Ministry of Forests

High Streamflow Advisory – Upper Columbia (NEW), Kootenay (MAINTAINED) ISSUED: 12:15PM June 21, 2022

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

- (NEW) Upper Columbia including the Kicking Horse River, Illecillewaet River and tributaries around Invermere, Radium, Golden and Revelstoke
- West Kootenay
- East Kootenay

Flows have remained elevated over the past week due to on-going snowmelt and runoff from precipitation.

A new low-pressure system is expected to pass over British Columbia into Wednesday and Thursday, bringing another period of wet weather to parts of the region. At present, the heaviest rainfall is forecast in areas of the Upper Columbia including tributaries into Kinbasket Lake, with the potential for moderate to heavy rainfall in headwater areas around Revelstoke and Golden. These areas may experience a period of more rapid river rises above current levels on Wednesday and Thursday.

Further south into the Kootenays, forecasted rainfall is more limited. Rivers may remain high over this period.

In the longer range, warming temperatures into the weekend and next week are expected to lead to accelerated snowmelt rates in mountain areas. This may bring a prolonged period of higher flows this weekend and next week.

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 <u>River Forecast Centre</u> 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.