



January 14, 2015

TO: Flood Authority Members
FROM: Scott Boettcher, Staff
SUBJECT: Update: Social Media – Twitter Pilot

The purpose of this memo is to update Flood Authority members on next steps being taken to use social media to further advance and support the work of the Flood Authority. Please feel free to call or email if you have questions (i.e., 360/480-6600, scottb@sbgh-partners.com).

A. Enhanced Flood Warning Notification via Twitter:

Staff have been working with Dave Curtis (West Consultants) and OneRain (organization hosting Flood Authority's flood warning system, www.chehalisriverflood.com) on an approach to broaden the notification capability of the Flood Authority's flood warning system via Twitter. Presently, the system can notify people via email when select river gages reach select or specified levels. See example of present email notification.

Example of Present Email Notification

From: notification@onerain.com [mailto:notification@onerain.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 12:21 PM
To: scottb@sbgh-partners.com
Subject: Chehalis at Skookumchuck near Bucoda approaching Flood Stage

The Skookumchuck River near Bucoda is approaching flood stage of 13.5 ft.

This message is informational for the Chehalis Flood Authority and staff

The enhanced flood warning notification approach being worked on by staff, West and OneRain will:

1. Be piloted with Lewis County Public Works (Tim Elsea) over the course of the month of February 2015.
2. Use Twitter in addition to email to send notification tweets that select gages have reached select levels or are approaching select (flood) levels. (Note: Twitter is an online social networking service that enables users to send and read short 140-character messages called "tweets".)
3. Tweet alert notifications for the following gages:



- Chehalis River near Doty -- https://chehalis.onerain.com/site.php?site_id=14906&view_id=219.
- Chehalis River near Adna -- https://chehalis.onerain.com/site.php?site_id=17860&view_id=219.
- Chehalis River at Centralia -- https://chehalis.onerain.com/site.php?site_id=17859&view_id=219.
- Newaukum River near Centralia -- https://chehalis.onerain.com/site.php?site_id=14910&view_id=219.
- Skookumchuck River at Centralia -- https://chehalis.onerain.com/site.php?site_id=17858&view_id=219.

4. Be reported back with next steps at the March 19, 2015 Flood Authority meeting.

B. Additionally, Regarding Enhanced Flood Warning Notification:

1. Staff are working with Dave Curtis (West Consultants) and OneRain (organization hosting Flood Authority's flood warning system) to easily include in the above notification email a link to the hydrograph associated with the particular gage from which the alert is generated. This will help recipients of the notification emails to better understand their potential flood circumstance as they can directly view the gage information themselves. This will improve flood preparedness. Here for example is link to the Skookumchuck near Bucoda gage -- http://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/uv?site_no=12026400.
2. Staff will work with Dave Curtis to prepare for distribution by Pat Anderson a notice that anyone interested in receiving email notification of approaching flood levels can do so and should send an email to Scott Boettcher with their name and contact information along with which gages they are interested in receiving email alerts from.