

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Flood Warning – Tulameen River, Coldwater River ISSUED: 5:30PM November 14, 2021

The River Forecast Centre is **issuing a Flood Warning:**

- **Tulameen River and tributaries**
- **Coldwater River**

A significant atmospheric river has made landfall across southern coastal regions of British Columbia. Observed rainfall amounts since yesterday have been in the 25-100mm range across the Coquihalla, upper Coldwater and Tulameen River watersheds, including approximately 40mm of rainfall at the Blackwall Automated Snow Weather Station.

Temperatures have been rising, with temperatures in the 5-7°C range being observed at automated snow weather stations across the region. Snowmelt is being observed at mid-elevations and is adding additional runoff to rivers.

Rivers have risen rapidly today. Current conditions include:

- Tulameen River at Princeton (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08NL024) is flowing at 296 m³/s (approaching a 5-year flow) and rapidly rising at 50m³/s additional flow per hour
- Tulameen River near Vuich Creek (08NL071) is flowing at 201 m³/s (between a 20-year and 50-year return period) and rising at 45 m³/s per hour
- Coldwater River near Brookmere (08LG048) is flowing at 135 m³/s (between a 20-year and 50-year flow) and rising at 25 m³/s

Additional rises are expected overnight Sunday and into Monday with additional rainfall forecasted. River levels are expected to ease later on Monday as rainfall rates ease.

Details of the COFFEE and CLEVER Model forecasts can be found at:

http://bcRFC.env.gov.bc.ca/fallfloods/map_coffee.html, and

http://bcRFC.env.gov.bc.ca/freshet/map_clever.html

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The public is advised to stay clear of the fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks during the high-streamflow period.

The [River Forecast Centre](#) continues to monitor the conditions and will provide updates as conditions warrant.

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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.