Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
BC River Forecast Centre (http://bcrfc.env.gov.bc.ca/)

UPDATE: Vancouver Island - 04January2012 1:30AM

Flood Warning:

- **Zeballos River**

Flood Watch:

- **Tsolum River (Courtenay)**
- **West Vancouver Island**

High Streamflow Advisory:

- **Central Vancouver Island**
- **North Vancouver Island**

A frontal weather system is working its way across the south coast of British Columbia, bringing warm sub-tropical air and heavy rainfall. Rainfall rates of 100 to 200+ mm have been observed over the past day at the BC Forest Service weather stations at Effingham (near Ucluelet) and Artlish (near Zeballos with current rainfall rates of 10-20 mm/hour. On the east side of Vancouver Island, over 120 mm of rain has been observed over the past 24 hours at BC Hydro's Cruikshank rain gauge. A rainfall warning issued by Environment Canada is still in effect.

Rivers have been rising rapidly in response to this rain. The Zeballos River near Zeballos (WSC 08HE006) is currently at 4.53m gauge height, and rising at approximately 30 cm/hour. The Tsolum River near Courtenay (08HB011) is currently at 2.93m and rising 17 cm/hour.

Rivers are expected to continue to rise into Wednesday morning, and peak in the morning or early afternoon. The timing of peak flows will depend on when the heavy rainfall rates subside.

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