

River Freeze-up Advisory for the Peace River at the Town of Peace River

Alberta Environment has issued a **River Freeze-up Advisory Update** for the Peace River at the Town of Peace River.

On January 4, 2008 the ice front on the Peace River was observed to be 33 km downstream of the Highway 2 Bridge at the Town of Peace River. The weather forecast for the Peace River Region over the next few days is calling for near seasonal temperatures. Therefore, it is expected that the ice cover will advance into the Town of Peace River later next week.

When freeze-up occurs at the town, it is typical for the water level to rise between 2.5 to 3.5 m.

Flow releases from BC Hydro's Peace Canyon Dam will be kept relatively constant while the ice cover advances through the town as part of normal river ice management operations.

No problems are expected. However, there is potential for ice movements and shoving of the ice cover as it advances upstream which could result in rapid fluctuations in water levels in the area.

River Freeze-up refers to the formation of an ice cover that will result in a gradual increase in water levels. On occasion, the winter freeze-up can lead to ice jams and rapidly rising water levels. The location and occurrence of ice jams and the associated flooding are very unpredictable. Local authorities are advised to monitor the situation in their community.

Alberta Environment is closely monitoring river levels throughout the Peace River region for increases due to winter freeze-up. This advisory is in effect for 7 days and will be updated should conditions change.