

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

DOWNGRADED – High Streamflow Advisory – Lower Nicola River, Coldwater River

ENDED – High Streamflow Advisory – Similkameen River, Tulameen River,

UPDATED: 17:30 PM November 17, 2021

The River Forecast Centre is **downgrading to High Streamflow Advisories** for:

- **Lower Nicola River**
- **Coldwater River**

The River Forecast Centre is **ending High Streamflow Advisories** for:

- **Similkameen River**
- **Tulameen River and tributaries**

Flow have continued to improve throughout the region in the wake of this historic atmospheric river that ended Monday November 15th. This storm destroyed several of the Water Survey of Canada monitoring sites within both the Nicola and Coldwater watersheds; however, limited data as well as observations in the ground indicate that systems within both watersheds have fallen significantly from the maximum flows recorded from this event; flows within the region could still be slightly elevated, and thus remain at a High Streamflow Advisory. The Coldwater River at Merritt (WSC gage 08LG010) is flowing at 37.1 m³/s as of 15:00 PM PDT (1-2 year return period).

Both the Tulameen and Similkameen rivers have fallen from peaks recorded on November 15th and flows within both systems are slowly returning to baseflow levels (and are currently flowing below their 2 year return period thresholds).

The short-term forecast indicates near seasonal temperatures and limited precipitation that will facilitate continued recession of streams throughout the region.

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.