

# Ministry of Forests

UPDATE – North Interior

Flood Watch – Middle Fraser tributaries, Nazko, West Road

High Streamflow Advisory – Quesnel River (NEW), Upper Fraser tributaries

ISSUED: 10:30 AM May 4, 2023

The River Forecast Centre is issuing or maintaining the following:

## Flood Watch

- Middle Fraser including plateau areas around Quesnel, Williams Lake, Lhoosk'uz Dene (including Baker Creek, Cottonwood River, San Jose River) and surrounding areas (MAINTAINED)
- Nazko River and West Road River (MAINTAINED)

## High Streamflow Advisory

- Quesnel River (NEW)
- Upper Fraser including plateau areas around Prince George, including Chilako River, Chuchinka River, Salmon River and surrounding areas (MAINTAINED)

Weather Synopsis:

The long period of hot weather is expected to draw to a close on Friday. A trough of low pressure is expected to move into B.C. on Friday and Saturday, bringing the potential for rainfall in the region, and cooling temperatures

River Conditions:

Snowmelt rates have been high over the past several days. In plateau areas at mid-elevation, snowpacks are dwindling, and rivers in many areas are stabilizing. In rivers draining from higher elevation terrain in the Cariboo Mountains (including the Quesnel River), flows continue to rise as snowpack continues to increase runoff.

Rainfall over the weekend may lead to additional rises in rivers through the region on Saturday and Sunday.

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:

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- 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](http://www.PreparedBC/floods).

For emergency information and related resources, go to: [www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca](http://www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca)

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. 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.