

Ministry of Forests

Flood Warning – Whiteman Creek (UPGRADE), Lower Thompson

Flood Watch – South Interior

High Streamflow Advisory – Similkameen (NEW)

Issued: 3:30 PM May 2, 2023

The River Forecast Centre is upgrading to, or maintaining, a Flood Warning for:

- Whiteman Creek (NEW)
- Lower Thompson including Cache Creek, Deadman River, Criss Creek, Bonaparte River and surrounding areas around Cache Creek and Skeetchestn

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

- South Interior including remaining areas in the Lower Thompson (excluding the Nicola River and tributaries), Salmon River and Okanagan

The River Forecast Centre is issuing to a High Streamflow Advisory for:

- Similkameen, including the Ashnola River, Tulameen River and other tributaries

Weather Synopsis:

Sunny conditions with warm temperatures and high freezing levels are anticipated through this week. Daily high temperatures remain in the upper-20°C range. On Thursday the ridge of high pressure is forecast to weaken, with an upper low trough approaching B.C. on Friday, bringing precipitation to the region. There is currently uncertainty on the location and severity of potential rainfall late in the week, with current forecasts indicating the potential for significant amounts of precipitation (20-40+ mm) in areas.

River Conditions:

Snowmelt rates have been increasing over the past few days, particularly in mid-elevation areas, with 25 mm to 50 mm of snowmelt being observed yesterday.

Rivers have been rising in response to elevated snowmelt runoff. Flows in areas around the Bonaparte River below Cache Creek (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08LF002), Arrowstone Creek Near the Mouth (08LF099), Deadman River above Criss Creek (08LF027), and Criss Creek near Savona (08LF007) are currently in the 5-year to above the 20-year range; flooding is possible in these rivers and in similar ungauged rivers near to these areas. Water levels are high

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on the Whiteman Creek above Bouleau Creek (08NM174) make return period estimates difficult, but flows are likely in excess of 10-year to 20-year flows. Current flows in the Okanagan region remain at or below the 2-year flow in most areas.

With on-going above normal temperatures next week, on-going rises in rivers are expected across the region, with increasing potential for flood hazard in other rivers over the coming days. The potential for heavier precipitation on Friday and Saturday could lead to a period of significant flood hazard through the region late this week.

The public is advised:

River levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly. Being near these riverbanks, creeks and fast-flowing bodies of water is dangerous:

- Stay clear of fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks
- Avoid recreational activities such as fishing, swimming, boating or hiking near high streamflow rivers or streams
- Remember, high streamflow can easily trap strong swimmers, increasing risk of drowning

Understand the risks and get prepared by visiting www.PreparedBC/floods.

For emergency information and related resources, go to: www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca

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. Fast-flowing bodies of water increase risk to life safety. 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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