FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, June 1, 2011

CONTACT: Terry Woster, Public Information Office, 605.773.3231

Missouri River Bridges Structurally Sound

Pierre, S.D. – South Dakota Department of Transportation officials advise that bridges along the Missouri River are structurally sound and not in danger from the impending high water.

Currently, a contract has been awarded to add and extend riprap that protects the embankment under the Vermillion, SD-Newscastle, NE bridge. Similar protective measures have already been done at the Missouri River bridge between Pierre and Ft. Pierre.

The Discovery Bridge and Meridian Bridge in Yankton are not experiencing any problems with erosion at this time. Secretary of Transportation Darin Bergquist says, "as a precautionary measure, crews will continue to monitor all bridges along the Missouri River in order to mitigate any issues with erosion of the embankments."