

For Immediate Release | January 10, 2019

IH removes water advisory for North Thompson after diesel spill

Residents who draw water from the North Thompson River, between 11 kilometres north of Avola, down through Clearwater to the confluence of the North Thompson and Clearwater Rivers, are advised they can resume regular use of their private water systems.

The advisory was placed on the water users after a semi-trailer unit crashed on Highway 5 on Jan. 5, spilling diesel fuel into the North Thompson River from a punctured fuel tank. This was the second spill on the river. The first took place on Dec. 31, 2018.

Water sampling conducted by Ministry of Environment, an environmental consultant, and the Thompson Nicola Regional District have all shown that the risk of contamination from the spill to the river is low.

However, if users notice any changes in the water, such as a fuel odour or an oil-sheen in the water, they are advised to stop using the water and have their water [tested](#).

The Avola (Improvement District) water system was not impacted by this spill. However, it remains on a pre-existing [Boil Water Notice](#).

In general, surface water sources have a higher chance of external contamination and Interior Health recommends having your water tested regularly and installing treatment if necessary.

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