

Flooding possible in Tahoe, valley areas with incoming storms

With a severe winter weather storm approaching the Sierra Nevada this weekend, Douglas County Sheriff Ron Pierini is advising residents of potential flood activity.

The National Weather Service reports that heavy precipitation is likely in the Central Sierra and Western Nevada. The storms are predicted to begin Friday and continue through the beginning of next week. With heavy precipitation expected from the storm, there is a potential for area flooding.

While the full impact of rainfall from this storm is uncertain, it is expected to be heavy in areas of elevation below 7,500 feet. With area snowpack starting at 5,000 feet, these rainstorms have the potential to cause the lower elevation snowpack to melt. With soils already heavily saturated due to above normal precipitation since October, the potential for flooding exists.

Persons with homes or structures in the Carson Valley located near rivers, streams, creeks, canals or other moving waterways should take steps to mitigate the chances of flooding. This includes cleaning tumbleweeds, branches, leaves and other debris from the waterways. Residents should stay aware of the latest weather forecasts from the National Weather Service throughout the weekend.

Current stage flow and river forecast information is available for many rivers and streams in Eastern California and Western Nevada online, then clicking on the area of interest.

Citizens are reminded that if immediate emergency services should be needed during this weather event, they should call

911. The non-emergency line is (775) 782.5126.