

**Flood Watch: Black River, Burnt River, York River, Little
Mississippi River
Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook:
Remainder of Bancroft District**

NEWS

Thursday, April 26, 2018
4:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a Flood Watch is in effect for the Black River, the Burnt River, the York River and Little Mississippi River watersheds. A Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook remains in effect for the remainder of Bancroft District.

Residents of Bancroft District should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams. Please alert any children under your care to these dangers and supervise their activities. Residents who have a historic susceptibility to flooding should take appropriate precautions to protect their property, such as ensuring sump pumps are functioning and securing items that may float away as water levels rise.

MNRF is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION***Description of Weather System***

This message is being sent on the basis of information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services, Trent Severn Waterway and Environment Canada and observed local conditions.

A low pressure system moved through Bancroft District from Wednesday through Thursday morning. It is estimated that rainfall totals received from this system range from 20-45mm, with greater amounts being received in the South-east portion of the District. The 5 day forecast suggests only a small amount of precipitation. Forecast daytime temperatures range from 4 –to 19°C with night-time temperatures ranging from -6 to 5 °C over the next 5 days.

Description of Current Conditions

Most reservoirs have water levels below average for this time of year due to the delayed snow melt. The snow pack is diminishing in many locations but remains higher than average for this time of year and is ready to release water. Lake levels are monitored daily and

assessed in relation to estimated runoff amounts. The levels and flows are subject to a rapid rate of increase driven by the amount of remaining snow and rainfall received. The flows on Gull River are average for this time of the year but steadily increasing due to ongoing snow melt. The Burnt River flows are average for this time of year and increasing more quickly than the Gull to the recent events.

Flows on the **York River** and **Little Mississippi River** are increasing rapidly in response to the rain received. Properties within the floodway may be impacted by flood waters in the coming days.

Due to mostly frozen conditions, the ground's ability to absorb run-off and snowmelt is limited. The potential exists for nuisance flooding of roadways, ditches, and low lying flood prone areas as the melt progresses. There may be potential for minor ice jam related flooding on some rivers.

A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

The MNRF and the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) continue to closely monitor local lakes and rivers as the freshet progresses.

The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), Bracebridge Generation and the TSW.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on 04/30/2018 11:59 PM

Terminology: Notification Levels

WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY: indicates that high flows, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for such users as boaters, anglers and swimmers but flooding is not expected

WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK: gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds or other conditions

FLOOD WATCH: potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities

FLOOD WARNING: flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities

Contact Information

MNRF Bancroft District Office
Luke Hillyer, IRM Technical Specialist, Bancroft District, 613-332-3940, x 216

MNRF Minden Field Office
Kris Windover, IRM Technical Specialist, Minden Field Office, Bancroft District, 705-286-5207

A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended. Environment Canada bulletins can be found at <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here:

www.ontario.ca/flooding

Parks Canada Water Management Updates can be found here: <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/info/infonet>