

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

**UPDATE: Flood Warning – Sumas River and Sumas Prairie
Flood Watch – Coquihalla (DOWNGRADED), South Coast
ISSUED: 11:30 AM November 28, 2021**

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

- **Sumas River including Sumas Prairie and surround area**

The River Forecast Centre is **maintaining a Flood Watch** for the **South Coast** including:

- **Coquihalla River (DOWNGRADED)**
- **Sea-to-Sky including areas around Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton**
- **Sunshine Coast**
- **Howe Sound**
- **North Shore Mountains**
- **Lower Mainland including areas along the Fraser Valley and areas around Hope**

The third in a series of atmospheric rivers is impacting British Columbia on Tuesday. This is forecast to bring a prolonged period of heavy rainfall across the region through until Wednesday. Environment and Climate Change Canada are forecasting rainfall amounts of up to 50 mm for the Pemberton Valley, up to 60 mm for Metro Vancouver Central including Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster, Metro Vancouver - southeast including Surrey and Langley and Whistler, 60 to 80 mm over southern sections of Sunshine Coast, Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Metro Vancouver - northeast including Coquitlam, and up to 120 mm near the North Shore mountains and Squamish and 30 to 40 mm in the Fraser Canyon up to Boston Bar. Temperatures are expected to warm through this event and will lead to additional runoff from snowmelt at mid elevations; snowmelt rates during this past weekend's atmospheric river reached 40-60mm of snow water equivalent, and similar or higher rates are expected over the next 24-48 hours.

River will see rises through Tuesday and Wednesday, with peak flows expected late-Wednesday and potentially overnight into Thursday. Rainfall and snowmelt rates are similar to this past weekend; this may lead to similar or exacerbated flow conditions and flooding may occur at

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precisely vulnerable locations or may emerge in new areas through the region. Flood warnings will be reissued or upgraded if required.

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.