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Probabalistic Hydrologic Outlook

National Weather Service Eastern North Dakota/Grand Forks ND

329 PM CDT Mon Sep 25 2017

...RED RIVER BASIN OUTLOOK FOR RIVER FLOOD POTENTIAL...

This outlook covers the Red River of the North  
and its Minnesota and North Dakota tributaries.

Probabilistic Hydrologic Outlooks now use 64 years (1949-2012)  
of past weather...temperature and precipitation...for the  
ensemble predictive hydrographs used in calculating the  
probabilities of exceeding a river level for the valid period  
of the outlook.

Outlook Schedule - The National Weather Service in Grand Forks,  
North Dakota will be providing the Advanced Hydrologic  
Prediction Services (AHPS) Long-Range Probabilistic Hydrologic  
Outlooks for the Red River of the North and its Minnesota and  
North Dakota tributaries according to the following schedule:

- near the end of the month throughout the year, except for...
- The Spring Flood and Water Resources Outlooks that will be  
issued at least twice a month during the spring snow-melt  
season beginning in mid-to-late February or early-March.

The following message has three river data sections...

- The first (Table 1) gives the current and normal/historical  
chances of river locations reaching their Minor...Moderate  
and Major flood category.
- The second (Table 2) gives the current chances of river  
locations rising above the river stages listed.
- The third (Table 3) gives the current chances of river  
locations falling below the river stages listed.

.Red River Long-Range Probabilistic Outlook by Flood Category...  
Valid from October 01, 2017 to December 30, 2017.

In Table 1 below...the current (CS) and historical (HS) or normal  
probabilities of exceeding minor...moderate...and major flood  
stages are listed for the valid time period.

- CS values indicate the probability of reaching a flood category

based on current conditions.

- HS values indicate the probability of reaching a flood category based on historical or normal conditions.
- When the value of CS is more than HS...the probability of exceeding that level is higher than normal. When the value of CS is less than HS...the probability of exceeding that level is lower than normal.

...Table 1--Probabilities for minor...moderate and major flooding  
Valid Period: 10/01/2017 - 12/30/2017

Location	Categorical			: Current and Historical						
	Flood Stages (ft)			: Chances of Exceeding						
	Minor	Mod	Major	: Flood Categories						
				: as s Percentage (%)						
	Minor	Mod	Major	Minor	Moderate	Major				
	CS	HS	CS	HS	CS	HS	CS	HS	CS	
Red River of the North.....										
WHPETON	11.0	13.0	15.0	: 12	8	7	<5	<5	<5	
HICKSON	30.0	34.0	38.0	: 6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
FARGO	18.0	25.0	30.0	: 25	19	10	5	7	<5	
HALSTAD	26.0	32.0	37.5	: 6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
GRAND FORKS	28.0	40.0	46.0	: 12	11	<5	<5	<5	<5	
OSLO	26.0	30.0	36.0	: 13	14	11	8	<5	<5	
DRAYTON	32.0	38.0	42.0	: 6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
PEMBINA	39.0	44.0	49.0	: 8	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
Minnesota Tributaries.....										
SABIN	13.0	15.0	19.0	: 18	8	5	<5	<5	<5	
HAWLEY	8.0	9.0	11.0	: <5	5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
DILWORTH	13.0	20.0	26.0	: 26	17	<5	<5	<5	<5	
TWIN VALLEY	10.0	12.0	14.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
HENDRUM	20.0	28.0	32.0	: 11	9	<5	<5	<5	<5	
SHELLY	14.0	20.0	23.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
CLIMAX	20.0	25.0	30.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
HIGH LANDING	12.0	12.5	13.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
CROOKSTON	15.0	23.0	25.0	: 8	9	<5	<5	<5	<5	
ABOVE WARREN	67.0	71.0	75.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
ALVARADO	106.0	108.0	110.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
HALLOCK	802.0	806.0	810.0	: 14	8	7	<5	<5	<5	
ROSEAU	16.0	18.0	19.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
Note: The Roseau numbers consider the flow thru its diversion										
North Dakota Tributaries.....										
ABERCROMBIE	10.0	12.0	18.0	: 12	8	11	<5	7	<5	
VALLEY CITY	15.0	16.0	17.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
LISBON	15.0	17.0	19.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
KINDRED	16.0	19.0	20.5	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
WEST FARGO DVRSN	18.0	20.0	21.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
HARWOOD	884.0	886.0	891.0	: 6	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
ENDERLIN	9.5	12.0	14.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
MAPLETON	905.0	908.0	910.0	: 8	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
HILLSBORO	10.0	13.0	16.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	
MINTO	6.0	8.0	11.0	: <5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	

GRAFTON	12.0	13.5	14.5	:	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
WALHALLA	11.0	16.0	18.0	:	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
NECHE	18.0	19.0	20.5	:	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5

LEGEND:

CS = Conditional Simulation (Outlook for current conditions)  
 HS = Historical Simulation ( " " normal conditions)  
 ft = feet (above gage zero datum)

.Probabilities for Rising Above Listed River Stages...  
 from 10/01/2017 to 12/30/2017

In Table 2 below...the 95 through 5 percent columns indicate the probability of exceeding the listed stage levels (FT) for the valid time period at the location listed.

