BC Environment
River Forecast Centre

Update – Flood Warning: Bella Coola River and Central Coast
29Sep2010 12:00PM

The Flood Warning for the Bella Coola River is being maintained. This is in effect for the Bella Coola River and tributaries, and other rivers on the Central Coast.

Precipitation ended in the Bella Coola valley late yesterday afternoon. Current weather conditions are cloudy, with a clearing trend for the rest of the week.

The Bella Coola River is continuing to slowly recede. The river level measured at the gauge on the Nuxalk First Nation reserve shows an average decline of 4 cm/hour overnight. The Salloomt River (WSC 08FB004) also receded slowly overnight, at an average rate of 1-2 cm/hour. The last data reported on the Salloomt at 5:30AM is at 1.38 m and a flow of 47 m^3s^{-1}. There continue to be local reports of flooded areas along the Bella Coola River and its tributaries, and water levels still remain high. Flood areas and river banks are unstable and should be approached with caution.

The Environment Canada weather forecast for Thursday to Saturday is a mix of sun and cloud and temperatures above seasonal normals. The water level will continue to recede over the next few days.

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions and will provide an update on Thursday at noon, 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.