



National Emergency Management Organization

“Preserving Life and Property”

ADVISORY NO. 5

HEAVY RAINFALL AFFECTING BELIZE

SATURDAY, 14th NOVEMBER 2015 as at 6:00 p.m.

The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) hereby informs the general public that the following areas along the Sibun River namely Franks Eddy, La Democracia, Gracie Rock, Freetown Sibun and Butcher Burns under flood warning as the Sibun River is rising fast. Search and Rescue personnel from BASAR have been deployed to Frank’s Eddy on a Search and Rescue mission to assist people in need. Also under flood watch are northern sections of Dangriga Town, Sarawee, and Hope Creek as the North Stann Creek River is at its peak. Other flood prone areas of concern are villages along the old northern highway and the low-lying areas of Belize City.

Potential exist for more flooding for communities along the following rivers: Sibun; North Stann Creek; Bladden; Swasey; Moho; Golden Stream, Rio Grande and Deep River.

Shelters: In Stann Creek there are currently 6 families in one Shelter in Cow Pen, in Toledo in Bladden there are 15 families in the community shelter, and in Golden Stream there are 20 families in 2 shelters. Shelters are being open in Bella Vista and Trio/ Bladden to assist people who need a dry safe place until the water recedes.

Road conditions: The southern highway in areas of Deep River, Swasey and Bladden. The Hopkins-Sittee River road is impassable to small vehicles. Other impassable areas the road leading into Gracie Rock, Spanish lookout via Baking Pot Ferry and Iguana Creek Bridge but the access route through Bullet Tree Falls village is passable. Road access to Blue Creek, Aguacate and other communities is cut off The Roaring Creek Bridge is passable. The Succothz ferry is operational. The Cow Pen diversion road built by the MOW is functional and being used for the shipment of banana to Big Creek.

The NEMO HQ in Belmopan, Stann Creek and Toledo Districts Emergency Committees continue to respond to the needs of the people affected by flood waters. All being assisted by the the BDF Battalion in Fairweather Camp and BASAR. People at risk to flooding are advised to take the necessary precaution to protect life and property, move to higher grounds with family or friends or to a community shelter. Do not wait until it’s too late to take action.

Drivers are asked to respect the temporary road closures along the Southern Highway until NEMO announces that the reopening of the Southern highway. Drivers are asked to drive with due care and attention, and to put on their hazard lights when driving through rain. The public is asked to continue pay close attention to all weather reports and advisories.

NEMO Emergency Coordinators for central and southern Belize can be reached as follows: **Belize District**, Mr. Calbert Budd at 602 8632 and Mr. Kevin Pollard at 621 2275; **Belmopan**, Ms. Clare Moody at 630 9791; **Cayo**, Mr. Al Westby at 630 3224; **Stann Creek**, Mr. Victor Castillo at 630 9780; and **Toledo**, Mr. Kenton Parham at 630 9787. The NEMO Emergency Hotline is 936.

NEMO continues to assist people in need as it respond to the flooding in parts of central and southern Belize.

:-End of Release:-