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For Immediate Release

Issued: May 8, 2019

Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is issuing a Watershed Condition Statement - **Flood Outlook** for all Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 10:00 a.m., May 8, 2019. This statement will remain in effect until 10:00 a.m., May 14, 2019.

According to Environment Canada, a weather system is forecast to move in tonight bringing significant precipitation across northeastern Ontario. This system is expected to bring 20 - 50 mm of rain in the next 48 hours with night time temperatures remaining above freezing.

Current water levels and flows on large rivers are high but seasonal. There are still patches of snowpack left in the upper reaches of the watersheds, if the forecast rainfall is received over the next 48 hours, this will impact the runoff situation. The combination of rainfall and snowmelt will produce significant runoff resulting in higher flows and water levels. Smaller and urbanized watercourses like Junction Creek will react much more quickly to high intensity rainfall than larger rivers will.

The 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.

Public safety is absolutely 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. Open water areas often found at the edges of ice-covered lakes will continue to widen and these must also be avoided.

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

For more information please visit ConservationSudbury.ca

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For More Information Contact:

Managing our watersheds today - for tomorrow
Gérons nos bassins hydrographiques aujourd'hui, pour demain

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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