DATE:      May 1, 2013  4:00 p.m.

TO:        Governor Scott Walker

FROM:      Brian M. Satula, WEM Administrator

SUBJECT:   Situation Report #1 on Winter Storm/Flooding

Snowstorm: Winter Storm Warnings have been issued for northwest Wisconsin as a rare May snowstorm will hit tonight and Thursday. The National Weather Service (NWS) is predicting heavy, wet snow to begin tonight and turning into a rain/freezing rain Thursday evening. Most of the heavy snow will fall overnight. From Ashland to the Twin Cities – the NWS is expecting the heaviest amounts of snow in the 6-12” range. St. Croix –Eau Claire areas could see up to 9”. A few inches of snow is expected in the LaCrosse area. Rain will remain across the area through the weekend.

Flooding: Ashland and Iron Counties have also been fighting flood issues. Iron County has declared a local emergency due to flooding. In Hurley, the Poplar Street Bridge and Silver Street Bridge are closed. Sandbagging is being used to divert water from businesses back into the Montreal River. One house below the bridge in Montreal has some flooding. Island Lake (west central part of Iron County) has 3 of 4 access roads blocked by flooding. The county did a Reverse 911 alert to the homes in the area to let them know which road to use. There are 15 permanent residences and over 100 seasonal cottages. There is no threat to the property, just the choice of egress.

In Ashland County – Highway 169 along the Bad River remains flooded. The Bad River was expected to crest but additional snow and rain could impact the river. The Village of Glidden may have issues from the Chippewa River. They have palletized sand bag they can move to impacted areas.

The State Emergency Operations Center remains on the 24-hour duty officer system, which is level 4. The WEM Senior Duty Officer and the Duty Officer will continue to monitor the situation.