Government of Alberta

River Ice Advisory

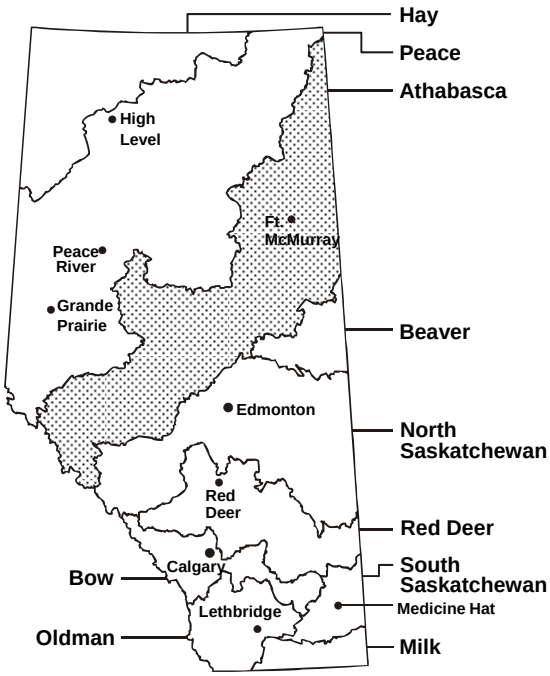
Issued at 4:30 PM - April 6, 2016
Issued by River Forecast Centre

River Ice Advisory for the Athabasca River: Town of Athabasca to Fort McMurray

Alberta Environment and Parks has issued a **River Ice Advisory** in advance of breakup on the Athabasca River from the Town of Athabasca to Fort McMurray. Although river breakup may not occur immediately, residents should be aware that river ice conditions and water levels can change rapidly.

Conditions for river breakup have been developing along the Athabasca River. Movement of the ice cover at Athabasca did occur this afternoon. The ice cover on the Athabasca River has been deteriorating for the past few weeks and warming temperatures and increased snowmelt will initiate breakup in the Athabasca River basin. Water levels on the Athabasca River and its tributaries have begun to rise in result of previous precipitation and periodic warmer temperatures.

Every year at breakup there is potential for ice jam formation and flooding along the Athabasca and Clearwater Rivers at Fort McMurray. Analysis of the current conditions suggests that there is an average potential for ice jam formation along the Athabasca and Clearwater Rivers at Fort McMurray.



Detailed current information regarding river ice breakup in Fort McMurray is available from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, Emergency Management through their website at http://www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca or from a recorded message on their telephone hotline (780) 799-8000.

Additional information is available from Alberta Environment and Parks: http://www.environment.alberta.ca/apps/basins/default.aspx and the Alberta Rivers app for iOS and Android.

With the onset of warmer spring temperatures, ice breakup will occur in Alberta's rivers. This may result in the formation of ice jams, but not always. The location and occurrence of ice jams, and possible associated flooding, are unpredictable. Local authorities are advised to monitor the ice covers and water levels in the rivers in their communities.

This advisory is in effect for 7 days and will be updated if there is any change in conditions.

Alberta Government

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