

# BC Environment

## River Forecast Centre

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### Flood Watch Update: 07Jun2009 8:00AM

The **Flood Watch is maintained** for the Nass River, Skeena River, Kitsumkalum River; Stikine River and Liard River.

The weather outlook from Environment Canada is for continued heat today and into the week, with temperature forecasts at Terrace of 28 degrees today, and 25-27 degrees Monday-Thursday. Rain showers are in the forecast for Monday and possibly Tuesday, for the Skeena, Bulkley and Liard.

#### **Skeena River (at Usk):**

The water level continued to rise overnight, at a rate of 2 cm/hr. The current water level at Usk is 10.54 metres, with a discharge near 5,600 cubic metres per second (m<sup>3</sup>/s). The Skeena River at Glen Vowell (above the Kispiox confluence) and the Skeena River above Babine both rose Saturday, but appear to have reached their peaks early this morning. This would indicate that mid elevation snow in the basin has largely melted, and that there is insufficient snow remaining to melt to add significantly to runoff, despite the continued hot weather. This will result in the Skeena at Terrace continuing to rise today, but likely peaking slightly above its current water level, near 10.60-10.65 metres level at the Usk gauge. The peak will occur tonight through to Monday. However, rain is forecast for the basin Monday and possibly Tuesday. The amount and location of rain may result in further increase in the river level.

#### **Nass River (at Shumal):**

The Nass is continuing to rise slowly. The water level has increased 34 cm in the past 24 hours. Its current discharge is 4200 m<sup>3</sup>/s, below a 5-year return period).

#### **Stikine River (at Telegraph Creek):**

The water level on the Stikine River is very unsteady, but appears to be near its peak. It may have begun to recede slightly. Its current discharge is near 2700 m<sup>3</sup>/s

#### **Liard River:**

The Liard River at Upper Crossing and Lower Crossing both continue to rise steadily, at 1-2 cm/hr. It is not showing signs of peaking yet, and is expected to continue rising today and tomorrow. The current discharge for the Liard River at Lower Crossing is 6400 m<sup>3</sup>/s, above a 5-year return period. Temperatures in the Liard basin are expected to be cooler, 21-23 degrees for the next few days. Rain showers are forecast for today and

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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.

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Monday. Depending on the amount and location of rain in the basin, the water level may rise in response.

The **High Streamflow Advisory** is maintained for the Bulkley River, Kispiox River and Telkwa River, and other rivers and streams in the North-West

### **Bulkley River (at Quick):**

The Bulkley River at Quick peaked overnight and has started a slow recession. The water level has fallen 2-3 from its peak before midnight. Rain is forecast for the Bulkley basin for Monday or Tuesday, which may maintain the high water level.

### **Kispiox River:**

The Kispiox River has plateaued, and has been holding steady near its current water level. Despite the hot weather, there is insufficient snow remaining in the basin to support higher stream flows. Rain is forecast for the area Monday and Tuesday, however, which may maintain the high water level.

### **Telkwa River:**

The Telkwa River is beginning to recede. The gauge below Tsai Creek has dropped 5 cm overnight. Rain is forecast for Monday and Tuesday, which may maintain a water level.

Conditions will be updated by 7PM today.

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