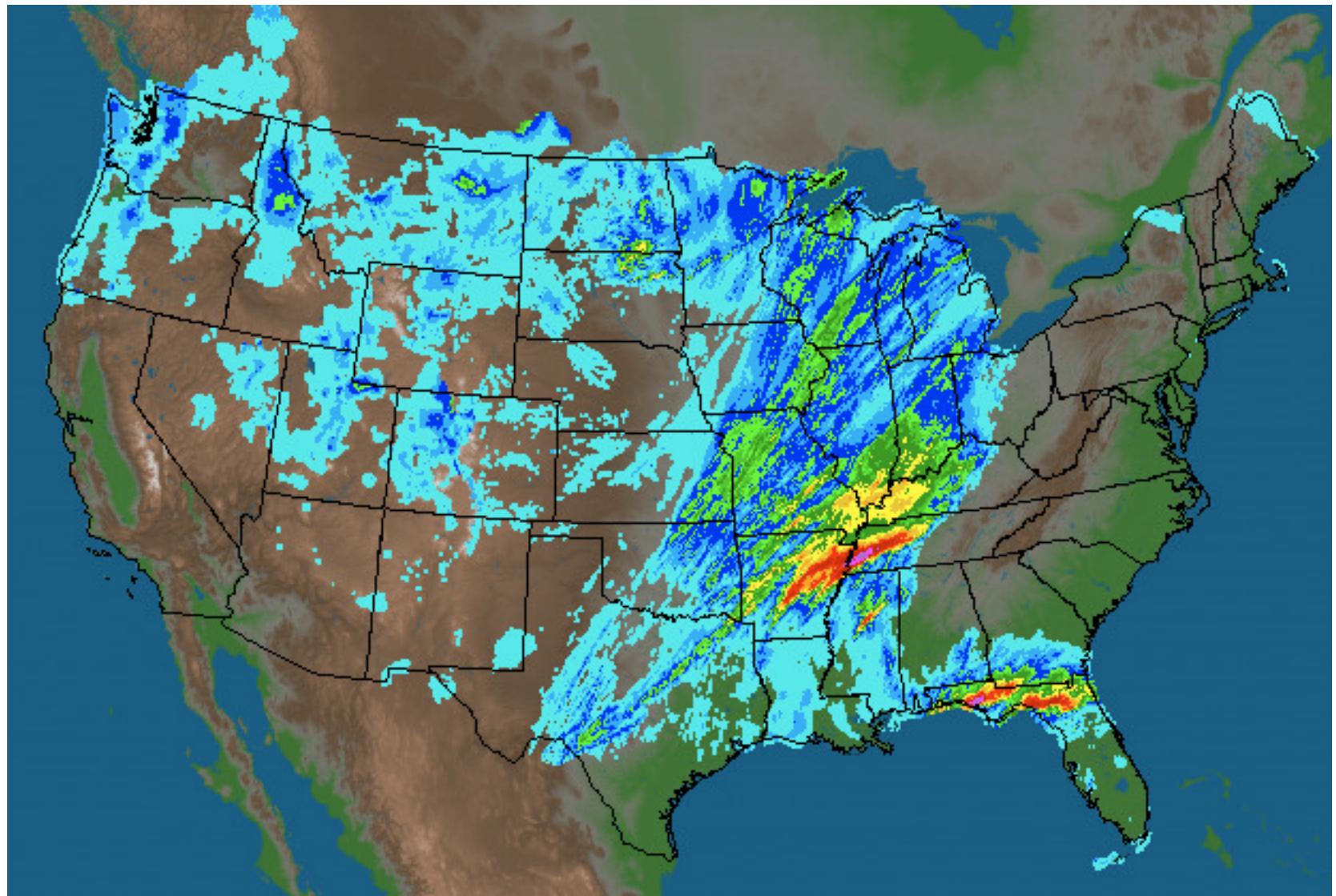


# The 2010 Nashville Flood

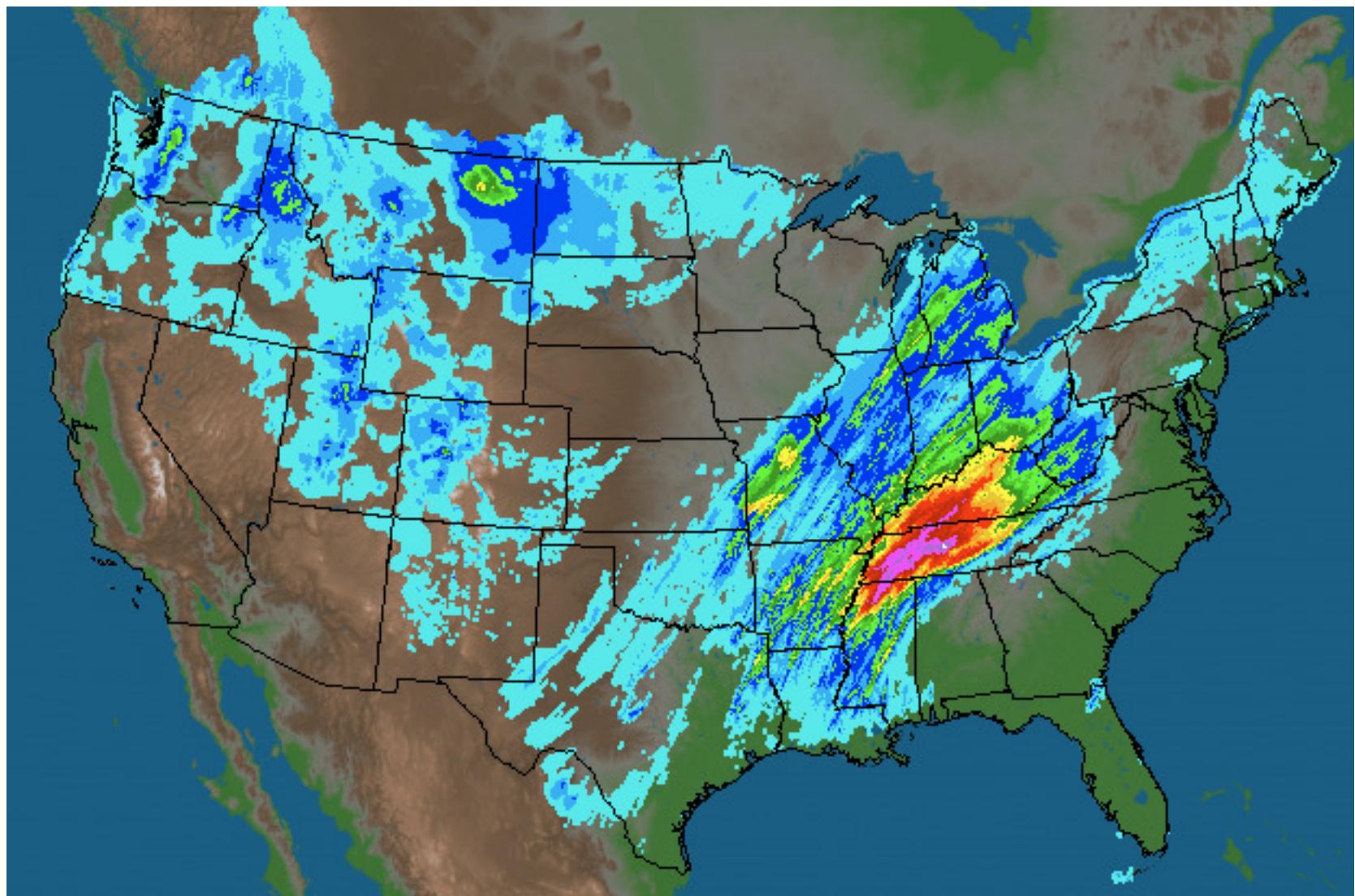


Photo by The Tennessean

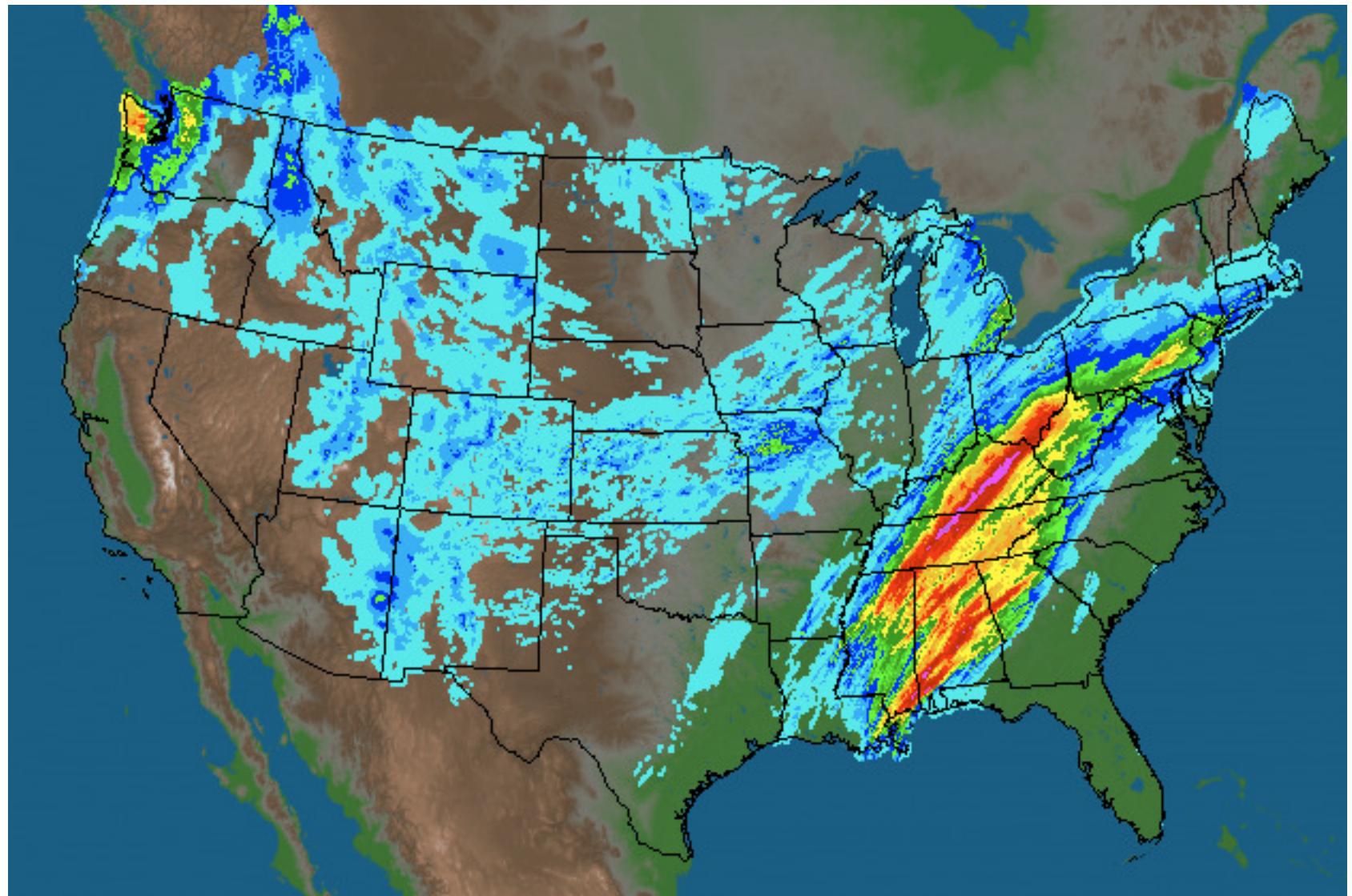
# Friday, April 30th



# Saturday, May 1st



# Sunday, May 2nd



# Monday, May 3rd



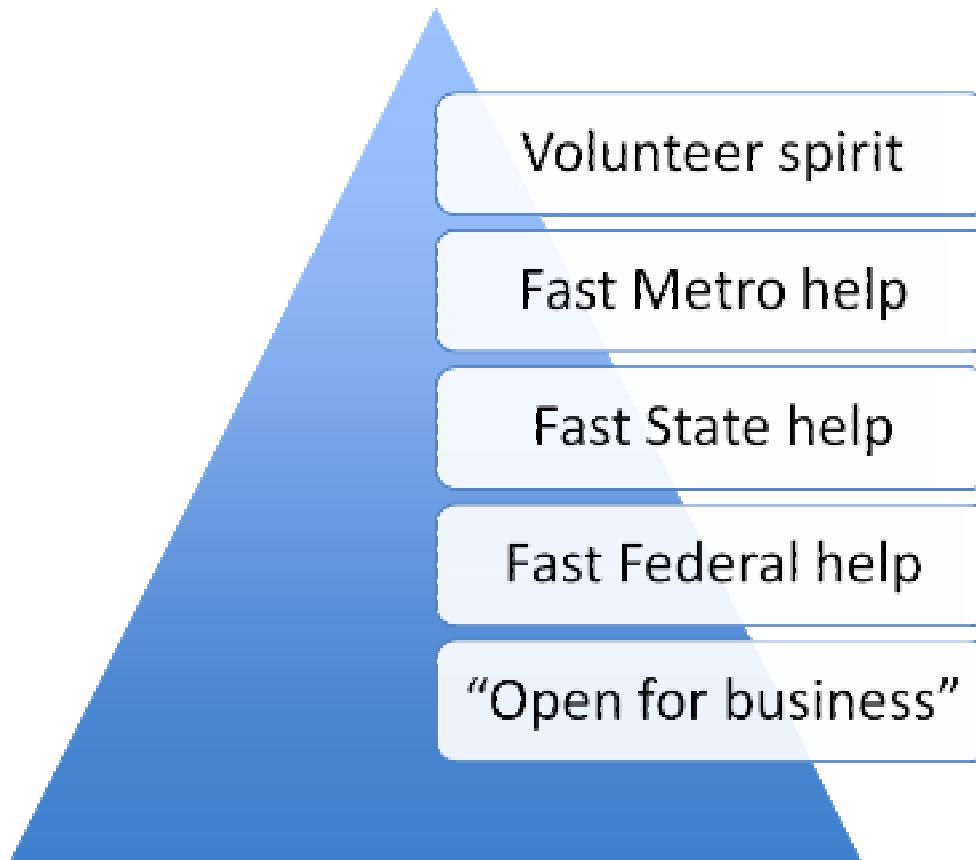
Photo by The Tennessean



Photo by The Tennessean

Best community response ever.  
**WE ARE NASHVILLE.**

# Path to recovery



# The federal “alphabet soup”

1. Private insurance (if any)
  2. FEMA registration, emergency aid
  3. SBA loan application (for non-business too!)
  4. IRS tax refunds due to losses
  5. HUD assistance through CDBG or EDA?
    - State and Metro will allocate any such monies
- 
- Documentation is KEY

