



ALPINE COUNTY UNIFIED COMMAND

DATE: October 21, 2021

RE: Debris Flow & Flash Flood Warning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: POTENTIAL FLASH FLOODING AND DEBRIS FLOWS POSSIBLE IN THE GREATER MARKLEEVILLE AREA DUE TO THUNDERSTORM ACTIVITY. RESIDENTS ARE URGED TO USE EXTREME CAUTION AND PREPARE FOR EVACUATIONS IF NECESSARY.

To the residents of Markleeville, specifically those residing in or near the following creeks and drainages: **Hot Springs, Pleasant Valley, Scott, Shay, Millberry, Crystal Springs, Merk Canyon, and Markleeville Creek**; please be advised these areas are currently at **high risk** of experiencing debris flows caused by moderate rainfall on severely burned slopes.

The National Weather Service is forecasting conditions conducive to rainfall events beginning on Sunday October 24th 2021 and continuing through Monday October 25th, 2021. These conditions have the potential to trigger debris flow events throughout the Tamarack & Caldor Fire burn scar.

RESIDENTS IN HIGH RISK AREAS SHOULD PREPARE AT LEAST 72 HOURS WORTH OF SUPPLIES IN THE EVENT INGRESS/EGRESS BECOMES IMPASSIBLE

Debris flows are dangerous, rapidly moving landslides that can be triggered within 15 minutes of a rainfall event.

Steep slopes, canyons, gorges and the mouths of mountain streams are the locations at greatest risk.

Persons in homes or vehicles are at risk of serious injury when in these locations.

An oncoming debris flow may include the sound of rushing water, changes in water from clear to muddy, or the sound of large rocks crashing into each other.

Follow all evacuation orders. If you stay behind, you can't protect your property and first responders won't be able to protect you. Never underestimate a debris flow.

Please refer to the Alpine County Sheriff's Office for guidance regarding evacuation information.

**Alpine County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Line:
530-694-2231**

Weather Information: <https://www.weather.gov/>



Informational Video – Flood After Fire
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsZ- I1j0-4>

Know your risks and look into your home owner's insurance coverage. Consider buying a flood insurance to protect your property: FloodSmart | The National Flood Insurance Program
<https://www.floodsmart.gov/>

WATER FLOW – Montecito,
2017 (photo courtesy of USGS)

Media Inquiries Regarding Alpine County Evacuations & Re-Entry

Rita Lovell
Public Information Officer
Alpine County
(530) 694-2120 x 703
(530) 721-5097
RLovell@alpinecountyca.gov

###