



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Avalanche and Flooding Relief Efforts in Hailey

(Hailey, Idaho) – An avalanche occurred on the face of Della Mountain at approximately 2:30 am on January 9th, sending an ice dam into the Big Wood River in the Della View neighborhood. Hailey crews diverted water away from homes early this morning. Sand and bags have been delivered to War Eagle Drive and to Della Vista Drive where it intersects with Cedar Street. Residents are encouraged to use the sand as needed to protect their homes. Hailey volunteer firefighters are available to help.

The southwestern portion of Cedar Street and a portion of War Eagle Drive are closed. Driving on the closed streets can be extremely dangerous. After being under water all day, sink holes can open up in the asphalt. When streets are covered with standing or moving water, do not proceed by foot or vehicle into the water. Turn around, don't drown.

Further efforts are underway to remove the snow and ice from the river channel. The City of Hailey website, www.haileycityhall.org, will continue to have information as it unfolds.

DOs:

- Be prepared before a flood. Have an emergency kit on hand that includes a battery powered radio, flashlight, candles, and waterproof matches.
- Monitor your property near your home to determine if water accumulations are rising.
- Have a copy of your flood insurance policy handy (if applicable) in case you need to reach out to your insurance company. *Note: New flood insurance policies take 30 days to take effect.*
- Call your local officials with any questions or to notify them of any hazards you observe.

DONTs:

- Do NOT walk or drive through a flooded area or near the river. Water and ice levels may be misleading due to accumulations of snow. Turn Around! Don't Drown!
- Do NOT engage in activities that involve removing ice from the river or altering the water flow.
 - Take precautions to protect your home but please do not try to alter the water flow. Many of the actions of those trying to alter the river or water flow have negative impacts on downstream property owners. Please call Blaine County directly to discuss emergency permits.
- Do NOT go near downed power lines or any other electrical wires.

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