

Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre Spring Freshet – Information Report June 9, 2007 2000 hours

It is extremely important to be prepared for emergencies. Assemble and keep an emergency kit with enough supplies to support you and your family for at least 72 hours.

Changes to Flood Advisories and Warnings

- Southern Peace River under a **Flood Watch** June 9 at 1345 hrs
- Slocan River (Passmore) ADVISORY **ended** June 8 at 0715 hrs
- Illecillewaet River (Greeley) ADVISORY **ended** June 8 at 0715 hrs
- Lillooet River (Pemberton/Mt Currie) ADVISORY **ended** June 8 at 1430 hrs

B.C. Overview (please note: these are estimates)

- 1,119 homes under evacuation ALERT
- 64 homes under evacuation ORDER

Changes to alerts/orders

- City of Prince George **rescinded** evacuation alert for 70 homes.
- Kitimat-Stikine Regional District has **rescinded** evacuation order on Braun's Island.
- Fraser-Fort George Regional District has **rescinded** evacuation alert for Foreman Flats and Shelley townsite.
- Whispering Pines/Clinton Indian Band **rescinded** evacuation order.
- Lheidli Tenneh First Nation (Fort George IR, North and South Shelley) **rescinded** evacuation alert for 43 homes.

Local Authority Response Activity

An **Evacuation Alert** means residents may be asked to leave their homes on very short notice. Residents should prepare by organizing an emergency supply kit with necessary medications, personal toiletries, change of clothing and personal and family documents.

An **Evacuation Order** means there is an imminent risk and residents must leave the area immediately. Local police or RCMP enforce the order.

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
NORTHEAST					
Prince George	Activated	Y		approx. 10 homes	www.city.pg.bc.ca
Fraser-Fort George Regional District	Activated	Y			www.rdffg.bc.ca
Peace River RD	Activated	N			www.peacriverrd.bc.ca/home.php
Quesnel	Activated	N			www.city.quesnel.bc.ca
Cariboo Regional District	Activated	N			http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/
Central Coast RD	Activated	N			http://centralcoastbc.com/
Village of McBride	Activated	N			http://mcbride.ca/
First Nations in Northeast region					
Kwadacha			Y		

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
NORTHWEST					
Town of Smithers	Activated	Y		approx. 8 homes	www.town.smithers.bc.ca/
Telkwa	Activated				
Hazelton	Activated				
Bulkley- Nechako Regional District	Activated	Y	approx. 42 homes	approx. 26 homes	www.rdbn.bc.ca
Houston	Activated	N			www.houston.ca
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	Activated	Y	approx. 260 homes		http://www.rdks.bc.ca/
Terrace	Activated	Y	approx. 176 homes		http://www.city.terrace.bc.ca/
First Nations in Northwest region					
Nisga'a Lisims	Activated	N			http://www.nisgaalisims.ca/
Kispiox			approx 4 homes		
Lakalzap			Y		
Glen Vowell, Kitsumkalum, Lower Post			Y		
SOUTHWEST					
Fraser Valley Regional District	Activated	N	approx 52 homes		www.fvrd.bc.ca
Maple Ridge	Activated	N	approx. 160 homes		www.mapleridge.ca/
Mission	Activated	N			www.city.mission.bc.ca
Abbotsford	Activated	N	approx. 5 homes		www.abbotsford.ca
Squamish - Lillooet Regional District	Activated	N			http://www.slrd.bc.ca
Langley	Activated	N	approx. 305 homes		www.township.langley.bc.ca
Kent-Harrison	Activated	N			
City of Chilliwack	Activated	N	approx. 42 homes		www.gov.chilliwack.bc.ca
City of Coquitlam	Activated	N			http://www.coquitlam.ca
District of Hope	Activated	N	approx. 66 homes		http://www.hope.ca/
New Westminster	Activated				
Greater Vancouver	Activated				
Delta	Activated				
Burnaby	Activated				
Pitt Meadows	Activated		approx.1 home		
First Nations in Southwest region					
Shxw'ow'hamel			Y	approx. 4 homes	
Skwah, Skxway, Kwantlen, Katzie			Y		
Mount Currie (Lil'wat)		Y	approx 6 homes	approx.16 homes	
Scowlitz			Y		
Leqa:mel			Y		

Local Authority	EOC Status	Local State of Emergency	# on Evacuation Alert	# on Evacuation Order	Web Site URL
CENTRAL					
Thompson- Nicola Regional District	Activated	N			http://www.tnrd.bc.ca/
Kamloops	Activated	N			http://www.kamloops.ca
SOUTHEAST					
Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Activated	Y		approx. 16 homes (Anderson Rd).	http://www.csr.bc.ca/
Town of Golden	Activated	Y			

For more information on First Nations community updates, please visit: www.fnesc.bc.ca

Click [here](#) for municipality contact information.

Conditions Overview

Generally, the weather has been favourable especially in the northwest where there has been little precipitation. The front currently affecting the province will move through early Sunday and be replaced by cooler, unstable air. A few showers are expected with generally light rainfall amounts in the Interior and in the Terrace/Smithers areas. Frequent, steady showers are expected on the south coast.

Flooding in areas throughout the northeast and northwest parts of the province continued overnight and many rivers will remain at flood levels for at least the next few days. River levels continue to rise slowly in the lower Fraser River and should reach a peak over the next day.

