

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

UPGRADED – Flood Watch– Tulameen River, Similkameen River, Coldwater River, Nicola River

ISSUED: 4:00 PM November 27, 2021

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

- **Tulameen River and Similkameen River**
- **Coldwater River and Lower Nicola River**

The second in a series of atmospheric rivers is impacting the British Columbia Coast through the weekend. Significant rainfall is expected across the eastern Fraser Valley through the rest of Saturday and on Sunday morning. There is the potential for spillover of moist air across the Cascade and Coast Mountains and into Interior watersheds. Warming is also expected to contribute to snowmelt at mid-elevations and rain-on-snow runoff. There is a high degree of uncertainty over the extent of potential spillover rainfall into the interior, as well as runoff characteristics within these watersheds. The responses to rainfall during the Nov 13-15 atmospheric river event indicated extremely rapid runoff, and there is additional uncertainty over how the watersheds will respond to additional rainfall over the next few days.

River levels are expected to see rises overnight Saturday and into Sunday. Flooding last week has created increased vulnerabilities throughout the region and forecast flows, leading to increased risks to impacts from forecasted flows.

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

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

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.