

**FLOOD REPORT FOR MANITOBA**

*May 28, 2022*

- Flood Warning\*:**
- **Little Saskatchewan River**
  - **Whitemud River near Woodside**
  - **Dauphin Lake**
  - **Whiteshell Lakes area**
  - **Winnipeg River**
  - **Assiniboine River, from Shellmouth Dam to Brandon**
  - **Red River, Emerson to the Red River Floodway Channel Inlet**
  - **Shannon Creek, Morris and Little Morris Rivers**
  - **Red River, Red River Floodway Channel Outlet to Lake Winnipeg**

- Flood Watch\*:**
- **Mossy River**
  - **Roseau River**
  - **Souris River, US Border to Napinka**

**Summary**

- The precipitation system is still expected to bring an average of between 20 mm to 40 mm of rain across much southern and central Manitoba, the Winnipeg River basin in Ontario, and the Upper Assiniboine River basin in Saskatchewan, over next four days. Some areas could receive higher amounts of rain, up to 70 mm, and thunderstorms in some locations could result in more intense precipitation and upwards of 100 mm of rain. This is a dynamic weather system and there is still uncertainty about the amounts and location of precipitation. HFC will continue to provide updates as more information is known.
- The forecast precipitation over the next four days is also expected to affect the Whiteshell lakes area and the Winnipeg River basin upstream in Ontario. Very high flows and water levels are being experienced on the Winnipeg River and other lakes and rivers in this area and the expected precipitation will cause them to rise further. Manitoba Hydro measures water levels and flows on waterways contributing to the provincial hydro-electric system and provides a 14-day forecast at [https://hydro.mb.ca/corporate/facilities/water\\_levels/](https://hydro.mb.ca/corporate/facilities/water_levels/). An updated forecast was released yesterday and flood sheets for the Winnipeg River and Eastern Region will be released starting today.
- The state of local emergency issued by Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks for Whiteshell Provincial Park remains. Widespread high water levels continue to pose a threat to travel and to public safety. Manitobans should not travel into the Whiteshell Provincial Park area. Many highways are flooded, making travel conditions treacherous. Details are available at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com) or by calling 511.

## Transportation and Infrastructure

- Manitoba Parks has issued a mandatory evacuation order and closure from the west entrance at the north end of Whiteshell Provincial Park along Provincial Road (PR) 307 eastward to the junction of PR 307 and PR 309. Affected areas include Sylvia Lake, Eleanor Lake, Otter Falls, Barrier Bay, Nutimik Lake, and Betula Lake. During the period of the closure, no person should reside in or enter the closure area in the park.
- PTH 75 South of Morris was re-opened yesterday. PTH 75 north of Morris will remain closed until water levels recede further, a detour from PTH 75, to PTH 23, to PR 246 is in effect. PTH 23 West of Morris is re-opened today.
- There are still a significant number of provincial and municipal roads that have been damaged or closed in the Parkland region due to flooding. Motorists who need to travel in this area are strongly encouraged to plan their routes before travelling by checking 511 ([www.manitoba511.ca/](http://www.manitoba511.ca/) or by calling 511). Motorists are reminded to stay off of closed roads and to not attempt travel across inundated roads or damaged bridges.
- The Red River Floodway and Portage Diversion continue operation. Provincial crews are deployed to a number of communities in the Red River Valley running pumping operations, monitoring dike closures, and removing closures as water levels recede.
- Manitobans are reminded to stay clear of the Red River floodway inlet and outlet structures, the Portage Diversion gate structures in the Portage Reservoir, and actively flowing spillways on dams. Manitobans are also reminded to stay off waterways in flood stage including creeks, streams, rivers and the floodway. High flows, debris, and cold water temperatures present a significant hazard.
- Current water level data and forecast information is available on the department's website at [https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts\\_reports](https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts_reports).
- Flooding has impacted communities and properties, resulting in damages, mitigation activities and evacuations across southern and central Manitoba. Any questions or concerns about flood mitigation should be directed first to the municipal authority. Questions about forecasts, water levels, provincial waterways, or provincial water control infrastructure can be directed to 204-945-1165 or by email to [floodinfo@gov.mb.ca](mailto:floodinfo@gov.mb.ca).

