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PROBABILISTIC HYDROLOGIC OUTLOOK
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA/GRAND FORKS ND
1126 AM CST Thu Feb 09 2023

- ... SPRING FLOOD AND WATER RESOURCES OUTLOOK...
- ... RED RIVER BASIN OUTLOOK FOR RIVER FLOOD POTENTIAL...

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

...MINOR TO ISOLATED MODERATE SPRING FLOODING IS EXPECTED ACROSS THE RED RIVER OF THE NORTH BASIN...

- \* This 90-day outlook covers the period from 2/13/2023 to 5/14/2023.
- .OUTLOOK SUMMARY...
- \* Probabilities for exceeding Major, Moderate, Minor Flood Stage...

Major Flooding...

There is a low risk (less than 35 percent chance) of major flooding across the basin.

Moderate Flooding...

There is a high risk (greater than 65 percent chance) of moderate flooding at Oslo on the Red River.

There is a medium risk (35 to 65 percent chance) of moderate flooding at Fargo/Moorhead and Pembina on the Red River. In North Dakota, there is a medium risk of moderate flooding at Abercrombie on the Wild Rice River.

There is a low risk (less than 35 percent chance) of moderate flooding elsewhere across the basin.

Minor Flooding...

There is a high risk (greater than 65 percent chance) of minor flooding at Wahpeton, Fargo/Moorhead, Grand Forks/East Grand Forks, Oslo, and Pembina on the Red River. In North Dakota, there is a high risk of minor flooding at Enderlin on the Maple River. In Minnesota, there is a high risk of minor flooding at Sabin on the South Branch Buffalo River, Dilworth on the Buffalo River, Hendrum on the Wild Rice River, and Hallock on the Two Rivers River.

There is a medium risk (35 to 65 percent chance) of minor flooding at Halstad and Drayton on the Red River. In North Dakota, there is a medium risk of minor flooding at Abercrombie on the Wild Rice River, Kindred on the Sheyenne River, Mapleton on the Maple River, and Harwood on the Sheyenne River. In Minnesota, there is a medium risk of minor flooding at Crookston on the Red Lake River.

There is a low risk (less than 35 percent) of minor flooding elsewhere across the basin.

#### .OUTLOOK DISCUSSION...

Hydrologic and climate conditions which affect each of the several factors that significantly determine the timing and magnitude of spring snowmelt flooding within the Red River of the North are discussed below:

### \* FALL PRECIPITATION AND SOIL MOISTURE...

Fall precipitation was below normal across the basin, driest across the lower Sheyenne basin and southern Red River Valley. Soil moisture heading into freeze-up was lower than normal with moderate drought conditions persisting across much of the southern and central portions of the basin with abnormally dry conditions across the north.

#### \* RIVER FLOWS...

Base streamflows are near normal for this time of year.

#### \* FROST DEPTHS...

Early season snow cover has led to a relatively shallow frost layer for this time of year for some of the basin. However, depths are quite variable (deepest across northeastern ND while shallower elsewhere).

# \* SNOWPACK CONDITIONS...

The current snowpack and associated water content is above normal. Since December 1, 2022, snowfall has been running above normal (5-20 inches), highest across the Devils Lake and Sheyenne basins. Associated water content ranges from 1.0 to 5.0 inches.

## \* RIVER ICE...

Lake/river observations indicate ice cover is thinner and less consistent than normal for this time of year, likely due to early snow cover.

- \* FACTORS YET TO BE DETERMINED...
  - Further snowpack growth,
  - Rate of snowmelt/thaw,
  - Heavy rain on snow or frozen ground during thaw or peak flood,
  - Heavy rain on ice-covered rivers causing short-term ice jams.

# \* SHORT TERM WEATHER FORECAST...

Above normal temperatures and dry conditions will continue into early next week before a cooler and more active weather patterns returns through the end of February.

# \* LONG TERM CLIMATE OUTLOOK...

Climate outlooks indicate equal chances for above, below, or normal temperatures and precipitation to end winter and head into spring.

# .NEXT SPRING FLOOD OUTLOOK...

The next 2023 spring flood outlook will be issued on Thursday, February 23, 2023

## .FLOOD OUTLOOK PROBABILITIES TABLES...

The following message has two sections: the first gives the current and normal/historical chances of river locations reaching their minor, moderate, and major flood category. The second gives the current chances of river locations rising above river stages listed.

