

Unprecedented flows result in limited releases at Upper Baker and Ross dams

Contact: Maria Or (206) 764-6896, Cell (206) 817-0396

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SEATTLE - A forecast from the National Weather Service of unprecedented flows resulted in limited water releases at Upper Baker and Ross dams today, intended to reduce flood damage to the greatest extent possible.

The Reservoir Control Center at the Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, reduced flows at Upper Baker Dam from 28,000 cubic feet per second to 5,000 and Ross Dam from 35,000 to nearly zero.

As a result, the Corps reduced flows by nearly 60,000 cfs, which translates to approximately 6 feet of flooding off the highest potential peak on the Skagit River at Concrete and about 5 feet at Mt. Vernon. The National Weather Service and River Forecast Center predicted Concrete will reach 12 feet above flood stage by Tuesday morning and 8 feet above flood stage at Mt. Vernon by Tuesday evening.

The RCC is activated and on 24-hour shifts until further notice as the National Weather Service continues to issue flood watches and warnings for all Western Washington rivers.

For more information and up-to-date forecasts go to www.nws.usace.army.mil and click on Hot Issues or call the RCC at (206) 764-6702. The web address for the RCC is:

www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/nws/hh/ Direct access to Seattle District Emergency Management is at web address: www.nws.usace.army.mil/em/

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