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.

Northeast Region

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Upper Fraser River (McBride, South Fort George). River levels in the Upper Fraser River have begun to recede but remain above flood stage. The Upper Fraser is expect to stay above flood stage through the weekend and into next week.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** remains in place for the Nechako River at Vanderhoof and the Nechako River at Isle Pierre. The Nechako River at Vanderhoof has risen sharply over the past 36 hours and is currently at its highest water level this spring.

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Liard River. It has been rising since Wednesday, will rise throughout the weekend, and is expected to peak at the end of weekend.

A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the Moberly River.

A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the southern Peace River. River levels have risen significantly due to high rates of snowmelt and heavy rain.

A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the Finlay River.

Northwest Region

The Skeena, Nass and Bulkley Rivers have started to recede from their peaks.

A **Flood Warning** remains in effect for the Skeena River. The river is above flood stage but it has dropped almost two metres from peak on Thursday at noon. Flooding continues to occur along unprotected sections of the Skeena valley, near Terrace and in other communities along the Skeena.

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Bulkley River in the Smithers and Houston areas. The Bulkley River still running close to its peak, falling just a few centimetres.

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Nass River. The Nass River peaked at noon on Tuesday and is now receding, but remains well above flood stage. Nass River has dropped just over one metre. Flooding is anticipated in unprotected sections of the Nass Valley.

The potential for higher water flows remains on the Skeena, Bulkley and Nass rivers, depending on the weather and the volume of snowmelt.

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Telkwa River.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** is in effect for the Nechacko River.

Central Region

A **High Streamflow Advisory** is now in effect for the North Thompson River upstream of Kamloops. (Birch Island, Clearwater, McLure). It is expected that the North Thompson River will remain close to current levels through the weekend and into next week.

Southeast Region

A **Flood Warning** is in effect for the Columbia River (Golden). The Columbia River has reached its peak; however, a change in the river level is not expected until the end of next week.

A **High Streamflow Advisory** is in effect for the Kicking Horse River (Golden).

Southwest Region

A **High Streamflow Advisory** is in effect for the Lower Fraser River, encompassing the area between Hope and the ocean. The Lower Fraser is expected to run just above the 6.0 metre mark at the Mission gauge. Very high flow volume is expected. Flooding is anticipated to occur in areas unprotected by dikes.

River Level Situation and Forecast:

Click [here](#) for latest detailed forecast and commentary.

Click [here](#) to view up-to-date information from the River Forecast Centre website.

Click [here](#) to view real-time B.C. river level monitoring station readings.

Weather Forecast:

Click [here](#) to view the Environment Canada Weather Office forecasts.

Public Health Advisories:

Click [here](#) to view public health information provided by the B.C. Ministry of Health.

Transportation Conditions:

Highway 16, east of Terrace, has re-opened in both directions during daylight hours. An alternate route between Terrace and Kitwanga via the Cranberry Forest Service Road is available with scheduled 30 minute openings in alternating directions every four hours.

Highway 16 west of Terrace to Prince Rupert is closed. There are no alternate routes into Prince Rupert.

CN Rail line is closed from Smithers to Prince Rupert (along Highway 16 corridor). Shames Flat portion of the railroad track has washed away due to water erosion.

Nisga'a Highway is now open to single-lane alternating traffic between Canyon City to Greenville.

Ferry service at Usk, Little Fort, McLure, Big Bar and Lytton has been suspended.

For the most up-to-date information on this situation and others, visit www.drivebc.ca or call toll-free 1-800-550-4997.

Provincial Response Activity:

A toll-free provincial flood information line is operating from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. The number is: 1-888-350-6070.

Provincial government staff are monitoring river levels, and together with local government officials and First Nations bands are reviewing potential threats to the public, infrastructure and the environment.

The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre in Victoria is activated.

Provincial regional emergency operation centres in Terrace, Prince George, Kamloops, Nelson and Surrey are activated. Staffing is being increased in the provincial centres at Prince George, Terrace and Surrey.

The province's logistical preparations include sandbags, sandbag filling machines, and other flood fighting materials. More than four million sandbags have been distributed to local authorities. Approximately 258,000 sandbags have been shipped in the past 24 hours.

Ministry of Forests firefighting crews are being used for sandbagging operations and related duties in support of local governments.

An Agriculture Notice -- Livestock Relocation Phase 2 and 3 was issued June 2 by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands has an emergency operations centre in Abbotsford. It is providing flood awareness information and guidance on managing livestock in preparation for flooding.

For more information on the relocation of cattle and emergency preparedness planning, dairy farmers are asked to call the BC Milk Producers Flood Line at 1-877-859-6140 or click [here](#). For more general information on agricultural emergency preparedness, farmers are asked to contact the MEOC in Abbotsford toll free at 1-888-221-7141.

Public Information - Flood Preparedness and Response

The Provincial Flood Information Line

- 1-888-350-6070

On the web, visit: www.pep.bc.ca

Other Telephone Numbers

In an emergency,

- dial 9-1-1

For local non-emergency information,

- contact your local government authority. Find contact numbers in the blue pages of the telephone book

For public health information, contact your regional health authority,

- Northern Health Authority, 1-888-766-6358
- Fraser Health Authority, 1-877-935-5669

For agriculture sector information, contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands:

- 1-888-221-7141