... Red River Long-Range Probabilistic Outlook by Flood Category...

Valid from February 13, 2023 to May 14, 2023

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 greater 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: 02/13/2023 - 05/14/2023

				:	Chances of Exceeding						
				:	Flood Categories						
				:	as a Percentage (%)						
	Cat	Categorical									
	Flood	Stages	(FT)	:	Minor Moderate			Major			
Location	Minor	Mod	Major	:	CS HS		CS	CS HS		CS HS	
				:							
Red River of the	e North										
WAHPETON	11.0	13.0	15.0	:	66	56	24	28	5	16	
HICKSON	30.0	34.0	38.0	:	21	26	6	13	<5	<5	
FARGO	18.0	25.0	30.0	:	>95	81	45	39	19	26	
HALSTAD	26.0	32.0	37.5	:	46	35	20	21	5	12	
GRAND FORKS	28.0	40.0	46.0	:	82	57	27	30	5	11	
OSLO	26.0	30.0	36.0	:	89	63	78	56	8	18	
DRAYTON	32.0	38.0	42.0	:	62	46	33	32	<5	12	
PEMBINA	39.0	44.0	49.0	:	70	52	47	43	13	22	

Location

: Current and Historical
: Chances of Exceeding
: Flood Categories
: as a Percentage (%)

Categorical
: Flood Stages (FT) : Minor Moderate Major
Minor Mod Major : CS HS CS HS CS HS

: Current and Historical

#### Minnesota Tributaries..... Note: The Roseau numbers consider the flow through its diversion SABIN 13.0 15.0 19.0: 85 57 10 16 <5 <5 9.0 11.0 : 25 38 <5 <5 HAWLEY 8.0 11 23 13.0 20.0 26.0 : 90 66 13 19 DILWORTH <5 <5 26.0 : 90 66 14.0 : 8 17 32.0 : 71 51 23.0 : 13 28 30.0 : 21 23 13.0 : <5 12 23.0 : 48 46 TWIN VALLEY 10.0 12.0 < 5 8 <5 <5 HENDRUM 20.0 28.0 16 19 <5 7 14.0 20.0 <5 20.0 <5 SHELLY 11 6 25.0 CLIMAX 5 12 <5 12.0 <5 HIGH LANDING 12.5 9 <5 7 15.0 20.0 <5 12 24 CROOKSTON 9 67.0 71.0 75.0 : <5 8 <5 <5 <5 <5 ABOVE WARREN 106.0 108.0 110.0 : 6 22 <5 14 <5 <5 ALVARADO 802.0 806.0 810.0 : 68 62 27 39 <5 10 HALLOCK ROSEAU 16.0 18.0 19.0 : <5 21 <5 12 <5 8

: Current and Historical : Chances of Exceeding : Flood Categories : as a Percentage (%) Categorical :
Flood Stages (FT) : Minor Moderate Major Minor Mod Major: CS HS CS HS CS HS ------ ------ : --- --- --- ---North Dakota Tributaries..... 18.0 : 57 40 44 34 9 19 ABERCROMBIE 10.0 12.0 15.0 16.0 17.0 : <5 10 VALLEY CITY < 5 7 < 5 6 15.0 17.0 19.0: 8 11 6 10 LISBON < 5 7 16.0 19.0 20.5 : 38 21 13 11 6 10 KINDRED WEST FARGO DVRSN 18.0 20.0 21.0 : 15 12 7 11 6 10 HARWOOD 84.0 86.0 91.0 : 38 26 30 21 10 10 9.5 12.0 14.0 : 74 26 17 11 <5 <5 ENDERLIN 
 18.0
 21.0
 23.0
 60
 35
 26
 17

 10.0
 13.0
 16.0
 34
 19
 16
 10
 MAPLETON < 5 5 HILLSBORO <5 <5 8.0 11.0 : 12 24 <5 7 16.0 18.0 : 11 21 <5 <5 19.0 20.5 : 19 27 14 25 6.0 MINTO <5 <5 11.0 16.0 18.0 19.0 WALHALLA <5 <5 14 25 10 20 NECHE

# LEGEND:

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

... Red River Long-Range Probabilistic Outlook by River Stage...