# SBA Loans

- \$240,000 limit for homeowners
- \$2 million limit for business
  - For each subsidiary or affiliate too?
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage but with better terms than 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Better terms than any bank can offer
  - 30-year, fixed rate financing as low as 2.75%
  - Forbearance on interest possible, depending on need



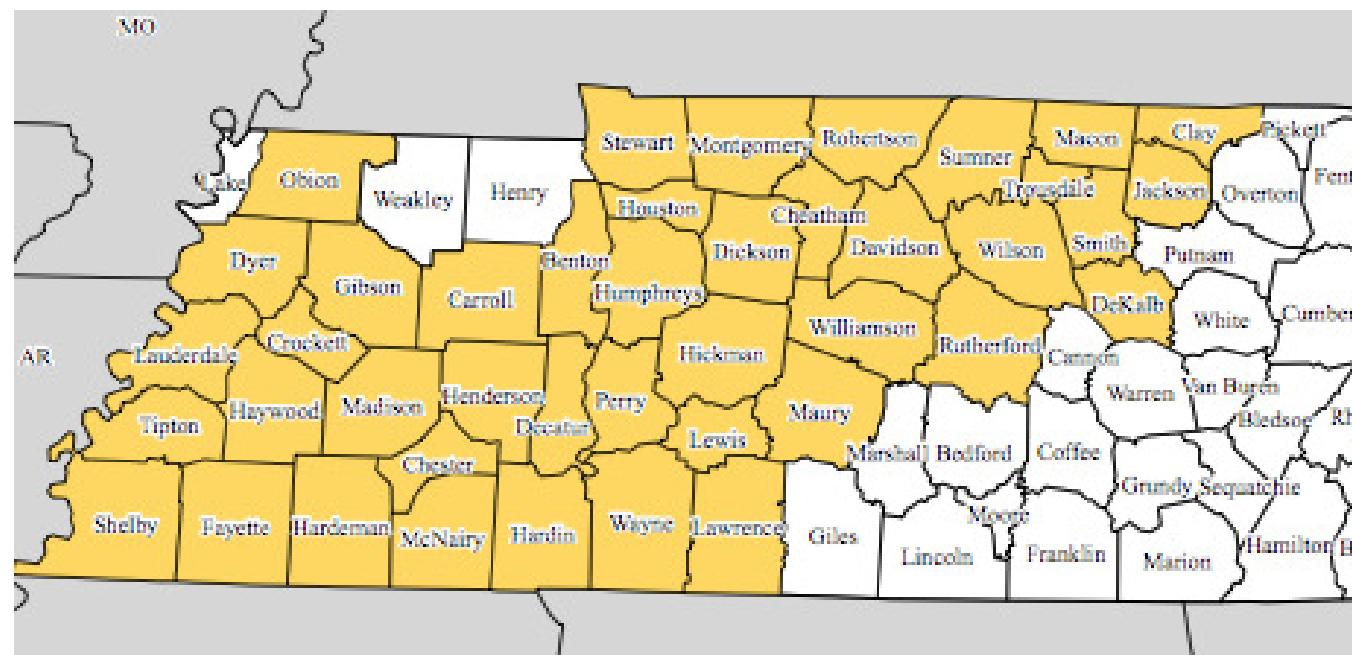
Never again

Picture by Patty Harbison

**Who was warned?  
No one.**

Worst damage since Civil War?  
Cars left in driveways;  
Trucks left in terminals

# Official TN Disaster Counties





Typical rural damage  
In Blackburn's district

## You Could Ride High For Days On This Plan

Page 4



See Page 24

## 'May I Come In?', Youth, 14, Asks at Boys Town

Page 13

## Big Oran BGA: All C Details in Sport

# THE TENNESSEAN

VOL. 65—No. 549

World News Service  
Part of American Media

NASHVILLE, TENN., SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1975

25 CENTS

## Weather Damage May Be 'Worst Ever'

Federal investigators will arrive here tomorrow to determine whether disaster qualifies for federal disaster relief, Gov. Ray Blanton said yesterday after a helicopter tour of water-logged Middle Tennessee.

"This may possibly be the worst dollar damage of any weather condition the state has ever suffered," the governor said. "I am afraid great damage has been done." Guards at the National Guard Armory have also visited Springfield and Columbia with state officials, civil defense inspectors and members of the press.

BLANTON ALSO issued an executive order designating the State Civil Defense and the Emergency Preparedness of the Military Department to coordinate communications with the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration. If areas of the state are declared disaster areas, the Department of Public Welfare will screen applicants for assistance, and the Department of Economic and Community Development will administer community disaster loans.

The governor said the "left over" parts of Tennessee will qualify for federal disaster relief in the form of loans to replace buildings, roads and dams destroyed in the flood.

Blanton said it is impossible to tell how extensive the damage has been until the water recedes but he estimated damage to highways alone will exceed the \$11 million mark.

STATE CIVIL DEFENSE Director Jerry McFarland said Jackson County was one of the hardest-hit areas, with an estimated 300 bridges out and 800 houses damaged.

He said the water treatment plant in Cartersville was back in operation yesterday, with Madison County tanks on standby.

The water plant at Springfield resumed service in the local hospital yesterday morning, and residential service was expected to be resumed there this morning.

DAMAGE in Robertson County was estimated at \$1.25 million. Bridge repair alone will cost nearly half a million, according to Robertson County Civil Defense Director Art Garrett.

In Columbia, Blanton was honored on Friday night by Bedford, Rutherford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Lawrence, (Turn to Page 8, Column 2)



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## Flood Delays Opryland Opening Date

Opryland U.S.A., National Life's \$350 million theme park, is mostly underwater as the rising Cumberland River continued to creep up late yesterday. The flood waters forced cancellation of last night's and tonight's performances of the Grand Ole Opry in the new Opry House in background. The Opry was moved to Municipal Auditorium.

## Water Edges Opry House Stage; 'Damage in Millions'

By LYNN HARVEY  
Animal rescue operations

continued at Opryland.

U.S.A. last night, as pumps worked to keep the rising Cumberland River from water off the stage of the Grand Ole Opry House.

Meanwhile, the Friday night Opry celebrated its first anniversary in the new Opry House by moving downtown to the Municipal Auditorium, where tonight's

performances will also be held.

THE OPRYLAND animals are in surprisingly good shape, and losses so far as we know at this point are very small, said Mike Clegg, Opryland director of marketing, said late yesterday from temporary stage at Opryland headquarters in the Opryland Showplace.

No major flooding or damage was reported on the main floor.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

(Turn to Page 8, Column 2)

## Schools' Fund Loss Sharp Cut in Unsold Called First Recovery Possible

By RICHARD HUGHES  
U.S. Bureau of the

House are flooded, but the water is still one foot below getting onto the stage. We are pumping 21,000 gallons an hour out of there, and we don't think it will get onto the stage," Clegg said.

A number of seats on the lower level of the Opry stage have been removed, and no serious damage was reported on the main floor.

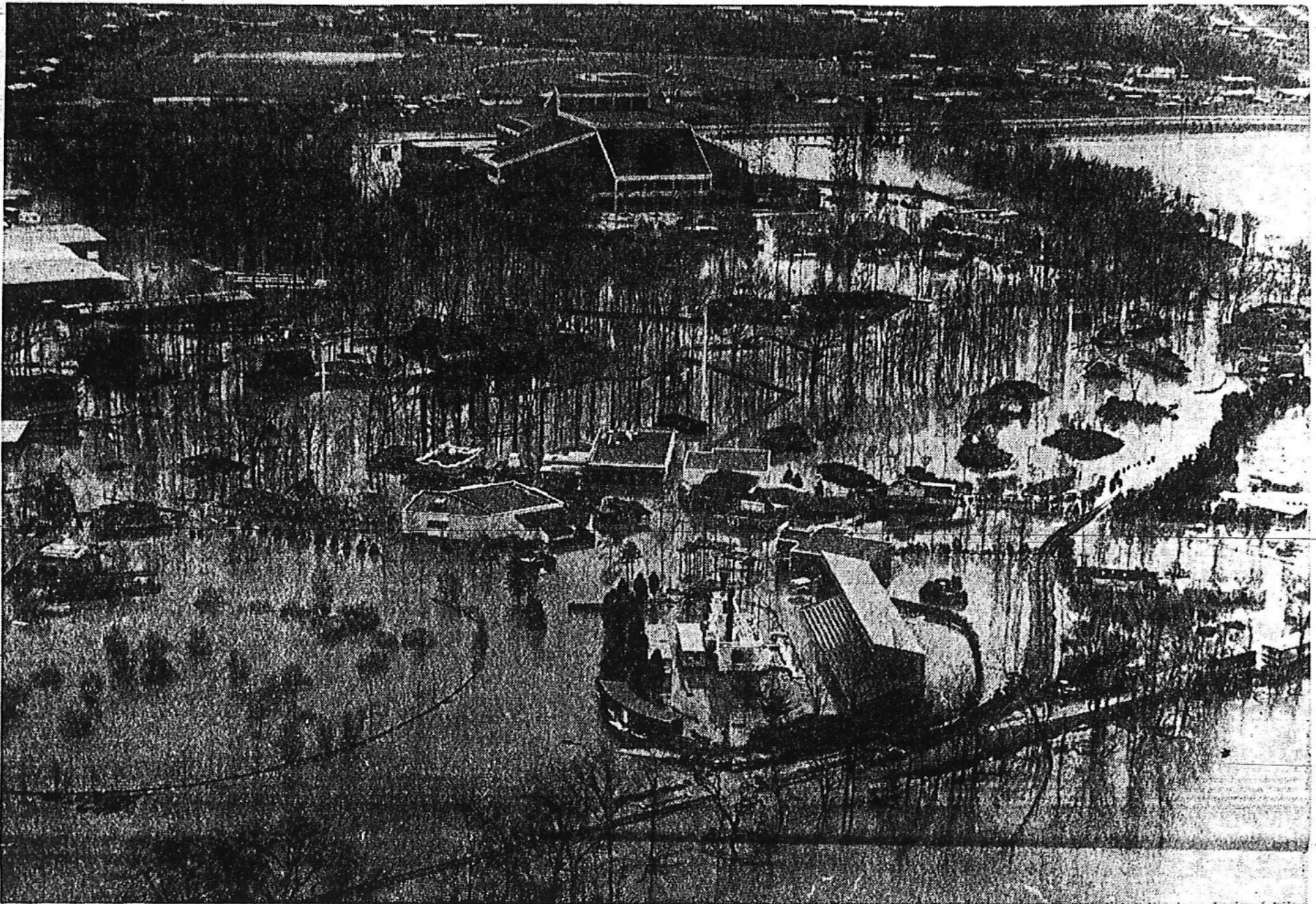
PROPERTY DAMAGE

(Turn to Page 8, Column 2)

"It's really super because this is the beginning of a long awaited period of economic liquidation which is necessary to lay the groundwork for an expected summer recovery," Kellner said.

THE COMMERCIAL: De-

partment said that for the first time since May 1969, the amount of unsold goods held by businesses declined in January rather than increased.



—Staff aerialphoto by Jerry Thompson

## Flood Delays Opryland Opening Date

Opryland U.S.A., National Life's \$350 million theme park, is mostly underwater as the cancellation of last night's and tonight's performances of the Grand Ole Opry in the new

# Nashville Banner

Long May Our Land Be Bright With Freedom's Starry Light, Praise We By The Right, Great God Ever-Living.

Vol. 100 No. 283 Friday, Feb. 27, 1970, Nashville, Tennessee, Publishing Company NASHVILLE, TENN., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 10, 1970. \$1.50

11 PAGES

11 PAGES

Flooding Forces Evacuations, Snarls Traffic

## Deluge Swamps Midstate

This story was compiled by staffers Karen Lusk, Frances Meeks, Vickie Johnson, Shirley Gandy, Mary Jane Brown.

Flood-beds in Middle Tennessee were forcing many residents from their homes Saturday morning, snarling traffic on several major roads.

The floodwaters in Hendersonville and Crossville areas have been rising but authorities reported no deaths or injuries in flood-related accidents.

Quality moving waters in several counties caused flooding Saturday morning and Federal squads took action

trying to reach people trapped in their houses or boats.

Quinton reported a west Wilson County town where residents trying to reach their car's occupants, King City, Tennessee. Hendersonville, the Asheville, Cherokee County, and Waynesboro, Madison County, areas experienced flooding Saturday morning before 7:30 A.M.

Flood warnings remained in effect Saturday afternoon throughout most Middle Tennessee areas.

Motor police reported flooded streets and hazardous driving roads in West Tennessee Saturday morning.

State Patrol 111, which includes the Memphis area, reported two accidents

inadequate to cause flooding Saturday morning.

Throughout the day, a sheriff's office dispatcher in Gallatin said his city's streets were flooded in four areas. At 7:30 a.m. and the water was deepening, a U.S. 36 bridge between Gallatin and White Oak, Tennessee, collapsed, trapping two cars.

Henderson County schools were closed while classes in some areas of Madison, Rutherford, and Wilson counties were unable to get to their schools.

In Wilson County, 11 school buses were stranded in floodwaters around Cane Creek and on Park Circle in Old Hickory.

According to Anderson, motor police reported flooding Saturday morning, with roads inundated by lightning strikes throughout

In Nashville, power lines were down in scattered areas of the city, but no injuries or major damage had been reported.

An electrical line fell on a Melton branch at 10th and North and Jefferson Street without causing any damage to the occupants, Norman Anderson, Nashville Electric Service spokesman, said. Lines were also damaged along Union Street between 20th and Carroll Drive and on Park Circle in Old Hickory.

According to Anderson, motor police reported flooding Saturday morning, with roads inundated by lightning strikes throughout

the heavy rains causing "spot" floods.

"The storm is causing minor traffic jams on U.S. 70 and State 100," Anderson said. "But the trouble is widespread," Anderson commented.

In other areas, major roads and bridges were closed, causing traffic snarls for thousands of area residents on their way to work.

A massive limp was reported in Clarksville, where a 10-ft. wall collapsed on U.S. 70.

Clarkson, Tennessee, Mayor Fred Anderson, who was working on that artery, said floodwaters in some areas were 10 inches.

