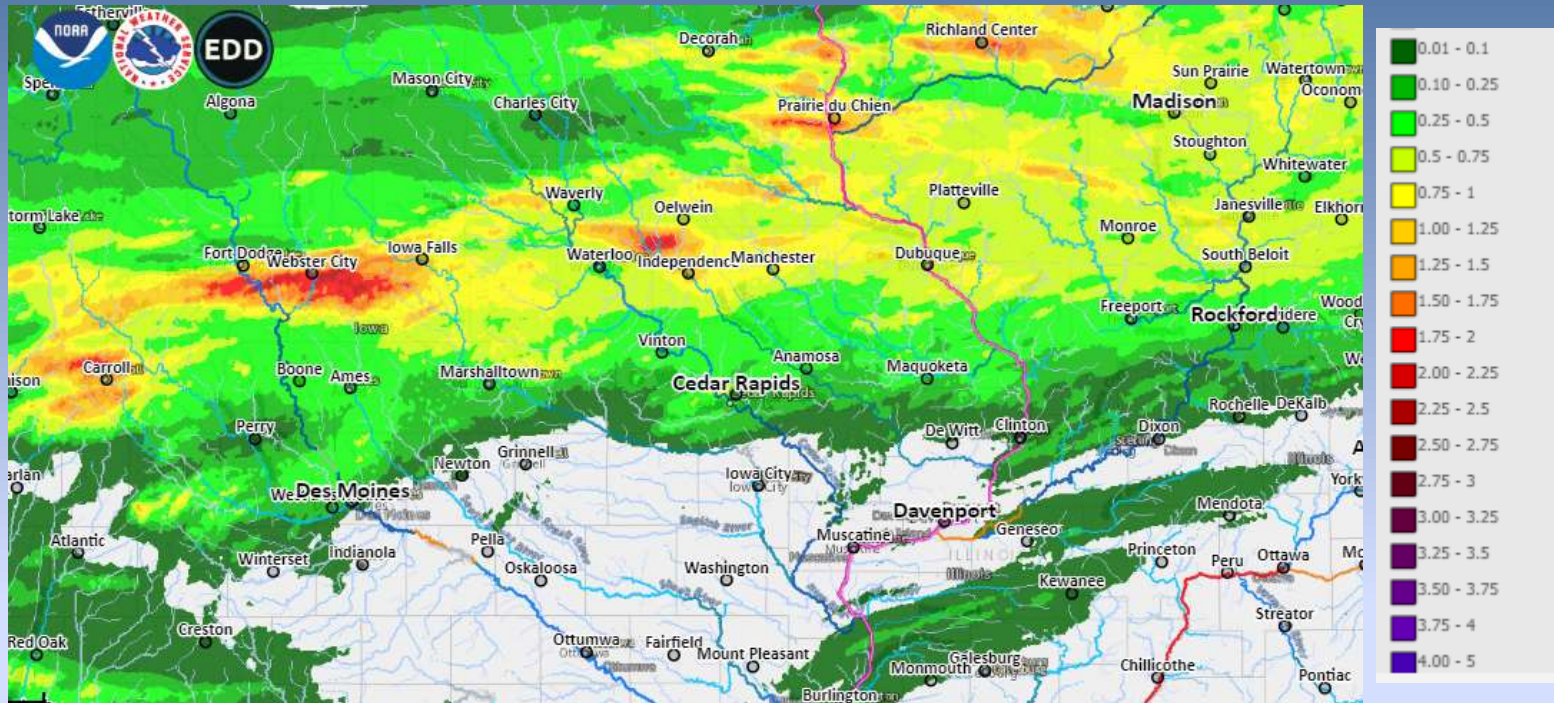
Iowa

- **Wapsipinicon River – rises below flood stage**
- **Iowa River – rises below flood stage**
- **Des Moines River – rise below flood stage**





Observed Rainfall: Past 24 hours



**Rainfall focus: northern Iowa into southern Wisconsin
- Widespread amounts up to 1", isolated around 2"**

- Rises occurring on the Wapsipinicon River.
- Rises expected on parts of the Iowa and Des Moines Rivers. Increased releases from Coralville and Red Rock Reservoirs. No flooding expected with these releases.



