

## LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

The Environment Canada forecasts for April, May and June are not yet available and the website still shows the information listed below:

### Precipitation:

The probability maps show nearly the entire province as below normal levels of precipitation. The only area showing normal is the northwest portion adjacent to the Alaskan Pan Handle.

### Temperature:

The map for temperature is again showing the province nearly entirely covered with anticipated above normal temperature ranges for the period noted above. The only area in the normal range appears to be east of the Central Okanagan region to the Alberta border.

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## EMERGENCIES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

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

- Severe Weather
  - March 25 – Bangladesh – a week of tornadoes and high gale winds has resulted in 83 deaths and an estimated 100,000 left without shelter. Of the 83 casualties at least 5 are resulting from lightning strikes.
- Floods
  - March 10 – Angola – torrential rains that have resulted in flooding has destroyed 300 homes and damaged another 1,200 others. Estimates of 10,000 people affected by the regional flooding.
  - March 21 – Madagascar – rain initially started to fall in early March and now has affected an estimated 58,700 people. In the second situation report there are 25 deaths and more than 8,300 displaced people in various regions of the country.

- Earthquakes
  - March 09 – South Africa – there was a quake measuring 5.3 on the Richter scale in the area of Stilfontein. There were unclear numbers of people left homeless in two nearby towns but the greatest reported impact was on a mining operation that had up to 42 men initially trapped.
  - March 13 – Iran – a quake in the Saravan area measured 5.9 on the Richter scale. Although 21,912 are reported to have been affected by the quake there are no significant reports of damage or injury.
  - March 14 – Turkey – Bingol province felt a 5.9 quake early this day. Although there are no reports of death or injury there was some damage that resulted in tents being distributed to ward off cold evening temperatures.
  - March 28 – Indonesia – again this devastated region has experienced a quake measuring 8.7 on the Richter scale. There are still many unconfirmed reports of damage and deaths coming out of this region but there was no tsunami generated by this event. The fear of this occurrence has led to some injuries and evacuations. Initial reports state that there are approximately 200 deaths and over 300 injured with close 20,000 displaced from their homes.

## HIGHLIGHTED WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

There have been a number of changes to the Provincial Emergency Program website recently. The site is loaded with a number of links and information bulletins that will be useful to many readers.

Enjoy your visit to the following internet link site:

<http://www.pep.bc.ca/>

*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](mailto: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.*

## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
March 2005	65	19 separate house fires
	33	3 apartment fires
	1	1 flood
	99	
February 2005 revised	90	17 separate house fires
	50	1 apartment fire
	7	3 floods
	2	1 collapsed roof
	149	
January 2005	247	31 separate house fires
	405	3 landslides
	282	7 flood
	934	
<b>Total – 2005</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>86 separate incidents</b>

## DETAILED ESS INCIDENTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

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

2005	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
Mar 1	House Fire	1	Courtenay
Mar 1	House Fire	4	Penticton
Mar 5	Flood	1	Moricetown
Mar 6	House Fire	12	Williams Lake
Mar 9	House Fire	2	Saltspring Island
Mar 11	House Fire	1	Vancouver
Mar 12	House Fire	2	Saanich
Mar 13	House Fire	7	Mission
Mar 15	House Fire	1	Quesnel
Mar 17	House Fire	5	Courtenay
Mar 17	House Fire	2	Vancouver
Mar 21	House Fire	4	Langley
Mar 22	Apartment Fire	13	Creston
Mar 26	Apartment Fire	12	Vernon
Mar 26	House Fire	1	Port McNeill
Mar 27	House Fire	3	Prince George
Mar 27	House Fire	4	Surrey
Mar 27	Apartment Fire	8	Burnaby
Mar 28	House Fire	4	Squamish

2005	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
Mar 29	House Fire	2	Vernon
Mar 29	House Fire	3	Chilliwack
Mar 29	House Fire	6	Nanaimo
Mar 30	House Fire	1	Kelowna
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99</b>	

**This publication is also available on the ESS website at  
<http://www.mhr.gov.bc.ca/ess/watch.htm>**

**Your feedback is important to us at the ESS Program Office.  
Please send your comments, questions or tips to  
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