



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps of Engineers continues to monitor river stages

June 29, St. Louis – The St. Louis District is continuing to closely watch as river stages in the St. Louis region crest or begin to slowly fall. The Mississippi River crested at St. Louis slightly over 35 feet yesterday, June 28, and has begun a gradual fall of a few inches a day. The Mississippi River at Grafton, Ill., already crested at 26.8 feet, however, due to high river stages coming out of the Illinois River, very little fall will be experienced in the coming days. The District is continuing to closely coordinate with the National Weather Service and Corps of Engineers Districts upstream on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.

“Although river stages in the region are high, there is no need for immediate alarm,” said Col. Thomas O’Hara, Commander for the St. Louis District. “Local, state and federal authorities have plans in place and are prepared to handle levels currently being forecasted.”

Col. O’Hara added however, that due to the high stages and slow fall of river levels, it wouldn’t take much precipitation upstream to bring river levels back to where they were a day or two ago.

Elsewhere in the District, Corps of Engineers personnel have contacted local drainage and levee districts to find out if they need any flood fighting materials, like sandbags or plastic sheeting or to identify any areas where they need assistance.

Along the Wood River Levee, adjacent to Melvin Price Locks and Dam, additional monitoring and ponding of water will be visible from the berm highway. Since gravity drains in the interim dikes have been closed to prevent Mississippi River water from flowing into the ponding area, pumps have been installed at the dikes to evacuate water that accumulates behind them during any local, interior rain events.

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