

BC Environment

River Forecast Centre

High Streamflow Advisory: 10Mar2007 8:30AM

- **North and West Columbia, Kinbasket**
- **Arrow Lake**
- **Slocan Lake**
- **West & East Kootenay**

An intense warm and wet Pacific storm system will move across the South Interior, bringing heavy rain to some areas. Environment Canada has released a High Rainfall Warning for the Arrow Lakes, Slocan Lake, West and North Kootenay, and Kinbasket. These areas are forecast to receive as much as 60 mm of rain over 24 hours, beginning tonight and lasting through to early Monday, with locally higher amounts expected over upslope areas. The West and East Kootenay will receive heavy rain as well (perhaps 40+ mm over 24 hrs). The rain will taper off Monday, as a cold front sweeps through the province, bringing colder and drier air.

The freezing elevation will rise to above 2500 m by this evening as the warm front penetrates, and will stay elevated at least until late Sunday night or early Monday morning. Significant snowmelt of the low elevation and valley bottom snow is anticipated.

The heavy rainfall and snowmelt may result in rapid rise of water levels in small and mid-sized streams throughout the areas of heavy rain, beginning early Sunday morning. Rivers will rise through the day Sunday and are anticipated to peak early Monday morning. Small and mid-sized streams, particularly those arising on lower slopes, may reach high water levels, and localized flooding may occur in some areas.

The River Forecast Centre will monitor conditions and will issue an update as conditions warrant.

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.