

# Forecaster's Comments

Thursday, August 17, 2017 - 01:59 PM

## Weather Conditions

### Past Precipitation:

Since Monday August 14th, parts of southern and northern Alberta received shower and thunderstorm activity, which resulted in generally 5-10 mm of rainfall, however the area between Calgary and Drumheller received up to 25 mm. Areas in central and northern Alberta along the Saskatchewan border generally received 10-30 mm, although localized areas, including east of Wainright, received up to 70 mm.

### Future Precipitation:

Thunderstorm and shower activity is expected Friday overnight and into Saturday (August 18-19th) in portions of central Alberta, including parts of the eastern slopes, generally yielding 1-5 mm of precipitation with local amounts up to 15 mm. On Sunday (August 20) the Medicine Hat area could receive 1-5 mm of precipitation. Although thunderstorm activity can result in locally higher amounts of precipitation, large widespread precipitation amounts are not expected at this time.

Alberta Environment and Parks is in close contact with weather forecasting agencies, including Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, and Environment Canada and Climate Change. Detailed weather forecasts and current weather information are available from:

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry:

<http://wildfire.alberta.ca/wildfire-status/fire-weather/forecasts-observations/default.aspx>

Environment Canada:

[http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/canada\\_e.html](http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/canada_e.html)

## River Conditions

There are no river related flooding concerns at this time.

### General River Conditions:

Below Normal to Normal: Athabasca (west portion of basin and main stem), Bow, Milk, North Saskatchewan, Oldman, Red Deer, and South Saskatchewan River basins

Normal: Battle, Hay, Peace and Sounding River basins

Normal to Above Normal: Athabasca (east portion of basin) River basin, Beaver River basin

River conditions across the province will continue to be monitored and advisories will be issued as required.

## Preliminary Flow Data

Real-time precipitation and river data are available at:

<http://environment.alberta.ca/apps/basins/default.aspx>

All flow data posted on the AEP website is provisional and preliminary. Environment Canada's Water Survey of Canada is the official owner of this information and as such it is part of their mandate to validate the flow values and publish the finalized maximum instantaneous peak discharge and daily discharge values for all locations in Canada on their website -

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/rhc-wsc/default.asp>. The validation of this data does not commence until the end of each calendar year.

Extreme caution should be taken when referring to the data posted to the AEP website - there is a disclaimer at the top of each data table outlining the need for caution. This is particularly true for large flow events when the gauge is affected by debris, damage, sediment in the river, re-alignment of the main river channel and over bank flow which cannot be measured.

## Flood Hazard Identification Program

The potential for flooding exists along all streams and lakes in Alberta.

Flooding can cause damage to property, hardship to people and in extreme events, loss of life. To assist Albertans in mitigating potential flood losses, Alberta Environment and Parks manages the production of flood hazard studies and mapping under the provincial [Flood Hazard Identification Program](#).

[Flood Hazard Mapping](#) - Explore final flood hazard maps using GIS.

[Flood Hazard Studies](#) - Learn about final flood hazards in your community.

[Draft Flood Hazard Studies](#) - Review draft flood hazard studies.

## Water Supply Report

Water Supply Outlooks are published incrementally as new data analyses are available. The most recent Water Supply Outlook is now available at:

<http://www.environment.alberta.ca/forecasting/WaterSupply/index.html>

Precipitation data and maps for the Water Supply Report are published monthly at:

<http://www.environment.alberta.ca/forecasting/reports/index.html>

