

# Ministry of Forests

## High Streamflow Advisory – Kootenay

ISSUED: 1:00 PM June 11, 2022

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

- **West Kootenay**
- **East Kootenay**

Rising snowmelt rates and unsettled and showery weather has been leading to rising river levels throughout the region. A number of rivers through the region are currently at or approaching 2-year return period flows, particularly in the East Kootenay. This includes the Elk River near Fernie (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08NK002), Bull River near Gardner (08NG002), and Kootenay River at Fort Steele (08NG065), and tributaries in the West Kootenay around Nelson.

On Saturday and Sunday, on-going snowmelt and convective precipitation (local amounts of 5-25 mm) is expected to keep rivers high with additional modest increases in river flows. A period of wet weather, with moderate to heavy rainfall, is forecast to impact the region on Monday into Tuesday, with 20-30mm of rainfall expected over most areas, 30-50mm over areas of the East Kootenay including the Elk River valley, and potentially exceeding 60 mm over higher terrain. This has the potential to lead to flood conditions, particularly for areas in the East Kootenay, on Monday and Tuesday of next week. There remains uncertainty over the trajectory of this weather system, and the heaviest rain may shift from where it is being currently forecast in adjacent regions (currently the heaviest rainfall is forecasted into the eastern side of the Rockies into Alberta).

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.

BC River Forecast Centre  
Ministry of Forests

---

# Ministry of Forests

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.