



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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East Hailey Flooding

(Hailey, Idaho) –

Portions of east Hailey, from Indian Creek, Quigley, and the Woodside hills, incurred flooding on March 22, 2018, when a significant rainfall onto snow and frozen ground brought run-off water streaming from the hillsides and canyons and onto City streets. The Hiawatha canal system carried most of the Indian Creek water. Hailey crews had set sandbags to divert water from Quigley into the Woodside canal systems. The canals worked as designed, carrying the water from Quigley safely past Woodside homes.

The streets of Woodside are also designed to channel flood waters away from homes. Fast flowing water de- posited mud and rock onto Woodside streets, and cut deeply eroded trenches along the sides of streets and through some residential properties. Water flowed down Woodside Boulevard as designed in the 100- year flood plan, but even with improved drainage facilities the boulevard could not hold all the water, and it flowed from the streets into yards. The photo above shows the water that was carried on Winterhaven Drive. Many residents tried to protect their homes with sand- bags. Hailey provided a sand bagging station, closed roads as necessary, offered public information and monitored life safety during the flooding.

Cleaning Up After the Flood

A deep layer of mud was left on city streets, after the flood waters subsided. On Friday, the day after the flooding, the blue skies were dressed with large clouds which threat- ened to gather into more rain. Hailey remained on flood watch, but began its cleanup efforts. Equipment was dis- patched to clean the mud from the streets and barrow ditches, and a plan to repair the eroded trenches was be- gun. With the local asphalt plant closed until May, full restoration of the street erosion and potholes can not occur immediately.

Clean up work will include system repair & preliminary operation restoration, in which the City removes impediments from the drainage infrastructure in preparation for the next pending event. This work is mostly completed, with some barrow ditch and drainage structures still being cleaned up.

The City will also work to stabilize and protect City infra- structure in an effort to protect existing components, such as catch basins or drywells, from further sediment damage, or protecting street shoulders from additional erosion damage so they can survive the next pending event. Re- pairs which return the road to its original operating condition will occur in May or June, when conditions allow.

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