



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN  
PRESS RELEASE  
NOVEMBER 6, 2006**

**Tulameen River Flood Watch**

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The intense Pacific frontal system affecting the south coast has pushed through to the South Interior, and is producing high intensity rainfall in some South Interior areas. The Tulameen River basin (upper Similkameen River watershed) has received significant rainfall since midnight, and the Tulameen River is at a high level. Due to the high water flow and potential for flooding, Regional District Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) has activated its Emergency Operations Center to Level 1.

A level one activation is the initial mobilization stage and allows officials to better coordinate services. RDOS officials are monitoring the river levels along with Provincial officials and have also identified this as a good opportunity to consider the following safety tips and establish how prepared you would be in the event of an actual flood.

- Drive carefully – if you are planning to travel, follow current highway conditions and any road closures by calling 1-800-550-4997 or check out [www.drivebc.ca](http://www.drivebc.ca) before you set off.
- Avoid walking close to small creeks and rivers as their channels tend to be narrow and can fill up quickly. Also, eroded banks result in unstable ground.
- Stay alert for changing conditions, particularly if you live in low lying areas or near waterways. Early precautions can be taken in high risk areas such as shutting off power and water supplies and disconnecting electrical appliances.
- In the event of an evacuation order, please ensure adequate clothing and footwear is available for you and your family and do not forget to register at the designated reception centre. It is a good idea to organize a kit containing important documents, a flashlight and first aid kit. Also, consider the needs of any family pets.

If an evacuation was required, you can obtain information through the local Emergency Social Services (ESS) organization in Princeton ESS.

- Emergency preparedness information can be found on the following websites: [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca) or [www.pep.bc.ca](http://www.pep.bc.ca). If you are currently experiencing flooding contact the Provincial Emergency Program 1-800-663-3456.

**Most importantly, follow the instructions of local emergency officials.**

The media contact for the RDOS is Patty Derkach, (250) 490-4138 during office hours.

*“Dan Ashton”*

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D. Ashton  
RDOS Board Chair

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