FLOOD OF DECEMBER 3, 2007

Presented by Chief S. Digrigoli, Skokomish Department of Public Safety
Sunday Winter Wonderland

• December 1st started out as any other Snowy Winter Day

• More snow fell than forecasted
Sunday Winter Wonderland

• The snow fell quiet and soft.

• No reason for concern.
Sunday Winter Wonderland

• The snow attracted the media.

• And those looking for recreation.
Snow To Rain

• Temperature change caused falling snow to turn to rain by late evening December 2, 2007.

• High Winds moved into the area resulting in power outages.

• Some mudslides were reported.
The Rapid Melt Down
The Rapid Melt Down

Within **24** hours, the snow had melted.
Activation of the E.O.C.

- **5:00 A.M.** December 3rd, 2007 the Emergency Operations Center was activated and in service.

- By 9:45 A.M. the Skokomish Tribe was represented at the E.O.C. via the Skokomish Department of Public Safety.
**December 3rd**

6:50 A.M. Skokomish Police Chief is made aware of the Mason County Emergency Operations Center Activation.

7:00 A.M. Two Mason County Sheriff’s Deputies en route towards the Reservation as flooding of the Skokomish River is imminent.

7:10 A.M. Skokomish Officers on duty (2 Fish & Wildlife, 1 Regular Patrol) were advised of the EOC Activation & impending emergency deployments.

7:30 A.M. Skokomish Officers report water over U.S. Highway 101 north of Purdy Cutoff Road.
December 3rd

- 7:40 A.M. Mason County Sheriff’s Deputies unable to get to Reservation from US Highway 101.
- 8:00 A.M. Several residents living in the Skokomish Valley were evacuated from their homes.
- 8:16 A.M. Department of Transportation closed US Highway 101 @ SR 106 Intersection.
- 8:30 A.M. Two Skokomish Fish and Wildlife Officers and One Regular Patrol Officer were posted at strategic locations for anticipated rescues.

(All Swift Water Rescue Trained)
Skokomish DPS Deployment
Timeline

December 3rd

• 9:15 A.M. A request for anti-seizure medication is received for a patient at Tuwaduq Family Services. Patient advises some time before next dose is scheduled.

• 9:50 A.M. Skokomish Fish & Wildlife Officer advises Purdy Cutoff and SR 106 are about to be officially closed due to flooding.

• 9:53 A.M. Skokomish Tribal Manager advised of status of conditions on the Reservation and road closures. Skokomish Reservation is soon to be effectively cutoff from both north and south arterials of travel.

• 10:06 A.M. All access to Tahuya River Valley Area compromised by a bridge collapse and other flooded roads. Mason County Sheriff’s Office request Jet Boat respond to Tahuya River Area for support of Swift Water Rescue Crews. Jet Boat deployment cancelled due to extremely rough water on the Canal.

Skokomish Officers rescued one female motorists from her submerged vehicle on Purdy Cutoff @ Enchantment Road.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 3rd

• 11:28 A.M. Skokomish Officers and Mason County Deputies check five residences surrounded by water, advising or assisting occupants with evacuation.

• 11:30 A.M. EOC is advised of a helicopter en route to Tahuya River Valley area for several anticipated roof top rescues. Skokomish Valley also expected use of helicopter for two on the roof of a residence on West Deyette Road.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 3rd

• 11:40 A.M. Skokomish Officer gets GPS Coordinates of Tuwaduq Family Services for possible air drop of Anti-Seizure Medication.

• 12:06 P.M. Skokomish Officer advises one person rescued from vehicle in water on SR 106 @ Mile Post 1.

• 12:10 P.M. Medics advise en route to Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy for anti-seizure medication for patient at Tuwaduq Family Services.

• 12:40 P.M. Skokomish Officers Focus attention on Tribal Center having Security Officer secure building and evacuate premises. Skokomish Officers attempt to check residence on Agency Road, mission unsuccessful, water too high and fast.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 3rd

- **12:42 P.M.** Skokomish Officer @ 101 and Purdy Cutoff, advises medication in hand while plans for potential mission to get medication on other side of river are under way.

- **12:45 P.M.** EOC Director holds quick briefing, advisements of equipment availability, mission failures, road closures, power outage locations and need for helicopter to drop medication at Tuwaduq Family Services.

- **1:09 P.M.** Resident in the area of 1600 State Route 106 request rescue. Resident advised rescue was not immediate emergency. Same resident refused evacuation assistance earlier.

- **1:57 P.M.** Patient awaiting medication is reported to be seizing, Skokomish Officer on scene providing first aid.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

• **3:50 P.M.** Mason County Sheriff’s Office deploy Sheriff’s Boat from Union Boat Ramp to Hoodsport Dock for medical transport of seizure patient.

• **4:10 P.M.** Skokomish Officer advised patient is with medics route to Hoodsport from Tuwaduq Family Services.

Helicopter was grounded due to high winds.
Skokomish DPS Deployment
Timeline

December 3rd

• 5:20 P.M. Skokomish Officer reports trees down on Skokomish Indian Flats Road, cutting off access to homes beyond the 300 block. Skokomish Natural Resources was advised.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 3rd

- 6:00 P.M. Skokomish Officers and Mason County Sheriff’s Deputies stage at the Skokomish Department of Public Safety Annex. Officers report holding a briefing and debrief of days incidents.

- Multiple phone checks are conducted to residents flooded in that had refused to evacuate earlier.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 4th

Day 2
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline
December 4th

- **6:29 A.M.** Officers and Mason County Sheriff’s rescue four from 1361 State Route 106 one of which was an elderly female on Oxygen.

- **8:39 A.M.** Skokomish Officers staged Jet Boat at Saltwater Park Boat Ramp for pending Medical Transport Detail.

- **9:10 A.M.** Mason County Sheriff’s Office makes official request to establish Hoodsport Family Clinic as an Emergency Clinic.

Calls are made to Skokomish Medical Staff for their assistance.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline

December 4th

- **11:30 A.M.** Washington State Patrol advises that State Route 106 to Purdy Cutoff Road may officially open.

- **12:05 P.M.** Fire officially requests transport of newly filled bottles of Oxygen be transported to Hoodsport.

- **13:25 P.M.** Skokomish Officers arrive at Union Boat Ramp, picking up Oxygen Bottles, Skokomish RN and Skokomish Doctor as well as a Medic.
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline
December 4th

• **2:14 P.M.** Skokomish Officer reports arriving at Hoodsport, dropping off the Skokomish Doctor and Skokomish Registered Nurse.

• **2:40 P.M.** Skokomish Officer reports Medic being dropped off at Ayock Point

• **4:35 P.M.** Skokomish Doctor and Skokomish Registered Nurse report being relieved of duty and finding their own way home because of the recent road openings.

Reservation somewhat back to normal status other than Casino and Tribal Center still being closed
Skokomish DPS Deployment

Timeline

December 5th

Day 3
Skokomish DPS Deployment Timeline
December 5th

Two Swift Water Rescue Trained Skokomish Officers were requested and deployed to the Tahuya Area to assist rescue efforts.

The Skokomish Jet Boat was deployed twice but twice cancelled as roads continued to become passable.

The Skokomish Tribal Center and Casino were open.
The Irony

December 1<sup>st</sup> 2007

The Skokomish Department of Public Safety in conjunction with local Fire Districts and the Mason County Sheriff’s Office completed Swift Water Rescue Training.

End of Presentation