

Ministry of Forests

(UPDATE) Flood Watch – Nechako River ISSUED: 9:15 AM July 19, 2022

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

- **Nechako River**

Delayed snowmelt from cooler spring temperatures and ongoing wetter than normal conditions in the spring and early summer led to sustained high flows on the Nechako River and its tributaries. Hydrometric stations on the Nechako River have reached their highest levels of the season this week. The upcoming weather forecast predicts very warm and dry conditions for the next seven days. Flows are expected to stabilize and begin receding through the rest of summer. Since river levels are very high for this time of year, the region remains at risk if an unseasonal heavy to extreme rainfall event occurs in the following few weeks.

A summary of river conditions as of 8:30AM PDT, today:

- The Nechako River at Isle Pierre (08JC002) is flowing at 858 m³/s (between 5 and 10-year return period flow). It reached the highest level of the season on Sunday July 17th at 864 m³/s.
- The Nechako River at Vanderhoof (08JC001) is flowing at 529 m³/s (between 5 and 10-year return period flow). It reached the highest level of the season on Sunday July 17th at 532 m³/s.
- The Nechako River below Cheslatta Falls (08JA017) is flowing at the highest level of the season at approximately 412 m³/s (between 10 and 20-year return period flow).
- The Nautley River near Fort Fraser (08JB003) is flowing at 102 m³/s. The river reached its highest level this season of approximately 109 m³/s on July 12th (2-year return period flow).
- The Stuart River near Fort St. James (08JE001) is flowing at 331 m³/s. It reached the highest level of the season on July 9th of approximately 345 m³/s.

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 [River Forecast Centre](#) continues to monitor the conditions and will provide updates as conditions warrant.

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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.