

Fact Sheet

Carbon County Floods 6/17/22



Flood Information Line: 406-426-2425

Inciweb: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/article/8161/69100/>

Facebook: Carbon Alert

Start date: June 12, 2022

Location: Carbon County

Cause: Snow melt and recent precipitation

****Unsafe conditions remain in the flooded area, please stay away from closed areas. Heavy equipment will be working in the area and many areas remain unsafe due to undercut sidewalks, roads and bridges****

The Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River near Fromberg and Edgar are experiencing significant flooding with Rock Creek in Red Lodge cresting at noon on June 13, and the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone cresting on June 14. East Rosebud Creek peaked near Roscoe and is receding. Highway 212 from Red Lodge north, and Highway 310 to Rockvale remains open. Road and bridge damage in the area is significant. Public Works staff, MT DOT, and Army Corps of Engineers continue making repairs to main routes, roads and bridges.

Evacuation Shelters:

The American Red Cross has setup evacuation shelters at the Red Lodge Fairgrounds and Fromberg High School (Food and supplies only). Numerous campers are camping at the Red Lodge Fairgrounds. Two tractor-trailer loads of drinking water will arrive in Red Lodge on June 17, some of which will be sent to Roscoe.

Current evacuation orders in effect:

No evacuation orders in effect at this time. The Fromberg area is still under an evacuation warning.

Custer Gallatin NF Closure

The Custer Gallatin National Forest has closed all National Forest System Lands, including roads and trails, within Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Park and Gallatin Counties, MT within the Custer Gallatin National Forest Proclaimed Forest Boundary in the Beartooth, Yellowstone and Gardiner Ranger Districts, except the Pryor Mountain Unit of the Beartooth Ranger District.

The purpose of this order is to protect emergency personnel, public health, and imminent life safety due to widespread flooding events, roads and facility damage.

This order will be in effect from June 14, 2022, and shall remain in effect until June 24, 2022, or until the order is rescinded, whichever occurs first. Additional information on this closure order can be found on the Custer Gallatin webpage here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/custergallatin/alerts-notices>.

Boil Water Order

The boil order for the community of Edgar has been lifted. All drinking water from the tap in Red Lodge and Fromberg should be boiled before use.

Public Works has re-established water service to parts of the affected area in Red Lodge. Areas in the southeast part of Red Lodge remain without water. Additional repairs are being made to re-establish the area effected.

Red Lodge Community Update: Equipment operators stabilized the 19th St. bridge, to be used for emergency response efforts and local traffic only. The 308 bridge was stabilized and is open for public use. County crews are working on the Meeteetse Trail Bridge that has been damaged. Equipment will continue to shore up bridges and roads in the area.

Highway 212 south of Red Lodge will be opened to local traffic only. Highway 308 to Bearcreek/Belfry is open to the public. National Guard and local law enforcement will be in the area to help manage traffic.

Two temporary bridges have arrived in Red Lodge, with one being deployed to the Meeteetse Trail Bridge area. Additional temporary bridges are on order.

The Kainu Ave. water and sewer lines have been assessed and have significant damage. Crews continue to assess the damage.

A potable water tender is still on order and will be located at the Civic Center when it arrives.

Two large dumpsters are located at Red Lodge Recycling. Additional dumpsters have been ordered. Items damaged by the flood may be broken down to the smallest size possible and brought to the dumpsters. If dumpsters are full, do not leave items on the ground.

Organic matter (i.e. tree branches) may be brought to the Red Lodge Fire Rescue Training Center, open 12-7pm, located at 228 Highway 78.

Fromberg Community Update: Homeowners have been allowed back in their homes. The local bridge has been inspected and approved for use. The sewer plant is up and running with no major water leaks. City water is being re-established, with a single well running at this time.

An information board will be posted in Fromberg to provide non-digital information to the community.

Food and water are available at the Fromberg High School. Two dumpsters are now located at the baseball field. Items damaged by the flood may be broken down to the smallest size possible and brought to the dumpsters. If dumpsters are full, do not leave items on the ground.