## Weather

- Much of southern Manitoba, with the exception of the Red River basin and the southeast, received 2-10 mm of precipitation over the last 24 hours. Higher amounts of precipitation, up to 30 mm were received in an area centred on the Riding Mountain and extending to the north, east, south and west.
- The precipitation system is still expected to bring between 20 mm to 40 mm of rain across much southern and central Manitoba over next four days. The Winnipeg River system in Ontario and the Upper Assiniboine River basin in Saskatchewan are also expected to receive this rain during this period as well. This is a dynamic weather system and there is still uncertainty about the amounts and location of precipitation.

- In general, this system is expected to be of low intensity and yield low amounts precipitation each day, although some areas could receive higher amounts and higher intensity of precipitation, up to 70 mm over five days. Some areas could experience thunderstorms and more intense precipitation which could bring a total of more than 100 mm of rain. HFC will continue to provide updates as more information is known.

### Red River Basin

- A flood warning remains for the Red River from Emerson to the Red River Floodway inlet, and from the outlet to Lake Winnipeg. A flood warning also remains for the following Red River tributaries: Shannon Creek, Morris, and Little Morris Rivers.
- The forecasted precipitation may slow the rate that water levels are declining but is not expected to cause any appreciable increases in water levels or flows on the Red River main stem.
- Water Levels on the Red River upstream of Winnipeg, as well as most drains, creeks and tributaries in the Red River basin continue to decline slowly. The river is expected to remain high for an extended duration, well into June.
- The Red River Floodway continues to operate under rule 1 to lower water levels in Winnipeg while keeping water levels at or slightly below natural upstream of the inlet control structure. As of this morning, flow in the Floodway channel was 31,292 cfs (886.09 cms), and flows upstream of the Floodway Inlet are approximately 73,108 cfs (2,070.19 cms). The water level at James Avenue was at 18.4 ft (5.61 m) and the estimated water level that would occur at James Avenue without the operation of the Red River Floodway, Portage Diversion, and Shellmouth Dam is 25.75 ft (7.85 m).
- PTH 75 South of Morris was re-opened yesterday. PTH 75 north of Morris will remain closed until water levels recede further, a detour from PTH 75, to PTH 23, to PR 246 is in effect. PTH 23 West of Morris is re-opened today.
- Provincial crews continue to monitor dike closures in the Red River valley, the current dike closures are in place at locations shown in Table 1. No additional closures are anticipated and crews are removing closures as water levels recede.
- Provincial crews are running pumping operations at to facilitate internal drainage inside ring dike communities. Pumping operations are underway at Noyes, Emerson, West Lynne, Dominion City, Letellier, St. Jean Baptiste, Morris, Rosenort, Riverside, St. Adolphe, St. Agathe, Niverville, and Brunkild.

Table 1: Red River Valley Dike Closure Status

Red River Valley Dike Closure Status - May 28, 2022		
Community	Dike Closures	Status
Emerson	at Noyes	Full closure
West Lynne	North West Lynne	Full closure
St. Jean Baptiste	East at PR 246	Full closure
Morris	North at PTH 75	Full closure
St. Adolphe	North at PR 200	Full closure
	West at Tache Avenue	Full closure
	East at PR 210	Full closure (ramped and open to local traffic)
Ste. Agathe	East at PR 305	Partial closure (PR 305 open)

### Assiniboine River Basin

- The flood warning for the Assiniboine River from Shellmouth Dam to Brandon and on the Little Saskatchewan River remains. A flood watch is in place for the Souris River between the US border and Napinka.
- The department is operating the Shellmouth Dam in compliance with the operating guidelines and in consultation with the Shellmouth Liaison Committee. Outflows were reduced by approximately 500 cfs last night and a further reduction of 500 cfs is planned for today. Lower outflows from the dam will help to alleviate flooding on agricultural land in downstream parts of the valley, but will result in more rapid water level rise on the reservoir. As of this morning, the reservoir water level is at 1,403.7 feet (427.85 m), an increase of 0.4 ft (0.12 m). Inflows to the reservoir are approximately 6,240 cfs (176.70 cms) and outflows are 3,020 cfs (85.52 cms). Dam operations are continuously assessed and outflows may change in response to conditions.
- Water levels and flows on the Little Saskatchewan River continue to recede at most locations but the water levels remain high. Flood forecasters are monitoring the conditions closely and will issue updates, as required.
- There is some flooding of low-lying areas on the Souris River between the US border and Napinka but all other stretches of the river are reported to be within bank.
- The Portage Diversion is operating to limit discharge to the Lower Assiniboine from the Portage Reservoir to approximately 10,000 cfs, in accordance with the operating guidelines. As of this morning, flow down the diversion channel is 6,003 cfs (170.00 cms) and flow on the lower Assiniboine River just east of Portage La Prairie is 9,676 cfs (273.99 cms).

