



**Forecasting and Flood Response Coordination
Regulatory and Operational Services,
Manitoba Water Stewardship**

Flood Report for Manitoba

May 16, 2009

- Levels of the Red River from Emerson to the Floodway Inlet declined about half a foot during the 24 hour period ending this morning.
- The river level in downtown Winnipeg declined a quarter foot to 16.8 feet since yesterday morning. The level will remain between 16.5 and 17.0 feet for the next 3-4 days as the floodway gates at St. Norbert are gradually lowered. The water level upstream of the Floodway Inlet was 758.62 ft and the flow in the Red River Floodway was 16,000 cfs as of 9.00 a.m. this morning.
- Shellmouth Reservoir continues to rise slowly in large part due to high flows on the Shell River. Inflows will rise somewhat further as the new snow melts, but the level should remain below 1404.5 feet and outflows will remain below the downstream bankfull capacity.
- The Portage Diversion continues to be used to prevent excessive levels in the City of Winnipeg. The Diversion flow this morning was 6895 cfs while the river flow at Southport was 1500 cfs. Flows down the Assiniboine River toward Winnipeg will be increased once levels at James Avenue in Winnipeg can be maintained at 16.5 feet or lower. This should occur just after this long weekend unless additional heavy rain develops.
- The new snow in the Westman and Interlake regions will melt slowly due to another cold front coming Sunday afternoon. The melting snow will be equivalent to 20-30 mm of rain and will increase overland flooding in the Interlake.
- The weather outlook calls for some showers Sunday evening to Monday morning with a cold front. The longer range forecast based on Environment Canada models indicates the possibility of another significant rainfall across southern Manitoba Tuesday night to Wednesday (May 19-20).

The Floodsheets may be viewed at the link:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship/floodinfo/floodsheet.html>