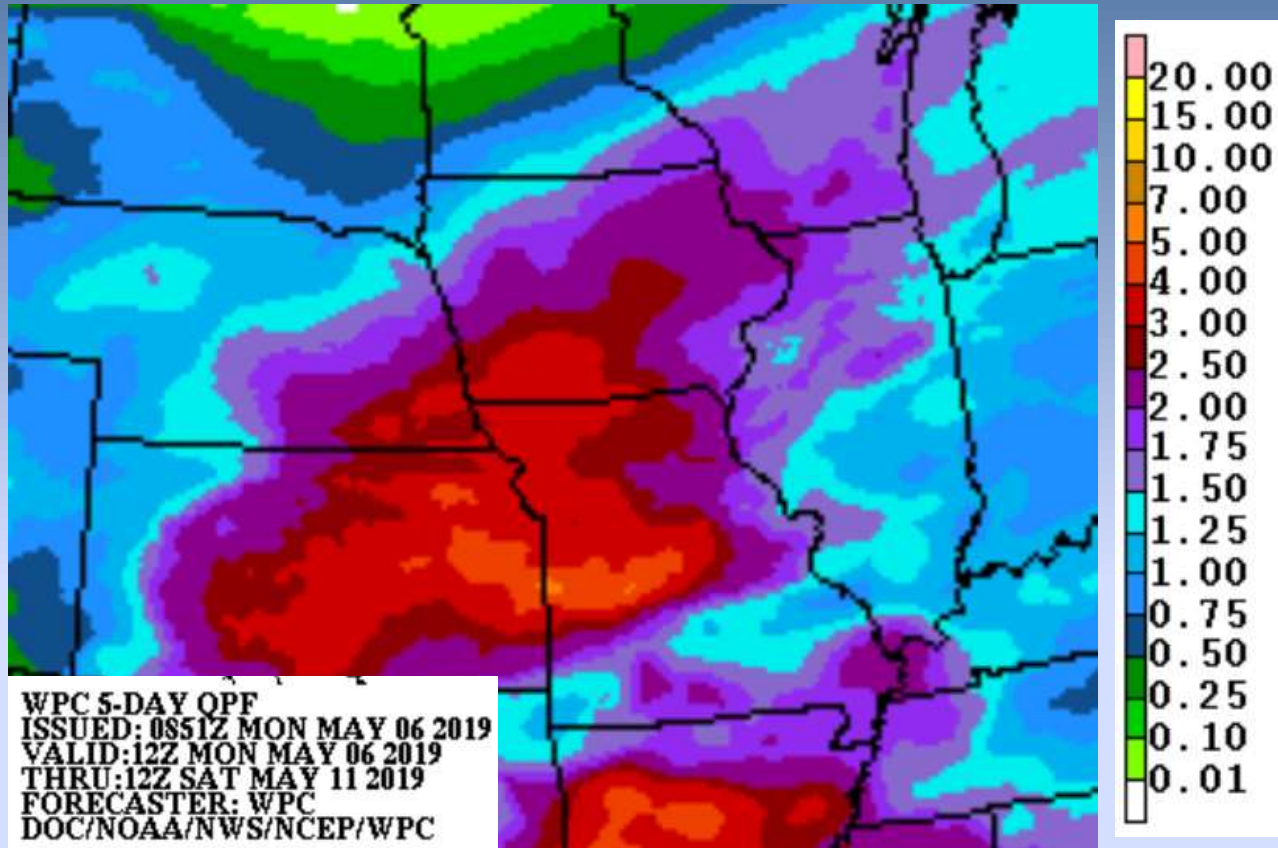
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5-Day Forecast Rainfall

(rain beyond 24 hours not included in today's river forecasts)



Current Total Forecast Rainfall through Thursday:

Widespread 1" to 3"

Considerable Uncertainty remains in the forecast this week.

