



FLOOD REPORT FOR MANITOBA

April 8, 2019 – 12:00 pm

Note: Flood watches, warnings and high water advisories will be published in the April 9th Flood Report.

Summary

- Manitoba Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre will move into operational forecasting mode tomorrow, April 9. Daily flood updates and production of flood information flood sheets and reports will be available online (https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts_reports).
- Manitoba Infrastructure has prepared and positioned flood fighting equipment such as pumps and sandbags into areas of potential concern. Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) regional emergency managers are in contact with municipal emergency coordinators.
- Any questions or concerns about flood mitigation should be directed first to the municipal authority. Questions about forecasts, water levels, provincial waterways, or provincial water control infrastructure can be directed to 204-945-1165 or by email to floodinfo@gov.mb.ca.

Weather

- Sub-freezing overnight lows and above-zero daytime temperatures are sustaining a slow rate of melt. Over the weekend, portions of southern Manitoba received between 2–20 mm of precipitation (Figure 1). No major storm systems are forecasted for southern Manitoba over the next ten days.

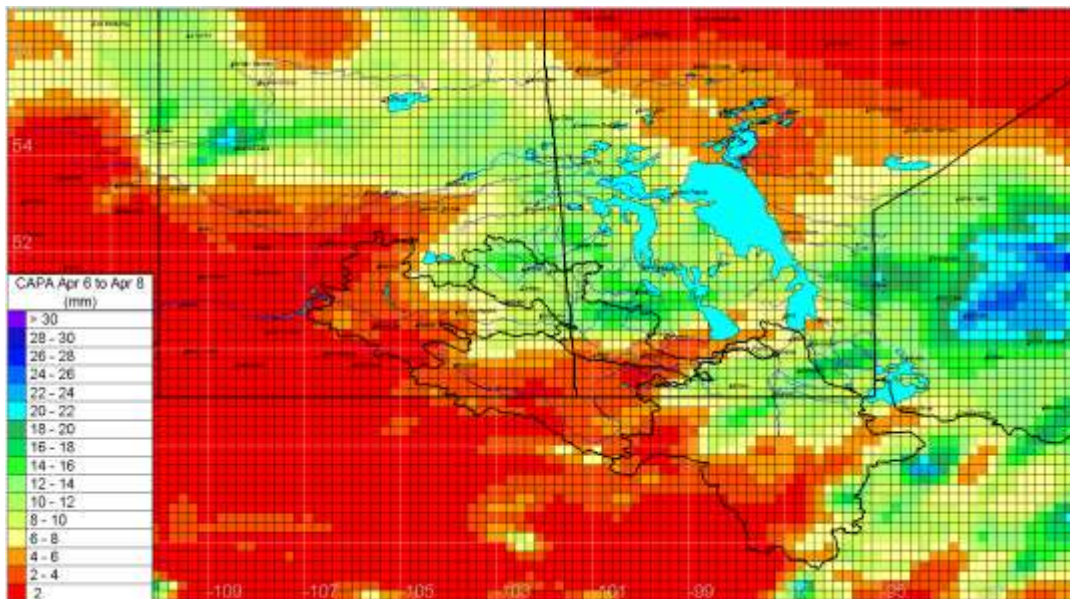


Figure 1: Observed precipitation from April 6 to April 8

Red River Basin

- Water levels on the main stem of the Red River have been rising for a number of days. The Red River at Emerson is expected to rise above bankfull capacity around April 10. The forecasted peak flow at Emerson is approximately 67,200 cfs (1900 cms) and is expected to occur between April 16-19. The forecast is being assessed on an ongoing basis and updates will be provided regularly.
- Provincial crews are deployed in a number of communities in the Red River Valley preparing for potential ring dike closures. A partial ring dike closure is currently underway at Emerson but the community remains accessible by road.
- The Red River Floodway is expected to begin operations on April 11 or 12, as river flows increase and if ice conditions permit, but will be delayed if necessary until the ice is flowing freely at the Floodway control structure. The forecasted peak flow on the Red River Floodway is estimated at approximately 25,000 cfs (710 cms).

Assiniboine River Basin

- The Shellmouth Reservoir was drawn down over the winter in preparation for spring runoff. Water levels are beginning to rise due to increased runoff flows into the reservoir. The reservoir water level is at 1393.1 feet. Inflows to the reservoir are approximately 1,450 cfs (40 cms) and outflows are 25 cfs (0.7 cms). The Shellmouth Reservoir Regulation Liaison Committee will meet as required to re-assess runoff volumes and discuss operation scenarios.
- Operation of the Portage Diversion began on April 6 to manage ice and limit flow on the Lower Assiniboine to less than 5,000 cfs (140 cms) while ice is in place in this portion of the river. The current flow down the Portage Diversion is approximately 1,000 cfs (28 cms). Ice in the Assiniboine River upstream of Portage La Prairie is beginning to break up and this will cause inflow to the Portage Reservoir and the Portage Diversion to fluctuate over the next several days and then decline.