



EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, Washington
Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

For immediate release

News Release No. 4

November 13, 2008 • 2:20 pm

Contact: Rob Harper

Phone: 800-688-8955 (*media only*)

Web address: www.wadisasternews.com

State Flood Update #2

CAMP MURRAY -- Scattered showers will come to an end today easing Washington's flood threat, allowing state and local jurisdictions to phase down or end emergency response to this week's storms, floods and landslides.

Road Closures

Road closures or restrictions are in effect in eight counties as reported by state Department of Transportation (WSDOT) . Drivers can check their route before they go at

www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/Update. WSDOT will update this Web site as conditions change.

Updated travel information is also available by calling 5-1-1.

County Proclamations

The following counties have declared states of emergency: Chelan, King, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom as well as the City of Snoqualmie. By the close of business today, November 13, 2008, all jurisdictions will have returned to normal levels of activation.

Flood Status

Flood warnings remain in effect on the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, and Skykomish rivers, and for small streams in northwestern Kittitas County.

Shelters

Emergency officials estimate a small number of people were housed in shelters overnight. Only one shelter remained open today, although nine were open overnight.

Public Health Information:

- Water Systems - Washington State Department of Health (DOH) reports no issues with water systems at this time

(More)

News Release No. 4

November 13, 2008 • 1:00 pm

- Shellfish - According to the Department of Health, as of November 13, 2008, there are currently nine shellfish harvesting areas in emergency closure status:

Burley Lagoon (Approved) (Pierce County)
Elk River (Grays Harbor County)
Hammersley Inlet (Mason County)
Hood 7,8,9 (Mason County, from the Great Bend to Belfair)
North Bay (Mason County)
Reach Island (Mason County)
Vaughn Bay (Pierce County)

All of these areas will be reopened tomorrow. Recreational shellfish beaches near these areas were closed as well and also will be reopened tomorrow.

DOH also has been monitoring river levels in nine rivers. Of those nine rivers, only one – the Skokomish - is currently impacting shellfish. All of the other rivers tested have failed to reach shellfish closure levels.

Shellfish in markets and restaurants come from areas not impacted by the storm and should be safe to consume. For additional information concerning shellfish harvesting, please check the Washington State Department of Health website at:

<http://ww4.doh.wa.gov/scripts/esrimap.dll?name=bioview&Cmd=Map&Step=1>

Other activities and information:

Citizens are reminded that landslides can continue to occur for the next week. If anyone notices anything which may indicate a slide occurring, they are encouraged to contact their local EOC or law enforcement agency. With soils saturated from the recent heavy rains, winds could cause trees to fall.

###