

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: 18July2012 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, and Kicking Horse River) – High Streamflow Advisory**
- **Chilcotin River – Flood Warning**
- **Lillooet River near Pemberton – High Streamflow Advisory**

As a result of the warmer and drier weather many river and lake levels across the province continue to recede. In watersheds with larger lake systems, the easing of lake levels is proceeding more slowly. 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. Cooler temperatures in the upcoming forecast should lower concerns in these regions.

A summary of current conditions:

- The Kicking Horse River at Golden (08NA006) is currently flowing at 240 m³/s (2-year flow).
- The Stuart River near Fort St. James (08JE001) is currently flowing at 460 m³/s (10 year flow). Flows had been receding slowly over the past week; however they have begun to level off today. If the flows begin to recede again, the Flood Watch will likely be removed this week.
- The Chilcotin River below Big Creek (08MB005) is currently flowing at approximately 900 m³/s (> 50 year flow). These flows are the highest in recorded history (since 1970) and have

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/>)

surpassed the June 25th peak of 740 m³/s that occurred last month. The flows appear to be peaking and should begin receding over the next few days.

- The Lillooet River near Pemberton (08MG005) is currently flowing at 650 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.