Weather Outlook, January 24, 2012
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Period
Day 3 – 5 is Friday, January273 to Sunday, January 29.
Day 6 – 10 is Monday, January 30 to Friday, February 3.

Overview Day 3 – 5:
Warm. Becoming very wet on the North Coast. Lesser amounts inland in the North and in southern regions.

Day 3 - Friday:
Upper low over Beaufort Sea and broad upper ridge off California driving a strong W/NW flow into northern regions with a system exiting the N Coast and moving into N Rockies. This flow is moderate in central regions. Southern third of BC/AB protected by ridge. Seasonal to slightly above seasonal temperatures.

Day 4- Saturday:
Ridge builds northward bringing milder coastal temperatures. Significant warm/wet system hits North Coast. South Coast and interior milder, less windy, and protected from precipitation by ridge. Potential for moderate Chinook in N Rockies. Models show very high freezing levels the N Coast; these seem unrealistic and have been reduced in the tables. Something to watch though….

Day 5 Sunday:
Ridge retreats southward. Trailing cold front from system that hit the NW yesterday slides SE across South Coast and Columbias/Rockies. Southern regions see increased wind and precipitation. Most areas now in mild SW flow.

Confidence Day 3 – 5:
Good for general pattern and timing. Fair for freezing levels and southern extent of precipitation on Saturday.

Overview Day 6 – 10:
Warm for the entire period.

Monday/Tuesday:
Zonal (westerly) flow but uncertainty about timing and intensity of systems. Above seasonal temps.

Wednesday:
Flow gradually shifts to SW as ridge builds into western regions. North Coast could see some weather but warm and dry in the south and interior.

Thursday/Friday
Mild SW flow as ridge builds and then becomes centred on BC. Warmer. A system might just brush the NW region but the rest of the province gets lots of sun, warm temperatures and little wind.

Chance of precipitation accumulation exceeding 10mm in any 24 hour period is 80%+ in all coastal mountains, 40-50% in the Columbias and 20% in the SE. Chance of over 25mm in any 24 hour period is zero in all interior and inland coastal regions, 20-40% in the southern coastal ranges, and 50% central/80-100% north coast.

Chance of total precipitation accumulation for Day 6 – 10 exceeding 10mm is near 100% in all areas except 50% in SE. Total precipitation amounts of more than 25mm is near 100% in all coastal mountains and 30-60% inland coastal and Columbias, less than 30% in N Rockies and SE. More than 50mm is zero chance in all inland coastal and interior areas, 50% in the South Coast, 60-70% in the central coast, and near 100% in the north coast.

In all cases, the precipitation noted above will almost certainly arrive early (Monday/Tuesday).

Confidence Day 6 – 10:
Fair for Day 6/7: zonal flow looks pretty certain but poor agreement on position/timing of ridge/trough features.
Good for Day 8 – 10; good agreement in ensemble and deterministic models.

Details Day 3:

		North Coast	North Rockies
	FZLVL	sfc-200	sfc
	Solar	Low	Low
Alpine	Temp	-8	-10
	Wind	W50-70	W40-70
	Precip	8 to 12	20-30
Treeline	Temp	-4	-7
	Wind	S20-30	SE10-20
	Precip	6 to 8	15-25

		South Coast	Columbia S. Rockies
	FZLVL	900	sfc
	Solar	High-Moderate	High-Moderate
Alpine	Temp	-4	-8
	Wind	NW30	NW30-50
	Precip	Nil	Nil
Treeline	Temp	-1	-4
	Wind	Light S	Light S
	Precip	Nil	Nil

Details Day 4:

		North Coast	North Rockies
	FZLVL	700 west; 400 east	600
	Solar	Low	Low
Alpine	Temp	-3	-4
	Wind	SW40-50 becoming 70-90	SW40 becmg 60 to 70
	Precip	50-70 north, 20-30 south	20-30
Treeline	Temp	-1	-2
	Wind	S20 becmg S40-50	Light becmg S30
	Precip	30-40 north, 15-20 south	15-25

		South Coast	Columbia S. Rockies
	FZLVL	1000	800
	Solar	Moderate	Moderate
Alpine	Temp	-3	-5
	Wind	W20 becmg SW30-50	SW20
	Precip	Trace	Nil
Treeline	Temp	-1	-3
	Wind	Light becmg S20	Light S
	Precip	Nil	Nil

Details Day 5:

		North Coast	North Rockies
	FZLVL	700-900	800
	Solar	Low	Low
	Temp	-2	-2
Alpine	Wind	SW40-50	SW30
	Precip	10 to 20	5 to 12
	Temp	zero	zero
Treeline	Wind	S10-20	S10
	Precip	5 to 10	3 to 7

		South Coast	Columbia S. Rockies
	FZLVL	1200	800
	Solar	Low	Low
	Temp	-2	-4
Alpine	Wind	SW30 gust 60	SW30-40
	Precip	30-50	15-30
	Temp	zero	-1
Treeline	Wind	S20	S10-20
	Precip	25-35	10-20