

River Basins Currently with Advisories

Information in addition to this advisory may be found at:

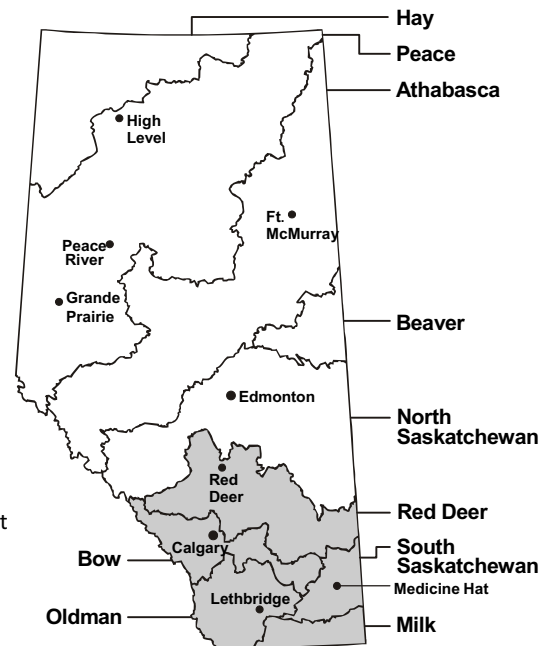
<http://www.environment.alberta.ca/forecasting/forecasterscomments>

<http://www.environment.alberta.ca/apps/basins>

High Streamflow Advisory - Stream levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly and no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible. Anyone situated close to the streams affected is advised to be cautious of the rising levels.

Flood Watch - Stream levels are rising and will approach or may exceed bank full. Flooding of areas adjacent to these streams may occur. Anyone situated close to the river is advised to take appropriate precautionary measures.

Flood Warning - Rising stream levels will result in flooding of areas adjacent to the streams affected. Anyone situated close to the river should take appropriate measures to avoid flood damage.



Streamflow Advisory Overview for Alberta

Advisories apply to streams and their tributaries unless otherwise noted.

Recent weather model runs and conversations with meteorologists indicate more precipitation is possible in the Oldman River Basin than was previously anticipated. The river advisories have been updated to reflect this change.

- Tuesday - Thursday: 30-40 more mm is possible in the Bow River basin by Thursday am; forecasted precipitation has **increased to 150-200 mm** in the southwest corner of the province by Thursday morning; 75 mm in the Cypress Hills; Significant increases in forecast amounts from model run to model run continue to occur.

Based on the current weather forecast, the following river conditions can be expected:

- South Saskatchewan River at Medicine Hat preliminary projections suggest flows could peak at 5300 m³/s - up 6.5 m from current water levels; this is preliminary and is a projection based on proposed upstream dam operations in the Bow and Oldman River basins as well as forecast flows out of the Highwood River. This estimate will be revised as peaks occur upstream in both river basins and the maximum amount of flow reduction possible at the dams is determined.
- up to 1 metre rises are possible in the Bow Valley tributaries.
- up to 3 to 4 metre rises are possible in the Willow Creek basin downstream of Chain Lakes (widespread agricultural flooding can be expected) and the Oldman River upstream of the Oldman Dam
- Oldman River at the City of Lethbridge may rise up to 6m which is approximately 4500 m³/s; this is based on the forecast precipitation falling as forecasted and the preliminary operational plans of the dams upstream.
- up to a 2.5 metre rise is possible along the Castle River, Pincher Creek, and Crowsnet River
- the water level at Waterton Lake could rise 2 metres (elev of 1281.3). Flooding begins at a water level of 1280.7 m.
- up to a 1.5 metre rise is possible for upstream locations along the Belly River, with rises up to 3 metres near the meeting point with the Oldman River
- up to a 2 metre rise is possible along Lee Creek and the St. Mary River upstream of the St. Mary Reservoir and at least bankfull conditions downstream
- over bankfull conditions is possible for all other creeks and streams in Oldman Basin
- Water levels along the Little Red Deer River are expected to exceed known flood thresholds at Westward Ho campground and Red Lodge Provincial Park.
- up to a 1.2 metre rise is possible along the Highwood River, this rise may approach flood thresholds at Wallaceville; there are **NO** flooding concerns at any other location in town.
- Cypress Hills - rapid water level rises are possible in the creeks and streams flowing out of the Cypress Hills - 2 to 3 m water level rises are possible.

Bow River Basin

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Elbow River	✓			rising	Unchanged

Fish Creek	✓			rising	Unchanged
Wallaceville in the Town of High River on the Highwood River		✓		rising	Unchanged
Highwood River	✓			rising	Unchanged
Tributaries to the Bow River upstream of the City of Calgary	✓			rising	Unchanged

Milk River Basin

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Milk River	✓			rising	Unchanged
Tributaries flowing out of the Cypress Hills		✓		steady	Unchanged

Oldman River Basin

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Castle River			✓	rising	Unchanged
Crowsnest River			✓	rising	Unchanged
Oldman River upstream of Oldman Dam			✓	rising	Unchanged
Willow Creek downstream of Chain Lakes			✓	rising	Unchanged
Waterton River			✓	rising	Unchanged
Belly River			✓	rising	Unchanged
St Mary River			✓	rising	Unchanged
Oldman River downstream of the Oldman Dam			✓	rising	Unchanged
Waterton Lake			✓	rising	Unchanged
Lee Creek			✓	rising	Unchanged
Pincher Creek			✓	rising	Unchanged

Red Deer River Basin

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Little Red Deer River		✓		rising	Unchanged

South Saskatchewan River Basin

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Tributaries flowing out of the Cypress Hills		✓		steady	Unchanged
South Saskatchewan River			✓	rising	Upgraded

Media Contact:

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