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For Immediate Release

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Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is maintaining a **Flood Outlook** for the Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 3:00 PM today. This statement will remain in effect until 10:00 AM, April 19.

A Colorado Low will bring significant precipitation to much of the region beginning Wednesday morning. This system is forecast to bring 30-50 mm of rain in the next 48 hours followed by light precipitation through the coming Easter weekend.

Current water levels and flows on all watercourses in the Greater Sudbury area are already high due to the recent rain and snowmelt. There are still patches of snow left in the upper reaches of our watersheds. If the forecast rainfall is received over a short period, the water levels will rise quickly and can overtop the banks causing flooding. Smaller and urbanized watercourses like Junction Creek will react much more quickly to high-intensity rainfall than larger rivers will. The inundation of low-lying areas adjacent to watercourses with a history of flooding is expected.

Public safety is the number one priority, especially for children who may be attracted to the edge of creeks or rivers. The cold, fast-flowing water must be avoided. Stream banks will be very slippery and unsafe and must be avoided. Any open-water areas will continue to widen and these must also be avoided.

Developing conditions must be closely monitored by all residents especially those living in known low-lying, hazard areas where overland flooding could become an issue.

Conservation Sudbury remains in direct contact with the City of Greater Sudbury and all other partners as required. Conservation Sudbury staff continues with the monitoring of water levels; updates will be provided as required. For more information please visit ConservationSudbury.ca

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Conservation Sudbury issues five types of messages, depending on conditions:



Normal

No flood conditions to report.



Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors that could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.



Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook

Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions that could lead to high runoff, cause ice jams, lakeshore flooding or erosion.



Flood Watch

Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.



Flood Warning

Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities