

NEWS RELEASE

January 9, 2009 (10:45 a.m.)

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Yakima River Friday 10:45 a.m. update

Richland, Wash: The National Weather Service has now revised their forecasts for the Yakima River in Benton County. Currently, water levels as measured near Kiona and Benton City are just under 11 feet (flood stage being 13 feet). According to the latest predictions, the river is not expected to reach flood stage until mid-morning Saturday, January 10 and crest at about 14 feet Saturday night before slowly receding. (Please note that these numbers are based on current projections and are subject to change).

Residents should continue to monitor river levels in their area and listen for situation updates on local radio and television stations. Information is also available on the Benton County Emergency Services website at www.bces.wa.gov.

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