



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 30, 2020

REGIONAL DISTRICT URGING EXTREME CAUTION AROUND RIVERS AND STREAMS AS HEAVY RAINFALL EXPECTED

River levels in the upper Fraser and its tributaries are expected to rise as heavy rains are forecasted in the area over the next couple days.

The River Forecast Centre is upgrading the current Flood Watch to a Flood Warning for the Upper Fraser River including tributaries and the mainstem at Prince George and upstream. Environment Canada has issued special weather statements for the Cariboo and Central Interior warning of heavy rain through Thursday with the possibility of additional rainfall warnings being issued as the system further develops.

As a result, the Regional District is advising residents throughout the region of the following

- be on alert for flooding and landslides;
- use extreme caution near waterways and unstable ground; and
- be prepared to shelter in place for a minimum of 3 days in the event roadways are washed out and residents can't leave their property.

With predictions for up to 50 mm of rainfall in the Fraser headwaters and East Cariboo, Major river systems in the Upper Fraser are forecast to increase dramatically if this level of rainfall occurs. Coupled with existing high-water levels and saturated ground, this may also result in flooding to low-lying areas.

Residents are urged to take necessary precautions to protect homes and property and move any animals or equipment from low lying areas.

Further information on emergency preparedness can be found on the Regional District website at www.rdffg.bc.ca or download the Flood Preparedness Guide from the Government of BC website at www.gov.bc.ca

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