



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Omaha District

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Contact: Paul Johnston
(402) 995-2416
paul.t.johnston@usace.army.mil

Contract to breach Lower Gar Road put on hold

OMAHA – The planned breaching of Lower Gar Road near Milford, Iowa, to prevent flooding on the Iowa Great Lakes has been put on indefinite hold as revised runoff forecasts show it is unlikely the lake will reach flood stage.

The updated runoff forecast indicates that it will not be necessary to breach the road. The lake is expected to crest at elevation 1397.3 to 1397.6 feet, about 1.0 to 0.4 feet below the level where damages begin. Initial forecasts had been conservative, using 6 inches of snow water equivalent, 100 percent runoff and average precipitation. The revised forecast is for 60 to 80 percent runoff and below normal rainfall.

“The melt conditions have been ideal,” said COL Robert Ruch, Omaha District Commander. “There has been little or no additional rain or snow, relatively cool daytime temperatures and cold nights. These conditions have significantly reduced the volume of runoff.”

A contract to breach the road was awarded late last week to Soukup Construction of Sioux City, Iowa, but the notice to proceed was on hold pending the state’s final decision to breach the road.

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