

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT  
Missouri Floods 2015 - Polrep/Sitrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region VII

**Subject:** SITREP #3  
Sit rep 3  
Missouri Floods 2015  
  
Southeast Missouri, MO

**To:**  
**Thru:** 1/2/2016  
**From:** Susan Fisher, OSC  
**Date:** 1/2/2016  
**Reporting Period:** 1/2/2016

**Executive Summary**

On Saturday, December 26, 2015, FEMA Watch Operations sent an advisory for heavy rains and flooding. The Regional Watch Team stated the potential for heavy rains over the next several days across parts of Missouri and southeast Kansas. The December 26 forecast was for 2 to 6 inches of rain falling generally south of a line from Hannibal, Missouri to Kansas City to Chanute, Kansas. Most of this area has received several periods of rain over the past month. It was reported that rainfall of this amount will likely cause flooding of area waterways. The National Weather Service predicted that numerous river gauges will rise above flood stage during the next week. A flash flood watch was posted for this area.

On the morning of Sunday, December 27, 2015 the Regional Watch Center reported that rain has continued to fall in Missouri, and will fall into the evening hours. Flooding has impacted southwest Missouri and areas have begun evacuations.

On Monday, December 28, 2015 the Governor of Missouri issued a State of Emergency in response to the heavy rains and flooding that have occurred over a large part of the state. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated to a level 1 - control center only. Five Red Cross shelters were opened. About 9,800 customers had lost power. Interstates and local roads have been closed in flooded areas.

On Monday, December 28, 2015 EPA began communicating with Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) and US Coast Guard (USCG) regarding flood issues, specifically the risk to the Birds Point Levee in New Madrid, Missouri.

On December 30, 2015 MDNR SEOC activated to a level 3 24 hour/7 day response (24/7). FEMA activated to a level 3 24/7 response as well. FEMA notified EPA that they were issuing a Mission Assignment (MA) to mobilize to FEMA RRCC and perform ESF #10 functions.

**1. Introduction**

**1.1 Background**

<b>Site Number:</b>	<b>Contract Number:</b>
<b>D.O. Number:</b>	<b>Action Memo Date:</b>
<b>Response Authority:</b> Stafford Act	<b>Response Type:</b>
<b>Response Lead:</b> FEMA	<b>Incident Category:</b>
<b>NPL Status:</b> Non NPL	<b>Operable Unit:</b>
<b>Mobilization Date:</b> 12/31/2015	<b>Start Date:</b> 12/31/2015
<b>Demob Date:</b>	<b>Completion Date:</b>
<b>CERCLIS ID:</b>	<b>RCRIS ID:</b>
<b>ERNS No.:</b>	<b>State Notification:</b>

**1.1.1 Incident Category**

Stafford Act response

**1.1.2 Site Description**

EPA has been given 1 ESF 10 (Hazardous Materials) Mission Assignment from FEMA to respond to the

FEMA RRCC, a EPA OSC has been deployed to the FEMA RRCC to staff the ESF#10 desk as a liaison.

#### **1.1.2.1 Location**

FEMA RRCC is located on Ward Parkway is south Kansas City, Missouri

#### **1.1.2.2 Description of Threat**

Flooding in southeast Missouri

#### **1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results.**

Continued coordination with MDNR

### **1.2 Incident Objectives**

Pre-Declaration activation for appropriate EPA (oil and hazardous materials response) personnel to perform the functions of ESF#10 in the FEMA RRCC or other teams and locations at the direction and coordination of FEMA to include but not limited to: Emergency Response Team (ERT/IMAT), Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Team, and Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) Team.

### **1.3 Critical Resource Needs**

No information available at this time.

### **1.4 Strategic Considerations**

No information available at this time.

## **2. Current Activities**

### **2.1 Operations Section**

#### **2.1.1 Narrative**

FEMA has issued a mission assignment to EPA to staff the ESF#10 desk at the FEMA RRCC.

#### **2.1.2 Response Actions to Date**

##### **As of January 2, 2016**

##### **MDNR:**

MDNR is reporting that as the water recedes they are getting calls regarding orphan drums and containers. They are working on a mission assignment for ESF 10 assistance. MDNR is also planning for debris removal activities in the St Louis Area.

##### **Birds Point Levee**

Water did not crest as high as anticipated. The USACE has stood down the incident command post at Birds Point.

##### **FEMA RRCC**

Currently the RRCC is Activated to a Level 3 24/7 response. USACE was activated by FEMA to the RRCC on December 30, 2015. EPA was activated on December 31, 2015 to the FEMA RRCC. The OSC in charge of HHW and orphan drum and container removal will be reporting to the FEMA RRCC today (1/2/16) to begin working with USACE on preparing for removal operations.

##### **Weather Report:**

Flood warnings continue in Southeast Missouri.

3 day forecast - no precipitation

Approximately 125 counties have road closures, a few major roads are closed in flooded areas.

14 flood related fatalities.

##### **Meramec River:**

Pacific and Eureka are out of flood stage tomorrow morning..

Valley Park and Arnold is falling out of flood stage.

##### **Mississippi River:**

St Louis is dropping

Chester is cresting

Cape Girardeau is rising.

New Madrid is rising.

**Other news:**

Shelters are closing

Missouri is the only state in the region currently activated.

**2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)**

**2.1.4 Progress Metrics**

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

**2.2 Planning Section**

**2.2.1 Anticipated Activities**

Staff the FEMA RRCC provide assistance as needed to the state.

**2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities**

**2.2.1.2 Next Steps**

**2.2.2 Issues**

**2.3 Logistics Section**

No information available at this time.

**2.4 Finance Section**

No information available at this time.

**2.5 Other Command Staff**

No information available at this time.

**3. Participating Entities**

No information available at this time.

**4. Personnel On Site**

No information available at this time.

**5. Definition of Terms**

No information available at this time.

**6. Additional sources of information**

No information available at this time.

**7. Situational Reference Materials**

No information available at this time.