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

UPDATE- Provincial Flood Forecast – Update on Warnings, Watches, Advisories
Issued: 26June2012 8:30AM

The following are the current provincial flood watches, warnings and advisories:

NORTH INTERIOR (Skeena, Omineca, Peace)

- **North-West Region (including Skeena River, Bulkley River and tributaries) – Flood Watch**
- **Quesnel River – Flood Watch**
- **Fraser River (at Prince George and upstream, and downstream from Quesnel to Fraser Canyon) – Flood Watch**
- **Nechako River near Prince George – High Streamflow Advisory**

SOUTH INTERIOR (Cariboo, Thompson, Okanagan, Kootenay)

- **South Thompson River and Shuswap Lake – Flood Warning**
- **Shuswap River upstream and downstream of Mabel Lake (including around Enderby and Lumby) – Flood Warning**
- **Thompson River (including Kamloops area and Kamloops Lake) – Flood Watch**
- **Upper Columbia Region – Flood Watch**
- **Kicking Horse River – Flood Watch**
- **Kootenay Region – Flood Watch (significant potential for flooding in East Kootenay)**
- **North Thompson River and tributaries – Flood Watch**
- **Chilcotin Region – High Streamflow Advisory**

COAST

- **Bella Coola River – High Streamflow Advisory (ENDED)**

Rivers have been responding to rapid snowmelt and wet conditions over the past 2-3 weeks. Heavy rainfall occurred through the Okanagan, Shuswap, Chilcotin and Kootenay regions over the

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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.

weekend has led to significant river level rises in these areas. Heavy rainfall is forecast through the Kootenay Region today and significant rises in river levels are expected through today and into tomorrow. Specific rivers of concern include rivers in the Fernie, Sparwood, Cranbrook and Kimberly areas. While rainfall forecasts are lower through the West Kootenay and Upper Columbia, rivers are high in those regions as well, and could also see additional rises during this rainfall event. Rivers in the north-west (Skeena, Bulkley and Nass Rivers and tributaries) are currently full, and additional rises are possible over the next few days, depending on how much rain occurs through the region. Currently there is more precipitation expected over areas west of Terrace, and river rises in tributaries along the lower Skeena River (from Terrace to Prince Rupert, possibly including the Kalum River) are expected to see the largest rises over the next several days. A summary of current conditions:

- Fraser River at South Fort George (08KE018) is currently at 9.46 m and rising. The river is expected to reach peak levels later today, with peak levels of 9.5 m. This is below high water levels (10.02 m) observed last week.
- The Bulkley River at Smithers (08EE005) is currently flowing at 950 m^3/s (5-year flow) and has levelled off from rises over the past few days. Further rises are possible if rainfall is heavy in the watershed over the next few days.
- The Skeena River at Usk (08EF001) is currently at 5850 m^3/s (5-year flow) and has receded slightly since yesterday. Additional rises are possible if rainfall is heavy in the watershed over the next few days.
- Shuswap Lake at Salmon Arm (08LE070) is at 349.38 m (30-year level). Additional rises of up to 5 cm are expected over the next day. The lake level is expected to reach peak levels today through Wednesday.
- South Thompson River at Chase (08LE031) is at 1450 m^3/s (30-year flow). The river is expected to see additional rises of up to 50 m^3/s and reach peak levels today through Thursday.
- The Thompson River at Overlander Bridge in Kamloops is currently at 344.04 m. Additional rises to 344.3-344.4 m are expected through Wednesday-Thursday.
- Slocan River near Crescent Valley (08NJ013) is currently at 500 m^3/s (5 year flow). Additional rises are expected over the next 1-2 days in response to rainfall forecast for the region. Current weather forecasts have heavier rainfall amounts falling further east of the Slocan River, with 15-25 mm of rain forecast in the Slocan area. Rises to similar levels

observed over the weekend (approximately 650 m3/s) are possible, and could be higher if heavier rain falls over the watershed.

- The Kicking Horse River at Golden (08NA006) is currently at 346 m^3/s (approaching 20-year flow) and is near flood stage. At this point the Kicking Horse River is further north than where the heaviest rain appears to be forecast. The river is expected to drop slightly into tomorrow, unless significant additional rainfall occurs.
- The Kootenay River at Kootenay Crossing (08NF001) is reaching peak levels (approximately 47 m^3/s or a 20-30 year flow). Additional rises are possible if more rain impacts the area.
- Elk River at Fernie (08NK002) is currently at 256 m^3/s (2-year flow) and easing slightly. Significant rises are expected on the Elk River over the next 24-48 hours and flood conditions are possible.

Conditions in the Lower Fraser River are provided in a separate advisory.

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

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