



**Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
Division of Homeland Security and  
Emergency Management**



**2014-MN-006: High Precipitation Storms - June 2014**

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**Situation Report**

**Subject:** Situation Report #10

**Reporting Period:** 06/25/2014 12:00 - 06/26/2014 11:59

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*Background / Current Situation*

**Background**

The previous fifteen days have seen significant precipitation fall throughout portions the state. Beginning June 11, a high precipitation weather system crossed the state causing localized flooding due to stream, river and lake rises coupled with saturated soils. Koochiching and Rock counties began reporting flooding, but experienced little infrastructure damage early in the period.

As rains continued, and waters continued to rise, roads and wastewater systems were flooded in larger areas of north-central MN and southwest MN. Storms continued bringing torrential or steady heavy rains to the same areas from June 11 to June 19, affecting the Twin Cities Metro, northwest Minnesota, and southern Minnesota. County, state and federal roadways have been closed, numerous drinking water and wastewater systems have been impacted, power outages impacted over 100,000 people, multiple landslides and mudslides have occurred throughout the state, and other infrastructure damages have also been reported.

More widespread flooding issues for local communities, counties and state agency partners are beginning to arise. Flood warnings remain valid for numerous areas throughout Minnesota.

Severe weather, including heavy rain, occurred this last Sunday to Monday morning in central and southern Minnesota, but rainfall amounts were less than the maximum models. In addition, crop damage occurred from large hail, damaging winds and the heavy rains during this continuing time-frame.

This next weekend is forecast to see high-precipitation weather events and severe weather for much of Minnesota Friday afternoon through Monday morning.

Governor Mark Dayton issued Governor's Executive Order 14-11, "Declaring a State of Peacetime Emergency in the State of Minnesota" declaring a state of emergency in 35 Minnesota counties.

**Current Situation**

- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) remains at Level II: Full Activation. State Agency Briefings are held at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each weekday.

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## **Operations Section Chief**

## *Agency Summary*

On June 16, 2014, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) moved to Activation Level II: Full State Activation in response to the severe storms and continuing high precipitation that has impacted the entire state. SEOC operational hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The incident officially began on June 11th, 2014.

Command and General Staff assignments for Monday, June 23:

- Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR): Joe Kelly
- State Incident Manager: Kevin Reed
- Operations Chief: Kari Goelz
- Logistics Chief: Cassie Calametti
- External Affairs / Lead PIO: Julie Anderson

The Operations Section continues to coordinate with the Regional Program Coordinators in gathering damage information from local jurisdictions and maintaining situational awareness for SEOC partners.

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## **MN Department of Public Safety - Public Information Officer** *Agency Summary*

- A conference call was held on June 25 with congressional staff members statewide to discuss current flood response and the disaster recovery process. HSEM Branch Director John Moore provided the latest information on the disaster. HSEM External Affairs, FEMA Region V External Affairs and an HSEM Public Assistance specialist also participated.
- HSEM External Affairs continues tracking congressional flood-related tours and ensures the information is provided to the Governor's staff.
- FEMA External Affairs liaison continues a presence in the SEOC.
- DPS Public Information Officer (PIO) coordinated a radio interview with KDWA and Joe Kelly.
- The PIO coordinated a television interview with The Weather Channel and Joe Kelly.
- The PIO coordinated an interview with KSTP and Bruce Gordon.
- A news release was distributed by the DPS Office of Communications regarding upcoming joint preliminary damage assessments.

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## **MN Department of Agriculture**

## *Agency Summary*

- MDA field staff are continuing normal inspections. Inspectors are checking with the firms and facilities they monitor and reporting any issues.
- Nothing new to report at this time.

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## **MN Department of Commerce**

## *Agency Summary*

- Utility outages and restoration efforts continue and are constantly changing across various regions of the state with each severe weather event in addition to routine outages.
- Power outage and restoration reports received from the Investor Owned Utilities (IOU's) have diminished over the past few days with the reduction in severe weather events, however there have been reports of power

outages related to flooding and downed poles and wires and related to mud slides. Utility companies across the state are working together to safely restore power quickly and efficiently as conditions permit.

