

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



August 19, 2021

Evacuation order issued for Mount Hayes wildfire

DUNCAN, BC – A State of Local Emergency has been declared in the Cowichan Valley Regional District. This applies to Electoral Area 'H' and a small north portion of Area 'G' due to the wildfire burning on the west slope of Mount Hayes, west of the town of Ladysmith.

The wildfire has now grown to 20 hectares and available fire response resources have been deployed to the site. The fire will be monitored overnight with shifting weather conditions. A public restriction to the area has been established, limiting access to forestry roads. The CVRD Regional Emergency Operations Centre remains in contact with municipal fire response teams, the Town of Ladysmith and the Stz'uminus First Nation for situational awareness.

At this time an Evacuation Order has been issued for a single industrial property at 3591 Ninattii Rd in proximity to the wildfire, owned by FortisBC. An update will be published tomorrow morning when fire response crews are back on scene to evaluate the situation.

For further updates on wildfires residents can check the [BC Wildfire Dashboard](#) or follow [BC Wildfire Service on Twitter](#).

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For more information, please contact:

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Declaration of State of Local Emergency ORDER

WHEREAS there is a wildfire within the jurisdiction of the Cowichan Valley Regional District;

AND WHEREAS the wildfire poses an existing or imminent threat to people and property in an area within Electoral Areas G and H described by the following boundaries;

- The area of Electoral Area H west of the Trans Canada Highway
- The area north of Tyee Creek in Electoral Area G

AND WHEREAS this wildfire emergency requires prompt coordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the health, safety or welfare of people or to limit damage to property;

NOW THEREFORE:

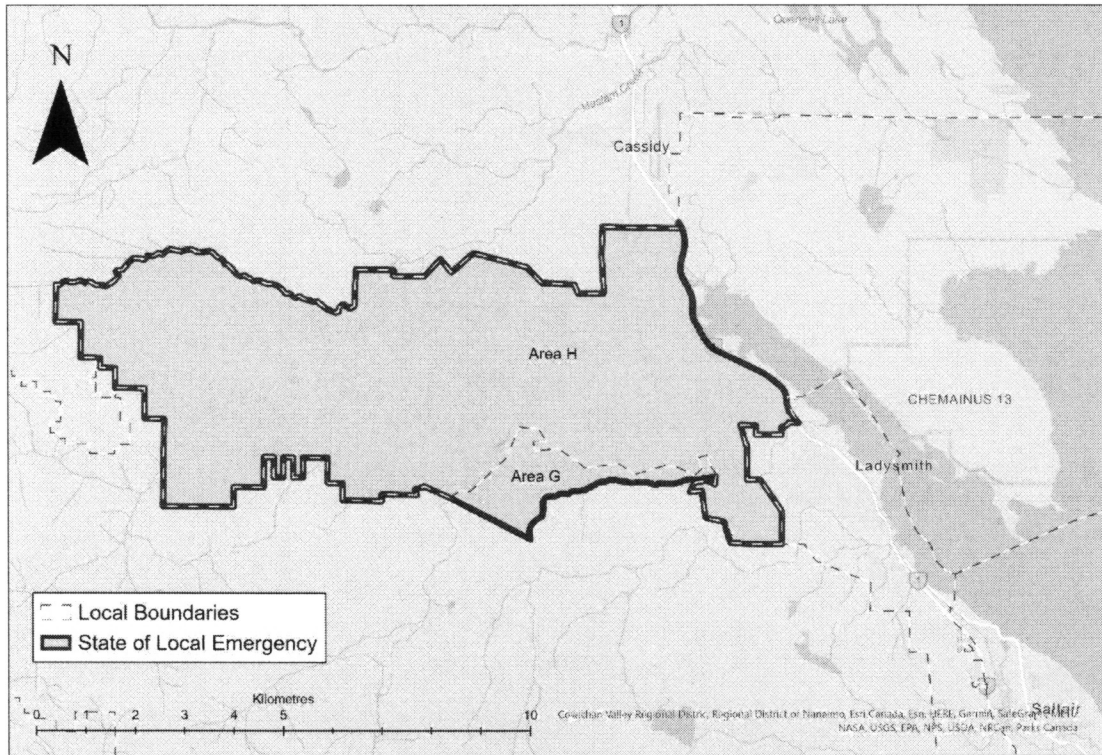
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to Section 12 (1) of the Emergency Program Act (RS, 1996, Chap 111) that a state of local emergency exists in the area of Electoral Area G and Electoral Area H due to a wildfire and risk to life, safety and property;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the Cowichan Valley Regional District, its employees, servants and agents are empowered pursuant to Section 13 (1) of the Emergency Program Act to do all acts and implement all procedures that are considered necessary to prevent or to alleviate the effects of the emergency.

ORDERED by the Board Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District this date, August 19, 2021 to remain in force for seven days until August 26, 2021 at midnight unless cancelled by the Cowichan Valley Regional District or the Minister responsible.



Chair
Cowichan Valley Regional District





EVACUATION ORDER

Mount Hayes Wildfire

08/19/2021 at 2000hrs

Pursuant to [Section 12 (1) of the BC *Emergency Program Act*] an **Evacuation Order** has been issued by the Cowichan Valley Regional District due to immediate danger to life safety caused by a wildfire event.

The Evacuation Order is in effect for the following industrial area for non-essential personnel:

3951 Ninatti Road

YOU MUST LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

- Follow the travel route suggested (Ninatti Road north/east to Timberlands Road).
- Self-register online: Emergency Support Services (ESS) at <https://ess.gov.bc.ca/> to report that you have safely left the area.
- Shut off all gas and electrical appliances, other than refrigerators and freezers.
- Close all windows and doors.
- Close gates (latch) but do not lock.
- Gather your family and, if you have room, take a neighbour or someone needing transportation. Do not use more vehicles than you have to.
- Take critical items (medicine, purse, wallet, and keys) only if they are immediately available. Take pets in pet kennels or on leash.
- Do not use the telephone unless you need emergency service.

Further information will be issued as it becomes available.

Stay updated by accessing CVRD's website at www.cvrld.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. St.", written over a horizontal line.

Chair
Cowichan Valley Regional District

