

Contact:

Meghan Jordan Fay Lim

Communications Specialist II Communications Supervisor

Meghan.Jordan@snoco.org Fay.Lim@snoco.org

425-388-3918 425-388-6413

Snohomish County Launches New Real-Time Online Flood Information System

Residents can use the website to view real-time river depths and flows, and rain gauges throughout the county

EVERETT, Wash., October 23, 2017 – Snohomish County residents can better prepare for flooding with the county's new Real-Time Flood Information System. This new online tool is a one-stop resource for residents to view a plethora of real-time data and graphs, some for the first time. Real-time data includes precipitation at many locations across the county, and basin-specific maps and graphs for the Skykomish, Snohomish, Stillaguamish, Pilchuck and Sauk Rivers. Users can get tables and graphs of real-time and historical data, use interactive maps, and enjoy an improved mobile interface. In addition, the website provides links to external resources such as flood predictions, weather forecasts and road closures.

"I want people to have this information before a flood occurs," said Will Hall, Snohomish County Surface Water Management Director. "Heavy rains can cause dangerous floods every year. This simple website provides access to real-time information about flooding. People can use it to decide when to take action, such as turning off utilities, moving cars, or evacuating."

Snohomish County also publishes and distributes its annual <u>Flood Safety Guide</u> to residents who live in or near a 100-year floodplain. Hard copies are available at local libraries, city halls, fire departments and the county's administrative office building in downtown Everett. The guide provides helpful information such as researching your property's flood risk, protecting your home, preparing for a flood, what to do in the event of a flood, and steps to recover from a flood.

Snohomish County's Real-Time Flood Information System is not meant to replace <u>AlertSense</u> or other emergency notification systems.

The Real-Time Flood Information System is available at: https://snohomish.onerain.com.

About Snohomish County Public Works

The Snohomish County Public Works Department constructs and maintains county roads; controls and manages surface water quantity, quality, and fish habitats; and oversees the recycling and disposal of solid waste. The department's main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201. For more information about Snohomish County Public Works, visit www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks.