

# BC Environment

## River Forecast Centre

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### High Streamflow Advisory – North Coast, including

- **Kitimat River**

**Issued: 24Oct2005, 3:45PM**

BC Environment has issued a High Streamflow Advisory for the Kitimat River on the North Coast.

A cold low frontal system moved onto the north coast early Monday morning, producing heavy rain in some areas. A High Rainfall Warning from Environment Canada has been in place since early morning for:

- North Coast (coastal and inland sections)
- Central Coast (coastal and inland sections)

The system has produced 30 mm of rain in the Kitimat River watershed over the past 8 hrs, to 3PM today (measured at MoTH Road Weather stations), with lesser amounts in the Terrace-Stewart area. Environment Canada is forecasting rainfall totals of 100-150 mm for this event, with the heaviest rain occurring this afternoon through to early Tuesday morning.

The north coast has received well above normal rainfall during the past 6 weeks, including significant rainfall from a frontal storm on Oct 21/22. Soils in the watershed are wet, producing high rates of storm runoff. The Oct 21/22 storm resulted in 60 mm of rain in the Kitimat River watershed over 18 hours, producing a 2.8 m increase in stage level in the Kitimat River.

The Kitimat River is currently rising and will continue to rise this evening and into Tuesday morning. The rate and extent of rise will depend on rainfall amounts received.

The River Forecast Centre is monitoring rainfall magnitudes and river levels closely, and is in regular contact with Environment Canada's weather forecasters.

This advisory will be updated at 9:00AM tomorrow (Oct 25<sup>th</sup>), or earlier if conditions change.

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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.