

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC River Forecast Centre

Flood Watch – Nicola River and Bonaparte River

Issued: 27May2011 11:00 AM

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

- **Nicola River** – including Nicola Lake and areas of the Nicola River upstream of the confluence with the Coldwater River

- **Bonaparte River** (near Cache Creek)

River levels have been elevated for the past 2 weeks due to on-going snowmelt and a number of rainfall events within the region. A low pressure system that moved through the area on Thursday delivered rainfall amounts in the 10-15 mm range.

The Bonaparte River below Cache Creek (WSC 08LF002) is currently rising at 0.5 cm/hour. Flow is between a 5-year and 10-year level of 44 m³/s.

Nicola Lake (08LG046) is presently at 3.32 m and rising at 0.5 cm/hr. The Nicola River at the outlet of Nicola Lake (08LG065) is currently flowing at an estimated 2-year to 5-year flow level.

River levels are expected to rise through the weekend in response to rainfall and on-going snow melt.

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions and will provide updates 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.