

LONG RANGE PROVINCIAL FORECAST

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

Precipitation:

According to Environment Canada the Queen Charlotte Islands and central and northeast BC will experience above normal moisture. The Kootneys and the northern most of the northwest are expected to get below normal levels. Vancouver Island, southwest and the interior are to receive normal amounts of precipitation.

Temperature:

The forecast for the entire province 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
 - August 19 – Sierra Leone – heavy rains have devastated a string of villages in southern regions. Estimates of 3,000 people affected in 19 villages and unconfirmed reports of 20 deaths resulting from the flooding.
 - August 4 – Macedonia – flooding has affected 2,000 people in the region. No direct reports of injury or damages were made available.
- Earthquake
 - August 16 – Japan – a magnitude 7.2 earthquake was felt in the Miyagi state. There were reports of building damages and injuries but fortunately no fatalities and a very minor tsunami resulted from the earthquake.

- Interface Forest Fires
 - August 4 – Indonesia – a combination of deep peat fires, slash and burn agricultural fires and wildfires had created a significant haze problem in population centres. Breathing masks and advisories to remain indoors were issued by authorities.
 - August 9 – Oliver BC – an accidentally human ignited wildfire resulted in an evacuation alert to be created and 31 residents voluntarily evacuated the area.
 - August 27 – Kelowna – a wildfire resulted in an evacuation of 536 residents. No homes were damaged or lost.
- Tornadoes
 - August 19 – Wisconsin – a number of touchdown tornadoes resulted in significant damage to infrastructure and destroying at least 15 homes. There was also one death reported in Stoughton.
 - August 19 – Wyoming – a force 2 tornado killed two people and destroyed more than 80 homes in the northeast community of 1300 people.
- Hurricanes
 - August 29 – Louisiana and Mississippi – death toll from Hurricane Katrina is now at 126 and expected to rise possibly into the thousands. The damage is estimated in the billions of dollars (\$16-25 billion). An estimated two million customers reportedly have lost power. Authorities report that 80 percent of the City of New Orleans is under water. Some 60,000 people are awaiting evacuation from New Orleans.

ESS Office

IMPORTANT UPDATE

We have arrived! The ESS Office has completed the move to our new location at the PEP Headquarters in Victoria. Resulting from the move are some changes in contact information. Our new mailing address is

**Emergency Social Services
Provincial Emergency Program
PO Box 9201, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J1**

Our **1-800-585-9559** stays but our direct lines have changed and due to the ongoing labour dispute at Telus these may be temporary so please check back for updates. None of the phones direct lines have voice mail.

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Maggie Grant (250) 952-4906
David Tomaz (250) 952-4541
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Karinne Jordan (250) 952-4308
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We will continue to post the most current information available regarding the transfer of ESS to PEP on the web site (www.ess.bc.ca), so please check it periodically for updates.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF ESS ACTIVITY

Date	# of Persons Assisted	Event
August 2005	40	15 separate house fires
	567	2 forest fires
	40	1 gas leak
	77	1 apartment fire
	34	1 police evacuation
	758	
July 2005	54	20 separate house fires
	unknown	1 flood
	unknown	1 gas leak
	54	
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	
Total – 2005	2,394	202 separate incidents

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
Aug 3	House Fire	1	Sechelt
Aug 3	House Fire	3	Mission
Aug 4	House Fire	4	Vancouver
Aug 5	House Fire	1	Abbotsford
Aug 5	House Fire	2	Penticton
Aug 6	House Fire	4	Abbotsford
Aug 7	House Fire	3	Hope
Aug 8	House Fire	6	Kelowna
Aug 9	House Fire	5	Vancouver
Aug 9	Forest Fire	31	Oliver
Aug 10	House Fire	1	Chilliwack
Aug 15	Police Evacuation	34	Chase
Aug 16	House Fire	3	Vancouver
Aug 18	House Fire	1	Duncan
Aug 19	Gas Leak	40	Lumby
Aug 20	House Fire	3	Courtenay
Aug 20	House Fire	1	Hope
Aug 21	House Fire	2	Esquimalt
Aug 21	Apartment Fire	77	Kelowna
Aug 27	Forest Fire	536	Kelowna
	TOTAL	758	

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 Office.
Please send your comments, questions or tips to
David Tomaz, Provincial ESS Coordinator,
at 1-800-585-9559,
by fax at 250-952-4888
or e-mail at David.Tomaz@gov.bc.ca.