

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (EOC)

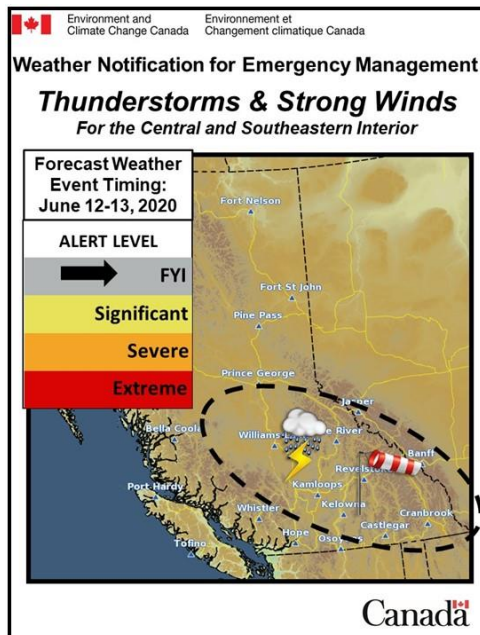


INFORMATION RELEASE

Thursday, June 11, 2020

EOC Update: Weather Notification – Thunderstorms & Strong Winds

With precipitation in the forecast, in conjunction with a Thunderstorms and Strong Winds Weather Notification and Thunderstorm Watch issued by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen Emergency Operations Centre (RDOS EOC) is reminding residents and visitors to stay safe around waterways. Please be aware of the potential freshet or spring melt which can result in higher than normal spring runoff. As a result, waterways including rivers, creeks, drainages, and vulnerable slopes could become hazardous.



As of June 11, 2020 Environment and Climate Change Canada issued a severe Thunderstorm Watch for the Okanagan Valley and a Thunderstorms and Strong Winds advisory for the Central and Southeastern Interior. Thunderstorms on both Friday and Saturday will have the potential to deliver heavy downpours, strong winds, frequent lightning and hail. Spring freshet and intense weather systems can destabilize soil and rock, causing mudslides, landslides and rockslides which are unpredictable. Please stay alert near or around waterways and slopes due to the potential for sudden changes in conditions. Now is an opportunity for property owners in vulnerable areas, on or near floodplains, or those who have experienced spring flooding, flash floods, or wind impacts in the past, to be ready.

If you have items on your property that may be impacted by strong winds, please take time to secure them properly.

In British Columbia, property owners are responsible for taking the necessary steps to assess and protect their property. Government emergency programs focus on broader flood response measures. The RDOS has developed a COVID-19 sandbagging video to help residents prepare for freshet while maintaining physical distancing. Please see the link below.

Follow RDOS on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#)

For more information, please visit <http://emergency.rdos.bc.ca> or call 250-490-4225

Issued by Director of RDOS EOC

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Weather Forecasts

Current weather updates: https://weather.gc.ca/canada_e.html

Environment and Climate Change Canada Mobile Weather App:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/weather-general-tools-resources/weathercan.html>

Freshet Conditions

Current snowpack conditions and water supply: [River Forecast Centre](#)

Provincial advisories and flood information: [EmergencyInfoBC](#) | Twitter: [@EmergencyInfoBC](#)

PreparedBC Twitter: [@PreparedBC](#)

Current RDOS sand and sandbag locations:

<http://rdos.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=576e8ee9797f41a7878b4e5258c64d5e>

Please follow provincial directives to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Please see links below for sandbagging safety procedures.

Sandbagging Information and COVID-19 Precautions:

http://www.rdosmaps.bc.ca/min_bylaws/NewAndEvents/Press_Releases/2020/20200403_1630_EOC_Sandbagging_COVID19_Info_Release.pdf

RDOS EOC Sandbagging and COVID-19 Precautions Video: <https://youtu.be/HgJE-8XDzwU>

RDOS EOC Sandbagging How To Video: <https://youtu.be/thZwVWyXjMQ>

The Province of BC has created a *Flood Preparedness Guide* as a resource for property owners:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-recovery/preparedbc/know-your-hazards/floods>

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karla Kozakevich'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Karla Kozakevich, Chair

Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

CivicReady® Mass Notification System – sign up for routine and emergency notifications: <https://emergency.rdos.bc.ca/civic-ready/>

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