

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook
Bancroft District****NEWS****Friday March 3, 2017
3:00pm**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook is in effect in the 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. 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, Ontario Power Generation and Environment Canada.

A low pressure system will move into the province Monday into Tuesday. Due to the passage of this system much of Southern Ontario will see temperatures from 0 to 10 degrees. Rainfall associated with this system is in the range of 20 to 30 mm on Monday for areas to the east of Georgian Bay and areas to the north of Prince Edward County. Central Ontario including Bancroft District could see cumulative rainfall amounts of 10 to 20 mm. Wednesday will see a return to more seasonal values.

Description of Current Conditions

Reservoirs in the district are in the normal operating range for this time of year. Flows in area rivers and streams are above average for this time of year and continue to rise from recent rain events. The MNRF and the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) continue to closely monitor local lakes and rivers.

Much of Bancroft District is blanketed by a significant snow pack containing about average water content. The forecasted warm temperatures and precipitation will result in snow melt further increasing flows and water levels. Slippery and unstable banks and cold water temperatures can lead to hazardous conditions around water bodies.

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 03/10/2017 12:00 AM

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