Major Flood Levels Forecast for Relevant Sectors of the Missouri River

- Significant regional and local precipitation has led to increasing river levels on the Missouri River. Several locations below Kansas City have risen major flood stage, with an extended crest predicted over the next several days.

- Iowa and Kansas are forecast to continue to receive precipitation with as much as four inches accumulation over the next seven days. Large portions of Missouri are expected to receive as much as 2.5 inches in that same time period. Precipitation totals in southwest Missouri could exceed three inches.

- Due to cumulative precipitation from this wet spring, Missouri River mainstem reservoirs are well into their flood control pools. To manage pool levels at Oahe and Fort Randall dams, the Corps is holding releases from Gavins Point Dam steady at 60,000 CFS, and has indicated they will remain at this level for an extended time.

- Precipitation is also being concentrated across portions of Kansas that drain into the Missouri River, where flood control reservoirs are nearing capacity. The Corps is indicating they will begin to release water from the Perry Lake reservoir. Perry Lake drains into the Kansas River and enters the Missouri River at Kansas City. The Corps has indicated that they will ramp up releases to 10,000 cfs by Monday.

- Thunderstorms and potential severe weather will remain in the forecast for most portions of the state.

- Note that NWS river forecasting is currently only incorporating 24-hour precipitation forecasts. Future precipitation could increase river levels from the forecasts shown below.
Regional River Gage Status
24-hour Observed Precipitation
Three-Day Total Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
Seven-Day Total Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF)
• The Missouri River at Rulo, Nebraska is forecast to remain in moderate flood stage at or above 23 feet until Friday, May 31.
• Moderate flood stage at Rulo is 21.0 feet.
• The Missouri River at St. Joseph has crested in moderate flood stage at 25.06 feet.
• Moderate flood stage at St. Joseph occurs at 21.0 feet, and major flood stage occurs at 27.0 feet.
The Missouri River at Napoleon is forecast to crest in moderate flood stage at 27.6 feet Tuesday, May 28.

Moderate flood stage at Napoleon occurs at 25.0 feet.
The Missouri River near Waverly is forecast to crest in moderate flood stage at 29.9 feet Tuesday, May 28.

Moderate flooding near Waverly occurs at 29.0 feet, and major flooding occurs at 31.0 feet.
The Missouri River at Glasgow is forecast to remain in major flood stage between 35 and 36 feet through Wednesday, May 29.

Major flooding at Glasgow occurs at 32.0 feet.
The Missouri River at Jefferson City has crested in major flood stage at 31.8 feet, and is forecast to remain at or near that level until approximately Thursday, May 30.

- Major flooding at Jefferson City occurs at 30.0 feet.
The Missouri River at Hermann has crested just below major flood stage (32.53 feet) and will remain near this level for the rest of the week.

Moderate flooding at Hermann occurs at 26.0 feet and major flooding occurs at 33.0 feet.
• The Missouri River at St. Charles is forecast to crest in moderate flood stage at 33.91 feet and remain near this level for the rest of the week.
• Moderate flooding at St. Charles occurs at 30.0 feet and major flooding occurs at 36.0 feet.
Resources for Further Information

• Department of Natural Resources Flood Page: https://dnr.mo.gov/flood

• National Weather Service – Mississippi River Flooding: https://www.weather.gov/dvn/MississippiRiverOutlook

• National Weather Service – River Forecasts, Missouri Basin: https://www.weather.gov/dvn/River_Levels#Top

• Missouri Water Resources Center – Mississippi River Informational Page: https://dnr.mo.gov/geology/wrc/interstate-waters/mississippi_river.htm