



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

EOC UPDATE: VOLUNTARY EVACUATION ORDER CANCELED

Date: December 6, 2020; 09:00 a.m.
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-6604
Kim Simpson, Deputy Public Information Officer, 228-2464

For Immediate Release

There is currently no danger of dam failure. As of 8:00 AM the water level at Ketchikan Lakes has been reduced to 348.95 feet. The decreased level of rainfall, as well as the work of generators overnight allowed this draw down of the lake level to occur.

In addition, the Juneau Weather Forecast Office has informed us of an updated rainfall prediction of approximately 1.5 inches in the next 12 hours as compared to the 2.8 inches reported for the 12-hour period yesterday. As a result, the lake level is not anticipated to reach actionable levels and the voluntary evacuation order is now canceled. Residents in the Ketchikan Creek Area who have evacuated may now return to their homes.

A flood advisory remains in effect through midnight tonight that could cause additional localized flooding along the creek. Staff continues to monitor the situation and will provide alerts as necessary. Freeman Street remains closed at this time.

Evacuated residents may now return to their homes. Please remain aware and stay tuned for future updates through local media channels and Borough and City Facebook pages. We appreciate the cooperation of the community and the assistance of all involved to keep our residents safe.

Recreation Center Update:

Residents housed in the Gateway Recreation Center may return to their homes. The Recreation Center will remain on standby in case an additional evacuation order is needed, but will not be accepting new residents at this time. Recreation Center staff will be working with the Transit Department to provide for transportation of residents back to their homes. The Recreation Center will remain closed to the public today and plans to reopen Monday, December 7.

Animal Protection Update:

Pets that were housed during the evacuation period can be picked up until 12:00 p.m. today. The Animal Shelter will be closed after that time and will reopen at 8:00 a.m. Monday, December 7. Shelter staff will call all pet owners to arrange for pickup of their pets. The Shelter phone number is 228-6660.

Transit Update:

The Borough Bus will be available and on call to assist with transportation of residents back to their homes. Transit Office number is (907) 225-8726.

###