



MEMORANDUM

Date: July 7, 2016

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Regional Flood Control District Rainfall and Streamflow Gauges and Other Hydrologic Data Availability Through New Public Accessible Website**

Please find attached a July 6, 2016 memorandum from the Regional Flood Control District Director indicating the new weather related information website that is now available. Also attached are the links that can be used by anyone to access the data and information.

The current streamflow and rainfall gauge system you may be familiar with will remain in place, however, the new system is much more functional and can display significantly more data and information from not only Pima County, but in our surrounding counties.

I would encourage you and your staff to become available with the flood warnings and system link addresses and access them for information regarding rainfall and streamflow during this monsoon season.

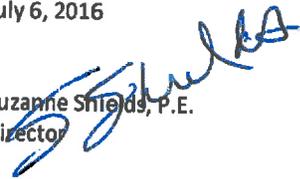
CHH/lab

Attachment

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Jan Leshar, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Health Services
Jeff Guthrie, Director, Emergency Management Office
Suzanne Shields, Director, Regional Flood Control District

DATE: July 6, 2016

TO: C. H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

FROM: Suzanne Shields, P.E.
Director 

SUBJECT: ALERT Rainfall and Stream Flow Gauges – New Publically Accessible Website

I am happy to announce that the Regional Flood Control District (District) is ready to launch our new publically accessible website for displaying real or near real-time Hydrometeorological data for southeastern Arizona. Precipitation, stream flow and other weather-related information produced by Pima County's (County) ALERT stations; data generated by other agencies' monitoring equipment is now just a few clicks away (see attached Overview).

The new website presents the County's ALERT data more reliably and offers much more information to assist local communities, public safety agencies, researchers and the general public about current conditions. The website provides real-time data from the County's 105 precipitation, stream flow and weather monitoring stations. In addition, the website can display weather and stream flow data from over 40 additional gauging sites run by partner agencies including the National Weather Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Arizona Game and Fish, and Pinal, Cochise and Santa Cruz counties. The list of available cooperater sites continues to expand and sites will be added as they become available.

The website's main feature is a map display containing locations of gauging sites along with a real-time display of the data generated at that site. The map display is built on a Google Maps structure, which provides an easy to navigate map that can be viewed with either a street or terrain-view and can display satellite imagery. Additionally, current radar images, both static and animated, can be displayed on the map along with National Weather Service storm warnings which appear on the map as a box outlining the affected area(s).

In addition, our new system has two versions, one for display on desktops/laptops, and another for mobile and small screen devices. The mobile device version is a slightly simplified version that provides most of the functionality of the full version. Information is also posted on our main website showing how to navigate to the new ALERT maps. We are still maintaining the original ALERT data site as well.

The work completed to-date has been no small undertaking and I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the good work provided by the District and Information Technology Department staffs including our vendors. Collectively we have accomplished a great deal; however, as with most new technology there is more that can be done. Over the next few months, we will provide additional data displays and site-specific information for river channels and bridges.

At your convenience, I will send someone over to install these applications and to review the features of the new website.

SS/tj

Attachment

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator – Public Works
Jan Leshner, Deputy County Administrator – Community & Health Services
Jeff Guthrie, Director – Office of Emergency Management

OVERVIEW
PiMA COUNTY REGIONAL FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT'S ALERT FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM

Our new system has two versions, one for display on desktops/laptops, and another for mobile and small screen devices. The mobile device version is a slightly simplified version that provides most of the functionality of the full version. The two URL's are:

- For desktops/laptops computers the URL address is: <http://alertmap.rfcd.pima.gov/Gmap/Gmap.html>
- For mobile devices the URL address is: <http://alertmap.rfcd.pima.gov/dwmobile/>

Please take a moment and visit the websites, familiarize yourself with all of the information and features, and let my staff know what you think. We would be most interested in any problems you may encounter, data needs that are not being met, difficulties in navigating the site or any questions you have regarding the websites or the data.

The following website offers easy to use instructions to create APP Icons on your mobile devices:
<http://www.howtogeek.com/196087/how-to-add-websites-to-the-home-screen-on-any-smartphone-or-tablet/>

For Android devices you can create an ALERT map APP by going to the URL address and completing the following steps:

1. While on your mobile device go to the District's ALERT web address for mobile devices at: <http://alertmap.rfcd.pima.gov/dwmobile>
2. Tap the menu button. Typically this is the three horizontal dots on the upper right of your screen.
3. Tap "Add to home screen"
4. An APP button for DWmobile is automatically added to your homepage screen.
5. Once you tap the DW APP, the ALERT map will come up. Note: It takes a few seconds to load the data.