

**PROVINCIAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTRE
FLOODING SITUATION OVERVIEW
March 12, 2007 09:15 Hrs**

OVERVIEW

A subtropical rain storm struck the South Coast, Vancouver Island and the Interior bringing high temperatures and heavy precipitation. There was widespread local flooding yesterday in the Lower Mainland and southern Interior creating some mudslides, rock slides and the potential for avalanche danger.

The heavy rainfall has now ended; most small streams have reached their peak and water levels are dropping. However, warm temperatures and residual run-off from rain and melting snow are still creating some flood concerns.

RESPONSE STATUS

The River Forecast Centre (Ministry of Environment) is monitoring the situation and providing updates as necessary.

The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) (in Victoria) and Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centres (PREOCs) in Southwest (Surrey), and Vancouver Island (Victoria) are activated to support local governments.

The following local governments activated Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs): Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, Langley and Maple Ridge.

Rainfall warnings have been discontinued as the precipitation has moved eastward and southward out of the province.

IMPACTS

A number of provincial roads are closed in the Lower Mainland and southern Interior and a number of local roads are closed in the Lower Mainland. The TransCanada Highway (Highway 1) is closed in four locations:

- Jackass Mt-Boston Bar – two rock slides
- Rosedale to Hope – mudslide
- Rodgers Pass – avalanche danger
- East of Golden – mudslides and avalanche danger

No evacuations are registered at this time.

OUTLOOK

Rivers which continue to be a flood concern include the Coldwater River near Merritt, and the Chilliwack River along Chilliwack Lake Road. These rivers are expected to continue to rise for several more hours and local governments remain on alert.

Warm temperatures continue in the southern part of the province and there is the potential for more landslides, mudflows and avalanche activity. The situation should begin to stabilize as colder and drier weather conditions occur.

CURRENT INFORMATION

Flood monitoring continues, as does the readiness to respond in areas of need.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Flood Warnings and Watch

Ministry of Environment – River Forecast Centre

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/rfc/river_forecast/advisories_current.htm

Road Closures

Ministry of Transportation – Drive BC

<http://www.drivebc.ca>

Weather Forecast

Environment Canada

http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/canada_e.html