### Whitemud River

- A flood warning remains for the Whitemud River near Woodside. Water levels and flows on the river are dropping but the river remains high near Woodside and Westbourne.

### Eastern Region

- A flood warning remains for the Winnipeg River and the Whiteshell lakes area. A flood watch remains for the Roseau River.
- The forecast precipitation over the next four days is also expected to affect the Whiteshell lakes area and the Winnipeg River basin upstream in Ontario. Very high flows and water levels are being experienced on the Winnipeg River and other lakes and rivers in this area and the expected precipitation will cause them to rise further. Manitoba Hydro measures water levels and flows on waterways contributing to the provincial hydro-electric system and provides a 14-day forecast at [https://hydro.mb.ca/corporate/facilities/water\\_levels/](https://hydro.mb.ca/corporate/facilities/water_levels/). An updated forecast was released yesterday and flood sheets for the Winnipeg River and Eastern Region will be released starting today.
- The state of local emergency issued by Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks for Whiteshell Provincial Park remains. Widespread high water levels continue to pose a threat to travel and to public safety. Manitobans should not travel into the Whiteshell Provincial Park area. Many highways are flooded, making travel conditions treacherous. Details are available at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).
- Manitoba Parks has issued a mandatory evacuation order and closure from the west entrance at the north end of Whiteshell Provincial Park along Provincial Road (PR) 307 eastward to the junction of PR 307 and PR 309. Affected areas include Sylvia Lake, Eleanor Lake, Otter Falls, Barrier Bay, Nutimik Lake, and Betula Lake. During the period of the closure, no person should reside in or enter the closure area in the park.
- The evacuation order and closures apply to all cottage subdivisions, commercial areas, campgrounds, group use, day use, recreational and picnic areas, playgrounds, trails and beaches. The order also includes immediate closure of all backcountry campsites in Whiteshell Provincial Park.

### Parkland Region

- A flood warning for Dauphin Lake and a flood watch for Mossy River remains. The level of Dauphin Lake has exceeded flood stage and is expected to remain above flood stage until the end of June with normal weather conditions.
- There are still a significant number of provincial and municipal roads that have been damaged or closed in the Parkland region due to flooding. Motorists who need to travel in this area are strongly encouraged to plan their routes before travelling by checking 511 ([www.manitoba511.ca/](http://www.manitoba511.ca/) or by calling 511). Motorists are reminded to stay off of closed roads and to not attempt travel across inundated roads or damaged bridges.
- Pumping operations continue to provide internal drainage at the community of Ste. Rose du Lac.

### Manitoba Lakes

- The northern portion of the north basin of Lake Winnipeg has some ice remaining but it is degrading quickly, most other lakes are ice-free.

- A Manitoba Lakes flood sheet will be released today.
- Outflow from Lake Manitoba through the Fairford River Water Control Structure was increased yesterday and is now approximately 3,920 cfs (111.00 cms). The structure is being operated in accordance with the operating guidelines.
- Lake Winnipeg is at wind eliminated level of 715.35 ft (218.04 m) today, just above the upper end of its operation range. The water level regulation range for Lake Winnipeg is between 711 and 715 feet. Manitoba Hydro is operating its structures at the outlet of Lake Winnipeg to allow for maximum possible outflow from the lake. Provincial officials are collaborating with Manitoba Hydro to monitor conditions and forecasts for the lake.

**\*Definitions**

**Flood Warning:** A flood warning is issued when river or lake levels are exceeding or are expected to be exceeding flood stage within the next 24 hours.

**Flood Watch:** A flood watch is issued when river or lake levels are approaching and likely to reach flood stage, but likely not within the next 24 hours.

**High Water Advisory:** A high water advisory is issued when a heavy storm or high flows are expected and may cause water levels to rise, but not necessarily reach flood stage. A high water advisory can be an early indicator for conditions that may develop into a flood watch or flood warning.