- Temporary restoration of power to Blakeley has occurred.
- Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association and Minnesota Rural Electric Cooperatives report that they are able to handle utility outages with member companies working together.
- Waterville, MN: Gas meters and gas regulators at 40 homes are under water due to flooding. After the water recedes, the utility will replace the meters and regulators.
- The Department of Commerce's Consumer Services Center (CSC) is available to help consumers with questions, concerns, or complaints following a damaging storm, flood, or tornado. CSC staff help consumers understand their rights, work with their insurer to settle a claim, and help Minnesotans make informed insurance decisions after a flood or storm damages their home, auto, or property. The CSC has prepared and printed information packets for distribution to communities and consumers impacted by severe storms.

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## **MN Department of Corrections**

### *Agency Summary*

- On June 25, 2014, the Minnesota Department of Corrections sent a 5 offender Institution Community Work Crew (ICWC) team and 1 staff member to Owatonna to clean up flood debris in the gold course area.

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## **MN Department of Education**

### *Agency Summary*

- MN Department of Education (MDE) facilities staff are maintaining contact with the school districts located within impacted counties to collect damage information as it becomes available.

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## **MN Department of Employment and Economic Development**

### *Agency Summary*

The Business Impact Survey has been published and is available at:

- <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/disaster-recovery/Pages/emergency-manager-resources.aspx> and <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/disaster-recovery/Pages/business-organizations.aspx>
- DEED is continuing to monitor weather impacts to ensure DEED locations remain stable.

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## **MN Department of Health**

### *Agency Summary*

- MDH Environmental Health Staff completed an assessment of non-community public water systems and wells in areas of Koochiching County that experienced flooding. Water samples were collected from those wells impacted by flood waters to test for total coliform bacteria, results are pending.

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## **MN National Guard**

### *Agency Summary*

- 2-135 Infantry in Henderson:
  - This unit completed levee and flowage area watch overnight with no new incidents. The unit will start again on June 25, 2014 at 6 p.m.
  - The unit will disengage from their mission at 0600 hours, June 27, 2014 at the end of their shift and will go into internal recovery operations.

- Inter-Agency Operations Liaison will report to the SEOC for staffing.

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## MN Department of Natural Resources

## Agency Summary

- DNR staff continue to assess sites statewide for damages and conduct minor repairs to infrastructure including roads, trails, dams, campsites, docks, piers, and landings.
- DNR Forestry staff assisted with filling 28,000 sandbags in Warroad.
- Staff at Zippel Bay State Park on Lake of the Woods are sandbagging along the harbor seawall. Water level is within 2 inches of seawall and rising.
- DNR Enforcement is providing an aircraft to Sibley County for a dam and navigation hazard inspection on High Island Lake.
- A DNR Conservation Officer was assigned to assist with flood operations in Koochiching County.
- A Habitat Improvement crew is removing floating bog material from a water control structure at Carlos Avery State Park.
- Franz Jevne State Park has reopened to the public.
- Blue Mounds State Park and Fort Snelling State Park remain closed to the public.
- Many state parks have partial closures. Specific information on each park may be obtained from the MN DNR website at: [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/list\\_alpha.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/list_alpha.html)
- OHV trail closure info can be found at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/ohv/closures.html>
- State Forest Road closure info can be found at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/trailconditions/listing.html>

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## MN Office of Pipeline Safety

## Agency Summary

CenterPoint Energy (CNP) Water Crossing – High Water Survey update: South suburban and out-state service area.