Hamblen, Tennessee, in some areas

reached 10 inches.

Hamblen Mayor, reported flooding

inches of water, while Bell Buckle

Benton County reported 10 inches of water. The weather service at Ft. Campbell Army Airfield north of Clarksville reported 10 inches of rain.

All counties were under and east of Tennessee reported flooding.

In Henderson, three families were forced to leave for the second time in two weeks.

"This probably here could be the third time we've had to leave,"

R. Henderson said.

"We have talked to the city offi-

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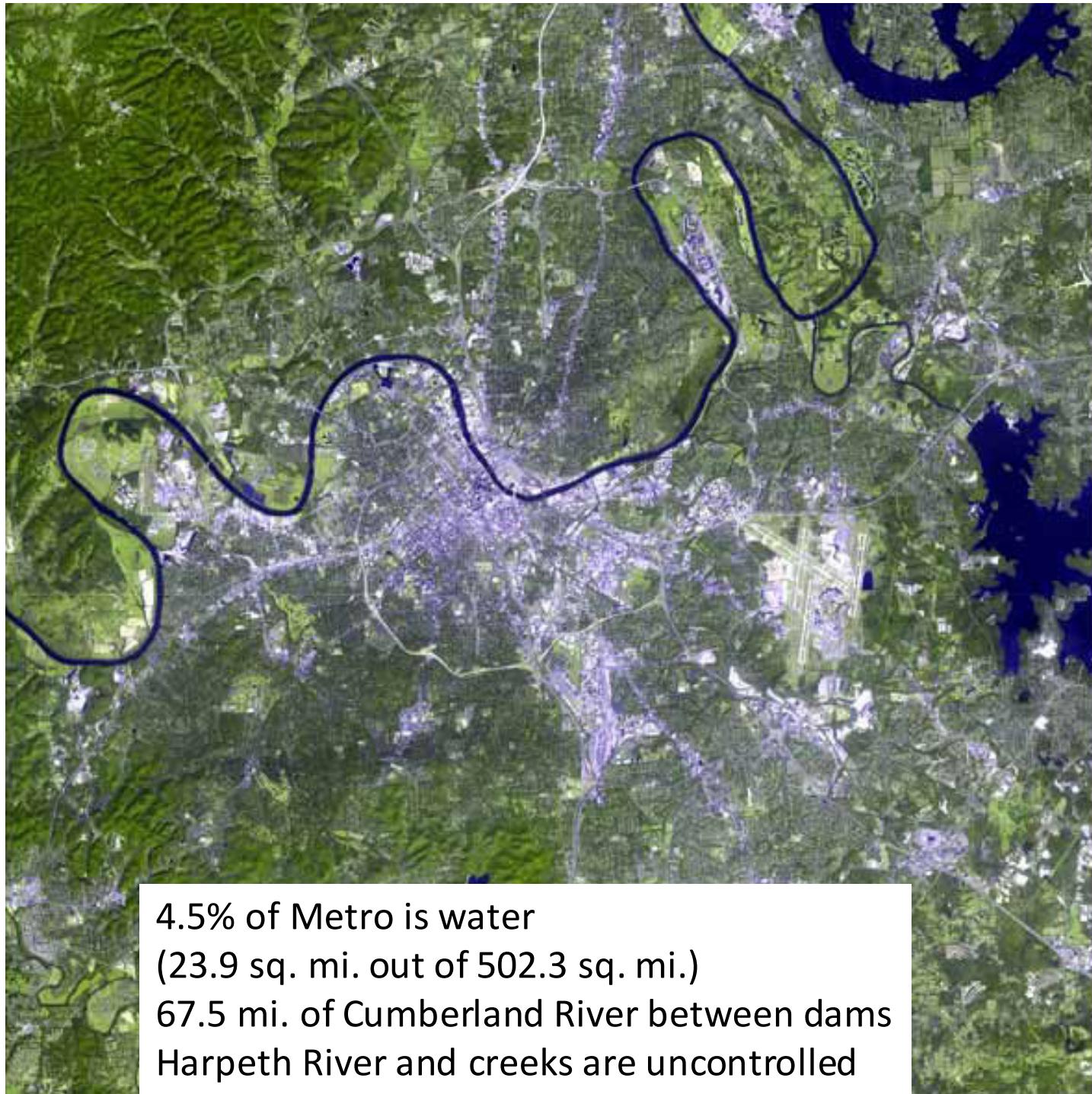
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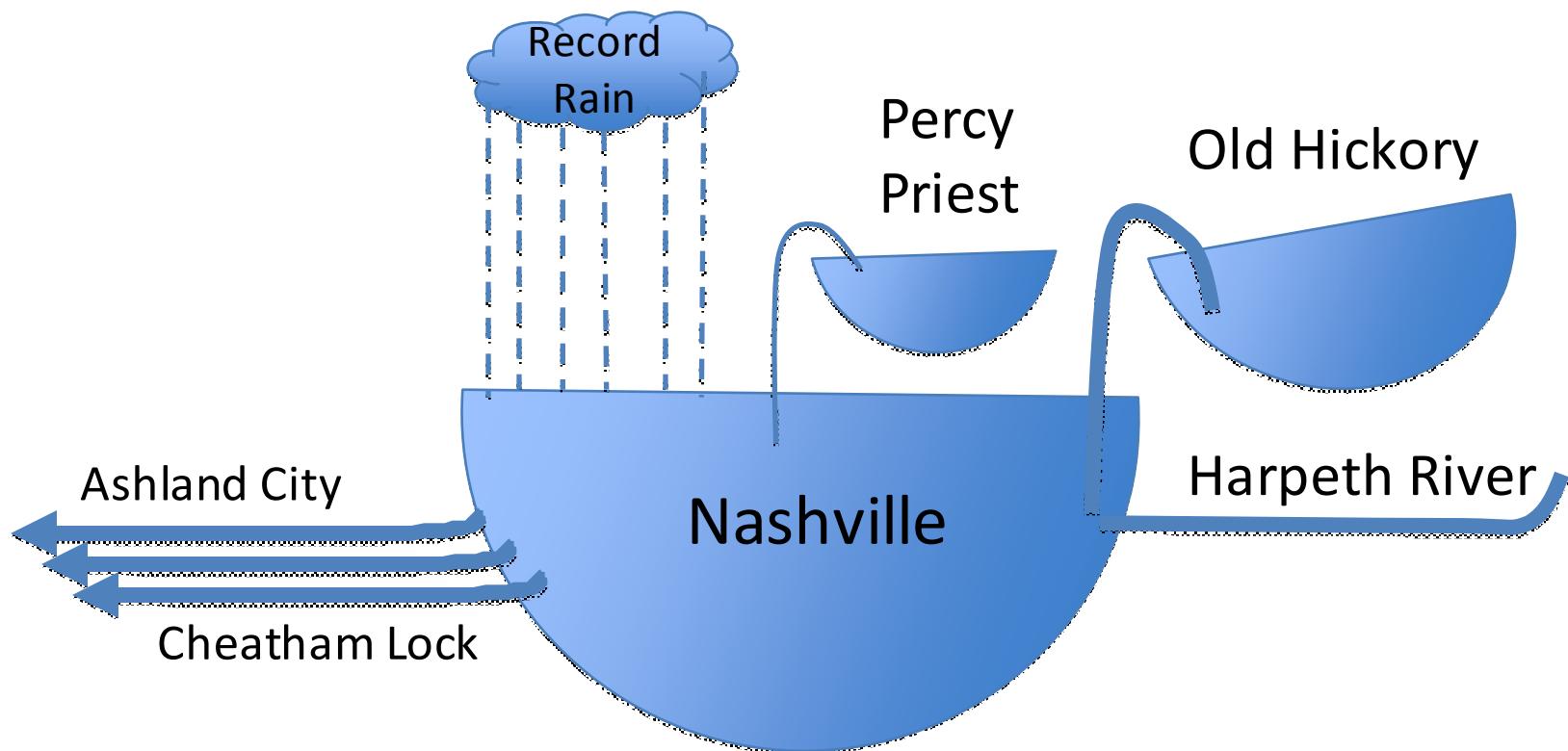
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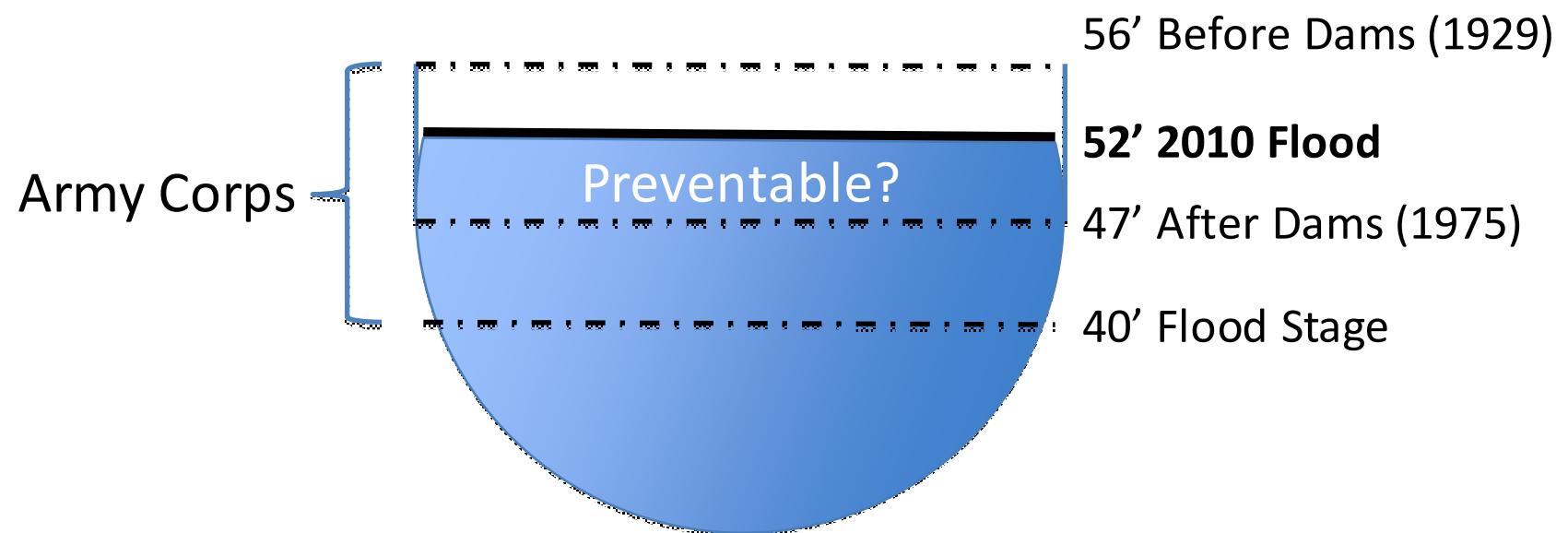


4.5% of Metro is water  
(23.9 sq. mi. out of 502.3 sq. mi.)  
67.5 mi. of Cumberland River between dams  
Harpeth River and creeks are uncontrolled

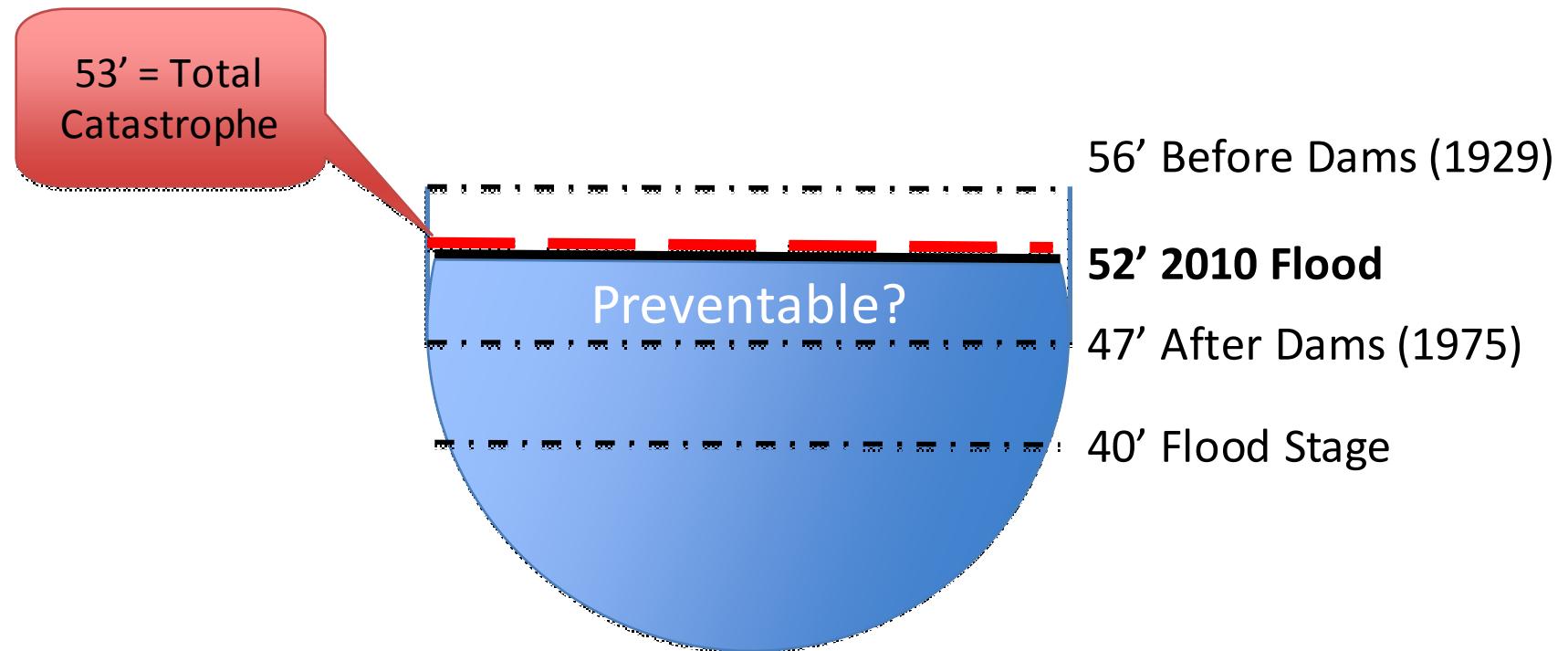
# The Nashville Basin



# Different flood levels:



# Inches from total catastrophe:



5 extra ft. = \$1.5 billion?

