

Yukon PUBLIC FLOOD UPDATE

July 15, 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.

Flood prone property owners are advised to have a plan in place in the event of a flood. Visit Yukon.ca/floods to learn about how you can prepare for potential flooding and prevent flood damage to your home.



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

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 15, 9, and 20 centimetres above 2007 levels, respectively, and have stabilized in the past 72 hours.
- Water levels on Lake Laberge are currently 43 centimetres above 2007 levels. The rate of rise has been decreasing since last week, and the lake rose 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 are putting protections (berms, barriers, dykes and sump holes and pumps) in high priority areas in Tagish, Army Beach, South M'Clintock Road, Bayview Road, Carcross and throughout Marsh Lake.
- Groundwater assessments are taking place in Army Beach.
- Approximately 40,000 sandbags have been deployed in Lake Laberge, work is progressing well on a superbag berm on Jackfish Bay Road and residents have been advised of property risk based on expert assessments.
- Superbags have been used to reinforce an existing sandbag berm at Army Beach. Cement blocks have also been installed. Mitigation work continues at Constabulary, Judas Creek and Grayling Place.

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- In Carcross, mitigation efforts are being led by the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, with the IMT providing sandbags, sand and assessments as requested. The superbag berm along the highway has been completed, along with an erosion assessment by a GeoTech specialist at California Beach.
- Engineers from Highways and Public Works are doing a bridge assessment in Carcross.
- Sandbagging is ongoing at priority properties in Tagish and work has begun to build a superbag berm along the highway.
- Maintenance on existing berms is ongoing across the Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge.
- Over 1 million sand bags and 10,000 superbags have been deployed in the Southern Lakes Flood response, with 470,000 sand bags and 2000 superbags en route.
- There are now 9 sandbagging stations available to residents. To view 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:

- Water levels continue to drop daily approximately 2 inches per day.
- IMT continues to monitor 15 properties on River Drive and Lower Bench.
- Water sample testing has been offered to these property owners, and others on well systems.
- A boil water advisory is 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:

- Acts of vandalism over the weekend have hampered City efforts to protect the integrity of the Millennium Trail at several locations.
- 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.