

For Immediate Release: September 5, 2018

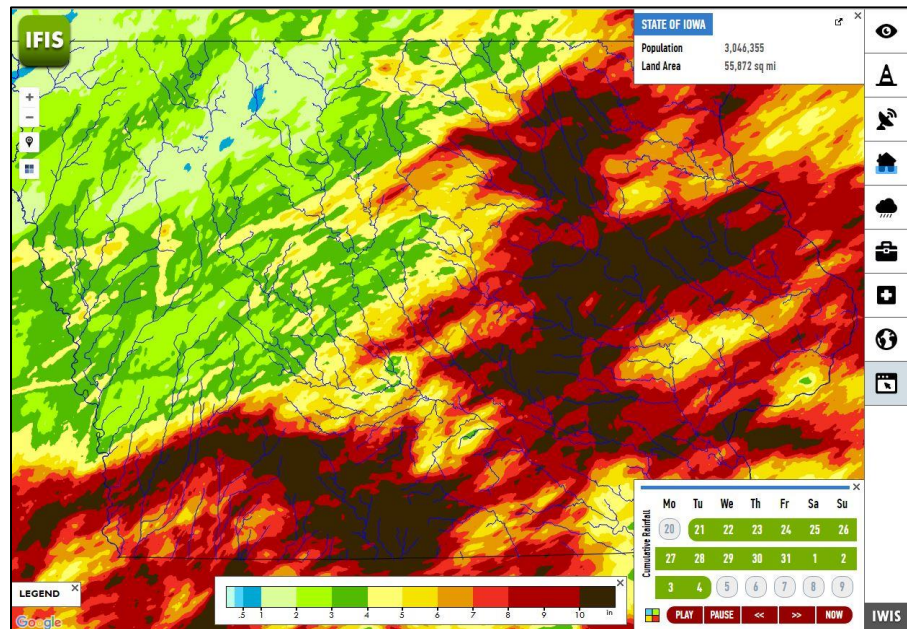
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## Unrelenting Rainfall Threatens Dozens of Communities with Flooding

*Iowa Flood Center experts at the University of Iowa credit multiple rain events occurring one after the other over the past two weeks, falling on already wet soils, as the cause of significant flooding impacting dozens of communities statewide.*

Unremitting heavy rains over the past two weeks have dropped as much as 10+ inches of rainfall across much of the state, particularly the southwest and eastern regions. Significant rain falling on already saturated soils is causing runoff and flooding downstream. And more rainfall is predicted, including possible inland impacts from Hurricane Gordon.

The Iowa Flood Center offers tools and resources to help Iowans respond quickly to better prepare for flood events. The Iowa Flood Information System (IFIS) online tool is a user-friendly, interactive web application that allows anyone access to flood information, including current stream and river level data, weather conditions, and flood alerts and forecasts for more than 1,000 Iowa communities. The application is based on an easy-to-use Google Maps interface that displays up-to-the-minute community specific flood information. Individuals can access IFIS by visiting <http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org>.