\$300 million a foot?

No. Damage grows exponentially.

# **Controlled releasing of water from Old Hickory Dam prevented further flooding in Nashville**

**Release 10-29**

For Immediate Release  
May 4, 2010

## **Army Corps Statement**

**NASHVILLE, TENN.** — The decision to release water from Old Hickory Dam this weekend prevented an additional four feet in flood waters from reaching downtown Nashville, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced.

Water behind the dam in Old Hickory Lake reached a record elevation of 451.4 on Sunday afternoon, just seven inches short of the Corps losing control of the project due to the lake overtopping the dam.

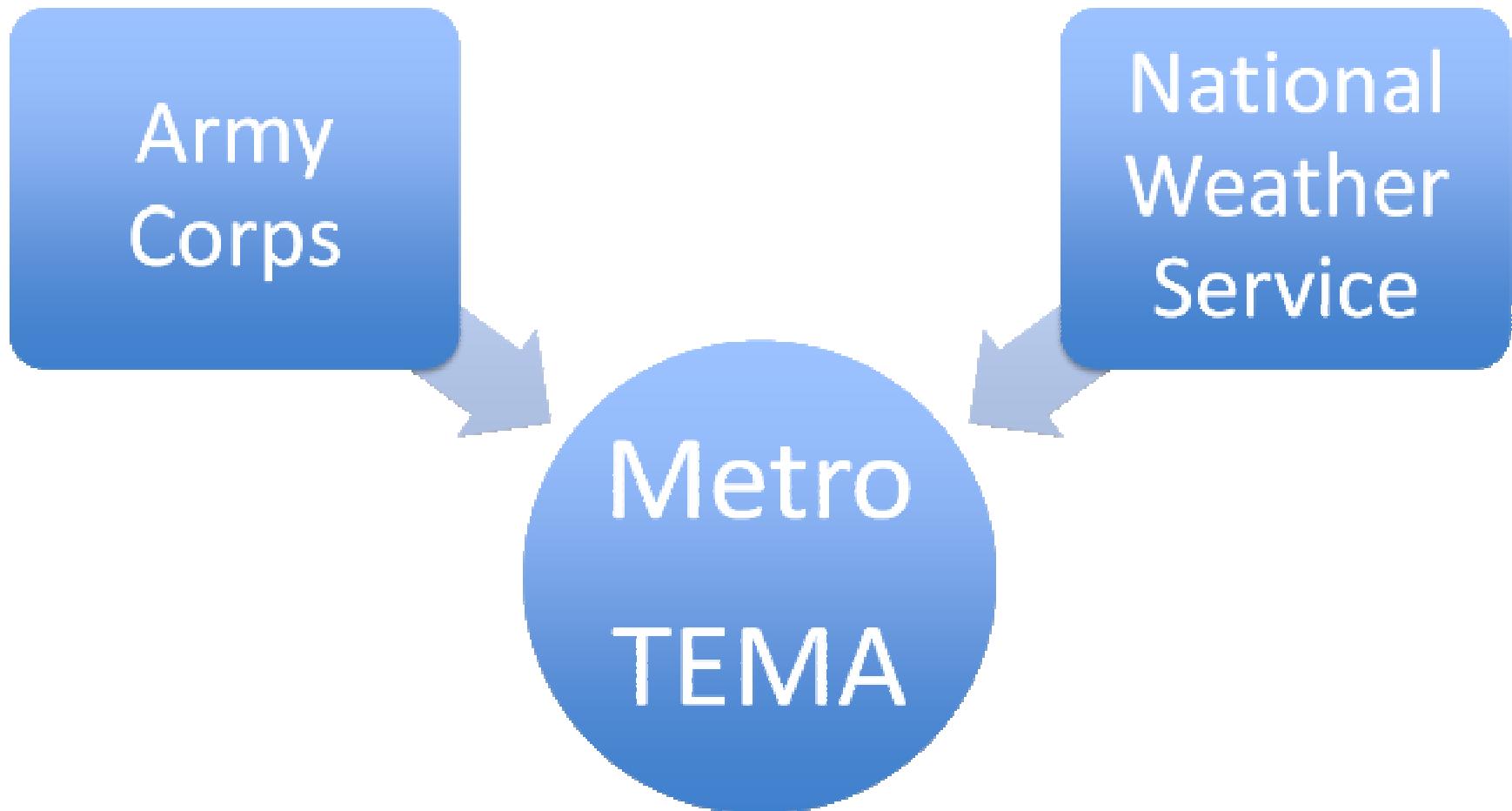
"If we had allowed the lake go to 452 and overtop Old Hickory Dam, the loss of that dam would have added another four feet to the flood levels in downtown Nashville," explained Lt. Col. Anthony Mitchell, Commander of the Nashville District.

"By making the decision to release water from Old Hickory Dam, our water managers saved the dam and prevented flood waters from reaching even higher," he added.

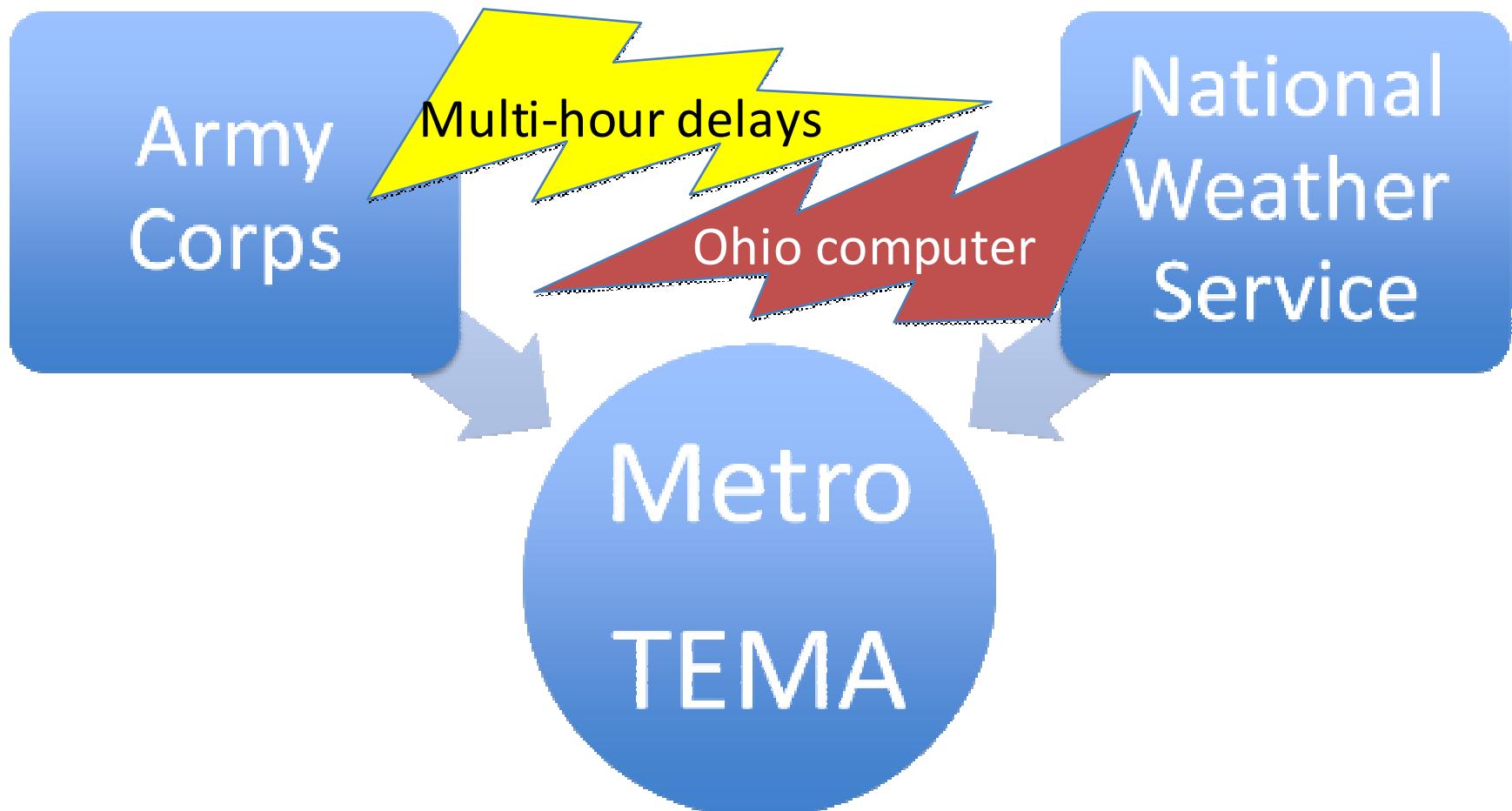
"The perception is that flooding along the Cumberland River was made worse by releases from Corps dams," stated Mitchell. "The truth is that Corps dams kept the flooding throughout the region from being much worse."

**COULD HAVE BEEN \$3+ BILLION?**

# Information pathways



# At least need better communication



Was the Corps or anyone else  
at fault?

Was one of our disasters man-made?

# First rule of dams: safer above than below

Nashville is below two dams  
(and lots more up the Cumberland and  
Caney Fork)

Corps just spent \$150+ million  
on Wolf Creek Dam repairs

Nashville still flooded  
for other reasons

# Man-made disaster?

- No

- Blame record rains
- 42-county disaster
- Uncontrolled Harpeth and creeks did much of our damage
- Metro Center levees held
  - Recently upgraded
  - Gov. actually worked

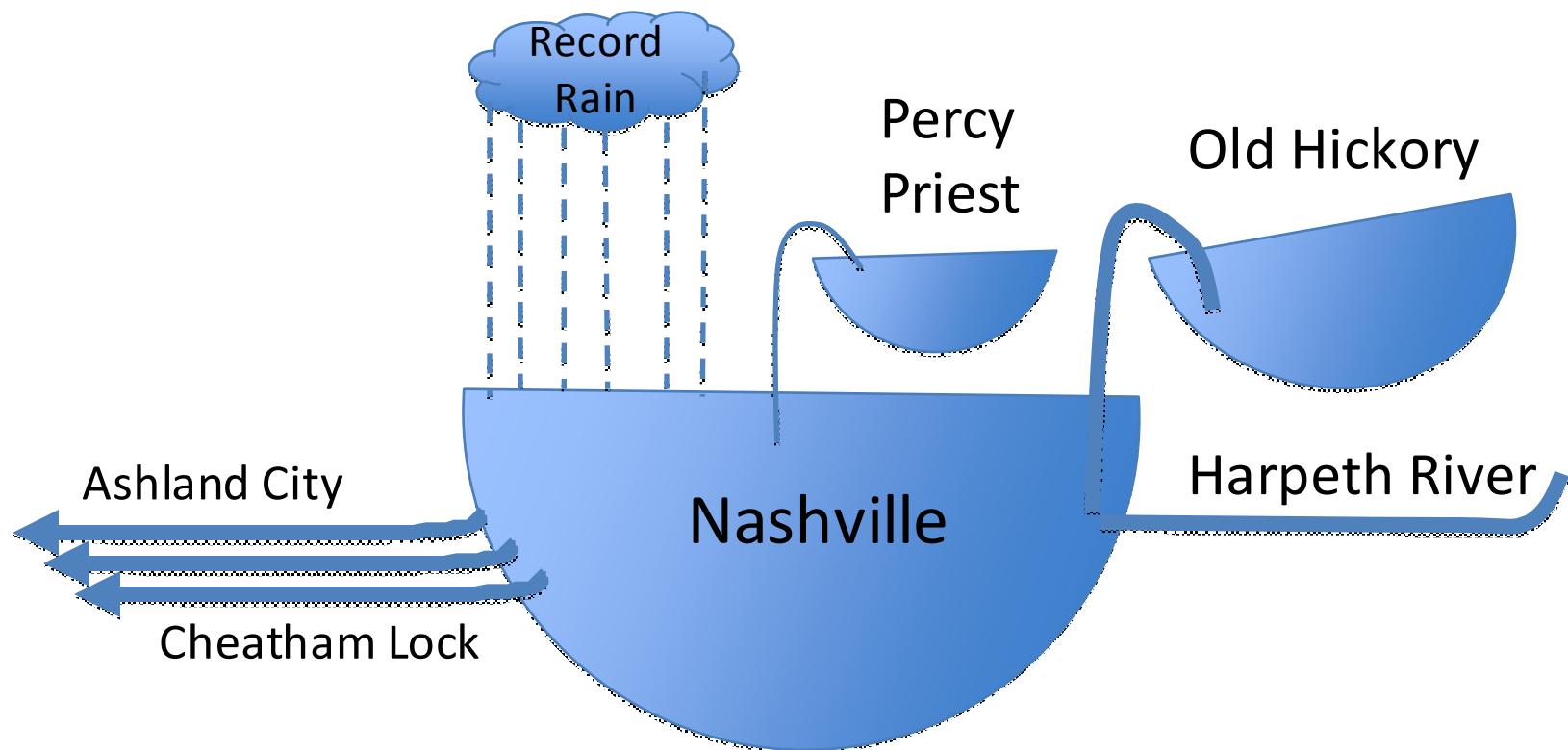
- Yes

- Poor weather forecast
- Poor communication
- No warning
- Dams could have helped reduce Cumberland and Stones River damage
- Almost as bad as if Wolf Creek Dam had burst
- 4 ft. off Old Hickory burst

