

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT



May 9, 2005

HIGH WATER SAFETY WARNING FROM SNOW SURVEY STAFF

The following warning is from NRCS Snow Survey Staffer Randy Julander: We are entering into a window of vulnerability with high snowpacks and the potential for flooding. The next 4 to 8 weeks will be an especially critical time frame. Rivers and streams will be flowing very high in all areas of the state. If you are out and about accomplishing the mission of NRCS, be very careful around any running water. The stream you easily waded across last year or the past 6 years, may very well kill you this year. Channel bottoms may become unstable, footing treacherous and the flow velocity will be swift with the water ultra cold. There are currently 56 active land slides being monitored as well as various areas for mud and debris flows. In areas of high snowpacks with steep slopes, wet avalanches are occurring. Rivers and creeks are flowing anywhere from 100% to 700% of average. So, it's a little more dangerous in most



areas than in a normal year, please be careful on the job as well as when you venture into recreational areas. Most of you have cabin fever and want to get out. If you volunteer for flood related activities, be especially careful around fast flowing streams and rivers, cause getting swept downstream is not an acceptable excuse for missing work.

For Water Supply and Current Snowpack Conditions:

<http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>

Wet snow avalanche near Heber, Utah

 Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah

To see blasts from the past go to [e-Blast archives](#)

Sylvia Gillen, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service

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