

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC River Forecast Centre (<http://bcrfc.env.gov.bc.ca/>)

High Streamflow Advisory: Bella Coola River

Issued: 14June2012 2:45PM

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

- **Bella Coola River**

The Bella Coola River has been elevated over the past several weeks as a result of seasonal snowmelt through the watershed. Snow pack in the Bella Coola watershed was well above normal this season, with the peak snow pack at the Burnt Bridge Creek Automated Snow Pillow (3C08P) measured on May 1st being 181% of average. Approximately 50% of the upper elevation snowpack has melted. The Bella Coola River is at the peak of the seasonal snow melt season, and current river levels at the Hammer Creek gauge (WSC 08FB011) are 3.56 m.

A low pressure system is expected to bring heavy rain to the region over the weekend, with rainfall amounts up to 75 mm forecasted Saturday through Sunday. River levels are expected to see rapid rises on Sunday and into Monday in response to this rainfall. The amount of river rise will depend on how much rain falls, but under the current forecast rises in the order of 1.0 m at the Bella Coola above Hammer Creek gauge are expected, and this may approach flood stage.

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.