

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

High Streamflow Advisory – Central Coast (Bella Coola, Kliniklini)

Issued: 11:00AM June 26, 2021

The River Forecast Centre is **issuing** to a **High Streamflow Advisory** for the **Central Coast** including:

- **Bella Coola River and tributaries**
- **Kliniklini River**

Hot temperatures over the past several days have triggered significant amount of snowmelt at the higher elevations of the Bella Coola River. Automated snow weather stations (1300-1600m) are snow-free, however satellite analysis is indicating snow coverage in upper elevations throughout the watershed. Nearby automated snow weather stations in the South Coast have been melting at a rate of 40-50 mm per day. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) forecasts rising temperatures up to the 35°C range in Bella Coola over the coming days. These high temperatures will increase substantially the snowmelt and glacier melt which will cause river levels to continue to rise in the coming days.

Based on the current hydrologic modeling, the Bella Coola River above Hammer River (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08FB011) is expected to rise from a current rate 415 m³/s to a peak of approximately 550 m³/s (5-year return period) on Tuesday-Wednesday (June 29-30). The Kliniklini River east channel (main) near the mouth (08GE002) is currently flowing at approximately 1300 m³/s (2-year return period flow) and expected to rise to approximately 1800 m³/s (10-year return period flow) over the July 1-2 period. Uncertainty in weather and hydrologic modelling indicates that higher, or lower, than forecasted flows are possible. Details of the CLEVER Model forecasts for this region can be found at:

http://bcRFC.env.gov.bc.ca/freshet/map_clever.html

The public is advised to stay clear of the fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks during the high-streamflow period.

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.