

January 04, 2008
3:00 p.m.

Prince George Ice Jam and Flood – Day 25

The Ice Jam on the Nechako River currently measures about 6 kilometers in length. Water levels remain constant at most measuring stations long the river except for the Foothills Bridge area where water levels have been slowly rising for the past few days. Crews will keep a close eye on this area of the river over the next few days while round the clock monitoring of the river continues in all areas.

Response and Recovery costs associated with the Ice Jam & Flood now total just over \$1.5 million. A large portion of the costs incurred to date include construction of the portable gabion diking and earth berms, removal and hauling of debris, pumping of flooded areas, engineering consulting and security. The majority of these costs will be covered by the Provincial Emergency Program.

Area A – River Road

- About 150 meters of the portable Gabion diking in the west end of the River Road area was doubled in height to about 2 meters yesterday. Crews installed extra sandbags on top of the Gabion diking and in some spots added a second layer of Gabion diking. More 'doubling' of the height of the portable diking in lower lying areas will take place today.
- More debris clean up will be done today and through the weekend to open up access roads and lane ways as all businesses in the Rover Road area expect to be back to normal operations starting on Monday.

Area B – Ongman Road/McAloney Crescent

- Continue pumping water from low lying areas.

Area C – Pulp Mill Road

- Pumping of water from low lying areas will continue as required.

Area D – Delhaven/Pozer Road

- Pumping of water at the Pacific Western Brewery loading dock will continue as required.

Area E – Morning Place/North Nechako Road

- Gabion diking construction completed in Morning Place and sandbags available on site and available for other residents.

City Council will consider at its regular meeting on Monday, January 7, 2008 plans to undertake a River Flood Risk Evaluation and Control Solutions Options study. Council will also consider having the Mayor lead the City's process to engage industry, first nations and government to identify sources of capital and other commitments of the parties to mid and long term, river flood control solutions.

The City of Prince George continues to encourage residents to stay well back of the banks of the Nechako River as the river continues to shift and change without warning resulting in high water and new flooding in specific areas. Daily photos and information are posted on the city website at www.city.pg.bc.ca.