Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
BC River Forecast Centre

UPDATE – Flood Warning Joseph Creek (Cranbrook)
Flood Watch – Kettle and Moyie Rivers
High Streamflow Advisory – Kootenay and Kettle Regions

Issued:26May2011 1:40 PM

The BC River Forecast Centre is **issuing** a **Flood Warning** for:

- Joseph Creek (Cranbrook)

The BC River Forecast Centre is **maintaining** a **Flood Watch** for the:

- West Kettle River and Kettle River
- Moyie River (Yahk)

The BC River Forecast Centre is **maintaining** a **High Streamflow Advisory** for the:

- Kettle/Boundary and Kootenay Regions

River levels in the region have been rising or flowing high for the past 1-2 weeks due to the onset of the spring snow melt season. Environment Canada has issued a rainfall warning for the Boundary, East Kootenay, West Kootenay, Kootenay Lake and the Elk Valley, with forecasted precipitation amounts of up to 25mm through the day, and continued precipitation into Friday. Temperatures associated with this system are low, and snow melt is expected to be limited.

Current river levels are currently high on the West Kettle, Kettle and Moyie, as well as other localized ungauged areas. Currently the West Kettle River at Westbridge (WSC 08NN003) is flowing at 121 m^3/s, or a 2-year flow, the Kettle River near Westbridge (WSC 08NN026) is flowing at a 2-year flow of 231 m^3/s, and the Moyie River at Eastport (USGS 12306500) is flowing at a 2-year flow of 157 m^3/s. Other gauged rivers in the region are currently flowing below the 2-year flow level.

Flows on Joseph Creek (Cranbrook) are near flood stage, and is expected to continue rising.

River levels across the region are expected to rise Thursday into Friday in response to the rainfall event. The amount to which rivers rise will depend on the amount of precipitation that

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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.

occurs. High streamflow is expected throughout the region, with highest precipitation rates expected in the East Kootenay. High streamflow conditions are expected throughout the region. Flood conditions may occur on smaller, lower elevation watersheds.

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

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