

# Flood Watch Update

Issued at 03:52 PM - May 23, 2017
Issued by River Forecast Centre

# **River Basins Currently with Advisories**

Information in addition to this advisory may be found at:

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

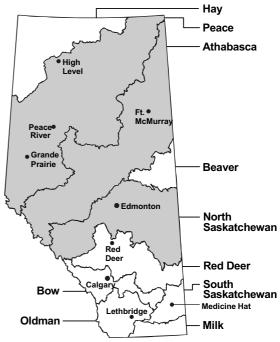
http://www.environment.alberta.ca/apps/basins

**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.

**Ice Advisory** - Stream levels are expected to change rapidly as the river ice cover is freezing up or breaking up. No major flooding is expected as river levels are expected to remain within bank full. This is a natural process, however ice movement and shoving may cause minor flooding in low-lying areas. Anyone situated close to the streams affected is advised to be cautious of rapidly changing water and ice levels.



Ice Jam Watch - Conditions are favourable for the formation of ice jams, or an ice jam has been reported causing stream levels to rise and approach or exceed bank full. Flooding of areas adjacent to the stream affected or groundwater seepage flooding may occur. Ice jams can obstruct the flow of a river channel. The location and occurrence of ice jams and possible associated flooding are very unpredictable. Anyone situated close to the streams affected is advised to be cautious of rapidly changing water and ice levels and to take appropriate precautionary measures.

**Ice Jam Warning** - A reported ice jam is causing flooding in areas adjacent to the stream affected and is impacting a community and/or infrastructure. Ice jams can obstruct the flow of a river channel. The location and occurrence of ice jams and possible associated flooding are very unpredictable. Anyone situated close to the streams affected is advised to be cautious of rapidly changing water and ice levels and to take appropriate measures to avoid flood damage.

# **River Advisory Overview for Alberta**

Advisories apply to streams and their tributaries unless otherwise noted.

## Flood Watch:

# Flood Watch Update:

## **Peace River Basin**

- The Flood Warning on the Whitemud River near Dixonville has been downgraded to a Flood Watch.
- Gauge Readings and field reports indicate that water level have receded 0.3-0.5 m from peak levels.
- The situation is being closely monitored by the local municipality.
- Current weather forecasts do not indicate that the upcoming precipitation will affect this area, however if the storm track changes there is the potential for water levels to rise again
- The situation is being monitored, and the advisory may be updated as conditions change.

### Flood Watch (new):

## Athabasca River Basin

- A Flood Watch has been issued for the Paddle and Pembina Rivers.
- Soil moisture in this area is high, and with the incoming precipitation forecast, water levels may reach or slightly exceed bankful levels along the Paddle and Pembina rivers.
- This advisory will be highly dependant on the storm track and potential convective activity.
- Peak water levels are expected on the Paddle and Upper Pembina rivers on Thursday.
- This advisory level will be assessed and updated depending on the amount and location of the realized precipitation.
- Flooding of low-lying areas and ponding may occur as water makes its way overland into watercourses.

## **High Streamflow Advisories:**

## Peace River Basin (updated and new)

#### **Updated:**

- A High Streamflow Advisory remains in effect for the lower Peace River; in areas near and downstream of Peace River at Peace Point.
- Water levels are continuing to reced from the high water levels seen late last week.

#### New:

- High Streamflow Advisories have been issued for select watercourses in the upper Peace Basin, south of Grande Prairie
  and Valleyview.
- The following watercourses and their tributaries are included:
  - Cutbank River
  - Muskeg River
  - o Smoky River near Hells Creek
  - Waskahigan River

#### Athabasca River Basin (new)

- High Streamflow Advisories have been issued for tributaries of the Athabasca River upstream of the Town of Athabasca, including the following watercourses and their tributaries:
  - o Berland River
  - Wildhay River
  - McLeod River
  - o Wolf Creek
  - Sakwatamau River
  - o Christmas Creek
- Soil moisture in this area is high, and water levels are expected to rise with the upcoming precipitation, although no flooding is expected at this time.
- Low-lying areas adjacent to the river may be affected, and ponding may occur as water makes its way overland into water courses.
- At this time, the Swan Hills are not expected to be heavily impacted by the forecasted precipitation, although conditions will be monitored and updated as necessary.
- Advisory levels will be monitored and updated as necessary as the rainfall event unfolds.
- The need for an advisory on the Athabasca River mainstem will be assessed as storm track and amounts are confirmed and tributary activity is assessed.

#### North Saskatchewan River Baisn (new)

- High Streamflow Advisories have been issued for tributaries of the North Saskatchewan River upstream of the City of Edmonton, including the following watercourse and their tributaries:
  - Clearwater River
  - o Ram River
  - o Brazeau River
  - o Baptiste River
  - Nordegg River
  - o Rose Creek
  - Modeste Creek
  - Tomahawk Creek
  - Weed Creek
  - Strawberry Creek
  - Atim Creek
  - Sturgeon Creek
  - Carrot Creek
  - Whitemud Creek
  - Blackmud Creek
- Soil moisture in this area is high, and water levels are expected to rise with the upcoming precipitation, although no flooding is expected at this time.
- Low-lying areas adjacent to the river may be affected, and ponding may occur as water makes its way overland into water courses.
- Advisory levels will be monitored and updated as necessary as the rainfall event unfolds.
- The need for an advisory on the Athabasca River mainstem will be assessed as storm track and amounts are confirmed and tributary activity is assessed.

### **Peace River Basin**

# Streamflow Advisories

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Notikewin River				falling	Ended
Peace River near and downstream of Peace Point	V			falling	Unchanged
Peace River near and downstream of Sunny Valley				falling	Ended
Whitemud River near Dixonville		~		falling	Downgraded
Selected Tributaries of the Smoky and Little Smoky River	V			steady	New

# **Athabasca River Basin**

# Streamflow Advisories

Stream	High Streamflow Advisory	Flood Watch	Flood Warning	Water Level Status	Advisory Status
Paddle River		<b>/</b>		steady	New
Pembina River		~		steady	New
Tributaries of the Athabasca River upstream of the Town of Athabasca	V			steady	New

# **North Saskatchewan River Basin**

# Streamflow Advisories

Stream	High Streamflow	Flood	Flood	Water Level	Advisory
	Advisory	Watch	Warning	Status	Status
Tributaries of the North Saskatchewan upstream of the City of Edmonton	V			steady	New

Media Contact:

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