

## Progress Report

Issue 1 - Sept. 6, 2011

### Site-specific information

#### Interstate 29 from Council Bluffs north to milepost 71

- Flood waters are still covering some sections of the roadway.

#### Interstate 29 (from the Missouri state line to exit 32)

- Scour has caused damage to the bridge approaches of the north- and southbound bridges at milepost 1.4, as well as removed material under the bridges. A more complete assessment of the damage must be performed when the water level drops.
- Debris cleanup work is underway.

#### Interstate 680 in Council Bluffs

- The Iowa DOT's Office of Design is working on accelerated project design concepts that could potentially be used in an area such as this where the subgrade is saturated. This will help determine what new design might be used on this and other areas where pavement has been lost and timely restoration of travel is essential.
- [See slide show](#) (downloadable high resolution photos)

#### U.S. 30 west of Missouri Valley

- Damage has occurred to the foreslopes and shoulders of this roadway. The Iowa DOT intends to let a contract to perform repairs, which will commence once the TrapBags are removed. The emergency contract lettings are not yet scheduled.

#### Iowa 175 Missouri River Crossing at Decatur, Neb.

- [See separate news release for the latest information.](#)
- [See slide show](#) (downloadable high resolution photos)

#### Iowa 2

- There has been no change as Iowa 2 remains covered with flood waters.

#### Debris removal

Debris removal is a key step that must be performed before damage assessments and testing of the roads can be performed.

- Debris removal work in Fremont County began Sept. 1. TEK Builders Inc. of Mount Ayr is working on I-29 from Iowa 2 north to the Percival interchange. They were the low bidder on a contract let Aug. 24 for \$184,196.36.
- Debris removal work in Pottawattamie County began Aug. 29. Anderson Excavating Co. Inc. of Council Bluffs has already cleared a section of I-29 (roadway and shoulders) between mileposts 67 and 69. Anderson was the low bidder on two contracts let Aug. 24 for \$537,568 and \$108,750, which cover debris removal work on I-29 (mileposts 55-71) and I-680 (from I-29 to the Missouri River bridge).

- Hazardous materials have been removed from the roadways and shoulders in Fremont, Mills and Pottawattamie counties. Yet to be removed is debris in the ditches that is currently inaccessible due to the remaining flood waters.

#### **TrapBag, HESCO barrier, sandbag and temporary roadway crossover removal**

- An emergency bid letting to remove the TrapBags in Monona County along I-29 (sites at mileposts 107 and 109) will be held Sept. 7.
- The Iowa DOT is working with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the local levee district to expedite removal of the HESCO barrier system located near Hamburg.

#### **Tests (to be conducted over the coming weeks)**

The Iowa DOT's ability to perform the following tests is dependent on the rate of the drainage of the roadbed underneath the pavement. Many areas remain saturated with flood waters or are completely inundated.

- The Iowa DOT will be performing Falling Weight Deflectometer (FWD) testing of roadway sections once inundated by flood waters to determine roadway strength. The results will show the Iowa DOT if the roadway is strong enough to support vehicles of differing weights.
- Ground-penetrating radar (GPR) surveys will be performed to scan roadway surfaces and detect any voids/sinkholes underneath the pavement. Areas of concern would be areas around intake pipes, culverts, bridge approaches and where undermining of the pavement has occurred.

#### **Damage assessments (to be performed during the next few weeks)**

- The Iowa DOT's Office of Bridges and Structures will be performing an assessment of all bridges.
- A combination of Iowa DOT and consultant resources will be used to inspect all other structures.
- Due to the massive scope of work, inspection of the roadways and any other transportation resources will be performed by the Iowa DOT and consultant workforces.
- Additional aerial flyovers will be performed of the Missouri River corridor as the waters continue to recede. These photos assist the Iowa DOT evaluate damage and allow for advance recovery planning.

#### **Emergency bid lettings**

The Iowa DOT is anticipating the need for a number of emergency projects to be let this fall for roadway and bridge repairs due to the flooding. These emergency lettings will be conducted according to Iowa Code 313.10. Tentative emergency lettings will be held at 11 a.m. each Wednesday. Projects will be posted by noon the prior Friday. Contractors are encouraged to view the list each Friday and contact the Iowa DOT's Office of Contracts at 515-239-1414 to obtain proposals and plans.

- An emergency bid letting to remove the TrapBags in Monona County along I-29 will be held Sept. 7.

#### **Cost estimates**

- No damage estimates are available at this time.

#### **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief funding**

- On July 27, the U.S. DOT announced that \$2 million in quick release emergency money would be made available to the Iowa DOT to reimburse Iowa for work done on federal-aid highways immediately following the flooding.
- On Sept. 2, the Iowa DOT received notice from the U.S. DOT that the clock for this disaster officially started May 25, which means the Iowa DOT has 180 consecutive calendar days or until Nov. 21, 2011, to perform repair work eligible for 100 percent federal reimbursement.
- Following the 180-day period, federal-aid roadways are eligible for reimbursement up to 90 percent for interstate routes and 80 percent for noninterstate highways.