

April 26, 2022

Spring Flood Risk Red River

- In the wake of heavy rain and snowmelt this past week, flood mitigation efforts are underway across communities that border the Red River in North Dakota, Minnesota and Manitoba, Canada.
- Unfortunately, the reprieve from wet weather will be short-lived along the Red River basin, creating concerns for long-term flooding issues.
- In 1997, the Red River gauge at Grand Forks rose to a whopping 54.35 feet, setting the all-time record. The expected crest later this week is forecast to climb to around 48 feet, falling 6 feet short of the record.
- Regardless, this expected crest would still land solidly in the top 10 highest crests of all time in Grand Forks.
- "The ongoing flooding across much of the Red River Valley of the North is due to a series of events that unfortunately keep adding up. The heavy rainfall late last week that helped rapidly melt snow from the blizzard earlier this month dumped a large amount of moisture on already saturated soil from the earlier snowmelt from late March and early April," AccuWeather Meteorologist Matt Benz explained.
- "This led to a direct injection of meltwater right into area streams and rivers and is helping to drive up the Red River to near historic levels in places from Grand Forks on north," Benz stated.
- In recent days, communities near the Red River of the North have come together to construct walls of sandbags to protect areas from being flooded.
- On Thursday, AccuWeather meteorologists will be monitoring a budding storm moving out of the Rockies and into the High Plains, which will ultimately produce the threat of heavy rain in the northern Plains late week.
- Places like Fargo and Grand Forks, North Dakota, can experience a bit of light rain on Thursday, however rainfall totals should not be to the magnitude of elevating flooding issues. Similarly, on Friday, light rain is in the forecast, but it will be more of a nuisance than anything else.
- The main slug of moisture is expected to arrive on Saturday along the Red River Valley as the storm shifts northeastward.
- The only bit of good news for residents across the Red River Valley is that the expected zone of heaviest rain could end up being along the western fringes of the river's watershed. Regardless, an additional inch or two of rain is possible between late Friday night through the weekend, which could easily send the river back toward major flood stage once again.



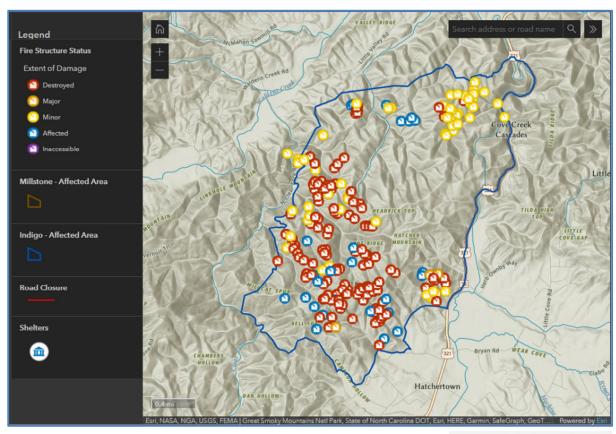


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Wildfire Activity

<u>Tennessee</u> (March 30-31, 2022)

- The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has identified the cause of two Sevier County wildfires that damaged over 200 structures and burned nearly 2,500 acres.
- An investigation by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Crime Unit determined the two fires were started by downed powerlines and exacerbated by high winds.
- Preliminary estimates by the Sevier County Emergency Management Agency puts the total cost of the fire damage to livable structures at \$65 million.
- The Hatcher Mountain/Indigo Lane fire that began on March 30 burned nearly 2,500 acres, impacted 219 structures and forced the evacuation of 11,000 homes before it was fully contained on April 5.
- The Seymour fire, known as the Millstone Gap or Dupont Fire, started on March 31 and was 100 percent contained a week later.



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Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments							
State	Event	Number of Counties for IA		Ctout Fund			
		Requested	Completed	Start-End			
TX	Severe Weather March 21-TBD	15	8	3/28-TBD			
TN	Severe Weather & Wildfires March 30-31	1	0	4/27-TBD			

WSP USA Inspection Services Active Disasters						
Disaster Number and State	Disaster Type	Number of Counties Declared	Days Since Launch	Registration Deadline		
4611 LA	Hurricane	25 Parishes	238	11/29/2021		

WSP USA INSPECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY

