

Update: Flood warning – Lake Laberge

July 13, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

A flood warning is being maintained for:

- Lake Laberge

Water levels on Lake Laberge are currently 42 centimetres above 2007 levels, and continuing to rise. The rate of rise has been decreasing since last week, and the lake rose approximately 2 centimeters in the past 24 hours.

Flow in the Takhini River has been decreasing steadily since July 4, and is expected to continue decreasing. Flow on the Yukon River through Whitehorse has stabilized as inputs from snowmelt to the Southern Lakes have decreased and the lakes have stabilized. As a result, water levels are expected to stabilize on Lake Laberge in the coming week, assuming minimal rainfall.

Rainfall represents the greatest source of uncertainty as precipitation timing and severity will likely determine the peak water level in 2021, with above-normal temperatures that promote continued snow and glacier melt playing a smaller role. Current weather forecasts indicate temperatures remaining below seasonal until the weekend, with three to five millimetres of rain forecast later this week.

While no water level forecasts are available for Lake Laberge, peak water levels are expected to be similar to levels forecast for the Southern Lakes. Current model results for Marsh Lake continue to project a peak water level of approximately 50 centimetres above current levels. This assumes average July precipitation, while below and above average July rainfall would result in lower and higher water levels.

Flood prone property owners are advised to have a plan in place. See Yukon.ca 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 means that river or lake levels are rising or expected to rise rapidly, but that no major flooding is expected. Minor flooding in low-lying areas is possible.

Flood watch means that river or lake levels are rising and will approach or may exceed bankfull or flood stage. Flooding of areas adjacent to affected rivers and lakes may occur.

Flood warning means that river or lake levels have exceeded or will exceed bankfull or flood stage imminently, and that flooding of areas adjacent to the rivers and lakes affected will result.

Contact

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