



**Press Release - 4**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: February 7, 2021

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Time: 12:30 p.m.

St. Clair County Coastal Community Flooding – Update

Coastal communities in St. Clair County continue to experience flooding.

The United States Army Corp of Engineers has provided the following briefing on water levels. Water levels in Algonac have remained steady over the past 24 hours. Port Lambton is continuing to experience a slow decline. There is a small divergence from the Algonac gage indicating a blockage further downstream. St. Clair has experienced a five (5) to six (6) inch level increase over the past 24 hours. Port Huron/Sarnia and Fort Gratiot water levels have increased three (3) and two (2) inches in the past 24 hours.

The rise in water levels in St. Clair appears to be caused by an increased restriction that began yesterday afternoon. Data suggests there are at least two (2) restrictions; one between St. Clair and Port Lambton and the other between Port Lambton and Algonac. This is consistent with information provided by the Coast Guard yesterday. Significant ice in the St. Clair River increases the potential for additional blockages as Coast Guard Cutter operations continue.

The United States and Canadian Coast Guard Cutter operations are continuing. The Griffon and Bristol Bay departed the docks in Windsor and Detroit this morning after obtaining logistics and fuel yesterday. They are returning to continue flushing operations today, accompanied by the Tug Prentiss Brown and assist Tug Manitou. Neah Bay has been operating in the lower St. Clair River today and will be replaced by the Morro Bay later this afternoon. The Biscane Bay will be enroute to assist operations Monday, February 8, 2021. The Samuel Risley continues to work on the ice plug and will assist the Tug Prentiss Brown upon arrival. Flushing operations will continue throughout the day.

Citizens who are impacted by flooding to their properties continue to be encouraged to utilize the online self-reporting survey to catalogue and report damage. Photos may also be included. Links to the survey can be found on both Facebook and our webpage at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BeReadyStClairCounty> or  
<https://www.bereadystclaircounty.org>

The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency management continues to monitor the situation and is in continual contact with federal, state and local partners. Updates will be provided as the situation develops.

#End#