

PROVINCIAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTRE
FLOODING SITUATION OVERVIEW
Tuesday, November 7, 2006 16:00 Hrs

OVERVIEW

An intense Pacific frontal system that affected the south coast and Vancouver Island over Sunday and Monday came to an end today. The heavy rain has tapered off to showers.

The system resulted in heavy rain, flooding, mudslides and road closures. Areas affected by the incident included south Vancouver Island, Greater Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. Rain was reported in the southern interior and Kootenay regions today but no significant issues were reported.

CURRENT SITUATION

River levels have been falling since Monday evening. Most rivers within the south coast and on Vancouver Island have fallen substantially since early this morning.

Some specific river information:

- Chilliwack River. Peaked above 1000 cubic metres per second (cms). It has since receded to about 150 cms.
- Cowichan River. Peaked below a 2-year stage on Monday, with some localized flooding along its lower reaches.
- Squamish River. Peaked above 1600 cms, near a 5-year return period level. It has since receded to 1250 cms and continues to recede slowly.
- Nooksack River (Washington State). Peaked Monday below the level forecast by the US National Weather Service. There were no impacts within British Columbia.

WATCHES OR WARNINGS

As of 14:30 hours today, the Ministry of BC Environment River Forecast Centre ended the Flood Warning for:

- South Coast
- Vancouver Island
- Howe Sound
- Greater Vancouver & North Shore Mountains
- Lower Fraser valley

The Flood Watch continues for the Chilliwack River.

River Forecast Centre updates available on the web:

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

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Preliminary damage assessments are being undertaken by local governments and provincial agencies in the affected areas.

South West Region

Fraser Valley Regional District: FVRD reduced the number of homes on the Evacuation Order from 200 to 16. The remaining 16 homes require damage assessment before it is deemed safe for the residents to return. 150 people registered at the Emergency Social Services Reception Centre. FVRD/Chilliwack Emergency Operations Centre remains activated

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FVRD is planning to hold a public meeting with the residents of the Wilson Road flood area Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 17:00 hours.

District of Hope: ESS Reception Centre is closed. 24 people who voluntarily evacuated Monday were assisted. District of Hope Emergency Operations Centre remains activated with 100 people on evacuation alert. Potable water provided to Sunshine Valley residents without power and water.

District of Squamish and city of Abbotsford emergency operations centres are closed.

Village of Pemberton: ESS in Pemberton has assisted 7 youth/adults and 4 children with food and the local school has arranged placement with family homes in Skatin. These individuals remain out of their homes due to access issues.

Vancouver Island Region

Cowichan Valley Regional District has arranged for accommodation for 15 people impacted by Cowichan and Koksilah River flooding. These individuals continue to be out of their homes due to access issues.

Two families have been evacuated from Port Renfrew. ESS assistance has been provided. It is expected that they will remain out of their homes until at least tomorrow.

Provincial Response Status

South West Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre and Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre remain activated. Staff are in contact with local governments and agencies to offer support.

Vancouver Island and Central Provincial Regional Emergency Operation Centres have stood down to routine monitoring levels as of 16:00 hours. PEP Vancouver Island Regional Manager is in contact with local governments to determine preliminary damage assessment.

CURRENT INFORMATION

River Forecasting

Ministry of Environment – River Forecast Centre

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

Weather Forecast - British Columbia

Environment Canada

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

Highway Conditions

Ministry of Transportation – Drive BC

www.drivebc.ca