

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

UPDATE: Flood Watch – Kitimat-Kemano, Kingcome

High Streamflow Advisory – Skeena (NEW), North Coast and Central Coast, Northern Vancouver Island

Issued: 1:45 PM September 23, 2024

The River Forecast Centre is upgrading to a Flood Watch for:

- Kitimat River and Kemano River including tributaries

The River Forecast Centre is maintaining a Flood Watch for:

- Kingcome River including tributaries

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

- Skeena River watershed including Kitsumkalum and tributaries and smaller streams around Kispiox, Hazelton, Gitsegukla, Gitanyow, Gitwangak, and other communities downstream (NEW)

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

- North Coast including tributaries and smaller streams around Stewart, Gitlaxt'aamiks (New Aiyansh), Terrace, Prince Rupert, Kitimat, and other coastal communities, and Haida Gwaii
- Central Coast including tributaries and smaller streams around Bella Coola, Rivers Inlet, and other coastal communities

The River Forecast Centre is ending a High Streamflow Advisory for:

- Northern Vancouver Island including tributaries and smaller streams around Port Hardy

Weather Synopsis:

The second atmospheric river in the current storm sequence has arrived on the North and Central coasts. Based on current weather forecasts, rainfall totals for Monday-Tuesday may exceed 100 mm in the hardest-hit areas. The current storm is more widespread than the first of the sequence and is likely to reach across a wide portion of the interior. Although rainfall totals are expected to be highest on the coast, the precipitation spillover to the interior may also be substantial.

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River Conditions:

Many coastal rivers are peaking or have peaked in response to rainfall from the weekend storm (the initial atmospheric river in the two-storm sequence). However, the second storm ongoing now has potential to drive streamflows higher again and will likely carry substantial amounts of rainfall to a much larger area than the first storm.

The stage (water level) reading of the Kingcome River at Kingcome Village Upstream peaked mid-afternoon on Sunday and is now declining, but given the continued rainfall in the region the Flood Watch is being maintained.

Although Northern Vancouver Island was grazed by the initial storm, it received substantially less precipitation than areas further north and is not anticipated to receive notable impacts from the current storm. Streamflows in this area have generally peaked and are receding, and the High Streamflow Advisory for Northern Vancouver Island has been ended.

Fast-flowing rivers pose increased risk to life safety. The [River Forecast Centre](#) continues to monitor the conditions and will provide updates as conditions warrant.

For information on how to prepare for flood hazards, visit [PreparedBC](#).

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.