

## LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

The Environment Canada forecasts for July, August and September are:

Precipitation:

The prediction map showed approximately 60% of the province is to receive below normal moisture. The Queen Charlotte Islands will get above normal and the remainder of the province will be expected to see normal levels. Given the recent past this is a difficult forecast to understand.

Temperature:

This prediction map is very simple in that the entire province (entire country actually) is expected to experience above normal temperatures.

---

## EMERGENCIES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

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

- Floods
  - June – Western Canada – no distinct province or community identified here because the high level of rain experienced in Alberta was also felt in Saskatchewan and Manitoba either in the form of rain or run off from the rains. Southern Alberta experienced significant flood damages and thousands of people evacuated in a number of communities. It is known that the BC Salvation Army Community Crisis Response Units (CCRU- mobile canteens) were used in the area to feed responders and evacuees. The recovery phase has now been initiated in a number of communities and organizations (Mennonite Disaster Services and Christian Reformed World Relief Committee) that are members of BC's Provincial Integrated Recovery Council (PIRC) are active in these communities' recovery. The high waters then moved into southern Saskatchewan causing flooding there where a number of people were also evacuated. The high level of water even affected communities in Manitoba recently but no details were available at time of printing.

- June 30 – New York State – two hundred homes were evacuated following a dam failure in the northern part of the state. Fortunately the damage was light and only resulted in low level flooding and road closures.
  - June – Pakistan – at least 10,000 people have been affected by flooding in the North West Frontier Province of this country. There have been reports of at least 5 deaths in this region also as a result of the flooding event.
  - June – Korea – flash flooding and landslides have resulted from very severe rainfall. There are reports of over 16,000 people being displaced in the middle of the night as a result of this event. There are casualty reports of 88 people, 205 injured and 105 still missing.
  - Severe Weather
    - June - El Salvador – more than 5,000 people have been affected by the heavy long rain period. There are reports of 39 deaths resulting from the severe weather that caused flash floods, landslides and accidents. There are a reported 600 people being housed in temporary shelters due to this event and damage to homes.
  - Volcano
    - June 2 – Papua New Guinea – the volcano Langila has erupted sending ash into the sky. Initially the prevailing winds had the ash falling into the ocean but there are directional changes and some estimated 10,000 people are in the vicinity of the volcano. Increased reports of respiratory problems have risen.
  - Earthquake
    - June 13 – Chile – a magnitude 7.9 quake was experienced in the mountain and desert regions. There was extensive damage to communities in the area. The quake affected approximately 6,000 mostly isolated indigenous peoples but some 12 people are reported dead and hundreds injured. There are 1,400 homes damaged and many power and communication outages.
- 

## **WEBSITE OF THE MONTH**

As we approach the summer period of the calendar year we here in British Columbia look to the activity of our Forest Protection Branch for the latest news regarding forest fire activity. Here is the internet address for the “Wildfire News” that has a wealth of information from this branch of the provincial government that is full of good information and current news:

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/pScripts/Protect/WildfireNews/index.asp>

---

## **ESS Program Office IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

In the course of appointing a new cabinet for the Government of BC, a number of responsibilities were reassigned to different ministries. The ESS Program Office has been advised that responsibility for ESS will now come under the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. There are no further details available at this time, however, we wanted to let all ESS teams and other stakeholders know that everyone will be advised as soon as we have more information.

In either case, we intend to post the most current information we have in this regard on our web site ([www.ess.bc.ca](http://www.ess.bc.ca)), so you may want to check it periodically for updates. In the meantime, business will continue as usual.

---

## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
June 2005	123	28 separate house fires
	12	1 bus crash
	unknown	1 police evacuation
	50	1 dangerous goods
185		
May 2005 (revised)	70	20 separate house fires
	8	1 flooded home (broken pipes)
	78	
April 2005	79	19 separate house fires
	53	2 police evacuation
	5	1 house destroyed by vehicle
	137	
March 2005	65	19 separate house fires
	33	3 apartment fires
	1	1 flood
	99	
February 2005	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>1,582</b>	<b>160 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
June 2	House Fire	12	Richmond
June 4	House Fire	2	Saanich
June 6	House Fire	2	Comox
June 6	House Fire	2	Parksville
June 6	House Fire	2	Vancouver
June 6	House Fire	2	Vancouver

2005	Incident	# of people assisted	Community
June 7	House Fire	8	Cranbrook
June 7	House Fire	4	Vernon
June 8	House Fire	22	Chilliwack
June 10	House Fire	1	Port Alberni
June 13	House Fire	1	Chilliwack
June 14	House Fire	5	Langford
June 16	House Fire	5	Dawson Creek
June 18	House Fire	1	Maple Ridge
June 19	House Fire	8	Chilliwack
June 21	House Fire	2	Slocan
June 22	Police Evacuation	Unknown	Squamish
June 23	House Fire	5	Surrey
June 24	Bus Crash	12	Whistler
June 24	House Fire	3	Williams Lake
June 25	House Fire	3	Vancouver
June 25	House Fire	4	Kelowna
June 25	House Fire	5	Richmond
June 26	House Fire	3	Surrey
June 27	Dangerous Goods	50	Quesnel
June 27	House Fire	5	Delta
June 28	House Fire	2	Vancouver
June 28	House Fire	3	Maple Ridge
June 28	House Fire	7	Saanich
June 30	House Fire	1	Kelowna
June 30	House Fire	3	Bella Coola
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185</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

David Tomaz, Provincial ESS Coordinator,

at 1-800-585-9559,

by fax at 250-356-9129

or e-mail at [David.Tomaz@gov.bc.ca](mailto:David.Tomaz@gov.bc.ca).