

Wisconsin farm products might have rough sailing when they get shipped down the Mississippi River this fall. Paul Rohde of the Waterways Council, tells WIZM news that high waters and federal budget cuts will put a double-whammy on shipping conditions. Rohde said barges were held up in the spring when three locks and dams near Saint Paul were closed for a couple weeks due to high water. Those problems require dredging to solve but Rohde says the Army Corps of Engineers had a smaller dredging budget this year. Rohde said it doesn't bode well for the Obama administration's goal of doubling U-S exports by 2014. He said the uncertainty of river travel might cause shippers to use other modes of transportation and that could affect commodity prices.