

Waves of Rain Pounding the High Country

Written by Steve Frank

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Waves of heavy rain have raked the High Country all afternoon, with flash flooding hitting a number of areas. Ashe County Emergency Services have sent crews to the Laurel Knob area off NC 194 to a report of flooding inside a home. The woman told dispatchers she might not be able to get out

of the house, and reported water flowing into her garage and into the living area of the home. A vehicle flipped over into Big Horse Creek due to flooding on Big Horse Creek Road in Ashe, the lone occupant calling his father to say he was OK, but emergency resources were sent to deal with traffic control and try to retrieve the vehicle from the creek. Flooding is starting to take its toll on area roads, with the four lane in Ashe county closed for a time due to flooding, as well as NC 88 between Warrensville and Lansing. First reports of road flooding came in from far western Avery County, where areas off of US 19E were reported underwater, specifically the Roaring Creek area to Molly's Branch, Henson's Creek and other areas. Reports say over a foot of water is across roadways in the Frank and Burleson areas. Avery emergency services are evacuating some area campgrounds, blocking off roads in the area, now deemed too dangerous to cross, with rapid rise reported in the Toe River and feeder streams. One man reported that the dirt portion of Roaring Creek washed away just below his location, and he may be stuck on the higher ground, with Avery emergency crews trying to determine how to get him out. The large band of heavy rain, traveling from south to north, is hitting the mountains, it is dumping its load of moisture, and with the amount of water dumped on the mountainsides, and whether the grounds can absorb any of it after days of soaking rain.