

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC River Forecast Centre

UPDATE – Flood Watch – Peace Region

Issued: 22May2011 10:50AM

The BC River Forecast Centre is **upgrading** the advisory to a **Flood Watch** for the Peace Region, including:

- Moberly River near Fort St. John
- Pine River near East Pine
- Tributaries to the Peace River/Williston around Hudson's Hope, Taylor and west of Fort St. John

River levels have been high through the week in response to significant rainfall Monday and Tuesday, and on-going snowmelt through the later part of the week. Snowmelt rates at Pine Pass (Automated Snow Pillow Station 4A02P) have been 10-20 mm/day.

River levels have been rising steadily over the past several days. Current flow rates at Water Survey of Canada Stations:

- Moberly River near Fort St. John (WSC 07FB008) west of Taylor/Fort St. John is at a 5-year flow of 99 m³/s
- Pine River at East Pine (WSC 07FB001) east of Hudson's Hope is between a 2-year and 5-year flow at 1520 m³/s
- Halfway River near Farrell Creek (WSC 07FA006) east of Hudson's Hope is near a 2-year flow at approximately 500 m³/s

Environment Canada forecasts rainfall amounts in the 30-50mm range through Monday for the Peace-Williston area. River levels are expected to rise through the late weekend and into the week, with rapid rises Monday and into Tuesday. The rate and amount to which rivers rise will depend on precipitation rates that occur during this weather system.

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions and will provide an update as warranted.

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.