

Flood watch

Porcupine River at Old Crow

May 15, 2022 at 11:45 am

Current conditions

Breakup has been progressing on the Porcupine River. The ice broke in front of Old Crow on the morning of May 13, and ice runs have been moving past town since 8 pm that same evening. Small ice jams have formed and released downstream of town over the last 24 hours, but an ice jam upstream of the Bluefish River has remained in place, and is now over 30 km in length. Water levels have been rising since early this morning, and the rate of rise is currently ~6 cm/hour. Water levels are currently close to flood thresholds for lower lying areas.

Water level forecast

Water levels will continue to increase until the ice jam releases. Limited ice remains upstream of the currently mobilizing ice runs, so water level increases are expected to decrease in the near term as the roughness of the ice jam decreases.

Flood and travel advice

The public is advised to stay clear of the fast-flowing rivers and potentially unstable riverbanks during the high-streamflow period. Flood prone property owners are advised to have a plan in place in the event of a flood. See [Yukon.ca/floods](https://www.yukon.ca/floods) for more information.

We will continue to monitor conditions and will provide updates as conditions change.

Advisory and warning levels

-  **High streamflow or water advisory:** Lake levels or river flows or levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly, but no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible.
-  **Flood watch:** River or lake levels are rising and will approach or may exceed banks. Areas beside affected rivers and lakes may flood.
-  **Flood warning:** River or lake levels have exceeded or will exceed banks or flood stage very soon. Areas beside affected rivers and lakes will flood.

Contact

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