



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH
CITY OF KETCHIKAN



**Joint Media Release: Third Avenue Landslide Update 26:
Recovery Progress in Slide Area | Heavy Rains Expected | Emergency Preparedness**

Date: September 20, 2024, 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 907-228-2383

For Immediate Release

Heavy Rain Expected: Ketchikan is expected to receive 2 to 4 inches of rain between tonight and Saturday, with a brief break on Sunday. Another 2 to 3 inches of rain is expected on Monday and Tuesday with elevated winds, especially in higher terrain areas.

NWS Weather Matrix for Ketchikan: The National Weather Service office in Juneau, in conjunction with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has developed a weather matrix for the Ketchikan area. The matrix provides temperature, precipitation, and wind measurements for each three-hour interval over the upcoming 72 hour period.

- Ketchikan Weather Matrix:
https://www.weather.gov/source/ajk/ss/Ketchikan_Landslide.html
- Check for daily weather updates, advisories, and warnings at
<https://www.weather.gov/ajk/>
- NOAA/NWS has developed a weather app that shows radar data, hourly forecasts including wind, weekly forecasts, and provides weather alerts.



Citizens Reminded to Be Aware of Risks and Take Precautionary Measures: If you live or work in an area on a hillside or with steep terrain, with surrounding forest or with historic drainage, be aware of your surroundings.

- ✓ Pay attention to any changes in the environment with the additional precipitation this weekend and into next week.
- ✓ Watch for changes or hazards in the area around you.
- ✓ Be prepared with an evacuation plan for you and your family. If possible, include notifying or helping vulnerable neighbors and friends in your plan.
- ✓ Have a predetermined location to relocate your family if needed.

Family Emergency Preparedness Tools: Below are links to tools and resources for families to be prepared for a disaster:

- [Red Cross - Family Disaster Plan](#)
- [Red Cross - Landslide Safety Checklist](#)
- [ASDF Bug Out Bag Checklist](#)
- [Individual and Family Preparedness Guide](#)

Third Avenue Landslide Recovery Work Continues:

City Public Works crews and contractors continued to address utility needs on Second Avenue and the Third Street Access Road this week. A new webcam was installed at the base of the landslide area that allows staff to monitor the slope and drainages. All storm drains in the area of the Third Avenue Landslide have been repaired and are fully functioning.

Third Avenue: Crews worked to install the fence post bases this week. Sidewalk panels damaged in the landslide are being removed with preparation for new sidewalk panels, curbs, and gutters to be repaired and installed. Lighting has been repaired on Third Avenue.

Second Avenue: Debris removal continued. Sandbags were placed to control storm water.

Road Closures in Effect:

- Second Ave from Austin St to Whitecliff Ave remains closed to through traffic.
- Third Ave from the Library to Washington Street remains closed. This area is expected to be closed through the end of September while safety measures are put in place.

Rainbird Trail remains CLOSED. All sections of the trail have been closed since August 25, 2024. Entering the Rainbird Trail is prohibited. Additional caution tape and signage was placed on the trail in the areas of the slide. Please respect this closure and do not attempt to access the trail.

EOC Objectives

The Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center Unified Command objectives have been updated:

1. Complete necessary repairs/updates to open to 3rd Avenue to traffic by 9/30/2024.
2. Maintain the current downtown Main Street/Spruce Mill Way/ Bawden Street traffic plan until 10/04/2024.
3. Ensure the financial stability of the City of Ketchikan while managing the costs associated with the landslide response and recovery. Ongoing.
4. Provide landslide awareness and public outreach. Ongoing.

Services for Families Affected by the Landslide:

Anyone who had disaster-related expenses to their primary residence because of the event on August 25, 2024, may complete the Individual Assistance application via <https://ready.alaska.gov/Recovery/IA> or calls 1-844-445-7131.

Information and Disaster-Related Resources: Additional information about the August 25, 2024, Third Avenue Landslide is available at www.kgbak.us/landslide

A list of opportunities to support the families affected by the landslide, is available on the Borough Landslide page at: <https://www.kgbak.us/1099/Helping-Your-Neighbors>

To sign up for Nixle emergency alerts text "99901" to 888777 for updates.

