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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Burleigh and Morton counties make request to reduce erosion along Missouri River

Bismarck & Mandan, ND—Due to the erosion of shorelines along the Missouri River because of higher Garrison Dam releases, Morton and Burleigh counties are requesting boaters show consideration to landowners along the river by operating water craft away from the riverbanks in an effort to reduce the damaging large wakes.

Releases at Garrison Dam were increased from 41,000-cfs to 46,000-cfs earlier this week and the US Army Corps of Engineers says releases will remain at that rate through July.

Due to the increased discharges, the Missouri River current is faster and stronger and bringing large debris (including whole trees) down the system. The public should take necessary precautions (life jackets, debris spotters) and maintain awareness of current conditions while recreating on the Missouri River.

The current Missouri River gage reading at Bismarck is 11.73'. Burleigh and Morton Counties continue to have resources committed to the response actions within their respective Flood Plan.

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