

Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre

Spring Freshet – Information Report

June 10, 2007 1900 hours

It is extremely important to be prepared for emergencies. Assemble and keep an emergency kit with enough supplies to support you and your family for at least 72 hours.

Conditions Overview

As a result of only light rain and generally cooler weather throughout the province, most of the rivers of concern have peaked and are receding.

Overall the weather will continue at or below seasonal temperatures and remain relatively dry with scattered showers on Monday and Tuesday. Another cold front is forecast for Wednesday, with the potential for small accumulations of rainfall.

Flooding continued in areas throughout the northeast and northwest as well as the upper Columbia. River levels continue to decline. Some rivers are expected to remain above flood stage for at least the next few days.

Boil Water Advisories

- Boil Water Advisory issued for Valemont and Village of McBride.
- Boil Water Advisory issued by Northern Health affecting approximately 100 homes in the areas of Braun's Island, Old Remo and New Remo near Terrace.

B.C. Overview Evacuation ALERTS/ORDERS (estimates only)

- 1147 homes remain under evacuation ALERT
- 54 homes remain under evacuation ORDER

Local Authority Response Activity

An ***Evacuation Alert*** means residents may be asked to leave their homes on very short notice. Residents should prepare by organizing an emergency supply kit with necessary medications, personal toiletries, change of clothing and personal and family documents.

An ***Evacuation Order*** means there is an imminent risk and residents must leave the area immediately. Local police or RCMP enforce the order.

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
NORTHEAST					
Prince George	Activated	Y		approx. 10 homes	www.city.pg.bc.ca
Fraser-Fort George Regional District	Activated	Y			www.rdffg.bc.ca
Peace River RD	Activated	N			www.peacriverrd.bc.ca/home.php
Quesnel	Activated	N			www.city.quesnel.bc.ca
Cariboo Regional District	Activated	N			http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/
Central Coast RD	Activated	N			http://centralcoastbc.com/
Village of McBride	Activated	N			http://mcbride.ca/

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
First Nations in Northeast region					
Lheidli T'enneh			approx. 2 homes		
NORTHWEST					
Town of Smithers	Activated	Y		approx. 8 homes	www.town.smithers.bc.ca/
Telkwa	Activated				
Hazelton	Activated				
Bulkley- Nechako Regional District	Activated	Y	approx. 42 homes	approx. 26 homes	www.rdbn.bc.ca
Houston	Activated	N			www.houston.ca
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	Activated	Y	approx. 260 homes		http://www.rdks.bc.ca/
Terrace	Activated	Y	approx. 176 homes		http://www.city.terrace.bc.ca/
First Nations in Northwest region					
Nisga'a Lisims	Activated	N			http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/
Nisga'a – Kispiox			approx. 4 homes		
Lakalzap			Y		
Glen Vowell, Kitsumkalum, Lower Post			Y		
SOUTHWEST					
Fraser Valley Regional District	Activated	N	approx 52 homes		www.fvrd.bc.ca
Maple Ridge	Activated	N	approx. 162 homes		www.mapleridge.ca/
Mission	Activated	N			www.city.mission.bc.ca
Abbotsford	Activated	N	approx. 34 homes		www.abbotsford.ca
Squamish - Lillooet Regional District	Activated	N			http://www.slrd.bc.ca
Langley	Activated	N	approx. 305 homes		www.township.langley.bc.ca
Kent-Harrison	Activated	N			
City of Chilliwack	Activated	N	approx. 42 homes		www.gov.chilliwack.bc.ca
City of Coquitlam	Activated	N			http://www.coquitlam.ca
District of Hope	Activated	N	approx. 66 homes		http://www.hope.ca/
New Westminster	Activated				
Greater Vancouver	Activated				
Delta	Activated				
Burnaby	Activated				
Pitt Meadows	Activated				

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
First Nations in Southwest region					
Shxw'ow'hamel, Skwxway, Kwantlen, Katzie, Leqa:mel, Scowlitz			Y		
Skwah			approx. 2 homes		
Mount Currie (Lil'wat)		Y		approx. 8 homes	
SOUTHEAST					
Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Closed	N		2 homes	http://www.csr.bc.ca/

For more information on First Nations community updates, please visit: www.fness.bc.ca

Click [here](#) for municipality contact information.

Flood Advisories, Watches and Warnings

A **High Streamflow Advisory** means that river levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly, but that no major flooding is expected. 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.

