

September 19, 2013

Watch for Snakes Displaced by Flood Waters

Use caution when doing anything outside and be aware that these reptiles may be in area they are not commonly found.

Flood waters not only displace people from their home but can have a devastating effect on wildlife. Snakes and rodents can be washed out and carried for a few miles downstream before finding a place to make it to dry land.

Rattlesnakes are of major concern to downstream residents. They may arrive several miles downstream from their normal habitat and be looking for a warm dry place to spend the winter. It is not uncommon to find snakes of various types in and around you home and outbuilding following a major flood event in the area. As a rule these snakes are very irritable and low on patience with intruders.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Resources on dealing with wildlife:

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/WildlifeSpecies/LivingWithWildlife/Pages/LivingWith.aspx>

Information from U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):

www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_Hurricane_Facts/rodents_snakes_insects.pdf