

March 8, 2014 (v2) Teton Flooding SitRep



Just to keep everyone in the loop, I've been talking with the National Weather Service and we're going to keep a Flood Advisory in effect at least through the weekend due to rising temperatures. We have been seeing flooding throughout the town and county due to snowmelt, but much of that was related to rain on snow. Increased temperatures, though, with frozen ground, can lead to continued flooding. We've yet to see any flooding related to creeks or rivers.

Here are the reports we have logged so far (v2 updates in ***bold italics***):

- 3/4 – 3/6: Rockslides on South Park Loop between Gregory Ln and Middle School due to snowmelt.
- 3/5: Secondhand reports from Teton County Road & Levee of several homes in Hoback area getting flooded basements.
- 3/5: Property owner on butte above Flat Creek Inn experiencing flooding of living spaces due to snowmelt runoff from uphill. Requested sandbags and sand.
- 3/5: Bridger-Teton National Forest housing area on Nelson Dr experiencing flooding of multiple living spaces. Requested sandbags and sand.
- ***3/6: Spring Creek Animal Hospital reports snowmelt is coming down off of East Gros Ventre Butte and coming in through the walls and floors of the facility. Using two pumps to mitigate flood waters. The water had penetrated into the building up to the receptionist's desk. By 3/7, water had receded but one exam room was still out of order.***
- 3/6: JH Gun Club experiencing flooding of many range facilities and workshop. Handling it themselves with heavy equipment, but they are concerned about water flow from the Gun Club onto S Highway 89.
- 3/6: Several property managers/owners running pumps on Gregory Ln to move flood waters away from apartments.
- 3/6: Community Recycling site at Hoback needed to be relocated due to flooding.
- 3/6: Teton County Search & Rescue building hangar experienced minor flooding on 3/6, has since been pumped out, no effect on equipment or operational readiness. Road & Levee inspected Batch Plant Rd for washout issues, appears to be safe.
- 3/7: Resident on Grouse Dr across from Camp Creek Inn experiencing flooding of basement, requested sandbags and sand; is currently running several pumps. Secondhand report from resident is that Spotted Horse Ranch is also running pumps and is flooding.
- ***3/7: UPS Depot on Gregory Ln reporting ponding of floodwaters in parking lot. Not directly affecting facilities as of Friday.***
- 3/8: Flat Creek Inn reports having 9 rooms flooded. Concerned about rising temperatures over the weekend.

Here are the actions that have been taken:

- Emergency Management is requesting and recording reports from the public experiencing flooding to see if there are any "hotspots" in the County/Town.
- Emergency Management is working with the National Weather Service to ensure they are aware of ground-truth reports of flooding and is assisting them with development of flood statements.
- Emergency Management is working with the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security to help provide them with situational awareness in order to properly distribute resources in the State. Several Counties are experiencing flooding now. Teton is probably a 3rd to 4th priority based on what I've seen in Lincoln and Washakie Counties.
- Teton County Road & Levee and TOJ Public Works have both made sand and sandbags available to the public. Our County stockpile sits at approximately 29,000 bags.
- Emergency Management is working with the Teton Conservation District to make the public aware of consulting services that they can offer to those experiencing flooding to help with soil erosion and flood protection.
- County PIO Charlotte Reynolds put out a press release on Friday to help prepare the public for the warming trend we expect to see this weekend.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and distribute this situation report as you deem fit.