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News Release

[INSERT ORG NAME] Warns: [Insert Region] at Increased Risk of Flooding Following Wildfire Season

[Insert Org Name] urges residents to protect their homes, businesses, and personal property with flood insurance as rainy season approaches

[City, State] – As [insert region/city] recovers from the recent devastation caused by wildfires, [insert local organization name] warns residents living in and surrounding wildfire areas about the high risk of flash flooding and mudflows, and urging them to protect their homes, businesses, and personal property with flood insurance.

Wildfires result in a loss of vegetation and leave the ground charred and unable to absorb water. This creates conditions for flooding. Even areas that are not traditionally flood-prone are at risk of flooding for up to several years after a wildfire.

["Insert a quote from a local staff or community member about the risk of flood after fire,"] said [insert name] the [insert title], of [insert name of organization] a community organization dedicated to fire safety.]

Floods are the most common and expensive natural disaster in the U.S. Just an inch of water in an average-sized home can cause more than \$25,000 in damage¹. Most homeowner and renters' insurance policies do not cover flood damage. Flood insurance is a separate policy that protects homes and belongings from floodwater damage so residents can recover after a storm. Policies typically take 30 days to go into effect, so it is important for residents to call their insurance agents now to plan ahead.

The rainy season is already underway, and recent data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) shows a high possibility of [insert local/regional weather events/season, like La Niña, monsoons, snow melt, etc.] continuing throughout the [insert season], which typically causes higher precipitation in parts of [insert region]. [Insert region] has already seen record-breaking floods this year; flooding in [insert time of year] [add local details like number of homes/business flooded and damage estimates].

For more information about flood risk and flood insurance, visit fema.gov/flood-after-fire.

[Insert a paragraph about your organization.]

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¹ National Flood Services, Floodtools.com