Interpretation Aid...The flood stage for Wahpeton on the Red River of the North is 11 feet. There is a 50 percent chance that it will rise above 7.2 feet and only a 10 percent chance that it will rise above 11.7 feet.

...Table 2--Exceedance Probabilities...

Chance of Exceeding Stages  
 at Specific Locations  
 Valid Period: 10/01/2017 - 12/30/2017

LOCATION	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
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Red River of the North.....							
WAHPETON	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2	9.5	11.7	14.0
HICKSON	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.6	18.3	25.5	31.2
FARGO	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.3	18.0	25.0	31.6
HALSTAD	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.8	14.1	21.5	27.0
GRAND FORKS	18.7	18.7	18.8	18.8	20.6	31.6	36.0
OSLO	13.6	13.6	13.7	13.8	18.2	31.6	33.8
DRAYTON	15.9	15.9	16.0	16.2	20.0	29.5	33.1
PEMBINA	19.5	19.5	19.6	19.8	26.0	35.8	41.1
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Minnesota Tribs:	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
-----							
South Fork Buffalo River.....							
SABIN	7.2	7.2	7.2	10.3	12.3	13.8	15.0
Buffalo River.....							
HAWLEY	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.9	6.8	7.6
DILWORTH	6.2	6.2	6.2	8.5	13.3	17.1	20.0
Wild Rice River.....							
TWIN VALLEY	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.3	4.9	6.4	7.3
HENDRUM	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.7	14.3	21.0	25.0
Marsh River.....							
SHELLY	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.3	7.5	9.9	12.5
Sand Hill River.....							
CLIMAX	5.8	5.8	5.8	7.1	10.2	11.8	18.0
Red Lake river.....							

HIGH LANDING	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.8	4.5	6.2
CROOKSTON	6.4	6.4	6.4	7.1	8.8	14.8	17.6
Snake River.....							
ABOVE WARREN	61.0	61.0	61.0	61.7	62.6	63.9	65.2
ALVARADO	97.1	97.1	97.1	97.4	98.9	102.0	104.1
Two Rivers River.....							
HALLOCK	796.4	796.4	796.4	797.1	799.4	804.5	806.5
Roseau River..... considering the flow thru the Roseau diversion							
ROSEAU	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.8	8.6	11.3	12.8
North Dakota Tribs:	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
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Wild Rice River.....							
ABERCROMBIE	1.7	1.7	1.7	3.0	6.2	14.3	19.2
Sheyenne River.....							
VALLEY CITY	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3	6.6	9.1	11.0
LISBON	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	6.1	9.1	10.9
KINDRED	5.3	5.8	6.0	6.0	7.3	11.7	13.9
WEST FARGO DVRSN	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.9	15.6	16.5
HARWOOD	873.2	873.5	874.1	874.1	876.0	879.2	884.4
Maple River.....							
ENDERLIN	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.6	6.2	8.1	9.2
MAPLETON	896.6	896.9	897.6	897.6	899.5	903.4	906.7
Goose River.....							
HILLSBORO	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	3.6	5.3	6.6
Forest River.....							
MINTO	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.1	2.9	4.0
Park River.....							
GRAFTON	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	8.3	9.1	9.7
Pembina River.....							
WALHALLA	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.2	5.2	5.9
NECHE	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	6.2	8.0	9.9

.Probabilities for Falling Below Listed River Stages...  
from 10/01/2017 to 12/30/2017

In Table 3 below...the 95 through 5 percent columns indicate the probability of falling below the listed stage levels (FT) for the valid time period at the location listed.

Interpretation Aid...The flood stage for Wahpeton on the Red River of the North is 11 feet. There is a 50 percent chance that it will fall below 4.2 feet and only a 10 percent chance that it will fall below 4.0 feet.

...Table 3--Non-Exceedance Probabilities...

