Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resource Operations

High Streamflow Advisory - Northern Vancouver Island; Eastern Vancouver Island; Western Vancouver Island; Central Vancouver Island

Issued: 2026-11-23 10:18 PCT

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

- Northern Vancouver Island
- Eastern Vancouver Island
- Western Vancouver Island
- Central Vancouver Island

Weather Synopsis:

A strong frontal system is forecast to bring moderate to heavy rain across Vancouver Island over the next several days. Environment and Climate Change Canada have rainfall warnings in effect, with 100 to 200 mm of rain forecasted for western and inland regions, and 80 to 120 mm of rainfall forecasted for areas on eastern Vancouver Island through Tuesday night.

River Conditions:
Rivers are expected to rise rapidly in response to rainfall. High flows are expected as the system arrives on Monday, likely increasing with successive storms over several days. In lake-fed systems, including the Sproat and Somass Rivers, flows may continue to increase for several additional days. Recent rainfall and high streamflows have left soils saturated in many areas, increasing the potential for rapid runoff and sharp rises in river levels during the upcoming storms.

King tides and storm surge this week (peaking on Tuesday) could exacerbate high water levels at the mouths of rivers.

Actions:
Heavy rain and high streamflow bring increased risk for unstable banks, river erosion, submerged roads, swift water hazards, flooding and landslides. Stay clear of the banks of swift running rivers and never drive across flooded roads, bridges or river crossings. At this time of year leaves can clog storm drains and impact urban drainage. Keep storm drains clear.

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.