

Emergency flood teams activated to Western Washington river basins



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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SEATTLE - Emergency Management flood engineers are monitoring the Nooksack, Dungeness, Skagit, Stilliguamish, Snohomish, and Chehalis river basins while Reservoir Control Center (RCC) engineers are regulating the flows for the Howard Hanson, Mud Mountain, Upper Baker, Ross, and Wynoochee dams.

The Seattle District, Corps of Engineers is authorized by federal law to aid local governments with flood fighting efforts when local and state resources are pushed to their limits.

The RCC has been activated to 24-hour shifts until further notice as the National Weather Service continues to issue flood watches 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/

Public Law 84-99 (33 USCA 701n) authorizes the Corps of Engineers to engage in flood fighting and rescue operations. Local officials may request Corps assistance through county and state officials if the emergency is beyond state and local capabilities. Flood fighting may include: temporarily raising the height of levees with sandbags; strengthening flood control works with armor rock; evacuating people and livestock when necessary; providing equipment of plant and supplies, such as sandbags, plastic sheeting, etc.; providing 24-hour technical assistance during the event; removing logs and debris.

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