

Ministry of Forests

Flood Warning – Liard River (Upgraded)

Flood Watch – Skeena River, Bulkley River (Maintained)

High Streamflow Advisory – Stikine, Swift River

ISSUED: 4:00 PM June 7, 2022

The River Forecast Centre is **upgrading** to a **Flood Warning** for:

- **Liard River including tributaries around Fort Nelson and Highway 97 towards Watson Lake**

The River Forecast Centre is **maintaining** a **Flood Watch** for:

- **Skeena River including the Bulkley River and surrounding tributaries around Telkwa, Smithers, Hazelton, Kispiox, and Terrace**

The River Forecast Centre is **maintaining** a **High Streamflow Advisory** for:

- **Tributaries of the Stikine River, including streams and rivers around Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek**
- **Swift River, and other streams and rivers in the most northwest section of the province**

Steady warming last week led to increased snowmelt and runoff in rivers in the region. A storm system on Friday and Saturday added additional input into rivers as rain. On-going unsettled weather is expected through this week, with moderate rainfall forecast in the Liard Basin on Thursday and Friday.

The Liard River at Upper Crossing (Water Survey of Canada Gauge 10AA001) is currently flowing at 2750 m³/s (10-year flow) and rising. On-going rises are expected from snowmelt and rainfall runoff. Extremely high flows, exceeding 50-year return period levels or similar to flood conditions in 2021, are possible later this week or early next week.

On the Skeena River at Usk (08EF001) flows have leveled off at 5840 m³/s (5-year return period flow). Modelling is not indicating significant rises above current levels, however, there remains the potential for river rises above current levels, particularly if additional rainfall falls within the watershed.

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On the Bulkley River near Smithers (08EE005) flows peaked at approximately 940 m³/s and have eased slightly to 875 m³/s (between a 2-year and 5- year flow). Modelling is not indicating significant rises above current levels, however, there remains the potential for river rises above current levels, particularly if additional rainfall falls within the watershed.

In other watersheds, including the Stikine River and Tuya River, flows continue steady climbs and are now flowing at or near 2-year return period levels. On-going steady increases in flows are expected over the next 2-3 days.

The public is advised to stay clear of the fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks during the high-streamflow period. [Be prepared and know your hazards.](#)

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.