

November 30, 2021

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

### **Atmospheric River Event November 2021**

THOMPSON, NICOLA, SIMILKAMEEN – Severe landslides and flooding has occurred in the Thompson, Nicola, and Similkameen watersheds in response to an atmospheric river event (Nov 13-15, 2021). Provincial government staff are available to support local governments, businesses and residents in their emergency works and recovery efforts. Please be alert and consider safety as a priority in areas that have experienced damage due to flooding and landslides.

FrontCounter BC staff will be available to answer questions about permits or authorizations that are necessary to conduct repairs related to recent flood damage. Staff can also assist with the application process and using online systems and tools. E-mail [FrontCounterBC.Kamloops@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterBC.Kamloops@gov.bc.ca) or call 250-828-4131 to speak to someone directly.

Under the Water Sustainability Act and Regulation, local governments are authorized to construct certain erosion protection and flood protection works during a flood emergency. The Ministry and Emergency Management BC have been working closely with local governments to assist with flood assessment, repairs to existing infrastructure and deployment of flood protective measures.

In addition to the flood response information found here: [Thompson Okanagan Guidance for Instream Work During a Flood Emergency - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#), waterfront landowners should contact their local government for information on available flood protection resources.

Waterfront landowners must [apply for a Change Approval or submit Notification of instream work](#) for all changes in and about a stream including any post-flooding recovery works.

Provincial government staff are developing streamlined processes to assist in the quick response and permitting of flood recovery works. Processes and conditions will vary depending on what works are proposed and the location of those works. FrontCounter BC staff can assist you with any questions you may have and will ensure your works follow these streamlined processes. For more information please see attached Backgrounder: Flood Protection Works for Waterfront Landowners.

Water licence holders may need to conduct repairs on water intakes and related infrastructure. For more information, please contact FrontCounter BC who will direct you to information and a water officer.

People should report infractions to 1 877 952-RAPP (7277) or online at [Report Natural Resource Violations - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#)