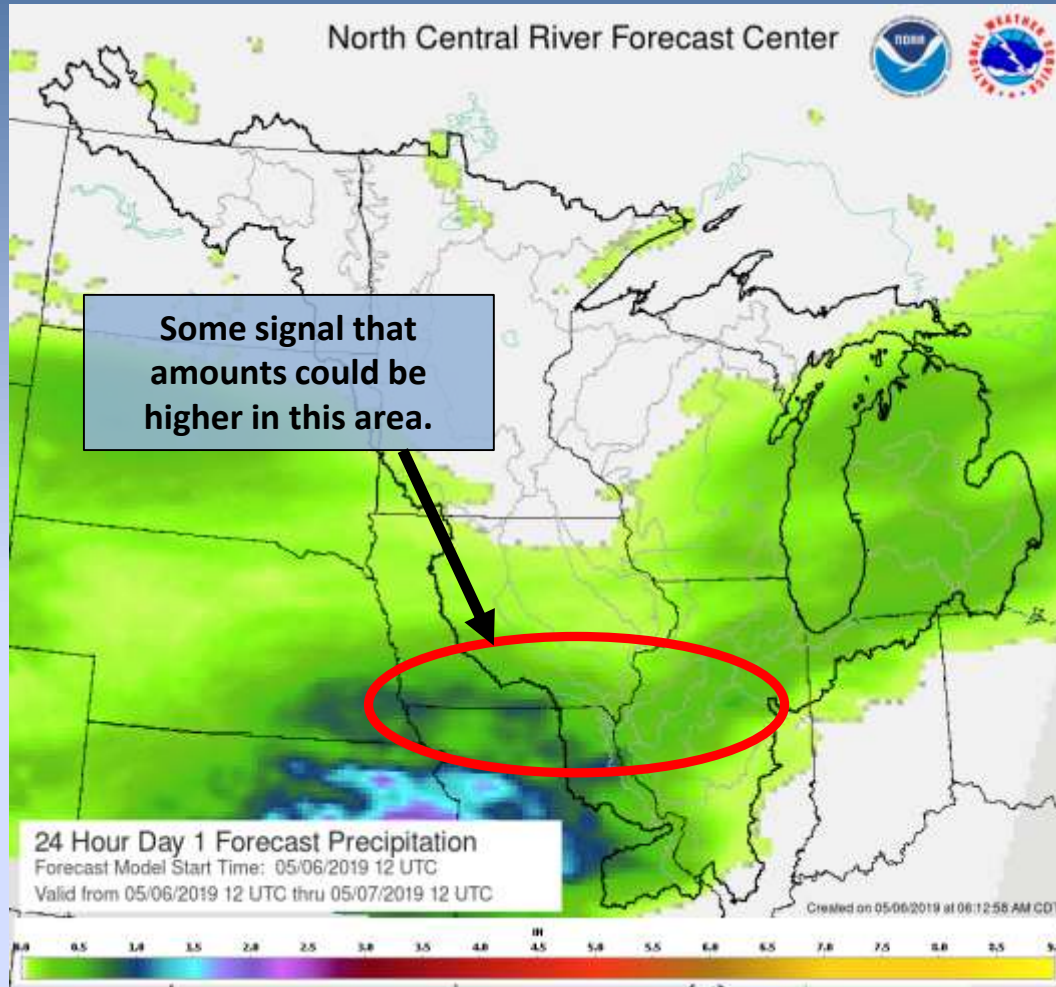


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Day 1 Rainfall Forecast

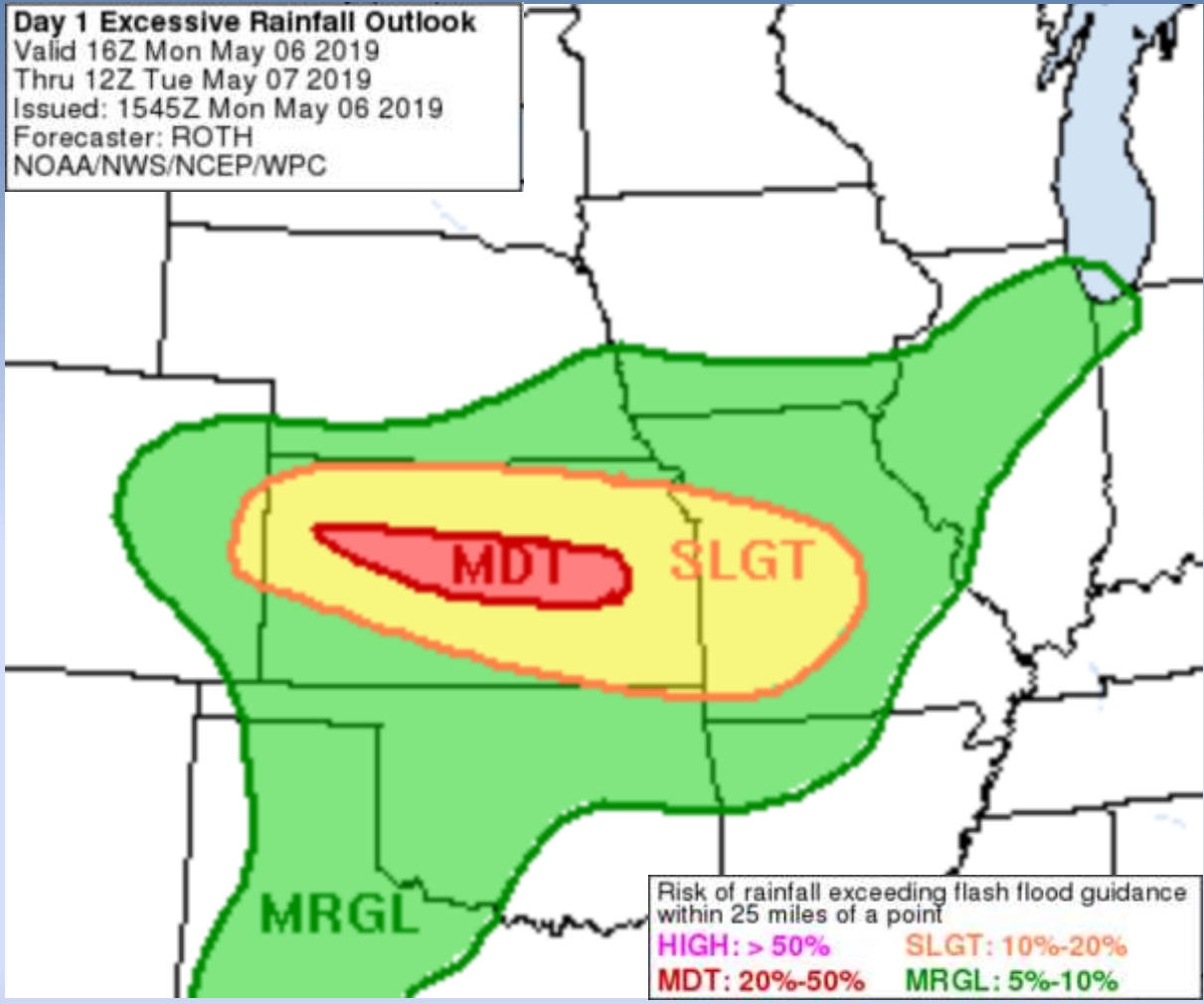


