

Missouri under water

by UPI

BIG LAKE, Mo. - Parts of northwestern Missouri remained under water Wednesday with rivers not expected to crest further south until later in the week.

The National Weather Service said more than 80 roads were closed in that region of the state, CNN reported. In Big Lake, Mo., earthen levees holding back the Missouri River failed Tuesday, leaving the city flooded after more than 7.5 inches of rain fell in 24 hours.

After overflowing farm levees south of St. Joseph Tuesday, the Missouri River was expected to crest further downstream later in the week, The Kansas City Star reported.

"It's a (good) thing that the rain quit when it did. We can't take any more," said Lanny Frakes, a farmer who was stacking sandbags in Buchanan.

The Platte and Grand rivers also were threatening communities, prompting large-scale sand-bagging efforts. Cities with higher levees, such as St. Joseph, Mo., watched as the Missouri crested without causing major damage.

"The water never even came close to where our sandbag effort took place," said Mary Robertson, a spokeswoman for St. Joseph.

More rain was in the forecast for Thursday, however.

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