

Ministry of Forests

High Streamflow Advisory – Bella Coola (DOWNGRADED), Dean River

Issued: 10:00 AM May 20, 2023

The River Forecast Centre has the current areas under High Streamflow Advisory:

- Bella Coola River and tributaries, including the Atnarko River and surrounding areas (DOWNGRADED)
- Dean River

Weather Synopsis:

A high-pressure ridge that has brining seasonally hot temperatures to the region is expected to move out of region on Saturday. Temperatures are expected to ease on Sunday.

River Conditions:

Streamflow in the Central Coast, Nuxalk Territory, and Tsilhqot'in Territory flowing high due to snowmelt. Current flows at Dean River below Tanswanket Creek (Water Survey of Canada gauge 08FC003) is flowing at approximately 125m³/s (between a 2-year and 5-year flow). Flows on the Bella Coola River above Hammer Creek (08FB011) is currently at 496 m³/s (2-year flow) and has seen daily peak levels stabilize over the past few days. Flows are expected to remain high on Saturday (May 20th) and begin to ease on Sunday and into next week.

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:

- 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

During a High Streamflow Advisory, conditions can change quickly. Understand the risks and get prepared by visiting www.PreparedBC/floods

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. 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.