Through 7 am Tuesday





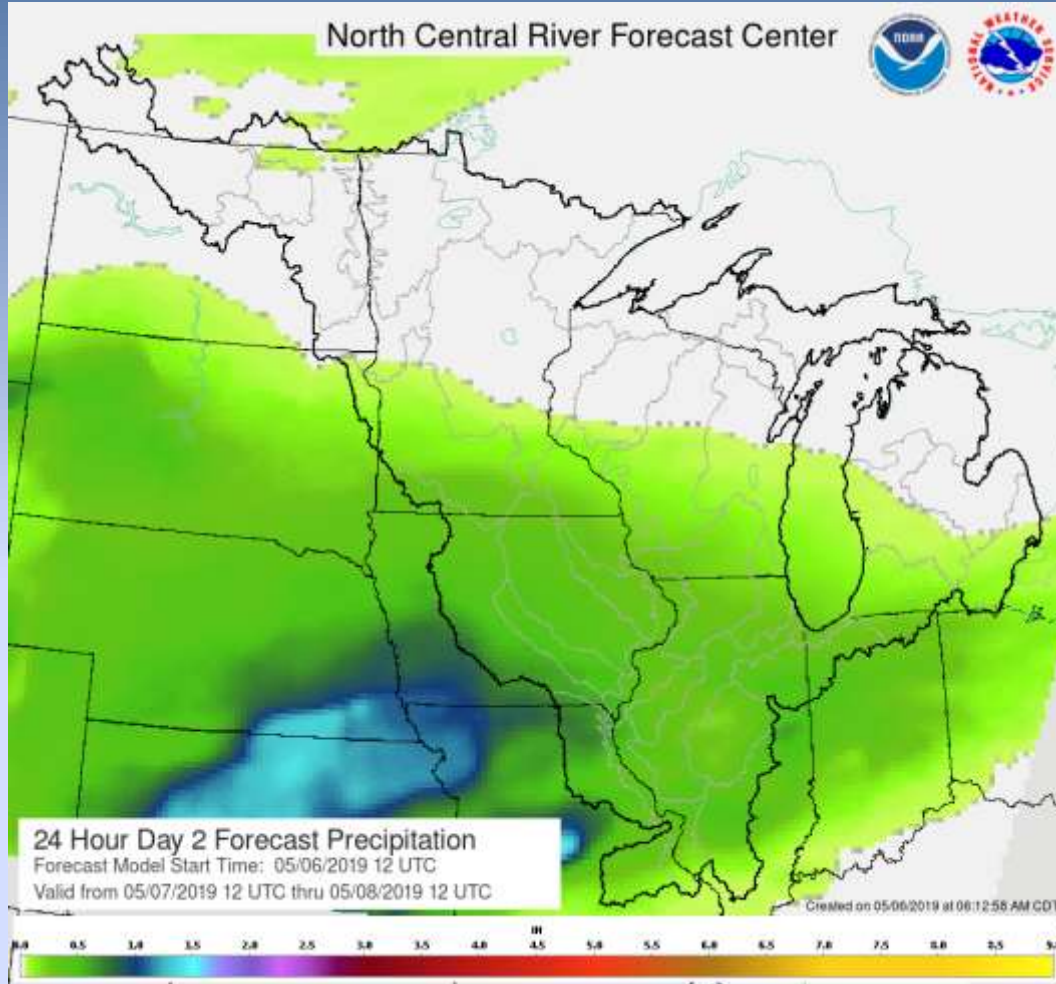
Day 1 Excessive Rainfall Forecast





Day 2 Rainfall Forecast

(not included in today's river forecasts)



