

PRECAUTIONS FOR BURN AREA FLOODING

Pecos Canyon Fire and Rescue encourages your preparation for the predicted flooding and mudflows as a result of the Tres Lagunas fire. Some of the data the BAER team has provided have warned of the possibility of catastrophic flooding and the possibility of areas and bridges on NM 63 being washed out and becoming impassable.

Our fire station has been identified as being in the flood zone and we plan to position some of our equipment above and below the flood zone in preparation of this.

If you need help planning how to better protect your private property, please call Ken Alcon with NRCS at 575-779-6497. There are resources available to help you plan.

We are currently delivering and stock piling sand bags that are available to the public. If you need some, please call Huie Ley at 505-757-6193. We are also working with the county to provide Jersey Barriers to assist with the flooding.

Residents living near or around a recently burned area need to take the following precautions:

- monitor local weather reports and public safety bulletins, local road closures, emergency notifications, weather alerts, follow local county and city advisories, and act accordingly. You can receive flood warning and information by tuning your AM radio dial to 1680 or by visiting our website at <http://pecoscanyonfire.org/>.
- use a “weather radio” or smart phone “weather apps” that monitors “all hazards” alerts issued by the NOAA-National Weather Service: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>.
- prepare for rainstorms by being prepared to evacuate if emergency authorities determine that flooding and mudflows are expected.
- know and be alert to environmental signs of dangerous weather conditions and be prepared to take action that can save lives.
- understand that all canyons within the central New Mexico area and those associated within the burned areas can produce flash flooding.
- at first sign of a storm, even if it’s not right over you, the storm may be up-stream from your location, or if you find yourself in a flood, seek higher ground.

Please keep an eye on the sky as flooding in burn areas can occur very quickly with very little rain. This is a serious threat, please take it seriously. Contact us if we can provide other assistance.