

Water Minute # 29 – It's not over until it's over – 60 second

It's not over until it's over. Early this spring, Selkirk, Manitoba, was caught by surprise—and 100 residents had to be evacuated from their homes when an ice jam caused the Red River to pour over its banks.

At Fargo, the Red River has been outside its banks in April and May for 44 of 61 days, with the precipitation of early June extending that record—and swelling the Red to a serious crest level.

In the southern part of the Basin, the cities of Wahpeton and Breckenridge have recently experienced flooding, and the Wild Rice River has inundated a significant portion of cropland.

Not easy losses for this area. The Basin has experienced a number of years of severe setbacks due to excessive water. Many of us may not directly witness these losses—but that does not diminish their effects on individual farmers or on the economy of the Basin.

From thaw to at least mid-summer here in the Red River Basin, it seems that it's not over until it's over.

This Ripple Effect is brought to you by the Red River Basin Commission.