7 am Tuesday through 7 am Wednesday

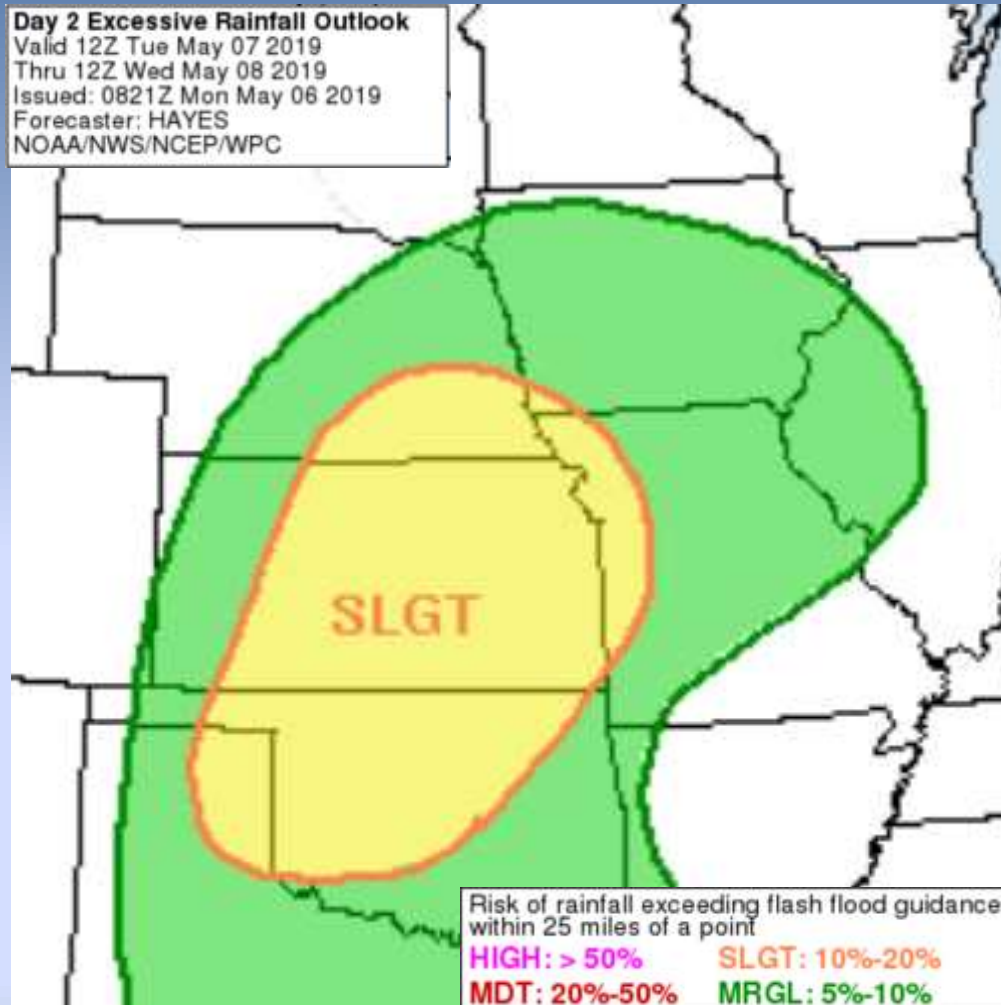


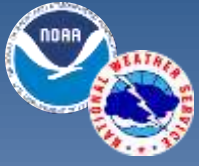
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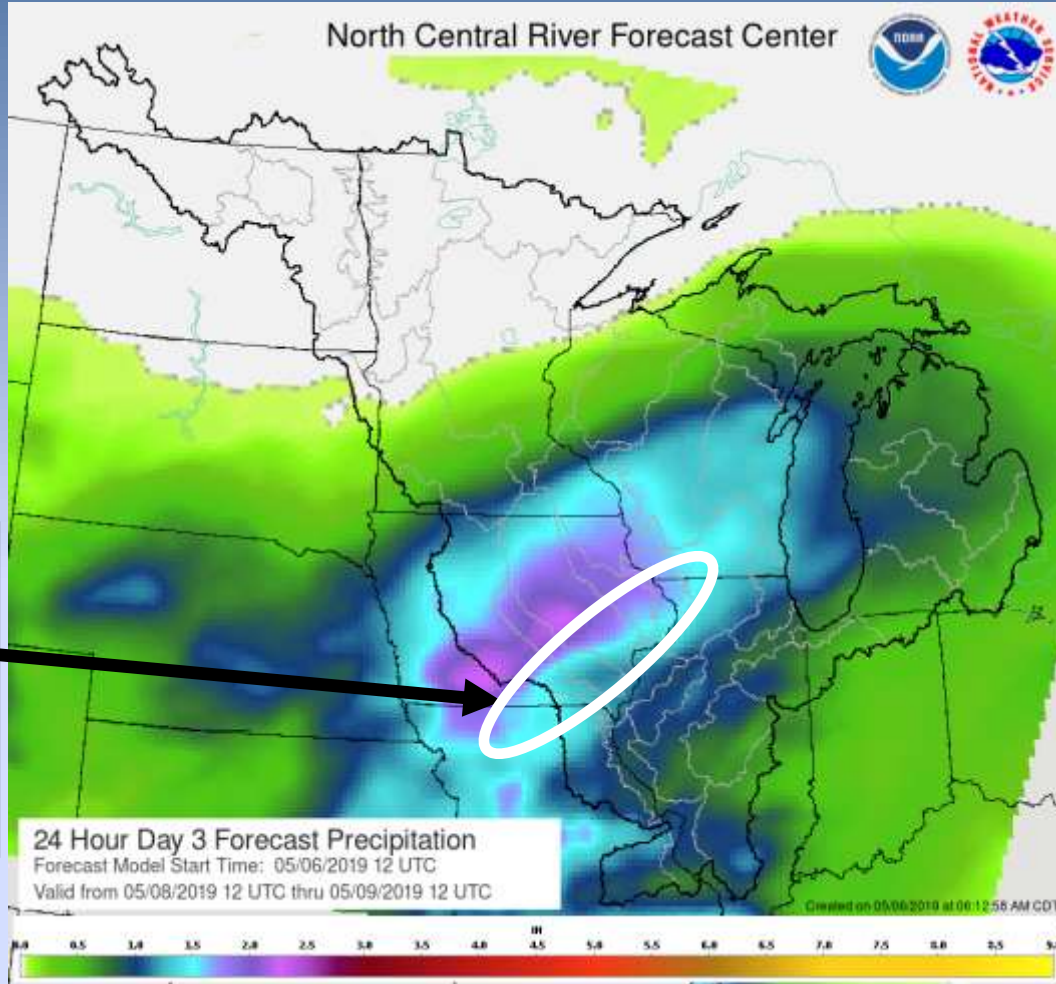
Day 2 Excessive Rainfall Forecast





