

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

High Streamflow Advisory – South Coast and Vancouver Island

ISSUED: 12:00PM November 13, 2021

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

- **Howe Sound**
- **Sunshine Coast**
- **Sea-to-Sky**
- **North Shore Mountains**
- **Metro Vancouver**
- **Fraser Valley including the Chilliwack River and surrounding tributaries**
- **South Vancouver Island**
- **West Vancouver Island**
- **East Vancouver Island, including the Englishman River**

A significant atmospheric river is expected to impact southern coastal regions of British Columbia starting today. This is forecast to bring heavy rainfall throughout Saturday night and Sunday, and ease on Monday. Environment and Climate Change Canada have rainfall warnings in place, with the heaviest rainfall expected around Howe Sound and the Fraser Valley, with upwards of 150mm total rainfall amounts expected by Monday. Lesser rainfall amounts (75-100mm) are forecast for other regions. Temperatures are expected to rise throughout the atmospheric river, with freezing levels pushing 2000 m elevation on Sunday before cooling on Monday. Additional snowmelt of recent snow accumulations at mid-elevations (1000-1500m) is expected to add to river runoff.

Rivers are expected to rise rapidly throughout Sunday in response to rainfall, and ease on Monday as the heaviest rainfall passes. Current modelling is indicating the potential for flows in the 2-year to 5-year range.

Details of the COFFEE and CLEVER Model forecasts can be found at:

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http://bcrfc.env.gov.bc.ca/fallfloods/map_coffee.html, and

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.

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. 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.