Written by Josie Cooper
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SIOUX CITY---AFTER 81 LONG DAYS, THE MISSOURI RIVER IN SIOUX CITY FELL BELOW THE FLOOD STAGE MARK THURSDAY MORNING.

WOODBURY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGER GARY BROWN SAYS THE RIVER PEAKED AT 35.25 FEET IN JULY AND NOW SITS UNDER 30 FEET.

HE SAYS THE U-S ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WILL RELEASE WATER FROM THE GAVINS POINT DAM AT A RATE 90-THOUSAND CUBIC FEET PER SECOND THIS MONTH AND GO DOWN TO 40-THOUSAND AFTER TWO WEEKS.

{audio}STAGE1.MP3{/audio}

BROWN SAYS THE WATER MAY BE GOING DOWN, BUT THE RIVER IS STILL DANGEROUS.

{audio}STAGE2.MP3{/audio}

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE FLOOD, NORTHERN SNOWMELT AND RAINFALL FORCED THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO INCREASE THEIR RELEASES FROM GAVINS POINT TO 160-THOUSAND CUBIC FEET PER SECOND.

SIOUX CITY---TRUCK DRIVERS, GUARD MEMBERS, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES AND MANY OTHERS ARE BEING PRAISED FOR THEIR MISSOURI RIVER LEVEE WORK.

WOODBURY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGER GARY BROWN SAYS HE'S IMPRESSED THAT NONE OF THE LEVEES HAVE BEEN LOST SINCE THE FLOOD BEGAN ON JUNE 6TH.

{audio}STAGE3.MP3{/audio}

THE MISSOURI RIVER FEEL BELOW THE 30-FOOT FLOOD STAGE AROUND 11 O'CLOCK THURSDAY MORNING.

BROWN SAYS THERE IS STILL A LONG WAY TO GO, BUT THIS IS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

{audio}STAGE4.MP3{/audio}

UTILITY LINES AND SERVICES STILL NEED TO BE RECONNECTED IN THE DAKOTA DUNES AREA.

THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ARE NOW RELEASING WATER FROM THE GAVINS POINT DAM AT A RATE OF 90-THOUSAND CUBIC FEET PER SECOND, FAR BETTER THAN THE 160-THOUSAND CPS WE ENDURED LAST