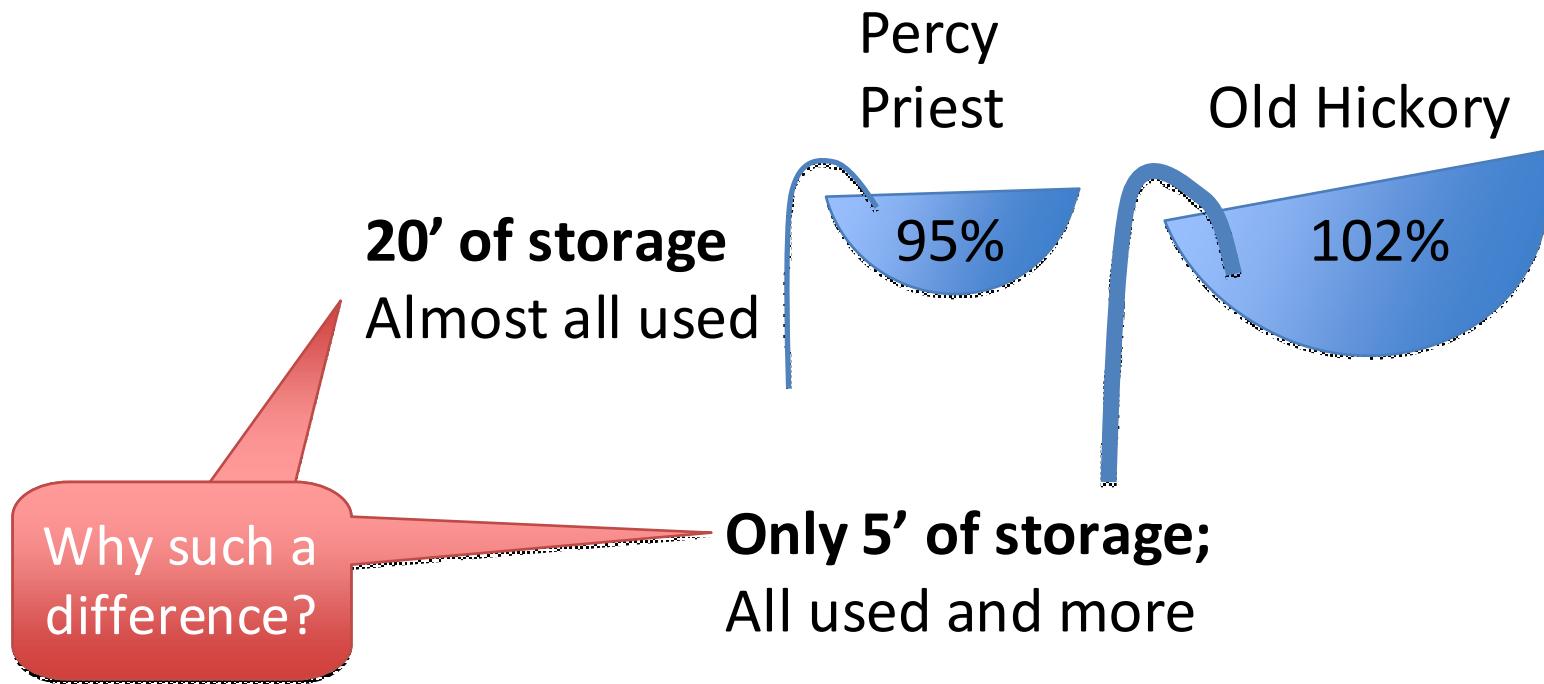
There should be an investigation

Sen. Alexander is right

# The Nashville Basin



# Priest and Old Hickory Dams

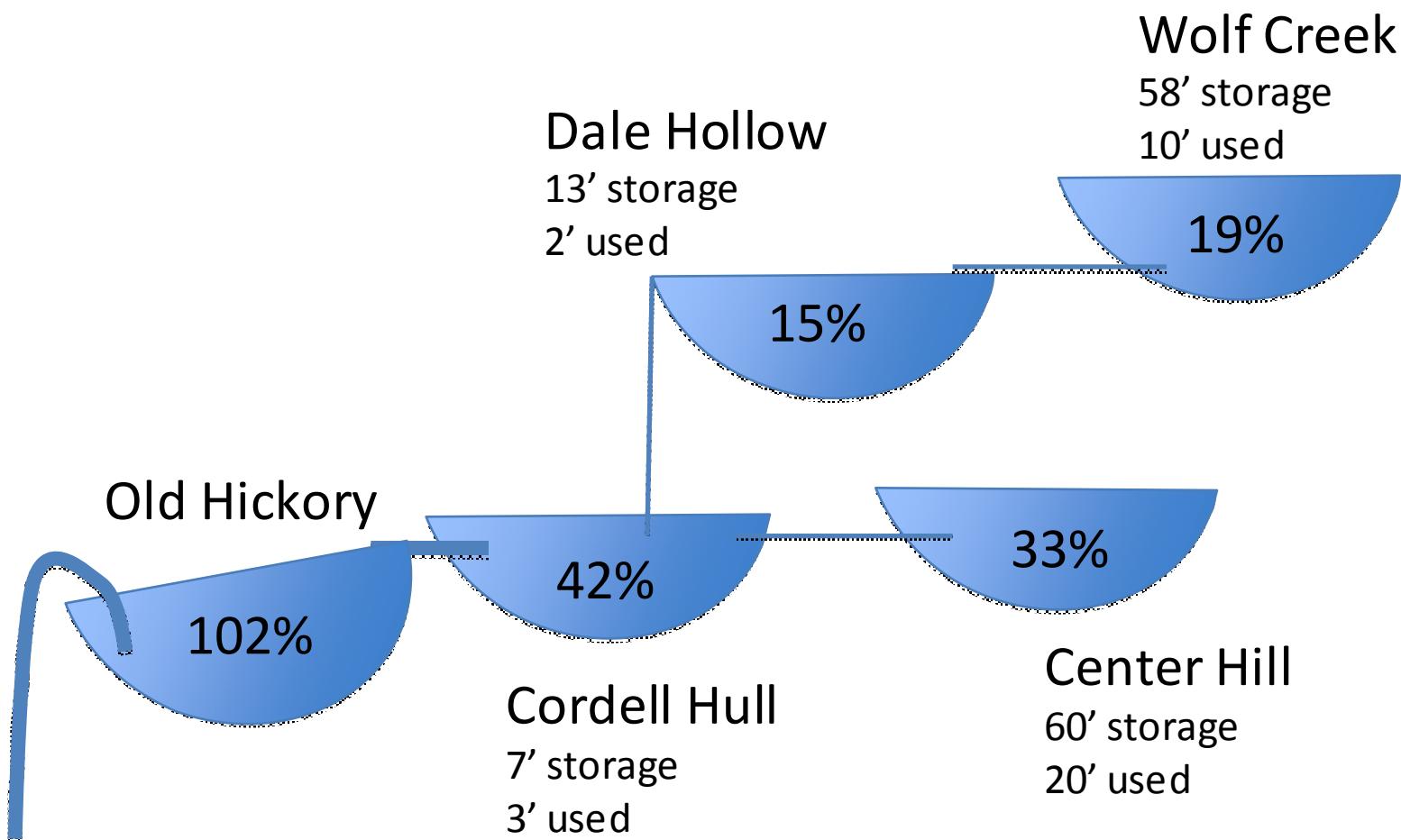


# Every dam has a “decision rule”

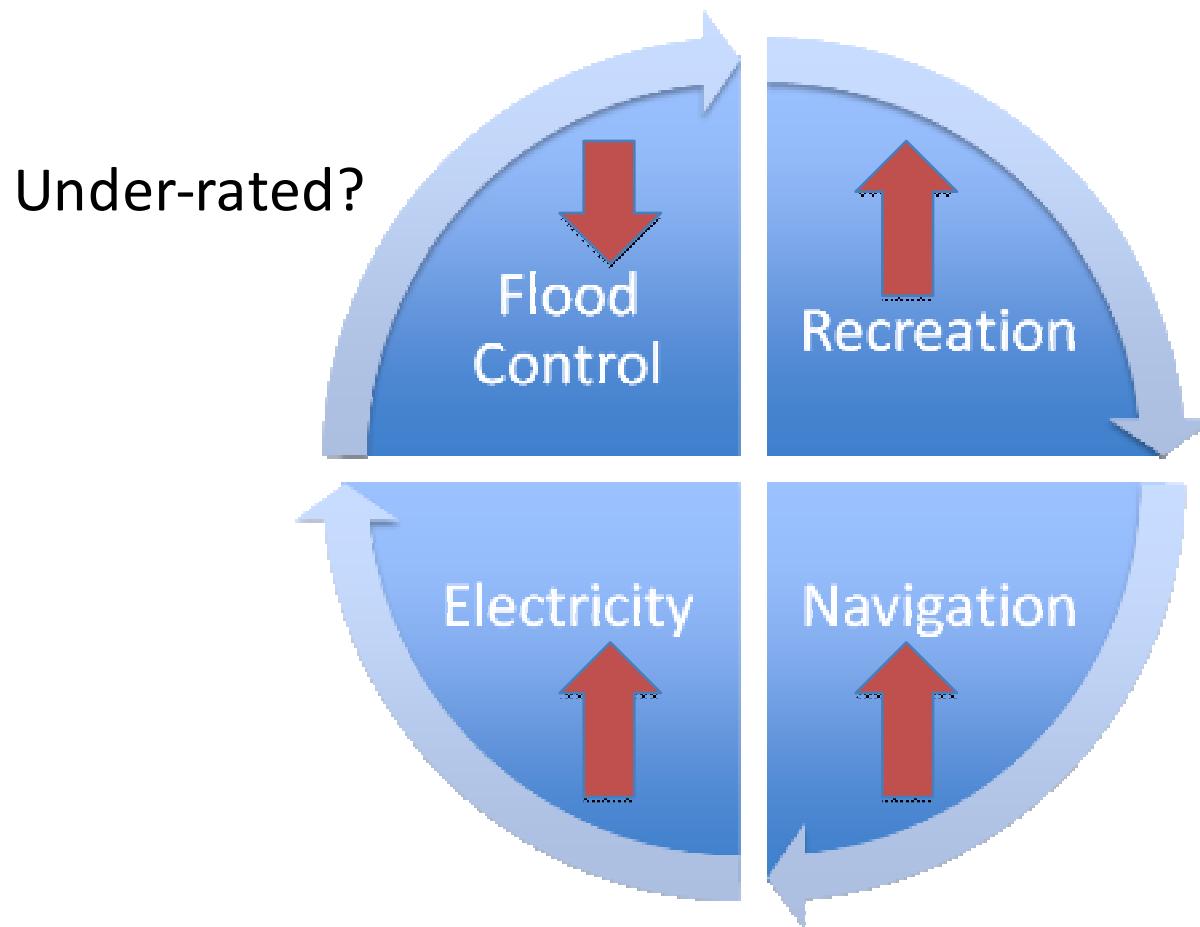
Very difficult to change SOP.

Does ours make sense for Nashville?

