

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook
Bancroft District - Burnt River Watershed****NEWS**Friday, March 17, 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 Burnt River watershed, which includes the Drag and Irondale Rivers.

Residents of the Burnt River Watershed 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.

Over the weekend, seasonal temperatures are expected with warmer daytime highs resulting in some melting that may contribute to slightly increased water levels. There is little precipitation forecasted over this period.

Description of Current Conditions

Reservoirs in the district are currently at normal levels for this time of year. Water flows in larger rivers remain elevated. The MNRF and the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) continue to closely monitor local lakes and rivers.

Much of Bancroft District remains blanketed by a snow pack containing average water content, but significant snowmelt is not expected over the coming week with colder night temperatures forecasted.

An ice jam is developing on the Burnt River north of Cameron Lake, which may contribute to increases in water levels throughout the Burnt River watershed. MNRF will monitor water levels for potential impacts from the ice jam.

The MNR 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 03/21/2017 3:00 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

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

MNR Minden Field Office
Jessica Tomlinson, Resource Management Technician, Minden Field Office, Bancroft District, 705-286-5222

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