Chance of Not Exceeding Stages  
at Specific Locations  
Valid Period: 10/01/2017 - 12/30/2017

LOCATION	95%	50%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
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Red River of the North.....							
WAHPETON	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0

HICKSON	11.8	11.1	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.3	10.3
FARGO	15.4	14.8	14.5	14.4	14.2	14.2	14.2
HALSTAD	7.4	5.8	4.7	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.7
GRAND FORKS	17.0	16.4	15.8	15.5	15.4	15.3	15.3
OSLO	9.5	8.3	6.9	6.2	5.6	5.3	5.3
DRAYTON	13.6	13.1	12.0	11.7	11.5	11.5	11.4
PEMBINA	14.9	13.3	9.6	8.2	7.6	7.4	7.4

Minnesota Tribs:	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
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South Fork Buffalo River.....							
SABIN	5.6	5.3	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6
Buffalo River.....							
HAWLEY	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
DILWORTH	4.3	3.8	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8
Wild Rice River.....							
TWIN VALLEY	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
HENDRUM	3.6	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Marsh River.....							
SHELLY	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8
Sand Hill River.....							
CLIMAX	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.9
Red Lake river.....							
HIGH LANDING	1.6	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
CROOKSTON	4.8	4.3	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2
Snake River.....							
ABOVE WARREN	61.0	61.0	60.9	60.8	60.8	60.8	60.8
ALVARADO	96.9	96.8	96.4	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3
Two Rivers River.....							
HALLOCK	794.6	794.3	793.9	793.5	793.4	793.4	793.4
Roseau River..... considering the flow thru the Roseau diversion							
ROSEAU	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.0

North Dakota Tribs:	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Wild Rice River.....							
ABERCROMBIE	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Shyenne River.....							
VALLEY CITY	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1
LISBON	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8
KINDRED	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
WEST FARGO DVRSN	10.2	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8
HARWOOD	869.4	869.1	868.4	867.9	867.7	867.6	867.6
Maple River.....							
ENDERLIN	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
MAPLETON	895.6	895.5	895.2	895.1	895.0	895.0	895.0
Goose River.....							
HILLSBORO	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8
Forest River.....							
MINTO	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Park River.....							
GRAFTON	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3
Pembina River.....							
WALHALLA	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
NECHE	3.3	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3

.THE OUTLOOK PRODUCTION PROCESS...

This long range probabilistic outlook is based on a series of peak river levels or crests taken from the forecast hydrograph results of the NWS Community Hydrologic Prediction System (CHPS). The model is run for multiple scenarios starting at current river, low and soil conditions and using over 60 years of past precipitation and temperature conditions that were experienced for those past years during the time-frame of the outlook period. These crests can then be ranked from lowest to highest, and then be assigned an exceedance probability. For example, For a series of 50 years, the lowest ranked crest has 49 crests above it and since 95 percent of the crests are above it, it is assigned a 95 percent probability of exceedance (POE).

A YouTube video on "How to Interpret River Outlook Products" is at:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSoEgvsnpv4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSoEgvsnpv4)

The probabilities can be used for risk management by using them as an indication of the range of crests that may be expected during the valid period of the outlook.

By providing a range of peak river level probabilities, the NWS is contributing to the area's Decision Support Services that help with long-range flood planning and response readiness. This outlook is a part of NOAA/S National Weather Service's AHPS (Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Services).

This outlook was produced using precipitation and temperatures for the years 1949 through 2012.

.ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES...

The AHPS long-range Probabilistic Hydrologic Outlooks are issued each month typically between the first and second Friday after mid-month. However, spring flood and water resources outlooks are issued several times during the critical spring melt period, usually on Thursdays beginning in late February or early March and ending in early April, depending on the spring flooding conditions.

This outlook is also presented as graphs of the probability of stage exceedance for the full period and for weekly intervals during the period. These graphs, together with explanations that help in interpreting them, are available from the NWS Grand Forks AHPS web page on the internet at:

[www.weather.gov/grandforks](http://www.weather.gov/grandforks) or [weather.gov/fgf](http://weather.gov/fgf)

then click on the "Rivers and Lakes" on the tab above the map.

Current river conditions for all river forecast points in the Red River of the North and Devils/Stump Lake conditions are also

available on our web site, as well as the 7-day forecasts when the river at the forecast point is in or near flood.

If you have any questions, contact the NWS at 701-772-0720.

Also, 7-day deterministic forecasts will be issued at least once a day when the river forecast locations will be at flood during that period.

Probabilistic Hydrologic Outlooks will be issued monthly throughout the rest of the year during the later part of the month or as conditions warrant.

Refer to the separate Devils Lake Probabilistic Hydrologic Outlook for Devils and Stump Lakes probability of exceedance levels and low-water non-exceedance levels.

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