

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: 16July2012 12:00PM

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 – Flood Warning (UPGRADED)**
- **Lillooet River near Pemberton – High Streamflow Advisory (ADDED)**

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 and headwaters of the Lillooet River and Chilcotin River, where watersheds contain a significant amount of high elevation terrain with melting snow now feeding the rivers.

A summary of current conditions:

- The Kicking Horse River at Golden (08NA006) is currently flowing at 235 m³/s (2-year flow). River levels have been fluctuating daily around a steady median for the past week.
- The Illecillewaet River at Greely (08ND013) is currently flowing at 214 m³/s and has dropped to levels below concern over the weekend.
- The Stuart River near Fort St. James (08JE001) is currently flowing at 465 m³/s (10 year flow) and has been slowly receding for the past week. The Stuart River (and Stuart Lake) appears to have peaked and will continue to drop slowly. The Flood Watch will likely be removed this week.

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/>)

- The Chilcotin River below Big Creek (08MB005) is currently flowing at 690 m³/s (50 year flow). Flows have been rising rapidly. Flows are forecast to match the peak of 740 m³/s on June 25th, and may rise further.
- The Lillooet River near Pemberton (08MG005) is currently flowing at 600 m³/s (2-year to 5-year flow).

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.