

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 this morning, the Fraser River at Hope (08MF005) is flowing at approximately 11,000 m³/s, and has dropped from a peak of approximately 11,900 m³/s on Friday. The Fraser River at Mission (08MH024) is currently at 6.25 m, down from a peak of 6.48 m over the weekend.

Heavy rainfall and rapid snowmelt occurred over the weekend, particularly in the Thompson River basin (a major tributary to the Lower Fraser River) and to a lesser extent the Upper Fraser River. Typically it takes 6 days for water from rain and snowmelt in these headwaters to travel down to the Lower Fraser Valley. Due to heavier rain across the Fraser River tributaries, another pulse of water is expected to travel downstream through this week. While there will be slight drops in river levels along the Lower Fraser River this week, an additional rise is expected over the Friday to Monday (June 29th – July 2nd) period next week. Current forecasts are estimating the flows to be in the range of 11,000-12,500 m³/s at Hope, and a height of approximately 6.0-6.6 m at the Mission gauge. This forecast will be revised through the week as more detail on the river response of the major tributaries of the Fraser River (North Thompson, South Thompson, Upper Fraser) is known.

For daily updates of 5-day forecasts of water levels and timing of daily peak levels for various locations down the Lower Fraser River, see the River Forecast Centre website:

http://bcrfc.env.gov.bc.ca/bulletins/Freshet2012/WL_Prediction.pdf

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.