# Upstream dam capacity unused?



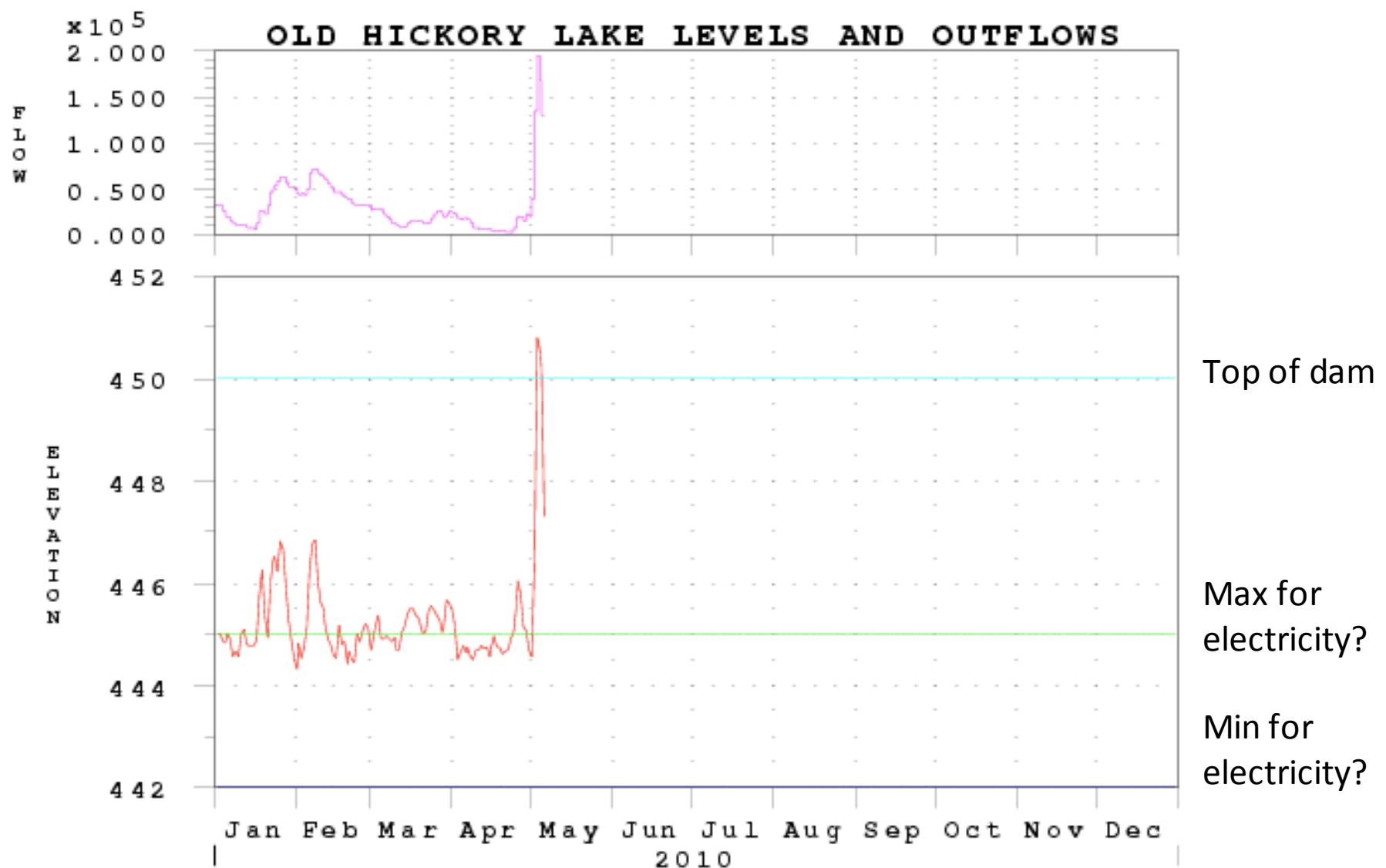
# Corps' duties v. Lake levels



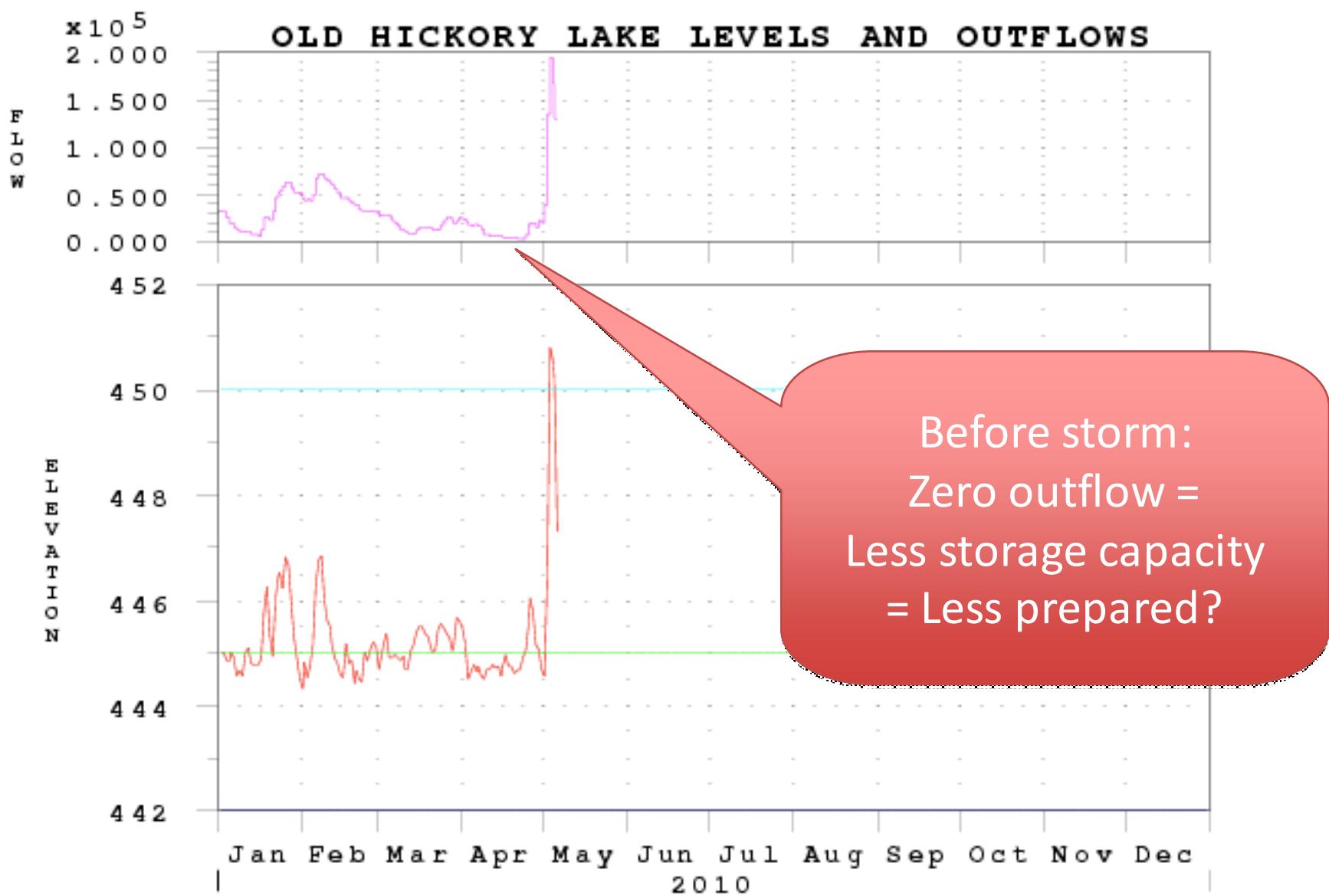
# Is “flood control” an oxymoron?

“Part-time anti-flood efforts”  
is more accurate?

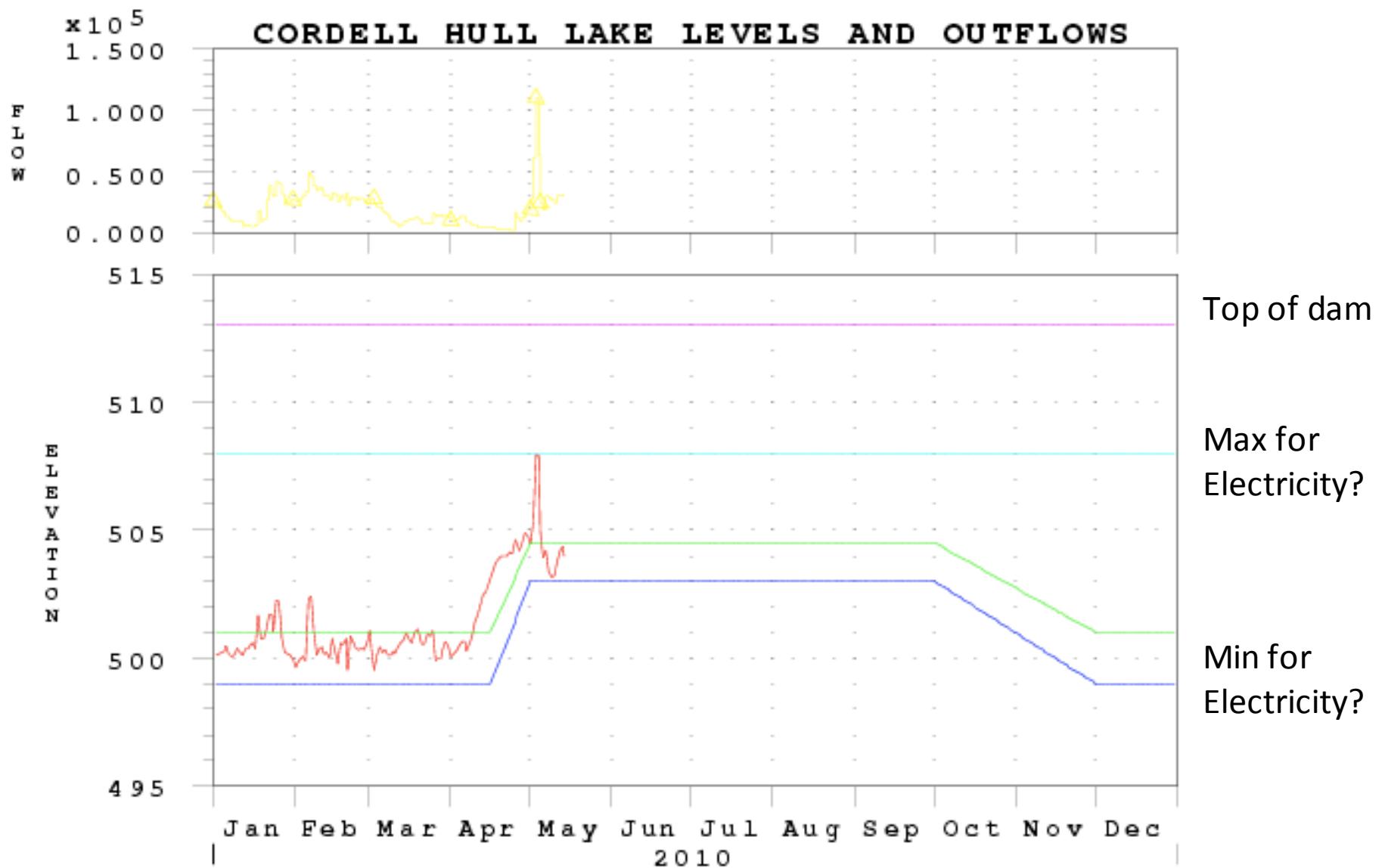
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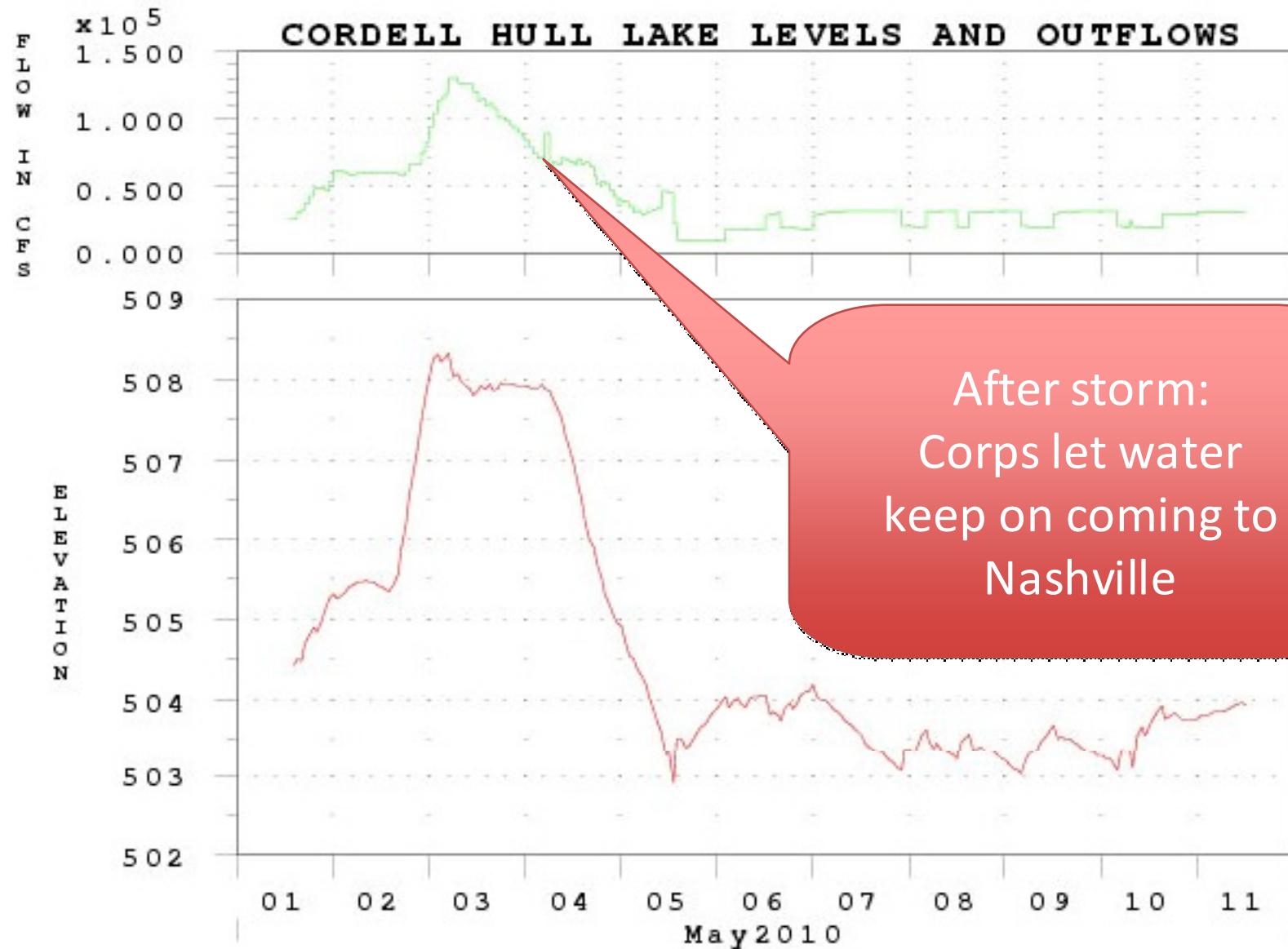


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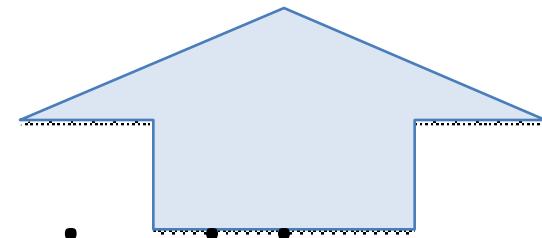


**100-year flood way/plain means:**

No flood for 100 years?

No!

26% chance of flood in a 30-yr mortgage.

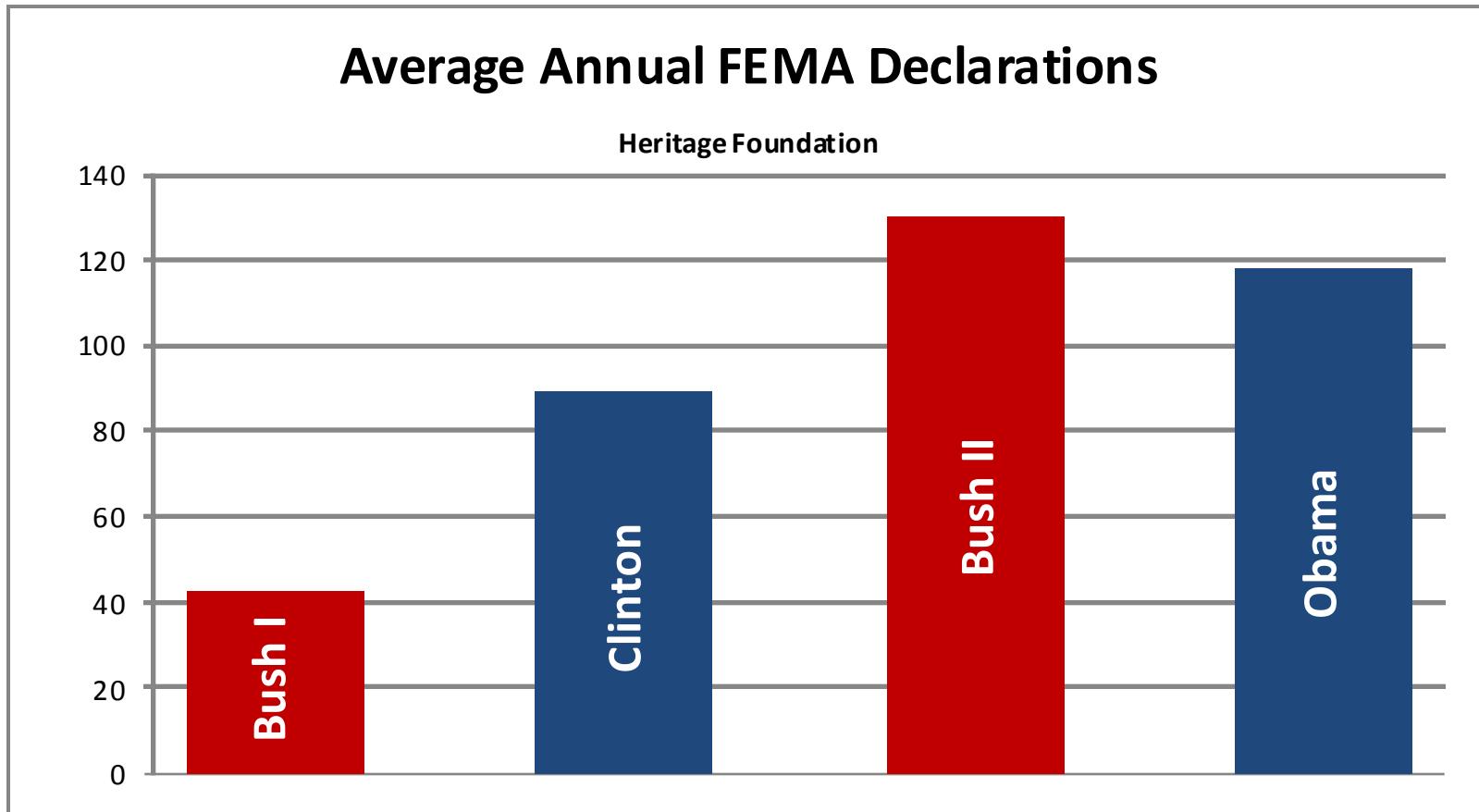


**100-year flood map is rising:**

Every new development raises the probability  
of flooding.

