News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



August 6, 2021

State of Local Emergency declared for wildfire on Mt. Prevost

DUNCAN, BC – A State of Local Emergency has been issued due to the wildfire burning on the north slope of Mount Prevost located in Electoral Area 'E' and the Municipality of North Cowichan.

The wildfire has now grown to 32 hectares and will be monitored overnight with shifting weather conditions. Available fire response resources have been deployed to the site, and winds are expected to shift overnight which may exacerbate the fire.

The affected area has limited cellular service which poses communication challenges, although no firefighting is planned overnight. A regional sprinkler protection unit (SPU) has been deployed and a second is available to be deployed tomorrow if the fire continues to spread towards the Cowichan Exhibition grounds. The CVRD Regional Emergency Operations Centre remains in contact with municipal fire response teams and the Halalt First Nation for situational awareness.

At this time an Evacuation Order has been issued for a single property in proximity to the wildfire on Mount Prevost Road.

An update will be published tomorrow morning when fire response crews are back on scene to evaluate the situation.

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For more information, please contact:

Kris Schumacher Manager, Communications & Engagement 250.701.2631 <u>kris.schumacher@cvrd.bc.ca</u>



Declaration of State of Local Emergency ORDER

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

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

- TransCanada Hwy 1
- Hwy 18
- The western boundary of Electoral Area E
- The northern boundary of the District of North Cowichan

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:

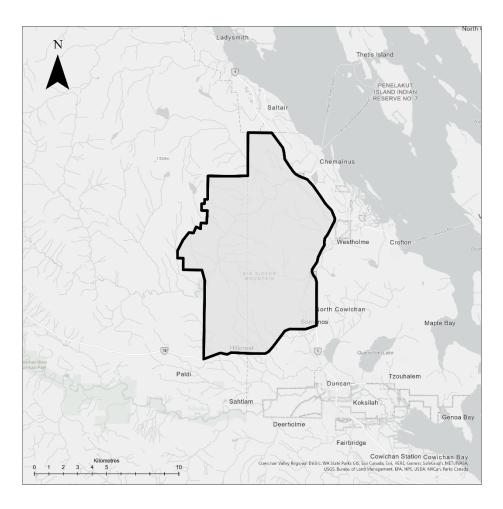
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to Section 12 (1) of the *Emergency Program Act* (RS, 1996, Chap 111) that a state of local emergency exists in the area of Electoral Area E due to a wildfire and its risk to life, safety and property;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT the Cowichan Valley Regional District and the District of North Cowichan, and their 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 and the Mayor of the District of North Cowichan this date, August 6, 2021 to remain in force for seven days until August 13, 2021 at midnight unless cancelled by the Cowichan Valley Regional District and the District of North Cowichan, or the Minister responsible.

Chair Cowichan Valley Regional District Mayor District of North Cowichan







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Cowichan Valley Regional District

Mayor District of North Cowichan

August 2021