

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

## Flood Watch – Morice River (UPGRADED)

Issued: 13:30 PM June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

- **Morice River near Houston**

Temperatures within the Skeena watershed has been sufficiently high to spur snow melt at all elevations. This snowmelt has caused many systems to rise; the most impacted within the Skeena watershed has been the Morice River. Weather forecasts also indicate the potential for showers (<20 mm of rain) within the region over the next three days. Currently, the Morice River near Houston (08ED002) is flowing at 353 m<sup>3</sup>/s, a 10-20 year return period flow, and is forecast to rise to a 20 year return period into Thursday and Friday before very slowly receding. It is forecast to remain high (above a 10 year return period) over the weekend. Showers are forecast for the region over the next three days (20 mm of rain over three days); although not a significant amount, rain will add to snowmelt and will be problematic for systems that are already swollen from snowmelt.

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)

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.

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