

# **Jan. 12-13, 2021 Flood Event Briefing**

**Steve Bleifuhs, Section Manager**

**Feb. 3, 2021**

**Department of Natural Resources and Parks  
Water and Land Resources Division  
River and Floodplain Management Section**

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*Service provider to the King County Flood Control District*



# Weather Conditions

- Heavy rain from an atmospheric river
- 50-60 mph winds caused widespread power outages
- Fourth opening of the Flood Warning Center this season



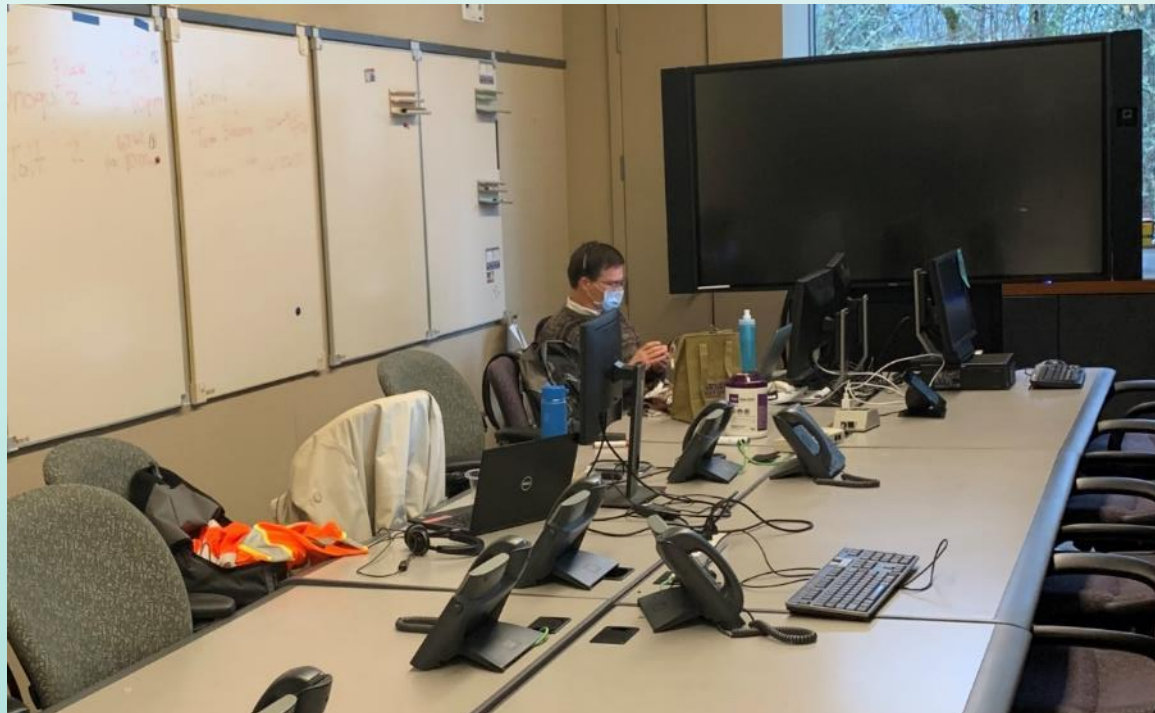
Jan. 13, 2021 Woodinville-Duvall Rd

# River Conditions

River	Peak Phase	Peak Flow cfs=cubic feet per second
South Fork Skykomish	2	10,000 cfs
Snoqualmie	3	23,110 cfs Sum of the Forks
Tolt	2	4,190 cfs
Raging	N/A	1,500 cfs
Issaquah Creek	1	6.68 feet
Cedar	1	2,320 cfs
Green	2	7,350 cfs
White	2	6,010 cfs

# Flood Warning Center

- Co-located at KC Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Outcome of GreenWhereWeWork
- Benefits include access to redundant systems, increased coordination with OEM staff, and space to operate safely during pandemic



Flood Warning Center, Jan. 12, 2021



# Flood Warning Center Activation

- Operated at OEM & remotely
- 28 hours of continuous service
- 196 phone calls from Jan. 12-13
- Flood Warning App outage for several hours on Jan. 12 due to unexpected computer server error



NE 80<sup>th</sup> St near Carnation, Jan. 2021

# Flood Patrol

- 22 hours of continuous service
- Responded to homeowner logjam inquiry
- No observed damage to river facilities



Tolt River, Jan. 13, 2021

# Questions?



Q



A



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# Flood Warning Center Operating Guidance

## Flood Warning Center opening and closing:

- Opens when any river reaches Phase 2
- Closes after evaluating stabilized river conditions, weather conditions, flood damage reports and demand for services.

## Flood Warning Center operates at King County Office of Emergency Management when:

- Two or more rivers exceed Phase 3 or are forecasted to exceed Phase 3, or
- Any river exceeds Phase 4 or is forecast to exceed Phase 4, or
- Staff cannot operate remotely due to loss of power, internet connectivity or computer functionality.