## Marysvale Flood Notifications Flash Flood Watch vs Warning

All residents and visitors should be prepared to evacuate if it appears that flooding will occur in Bullion Creek, Rainbow Creek, Beaver Creek or Deer Creek. Any or all of these creeks may flood from monsoonal microbursts, and if they do flood they may put a wall of debris from that could be 1-8 feet high on roads and Highway 89.

It is impossible for the National Weather Service to predict exactly where or how much rain will come down, and where the debris flow may block and back up water behind the bridge or irrigation diversion, causing the creek to come out of its banks. The NFS and the Piute Sheriff's Office will work together prior to & during the flood to determine appropriate actions.

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Notification</u>: If widespread storms look likely the meteorologists at the National Weather Service will put out a <u>FLASH FLOOD WATCH for PIUTE COUNTY</u>. This will be carried on TV, radio, and on smartphone weather aps like Accu-Weather, Weather Bug, National Weather Service. A FLOOD WATCH means that there may be flooding in Piute sometime in the next 4-24 hours. Get anything you need to evacuate ready. Marysvale is now in substantially greater flood danger from far less rain due to the burn scars from the Silver King Fire.

The NWS is carefully watching any storms as they move locally through Marysvale's mountains. NWS meteorologists will let the Piute Sheriff's Office if rain might be close to causing flooding.

<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Notification</u>: If the Sheriff's Office and the NWS agree that a flood is imminent the NWS will put out a *FLOOD WARNING*. <u>When a FLOOD WARNING is declared for Marysvale on your TV, radio, or phone</u> <u>weather ap, evacuate to higher ground immediately</u>. The fire siren in Marysvale will put out a special tone to notify residents. If you have the CodeRed Ap installed on your phone, the Sheriff's Office will put out a CODE RED alert asking you to evacuate.

With a FLOOD WARNING, all phones will ring loudly and show a <u>FLOOD WARNING text message</u> <u>directly from the NWS</u>. *Evacuate immediately*. Do not wait to see flood waters – you may not be able to leave and it will take 1<sup>st</sup> responders a long time to be able to come to assist you.

You should have between 30 minutes and 1 hour to evacuate; the sooner you evacuate, the safer you will be. The best place to go is the Piute High School, 595 N 100 W in Junction. If travel south is blocked, evacuate to Oscarson Elementary, 165 N 150 W Marysvale. If you cannot evacuate to these places, go to any high ground away from the creeks. Leave your vehicle and walk to high ground if your vehicle is stopped by flood or debris flow, or if snarled traffic halts your progress.

DO NOT drive or walk through water or debris flow that is more than 6 inches deep – it can sweep you and your vehicle away. TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN.

Note that Highway 89 may be impassable due to debris flow at Beaver Creek, Deer Creek and/or at the Highway 89 Bridge in Marysvale. The streets in Marysvale may be impassable due to 1-8 feet of debris. Multiple pulses of flood water may occur even after the initial flood.

Stay Safe: Evacuate!

What is the difference between a Flood Watch and a Flood Warning issued by the National Weather Service?

- Flash Flood Warning: Take Action! A Flash Flood Warning is issued when a flash flood is imminent or occurring. If you are in a flood prone area move immediately to high ground. A flash flood is a sudden violent flood that can take from minutes to hours to develop. It is even possible to experience a flash flood in areas not immediately receiving rain.
  Flash Flood Warnings are changing to an Impact-Based format to improve public response. <u>Read</u> <u>the factsheet.</u>
- Flood Warning: Take Action! A Flood Warning is issued when the hazardous weather event is imminent or already happening. A Flood Warning is issued when flooding is imminent or occurring.
- Flood Watch: Be Prepared: A Flood Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for a specific hazardous weather event to occur. A Flood Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for flooding. It does not mean flooding will occur, but it is possible.