

U.S. Geological Survey
U.S. Department of the Interior

News Release

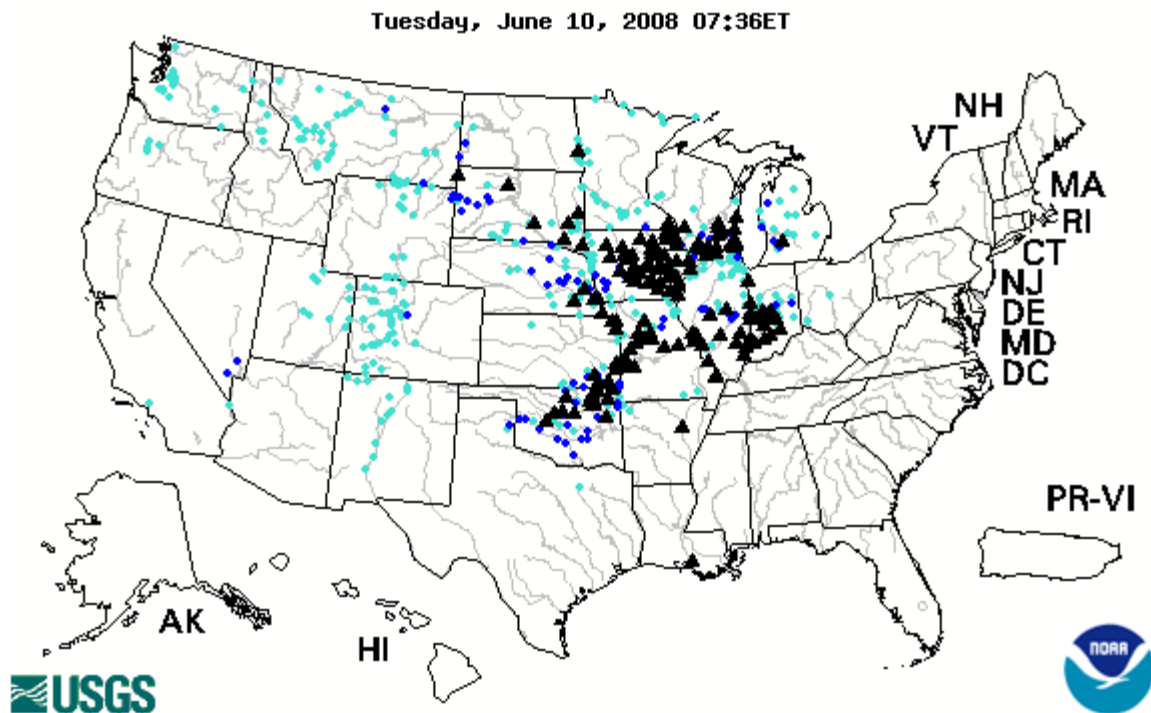
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USGS Crews Dispatched to Measure Historic Wisconsin Floods

Reporters: Want to accompany a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) field crew as they measure flooding? Please contact Herb Garn (608-821-3828) or Rob Waschbusch (608-821-3868)

Heavy rainfall of up to 12-14 inches in the last 72 hours in Wisconsin has caused record flooding in the state. This morning river and stream levels were above flood stage at over 30 USGS stream gages. USGS crews will be collecting flood data this week needed for flood forecasters and emergency managers.



Map of USGS stream gages with water levels above flood stage

Teams of USGS hydrographers are preparing to travel to stream gages to keep station instruments operating and to verify streamflow data needed for National Weather Service (NWS) flood forecasts. USGS personnel have worked closely with federal, state, and local agencies during the flood to provide flood information for emergency managers, the media, and the public. For more information on real-time streamflow at Wisconsin stream gages, go to <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/wi/nwis/current?type=flow>

The USGS operates a network of more than 220 stream gages throughout Wisconsin and provides this real-time information to the NWS where it is used for flood forecasting and to notify emergency managers. Field personnel collect data, or the gages relay it through telephones or satellites to offices where it is processed automatically in near real time. In many cases, the data are available online within minutes.

For more information on USGS flood-related activities, please see:

<http://water.usgs.gov/osw/>

USGS Water Science Centers are located in each state. They can provide more detailed information on stream conditions and on the USGS response to local events:

http://water.usgs.gov/district_chief.html

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