



ESS WATCH



Issue #57

January
2005

LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

The Environment Canada forecasts for January, February and March are:

Unchanged from last month's ESS Watch report as no new information has been posted on the website at the time of printing this newsletter.

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
 - Dec 4 – Albania – very heavy rainfall resulted in 500 families being evacuated in a number of communities. There were also an estimated 1500 hectares of agricultural land impacted by the flooding. The flood control manifolds had been tampered with and modified by local residents and resulted in their failures which then resulted in greater damage.
 - Dec 30 – California – winter storms has resulted in a number of alerts and some evacuations in the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles areas. The alerts were in anticipation of mudslides due to the significant fires of last year.
- Earthquakes
 - Dec 26 – Sumatra – the most devastating natural disaster of 2004 has occurred in this Asia Pacific region as a result of the 8.9 magnitude earthquake. This was the largest quake in at least 40 years for this region and the resulting Tsunami wreaked the greatest damage and loss of life. In areas as far away as 4000 km the wave that was generated by the earthquake has been observed and caused damage. The toll at time of this printing has exceeded 146,000 with still many people lost and unaccounted for in many regions surrounding the epicentre of the quake.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 2005

As we enter into the New Year the staff here at the ESS Program Office have a couple of goals for 2005 that are fun and are intended to be beneficial to all members of our ESS communities.

1. We would like to request that all ESS teams that have either a pin, patch or a badge created for their communities ESS team please send us one of them. We are going to create an ESS team display board here at the ESS Program Office of all the communities that participate. This display may then possibly be used in promotions or recognition activities.
2. We would request that all ESS Directors double check their team lists and ensure that all the community volunteers are registered with PEP as an ESS volunteer. This will ensure that the proper liability and WCB coverage is available to them at times of activation as well as provide a more accurate count of the number of valuable volunteers we have in this province doing such valuable work as ESS.

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ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
December 2004	121	42 separate house fires
	38	1 apartment fire
	30	1 hotel fire
	20	1 police evacuation
	6	1 landslide
	215	
November 2004	98	26 separate house fires
	50	1 separate apartment fire
	50	1 armed stand off
	3	1 stranded travellers
	5	1 landslide
	206	
October 2004	44	18 separate house fires
	55	2 separate apartment fires
	10	1 apartment evacuation
	109	
September 2004	34	13 separate house fires
	35	1 separate apartment fires
	400	2 gas leaks
	469	

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	2,574	347 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
Dec 1	House Fire	3	Surrey
Dec 2	House Fire	2	Surrey
Dec 2	House Fire	4	Vancouver
Dec 4	House Fire	2	Richmond
Dec 7	House Fire	2	Creston
Dec 7	House Fire	4	Courtenay
Dec 8	House Fire	3	Richmond
Dec 9	House Fire	6	Vanderhoof
Dec 10	House Fire	2	Kamloops
Dec 11	House Fire	0	Abbotsford
Dec 11	Landslide	6	Whistler
Dec 12	House Fire	0	Vancouver
Dec 13	House Fire	2	Burnaby
Dec 13	House Fire	1	Smithers
Dec 14	House Fire	1	Taylor
Dec 14	House Fire	4	Abbotsford
Dec 15	House Fire	3	Saanich
Dec 15	House Fire	1	Vancouver
Dec 16	House Fire	7	Kamloops
Dec 17	House Fire	1	Westbank
Dec 17	House Fire	4	Cumberland
Dec 17	House Fire	3	Creston
Dec 18	House Fire	2	Mission
Dec 18	House Fire	2	Kelowna
Dec 18	House Fire	4	Chilliwack
Dec 19	House Fire	1	Saanich
Dec 22	House Fire	1	Kelowna
Dec 22	House Fire	4	Nelson
Dec 22	House Fire	3	Prince George
Dec 23	House Fire	3	Delta
Dec 25	House Fire	2	Kamloops

2004	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
Dec 25	House Fire	9	Richmond
Dec 25	House Fire	4	Port Alberni
Dec 25	House Fire	5	Abbotsford
Dec 26	Hotel Fire	30	Qualicum Beach
Dec 28	Police Evacuation	20	Richmond
Dec 28	House Fire	7	Abbotsford
Dec 28	House Fire	3	Langley
Dec 29	House Fire	2	Creston
Dec 29	House Fire	2	Chilliwack
Dec 30	House Fire	1	Courtenay
Dec 30	House Fire	6	Westbank
Dec 30	House Fire	2	Fort Nelson
Dec 30	House Fire	2	Vancouver
Dec 31	House Fire	1	Castlegar
Dec 31	Apartment Fire	38	Victoria
TOTAL		215	

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