

## Flood Warning

### Sault Ste. Marie / Blind River District – Goulais River

Tuesday, April 29, 2025  
1:30 PM

The Ministry of Natural Resources – Sault Ste. Marie/Blind River District is advising area residents that a Flood Warning remains in effect for the District until Tuesday, May 06, 2025 at 12:00 pm.

Residents throughout the District, especially those located in the Goulais River watershed area, should keep a close watch on water conditions, and stay away from fast-moving rivers and streams. **Residents within the Goulais River watershed are advised that river conditions should be monitored closely as water levels can change very quickly with runoff from recent melting and rainfall events.**

The Ministry is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

##### Description of Weather System

Rain ends today with further rain possible for Thursday/Friday (approx. 10mm). Daytime temperatures will reach highs of +8°C to +11°C over the next four days with cooler nighttime lows of -1°C to -5°C. Temperatures are expected to increase to 16°C by Sunday and with positive temperatures prevailing overnight. This pattern is expected to melt the majority of the remaining snowpack.

##### Description of Current Conditions

Water levels and stream flows across the region are elevated from spring snow melt and recent precipitation events. The depth of snowpack throughout the District remains high especially in areas lying north of Goulais River and Searchmont. Snowpack measurements indicate depths of approximately 27 cm, with an average water equivalent exceeding 95 mm in the northern portion of the watershed. These values are well above the long-term average and increase the likelihood of above normal runoff due to melting and precipitation.

Water levels for the Goulais River are currently above flood critical threshold parameters and continue to rise. Moderate flooding is presently occurring in low lying areas with some residences surrounded by flood waters and necessitated the closure of several area roads. Continued localized flooding in low lying areas with a history of flooding is a possibility. Further risks include fast moving frigid waters with rapidly changing conditions. A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

## DEFINITIONS

- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that high flows, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for such users as boaters, anglers and swimmers but flooding is not expected.
- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds, or other conditions.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that **along the Great Lakes shorelines high water**, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding **along the Great Lakes shorelines** based on weather and lake conditions, and water safety information.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities.
- **FLOOD WARNING:** flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities.

## LEARN MORE

- Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage [www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre](http://www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre)
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www.weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment and Climate Change Canada is recommended.

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