

NEWS RELEASE

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Yakima River Friday 3 p.m. update

Richland, Wash: The National Weather Service continues its efforts to forecast the potential flooding for the Yakima River in Benton County. As of 2:30 p.m. today, the latest forecast now shows the river hitting flood stage of 13 feet by late this evening and cresting mid-afternoon on Saturday at just under 15 feet. Currently, water levels as measured near Kiona and Benton City are at 12.5 feet. (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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NOTE TO EDITORS: As you can tell, river forecasting is less than a perfect science. I will continue to provide you with the information as it is provided to me. Thanks for your patience and assistance!