

News Release

June 9, 2008

Kaylene Carney
Heidi Koontz

319-430-2985
720-320-1246

kfcarney@usgs.gov
hkoontz@usgs.gov

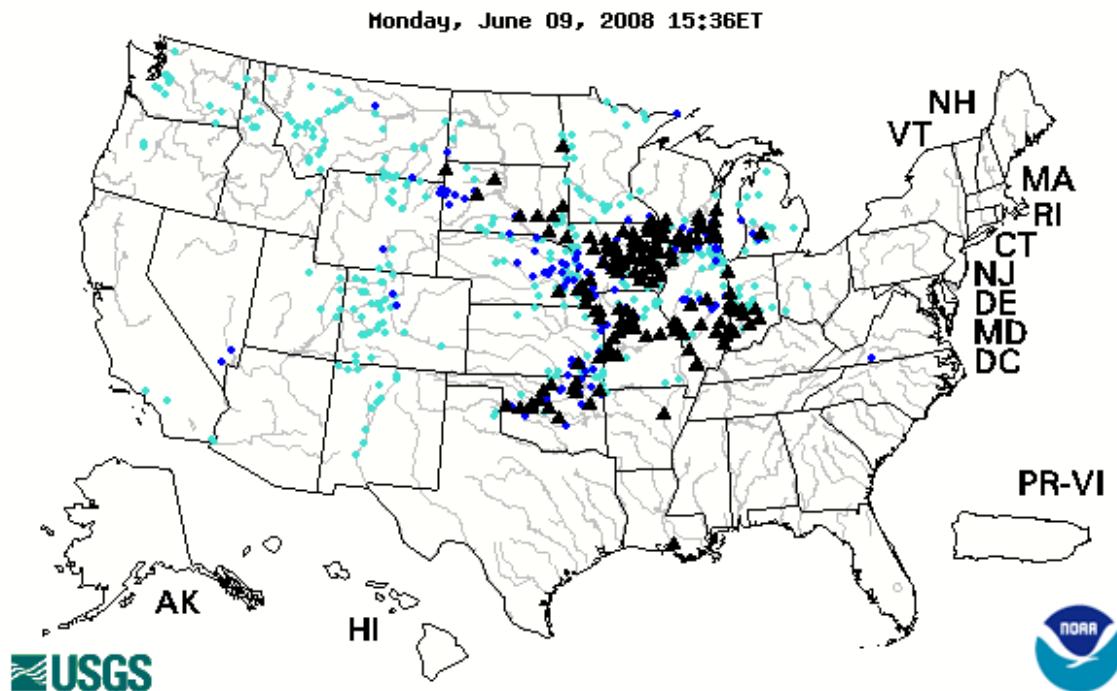
USGS Crews Measure Record Floods in Iowa

Reporters: Want to accompany a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) field crew as they measure flooding? Please contact Kaylene Carney at 319-430-2985.

Intense rainfall, measuring as much as 12 inches in Northeastern Iowa, has fallen in much of central and eastern Iowa in the past four days causing major flooding.

USGS streamgage levels were above flood stage at 55 USGS streamgages in Iowa on Monday. Major flooding is occurring in the upper basin of the Cedar River including the Winnebago and Shell Rock Rivers. Flooding in the Upper Iowa River at Decorah is estimated to be greater than a 500-year flood.

USGS crews are in the field traveling to streamgages to keep them 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. The USGS is maintaining a Web page that provides flood stages and flows for Iowa rivers and streams at <http://ia.water.usgs.gov/>.



The USGS operates a network of more than 150 stream gages throughout Iowa 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 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

USGS provides science for a changing world. For more information, visit www.usgs.gov.

Subscribe to USGS News Releases via our [electronic mailing list](#) or [RSS](#) feed.

*** www.usgs.gov ***