

SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY

2017-01

May 10, 2017

Prolonged Rain and Flood Watch Advisory

An early notification from Environment and Climate Change Canada forecasts a prolonged rain event beginning Thursday afternoon over northeast B.C. with rising river levels and potential flooding.

Oil and gas operators are advised that significant flooding is possible. Operators and employees must be prepared to respond to potential impacts to infrastructure.

Rain is expected to continue until Saturday evening, producing a total rainfall for the three day period estimated between 50 and 90 mm, with the highest amounts along eastern flanks of the Rocky Mountains and into the Williston basin. The rain event, combined with warm air, will accelerate snow melt and increase the potential for flooding in a number of areas, including the Pine, Murray, Sukunka, Parsnip, Moberly, Halfway, Graham, Sikanni Chief and Muskwa river basins. This follows recent severe weather and flooding in portions of Central and South Interior regions of British Columbia. Further high streamflow is anticipated across the Central and South Interior over the next week, resulting from a combination of rain and melting snow.

Activity in some areas may be limited due to access problems created by weather. The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) encourages operators to evaluate integrity and ensure operational safety as conditions permit.

Should further severe weather and flooding occur, the Commission is recommending all operators inspect their well facilities and pipelines to ensure the operational and structural integrity of their assets is maintained, particularly in areas prone to erosion.

Incidents of damage to assets due to extreme weather should be reported to the Commission through regular incident reporting procedures.

For the latest flood warnings or advisories throughout the province, please check the Commission's [Provincial Emergency Updates](#) for Flooding and River Forecast Resources.

If you have any questions regarding this Safety and Environmental Advisory, please contact:

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