



Tuesday, January 29, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ICE JAM UPDATE

On Friday, January 25, the Nechako Ice Jam extended west of the City municipal boundary. Since that time, Regional District staff have been monitoring the situation regularly and have been in contact with residents in the area along the Old Takla Forest Road.

The Regional District has activated its emergency operations centre to level one.

Yesterday, notices were distributed to the five property owners along the Old Takla Forest Road about the possibility of road access being limited or cut off completely. The notices also encouraged residents to prepare themselves in case an evacuation became necessary. The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has not issued any evacuation alerts or evacuation orders at this time.

As of 3:00 pm this afternoon, river levels were reaching close to the road at select points along the Old Takla Forest Road and some of the driveways into the residences in the area. There did not appear to be any immediate risk to the homes. Regional District staff will continue to monitor the area closely.

Staff also surveyed the area around Miworth. Earlier today, the head of the ice jam was reported to be near the Bergman Road area, making the ice jam roughly 26.7 km and approximately 18 kilometres upstream from the Foothills bridge. There did not appear to be any immediate risk to homes in the Miworth area.

Staff will continue to monitor the ice jam regularly and remind the public that rivers are unpredictable and in the interest of safety they should not approach the river.

The public is asked to visit the RDIFFG website www.rdffg.bc.ca for updated flood information or to call our Emergency Operations Centre directly at 1-250-960-4475 or Toll Free 1-800-667-1959.

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