

River Freeze-Up Advisory Update

Issued at 2:30 PM, January 12, 2005 by: River Engineering, Northern Region

River Freeze-Up Advisory for the Bow River at Calgary

Alberta Environment has updated a **River Freeze-Up Advisory** for the Bow River at Calgary.

Due to the cold temperatures, increased ice production continues along the Bow River. Although no major problems are currently anticipated, extreme caution should be exercised in low-lying areas next to the Bow River as river freeze-up continues.

Since January 4, the water level for the Bow River at Calgary has been fluctuating with a rise of 1.6 metres at the gauge. Currently, there have been reports of water and/or ice impacting walking and biking trails along the Bow River in Calgary and some flooding at the Calgary Zoo.

Localized ice problems could result in minor flooding in low-lying areas such as recreational trails and parks immediately adjacent to the Bow River.

River Freeze-Up refers to the formation of an ice cover which will result in a gradual increase in water levels. On occasion, the winter freeze-up can lead to ice jams and rapidly rising water levels. The location and occurrence of ice jams and the associated flooding are very unpredictable. Local authorities are advised to monitor the situation in their community.

Alberta Environment is monitoring river levels closely throughout Alberta for increases in river levels due to winter freeze-up. This advisory is in effect for seven days and will be updated should conditions change.

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