

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

## Flood Watch – Kliniklini River (UPGRADED), High Streamflow Advisory – Central Coast (Bella Coola) & South Coast (Homathko River) MAINTAINED

Issued: 11:30AM June 30, 2021

The River Forecast Centre is **upgrading** to a **Flood Watch** for the **Kliniklini River** including:

- **Kliniklini River and tributaries**

The River Forecast Centre is **maintaining** a **High Streamflow Advisory** for the **Central Coast** and **South Coast** including:

- **Bella Coola River and tributaries**
- **Homathko River and tributaries**

Extremely hot temperatures over the past several days have triggered an extraordinary amount of snowmelt at the higher elevations along the Central Coast and South Coast. Since Saturday, Bella Coola Airport has reached maximum temperatures above 35°C for four consecutive days. The previous maximum temperature record for Bella Coola was 32.7 °C set in 1995. Automated snow weather stations (1300-1600m) are snow-free, however satellite analysis is indicating snow coverage in upper elevations throughout the watershed. The few automated snow weather stations in the province with remaining snowpack are melting at extraordinary rates of 50-100 mm per day of snow water equivalent. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) forecasts cooling temperatures beginning today and through the weekend. Snowmelt rates are expected to lessen, and rivers are forecast to begin receding soon.

The Bella Coola River above Hammer River (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08FB011) is flowing at 500 m<sup>3</sup>/s (between 2 and 5-year flow). The Kliniklini River east channel (main) near the mouth (08GE002) reached 2030 m<sup>3</sup>/s (between 10 and 20-year flow) early this morning and is receding gradually from the daily snowmelt peak. The Homathko River at the Mouth (08GD004) reached 1740 m<sup>3</sup>/s (5-year flow) early this morning and is receding gradually from the daily snowmelt peak.

Details of the CLEVER Model forecasts for this region can be found at:

[http://bcRFC.env.gov.bc.ca/freshet/map\\_clever.html](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.

BC River Forecast Centre

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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.