

# Ministry of Forests

High Streamflow Advisory – South Peace and Upper Fraser

ISSUED: 5:30 PM August 22, 2023

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

- **South Peace and Upper Fraser Regions, including tributaries around Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Saulteau First Nations, West Moberly First Nations, Moberly Lake, Tumbler Ridge, and McBride**

Weather Synopsis:

Environment and Climate Change Canada has issued a Special Weather Statement for upcoming moderate to heavy rainfall over the South Peace River region of B.C. Rain beginning Wednesday into Thursday. Rainfall totals are forecast to be 60-80 mm, possibly higher in some scenarios.

Current weather modelling suggests that the heaviest rainfall will occur in the southeastern portion of the Peace region, but the Upper Fraser region and surrounding areas may also receive considerable rainfall amounts depending on the storm track.

River Conditions:

Rivers are expected to respond rapidly, with rising flows possible as early as Wednesday.

Although widespread high flows and/or flooding are not expected at this time, abrupt increases in flows and water levels are expected, with the response highly dependent on the location, duration, and magnitude of the incoming storm event.

Current wildfire activity may exacerbate localized runoff and substantially increase the risk of debris flows in recently burned areas.

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

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Understand the risks and get prepared by visiting [www.PreparedBC/floods](http://www.PreparedBC/floods).

For emergency information and related resources, go to: [www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca](http://www.EmergencyInfoBC.ca)

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. 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.