

## **Museum Flood Area Property Owners Need to be Aware of the Following:**

- **There remains a very strong likelihood of hazardous flash flooding as a result of the Museum Fire.** The hydrology consultant for the Coconino County Flood Control District (District) recently conducted a post-fire flood risk analysis that validated the original model used to gauge flood risk in the Museum Flood Area and determined that the area remains at high risk for hazardous flash flooding. It must be noted that floodwaters can create unpredictable changes, which can create new flood paths, which cannot be predicted.
- **The Museum Fire burn scar experienced five rainfall events during the 2021 monsoon season that resulted in flooding downstream that exceeded the City of Flagstaff's stormwater system.** The largest rainfall and flood event experienced was on August 17, 2021, and the peak depth of flow at the Linda Vista/Spruce Wash Gauge was between 5- and 6-feet deep. According to the hydrologist for the District, JE Fuller Hydrology, this was estimated to be a 200-year rainfall event. **According to the NWS, the 2021 monsoon season was the 14th wettest on record with 10.90" at the Flagstaff Airport compared to the average of 7.7".**
- **Since the wildfire in 2019, the Flood Control District has implemented emergency flood mitigation measures to reduce flooding impacts resulting from the Museum Fire. These measures, which were implemented with the consent of affected property owners when located on private land, will only handle the more regular, smaller type storm events, not large storm events.** The measures implemented were based upon our best available data. **The flood mitigation measures implemented are not a complete protection from post-wildfire flooding but implemented as emergency response measures.**
- **The Flood Control District strongly recommends that all emergency flood mitigation measures, including sandbags and barriers should remain in place.**
- **The Flood Control District strongly encourages all property owners and occupants to take suitable precautions to mitigate flooding impacts to their properties and themselves from injury or loss of life due to flooding.** The determination of what specific precautions are suitable for your particular property is your responsibility. You may wish to consult an engineer of your choice.
- **The Flood Control District strongly encourages all homeowners within the expected flood area to purchase flood insurance. A separate flood insurance policy through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) covers damage to your home and belongings caused by flooding with a specific cap on the amount of damages. Standard homeowners' insurance does **NOT** cover flood damage.** If your insurance agent is not aware of the procedures for selling flood insurance policies, then please call the National Flood Insurance Program Call Center at 1-877-336-2627 for a referral. More information is available at <https://www.floodsmart.gov/> and at [www.coconino.gov/MuseumFloodArea](http://www.coconino.gov/MuseumFloodArea). When purchasing a flood insurance policy, there is typically a 30-day waiting period for coverage to become effective.
- **The District has constructed and is constructing long-term sediment reduction projects, and the City has constructed and is constructing downstream drainage improvement measures to reduce flooding impacts resulting from the Museum Fire.** These projects, which are designed based on best available data, will only handle the more regular, smaller type storm events, not large storm events. For more information regarding these projects and flood area hazard maps please visit [www.coconino.gov/MuseumFloodArea](http://www.coconino.gov/MuseumFloodArea).

**MUSEUM FLOOD RISK ADVISORY**  
**June 2022**



- **Within the Museum Flood Risk Area there are formal and informal drainage channels. Residents and others should *NOT* enter these flood channels nor allow children or pets into these channels. Floodwaters may enter the neighborhoods with very little or no notice.**

**The important information in this Notice is provided to Museum Flood Area property owners and residents so that they can take suitable precautions to protect themselves and their properties. This Notice is intended to comply with ARS 48-3603 (J).**

For more information, please visit [www.coconino.az.gov/MuseumFloodArea](http://www.coconino.az.gov/MuseumFloodArea)