

## #5 Flood Mitigation Meeting Minutes, April 25, 2018

**Present:** Florence Anderson, Deputy DES; Sherwin Smith, CVFD/SAR; Don LaBaugh, LDS Church; Debra Coverdell, Teton County DES/EMS; Austin Moyer, TC Sanitarian; Keith VanSetten, Sheriff; Mike Maples, PW, Choteau; Melissa Moyer, Health Department; Cathy Sessions, PIO; Jim Hodgskiss, County Commissioner, Melody Martinsen, Acantha.

### **TOPICS:**

#### **Weather/Snowpack Updates:**

**6-10 Day Forecast-Below normal temp, above normal precipitation**

**8-14 Day Forecast-Below normal temp., Normal precipitation**

**3-4 week Forecast-Above normal temp., Below normal precipitation**

**May -Below normal temp., Normal precipitation**

**May through July -Normal temp., Normal precipitation**

#### **Stream Flow**

**South Fork of Teton -114 cfs**

**Soil moisture for county is above normal**

**Sun River NF -502 cfs**

**Teton East of Dutton-339 cfs**

**Teton at Loma -419 cfs**

#### **Snow water equivalent**

**Mount Lockhart 29.9**

**Waldron 15.9**

**Wood Creek 16.0**

**Basin Index (%) 196**

**A warming trend later this week will likely jumpstart mountain snowmelt statewide. Early next week a wet system is forecast to impact much of nor Central Montana and the Rocky Mountain Front. Current forecasts indicate precipitation greater than 1" in 24 hours is possible. This would be concerning if any rain falls on mountain snow or in basins that are already seeing elevated river levels.**

**Public Information**-Handout from Red Cross: Distributed. Weekly Flood Watch flyer posted and emailed.

**Law Enforcement.** Keith/Staff are in the process of preparing a documentation form for evacuees to complete should that become necessary. It includes a reminder that should residents evacuate their home/property that they turn utilities off. Clint has been working with Jim Hodgskiss, DES, Planning and City of Choteau in his capacity of Operation's Chief. Search and Rescue personnel will be used for notification, traffic control, evacuation, and as needed.

**City of Choteau:** The ground water level appears to be going down and there is a decrease at the sewer plant. Should the fire siren be needed to alert of immediate need for evacuation it will be blown for three minutes on and one minute off and three minutes on, etc. The Richem well has been inspected and seals checked. Sand bags have been filled should they be needed in case of flooding. The City has developed a volunteer response team and has several people listed should they be needed.

**Relocation of Services if needed:**

The **City** will relocate to the County Shop. The **Sheriff's Office** will relocate to the Weed Department. The **Ambulance** Service will locate to the Weed Shop and will stage personnel there. Fire will locate to the County Shop parking area or to CHS.

**PETS:** DES will contact Bright Eyes about available of services should folks need to relocate pets.

**Immunizations:** Individuals who are assisting with flooding/recovery should be current on the TDAP, Hep B and Hep A injections. The Hep A shot is a two-injection series and takes 6months to complete the series. The Health Department will bill insurance.

**County Road Department:** Hodgskiss reported that there are 10 road employees and 8 blades. That leaves 2 individuals to perform all other services including checking roads, culvert repair, signage/flagging and hauling gravel. Residents can expect delays in answering calls for assistance should flooding occur.

**Red Cross Flyer:** The "Be Red Cross Ready-Flood Safety Checklist" was distributed. DES has additional copies for distribution to other agencies and topics will be used on the Teton County Webpage and Flood Watch flyer.

**NEXT MEETING: May 2, 2018, 10:00 at the Annex**