



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG

Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System

Post-Flood Assessment Efforts Missouri River Flood Task Force

The Corps has established a Missouri River Flood Task Force to provide a temporary forum for coordination, collaboration and cooperation among federal officials and designated officers of state, local and Tribal governments within the states of Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming, Kansas and Missouri. The mission of the task force is to complete initial repairs to levees and critical infrastructure throughout the basin that has been damaged by the flood. The goal is to complete initial repairs by March 1, 2012 and to enact long-term recovery activities to address floodplain management challenges and comprehensive flood risk reduction throughout the basin.



Water Management Technical Review

The Water Management technical review will include both internal and external components. Both reviews are expected to be complete by December 2011.

Internal Technical Review

An internal post flood technical review of system performance during the Flood of 2011 will be conducted to document the chronology of the event, including a review of the operational decision-making process, with an outlook towards improving system operation and performance.

Independent External Peer Review

The Corps has enlisted the assistance of experts in hydrology and reservoir system operations to review, analyze and assess the Corps' operation of the six Mainstem dams along the Missouri River leading up to and during the Flood of 2011.



Flood Fight Review

The Corps is in the process of reviewing its emergency response efforts during the Flood of 2011. The comprehensive review of flood fight activities and operations will be completed to determine the effectiveness of preparation, collaboration, and execution of the response to the flood event. This review is conducted to improve our future operations, to serve as the consolidated historical record of the disaster and to answer stakeholder questions.



Infrastructure Damage Assessment

The infrastructure damage assessment will focus on Corps-owned dams and levees, and those levees eligible for repairs under Public Law 84-99. This assessment will assess damage to infrastructure and analyze the increased risk posed to public safety, economic and environmental resources. It will identify the highest priority repairs holding life safety risk as paramount. The Corps began its full assessment of damages in early October when reservoir releases were reduced to just slightly above typical fall release rates. Releases out of Gavins Point are currently being maintained at 40,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) and are expected to remain steady through early November when they will be drawn down to a winter release rate of 20,000 cfs. The assessments are expected to be complete by early November. At that time, repairs will be prioritized to receive funding. Due to the limited availability of funding, not all projects will see repairs before the 2012 runoff season begins, but the Corps plans to attend to the most critical repairs first.



Basin Impact Assessment

The 2011 flood event has resulted in extensive regional impacts on public and private infrastructure, regional commerce, regional transportation and environmental resources. As a result, some communities in the basin have been displaced. The basin impact assessment will document the economic, social, cultural, and environmental impacts of the flood. The assessment will be useful in helping with the decision-making processes involving floodplain restoration activities.



Repair and Restore

Preparing the System for the 2012 Runoff Season and Beyond

System repair and restoration involves both emergency repairs and long-term restoration of infrastructure.

The Corps continues to evacuate the remainder of floodwaters stored in the reservoir system. The majority of the floodwaters must be evacuated before winter starts so homeowners, farmers, businesses and agencies have adequate time to inspect, assess and begin recovering from the flood. The goal is to evacuate floodwaters and make emergency repairs in time to be ready for the 2012 runoff season, which begins March 1, 2012.



System Review and Recommendations

A comprehensive review of current flood risk management in the basin will identify opportunities for improvement. The review will also make recommendations for operation and policy changes to reduce threats of future flood events to both life and property within the basin.

