

PROVINCIAL COORDINATION CENTRE

PECC FLOODING UPDATE - MAY 23, 2006 – 1700 hrs.

Key Updates

- All previous Evacuation Orders have been rescinded this afternoon, with 206 homes remaining on Evacuation Alert in the province.
- The Flood Watch for Slocan River and neighbouring small drainages, Salmo River, and Bull River continues.
- The Flood Watch for all other areas has been downgraded to a High Streamflow Advisory for the next few days.
- River levels have been receding since Sunday afternoon in most areas, however, the Slocan, Salmo, and the Bull Rivers continue to rise due to heavy rainfall and warmer temperatures.
- Local governments are beginning to collect damage assessment information.
- Recovery planning has begun in many areas.

WEATHER FORECAST FOR KOOTENAY DISTRICTS AND SOUTHERN BC INTERIOR

Unsettled weather continues with scattered afternoon showers forecast for the evening. The next system is expected to arrive in the region Wednesday afternoon. Precipitation should remain light and should not have a significant affect on river levels. Temperatures should be near seasonal normals, cooling slightly towards the weekend. Freezing levels have dropped.

SOUTHEAST REGION PREOC

The Southeast PREOC remains activated at a level 3. PREOC staff are working with the Interior Health Authority and local governments to coordinate public information regarding drinking water safety. The PREOC has arranged a helicopter reconnaissance over the impacted areas to support local governments that are now collecting damage assessment information.

REGIONAL DISTRICT KOOTENAY BOUNDARY - Joint Emergency Operations Centre, Grand Forks.

A Declaration of State of Local Emergency is in effect for Area D of the Regional District. Areas of particular concern are Johnson Flats area of Grand Forks. The Johnson Flats berm has been strengthened and is now considered stable. An evacuation alert remains in effect for 40 homes in this area.

THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS - Joint Emergency Operations Centre, Grand Forks

A Declaration of State of Local Emergency is in effect for the City of Grand Forks. Areas of particular concern include that part of Johnson Flats with the city limits as well as areas adjacent to the Granby River on the north part of town.

REGIONAL DISTRICT CENTRAL KOOTENAY - Emergency Operations Centre, Nelson.

Declaration of a Local State of Emergency is in effect. The Evacuation Order for 53 homes in the Passmore area was rescinded this afternoon. A total of 166 homes adjacent to the Slocan River are now currently under an evacuation alert. The Slocan River and the Salmo River continue to rise and areas adjacent to these rivers are under a flood watch. Highway 31 between Poplar Creek and Girard Bridge is closed due to flooding.

REGIONAL DISTRICT EAST KOOTENAY - Emergency Operations Centre, Cranbrook

The Bull River continues to rise and the area adjacent to this river continues to be under a flood watch.

Central PREOC is activated at Level 1

PECC remains activated at Level 3