



For Immediate Release

January 5th, 2017 – 4:00pm

KICKING HORSE RIVER ICE JAM UPDATE #4

At approximately 6:00 pm January 4th, a third ice floe event occurred on the Kicking Horse River. Sizeable and composed of large blocks of ice and woody debris, the leading edge of the new floe now rests against the trailing edge of the last one. Aerial assessments have revealed the current floe stretches about a kilometre upstream of the municipal campground.

Water is currently percolating through the dyke adjacent to the campground and crews are both containing and channeling it to drainage structures. At this time no other infrastructure is threatened.

Colder temperatures continue to produce floating frazil ice which remains a concern for future releases upriver. The slight warming trend expected this week is hoped to assist the river to maintain and stabilize a channel through the ice.

Monitoring of the river will continue as any large scale swings in temperatures could result in a change of conditions and renewed preparations for any potential threats.

Public safety remains a priority and people are encouraged to keep a safe distance from the Kicking Horse River as sudden movements of ice and materials within the river are very possible and unpredictable.

Additional updates will be provided as the situation changes.

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