

FLOOD REPORT FOR MANITOBA

May 29, 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
- Rat River
- Roseau River
- Rock Lake on the South Shoreline

Flood Watch*:

- Mossy River
- Souris River, US Border to Napinka

- Forecasters are monitoring a precipitation system that could bring significant rain, between 40 to 60 mm over the next three days with potential for heavy thunderstorms to result in over 60 mm of high intensity precipitation in localized areas. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre is issuing an overland flood warning for the southeast corner of the province, as highlighted in red on figure 1 below, for Monday and Tuesday this week. Water levels on lakes, streams, and drains are high and soils are saturated, intense and heavy rains could result in overland flooding and potential for flash flooding. Depending on the amount and intensity of rain, water levels could rise rapidly and threaten low-lying or nearby properties, as well as roads, crossings, and other infrastructure.
- Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre is issuing a high to severe wind effect alert for Tuesday, May 31 for the south basin of Lake Winnipeg, south basin and southern shorelines of Lake Manitoba, and southern shorelines on Lake Winnipegosis and Dauphin Lake. The system will bring extremely strong, sustained north winds starting on Monday afternoon but increasing significantly Tuesday with gusts up to 80-100 km per hour. The winds will cause water levels to rise by more than five feet along shorelines and cause powerful wave action that will further add to the temporary increase in water levels. Property owners are advised to remain vigilant and take any necessary precautions. A map of the Manitoba Lake Wind Effect Forecast showing the affected areas is available at https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/floodoutlook/forecast_centre/lakes/wind_alert/2022/manitoba_lakes_May_31_2022_WindAlertMap.pdf.