- *Luverne service area:* Water is receding, no risk to company facilities was observed.
- *Mankato, St. James and Blue Earth:* High water levels are receding in Mankato, St. James and Blue Earth. The area will continue to be monitored even after water levels recede to identify any areas of risk.
- *St. Peter:* Monitoring Highway 99 bridge where a CNP main is attached to bridge. Bridge is closed to traffic at this time and water level is still substantially below the deck and water levels are receding.
- *Waterville:* 40 slab on grade homes experienced flooding on Friday afternoon. Once water recedes to a safe level crews will replace meters & regulators per the EOP Flood Plan. Home owners have been evacuated by the fire department, MnOPS was notified by CNP Monday morning. CNP was not alerted as the water rose, therefore was not able to shut-in the meters prior to being under water.
- *LeSueur:* Saturday, June 21 - The service to a home in LeSueur was capped by CNP personnel as a result of a basement wall cave-in after water weakened the structure.
- *Hastings and surrounding service area:* No risk to company facilities as a result of high water.
- *Lakeland Township:* As of Wednesday CNP personnel began monitoring homes and businesses near the St. Croix River where sandbagging has occurred to prevent flooding. A number of years ago, regulator vents were extended above anticipated flood levels as well as meter sets being raised.
- *St. Mary's Point/Beach:* As of Wednesday CNP personnel began monitoring homes and business near the St. Croix River. Again, remedial steps were taken in previous years to elevate regulator vents and meter sets.
- *Shakopee service area:* An area in the city of Carver was observed Thursday afternoon due to erosion that occurred 400 yards north on Broadway Street North from 6th Street East. The exposed pipe was repaired Friday afternoon. One residential location beyond the exposed section of main will be served by a compressed natural gas (CNG) tank until repairs by the city and CNP are completed.
- *Jordan:* The TBS serving Jordan, MN was inspected Thursday, June 19 upon reports of ground erosion.

Ground erosion occurred 300 yards from the TBS. There is no risk to the facility, including the main it serves.

- *Valley Green Trailer Park in Jordan:* Will be assessed Wednesday, June 25, for high-water impact on CNP regulators and meters. The park was not on the site monitoring list, but will be added for future events. The park was reported Wednesday morning to have been flooded and water has since receded. CNP personnel will check each regulator and meter for water damage and take appropriate steps to re-remediate.
- *CNP Resources and Facilities:* CNP Personnel will continue to monitor our facilities in the areas noted even after water levels recede sufficiently to observe for potential risk due to erosion and/or debris. Where issues have been identified, other CNP resources, i.e. Engineering, will be involved to determine appropriate solutions to ensure safety and restoration of service once water recedes.

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## **MN Pollution Control Agency**

## *Agency Summary*

- MPCA staff members are advising wastewater operators.
- MPCA staff will be assisting operators to return to normal treatment operations when flooding abates.
- Solid waste staff are conferring with the county solid waste administrators to advise and assist on debris collection from flooded homes.
- MPCA is standing by for any reports of floated basement fuel tanks or debris assistance requests.
- MPCA flood debris and cleanup "toolkit for local government officials" webpage has been activated. MPCA webpages on debris and cleanup advice for homeowners have been activated.

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## **MN Department of Revenue**

## *Agency Summary*

- The Department of Revenue has sent out a second press release and communication to taxpayers stating if recent storms prevent them from filing their returns or paying their taxes on time, the Minnesota Department of Revenue will forgive penalties or interest. This applies to taxpayers who have Minnesota tax returns or payments due from June 11, 2014 to July 22, 2014 and reside in the affected counties. Taxpayers can call the Department of Revenue Disaster Relief Hotline at 1-800-657-3606 or 651-556-3016 if they have questions. Taxpayers in the affected area who receive a tax bill should call 651-556-3003 or 1-800-657-3909.
- The department is hosting a conference call and web presentation for taxpayers on Friday, June 27, 2014, from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. One of the discussion topics will be an update on the tax relief available for those affected by the flooding and severe weather. Please see the HSEM website for call details.

