Coconino County
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Jim Driscoll, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Commander G. Boeck

Date: March 22, 2023

Phone: 928-226-5025

SUBJECT: ***Recent Storm Impacts***

Coconino County, AZ – Over the last week a considerable storm system has impacted the greater Coconino County Region. This storm has created rain runoff as well as snow melt that is causing impacts on the local watersheds and flooding many areas. Due to the increased water levels, many roadways and crossings have been left impassable. CCSO recommends the following:

- Avoid crossing flooded roadways. Often, the true water depth is hard to gauge. Road surface conditions underneath are not known, it is possible the roadway has washed out or suffered damage in that area.
- Water levels are subject to rise as the storm continues. An area that may appear to be passable at that moment, does not indicate if it will be passable in the future.
- Water depths of 6 inches can cause vehicles to lose control, float or otherwise become inoperable. In addition to the water depth, water flow rates also adversely affect your vehicle's ability.
- Debris from upstream can also cause issues with crossing flooded roadways. Often, trees/branches, barbed wire fencing and posts are uprooted and travel downstream with the water flow. This debris can also cause your vehicle to become stuck or entangled in flooded areas.

Please use good judgement and be safe. Pay attention to Road Closed Signs at low crossings. Crossing flooded roadways only increases risk to yourself and potentially first responders. This storm system is expected to continue through Wednesday, 03/22 into Thursday 03/23.

If you have any additional questions, please call the Coconino County Sheriff's Office Dispatch at 928-774-4523. In an emergency, call 911.