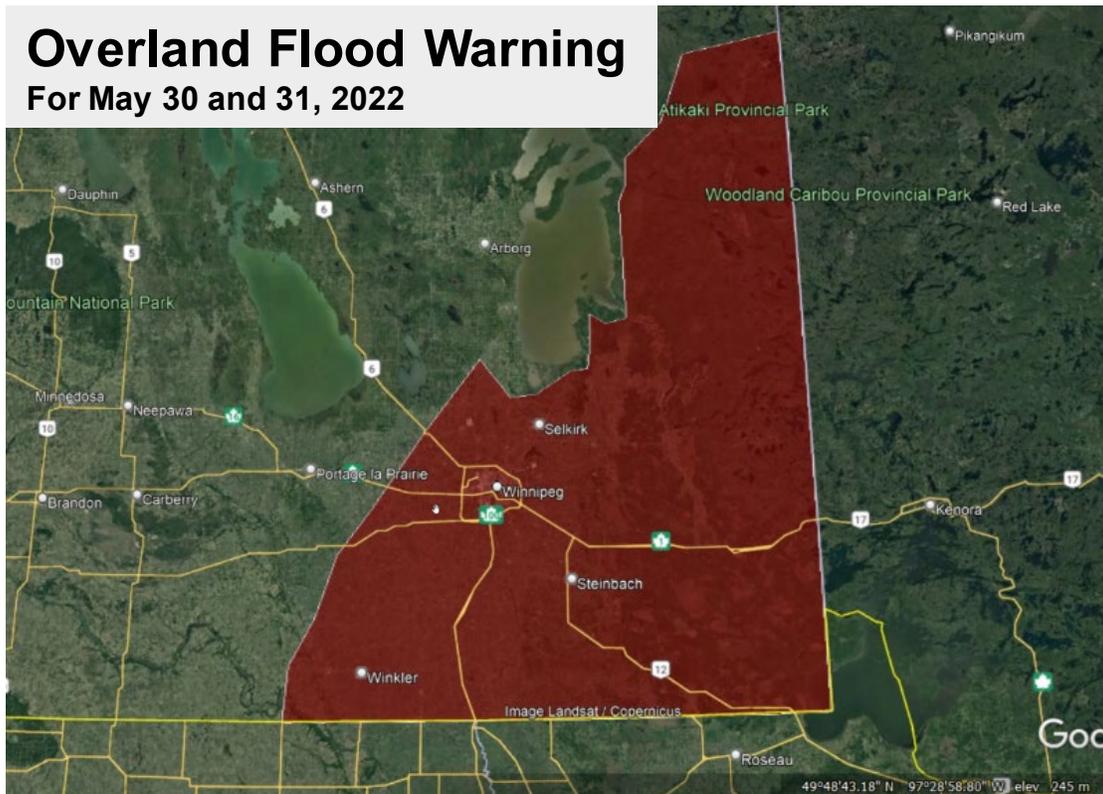


Figure 1: Areas under overland flood warning

Summary

- The forecasted precipitation over the next three days is 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/. Refer to the latest flood sheet on the Department's website for up-to-date information.
- 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 or by calling 511.
- 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.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- PTH 75 South of Morris and PTH 23 West of Morris have been re-opened. 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.
- 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/ 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.
- 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.

Weather

- Forecasters are monitoring a system that could bring significant rain between 40 and 60 mm over the next three days with potential for heavy thunderstorms to result in over 60 mm of high intensity precipitation in localized areas.
- The system will also bring extremely strong, sustained north winds starting on Monday afternoon but increasing and continuing through Tuesday with winds gusting up to 80 to 100 kilometers per hour.

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.
- An overland flood warning is issued for southeastern Manitoba, water levels on streams and drains are high and soils are saturated, heavy rains could result in overland flooding. Depending on the intensity of rain, water levels could rise rapidly and threaten low-lying or nearby properties, as well as road, crossing and other infrastructure.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- If the higher end of the forecasted precipitation is received, water levels and flows on the Red River main stem may increase or stay at where they are for an extended duration.
- 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.
- 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 29,135 cfs (825.01 cms), and flows upstream of the Floodway Inlet are approximately 70,654 cfs (2,000.70 cms). The water level at James Avenue was at 18.3 ft (5.58 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 25.30 ft (7.71 m).
- PTH 75 South of Morris has been re-opened. 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.
- 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.

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 from the dam have been reduced to help 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 1,404.2 feet (428.00 m), an increase of 0.5 ft (0.15 m). Inflows to the reservoir are approximately 6,190 cfs (175.28 cms) and outflows are 2,513 cfs (71.16 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.

Table 1: Red River Valley Dike Closure Status

Red River Valley Dike Closure Status - May 29, 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)

- 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 6,039 cfs (171.01 cms) and flow on the lower Assiniboine River just east of Portage La Prairie is 9,888 cfs (280.0 cms).

Whitemud River

- A flood warning remains for the Whitemud River near Woodside. Water levels and flows at most reaches of the river are steady or dropping except near Woodside and Westbourne where it remains high.

Eastern Region

- An overland flood warning is issued for southeastern Manitoba, water levels on streams and drains are high and soils are saturated, heavy rains could result in overland flooding. Depending on the intensity of rain, water levels could rise rapidly and threaten low-lying or nearby properties, as well as road, crossing and other infrastructure.
- The forecasted wind is also expected to impact lakes in the Whiteshell lakes region and levels are expected to rise between 1 and 2 ft along these lakes.
- A flood warning is issued for the Rat River and remains for the Winnipeg River and the Whiteshell lakes area. The alert for the Roseau River is upgraded to a flood warning.
- The forecast precipitation over the next three days is still 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/. Refer to the latest flood sheet on the Department's website for up-to-date information.

- 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.
- The recent precipitation has resulted in increased water levels on some streams and rivers but there are no flooding concerns at this time.
- 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/ 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 system will bring extremely strong, sustained north winds starting on Monday afternoon but increasing and continuing through Tuesday with winds gusting up to 80 to 100 kilometres per hour. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre is issuing a high wind effect warning for Tuesday, May 31 for south basins of Lake Winnipeg, Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis and Dauphin Lake.
- The winds will cause water levels to rise by up to five feet along shorelines and cause powerful wave action that will further add to the temporary increase in water levels. Residents and property owners are advised to remain vigilant and take any necessary precautions. Areas impacted on lake Winnipeg include the entirety of the shoreline in southern basin, south of Manigotagan on the east side to just south of Riverton on the west side of the lake. For Lake Manitoba, the impacted shoreline includes the areas starting just north of Lundar Beach around the southern basin of the lake to a point near Langruth and portions of the north basin. The southern shorelines of Lake Winnipegosis and Dauphin Lake are also included as part of this wind warning.

- 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.
- 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 715.41 ft (218.06 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.