



Moose Factory Island Fire & Rescue

River Surveillance Update #5 - May 4, 2014

Time: 9:20am to 10:30am

Good morning/afternoon Moosonee/Moose Factory,
Another flight was conducted at 9:30am this morning and lasted approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes. Our concern for our flight was to check on the current location of breakup and the water levels behind it.

The location of break-up, during our flight was at mileage 151 (Tommyville). The leading edge of breakup is approximately 100 yards upstream from this camp site. The ice jam is approximately 5 miles long with high water levels behind the leading edge of break-up and pack ice. This is expected when breakup stops. All low lying areas along the river banks are experiencing over bank flooding associated with breakup as it travels downstream. The river behind the ice jam is clear as far as we had travelled which was up to the Missinaibe River and Mattagami River. We had climbed up to and over 1,000 feet to observe open water upstream of both waterways.

Missinaibe River is clear and the water levels have dropped considerably.

Mattagami River is clear and the water levels have dropped considerably

Abitibi River has had no significant change, but have noticed increased open sections within this river.

North French River's current location of breakup is about ¼ of a mile upstream from the mouth of this river. The water levels in this waterway are moderate to high with gradually increasing flow rates to help push the ice out and in to the Moose River. There will be 2-3 ice flows coming out of this waterway due to open stretches of water that are approximately 10-15 miles apart.

Kwatabohegan River: remains intact with open sections and the water levels remain high and the flow rates remain high. (Increasing daily)

Cheepash River has broken up to the mouth and extends passed the train crossing. The water levels and flow rates are moderate to high.

Moose River water levels are significantly increasing and the flow rates are increasing around Moose Factory and Moosonee. This waterway is intact up to mileage 151 at the time of flight, with open sections along all shorelines and where there is fast moving water.

Due to the rapidly increasing water levels behind the breakup, we can expect to see breakup near the Town of Moosonee and Moose Factory within the next 12-72 hours.

Please take the time to remind your children to remain clear of breakup when it reaches Moosonee/Moose Factory.

Have a great afternoon Moosonee/Moose Factory

Curt Wesley – Moose Factory Emergency Operations Coordinator
Steve Crown – Moosonee Community Emergency Management Coordinator