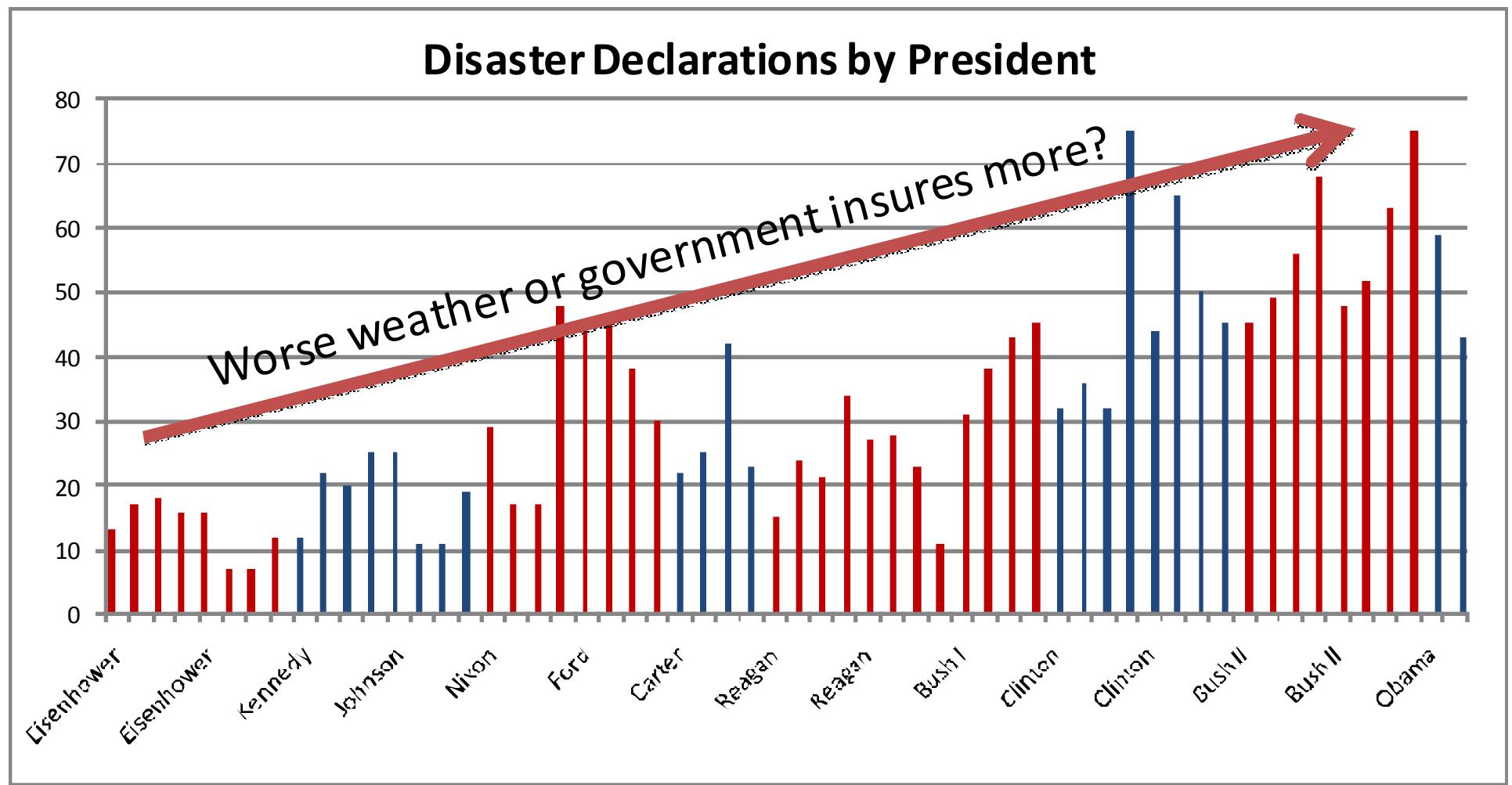
Expect 1-3 increases during 30-yr. mortgage?

# 120 disasters every year nationwide?



A disaster every 3 days?

# More risk, or less insurance?



# Solutions?

- Better weather forecasting?
  - Is weather more volatile today?
- Lower lake levels before rains?
  - What about recreation, hydropower, etc.?
- Less development in flood plains?
  - Offer 500-yr maps? Drives costs up?
- More, better flood insurance?
  - Even if you have it, only pays \$250,000

# Urgency of solutions

Urgency is in the eye of the beholder:

- 500-year flood?
  - Business as usual
- 100-year flood?
  - Take small steps over time
- 30-year flood?
  - Take much bigger steps now
- Or history cannot predict the future?

We need an upbeat recovery,



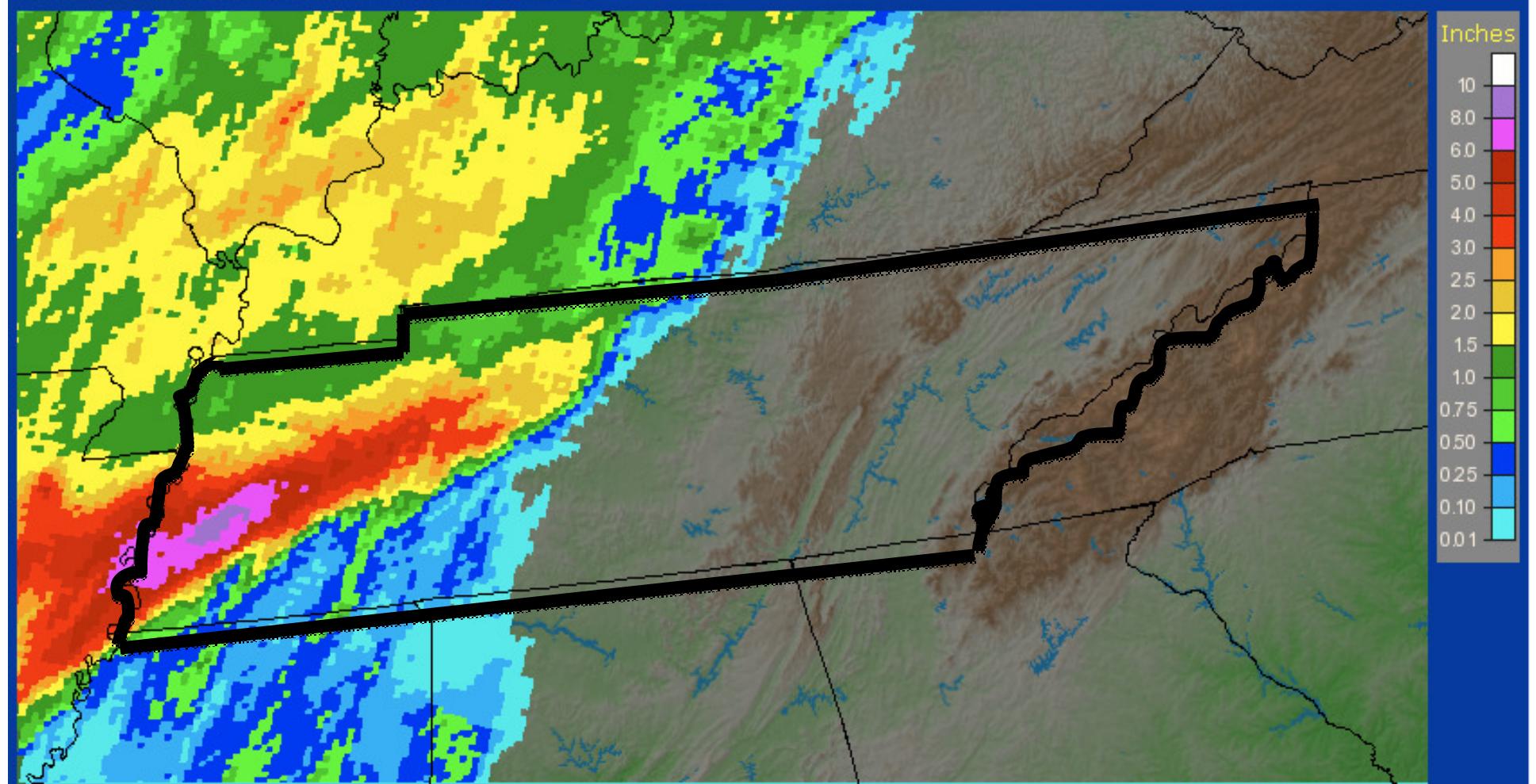
not a blues song.

