

# NEWS RELEASE

January 9, 2009 (6:30 a.m.)

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## **Yakima River Friday morning update**

Richland, Wash: Water levels on the Yakima River within Benton County continue to rise this morning. Currently the river is at about 10 feet, having risen five feet in the last 24 hours. Forecasts from the National Weather Service show the river rising another five feet before cresting on Saturday. Flood stage measured in the Kiona-Benton City area is 13 feet. The river is projected to reach that level later today. (Please note that these numbers are based on current projections and are subject to change).

Livestock can be very vulnerable to the effects of localized flooding. Several instances have occurred in the past in which horses and cattle have been stranded due to water running through a pasture. Livestock owners should always have plans in place to move their herds to higher ground if needed.

In addition, property owners along the river should ensure that any boats and other equipment near river banks are either moved or secured to prevent items being washed away with the rising water.

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](http://www.bces.wa.gov).

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