

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

BC River Forecast Centre

UPDATE- Flood Watch: Peace Region and tributaries of Williston Lake

Issued: 23June2011 3:50 PM

The BC River Forecast Centre is **upgrading** the advisory to a **Flood Watch** for:

- Peace Region
- Tributaries of Williston Lake

A low pressure trough is working its way across British Columbia, and is expected to stall Thursday through Saturday, developing a band of precipitation across the north-east. Environment Canada has issued a rainfall warning for the Peace and Williston regions, with rainfall amounts of 50-70mm expected by Friday, and localized 48-hour precipitation amounts of up to 150 mm forecast through Saturday.

River levels in the region are expected to rise in response to this rainfall, with the potential for high flows from late-Friday into the weekend. At this point, the highest rainfall amounts are forecast for the areas on the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains just north of the Peace River, but depending on where the system tracks, could include areas to the south of the Peace River. Areas of concern include the Sikanni River, Halfway River, Beatton River, Pine River, Moberly River and Kiskatinaw River.

The amount that rivers rise will depend on the amount of rainfall that materializes with this system, and the location where the highest precipitation rates occur.

The River Forecast Centre will continue to monitor conditions and will provide an update as conditions warrant. Current streamflow information is available from the River Forecast Centre website: <http://bcRFC.env.gov.bc.ca/>.

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.