

BC Environment

River Forecast Centre

High Streamflow Advisory: 23Mar2007 7:00AM

- North and West Columbia

A warm and wet frontal storm will move over the Columbia area this morning and will remain stationary through Saturday. Environment Canada has issued a High Rainfall Warning for the North and West Columbia, with a forecast of 30-50 mm of rain over 24 hours.

The freezing elevation will rise to above 2000 m, and will stay elevated at least until the warm front passes, anticipated for late Saturday. Melt of the low elevation snow is anticipated. In addition, local conditions are very wet, following the March 10/11 storm event, and periodic rainfall since then.

The heavy rainfall, snowmelt and wet antecedent conditions will result in rapid rise of water levels in small and mid-sized streams throughout the Columbia, beginning Friday evening. Rivers will rise through the evening Friday and Saturday, and are anticipated to peak on Sunday, provided the front passes by that time. 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.