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National Weather Service Juneau, AK
Weather Matrix for Ketchikan Landslide
 Valid: 09/20/2024 05 AM - 09/23/2024 05 AM AKDT
 Call 1-907-790-6800 for additional weather support



	Fri 09/20 5 AM	Fri 09/20 8 AM	Fri 09/20 11 AM	Fri 09/20 2 PM	Fri 09/20 5 PM	Fri 09/20 8 PM	Fri 09/20 11 PM	Sat 09/21 2 AM	Sat 09/21 5 AM	Sat 09/21 8 AM	Sat 09/21 11 AM	Sat 09/21 2 PM	Sat 09/21 5 PM	Sat 09/21 8 PM	Sat 09/21 11 PM	Sun 09/22 2 AM	Sun 09/22 5 AM	Sun 09/22 8 AM	Sun 09/22 11 AM	Sun 09/22 2 PM	Sun 09/22 5 PM	Sun 09/22 8 PM	Sun 09/22 11 PM	Mon 09/23 2 AM	Mon 09/23 5 AM
Temperature	49°F	50°F	52°F	53°F	53°F	52°F	51°F	51°F	50°F	53°F	56°F	58°F	58°F	56°F	54°F	52°F	51°F	53°F	56°F	58°F	58°F	56°F	55°F	53°F	53°F
Wind Speed	6 mph	11 mph	17 mph	23 mph	24 mph	24 mph	18 mph	13 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	11 mph	11 mph	9 mph	9 mph	10 mph	10 mph	10 mph	12 mph	12 mph	12 mph	16 mph	18 mph	18 mph
Wind Direction	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	S	S	S	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE	SE
Wind Gust	11 mph	14 mph	23 mph	28 mph	29 mph	29 mph	24 mph	19 mph	13 mph	13 mph	16 mph	16 mph	17 mph	17 mph	13 mph	13 mph	16 mph	16 mph	16 mph	18 mph	18 mph	18 mph	21 mph	24 mph	24 mph
Chance of Precipitation	40%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	97%	86%	80%	80%	81%	81%	73%	67%	62%	68%	77%	77%	86%	96%	100%	100%
Weather	Fog Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain	Rain
Rainfall	0.0 in	0.09 in	0.26 in	0.33 in	0.48 in	0.46 in	0.43 in	0.32 in	0.1 in	0.08 in	0.06 in	0.09 in	0.17 in	0.16 in	0.14 in	0.12 in	0.06 in	0.04 in	0.02 in	0.03 in	0.07 in	0.2 in	0.46 in	0.46 in	0.48 in

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Hazard Level	None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
Temperature	≥45 °F	45 to 41 °F	40 to 36 °F	35 to 31 °F	≤30 °F
Wind Speed	≤15 mph	15 to 19 mph	20 to 24 mph	25 to 29 mph	≥30 mph
Wind Gust	≤25 mph	25 to 34 mph	35 to 44 mph	45 to 59 mph	≥60 mph
Chance of Precipitation	≤25 %	25 to 39 %	40 to 54 %	55 to 74 %	≥75 %
Rainfall	≤0.05 in	0.05 to 0.14 in	0.15 to 0.24 in	0.25 to 0.49 in	≥0.5 in

Note - Grey color indicates no thresholds assigned

- Values in each 3-hour time block represent the worst case scenario, except for temperature, sky cover, and relative humidity where average values are displayed

National Weather Service Weather Matrix for Ketchikan Dated 09/20/2024



View of Third Avenue Bypass from White Cliff Avenue. Crews work to install fence post bases. Photo courtesy of KGB.



Fence post bases are installed on the Third Avenue Bypass. Photo courtesy of City of Ketchikan.



Work crew pouring concrete into fence post base on Third Avenue Bypass. Photo courtesy of City of Ketchikan.



Sandbags placed to control storm water on Second Avenue. Photo courtesy of City of Ketchikan.