



National Emergency Management Organization

“Preserving Life and Property”

ADVISORY NO. 12-B

AREA OF LOW PRESSURE AFFECTING BELIZE

Wednesday 21st October 2015

1:00 p.m.

As the weather improves the rains are decreasing which will likely reduce the potential for flooding in some areas.

RIVER CONDITIONS

In Orange Walk the Rio Hondo River is at flood stage and rising. Residents who can evacuate voluntarily are encouraged to do so. In Belize Rural the river is receding. In Gracie Rock the Sibun River is going down. The road is now passable to vehicular traffic.

In Cayo the Mopan River is 2 feet above normal and rising, the Macal River is 15 inches above normal. People living along the Macal and Mopan Rivers must remain vigilant. Challilo Dam is 28.91 feet below the spillway, Mollejon is 3.38 feet below spillway and Vaca is 4.27 feet below the spillway

In Toledo San Benito Poite the water is 2 feet of water over the bridge and drivers are asked to exercise extreme caution when crossing this area. However, the hammock bridge remains passable.

SHELTERS

In Belize City 2 Shelters remain open ITVET and YWCA with 32 and 20 people respectively. In Orange Walk San Estevan Community Center is open with 10 people. In Corozal, Ranchito Community shelter is open with 29 people. All shelterees are being assisted with the basic needs. A total of 91 persons are in shelters.

HEALTH

The public is advised that it is not safe to play in flood waters as it puts the community and the country at severe risk for an outbreak of disease.

Water Safety

If your water appears discoloured, have a foul odor, dirt or smell of chemical it is contaminated and unsafe for drinking stop using the water and notify your nearest health authority, Belize Water Services and or your local Water Boards. Remember safe water must be used for drinking; washing up; rinsing food; cleaning cooking surfaces; pets; washing hands before eating; brushing your teeth; preparing drinks that need water such as tea, coffee, juices, baby formula; making ice Please remember if your water is questionable you can boil or chlorinate to make safe! If there is a concern boil water for at least one minute before drinking if you are not using bottled water. Or use 8 drops of chlorax or bleach to one gallon of water, stir it well before drinking.

Sarteneja water system should be functioning by this evening.

The rigging illegal electrical wiring is a serious threat to life and property. Perpetrators will be arrested and charged. Cleopatra White Clinic is now open. Vector Control Officers are currently conducting preliminary assessments and spraying to prevent an outbreak of Dengue and Chikungunya. In San Pedro, health personnel will start spraying for mosquitoes on Thursday. The Ministry of Health is also asking the public to cooperate with these officers as they clean up breeding sites for mosquitoes.

ROAD & TRAVEL CONDITIONS

The Sarteneja road is flooded but passable ONLY to **LARGE** vehicles. The Coast Guard boat is ferrying people in need in order of priority, medical cases, students etc. The boat is not being provided for jolly riding between Corozal Town and Sarteneja. In Maskall area the river is receding. The road remains flooded but passable ONLY to **large** vehicles. In Bomba the road is impassable due to flooding and is only open to **BDF trucks** and **dump trucks**. The pier at the Maskall River in Bomba Village is under several feet of water with only the tip of the poles still above water.

DRAINAGE

Digging of drains are not authorized and can only be done if the utility companies are involved in the digging. This notice must be adhered for communities using backhoes to dig drains in an effort to drain their community.

The public is advised to continue to pay close attention to NEMO advisories.

:-End of Release:-