

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook  
Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District  
Gull River Watershed**

Friday, April 28, 2023  
12:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook bulletin is in effect until Friday May 5, 2023. This message will effect residents within the MNRF Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District in the County of Haliburton and City of Kawartha Lakes.

Runoff to local lakes and rivers continues. Water levels and river flows are expected to rise over the next few days with forecasted rainfall.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

Be cautious if traveling on local waterways. Boat traffic during higher water conditions can cause damage to shorelines and to shoreline property with vessel wakes.

With rain, warmer temperatures the banks and shorelines adjacent to water bodies can be extremely slippery and unstable. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

MNRF also advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities as they may become seasonally inundated with water, are prone to washouts and may become impassible due to localized flooding.

Residents are reminded to keep a close watch on conditions and regularly check for updated messages

**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

**Description of Weather System**

Weather forecasts are currently calling for up to 60 mm of rain for this area by Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Description of Current Conditions.**

Water levels in managed lakes are average to above average for this time of year. Water levels and river flows are expected to rise with forecasted rainfall.

The watersheds are cascading systems - each waterbody feeds into the next downstream. Runoff from rain and snowmelt cascades and compounds through the entire system affecting water levels in each waterbody. It will take a number of days for the additional rain to work its way through the entire system. Downstream water bodies may experience a delay in the full impact of the upstream inputs.

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

## DEFINITIONS

- **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
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that along the Great Lakes shorelines high water, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities
- **FLOOD WARNING:** flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities.

## LEARN MORE

- Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage [www.ontario.ca/flooding](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www.weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.
- Parks Canada maintains the Ontario Waterways Water Management InfoNet on the Trent-Severn Waterway website at <https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/info/infonet/point-gestion-eau-water-management-updates>