

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

UPDATE: Flood Watch - Coquitlam River (DOWNGRADE), Vancouver Island West, Central, East, and South (DOWNGRADE/MAINTAINED), South Coast, Lower Fraser Tributaries

High Streamflow Advisory – North Vancouver Island (DOWNGRADE), Interior Mountains

ENDED - Central Coast, North Coast

Issued: 11:30 AM October 20, 2024

The River Forecast Centre is updating flood warnings, watches and high streamflow advisories as follows:

- Flood Watch - Coquitlam River (DOWNGRADED)
- Flood Watch - West Vancouver Island including rivers around Tofino, Bamfield and Port Renfrew and surrounding areas (DOWNGRADED)
- Flood Watch - South Coast including the Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound, Sea-to-Sky and tributaries around Sechelt, Squamish, Whistler and surrounding areas (MAINTAINED)
- Flood Watch - Lower Fraser Tributaries including the Lillooet River and rivers around Pemberton, Metro-Vancouver, Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley (MAINTAINED)
- Flood Watch - Vancouver Island Central, East and South (MAINTAINED)
- High Streamflow Advisory – North Vancouver Island (DOWNGRADED)
- High Streamflow Advisory - Interior Mountains including tributary rivers in the West Kootenay, Upper Fraser, North Thompson, South Thompson, Cariboo Mountains, and Upper Columbia (MAINTAINED)
- ENDED - North Coast including tributaries around Stewart, Gingolx, Laxgalts'ap, Gitlaxt'aamiks (New Aiyansh), Prince Rupert, and other coastal communities
- ENDED - Central Coast including the Kingcome River and Owikeeno River

Weather Synopsis:

A system of atmospheric rivers continues to impact British Columbia. Heavy rainfall occurred across south-west British Columbia on Friday and Saturday, with observed event rainfall totals ranging from 30-60mm on the Central Coast, 60-100mm on North Vancouver Island, 130-300mm

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

on West Vancouver Island, 50-100mm on East Vancouver Island, 130-215mm in the North Shore Mountains and Howe Sound, and 50-120mm in the Sea-to-Sky corridor.

Following a lull in rainfall rates last night, additional rainfall is expected on Sunday as a second and final pulse of moist air passes over southern coastal areas and into the Interior. Moderate to heavy rain is expected, particularly in regions around West Vancouver Island, Howe Sound, South Coast, North Shore Mountains, and Fraser Valley and in the Interior Mountains (Upper Columbia, West Kootenay).

River Conditions:

Most rivers through the region have experienced a period of easing overnight Saturday following elevated runoff due to heavy rain on Friday and Saturday. Another period of rising streamflow is expected on Sunday as the next pulse of rain moves through the region. Current weather forecasts and hydrologic modelling is indicating on-going flood hazards in areas. Streamflow in most areas is not expected to reach the same levels as was experienced on Saturday, however on-going high flows and potential overbank flood remains possible. In the Interior Mountains, rainfall is expected to persist into Monday, with on-going river rises expected on both Sunday and Monday.

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](#).

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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.