Day 3 Rainfall Forecast

(not included in today's river forecasts)



There is a potential for this axis to shift eastward.

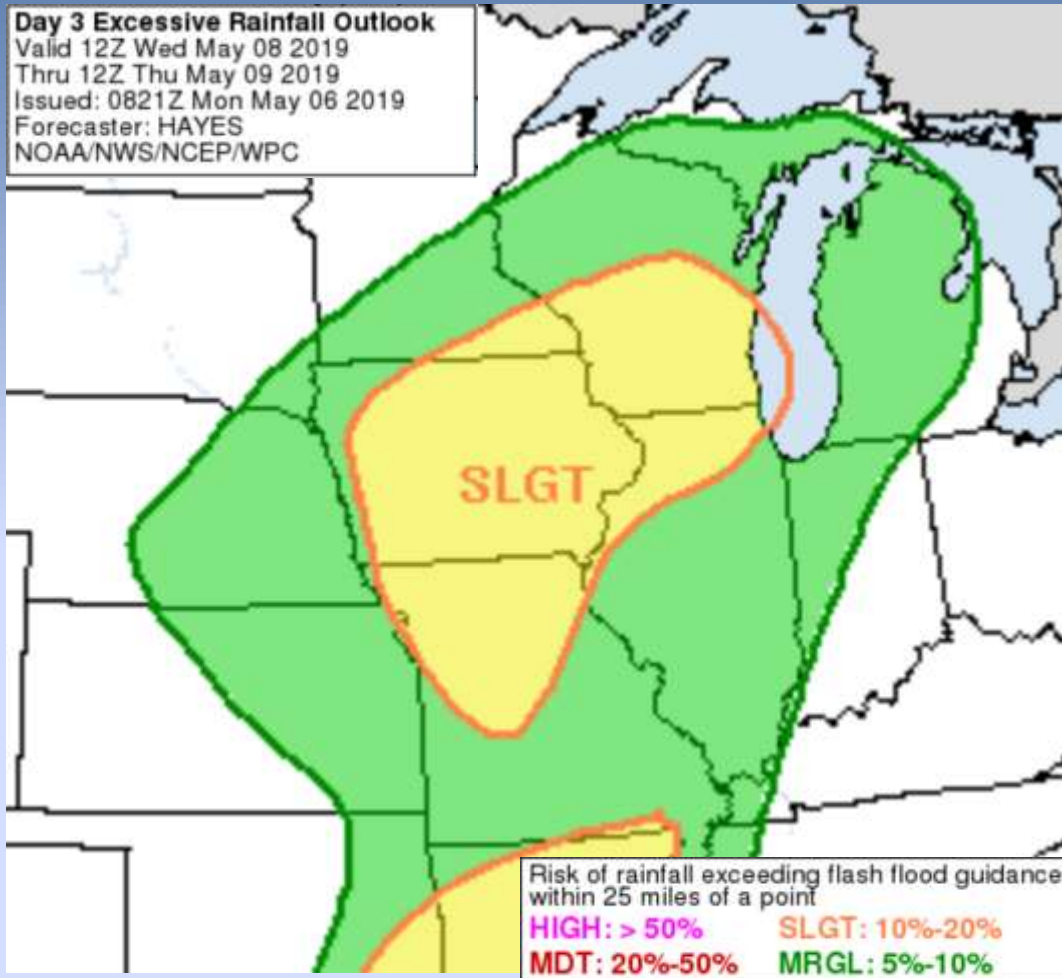
Considerable uncertainty still in this forecast.

