



Reference: 46191

July 28, 2025

VIA EMAIL: JFord@slrd.bc.ca

Jen Ford, Chair
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Box 219, 1350 Aster Street
Pemberton, British Columbia
V0N 2L0

Dear Jen Ford:

Thank you for your letter of June 6, 2025, regarding Place Glacier Outburst Flood Hazard.

I want to assure you, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) staff continue to work closely with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR), Squamish Lillooet Regional District (SLRD), and the Geologic Survey of Canada (NRCan-GSC) to update information on potential hazards from Place Glacier.

I understand that the subglacial lake that presented the imminent hazard discharged in the week of June 16, 2025, with relatively minor downstream effects, though uncertainty around immediate debris flood and debris flow risk still requires assessment. I am pleased to hear of the continued work by SLRD consultants, funded by EMCR. This work includes assessing the residual risk in the impacted areas and updating SLRD webpages and evacuation alerts, based on the most recent available information from NRCan-GSC.

It is anticipated Place Glacier will continue to pose a flood outburst hazard for the foreseeable future. I understand EMCR will be exploring opportunities with WLRS, SLRD and NRCan-GSC toward a broader public safety study. The purpose of that study includes a better understanding the future risk of flood outburst events; providing information and establishing criteria to aid in emergency management decision making at a local level; and exploring potential mitigation options. This would also help address your request for information that could be shared with the broader public.

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Jen Ford Chair, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA), each level of government has a role in preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery relating to hazards that could impact public safety. The EDMA provides a framework to support the overall emergency management system, which includes multiple decision-makers, actors, and authorities – with a clear focus on promoting coordination and cooperation. Under this framework, both the Province and local governments have roles to play in all phases of emergency management – not just when conditions rise to the level of an emergency.

WLRS coordinates a whole of society approach to flood hazard management at a provincial scale, with complementary roles for local government at a site level. This is elaborated on under the [BC Flood Strategy](#) and [Provincial Flood Emergency Plan](#) (Appendix A lists local government and Ministry functions, albeit with out-of-date Ministry names).

I hope this provides an update on activities related to this hazard. We would be pleased to have staff from WLRS and EMCR meet with you as requested to support our partnership in moving forward. WLRS will reach out to your office to make arrangements.

Again, thank you for writing and sharing your concerns.

Sincerely,



Randene Neill
Minister

pc: Honourable Kelly Greene, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate
Readiness