



Public Notice

Hay River Breakup Update

Saturday May 7th, 2022 – 5:00pm

Last update provided was May 7th, 2022 at 10am.

An evacuation order remains in place for Vale Island / West Channel residents. Any residents still on the island are advised to evacuate. All residents on or off the island are asked to register at our registration centre in person at the Community Centre, through the electronic form at www.hayriver.com/breakup, or by phone at 833-699-0188. Residents in other flood fringe locations within the community should closely monitor conditions.

Water levels remain extremely high with some fluctuations as ice jams and releases. Pushes are now frequently resulting in localized flooding along the West and East Channel areas. Some flooding has occurred along the Water Treatment Plant / Beach Road and in the West Channel community area. Some water breached the West Channel berm today then resided. Some ice crossed the Water Treatment Plant Road as part of the flooding.

Broken ice has flowed through the community during the course of the afternoon with some outflow through the West Channel to the lake. A release past the Paradise Gardens area occurred later this afternoon and is currently moving through Paradise Gardens. It is expected to arrive into the main town overnight. Significant portions of southern ice is anticipated to follow in the coming days.

Water levels and flow rates throughout the entire Hay River basin are very high. Levels at the Hay River border, Steen River, and other areas of the Hay River are peaking and at near historic levels for this period, similar to 2021. The Chinchaga River levels continue to increase. The Great Slave Lake is continuing to rise with over a 20cm increase reported over the last 7 days.

Precipitation forecast for the weekend in Northern Alberta and the Hay River community is extremely high with between 50-70mm forecasted for Hay River. 24mm of rain fell in Hay River between midnight and 7am today. An earlier Snowfall Warning for Hay River has changed to a Rainfall Warning. 30 to 35mm rainfall amounts are expected with a transition to snow overnight. Precipitation is stressing the breakup conditions as well as contributing to high levels of surface water in the community.

For daily updates on breakup delivered to your email, subscribe to the Town of Hay River's Emergency Measures Email system at www.hayriver.com/breakup. Please check your Junk Mailbox if not receiving notices.

Water bulletins issued by the Department of ENR with detailed information on Hay River conditions can be found at <https://www.enr.gov.nt.ca/en/newsroom>.