

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

UPDATE: Flood Watch – Canoe River, Blue River, and surrounding areas
High Streamflow Advisory – North Thompson, South Thompson, Upper Columbia, Upper Fraser, Cariboo

Issued: 9:00 AM September 25, 2024

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

- Canoe River and tributary rivers around the northern end of Kinbasket Lake
- North Thompson region including tributary rivers around Blue River, Clearwater and surrounding areas

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

- North Thompson region including tributary rivers below Blue River
- South Thompson region including tributary rivers around Adams and Seymour Rivers and surrounding areas
- Upper Columbia including tributary rivers around Lake Revelstoke and surrounding areas
- Upper Fraser River including the McGregor River, Robson Valley and surrounding areas
- Cariboo region including headwaters of the Quesnel River and surrounding areas

Weather Synopsis:

Moderate to heavy rainfall from a coastal atmospheric river is now spreading across the Interior. Areas at risk with heavier rainfall (40-50 mm, possibly more) include the headwaters of the North and South Thompson, Upper Fraser, Upper Columbia, and Cariboo regions.

Overnight September 24-25 (Tuesday-Wednesday), over 65 mm of rainfall was recorded at the Valemount airport. An additional 30 mm of rainfall is currently forecast for the area during the day on September 25.

River Conditions:

No major flooding is expected at this time, but rivers may experience a rapid increase in flows, particularly in smaller watersheds and streams. In some areas, flows are already higher due to recent precipitation, which may amplify the effects of the upcoming storm. Heavy rainfall may exacerbate runoff from areas that experienced severe wildfires this past summer.

As of 7:30 am PDT on September 25, the Water Survey of Canada gauge on the Canoe River south of Valemount (Canoe River below Kimmel Creek, gauge ID 08NC004) indicated flows of approx.

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105 m³/s, corresponding to the 10- to 20-year return period. The river may continue to rise with ongoing precipitation.

As of 8:00 am PDT on September 25, the Water Survey of Canada gauge on the Blue River (Blue River near Blue River, gauge ID 08LB038) indicated flows of approx. 14 m³/s, well below the 1-year return period, but flows are continuing to rapidly rise and may exceed a 2-year return period or higher as rainfall continues.

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.