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## **MN Department of Transportation - SEOC**

## *Agency Summary*

- Most MnDOT districts are reporting that conditions have stabilized and they are back to routine maintenance activities. Water is receding at most locations.
- MnDOT District 1 is watching Rainy Lake it continues to rise near Hwy 11 at Island View. Landslide area on Hwy 53 continues to be monitored, portable signals have been mobilized in case they are needed.
- MnDOT District 7 is dealing with a sinkhole in South Bend Township near a levee, the levee is not compromised. A contractor will be on-site today to make repairs. The district still has five segments of roadway closed: they anticipate opening two of them by end-of-day tomorrow; and, the remain three segments will remain closed into next week. Scour monitoring and slope investigation continue.
- Site damage assessments are ongoing.
- MnDOT continues to keep the emergency road closure applications up to date. Please visit [511mn.org](http://511mn.org) if you are unable to access the DLAN COP viewer for the most current road closures or advisories.

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## MN Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (MNVOAD) - Liaisons in SEOC

### *Agency Summary*

- MNVOAD coordination conference calls continue to be held at 1:00 p.m. each day. On these calls, we receive updated situation reports from several impacted county and city emergency managers.
- Several member agencies are continuing response activities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and southern MN:
  - Feeding operations are closing down in Koochiching county.
  - The Salvation Army and Red Cross are partnering to distribute clean up kits throughout southern MN, particularly in Waterville and New Ulm. Both agencies are preparing to support a town-hall meeting in Waterville Thursday night to address community concerns. The Red Cross trained several local volunteers to conduct damage assessment on approximately 80 homes in the city of Cottonwood. The Red Cross also deployed 2 teams to Blakeley Township in Scott county to do damage assessment and offer mental health and informational resources.
  - United Way 211 is starting to compile a list of all callers requesting assistance for flood-related needs across the state. They have received very few calls so far. Residents are encouraged to call 211 or (800-543-7709) to find information on flood recovery resources available, including resources from MNVOAD and its partners.
  - Catholic United Disaster Response, Nechama, and International Orthodox Christian Church continued clean-up efforts in Rock county.
  - The Mennonite Disaster Response is assisting with livestock fencing repair in Rock county.
- MNVOAD began coordinating plans to extend clean-up efforts, starting this weekend, in New Ulm and Springfield (Brown county) and Waterville (Le Sueur county). Monitoring several additional impacted areas in the state including Sibley, Waseca, Blue Earth, Scott and Hennepin counties.

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## American Red Cross

### *Agency Summary*

- In the thirteenth day of response:
  - American Red Cross (ARC) of Southern MN has opened eight flood-related cases to date (LeSueur County, Redwood County); ARC of Northern MN has opened three flood-related cases (Dakota County, Ramsey County.)
  - No shelters have been activated but are available if needed.
  - ARC is working with Scott County to assess needs in Blakely Township. At the request of Scott County Emergency Management, Damage Assessment and Disaster Health Services teams are in Scott County at this time.
  - ARC has distributed 156 clean-up kits (Blue Earth County, Brown County, Sibley County), with additional available as needed.
  - ARC reports that sandbagging has ceased in Koochiching County and will respond if conditions change.
  - Koochiching County EOC is reported to be up.
  - ARC is in direct contact with Emergency Management in Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Koochiching, LeSueur, Ramsey/St Paul, Redwood County, Rice, Roseau, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Washington and Wright.
  - ARC will conduct damage assessments will be conducted in the city of Cottonwood for damage to 50 homes and 30 mobile homes.

Five Day Forecast: Minnesota - Hennepin

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
				
30%	30%	80%	60%	
Scattered Rain Showers	Chance of Thunderstorms	Definitely Thunderstorms	Likely Thunderstorms	Clear
82 F / 27 C 67 F / 19 C	86 F / 30 C 71 F / 21 C	83 F / 28 C 70 F / 21 C	87 F / 30 C 67 F / 19 C	82 F / 27 C 63 F / 17 C

Severe Weather is expected each day, Friday to Sunday. Friday will bring heavy rains, largely to southwest MN, while Sunday may see heavy precipitation across southern MN and especially southeast MN. In addition, temperatures and humidity will rise from Friday to Sunday, bringing heat indices into the 90s. Heat-related illnesses could become a factor for emergency and disaster responders, especially Saturday and Sunday.

**Please stay tuned to NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio for the latest weather safety information.**

Quantitative Precipitation Estimate - 5-Day

