

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: 13July2012 2:00PM

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

NORTH INTERIOR (Skeena, Omineca, Peace)

- **Stuart River and Stuart Lake – Flood Watch**

SOUTH INTERIOR (Cariboo, Thompson, Okanagan, Kootenay)

- **Columbia Region (including Kootenay River, Kicking Horse River, and Illecillewaet River) – High Streamflow Advisory**
- **Chilcotin River – High Streamflow Advisory**

Continuing drier and warmer weather has improved river level conditions across most of the province. In watersheds with larger lake systems, the easing of lake levels is slowly proceeding. Hot weather across the province over the past week has led to increased snow melt rates from high elevation snow packs. This has resulted in rises in some river systems, particularly in the Columbia region, where river watersheds contain a significant amount of high elevation terrain that remains snow covered.

A summary of current conditions:

- The Kicking Horse River at Golden (08NA006) is currently flowing at 250 m³/s (2-year flow). River levels are expected to continue to ease through the weekend unless heavy rainfall occurs.
- The Illecillewaet River at Greely (08ND013) is currently flowing at 278 m³/s (2-year flow). River levels are expected to ease through the weekend unless heavy rainfall occurs.
- The Stuart River near Fort St. James (08JE001) is currently flowing at 473 m³/s (10 to 20 year flow) and has been slowly receding for the last few days. The Stuart River (and Stuart Lake) appears to have peaked and will continue to drop slowly unless heavy rainfall occurs.
- The Chilcotin River below Big Creek (08MB005) is currently flowing at 450 m³/s (5 to 10 year flow). It has been slowly rising over the last few days. Flows appear to be stabilizing

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.

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

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

and are expected to peak over the weekend before receding into next week. These flows are significantly lower than the June 25th peak of 740 m³/s.

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.