

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

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

UPDATE: High Streamflow Advisory – Lower Fraser River

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

- **Lower Fraser River**

As of 5:00AM on Friday, the Fraser River at Hope (08MF005) is flowing at 11,900 m³/s, and is currently peaking. River levels at Hope are expected to remain high through Friday, and remain elevated (>11,600 m³/s) through the weekend.

As the pulse of water works its way through the lower Fraser Valley, the timing of the peak levels depends on both the hydraulics of routing the water through the valley, and the timing and influence of the tides. In the tidally influenced portion of the river (around Mission and downstream) the river experiences rises and falls with the tides, and therefore the peak levels on each day occur at varying times. For complete forecasts of the lower Fraser River water levels and timing of daily peak levels, see the Lower Fraser River 5-day Water Level Forecast on the River Forecast Centre website: http://bcrfc.env.gov.bc.ca/bulletins/Freshet2012/WL_Prediction.pdf.

The Fraser River at Mission (08MH024) is currently at 6.24 m and is expected to rise to a peak level of 6.48 m today, 6.62 m on Saturday, and up to 6.7 m on Sunday to Monday.

The Fraser River at Whonnock (08MH044) near Langley is currently at 5.02 m, and peak levels are forecast to rise to 5.1 m today, and 5.2 m tomorrow and up to 5.3 m over Sunday to Monday.

The Fraser River at Port Mann Pumping Station (08MH126) is currently at 2.50 m and daily peak levels are forecasted to rise to 2.62 m today, and up to 2.7 m on Saturday to Sunday.

The current weather forecast in southern BC is for the warmer weather yesterday and today transitioning into warm and wet weather later today and into the weekend. This will lead to additional rises in inflows from local rivers along the lower Fraser River, and will result in higher flows being maintained through the weekend. Current river modelling is accounting for increases in inflows from this rain based on current weather forecasts, however river levels may increase if heavier rain falls than expected. River levels are expected to drop slightly into the early part of next week, however the transition across the province to wetter weather could lead to higher flows again, later next week.

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.