**Ministry of Forests** 

Flood Watch - Nechako River (UPGRADED)

ISSUED: 7:00 AM June 29, 2022

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

• Nechako River

On-going snowmelt runoff in west-central British Columbia has led to slow and steady rising on the Nechako River and its tributaries. Rainfall over the past day has been significant in areas across the Nechako watershed and tributaries, with 20-40 mm of total precipitation observed since yesterday. This is leading to sharp rises in streamflow in areas. Current flows on at the Nechako River near Vanderhoof (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08JC001) are at 454 m³/s (between a 2-year and 5-year flow) and has risen 6 cm since yesterday. Downstream towards Prince George, the Nechako River at Isle Pierre (08JC002) is flowing above 720 m³/s (nearing a 5-year flow) and rising.

Rising flows are expected today, with flows up to 550 m<sup>3</sup>/s at the Vanderhoof gauge, or above 800 m<sup>3</sup>/s at the Isle Pierre gauge being possible by later today or tomorrow.

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 <u>River Forecast Centre</u> continues to monitor the conditions and will provide updates as conditions warrant.

BC River Forecast Centre Ministry of Forests

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.