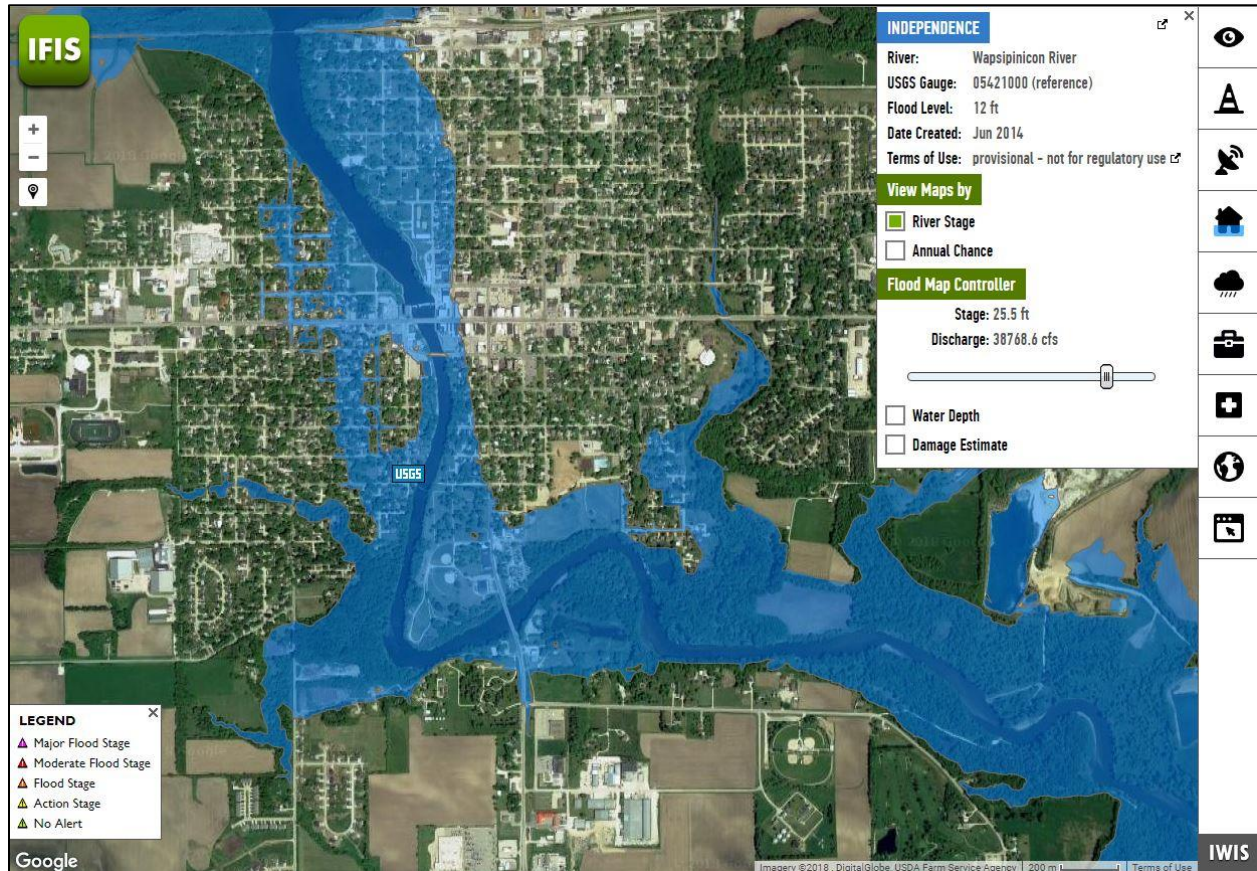


*Cumulative rainfall from the past two weeks shown on IFIS.*

## See Predicted Flood Levels

In addition to these features, IFC has also created flood inundation maps for 26 communities ([Rock Rapids](#), [Rock Valley](#), [Spencer](#), [Humboldt](#), [Fort Dodge](#), [Ames](#), [Des Moines](#), [Lake Red Rock](#), [Red Oak](#), [Ottumwa](#), [Columbus Junction](#), [Hills](#), [Kalona](#), [Iowa City](#), [Cedar Rapids](#), [Maquoketa](#), [Manchester](#),

[Independence](#), [Waterloo/Cedar Falls](#), [Waverly](#), [Clarksville](#), [Charles City](#), [Elkader](#), [Monticello](#), and [Mason City](#)) across Iowa that provide information on the extent and depth of flood waters.



*Flood inundation maps for Independence show which areas will be impacted if the river crests at the predicted 25.5 feet stage.*

These high-resolution web-based flood maps allow users to see how predicted flood levels could affect homes, businesses, and communities. To access the maps, visit [http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/en/app/?snap\\_view=fmap](http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/en/app/?snap_view=fmap).

The Iowa Flood Information System (IFIS) helps Iowans prepare, mitigate, respond, and recover from flood events. The IFC is part of the University of Iowa's College of Engineering. The IFC was established in the spring of 2009 following the 2008 flooding disaster. Iowa legislators recognized the need to establish a center for flood research and education to help Iowans better understand their flood risks. It is the nation's first academic center devoted solely to the study of floods.

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