NORTHEAST REGION

A **High Streamflow Advisory** is in effect for the Upper Fraser River (McBride, South Fort George). The Fraser River at Prince George has peaked and is continuing to decline. It is expected to drop below flood stage sometime Monday.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** remains in effect for the Nechako River at Vanderhoof and the Nechako River at Isle Pierre.

A **Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Liard River.

A **Flood Watch** remains in effect for the Moberly River which is starting to decline.

A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the southern Peace River. River levels have risen significantly due to high rates of snowmelt and heavy rain.

A **Flood Watch** remains in effect for the Finlay River which is beginning to recede.

NORTHWEST REGION

The Skeena, Nass and Bulkley Rivers have started to recede from their peaks.

A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the Skeena River.

A **Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Bulkley River.

The Skeena and Bulkley Rivers levels are declining, but will continue to run above flood stage for a few more days

A **Flood Watch** is in effect on the Nass River.

A **Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Telkwa River.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** remains in effect for the Nechacko River.

The flood risk remains in the major rivers of the northwest region of the province due to significant remaining snowpack in the region. Hot temperatures and/or significant rainfall over the next two weeks could send the northwest rivers back to flood levels.

SOUTHEAST REGION

A **Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Columbia River (Golden), where it has begun a slight recession.

SOUTHWEST REGION

A **High Streamflow Advisory** remains in effect for the Lower Fraser River, encompassing the area between Hope and the ocean. The water level continues to remain around the 6.0 metre mark at the Mission gauge. It's expected to be at that level through the end of the day Monday and then start to fall slightly through the middle of the week.

River Level Situation and Forecast:

Click [here](#) for latest detailed forecast and commentary.

Click [here](#) to view up-to-date information from the River Forecast Centre website.

Click [here](#) to view real-time B.C. river level monitoring station readings.

Weather Forecast:

Click [here](#) to view the Environment Canada Weather Office forecasts.

Public Health Advisories:

Click [here](#) to view public health information provided by the B.C. Ministry of Health.

Transportation Conditions:

For the most up-to-date information on this situation and others, visit www.drivebc.ca or call toll-free 1-800-550-4997.

Highway 16 west is open to single-lane alternating traffic between Terrace and Prince Rupert operating with some occasional 20-minute delays.

Hwy 16 has re-opened in both directions east of Terrace between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. Motorists can expect some delays. Cranberry Forest Service Road is an alternate route.

The Nisga'a Highway is open to two-lane traffic between Canyon City to Greenville.

CN Rail line is closed from Smithers to Prince Rupert (along Highway 16 corridor). Shames Flat portion of the railroad track has washed away due to water erosion.

Ferry service at Usk, Little Fort, McLure, Big Bar and Lytton has been suspended.

Provincial Response Activity:

A toll-free provincial flood information line is operating from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. The number is: **1-888-350-6070**.

Provincial government staff are monitoring river levels, and together with local government officials and First Nations are reviewing potential threats to the public, infrastructure and the environment.

The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre in Victoria is activated.

Provincial regional emergency operation centres in Terrace, Prince George, Kamloops, Nelson and Surrey are activated.

The province's logistical preparations include sandbags, sandbag filling machines, and other flood fighting materials. More than four million sandbags have been distributed to local authorities.

Ministry of Forests firefighting crews are being used for sandbagging operations and related duties in support of local governments.

An Agriculture Notice -- Livestock Relocation Phase 2 and 3 was issued June 2 by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands has an emergency operations centre in Abbotsford. It is providing flood awareness information and guidance on managing livestock in preparation for flooding.

For more information on the relocation of cattle and emergency preparedness planning, dairy farmers are asked to call the BC Milk Producers Flood Line at 1-877-859-6140 or click [here](#). For more general information on agricultural emergency preparedness, farmers are asked to contact the MEOC in Abbotsford toll free at 1-888-221-7141.

Public Information - Flood Preparedness and Response

The Provincial Flood Information Line

- 1-888-350-6070

On the web, visit: www.pep.bc.ca

Other Telephone Numbers

In an emergency,

- dial 9-1-1

For local non-emergency information,

- contact your local government authority. Find contact numbers in the blue pages of the telephone book

For public health information, contact your regional health authority,

- Northern Health Authority, 1-888-766-6358
- Fraser Health Authority, 1-877-935-5669

For agriculture sector information, contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands:

- 1-888-221-7141