

Washington, DC - Congressman Steve King released the following statement today regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's release of its report analyzing the impact of an increase in the amount of storage space in the Missouri River's Reservoir System that is dedicated to flood control.

"This report is incomplete," said King. "In an analysis that purports to analyze the impact of increased flood storage on other authorized purposes like navigation, hydropower generation, and recreation, there is no consideration of the benefits that additional flood protection would have had on these activities during last year's historic flood. This is a significant hole in the Corp's analysis. We know, for example, that last year's flooding virtually shut down navigation on the River - yet the Corps' analysis here give us no indication of how increased storage capacity might have helped to address this."

"This report says, 'Flood control is the only one of these authorized purposes that requires empty space in the reservoirs' and that therefore the other purposes, 'which all require water-in-storage to maximize benefits, would experience negative impacts with additional flood control storage.' This premise is substantially flawed for a number of reasons. If 2011 taught us one thing, it's that there is a point at which additional flood control benefits everyone on the river. There is no recognition of this basic fact in the report. We must provide protection to those who live and work in the Missouri River basin so that life there can continue and redevelopment can take place. We cannot do that, however, with incomplete reporting from the Corps."