Photo by The Tennessean

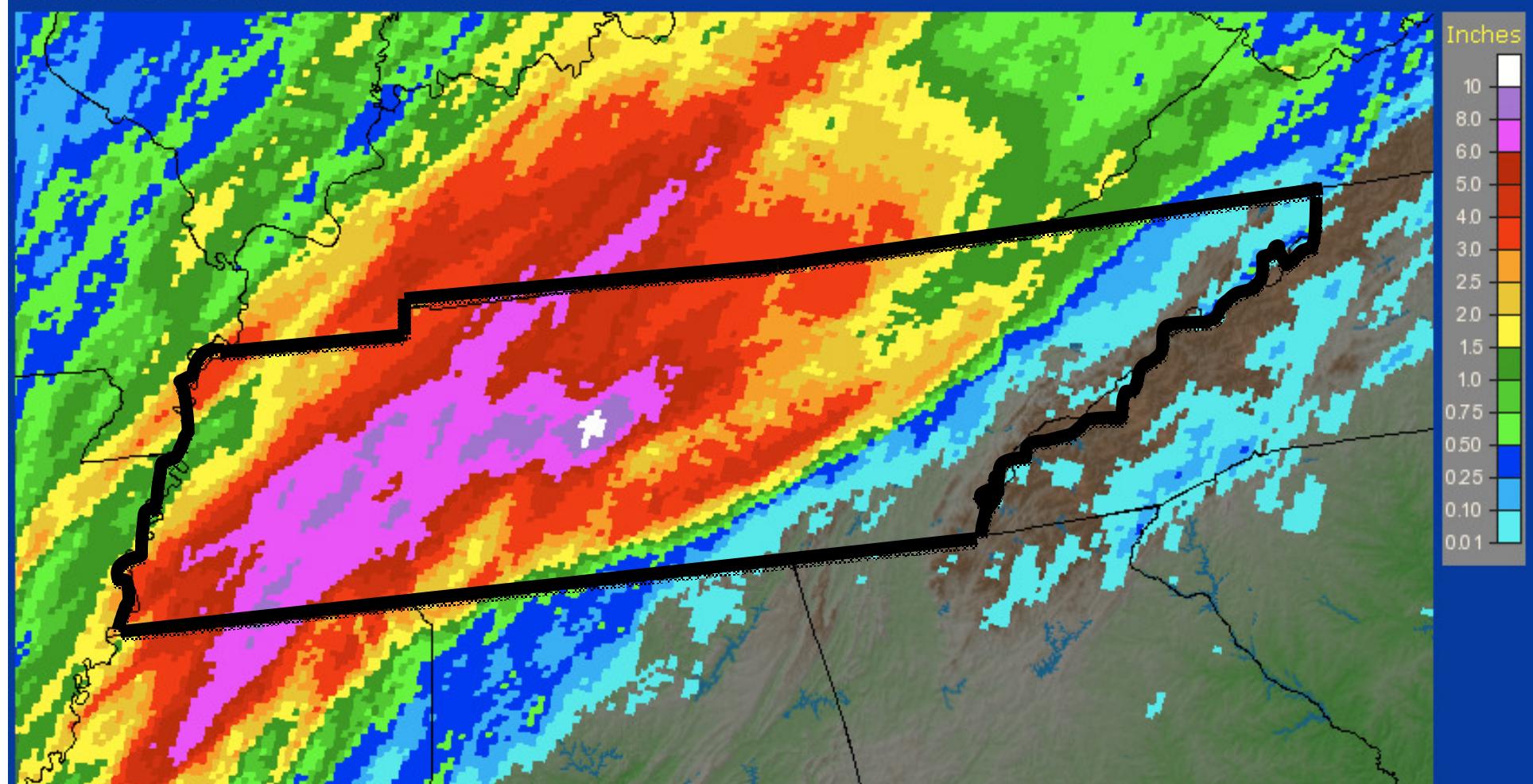


The Tennessean

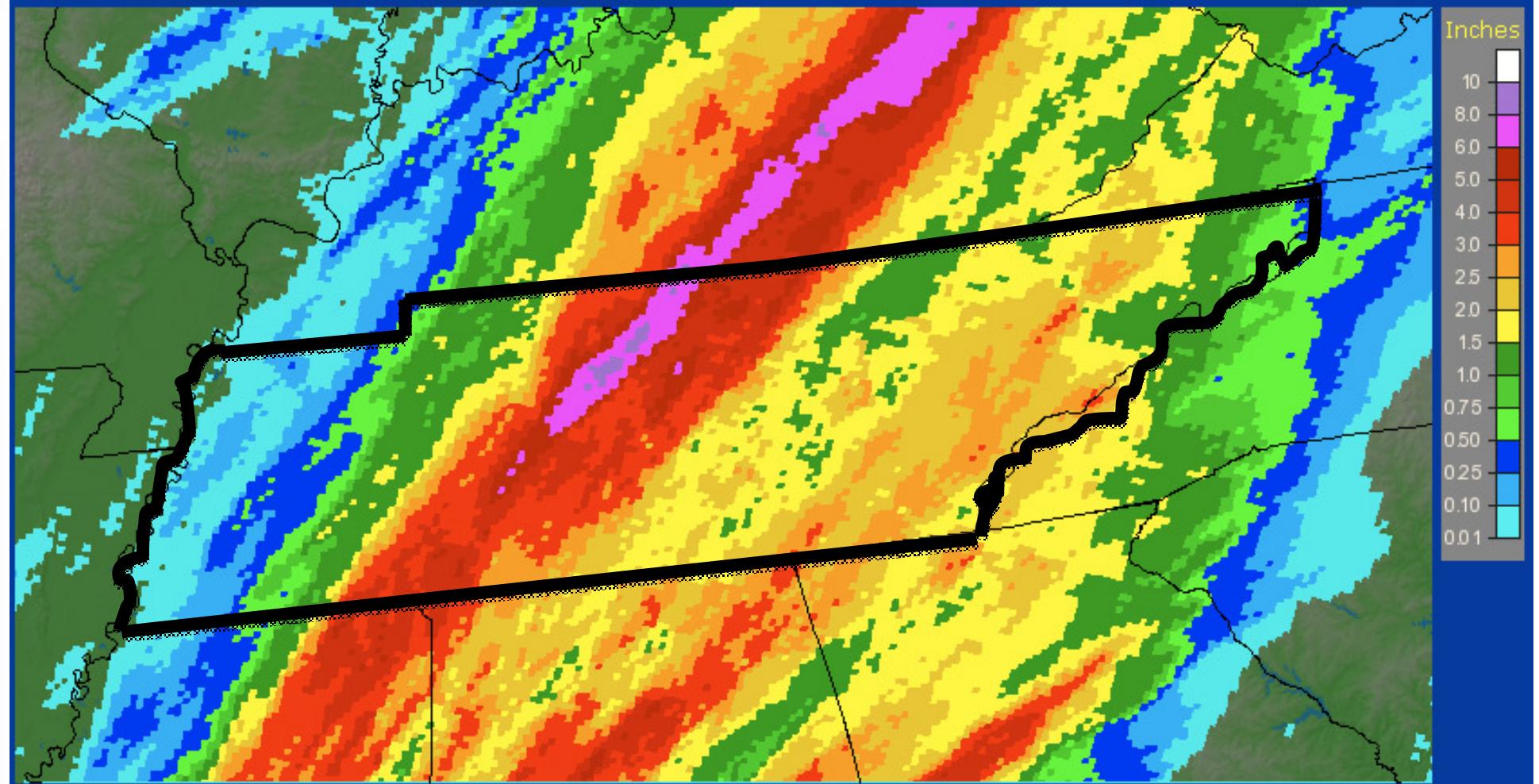
Tennessee: 5/1/2010 1-Day Observed Precipitation  
Valid at 5/1/2010 1200 UTC - Created 5/5/10 16:26 UTC



Tennessee: 5/2/2010 1-Day Observed Precipitation  
Valid at 5/2/2010 1200 UTC - Created 5/4/10 23:00 UTC

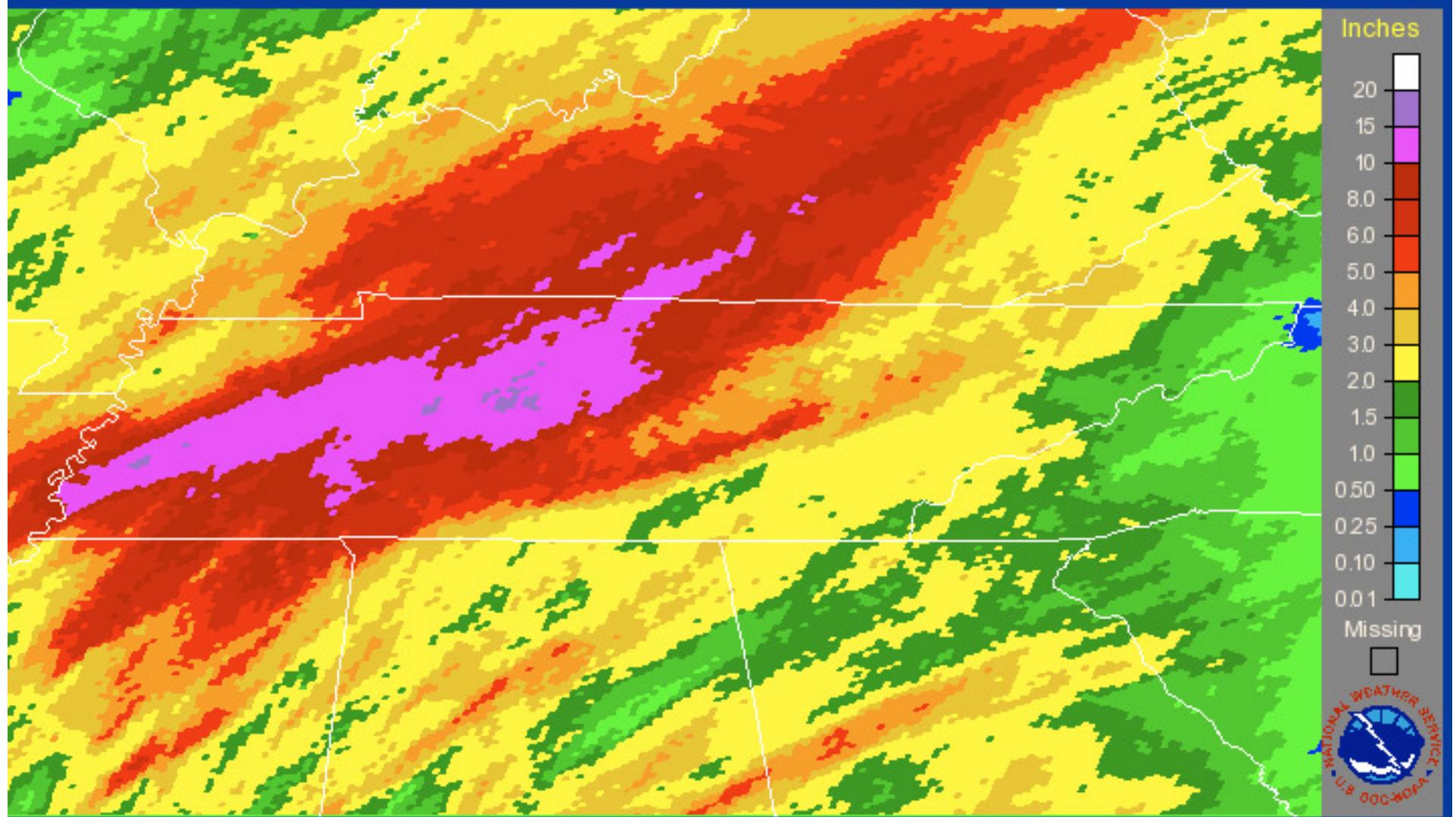


Tennessee: 5/3/2010 1-Day Observed Precipitation  
Valid at 5/3/2010 1200 UTC - Created 5/5/10 19:00 UTC

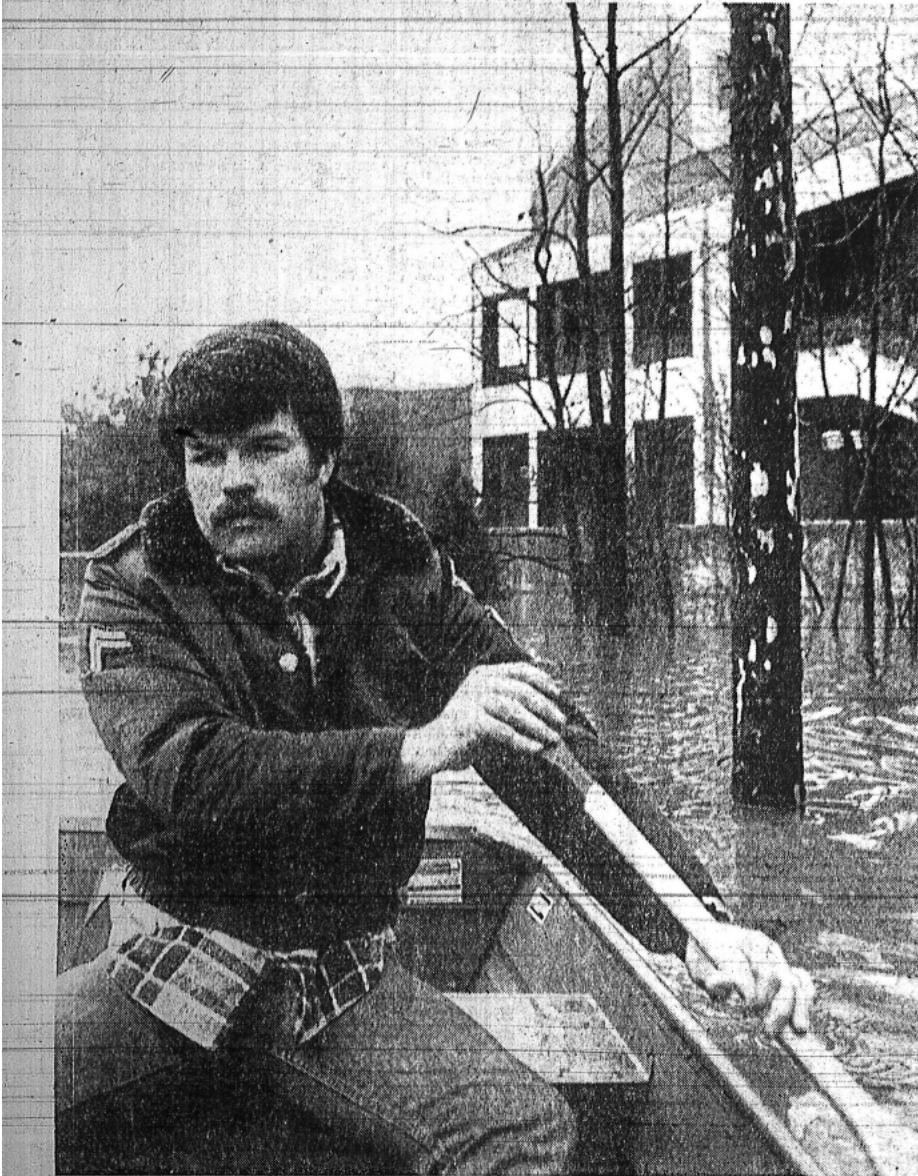


Tennessee

*Click on the image*

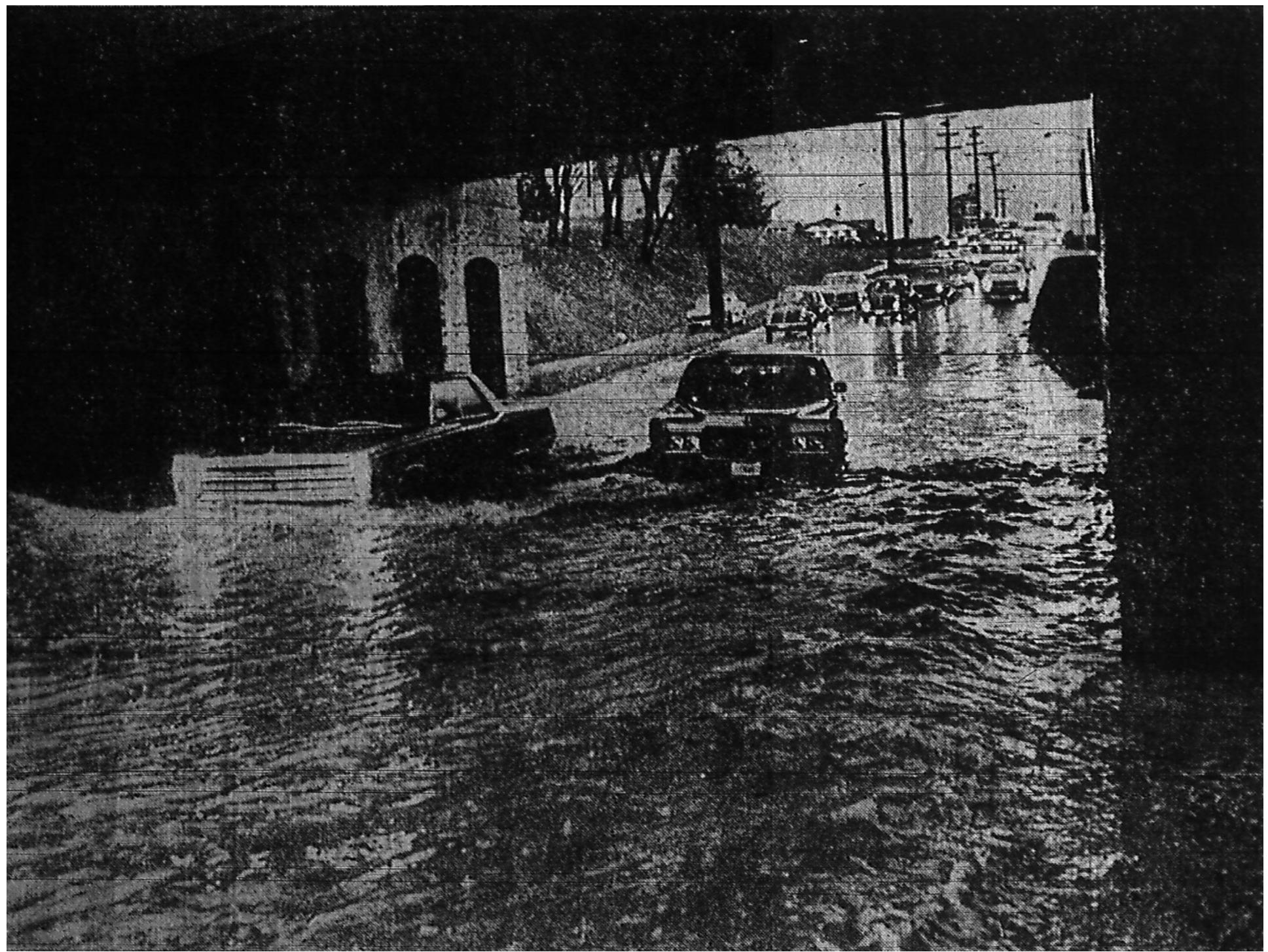


# high water



— Staff Photo by Bill Hence

*Johnny Woodward, Opryland Park ranger,  
paddles rowboat away from flooded  
Grand Ole Opry House where  
waters threatened main floor Friday.*





—Daily news photo by Jerry Thompson

## Metro's Industrial Park Succumbs to the Cumberland

Metro's industrial park on Vesco Drive is underwater from flood waters | background and Shelby Park, also mostly under water, is at the lower | from the Cumberland River. The Silliman Evans Bridge is in the | right.