A public meeting focused on flood impacts to the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone was held June 16th at the Fromberg Highschool, and was streamed via Facebook live. The meeting can be viewed here, or on the Carbon Alert Facebook page.

Edgar/Rockvale/Joliet Community Update: Grapevine road should be open today. Most roads are open, though not in great shape. Crews will be in the area today (6/17) to fix road issues.

**6/17 - This is a message from Carbon County Disaster and Emergency Services. If you are a resident of the Town of Edgar, be advised the water boil order has been lifted and you can return to normal water usage. The evaluation of the sewer lagoons is still in progress, but it is hoped to have more information regarding their integrity very soon. Please continue to use the portable toilets provide, and keep sewer system usage to a minimum. Any questions, please call the flooding hotline at 406-426-2425. Thank you.*

Bridger Community Update: Orchard ditch work has been completed. The ditch flow is down to 1/3 of the flow from peak flood. Two other headgates in the area are weak and being monitored. The damaged railroad track is also being repaired.

Belfry Community Update: Crews are planning to work on the bridge on June 17. and crews are hopeful they can complete the work in a day or two. Still working on road access to Lover's Lane.

**This is a message from the Carbon County Road and Bridge Department. Road repair is set to begin tomorrow morning, Friday, June 17th to Lovers Lane and Rimview Lane just south of Belfry. The road department plans to close the roads approximately 8 a.m. with hopes to have the work completed tomorrow. If you use Lovers Lane, Rimview Lane, or Musgraves Road to enter your home, be advised Travel on these roads will be highly impacted, and large equipment will be in the area. If you have any questions, please call the flooding hotline at 406-426-2425.*

Roscoe Community Update: County road crews are in Roscoe today (6/17) to make necessary repairs to damaged roads and bridges, using materials that were stockpiled in the area.

Commissioner Bullock, and a member of the Incident Management Team will be stationed in Roscoe tomorrow (6/18) to engage with, and answer questions from community members. They will be located at the Grizzly Bar parking lot, located at 22 E Rosebud Rd, Roscoe, MT 59071, from 3-4pm.

Other Actions:

- The Red Lodge Hospital is fully operational.
- Numerous headgates and irrigation ditches in Carbon County have been damaged. Crews will assess the damage, and work on mitigation measures to get the ditches back in operation. County residents planning to do emergency repair work on irrigation structures will need to notify the Carbon Conservation District of their intent by one of two ways. Either complete an Emergency Notification Form found on Carbon County Website <https://co.carbon.mt.us/departments/floodplain/> and submit; or call Carbon Conservation District at 406-962-3641 Ext 115 or via cell 406-930-5441.
- Helicopters may be working in the area. Due to air traffic, **do not fly drones** in the area.
- The Montana National Guard has arrived to assist with traffic control where needed.
- The Army Corps of Engineers has arrived to assist local communities with engineering needs.
- Sandbags have been stockpiled throughout the communities. The public can get sandbags if needed.

Weather: Increased temperatures arrive today and tomorrow. Carbon County temperatures are expected in the 80s and 90s today and tomorrow (6/17-6/18), depending on location. River levels may rise as a result. Cooler temperatures, and a chance of precipitation, will arrive on Sunday, which should slow down the higher elevation snowmelt.

Resources Assigned: Western Montana Type III Incident Management Team, Carbon County DES, Carbon County Sheriff's Office, Red Lodge Police Department, Red Lodge Fire & Rescue, Montana Highway Patrol, Fromberg Volunteer Fire Department, Bridger EMS, Bridger Volunteer Fire, American Red Cross, City of Red Lodge, Public Works, USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Beartooth Billings Clinic, Carbon County Public Health Department, Montana Department of Transportation, Montana FWP Game Wardens, Two Bear Air, Army Corps of Engineers, and Montana National Guard.

For current information follow the Carbon Alert Facebook page or call 406-426-2425.

###