

## Water Rescues Highlight Stormy Night in NW Missouri

(KTNC)--Eight people were rescued Tuesday night after their vehicles were swept away by floodwaters in Holt County Missouri.

Officials from the Missouri Department of Conservation, State Patrol, Holt and Andrew County Sheriff's Departments, Mound City and St. Joseph Fire Departments, and Missouri Department of Transportation assisted in the rescues.

The first rescue came at about 9:20 Tuesday night and involved a school bus driver that was stranded on Route N north of Mound City. Conservation agents Jade Wright and Anthony Maupin, and Highway Patrol Sgt. Mike Quilty were able to use a boat to reach the driver.

According to Mound City School Superintendent Ken Eaton, the driver is a Mound City bus driver, but was not driving for the Mound City School District at the time. Eaton says she was returning to Mound city after running a football practice shuttle for Ravenwood football players to practice at their Worth County co-op. He says she was driving a small bus and was trapped in water up to her waist for at least an hour.

At about 11:00 p.m. Tuesday night, a flash flood swept down Squaw Creek west of Mound City and two feet of water carried four vehicles off Interstate 29 between the 86 and 88 mile-markers. Vehicles ended up in the median, where the water was five to six feet deep, and fast moving.

Conservation agent Eric Abbot and a MoDOT road grader operator rescued a man clinging to the luggage rack on the roof of a Jeep, and officials using heavy equipment from MoDOT were able to rescue people from three other vehicles that were stranded in the floodwater.

The final person was rescued at about 2:30 Wednesday morning, and none of the people rescued were seriously injured.

The National Weather Service reported five-and-a-quarter inches of rain fell in Mound City Tuesday night, and areas to the north received six-inches of rain.

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