

UPDATE

26Sep2010 10:30AM

North Vancouver Island - Downgraded to a High Streamflow Advisory West Vancouver Island - Downgraded to a High Streamflow Advisory

West and North Vancouver Island Rivers have been downgraded to from a Flood Watch and Flood Warning (respectively) to **High Streamflow Advisories**. Another active system is expected to arrive on the coast this evening. Forecast precipitation totals for the next front are lower than those received over the past 2 days, but are still significant.

The intense frontal system pushed south last evening, and heavy rainfall associated with the front has ended. Storm rainfall totals were significant, ranging from 120 mm at the Naka Creek MoFR Fire Weather Station on north-eastern Vancouver Island, 150 mm at the WSC Gold River gauge (08HC001) to 380 mm at the Artlish MoFR station. The status of the rivers of concern is as follows:

- **Pugh Creek:** has dropped to 4.3 m, slightly above pre-storm levels, and well below levels of concern.
- **Salmon River:** peaked above the diversion at 3.0 m at 8PM Saturday (WSC-08HD015), just below a 2-year return period, and has now fallen to 2.1 m.
- **Gold River:** peaked at 6PM Saturday at 4.8 m, just below a 2-year return period level of 5.15 m. It has been receding slowly, and as of 8AM has dropped to 3.0 m.
- **Heber River:** peaked at 6PM Saturday at 2.4 m, at a 2-year return period, and has now fallen to 1.5 m as of 8AM.
- **Tofino Creek:** peaked at 6:30PM Saturday at 2.95 m, just below a 2-year return period of 3.0 m, and has now dropped to 1.9 m as of 8AM.

Environment Canada has ended the current rainfall warnings for Vancouver Island, and no significant rainfall is forecast until the next system begins to move onshore tonight. River levels are expected to begin to rise again overnight. The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions, and will provide an update this evening or earlier if conditions warrant.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** means that river levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly, but that no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible.

A **Flood Watch** means that river levels are rising and will approach or may exceed bankfull. Flooding of areas adjacent to affected rivers may occur.

A **Flood Warning** means that river levels have exceeded bankfull or will exceed bankfull imminently, and that flooding of areas adjacent to the rivers affected will result.