

BC Environment

River Forecast Centre

Flood Watch: Howe Sound

28Sep2010 8:00AM

The BC River Forecast Centre is issuing a Flood Watch for Howe Sound.

Rainfall totals in the headwaters of the Elaho, Cheakamus and Squamish Rivers totalled 15-40 mm overnight, and the rivers rose rapidly in response. Precipitation rates in the upper basin have dropped to 1-2 mm/hour for the past 3 hours, and Environment Canada is forecasting the rain to end later this morning.

The Elaho River (WSC 08GA071) peaked at 3AM just above a 2-year return period of $691 \text{ m}^3\text{s}^{-1}$, and the Squamish River at Brackendale (WSC 08GA022) is still rising, and as of 5AM was recording flows of $1395 \text{ m}^3\text{s}^{-1}$, above a 2-year return period of $1310 \text{ m}^3\text{s}^{-1}$. The Squamish River is forecast to continue to rise throughout the early morning, and peak early this afternoon.

The River Forecast Centre will provide an update this afternoon, 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.