Valid from February 13, 2023 to May 14, 2023

LOCATION	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%		
Red River of the North									
WAHPETON	9.7	10.1	10.8	11.7	12.8	14.3	15.0		
HICKSON	17.7	18.7	20.1	24.1	28.4	32.2	34.2		
FARGO	19.2	20.0	21.3	24.8	28.8	33.2	35.1		
HALSTAD	16.3	18.0	21.2	24.8	29.3	35.3	37.7		
GRAND FORKS	24.5	25.4	29.6	34.9	40.5	43.4	46.1		
OSLO	24.2	25.4	30.2	33.5	34.9	35.9	37.1		
DRAYTON	24.1	25.5	29.3	33.9	39.2	40.3	41.5		
PEMBINA	32.3	33.5	38.4	43.4	47.5	49.3	50.7		

Minnesota Tribs:		90%	75% 		25%	10%	05%		
South Fork Buffalo River									
			13.4	13.8	14.4	15.0	15.9		
Buffalo River									
HAWLEY	5.0	5.2	5.9	6.7	8.0	9.2	9.7		
DILWORTH	11.7	13.0	15.0	17.1	18.8	21.3	21.7		
Wild Rice River									
TWIN VALLEY HENDRUM	5.1	5.2	5.9	6.9	8.3	9.7	10.5		
HENDRUM	16.4	17.8	19.4	22.3	25.6	28.4	30.3		
Marsh River									
SHELLY	8.1	8.6	9.5	11.0	12.7	14.7	16.1		
Sand Hill River									
	10.6	11.3	11.8	15.1	17.7	22.1	25.2		
Red Lake River									
HIGH LANDING	5.6	6.0	6.9	8.2	9.4	10.8	11.9		
CROOKSTON	10.0	10.7	12.3	14.8	17.9	21.0	22.1		
Snake River									
	62.3	62.5	62.8	63.5	64.4	65.1	66.4		
ALVARADO	98.0	98.5	62.8 99.0	101.1	103.0	104.8	106.5		
Two Rivers River									
HALLOCK		799.6	800.6	803.8	806.4	808.0	808.7		
Roseau River co									
			8.7						
North Dakota Tribs:	95%	90%	75%	50%	25%	10%	05%		
Wild Rice River									
ABERCROMBIE		6 7	8.2	11 3	15 3	17 7	20 7		
Sheyenne River	0.0	0.7	0.2	11.5	10.0	11.1	20.7		
VALLEY CITY	7 4	g 1	9 2	11 3	12.4	13 4	13.8		
VALLEY CITY LISBON KINDRED	7 2	8 1	9.2 9.1	11 4	13.0	14 4	17 2		
KINDBED	10 4	11 0	12 6	14 9					
KINDRED WEST FARGO DVRSN	11 2	12 1	13 0	15 1	17 1	19.3	21 3		
HARWOOD	77 3	78 0	79.0	82 0	88 3	91 N	91.5		
Manla Pirrar									
ENDERLIN	8 2	8 7	9.4	10 4	11 4	12 6	13 5		
MAPLETON	14 7	15 5	16.7	10.4	21.0	22 1	22.6		
Goose River	11./	10.0	10.7	13.0	21.0	22.1	22.0		
HILLSBORO	1 5	5 1	6.2	8 3	11 5	13 6	1/1 3		
Forest River	7.5	J.1	0.2	0.5	11.5	13.0	14.5		
MINTO	3 4	3 6	3.9	47	5 4	6 2	67		
Pembina River	J.4	J. 0	5.9	<b>1.</b> /	J.4	0.2	0.7		
	Λ δ	5 0	5.6	63	2 2	11 6	12 6		
WALHALLA NECHE	7 6	8 2	9.5	11 6	16 1	20 6	21.0		
MECHE	7.0	0.2	٠. ٥	TT.0	TO.T	20.0	Z I • U		

# .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 levels and soil conditions using 69 years (1949-2018) 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 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

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).

.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 leading up to the 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, along with explanations for interpreting them, are available from the NWS Grand Forks AHPS web page:

www.weather.gov/grandforks or weather.gov/fgf

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

Current river conditions for all river forecast points in the Red River of the North and Devils/Stump Lake basins are also available on our website, as well as 7-day forecasts when river levels at forecast points are in or near flood.

Additional 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.

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

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