



NEWS ADVISORY

June 8, 2011

For immediate release

City of Missoula Flood Update June 8

City of Missoula Public Works management decided late Wednesday afternoon to close the Prospect Drive Bridge across Grant Creek because the bridge is being structurally compromised by high water scouring the bridge approach.

City Street Division crews are working to set up a detour that will take Prospect subdivision traffic onto Stonebridge Road near the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. City staff members continue to evaluate the situation, and County Public Works staff will make a new determination about the status of the bridge on Thursday.

Missoula County on Wednesday opened a flood public information call center at 258-INFO (4636). The hotline is staffed from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. After 7 p.m., callers will be connected to a recorded informational message. The call center staff is prepared to answer questions about sandbags, take reports of high water and give additional information. In an emergency or after hours, call 9-1-1.

City of Missoula crews responded Wednesday to water in the streets, caused by heavy rain. They used street sweepers and vacuum trucks to move water off the roadways. Street Division crews also placed sandbags in three low spots along the Clark Fork River in the River Road area, protecting City roadway.

National Weather Service hydrology predictions continue to place the Clark Fork River at near 14 feet by Friday morning. Predictions are available on the Weather Service website at <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mso/>.

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