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For immediate release

Army Corps of Engineers to increase reservoir outflow

Johnson County, Iowa – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District has notified Johnson County Emergency Management that it intends to begin increasing the amount of water released from the Coralville Lake Reservoir. Beginning today, the Corps will increase the outflow on the Iowa River from a current rate of 10,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) to an anticipated level of 12,000 CFS. This outflow of 12,000 CFS will remain in effect until the Coralville Lake starts to fall more than one foot per day.

The National Weather Service reports that the area is coming out of a wet cycle. There will be small amounts of rainfall in the area over the next 24 hours, but there is no rain forecasted for the next seven days.

"Obviously this is good news with predicted lake elevations dropping below 711 feet and outflows decreasing to less than 13,000 CFS from the dam. No mandatory evacuations are anticipated due to these changes," said Johnson County Emergency Management Director Dave Wilson.

Those downstream from the Coralville Reservoir can monitor changes at www.rivergages.com. Emergency Management will continue to monitor weather conditions and water levels in order to assist emergency response throughout the county. Information on flooding in Johnson County is available at www.johnson-county.com/flood.

Additional information:

Johnson County Secondary Roads has provided the following list of road closures:
- 140th Street west of Ely Road, at Lakeview OHV Park
- Sandy Beach at the beach
- Amana Road between Blain Cemetery and Greencastle Avenue
- Greencastle Avenue Level B, south of Amana Road
- Greencastle Avenue Level B, north of Swan Lake
- Swan Lake Road Level B, west of Half Moon Avenue
- Cosgrove Road south of Black Diamond Road at Old Man's Creek

- Izaak Walton Road east of S&G Sand Plant including Ocean, Driftwood and Camino Del Rio Roads
- Sand Road south of 560th Street
- Sand Road north of Highway 22
- River Junction Road south of River Junction
- Tri County Bridge Road south of 670th Street
- Y Avenue south of Tri County Bridge Road
- Lola Lane
- Chambers Avenue south of 140th Street to Amana Road
- Hoosier Creek Road west of Ely Road at Naples Avenue

Johnson County Conservation has closed the Hills Access near the city of Hills and the River Junction Access in southern Johnson County due to flash flooding and the rising water dangers of the Iowa River. These areas will remain closed until further notice.

Johnson County Emergency Management has recommended voluntary evacuation for locations in unincorporated Johnson County on Camino Del Rio SE, Driftwood Lane SE and Ocean Boulevard SE. Mandatory evacuations of these properties may be ordered in the future, depending on flows at the Burlington Street gage. There are presently no other voluntary or mandatory evacuations for anywhere else countywide.

A map of current road, trail and park closures in Johnson County is available at https://gis.johnson-county.com/flood_closures/. Please note: This does not include temporary road closures due to flash flooding.

Media advisory:

A press conference will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11 at the Johnson County Emergency Communications Center, 4529 Melrose Avenue, Iowa City, in the Jim Thayer Joint Information Center (JIC) Room at the front entrance. The press conference will update the media on the latest flood conditions and outlook. Representatives from several agencies will be available to answer questions and provide interviews. Those unable to attend can contact Kelli Andresen, Public Information Officer, at 319-688-8011 or kandresen@co.johnson.ia.us to arrange interviews or follow-up information.

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