

High Streamflow Advisory

Issued at: 01:30 AM, May 26, 2008 Issued by: River Forecast Section

High Streamflow Advisory Issued for Central Alberta

A High Streamflow advisory has been issued for the following stream and its tributaries in Central Alberta:

North Saskatchewan River (upstream of and including the City of Edmonton)

Between 40 and 70 mm of precipitation has fallen in the eastern slopes portion of this river basin over the last 48 hours. Due to this precipitation the water levels for streams in this area have risen to above normal levels for this time of year. These higher water levels are expected to make their way downstream to the City of Edmonton by mid-day on Monday the 26th of May. The forecast rise in water level is approximately 1.5 meters which is well below the flood stage for the City of Edmonton but may effect low lying trails in the river valley. While water levels remain high, caution should be taken around these streams.

Flood Watch Update for Southwestern Alberta

A Flood Watch remains in effect for the following streams in Southwestern Alberta:

- Bow River (downstream of Calgary including Hidden Valley)
- Elbow River (downstream of the Glenmore Dam)
- Bow River at Calgary
- Jumpingpound Creek
- Fish Creek
- Castle River
- Crowsnest River
- Willow Creek
- Lee Creek
- Elbow River (upstream of the Glenmore Dam and including Bragg Creek)
- Highwood River (including the Town of High River)
- Sheep River (including the Town of Black Diamond and Turner Valley)
- Threepoint Creek

Above the Elbow River confluence, flows into Calgary will remain steady at approximately 230 m³/s. Below the Elbow River confluence, water levels in Calgary will be approximately 400 m³/s. Downstream of the Highwood River confluence, flows from the Highwood River will contribute to increased flows along the Bow River. Fish Creek at Priddis and Jumpingpound Creek have peaked.

Streams upstream of the Oldman Dam (Castle River and Crowsnest River) have peaked. Lee Creek has peaked. Willow Creek at highway 811 is peaking.

The Highwood River in the Town of High River peaked early Sunday morning and is receding. Elbow River at Bragg Creek is currently receding, and flows into the dam are approaching peak levels. The Sheep River at the Town of Black Diamond peaked at 220 m³/s late Saturday night and has almost returned to normal seasonal levels. Threepoint Creek water levels have peaked and are currently dropping. Sheep River at Okotoks reached peak levels and flows are expected to recede throughout the day.

Media Contact: Communications Division, Alberta Environment

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High Streamflow Advisory Update for Southern Alberta

A High Streamflow Advisory remains in effect for the following lakes and streams in Southern Alberta:

- South Saskatchewan River (including Medicine Hat)
- Milk River (including the Town of Milk River)
- Pincher Creek
- Drywood Creek
- Waterton Lake
- Oldman River (including Fort McLeod and Lethbridge)
- Waterton River
- St. Mary River (upstream of the St. Mary Dam)
- Bow River (upstream of Calgary)
- Belly River
- Ghost River
- Waiparous Creek
- Little Bow River
- Mosquito Creek

Flows from the Bow and Oldman Rivers are making their way downstream towards Medicine Hat. Precipitation in the United States is raising the levels in the Milk River. No major concerns are anticipated.

Streams entering the Oldman, Waterton and St Mary reservoirs are peaking or have peaked. Higher outflows from the Oldman and Waterton dams are steady and water levels will remain below bankfull downstream.

High Streamflow Advisory Update for West Central Alberta

A High Streamflow Advisory remains in effect for the following streams in West Central Alberta:

- Clearwater River
- Red Deer River (upstream and downstream of Dickson Dam, including Sundre)
- James River
- Fallentimber Creek
- Little Red Deer River

Precipitation received over the last 48 hours in the upper Red Deer area has elevated the water levels in these streams. No major concerns are anticipated.

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Alberta Environment is monitoring river levels closely and is in close contact with Alberta Forestry Weather and Environment Canada Weather Services. Additional information is available from the Forecasters Comments on our website at: http://environment.alberta.ca/forecasting/ForecastersComments/index.html.

This advisory will be updated if there is any change in conditions.

A *High Streamflow Advisory* means that stream levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly and <u>no major flooding</u> is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible. Anyone situated close to the streams affected (campers, fishermen, boaters and the general public) is advised to be cautious of the rising levels.

A *Flood Watch* means that stream levels are rising and will approach or may exceed bank full. Flooding of areas adjacent to these streams may occur. Anyone situated close to the streams is advised to take appropriate precautionary measures.

A *Flood Warning* means that rising river levels will result in flooding of areas adjacent to the streams affected. Anyone situated close to the river should take appropriate measures to avoid flood damage.

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