



Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

Flood Forecasting

CONDITIONS TO LOOK FOR

1. Compare the rainfall for the year and 24-hour forecast with the following criteria.

- a. **7"** of rain for the season starting on July 1 (year).
- b. **5"** of rain in the last 30 days (month).
3" of rain in the last 7 days (week).
- c. **2"** of rainfall is forecast in the next 24 hours (day).

2. If these conditions are met, flooding may occur sometime in the next 24 hours. Warnings on TV and radio should be monitored. Your [Personal Evacuation Plan](#) should be implemented if you sense flooding may occur. For information on an evacuation plan, check out the American Red Cross website.



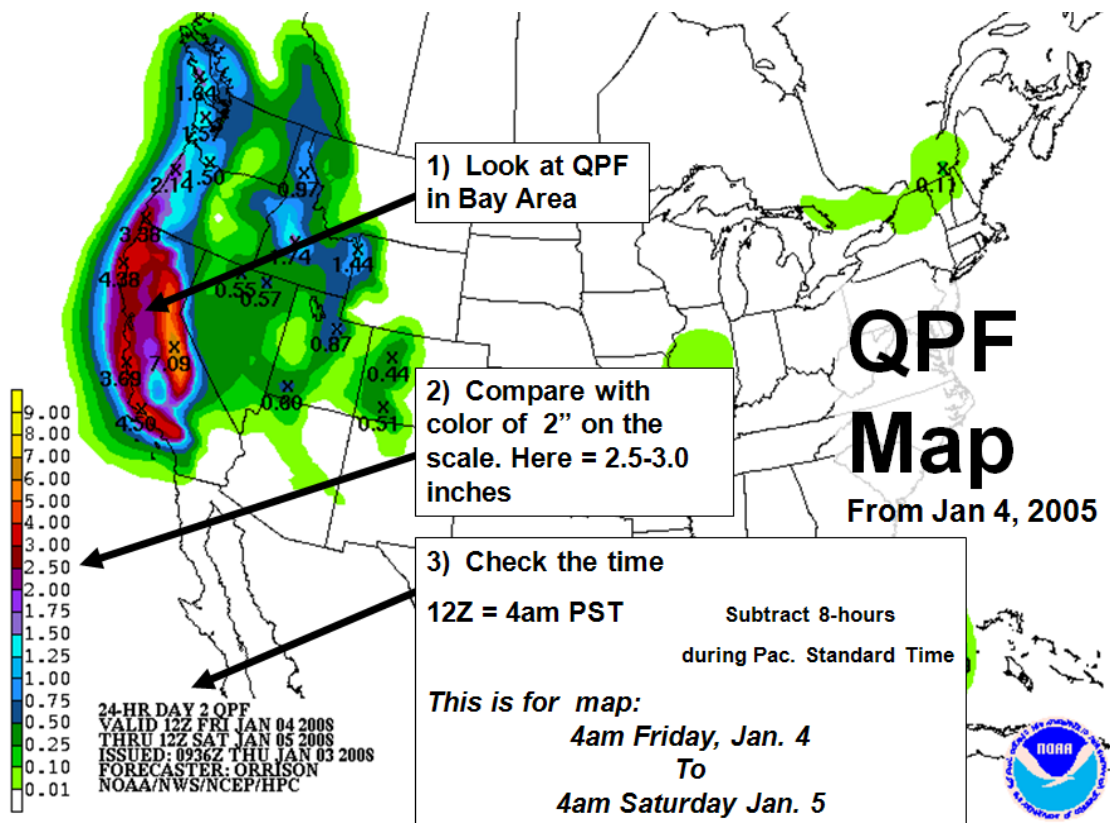
RESOURCES

- **District RainMap Webpage** provides a map with gauge locations: www.cccounty.us/RainMap **New url!**
- **District Rain Gauge Webpage** has gauge data, links, and other pertinent information: www.ccflood.us/raintable.html **New url!**
- **National Weather Service (NWS)** — Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) maps. National: <http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/wpcqpf.php?duration=01&fill=yes>; Bay Region: <http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/precipForecast.php?cwa=MTR&day=1&img=5>
- **District QPF Tool** — This tool is an Excel worksheet that brings FC District rain gauge data and the NWS QPF data together to provide one tool that summarizes antecedent and forecast information. The tool can be found via links at: <http://www.cccounty.us/index.aspx?nid=1578>. It is updated periodically.
- **Flood Control District Staff** can assist you in understanding the information presented in this handout during office hours. FC District contact information: Phone 925-313-2000, hydro@pw.cccounty.us.

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How to Use the National Weather Service Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) Map



Planning

- If you live in a flood prone area, you should have a personal emergency plan. See the [American Red Cross](#) website for information on preparing a personal emergency plan.
- Encourage your neighbors to have a personal emergency plan and coordinate with them.
- Get involved with your Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Contact your local police department for more information on CERT participation.

Recommendations:

- Become familiar with the criteria presented here.
- Become familiar with data sources, such as websites, TV stations, and radio stations that report storm and flood warnings.
- Be vigilant in watching the weather and creeks when conditions are ripe for flooding.
- Listen for Flood Watch statements (flooding could happen).
- Listen for Flood Warnings (flooding will occur or is occurring).
- Have and practice a plan of action.