



ESS WATCH



September
2004

LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

The Environment Canada forecasts for September, October, and November are:

Precipitation: The forecast indicates normal level of precipitation for the North West portion of the province with the remainder of BC expected to receive above normal precipitation for the next three months.

Temperature: The entire province is forecast to continue to receive higher than normal temperatures for this period of the forecast.

EMERGENCIES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

Recent emergencies and their aftermath's affecting large numbers of people and property include but certainly not limited to:

- Hurricanes
 - August 13 – Florida – Hurricane Charley – Category 4, 28 people killed, 2 million people were evacuated, over 12,000 homes destroyed, 20,000 homes severely damaged, \$11 billion dollars damage.
- Floods
 - July 24 - 25 – North Korea – 24 people killed, over 39,000 people homeless, over 24,000 homes damaged.
 - July 27 - 30 – Romania – 2 people killed, 2 missing, over 14,000 impacted, 4,955 homes destroyed or damaged.
 - August 25 – Philippines – 43 people killed, 1.6 million affected.
- Man made Disaster
 - August 9 – Japan – non-radioactive steam leaked from a nuclear power plant north of Kyoto, killing 4 workers and severely burning 7 others.
- Earthquakes
 - August 10 – China – magnitude 5.6 – 4 killed, 594 people injured, 126,000 left homeless, 18,556 houses collapsed, over 65,000 buildings damaged, almost 100 aftershocks, 22 dams at risk.

- Severe Weather
 - August 12 – China – Typhoon Ranim – 164 people killed, 24 missing, 1,800 injured, 470,000 people evacuated, 64,300 homes damaged or destroyed. Strongest storm to hit China in almost 50 years.
- Forest Fire
 - July and August – British Columbia – Over 6,000 people were put on evacuation alerts over the summer, 2,300 fires consumed almost 215,000 Ha.

Highlighted Website of the Month

Your eyes are not deceiving you, we are so pleased with the return of the ESS website that we are repeating the announcement from last month.

The revised ESS website has a new, fresh look with all the valuable information that was there before including new material like the Reception Centre Operational Guidelines based on BCERMS. Please feel free to browse the many pages of the site and let us know of any additions or corrections that you find necessary. Enjoy your visit to either of the following internet link sites:

<http://www.ess.bc.ca> or <http://www.mhr.gov.bc.ca/ess/>

If your ESS team and/or community have a website relating to your ESS program please let David Tomaz (email David.Tomaz@gems6.gov.bc.ca) know about it. We will post the site addresses through this publication to let other volunteers know about you and your local programs.

ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
August 2004	88	22 separate house fires
	3	1 dangerous goods
	20	1 landslide
	20	1 hostage taking
	131	
July 2004	32	10 separate house fires
	20	1 separate apartment fire
	1	1 armed stand off
	134	2 forest fire
	20	1 hydrate fire fighters
	207	
June 2004	69	22 separate house fires
	35	2 separate apartment fires
	26	1 apartment evacuation
	13	1 forest fire
	40	1 armed stand off
	183	
May 2004	62	22 separate house fire
	10	2 floods
	91	3 separate apartment fire
	2	1 crime scene investigation
	165	
April 2004	86	25 separate house fires
	64	3 separate apartment fires
	150	
March 2004 revised	81	33 separate house fires
	180	2 separate apartment fires
	261	
February 2004	69	27 separate house fires
	248	4 separate apartment fires
	3	1 police incident
	320	
January 2004	111	42 separate house fires
	2	1 flooding
	45	1 propane leak
	158	
Total – 2004	1,575	234 separate incidents

DETAILED ESS INCIDENTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

The following information is intended as a “snapshot” of recent ESS activity:

2004	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
Aug 1	House Fire	5	Vancouver
Aug 2	House Fire	11	Vancouver
Aug 2	House Fire	2	Abbotsford
Aug 3	House Fire	4	Prince George
Aug 3	House Fire	8	Surrey
Aug 6	Dangerous Goods	3	Burnaby
Aug 7	Landslide	20	Creston
Aug 8	House Fire	1	Burnaby
Aug 8	House Fire	5	Prince Rupert
Aug 9	House Fire	3	Fort Nelson
Aug 12	House Fire	1	Saanich
Aug 12	House Fire	4	Mission
Aug 14	Hostage Taking	20	Penticton
Aug 15	House Fire	1	Port McNeill
Aug 17	House Fire	2	Prince George
Aug 17	Hydrate Responders		Vancouver
Aug 20	House Fire	4	Kamloops
Aug 20	House Fire	1	Morisetown
Aug 21	House Fire	11	Vancouver
Aug 21	House Fire	1	Vancouver
Aug 25	House Fire	2	Nakusp
Aug 26	House Fire	6	Saanich
Aug 28	House Fire	4	Saanich
Aug 30	House Fire	4	Kelowna
Aug 30	House Fire	6	Esquimalt
Aug 31	House Fire	2	Castlegar
	TOTAL	131	

Your feedback is important to us at the ESS Program Office.
Please send your comments, questions or tips to David Tomaz,
Provincial ESS Coordinator,
at 1-800-585-9559, by fax at 250-356-9129 or e-mail at David.Tomaz@gems6.gov.bc.ca.