

Yukon PUBLIC FLOOD UPDATE

July 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

The Emergency Measures Organization and Water Resources Branch are working closely to monitor water levels across the Yukon and provide accurate information to communities.

There are evacuation alerts in effect for:
[areas of Lake Laberge, Tagish, Marsh Lake and the Lewes River Road](#)

An evacuation order is in effect for:
[a property on Shallow Bay Road at Lake Laberge](#)

For more details about these evacuation alerts or orders, visit Yukon.ca/emergencies

The following advisories are in effect:

- [Flood warning for Southern Lakes \(issued July 13\)](#)
- [Flood warning for Lake Laberge \(issued July 13\)](#)
- [Flood watch for Kusawa Lake and Takhini River \(issued July 9\)](#)
- [High streamflow advisory for Yukon River at Carmacks \(issued July 9\)](#)
- [High streamflow advisory for Yukon River at Whitehorse \(issued July 5\)](#)
- [Boil water advisory for residents of Southern Lakes, Lake Laberge, Kusawa Lake and Takhini River areas \(issued July 7\)](#)
- [Boil water advisory for residents of Army Beach and South M'Clintock with private wells or underground water storage tanks \(issued July 7\)](#)
- [Boil water advisory for residents of Carmacks with private wells \(issued June 25\)](#)

The following areas are closed:

- Riverside boardwalks and River Drive in Carmacks
- Marsh Lake Recreation Site (Army Beach) including the parking lot, pedestrian bridge and tenting sites
- Conrad Historic Site
- Parts of the Marsh Lake campground, including sites 10 to 15
- Tagish Campground
- Jackfish Bay Road is open to local traffic only

Extended hours at Waste Management Facilities:

Waste Management Facilities are now open 7 days per week in the Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge. The operating hours for specific facilities are:

- Marsh Lake: 7 days per week from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Carcross: 7 days per week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Tagish: 7 days per week from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Deep Creek: 7 days per week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Safety messages:

- The Yukon government is recommending local traffic only in all flood impacted areas to ensure public and responder safety and minimize any interference with flood mitigation efforts.
- Don't make boat wakes within 200 metres of the shore as they undermine flood mitigation efforts.
- Stay clear of fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks.
- Be aware of elevated river danger, including dangerous currents and increased debris.
- Talk to children about the risks posed by fast flowing rivers and high water levels.
- Do not swim in areas with dangerous currents and uncertainties, such as the bridge in Carcross and beach on Bennett Lake.

Volunteer opportunities:

Yukoners looking to volunteer their time to support the government's flood response can go to any of the sandbagging stations in Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge areas. Here's what you need to know:

- Sandbagging stations are accessible 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- You do not need to register or check-in when you arrive. Go when you can, for as long as you can.
- Bring a shovel and supplies to be self-sufficient on-site. Remember to bring water!
- Teams of two work best – one person to hold the bag open, the other to shovel sand into the bag.
- Only fill the sandbags about 60 percent full.
- Respect COVID-19 rules and maintain physical distancing.

Locations: [yukon.ca/emergencies](https://www.yukon.ca/emergencies)

There are active flood responses underway across Yukon:

Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge

An IMT is on-site, responding to the most at risk properties and monitoring all other affected areas:

- There are evacuation alerts in effect for [areas of Lake Laberge, Tagish, Marsh Lake and the Lewes River Road](#).
- There is an evacuation order in effect for [a property on Shallow Bay Road at Lake Laberge](#).
- Water levels on Bennett Lake, Tagish Lake, and Marsh Lake are currently 13, 8, and 18 centimetres above 2007 levels, respectively. Levels have stabilized and are slowly dropping.
- Water levels on Lake Laberge are currently 44 centimetres above 2007 levels. Stabilization of levels on Lake Laberge is taking longer than expected, with the lake rising approximately 1 centimeter in the past 24 hours.
- Approximately 230 personnel, including Yukon government officials, members of the Canadian Armed Forces, flood specialists and contractors, are actively engaged with the incident.
- Crews continue mitigation efforts (berms, barriers and sump holes and pumps) in high priority areas along Lake Laberge. Sump pumps have been deployed to 2 properties, and the superbag berm on Jackfish Bay Road is almost complete.
- Superbags have been used to reinforce an existing sandbag berm at Army Beach. Ground water assessments continue and several lots in the area are being prepared for military sandbag assistance.
- Superbags are being deployed to high priority properties in South M'Clintock and pumps are being installed in impacted areas.



- Properties along Lewes River Road (Sawmill Road) continue to be monitored. The RCMP have conducted wellness checks on residences impacted due to rising water along portions of the road.
- In Carcross, mitigation efforts are being led by the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. The superbag berm along the highway is complete, and the IMT is monitoring and maintaining existing flood protections in the area.
- Sandbagging is ongoing at priority properties in Tagish and crews continue to work on the superbag berm along the highway.
- New information boards have been installed at the 9 sandbagging stations available to residents. To find the locations, check out the Southern Lakes flood information map here: yukon.ca/emergencies

Affected property owners can contact the Flood Information officer at 867-332-7084 or email flooding@yukon.ca

Carmacks

An Incident management team (IMT) is on-site and is maintaining a response to the affected areas:

- The water level is down about 2 feet from the high water mark, and continues to drop approximately 2 inches per day.
- Some superbags have now been removed from along River Drive and are being stored for future use or redeployment.
- A boil water advisory remains in place and two homes are under boil order.

Affected property owners can contact Incident Commander at 867-863-2408 or email flooding@yukon.ca.

Other areas being monitored:

Whitehorse

The City of Whitehorse has activated its Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), located at 305 Range Road in the Public Safety Building:

- City of Whitehorse crews are continuing to sandbag priority areas of the community.
- Mobilization of a superbag berm began in the Marwell subdivision to strengthen priority areas. In addition, superbags will be used to weigh down the Bert Law Bridge along the Millennium Trail. The bridge has been closed since July 2nd due to high water levels.
- Members of the public are asked to keep their distance from the edge of the Yukon River at all times, as some areas may be unstable and dangerous.

For flood information within Whitehorse city limits, contact the City of Whitehorse at 867-393-8444, IOC.PublicInfo@whitehorse, or visit www.whitehorse.ca/flood.

Kusawa Lake

Affected property owners can reach the Public Information Officer at 867-332-7084 or email flooding@yukon.ca.