7 am Wednesday through 7 am Thursday





Day 3 Excessive Rainfall Outlook





Rainfall Impacts to Mississippi River Levels

- **Current forecast rainfall (widespread 1"-3"):** renewed rises below previous crest levels
 - River levels begin rising again 5/8-5/10
 - Dubuque through Burlington – insignificant new rises (levels staying well below previous peak crests)
 - Keokuk through Gregory Landing – higher re-rise but still below previous crest
- **Higher rainfall amounts and different placement could cause more of a rise, but likely remaining below previous crest levels.**

*****New crest near or above previous crests has a low probability of occurring. This scenario would be supported by consecutive days of widespread moderate to heavy rainfall, or significantly higher rains on Wednesday.***





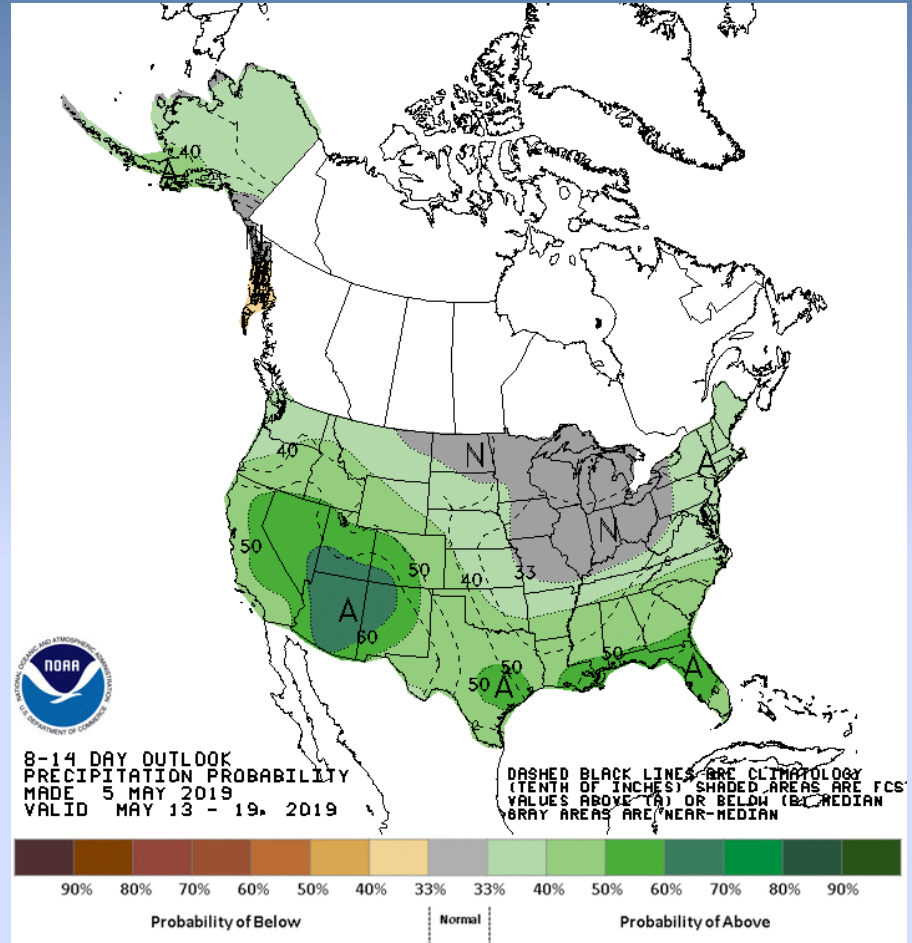
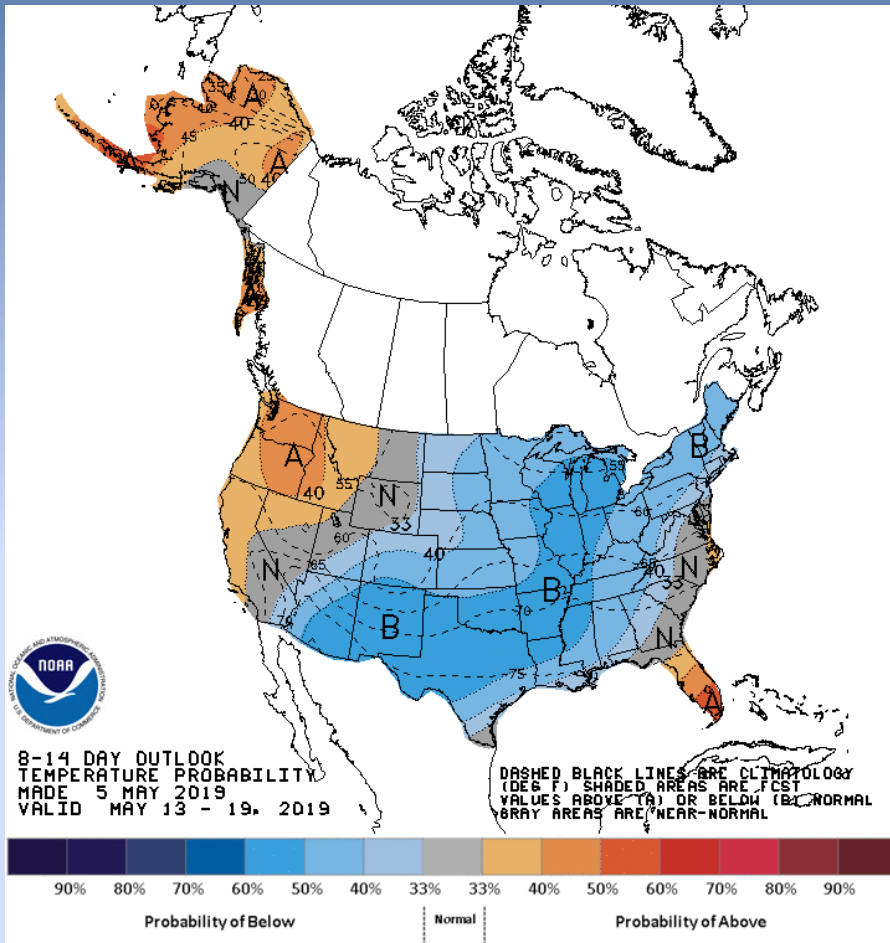
Rainfall Impacts to Tributary River Levels

- **Rises expected on most rivers through the week**
- **New flooding is likely on some rivers**
- **Lower ends of tributary rivers currently being impacted by Mississippi River backwater have highest chances for significant rises.**





Week 2 Outlook



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Bottom Line for the Next Week

- Wet weather expected for the next 3 days
- Continued uncertainty on rainfall amounts and location which is a key to how runoff will impact the river levels (both Mississippi and tributaries)
- At a minimum, on the Mississippi, rainfall will cause the river to level off and delay the recession
- Most likely on the Mississippi, renewed rises will occur, but at lower crest levels than have been observed
- Most likely on the tributaries, rises will occur with new flooding on some rivers
- High river levels will persist through May. Each additional rain will prolong the high levels.





Information Sources

- Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) (observations and forecasts, etc) — water.weather.gov
- Local Quad Cities WFO AHPS — water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=DVN
- North Central River Forecast Center — weather.gov/ncrfc
- National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (snow information) — nohrsc.noaa.gov
- NWS Weather Prediction Center — wpc.ncep.noaa.gov
- NWS Climate Prediction Center — cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Quad Cities WFO Forecast Discussions (technical weather and hydrology discussion)
forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=DVN&issuedby=DVN&product=AFD

Find out more information at: www.weather.gov/dvn/River_Levels

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