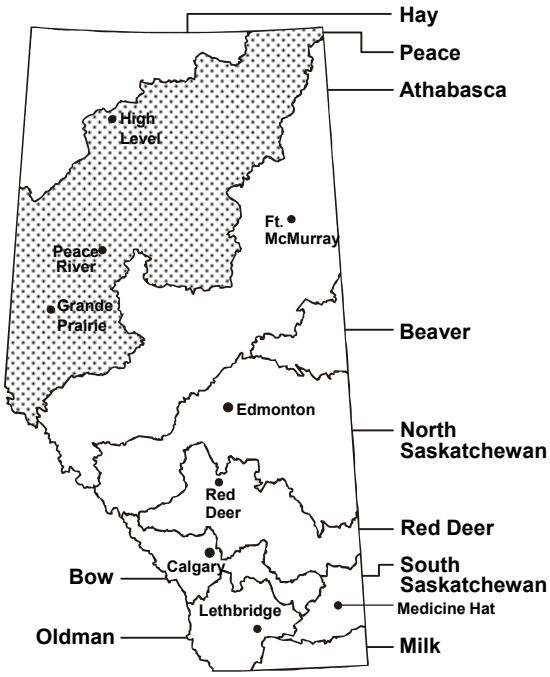
Government of Alberta

River Freeze-up Advisory Update

Issued at 2:00 PM - December 30, 2009
Issued by River Forecast Centre

River Freeze-up Advisory Update 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

The most recent observation has located the ice front on the Peace River at 7 km downstream of the Highway 2 Bridge at the Town of Peace River. River water levels are rising in response to the advancing ice front. The ice front is expected to advance through the Town around December 31 to January 1.

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.

This is a routine advisory and 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.

Additional information is available from Alberta Environment at: http://www.environment.alberta.ca/forecasting/RiverIce/index.html.

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 if there is any change in conditions.

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Media Contact:
Communications Division, Alberta Environment
Phone: (780) 427-6267 Pager: (780) 671-0549 (24 hours)
Fax: (780) 427-1874