

Update: Flood watch – Carmacks, Yukon River

June 18, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

A flood watch is being maintained for:

- Yukon River at Carmacks

Water level on the Yukon River at Carmacks remains above the 20-year return period level¹, and is continuing to rise, although the rate of water level rise has decreased over the last 48 hours. Several upstream tributaries have stabilized after large rain events last weekend.

Rain showers are forecast for today in the Carmacks region, as well as in southeast Yukon including the Teslin area, with drier and warmer conditions over the weekend followed by more unsettled weather next week. The rate of water level rise on the Yukon River at Carmacks is expected to decrease over the next 3 days as a result of the drying trend, however the Yukon River will remain high and sensitive to precipitation inputs, given warmer temperatures promoting continued melt of the higher elevation snowpack.

The public are 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 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

For media enquiries:

Sophie Best, Communications Analyst: 867-393-5922 or sophie.best@yukon.ca

Kat Hallett, Communications Analyst: 867-332-4188 or kathryn.hallett@yukon.ca

For flood response: Yukon Emergency Measures Organization: 867-667-5220 or EMO.yukon@yukon.ca

¹ Return period refers to the expected frequency at which a specific level or flow will be exceeded based on statistical analysis of historic records. For example, the 20-year return period is expected to be exceeded once every 20 years on average, but has a 5% chance of being equalled or exceeded in any year.